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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, FEB. 10, 1907.

LINCOLN.

When Lincoln's only term in Congress ended in 1839, Polk, who was then President, offered to appoint him Governor of Oregon. Lincoln declined. Had he accepted, the course of history would have been altered. In his robust and adventurous youth he had been fond of hunting, and this taste he could have gratified abundantly in the Oregon of that day. He might have led an arduous life, free, happy and healthful; he would have been a member of the national sky as that "powerful Western star" whose beams guided a hemisphere to freedom and made democracy the watchword of advancing civilization; nor at his untimely death would the poet have sung as dirge for "the sweetest and wisest soul of all my race since night"; Lincoln would have died unknown, and all the treasure of one of the divinest lives that has ever been lived on earth the world would have lost. There would have been mourning at his death, for the lives of Lincoln, even in his youth, had always been a "pomp of incensed flags with cities draped in black," no nation gathered as his funeral traversed the continent to weep for a loss beyond repair.

Perhaps his refusal to become Governor of Oregon was the turning point in Lincoln's life. At any rate, it indicated his foreknowledge that he was born for great destinies and must reserve himself for them. He belonged not to a state; not indeed to a nation, for, though the greatest of Americans, no boundaries can contain his fame; his service was to mankind and his glory belongs to all nations and all time. He was supremely great, both in the cause he served and in the manner of his service. Scarcely a Lincoln is compared with Lee; but those who see no difference between the magnitudes of these historic figures are singularly blind. Lee's personal character may stand comparison with any man's ever lived; he was patient as Lincoln, perhaps, and as gentle; but in those finer qualities which make a man the choice of Providence for imperial destinies, which predestine them to direct the course of history, Lee lacked most what Lincoln was most abundantly gifted.

Lee devoted great qualities to a bad cause, Lincoln to the cause which has ages has claimed the fealty of the demigods and martyrs. Lee fought and suffered that the strong might forever slumber the weak and that injustice might prevail; Lincoln, on the other hand, died that freedom might be preserved and the everlasting laws of righteousness might become the laws of human conduct. Lee failed, and the human race, while it pays tribute to his personal character, grieves in his failure. Lincoln succeeded, and the world is forever better for his success. In the manner of his service Lincoln was incomparably wise. He understood human nature, calculated chances and computed results unerringly. No man has ever failed in the long run. Lincoln's trust was never betrayed. Those who despised him in the beginning he compelled to admire him in the end. Those who would have thwarted him he won to inflexible loyalty. The source of his wisdom was his fatigues sense of right and wrong. The great war was his training ground for judgment of men and things. He read men as others read books, though with deeper understanding. No unkindness of circumstance could hide from him the supreme excellence of Grant and Sherman. All his Cabinet officers were adequate to their work. All the great war Governors were his willing vassals, not merely from loyalty to the Union, but from love to their commander. The souls of men were not hidden from him. He knew their secrets and divined their motives. When slander assailed Grant

during those Western campaigns which won the war, Lincoln smiled his smile of infinite patience and still trusted the glowing destinies of the hero. When Sherman had become him the sketch of his march to the sea and the waves of routine shook their heads, Lincoln forced the outcome and bade him march. A master of strategy, he held before his mind the complexities of continental campaigns. He was great enough to know the greatness of his cause and left them free because he comprehended them.

Then Lincoln, no finer military genius has ever lived, but here his ability lay in understanding what other minds had conceived and in weaving their plans into a comprehensive whole in which he was not an executive so much as one who directed the powers of his subordinates to fruitful ends. It was in statesmanship that Lincoln showed his originality. Here his judgment worked alone and decided without dependence on others. His plans were his own, and he executed them with Retributive Justice had no place in his thoughts. His mind looked toward restoration, not punishment. When he died the South lost its best and wisest friend. All the mistakes of reconstruction he had foreseen and guarded against. All the errors of policy in the reconstruction of a primitive race were present to his mind as he thought out the future of the negroes. Had he lived, disseminate justice would have dictated the status of the enfranchised blacks. His death opened the way to greed and vengeance, and their wise beneficence his plans for the construction of a new and better world died with him, and so far inferior to him were all his contemporaries that they could not even measure the greatness of his thoughts. The mistakes that he would have shunned they hastened to commit. So far inferior to him were they that we are still striving in vain to right the misfortunes which they brought upon the country. As his birthday recurs the Nation remembers Lincoln with a sense of measureless and irrevocable loss. We feel for him as we feel for the great, but that love which goes from the human heart to a friend, a protector, a guide.

