

politics. A people who can get over the stench of the Roosevelt-Harriman corruption fund of \$260,000 would not balk at a little thing like the want of Polar proofs.

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Palsied by the Great Fear.

The Commoner (Dem.), June 10.—When it was proposed to publish Senator Bourne's speech on the Oregon use of the primary, the naming of senators by direct vote of the people, the initiative and the referendum, and the recall, Senator Gallinger objected. Admittedly Senator Bourne's speech was interesting and instructive. There are many calls for that speech. Why, then, did the Republican senator from Vermont object to its circulation among the people? The reason is plain. It is not to the interest of the Republican party that the people be educated in the way of making popular government practical and effective.

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Self-Government.

(Portland) Oregon Journal (ind.), June 19.—Plutocracy has been defined as the rule of the rich; aristocracy as the rule of the select; absolute monarchy as the rule of a man on horseback. None have been satisfactory. The people struggle for democracy, for self-government. We have that now in Oregon more than in any other State in this country. Public servants are more responsive to the popular will and to the needs of the masses than anywhere else in this country. Everybody assumes that the people are fit for self-government—for the reign of democracy. There has been a vast volume of vapid talk about it. But now, in Oregon, we have it, or something approaching it. It seems to be working fairly well. The democracy, the mass, the majority may make some mistakes. The people are in many ways imperfect. But they do not really need political guardians, advisers and managers as much as many who desire to be such guardians, advisers and managers imagine.

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Exports of Public Wealth for Private Use.

The (London) Land Values (taxation of land values), June.—Another illustration of almost fabulous land values is this week forthcoming from New York, revealed by the death of Count Waldemar Oriola, of Berlin, who has left estate valued at £3,600,000. He was the owner of tens of thousands of acres of the richest agricultural land in Germany and the noble castle of Budenheim, but the bulk of his wealth lay, not in these, but in a small freehold plot in Wall street, upon which there stands a thirty-story skyscraper, land which came into his possession by his marriage thirty years ago with the American heiress, Miss Mortimer. This is a story from the Estates Gazette of May 7th. The Count took a prominent part in German politics recently. We are sometimes inclined to wonder where all the wealth comes from, the evidences of which are seen in such cities as London and Berlin. This story partly explains it. We are sometimes asked to admire the excess of exports from some countries over their imports, but we fail to see the advantage to Americans of having to send to Berlin substan-

tial wealth to the amount represented by the land values created by their industry in New York.

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How a City Creates Wealth.

The Saturday Evening Post (ind.), June 18.—New York was laid out in blocks that are very short north and south and very long east and west. This was wrong, because the main flow of traffic is north and south. There should have been as many streets running in that direction as running east and west. From Fifth avenue to Sixth avenue is more than eight hundred feet. Mayor Gaynor suggests that, to relieve traffic congestion, the city might open a new thoroughfare midway between those two avenues. This would involve buying a solidly built strip of land in the heart of the city, a hundred feet in width, from Fourteenth street to Fifty-ninth. A great many costly structures would have to come down. The cost is estimated at thirty-five to fifty million dollars. But it is estimated, also, that the new street would enhance the value of property between Fifth and Sixth avenues even more than that. If one man owned all the land and costly buildings between the two avenues he could make money by tearing down the structures on the hundred-foot strip and dedicating the strip to the city for a street. We mention this as an interesting illustration of the amazing power of a city to create wealth. If the proposed improvement were a park or fountain or new pavement it might not be quite so obvious that it would more than pay for itself in dollars and cents; but in most cases that would be the fact. It is interesting, also, because it suggests that the city might well claim a large share of the wealth which it is constantly creating for individual lot-owners.

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"But Ye Enter Not In."

The Fayette (Ohio) Review (ind.), June 16.—The fellows who own and drive the largest and most expensive automobiles don't know the first principle about the construction of an automobile and couldn't make the first part of one if they wanted to. The fellows who make these machines can't own or use any of them. The men who own the big estates in the world don't know anything about farming and couldn't manage them if they wanted to. The fellows who manage and farm these estates couldn't own them if they wanted to. The men who own the rights of the big and powerful and delicate machinery that does so much of the world's work couldn't make one if they wanted to. The fellows who make and understand every part of them couldn't own one if they wanted to. The fellows who own the railroads and the monster engines that transport millions of tons of freight and thousands of human lives to different parts of the world couldn't make an engine or build a railroad if they tried ever so hard. The fellows who make these machines and construct the cars, the locomotives and everything that is necessary in transportation, couldn't own an inch of railroad or the wheel on a locomotive no matter what their wishes in the matter. The men who own the richly appointed palaces and mansions in every part of the country couldn't make an intelligible drawing for a cupboard in those man-