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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1905

THE PHILIPPINES AND THE STAND-PATTERS

At the banquet given in his honor in Manila, August 11, Secretary Taft, speaking for the President, made a number of important statements concerning the intentions of the Administration toward the Philippines. There are two parties in this country, he pointed out, who, if they had their way, would treat the islands very differently from Mr. Roosevelt's purpose. The imperialists would use them as a stepping-stone to the empire of the Pacific; the anti-imperialists would abandon

them; while the President and his party would do neither. Their policy, as stated by Secretary Taft, is summed up in the propositions to prepare the people of the islands for self-government, and to govern the Philippines for the the face, extremely benevolent; but it is not likely that Mr. Taft intended to make them particularly definite in meaning. If such was his intention, he

The Secretary says, in fact, that the future generations to determine. He means, very likely, that time alone can decide whether the Philippines may better become an independent nation or a state in the Union. The expression "self-government" is conveniently ambiguous, and may signify either condi-The idea of the islands ever being admitted as a state has been pretty generally flouted, though for reasons which cannot stand analysis. Their distance from Washington is an objection under modern conditions, it is not so great as that from Boston to Savannah when the Union was organized; and, so far as transmission of intelligence is concerned, it is less than that the days of electricity. The fact that the Philippines are in-

which is too unlike our own for intermarriage and those common sympathies enduring-this fact would be a serious objection to the islands ever becoming state if it were certain to remain always as it is. But, speaking very well within bounds, the Philippines can support a population five times as great as what they now have. The inhabitants in course of time will number 42,000,000, the population of Japan, instend of 8,000,000, and it is by no means demonstrated that, when this time sickly white. Mr. Hill is a big man, comes, the majority of them will not he whites. Considerations of this sort abundantly justify Secretary Taft and quite naturally we must expect big the President in their use of the ambiguous word "self-government" in speak ing of the future of the Philippines. It | Forks, N. D., Wednesday, however, he may be best to make the islands independent; but it may, on the other hand. be best ultimately to include them in the Union. The decision, as Mr. Taft suggests, may wisely be left to the

generations to come. The meaning of his other proposition, to govern the islands, while we retain them, for the benefit of the Filipinos, is measurably explicit. It means, as all does not wish to see them governed for the benefit of our precious American spared his denunciations of the wretched tariff policy toward the Philippines which the United States Senate forced upon the country at the bidding of the sugar and tobacco trusts. And it is reported that most of the members of the party visiting the islands with the great Secretary are now of his

on about these absurd regulations. Notwithstanding our ownership of the Philippine Islands, the money we have spent there and the lives we have lost, American goods are admitted upon no better terms than those of foreign nations. All pay full Dingley tariff The slily pretense that the reason of this is to give the islands the benefit of the revenue deceives only the minded. The whole of their im-

amounted to less than \$5,000,000, and to qualify his statements whenever his upon such a quantity of goods the du- attention was called to errors of a few ties, even at Dingley rates, cut no fig-The only reason for exacting du ties upon American goods at Philippine ports is the maniscal fanaticism of the the latter has always been long and standpatters for their ridiculous and tyrannical fetich. They would set up a Dingley tariff wall between the states ducing capacity of North Dakota or the of the Union if the Constitution did not size of the biscuits in coforbid. They well know that free trade with this country would do more for the prosperity of the Philippines than any possible tariff. Mr. Taft, who knows more about the islands than the Senate, and who has the advantage over that august body of being honest in his opinions, has said repeatedly that the tariff seriously hampers their prosperity.

With infinite groanings the trusts permitted their puppets in the Senate to agree to a reduction of Dingley rates by one-quarter upon goods coming to our ports from the Philippines. The result is that in 1904 our imports from the islands were three times our exports to them. This is a beautiful commercial situation for a nation which aspires to lead the trade of the world. The total imports of the Philippines scarcely differ from their total exports Their trade is remarkably well balanced upon the whole. That our share of it is ridiculously small is the result of our irrational tariff laws.

CELESTIAL FINANCE.

is more delectable than to deduce a lesson for the good of others from the career of a man wholly consecrated to unworldliness. How much better it would be for the young could they read such life histories in the daily press instead of the biographies of criminals and lewd characters so frequently presented. The financial transactions, especially, of men truly devout are rarely without some wholesome and inspiring message. We might speak of these transactions as "celestial finance" in contradistinction to those and vagaries of blinded devotees of Mammon which an edifying author has characterized as "frenzied finance."