HER WRETCHED MOTHER.

No one who has followed the evidence in the Thaw trial, sympathetically or curiously, albeit with a choking sensation inspired by disgust and indignation, can fail to endorse the estimate of the mother of Evelyn Nesbit as expressed by Harry Thaw in the above words. A "wretched mother" indeed must be a wretched woman, and her young daughter to the cunning of the professional rove, old in the tricks and wiles and arts of his trade, and abandons her to the inevitable consequences.

There is no excuse for Stanford White—his, loathsome counterpart, whose boasted prudence, experience and helplessness young girls; none for Harry Thaw, an idler and a libertine, who through murder sought to avenge an irredeemable wrong. But the mother, who by insistence and connivance smoothed the downward pathway of her young daughter, who, when she comes enough can exorcise? She literally made merchandise of the body and soul of the child given to her charge, and lived for a time upon the unholy increment.

WE are constrained in such a case to believe that even Nature, sometimes times when she should be wide awake, and during a drowsy lapse permitted this weakling to become a mother—the mother of a daughter. Stanford White has gone to his long account and at last rest there, and not untimely, by an avenging bullet, Harry Thaw may find his evil fate, when the time comes in the electrical chair, which a great commonwealth has equipped and holds in readiness for criminals who upon due conviction of crime have forfeited the right to live; Evelyn Thaw will pass down and out of the witness chair, which the shadow of her own debauched girlhood fell from her own lips, a dark shadow upon the shield of virtuous young womanhood. And the woman whose lax administration of her holy office laid the foundation of the tragedy, the details of which have been worked out in infamy and crime and spread upon the records of a state's jurisprudence, is it sufficient that she be known as "that wretched mother," and her part in the shameful story be cited as an example of the gravest possible misfeasance in the maternal office. My mother, dressed in black and told me, "go, and I want," is the testimony upon which this woman stands convicted of this grossest wrong. "Her wretched mother must not receive anything," wrote Harry Thaw to his lawyer, "in directing the disposal of his property in the event of his death."

THE WHITE MAN'S WORLD.

Not long ago there came from Professor Thomas of the University of Chicago, the ponderous statement that women—"modern women"—and all members of the black race are not fit to live except as inferior beings in the "white man's world." A fitting preface to this sapient statement, as far as it includes women, may be found in "Paradise Lost," wherein Milton, morose and rendered misanthropic by the desertion of his wife (he was, by the way, not in any sense a "modern woman"), who found the companionship of the dictatorial recluse whom she had married inappreciable, made Adam in shifting the burden of his weakness upon Eve exclaimed:

Oh, why did God, Creator vast, that people's highest, heav'n's With spirits masculine, create at first This revolting earth, this fair defect of nature, will not all be woman, once With me as angel, without feminine, Or find some other way To generate mankind?

MISSOURI CONTROL OF IMMIGRATION.

Missouri, on the alert for conditions that will accrue to her profit, is about to adopt the South Carolina plan of securing a due proportion of immigration of the class that will add by intelligent industry to her prosperity. Of this number of immigrants now pouring into the state, the vast majority are much more desirable as citizens than others. The plan is to pick and choose among these, not when they land in our home ports, but when they embark at European ports. To this end a North Carolina steamer, the Jefferson, is asked to appropriate \$50,000 to maintain agents in the latter ports to select the right kind of immigrants and direct them to Missouri as their objective point.

South Carolina has found this plan a profitable one, in that it has assured to the state the "pick" of many shiploads of immigrants, and their families, come to the United States seeking homes. Aside from these agents of South Carolina and the agents of the steamship companies, there are now no selecting or distributing agencies to pass upon or fix the value of immigrants in each country, and yearly seeking our shores. The only "selection" made by the latter agents consists in safeguarding their companies from the expense of shipping, and the certain reshipping of diseased and other dependent persons who are not allowed to land. All of the able-bodied men and women who are brought across the sea are dumped into Atlantic ports, at or near which 90 per cent of them remain. The human food is allowed practically to take its own course, without any intelligent attempt to guide it. It is held that the results of its movement would be more satisfactory were the states to take charge of the matter severally, each looking to its own especial interests; if a mining state, to placing a sturdy, industrious mining class; if an agricultural state, an agricultural class.

Headless alike of the multitude of which this "class" is composed and of the standing in letters, in science, in philanthropy, in executive ability and in industrial achievement to which very many of its members have attained, this critic goes on to state that his hypothesis, regardless of its flimsy foundation, and unmindful of the fact that the record of woman's endeavor and accomplishment in every community in the civilized world is a refutation of his statement.

