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DAILY EDITION

Monday, Dec. 22, 1913

The yearning for an ideal democracy is as old as Plato. Wherever a measure of liberty existed there did people set themselves to solve the complex question of government. At different stages men came forward with beautiful utopias that promised to bring order out of chaos, but the ideal of a perfect government is still to be found.

This does not mean that the art of government has not advanced. Indeed wonderful strides have been made within the last hundred years, and if the same progress is made in the next century humanity will at least be within sight of its goal.

Responsible government is perhaps one of the most outstanding phases in the present evolution of democracy. The principle was first established in the reign of William of Orange. It has proven a great boon to society, for it made it impossible that the leaders of the government should be out of sympathy with the people.

Responsible government however has developed another phase that will need some remedying before it will meet with universal approval. When a government gets into power the first thing that it does is to select its Cabinet, and this body of men become the re-

sponsible head. Thereafter the party followers must look to this inner circle and take their cue from them. Instead, then, of a responsible head that does the party's bidding, we find a despotic body that rules and commands.

Out of this state of affairs has developed the "machine," and so far it seems to work equally well for whichever party that happens to be in power. Machines play a very effective part in modern industry and the political machine does not seem to lack any of this effectiveness. However, it is one thing to turn a machine into a field of grass or grain where there is no animate life to resist it, but it is quite a different thing to use that same machine against the intelligence of men. The political machine, while wonderfully effective, has this one disadvantage, that it has the same intelligence to counteract its existence that did first call it into being.

This centralized authority is perhaps the weakest point in the system of modern government. It is at least the place where popular government stops, and where boss-rule begins. It is an unhealthy bunch of clotted veins that needs the surgeon's knife, before a free circulation of democratic principles can take place.



GREAT RUGBY BY THE "HUMAN LOCOMOTIVE"

Dr. Smirlie Lawson played one of the best games of his career against the Tigers of Hamilton, the Canadian champions, in an exhibition game played at Toronto.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS ANTICIPATING NEW RAILWAY

PROJECT FOR SIX MILE ROAD TO DEVELOP MINING AND OIL
PROJECTS ON GRAHAM ISLAND

Vancouver, Dec. 20.—Plans for a new railway in British Columbia, financed by San Francisco and Portland capital, will soon be officially announced by the promoters, headed by C. D. Emmons, engineer in the employ of the backers of the scheme, he railway will be undertaken on Queen Charlotte Islands, and though only six miles in length, it will make possible vast development, meaning not only a great deal to the islands but to the province.

Plans are for a railway running from Rennell Sound, on the southwest of Graham Island, inland for six miles to what is known as the southern oilfields of the Queen Charlotte Islands.

The leases of this ground are held by those concerned in the railway project. Four miles further inland are the Wilson and Robertson coal camps. The same men are planning to start operations in the spring, boring for oil which geological experts maintain will be found in great quantities, everywhere in the field indicating it to the belief of those interested.

Parrafine, such as a European oil expert on the visit of the

international geologists to this city some months ago said at the first glance was artificial, is found scattered upon the surface.

The capitalists are intending to operate on a large scale. The railway line could have been constructed from the head of Masset Inlet and open a richly-timbered section, but Rennell Sound is a large Bay with good anchorage.

Besides the interests which have the Rennell Sound plans under way, the oil possibilities are being developed in the vicinity of Otard and the B.C. Oilfields Company of this city, the Otard Syndicate of Prince Rupert, and by another northern syndicate headed by A. Panvini, an Italian oil expert, who is expected to return in a few days from California, where he has succeeded in interesting a drilling concern to bring in the most modern machinery for this kind of prospecting work. The original company which has been at work for a long time had very hard luck, due mostly to the fact that the country is not opened up by government improvements, and two sets of apparatus were lost in two

700-foot holes, and a third hole is now down about 900 feet.

Saskatoon and English capitalists are to start work drilling for oil between Masset Inlet and Naden Harbor, Carson and Bradbrook, of Saskatoon, being at the head of this syndicate.

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