A few touching anecdotes gleaned from the long and luminous career of All Ben Boogle, a distinguished capitalist of Mecca, will illustrate what is meant by celestial finance. One of All's friends, being about to die, sent for the great money king and intrusted to him two pots of gold, one holding 442,100 pieces, the other 159,414. "Pay thyself whatsoever I am indebted to thee and stop the usury theron," said he that was dying, "and husband well the remainder for my brethren, and no accounting shalt thou make till we

meet in Paradise." So All Ben Boonle took the lesser pot and set it on his shelf. And at the end of seven years he took it down, and lo! 64.466 of the gold pieces had vanished away; whereat the holy Ali did greatly marvel. Also he set on the same shelf the other pot wherefrom he that was dead had bidden to pay the debt and stop the usury. But the usury did not stop. It went on and on and on, and evermore the number of pieces in the pot grew less. Whereat again the

blessed Ali marveled exceedingly. . This pathetic tale, famous in Oriental literature, flustrates what is meant by celestial finance. A wicked man, thus intrusted with gold, would have emptied both pots forthwith into his own iron chest. The plous Ali did nothing of the sort. He emptied them gradually. Thus under the severest tempta-

"Strong in the strength that God supplies," the good man bids defiance to her ancient boilers, was unsafe, or her the Adversary. The robber ravishes engine-room was in the hands of inthe widow's substance with force and competent men, it was the duty of the violence; the celestial financier takes it commander to have informed himself knows not of her loss. unregenerate gloat over their dollars by day and dream of them by night; the celestial financier handles his dross form of self-government will be left to with averted gaze and at nightfall he hastens to leave it. "Adleu, vain world, I'm going home," he sings, turning eagerly to his Bible and his prayers. "Why can we not all be good? There is no "get-rich-quick" scheme in the world to compare with it.

JIM-HAM AND JIM HILL.

The volubility and ease with which James Hamilton Lewis, the political wonder of Seattle, Chicago and way stations, could handle statistics of all more apparent than real. Practically, kinds have made him famous. He was at his best, perhaps, when describing in dollars and cents the delinquencie of the party which happened to be out of accord with his political views, but he was also good at remembering the from New York to Washington before exact amount of money offered by would-be bribers, the amount he earned in stevedoring, etc., etc. The accuracy habited by people of the Malay race. of this scintillating gentus in handling "figgers" has been the cause of much newspaper comment, and heretofore that make nations homogeneous and Mr. Lewis has shone alone in his glory in this particular field. But a new star has arisen in the statistical firmament, and the Corporation Counsel of the City of Chicago must look to his laurels,

Mr. James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway, is the latest contestant for honors in the careless handling of figures, and from appearances he has Jim Ham faded from his customary bright pink to a pale and he owns a big railroad, and his steamships are broad and long and deep, and stories when he speaks. In his Deadwood speech to the farmers at Grand fairly outdid himself, as note the following:

The State of North Dakots could not raise grain enough to bake ten blecults per capita for the inhabitants of China. Now, ten bis-cults would be short for a year's supply, and I don't know that you could raise enough grain—you certainly don't raise enough grain—to bake two biscults per capita.

The Government reports credit North Dakota with a crop of 77,900,000 bushels | Cal., year before last, and that only by his words and deeds proclaim, that he of wheat this year, but this may not be realized. The fast good crop harvested in the state was something over trusts. Indeed, Mr. Taft has never 60,000,000 bushels. Sixty million bushels of North Dakotz wheat will make about 14,000,000 barrels of flour, and this of every institution of higher education amount, properly handled, would be sufficient to make approximately 28,-000,000,000 biscuits of commercial size. Allowing the two biscuits per capita mentioned by Mr. Hill, it is quite clear that the apportionment would reach 14,000,000,000 "Inhabitants of China." And yet the census-taker who was last | we may have either without the other. over the ground could only find a pop- It is indeed surprising, deplorable, that ulation of 225,000,000 in the entire Chi- 300 books should be stolen from a col-

some of the back yards. Of course there is a possibility that | viduals, but loose standards in the stu-Mr. Hill was figuring on much larger dent body. And yet, is not the perbiscults than those which are in common use throughout the world, but he should have been more clear on that in intellectual pursuits?

million or billion in his "figgers," and, unless Jim Hill is really endeavoring to crowd Jim Ham out of a field in which strong, we may expect a correction, either of the figures on the wheat-proamong the inhabitants of China.