Take, for a familiar example, Lucretia Garfield, mother of a President. A woman of intelligent, tireless industry, the simple chronicles of the neighborhood in which she lived attest the fact that by her united effort she brought up to lives of honor and usefulness a large family left to her charge by the untimely death of her husband. Could any man have done as much? Is this woman a specimen of a "sporadic class"? On the contrary, are not such women to be found in every community, rising grandly to meet one of the common vicissitudes of life and discharging intelligently, patiently and successfully the duties of both father and mother in caring for their children? History tells us that it was through a woman's self-sacrificing endeavor that Abraham Lincoln came up through pinched and suffering boyhood to great and useful manhood, and that woman was not his own mother, but his foster-mother. Unassuming, faithful, industrious, this woman—the second wife of Thomas Lincoln—not only brought up his children by her thrift, but imbued them with her own strength of character, dragging throughout many toilsome years the additional clog of an easygoing, good-for-nothing husband. Is not this type of woman also to be found in every community, and could any man accom-

plish successfully this task so bravely borne—this duty so intelligently discharged?

The "modern woman," thanks to the development of the schools of the shared and of which she stands today an equal representative with modern man—even the modern "white man"—is not a clog upon the world of endeavor, but one of its strongest mainstays. That "she got into the game" late is not a reason for her being held responsible. But her achievement, notwithstanding this late start, has left its stamp upon the world, deep and lasting—the stamp, not of sex, an accident at best and a circumstance or condition of which man need not boast nor woman apologize, since neither had a voice in its ordering—but the stamp of earnest, intelligent endeavor and its resultant usefulness to the race.

It is much wiser, much more creditable, for a man who assumes to be an interpreter of the signs and symbols of Nature, and of which he accepts the fact and rejoices in the blessings that it confers upon the race, than to assume that woman is a mistake of creation, made necessary by a Creator, so stunted in resources as not to be able to fill the world to capacity.

With men, as with women, without feminine, Or find some other way To generate mankind.

A QUEER THEORY.

In that strange book, "The Tollers of the Sea," Victor Hugo puts forth a queer theory, which he attributes to the sailors of the atmosphere. He begins by speaking of jelly fishes, which are transparent and so nearly of the same density as sea-water that they are invisible until they have been cast ashore. Were there no shore to the sea, and no rocks where these frail mariners could be cast ashore, would they perhaps know nothing of jelly fishes?

The atmosphere, he proceeds to remark, has no shore; neither are there any rocks or mountain peaks which protrude above it. The air, in fact, extends several miles above the loftiest summits of the loftiest mountains, and that there were aloft in the atmosphere beings related to the air as jelly fish are to water, we might possibly never know anything about them. Being transparent, they could not be seen. Being agile, they could avoid the eyes of all who might see them. The atmosphere is thickly populated with beings of this sort.

A very curious short story published some years ago pursues the same train of fancy. A learned professor got wind in some way of these aerial beings and set out to catch them. His experiments were carried out in the wilds of Florida, with a tragic end which deprived science of most of the benefit of his learned labors. He caught one of the beings, who turned out to be a female of extraordinary beauty, and the result was that the trapper himself was trapped and haled away to the upper regions.

If these beings exist, their interference with human affairs may account for some of those extraordinary occurrences which puzzle the curious. Why may they not become visible when light is cast upon them? Why may they not appear and present the aspect of ghosts? Granting this hypothesis, ghost stories lose their incredibility. Those mysterious sudden appearances of living beings which are so well attested and so inexplicable would also be accounted for as well as some or all of the phenomena of telepathy.

Perhaps these material but invisible inhabitants of the air condescend to carry messages between human beings. Perhaps they rap on tables at spiritualistic meetings; perhaps they write on the wall. It is not impossible that a revelation may be nothing more than the reverie of a poet; but at the same time it may be one of those visions which are prophetic of great realities. Were there any way to investigate his theory it would seem to offer an inviting field for the ingenuity and diligence of scientists.

Hon. David Smith, whose death occurred at his home in Forest Grove, February 8, was known to the pioneers of this county as a resident and neighbor, and to the state in a past era as a legislator. He lived in Yamhill county twenty years on a farm lying north of McMinnville; for the past quarter of a century or more he had resided in Forest Grove. He left his estate to the state, the result of a long life of probity, hospitality and good citizenship.