THE PLEASURES OF HOPE.

It is pleasing to observe that Mr. Harriman, ever alive to the transportation needs of the great West, has or dered a large number of new passenger coaches at a cost of \$10,000 each, for use on his "system west of Ogden." doubt they are needed. It will be a grateful change to wearled eyes to be able to rest on the nice green upholstered chairs of the new cars; and our gratitude swells up within our bosoms to Mr. Harriman for giving his personal attention-as no doubt he has-to the decoration of the new coaches Green is a fine color, Doubtless Mr. Harriman first saw it in our eyes when he was last out in Oregon, and it oc curred to him that it would be too bad to allow a color scheme for which all Oregon has long been noted to go to waste. Let us all hope that some day we may see those splendid new green coaches, and perhaps ride in them. feel sure that we may, if we can content ourselves long enough in the old To a mind truly regenerate, no task familiar red-plush coaches to ride far away from Oregon, where the verdant

coaches will in due time be found. But we need be in no hurry. What we want in Oregon is not so much new cars on old roads as any old cars or new roads. Mr. Harriman is "going to build" a new line from Drain to Coos Bay. He is "going to build" from He is "going to Shantko to Bend. build" from Elgin to the Wallowa Valley. He is "going to build" from Natron clear across Eastern Oregon to Ontario He is "going to build" a brand-new tunnel through the Siskiyous. The pleasures of anticipation are often a more satisfying thing than the certainties of realization. At any rate, we have had a long and exclusive feast of the former. Mr. Harriman is yet the greatest "going-to-build" railroad king of his day

REMOVING THE WHITEWASH.

Secretary Bonaparte seems to have knocked off considerable of the whitewash which the court of inquiry applied in its report on the Benningto disaster. Beneath this glossed surface the blows of the Secretary have exposed some raw work which no expianation will fully explain. It is a sad commentary on the discipline maintained, and the judgment, or rather lack of judgment, displayed on board the unfortunate vessel, that there was nothing to commend in confection with the disaster but the action of the officers and crew after the accident oc curred. This remarkable verdict of the Secretary of War is so utterly at variance with the usual procedure in such cases that its effect must be startling on the gilt-laced mariners and engineers who generally claim such superiority over the practical, hard-headed machinists occupying similar positions in the merchant marine service.

It is also a healthy sign which argues for something better in the future There can be but one captain on a ship. and but one commander on a cruiser In that individual centers the responsi bility for safe handling and navigation of the vessel. If the Bennington, with ingly objects to all blame for the lamentable tragedy being passed on to some comparatively obscure watertender or assistant engineer, who may have neglected his duty and paid for

the neglect with his life. The men on deck and in the engine room on Uncle Sam's ships are not sup posed to discuss the condition of the vessels on which they are sailing, but the condition of the Bennington's boil ers after their fourteen years' service with all kinds of water was so notoriously bad that it was impossible to prevent stories of the true condition of the leaky boilers reaching the ears of friends of the men on board. Commander Young, in charge of the vessel, and Ensign Wade, in charge of the engine-room, at the time of the disaster. are to be court-martialed, and for the good of the service it is to be hoped that the court-martial will be fully as rigid and stern as the letter of the Secretary which criticises the findings of the court of inquiry.

In the merchant marine a leaky boller or a leaky ship cannot go limping from port to port endangering the lives of those on board. The local inspectors in the districts where she touches have power to compel the owners to put her in a seaworthy condition long before she reaches a stage where life is imperiled. It is also impossible to secure sailors, engineers and firemen with which to man such a vessel. In the Navy the officers and crew of a vessel are not at liberty to exercise their individual judgment and to go ashore whenever they are convinced that life no longer safe aboard the vessel. In ordering a court-martial of the commander of the Bennington, Secretary Bonaparte offers a rebuke to the court of inquiry which cannot fail to impress not only the men behind the guns and in the coal bins on warships, but also the general public.

THIEVES IN COLLEGE.

Beyond the understanding of the ordinary man of affairs is the statement that 200 books were stolen from the State University library at Berkeley, enforcement of strict rules was the number of losses reduced to 150 last year. That college students would steal books from the college library is difficult to believe, yet the experience proves that such breaches of common honesty will be committed.

That there will be some men of low moral standards among college students may reasonably be expected. High ideals and intellectual power are not always combined, and very often nese Empire, including the suburbs and lege library in a year, for the thefts show not only low ideals in many indicentage of honest men greater among students than among men not engaged

rests from the United States in 1904 point. Jim Ham was always prepared Would there be less than 500 thefts if

a year with as many tools as there were books in the library? Would blacksmiths, farmers or real estate agents pilfer less under similar circumstances? The fact of the matter is that in the world at large the plain and practical precepts of the ten commandments have been nearly lost in the maze of modern laws and the homely 'thou shalt not steal" means less than "don't get caught at it."

The International Association of Sailing Shipowners will please sit up and take notice that Portland exporters yesterday shartered three large sailing vessels to load at this port for the United Kingdom at 25 shillings. This rate is 2s 6d per ton less than the rate which the association fixed for Portland and is is 3d less than has been paid vessels chartered on Puget Sound. The supply of ionnage available at the cut rate was not all exhausted with the charter of these three ships, but, on the contrary, more were offering at the same figure. A free movement of wheat later in the season may necessitate an advance in rates, but, when that advance comes, it will be due to the old law of supply and demand, and not to any arbitrary fixing of rates by the International Association of Salling Shipowners.

Seattle is making a fine showing in attendance at the Exposition this week. and, individually and collectively, our King County neighbors are putting in a good word for the big show. Since the beginning of the enterprise, the Seattle newspapers have been most generous in their support of the Fair, and no small portion of the credit for the liberal attendance and support it has received from the Queen City is due to the publicity given it by the Seattle newspapers. Seattle, Tacoma, and, in fact, all of the principal cities of our neighboring state, have, for this occasion at least, forgotten state lines or ommercial rivalry and are pulling loyally with Portland to make the Fair a great success, in which all communities in the Northwest will share.

Official statements of the business done the first three months of this year by the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company show little commercial demand for the service. There were offered by the public 111 messages to be transmitted to persons at sea, while 1635 were submitted by passengers to be sent to land. One reason for this disparity lies in the fact that the public has not yet accepted the new service as an established utility. On board ship the passenger has the apparatus constantly before him and tries it as an experiment. In order to make the business profitable, it will be necessary, some way or another, to create a larger public demand.

In its September number, the Craftsman, the leading publication of its class in this country, devotes eight pages to "Civic Art in Portland." The article written in excellent taste, is by Frank Ira White, and deals with what Nature as well as man has done. Illustrations of very fine quality include the bronze group "Coming of the White Man" in the City Park, the Skidmore fountain, the Thompson memorial fountain. Trinity Episcopal Church, the Forestry building and the Sacajawea statue in the Lewis and Clark Exposition grounds. Both illustration and letterpress will appeal to many people who value some things higher than material interests.

The Steel Trust has made formal an nouncement that the price of steel rails for 1906 will be maintained at \$28 per gently, so gently that oftentimes she regarding them and to have taken the lon in this country. The more fortu-The wicked precautions necessary to prevent trou- nuts purchasers of American steel ratis man steals; the celestial financier takes bie. Secretary Bonaparte seems to who dwell in Africa, Egypt and other countributions for the Lord's work. The have recognized this fact, and accordcountries which enjoy the blessed privilege of buying where they can buy the cheapest will continue to purchase American steel rails at much lower figures. Our infant industries must be taken care of, and the trust apparently feels safe for an indefinite period, or it would not be announcing a price which might naturally be susceptible to tariff changes when Congress meets again.

According to the report of a New York police magistrate, about one married woman in a hundred is descried yearly. In Philadelphia there is a larger proportion. It has been shown that in many cases deserting husbands move to other cities and commit bigamy. A law passed two years ago in Pennsylvania making wife desertion a crime has worked no appreciable re form. The Philadelphia Press remarks that nothing will be accomplished until the registry of marriage is placed on an interstate basis and the man who deserts his wife is followed and dealt with by the strong arm of the law.

The widows and orphans of Russia and of Japan are, of course, glad that the war is over; but the mischief is done so far as they are concerned However, there may be Russian and Japanese financiers who make a specialty of looking after widows and orphans, and sparing them the necessity of worrying about any property they may have by taking it away from them. There are doubtless good men in Russia and in Japan who never fail to see that the widows and orphans are able to lay up their treasures in heaven. They need no treasures in this wicked world.

The Oregonian today contains news of the most painful interest to the professional hop bears who had bought "short" and who have been predicting that the market for the new crop would open at 10 to 12 cents. Five hundred bales were sold at 16 cents. The outlook for better prices is now favorable. Buyers and sellers, growers and brewers, all who pinned their faith to the accuracy and completeness of The Oregonlan's market reports, now know that they were not misled.