A 14-year-old Lebanon boy, just sent to the Reform School at the request of his mother for incorrigibility, says his parents separated when he was a mere babe and his mother remarried. His second husband later being sent to San Quentin for train-robbing. In the case of the boy the cause is probably environment, which is not one of the evils to be overcome by Dr. Owens-Adair's measure.

President Harris, of Northwestern University, will discover in time that it isn't a first-rate idea to advertise the merits of his university before the General Education Board by jumping all over the \$2,000,000 Rockefeller gift, otherwise the Large Face Offer to Buy the Public Estate.

Local option suffered an easy death—30 to 15—in the Idaho House Friday. Yet Idaho is a state where women cast a large vote. There may be truth in the contention of leading women suffragists of Oregon that their "party" is not wholly won by "vinegary old-maid prohibitionists."

After a few illuminating hours at the White House the San Francisco delegation is disposed now to enlarge the world's boundaries, which have heretofore been fixed at San Francisco Bay on the east and the Pacific Ocean on the west.

Burglars have made it impossible for Councilman Kellaher to open his safe. This is unfortunate, for Councilman Kellaher is one of the kind that has scruples about accepting the hospitality of any one else's safe.

The Solid Nine will provide its own votes in its great combination candidacy for Mayor, and the public will provide the necessary fourteen. Figure it out for yourself.

The reporters might easily be able to persuade the public that Mrs. Thaw is the most beautiful woman in the world if the artists would let her alone.

A high record of 725 private pension bills in the House Friday is one more boost toward publishing the entire list.

Councilman Shepherd intimates that his announcement of his candidacy for Mayor is a joke. Well, it's a good one.

If the rest of it is to be like yesterday, we move to amend the calendar and add a few more days to February.

The whistle of the locomotive sounds a cheerful note to dwellers along the line after a tie-up of a week.

"Salome" is to reappear in the name of a new ten-for-a-quarter cigar. Is it as bad as that?

What is the sympathetic tie between gambling and tobacco?

COMMENT ON CURRENT OREGON TOPICS

Two Weeks' Hard and Rapid Work Before the Oregon Legislature—Bad Practices in Introduction of Bills—Putting a Democratic Governor in a Hole—The Troublesome Problem of the Normal Schools.

THERE can be no doubt of the truth of the assertion frequently made that this session of the Legislature is attending to business more diligently than any of its predecessors in recent years. While it has not taken final action on as many bills as some Legislatures in the same length of time, yet the members have given close attention to the business before them, and have the work well in hand, so that in the remaining two weeks of the session the bills pending should receive due attention and the session close with little left undone for want of time. The ways and means committees have their work far advanced than usual, and the railroads and assessment and taxation committees have passed upon practically all the important measures before them. A few evening sessions will enable the Legislature to perform a large amount of work this week and next. The members have been to regular attendance and are generally familiar with the nature of the bills before them. This session differs from many that have preceded it in that there has been no need for "call of the House" in order to keep a quorum present for the transaction of business.

A PRACTICE which has been growing in recent years and which has been more pronounced at this session of the Legislature than ever before, is that of introducing the same bill in each house. In many instances the authors of bills prepare them in duplicate and have them introduced simultaneously in each house. They go to the floor in two separate bills, but are exactly alike, and must be printed twice, thus not only increasing the expense of printing but crowding the printer with work, so that many of the bills are delayed. This practice has been criticised by some as a growing evil. By others it is defended as a means of facilitating the work of committees. It certainly encounters the exact opposite result, however, and wastes time in reading and referring bills. The argument in defense of the practice is that by introducing the same bill in each house, a road bill, for example, the measure is placed in the hands of the proper committees in each house early in the session, and is under consideration without waiting for it to go from one house to the other. If a road bill were introduced in the Senate only, it would go through the hands of the Senate committee on roads, and after it had been reported and passed, it would go to the House, be read twice and then sent to the House committee on roads, there to be considered again. In introducing a bill in both houses at the same time, it goes to the committee in each house about the same time, and when the bill goes from one house to the other, it has in reality been before the committee, and there need be no delay in acting upon it.