One Russian newspaper complain that Roosevelt "butted in." He did. A esser man might have permitted the war to go on to a finish; and then the Russians would have had reason to complain that he did not interfere.

ing closed its doors, the ealoon business will hereafter remain in the hands of the saloon-keepers. The pulpit's place is not behind the bar-nor in front.

The Steel Trust announces that the price of steel rails will be maintained had them five years ago. for 1906. Well, nobody was looking for bargain sales at Mr. Corey's shop.

Even Emperor Nicholas has cabled a note of appreciation to President Roosevelt. Evidently the Grand Dukes weren't around.

OREGON OZONE.

The Willamette Meteorite.

Found near Willamette, Or., and recently laced on exhibition at the Lewis and Clark Exposition, where Dr. Bavid T. Day, Hon-rary Commissioner of Mines and Metallurgy.

am the maddest meteorite That ever has meteorited Out of the infinite leagues of light Onto the earth benighted. Out of the infinite awful arc, Infinitesimal I-a spark-Dropped through the dolorous dreadful

And here in Oregon 'lighted.

Eons and ages ago I came From fabulous fields etheric Lit with a livid and lustrous flame, A globule of metal spheric; Came with a sudden and sweeping flash, Fell with a swatting and swiping amash, Cut in the face of the earth a gash, Giving old Pluto an earache.

Long I lay in my darkling be The surface ten leagues under Grinding of glaciers overhead, Throbbing of Titan thunder Finally wearing the world away. Gave me glimpee of the light of Day. Then along came an Oregon jay. Dumb with awe and with wonder

Then was I loaded upon a van-I, from the vasts of vapor. Dragged about by the midget, Man, Captive (a curious caper!). Now in a pen I sit-a sight!-All bereft of my ancient might. Called "The Willamette Meteorite." That once was a heavenly taper!

* Dr. David T. Day.

His English Was O. K. "Well, dear, how did you like the play?" inquired Mrs. Mustknow, as her husband returned from the theater.

"It was out of eight." "Now, Charles, haven't I often scolded you for using that horrid slang phrase?" "But, my own, that is not slang; it is excellent Queen's English." "Oh, how very contrary you

night!" "I repeat, the language I used is ex The play was out of sight. sat right behind Mrs. Justwed, and she

An Invitation

had on her new theater hat."

Now that Strenuous Ted Has gone down to the bed Of the sea in a submarine He should come to the Fair And go up in the air In an over-the-earth machine.

The man who drew No. 13 in the recent government land lottery in connection with the opening of the Uintah res ervation has returned home disgusted after having inspected the several thousand available claims. He declares that all the good land was allotted to the Indians and there is nothing left but precipitous hills and alkali flats. So we find No. 13 cursing his luck.

The Illinois commissioners at the Lewis and Clark Exposition have acquired a female cur as a house-dog, and they have named her "Sacajawea." To make the comparison jibe with history and with the bronze statue there ought to be a little puppoore.

Dr. Uhlenhuth, a Prussian military surgeon, has discovered a method where by the presence of horseflesh in sausage may be detected. That doesn't interest us Americans, as our horses are worth more on the foot than in the sausage What we want to know is how to keep the dog out of the Hamburger.

In Missouri a company of amateur soldiers composed of girls is drilling, and it is said that the girls make excellent soldiers. Probably they are practicing the manual of arms to provide against the time when, according to Mr. Bodine, of Chicago, the women will have driven all the men out of the strenuous occupations; or maybe it is just because the dear girls can't resist the inclination to have arms around them.

ROBERTUS LOVE,

SOUTHERN PENSIONS Correction of a Widespread Misapprehension on the Subject.

Nashville American. The Memphis Commercial-Appeal having made the remarkable statement that "there is hardly a dollar of Civil War pensions spent in the South," the Knoxville Journal, edited by an expension agent at Knoxville, an office through which several millions of pension, money is paid every year, gives figures showing that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904, the sum of \$26,-035,377 was paid to pensioners in Southern States, including over \$7,000,-000 for Missouri. Kentucky pensions are paid from Louisville, and those in Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland rom Washington, All other Southern States are paid from Knoxville, Last Tennessee pensioners received \$2,812,000; Alabama, \$585,000; Arkan-sas, \$1,891,000; Florida, \$553,000; Geor-gia, \$520,000; Louisiana \$881,000; Mississippi, \$656,000; North Carolina, \$286.-These are the states paid from Knoxville. Virginia pensioners received \$1,286,300; West , and Kentucky, \$4,056,000.