THE same end could be attained, however, by holding joint meetings of similar committees from the two houses. Such meetings are now held by some of the more important committees, such as ways and means, irrigation, banking, railroads and assessment and taxation. Judiciary and laws committees meet in each of the two houses seldom hold joint sessions. The House and Senate committees on ways and means always meet jointly. The difficulty in the way of joint sessions is that the lists of committees in the two houses do not correspond and there is not uniformity in referring bills. The Senate has but 32. If the two houses could agree upon a uniform list of committees, and then arrange joint meetings of the committees, giving attention to the same subjects, there would be a better understanding of what each house has before it, and what sort of bills each house may expect to receive from the other. But while this plan would facilitate work, it would probably discourage the efficient progress, which has no small value in a Legislature. Bills considered in joint session would receive favorable reports in each house more frequently than would bills considered by committees in each house separately. A committee of the house in which a bill originates is more likely to look upon it with favor than is a committee of the other house. The author of a bill very frequently has it referred to a committee of which he is a member, and out of courtesy to him, a joint committee would report a bill favorably. It is not likely that such a consideration and be reported unfavorably if considered the second time by a committee of which the author was not a member. There is little doubt, however, that uniformity in the organization of committees, and discontinuance of the practice of introducing bills in each house separately, would save some expense and hasten the work of the Legislature.

AS THE Legislature gets down to the real work of passing bills, there is a very noticeable increase in the attention members are giving to the probable attitude of the Democratic Governor upon the important measures that are under consideration. It is frequently remarked that the Governor will lose no opportunity to make what the Republican members call a "grandstand play," and it is plainly evident that the Republicans stand much in fear of these "plays." Chamberlain's ability to write a veto message that is likely to be popular is well recognized, and the members are taking the Governor into consideration at nearly every step. They realize that the Governor will have the last "say" on enactment of a law, and that his veto, if exercised, will bring into prominence any error the Legislature may have committed, and bring credit to the Governor. Probably none of the members would acknowledge being influenced in their course by the possible action of the Governor, yet it is noticeable that "what the Governor will do" is a very common subject of comment when Republican legislators get their heads together in informal conference.

The Governor has, for example, given particular attention during his administration to eradication of the evils in the administration of the land affairs of the state. He has made known his attitude toward land sales procured by fraud. If, toward the Legislature should pass a bill favorable to the land-grabbers, there can be no doubt about the action the Governor would take, and the Republican Leg-

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islature would find that he had put it "in a hole." On a number of other subjects of general public interest the Governor has an opportunity to place the Legislature in a bad light. If he makes a mistake, and no one doubts that he will do so on occasion offers. He has several advantages, chief among which is the fact that in a contest between one man and 50 public sympathy is pretty likely to favor the one.

IT IS possible, perhaps, for a Republican Legislature to put a Democratic Governor "in a hole," but none seem to have done it thus far. A Republican Legislature put Governor T. T. Geer in such a position in 1901, when it passed a Portland charter bill. One faction of the party demanded the veto of the bill and the other that it be permitted to become a law. The fight was bitter, and the Governor could not act without making uncompromising enemies of one side or the other. His attitude toward the measure was probably enough to defeat him, and permitting the bill to become a law might have had disastrous effects. The Legislature "put him in a hole." The Legislature of 1906 came within one vote of placing Governor Chamberlain in as difficult a position when it had under consideration the proposed amendment to the local option law. Had that bill been passed and put up to the Governor, the whole state would have been divided into two factions, one demanding that the bill and the other that he permit it to become a law. Whatever course he took he would have made a host of bitter enemies, who would have fought him politically as long as he ran for office in Oregon. Probably he would have been able to pull himself out of that sort of a hole without being hurt, but there are few who think he could have.

THE present Legislature shows no desire or intention to try to put the Governor in a position where he will be compelled to kill himself off politically. Perhaps it could be done if the Legislature were organized under a leader whom it would follow in a big game of politics, but there is no indication of such a situation. Though the Legislature is overwhelmingly Republican, there is very little observance of party lines in any of the voting. There is no one leader who can or does map out a programme which the others will follow. Neither party lines nor factional lines are to be seen in the voting. There is no one in the voting upon bills. Neither the Haines, nor the Hodson forces in the Senate, or the Davey people or the Vauter people in the House, as they were known at the time of the organization, hang together on any question of legislation. Republicans and Democrats mix their votes on nearly every question upon which there is a controversy. It probably furnishes a lesson to the Legislature of other states that this situation makes it practically certain that this Legislature will not make any concerted effort to shatter the political hopes of the Democratic Governor, who is generally credited with an ambition to receive popular endorsement in 1908 for the United States Senate.