Virginia, \$1,769,000; Maryland, \$1,696,-Nearly all of this large sum goes to Civil War pensioners. The 15 named receive nearly one-sixth of the entire amount disbursed for pensions in the United States. Frequently Southern newspapers which ought to know better assert that only a small frac-tion of the vast sums paid in pensions comes to the South. Tennessee alone receives more than is required to run the state government, including all its institutions. Not all Southern pen-sioners are natives of the South. Many have moved into the South from other sections.

Weather Reports Save Money.

Country Life in America. In spite of the standing jokes about the weather man it is probable that for every doller spent on the Weather Bureau, 510 are saved. At the time of the Mississippi are saved. At the time of the Mississippi flood of 1897, \$15,000,000 worth of livestock and other property was saved as a result of warnings issued a week ahead Signals displayed for a single hurricane have detained in port vessels valued, with their cargoes, at \$20,000,000. The West Indian stations, established in 1888, inform us of hurricanes as soon as they begin. The course of the hurricane that caused the Galveston flood was charted for a week before it struck our shores-for hurricanes move slowly. Eighty-five per cent of the forecasts now come true, and by of the forecasts now come true, and by the aid of rural free delivery 5,000,000 forecast cards were distributed last year to farmers, many of whom could not have

A Cat With Nine Lives.

A Cat With Nine Lives.

Yacolt Curr. Vancouver Chronicle.
A large cougar with eight kittens was discovered about a mile and a half from town and within 150 yards of the wanted to go three blocks to Yambill street. No. 127 car game along and re-

LETTERS ON CURRENT TOPICS

Attorney Bennett Explains His Participation in That Poker Game—Chairman Boothe on Graft and Irrigation—The Ashland High School—
A Few Remarks on Adam and Eve.

others having been engaged in a game of cards at a private room in one of the Portland hotels, some days ago. I have never been a professional gambler, and I hope I never may be, but nearly all my the clerks in the stores. I suggest that a business men's day be appointed, and they go to the Fair and see what the National to suggest in behalf ent. I do not attempt to justify this as exactly ethically right. Still I have never thought there was under the circumstances, any really great or serious ig in the habit

In Dits particular case it goes without saying that there were no such considerable sums won or lost by any one, as has been reported, and I think it may be safely assumed from the persons engaged that no one had any other object than to amuse a passing hour. Certainly that

was my only object.

I did not understand that the public officials were attempting to interfere with social card playing of this kind in a private room. On the contrary, I was informed that card playing in a similar was recombined to the contrary. way was permitted at nearly all the clubs and, indeed, in many families in the city. As I have said I did not consider that was doing any serious wrong. Still I realize that others may and no doubt do look at it differently, and regard the matter as of a more serious character, and they may be entirely right.

At any rate if the city officials are desirous of interfering with that kind of card playing. I certainly do not claim any exemption, and am ready at any time to appear and satisfy any judgment the court may see fit to assess against me.

ALFRED S. BENNETT.

GRAFT AND IRRIGATION.

Mr. Boothe Criticises Proceedings at the Late Congress.

PORTLAND, Aug. 31.—(To the Editor.) The editorial in The Oregonian August 20 headed "Mr. Hill on the Land Question" is such a splendid summing up f the objects to which the Thirteenth National Irrigation Congress might have considered with resultant benefits to it-self and the people of the country, that desire to express my very great satisfaction with it. Unfortunately for all concerned "graft and greed" with characteristic effrontery insisted upon making its presence felt, and although the papers and addresses noted on the program were of the highest order and contained a great deal of information, the com-mittee on resolutions, which was supposed to reflect the work of the congress, ut-terly failing to grasp the deeper prob-lems, largely frittered its time away either wrangling over matters of minor importance, or on one side pressing for opportunity to include matters for selfish purposes, and on the other side re-

To those who have followed the en itorials of The Oregonian it is a source for congratulation that though the congrees has adjourned, there yet remains here a force that will continue to exert itself in the interest of the people of the whole United States and keep on resisting the grafting propensities of the land I desire to express my appreciation of

your excellent daily reports of the con-gress, and to congratulate you upon the strength and tone of your paper, as well as the magnificent news service which you are giving your readers. C. B. BOOTHE

Chairman Executive Committee. PUT UP MONUMENT TO EVE

Adam Was No Gentleman, and Deserves Nothing, Says Dr. Tenney.

CHICAGO, Ill., Aug. 25.-(To the Editor.)—I read in The Oregonian of July 38 the following: "Since Mark Twain has falled in his efforts to induce Elmira, N. Y., to build a monument to Adam, let Portland follow up the Sacajawea start and build a monument to Eve. It would please the ladies and make Joaquin Miller happy."

A monument to Adam, as proposed by Mark Twain, is a preposterous consideration. Adam did nothing for which his name should be commemorated; but Portland would cover herself with glory by building a monument to the state of the true there have been old the true the by building a monument to the great and much-maligned Eve. at whose door has been laid the sins of the whole world, and that, too, by professing Christians and eminent divines, who, in their efforts to debase a great and good woman, have evidently forgotten the golden rule enun-ciated by the Master whom they profess

to love and serve.

It is truly said, that Eve first partook of the fruit of the tree of knowledge, and gave to Adam, who also ate; but in doing so, she committed no sin. History (Genesis II) states that Adam was created and placed in the Garden of Eden, and the command not to partake of the fruit of the tree of knowledge was given to him before Eve was created. She seems to have known or heard something of the command, but she must have had her information from Adam, and her experience with that gentleman had been such that she did not believe a word he said. She could not accept the statement that the Lord would create such fine fruit as she saw growing upon the tree of knowl-edge, and then forbid his children to eat So she gathered and ate, and when Adam saw that she did not die, he also

When the Lord came into the garden and Adam was skulking behind a tree, he called him, and asked him if he had partaken of the fruit of the tree of knowledge, instead of stepping out like a chiv-airous gentleman, and saying. "Yes, Lord, I ate of that fruit." he whined out, "The woman thou gavest me did tempt me, and I did eat." He seemed inclined to blame God for giving him the woman. All honor to Eve for her wisdom and decision. Had she not eaten that fruit we should not now know how to print newspapers, nor how to read them, and the great Fair in Portland would never

Oregon was undoubtedly the site of the Garden of Eden, and Portland will attract the attention of the world, and greatly increase the immigration of wise and thoughtful people by the erection of a monument to Eve. DR. RACHEL S. TENNEY.

TAKING IN THE NICKELS.

Petty Scheme of Street Railway Com pany at American Inn. PORTLAND, Aug. 30 .- (To the Editor.)

-Having occasion, with some friends, the other day, to go out near the American Inn, on the outside, we took a car, upon which was the sign, "For the Fair Gounds and American Inn." You may imagine our surprise, when we reached the corner near the entrance to the Fair grounds to be informed that we must change cars and pay an additional fare. Not that we cared so much about another fare, but, to say the least, it was annoying to be humbugged by a proposition that the trolley lines do not carry out, did not intend to carry out, and have no provision made to carry out, and the only way I could be carried out would be by transfer-ring from one car to another, which the company ought to do if it owns the American Inn car. I suppose it does, for no separate company would place a track one-half mile long, with a single car, with

THE DALLES, Or., Aug. 31.-(To the fused to stop, motioning to take another Editor.)—A good deal of notoriety has car. I hold that cars are under obliga-been given to the fact of myself and tion to stop for passengers, and the pas-others having been engaged in a game of senger has a right to determine where he

of the working people. I believe in fair play and fair treatment for every one. The street railways have a monopoly everywhere. Experience shows that monopolies grind every one and everything that falls into the hopper.

W. G. ROBERTS. that falls

HIGH SCHOOL AT ASHLAND

City Spends Nearly \$40,000 for New Building.

ASHLAND, Or., Aug. 31.—(To the Ed-tor.)—An editorial in The Oregonian of August 29 again does great injustice to the Southern Oregon State Normal School at Ashland in saying that this school. with Weston, Drain and Monmouth normals, are in fact local high schools sup-ported by the money of the people of the whole state. This writer has nothing to say as regards the others, for he does not pretend to have knowledge of the conditions that surround them, but he does know that the statement is not cor-rect as far as the school at Ashland is concerned. There is no more connection between the local High School of Ash-land and the normal here than there is between either and the State University or State Agricultural College. Ashland school district has within the past year spent nearly \$40,000 in building and furnishing a new high school building, prob-ably the finest building of its kind in Oregon not even excepting Portland. A. few years ago the school district here built another splendid public school buildhuilt another splendid public school build-ing at a cost of \$20,000. Neither of these buildings is within less than two miles of the normal campus and buildings. Ashiand maintains a high school course of four years, one year having recently been added to it, and the graduates from this course are admitted to the freshman classes in the State University and other schools, and I think it is that no other high school in Oregon stands higher in efficiency of its work stands higher in efficiency of its work

than does the Ashland High Sch The normal here does an entirely distinct work and is in no way related to the high school. The students of the normal come from a wide area of this section of Oregon and from many coun-

Record of Old Line Companies. What They Have Done.

FAILURES IN INSURANCE.

PORTLAND, Aug. 30 .- (To the Editor.) -In The Oregonian of August 29, in an article on "Fraternal Insurance Orders." it is stated that "there is a record of \$22 old-line companies organized. Of these 775 have disappeared. The annals of fraternal insurance present no such disas-trous tale." I inclose herewith a list of fraternal and assessment societie that have falled and ceased to do busines in the last 25 years, and also a clipping from the independent, of New York, on the subject of old-line failures, and l should be giad if you would publish the same in your valuable paper. EDWARD C. FROST.

The clipping is: Old Line Fallures-For some years many fraternal orders and other assessment societies have persistently circulated a document which purports to give a list of the number of old line failures that have occurred in the several states. It is claimed that "our of 782 old line life companies chartered in the United States, but 55 remain." Challenge the concerns could him the document for their autority of their autority of the companies the document for their autority. cerns publishing the document for their au thority for the statement, none can give it They simply reprint what others have printed assuming it is true because it suits their The figures, however, are always introduced with the agreetion that then compiled from the records on file in the 1 surance departments of the several states.

a score or more, and some of them serious, but all combined would scarcely make one fair-sized company in this day. In a general way it may be stated that, up to 1865, there had never been one-fourth of 782 legal reserve companies organized, and there has never been a tenth of that number of actual figures. Of those that have gone out of business. many never wrote any insurance at all. A considerable number of the others retired voluntarily, after reinsuring their business, without the loss of a dollar to their policyholders. The actual failures were all the re suit of mismanagement, not of a defective plan. The legal reserve system is mathe-matically correct, but failure may come through a corrupt or incapable management.

BUILDING A GREAT STATION. Monumental Task Ahead of Pennsylvania Road in New York City.

Karl Decker in Success. Within the next five years the Pennsylvania Railroad station in New York City and its connecting tunnels will be completed, and the new Grand Central sta-tion will be ready for use a year sooner. Four city blocks have been razed by the contractors in charge of the work on the Pennsylvania station, and the great traveling steam shovels are at work, each tearing away a thousand cubic yards of earth daily, while a hundred drills here bore into the exposed rock and heavy charges of dynamite rack it into frag-

A great excavation, 90 feet dee parts, must be dug, and in all 80,000,009 cubic yards of earth and rock will be carted away before the work of building the new station can be begun.

The cost of this work will be \$50,000,000, to which must be added the \$10,000,000 spent in acquiring real estate. Over in spent in acquiring real estate. Over in New Jersey the work of boring the tunnel that is to carry the tracks of the Pennsylvania into New York has been begun, and a shaft 75 feet deep and 35 feet in diameter has been sunk. From this point two separate tunnels, a mile in length, will be bored to the waterfront, and thence, under the river bottom, 5000 feet to the suaft on the western shore of Manhattan Island, where the underjand tunnels will strike through to the statunnels will strike through to the sta-tion. On Long Island the shaft work has also been begun, and before long the work of tunneling the East River to meet the bores from the west will begit. The station itself will occupy a site of \$50x1000 feet, and will be \$60 feet in length by \$60 seet in width. Placed 50 feet back fro the building line on all sides, it will give the effect of being located in the center

of a great plaza. Disconcerting.

Harper's Weekly. "Now, boys," said the schoolmaster dur-ing an examination in geography, "what is the axis of the earth?" Johnny raised his hand promptly. "Well, Johnny, how would you describe

"The axis of the earth," said Johnny "The axis of the earth," said Johnny proudly, "is an imaginary line which passes from one pole to the otner, and on which the earth revolves."
"Very good!" exclaimed the teacher.
"Now, could you hang clothes on that line. Johnny?"

"Yes, sir," was the reply.
"Indeed?" said the examiner, di
pointed; 'and what sort of clothes?