THE only suggestion that has been made this session of a possible trap for the Governor is in connection with the normal school question. The Governor recommended that two of the normals be discontinued. It has been remarked that the Legislature might pass four separate appropriation bills, one for each normal, and leave the Governor to veto two of them, thus putting upon him the duty of choosing and financing the two normals which the people interested in the two schools that would be left without funds. This plan would be of doubtful effect, however, for discontinuance of the appropriation for two years would not abolish the schools, and, taking this view of it, the Governor might file all the bills, regretting that the Legislature had failed to perform its duty of putting two of them out of business. He would thus make friends in each of the normal school localities, and the people generally would not censure him for refusing to veto bills when such action would not decide the real question in issue. The normal school question, vexatious as it is, seems to afford little opportunity of making trouble for the Governor.

THE present week in the Legislature will be an interesting one from the viewpoint of the legislator in the gallery. The Normal School bills will of course also will appropriation bills, the railroad commission bill, the direct primary bills, the irrigation code and many other measures of popular interest. The formal and rather uninteresting first and second reading of bills is pretty much a thing of the past, and from this time on there will be more debate upon bills upon their merits. The Legislature has a habit of placing important measures on the calendar as special orders for 10 o'clock in the morning or 2 in the afternoon. It would be much more pleasing to the gallery if the special orders were set down for evening sessions, so that citizens would not need to neglect their business affairs in order to attend the sessions and hear the debates. With a railroad commission bill announced for consideration at 8 o'clock in the evening, the orators in either house would be sure of a large and grateful audience.

If Pa Was Rannin' Things.

Chicago Record-Herald. If Pa was rannin' things you'd see some changes pretty quick. The best way to get things in so fast and pay days would be thick. He'd never get no more of that kind of thing. And stop their printin' pictures of his slawin' off. And if another Sweetenham leaked us, we'd be rannin' things.

We'd have the Panama Canal all finished by July. And every time you'd get up—see whin, the fair would be. He'd use the big stick on the folks that he'd be makin' the Governor into consideration at nearly every step. They realize that the Governor will have the last "say" on enactment of a law, and that his veto, if exercised, will bring into prominence any error the Legislature may have committed, and bring credit to the Governor.

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THE present Legislature shows no desire or intention to try to put the Governor in a position where he will be compelled to kill himself off politically. Perhaps it could be done if the Legislature were organized under a leader whom it would follow in a big game of politics, but there is no indication of such a situation. Though the Legislature is overwhelmingly Republican, there is very little observance of party lines in any of the voting. There is no one leader who can or does map out a programme which the others will follow. Neither party lines nor factional lines are to be seen in the voting. There is no one in the voting upon bills. Neither the Haines, nor the Hodson forces in the Senate, or the Davey people or the Vauter people in the House, as they were known at the time of the organization, hang together on any question of legislation. Republicans and Democrats mix their votes on nearly every question upon which there is a controversy. It probably furnishes a lesson to the Legislature of other states that this situation makes it practically certain that this Legislature will not make any concerted effort to shatter the political hopes of the Democratic Governor, who is generally credited with an ambition to receive popular endorsement in 1908 for the United States Senate.

THE only suggestion that has been made this session of a possible trap for the Governor is in connection with the normal school question. The Governor recommended that two of the normals be discontinued. It has been remarked that the Legislature might pass four separate appropriation bills, one for each normal, and leave the Governor to veto two of them, thus putting upon him the duty of choosing and financing the two normals which the people interested in the two schools that would be left without funds. This plan would be of doubtful effect, however, for discontinuance of the appropriation for two years would not abolish the schools, and, taking this view of it, the Governor might file all the bills, regretting that the Legislature had failed to perform its duty of putting two of them out of business. He would thus make friends in each of the normal school localities, and the people generally would not censure him for refusing to veto bills when such action would not decide the real question in issue. The normal school question, vexatious as it is, seems to afford little opportunity of making trouble for the Governor.

THE present week in the Legislature will be an interesting one from the viewpoint of the legislator in the gallery. The Normal School bills will of course also will appropriation bills, the railroad commission bill, the direct primary bills, the irrigation code and many other measures of popular interest. The formal and rather uninteresting first and second reading of bills is pretty much a thing of the past, and from this time on there will be more debate upon bills upon their merits. The Legislature has a habit of placing important measures on the calendar as special orders for 10 o'clock in the morning or 2 in the afternoon. It would be much more pleasing to the gallery if the special orders were set down for evening sessions, so that citizens would not need to neglect their business affairs in order to attend the sessions and hear the debates. With a railroad commission bill announced for consideration at 8 o'clock in the evening, the orators in either house would be sure of a large and grateful audience.

If Pa Was Rannin' Things.

Chicago Record-Herald. If Pa was rannin' things you'd see some changes pretty quick. The best way to get things in so fast and pay days would be thick. He'd never get no more of that kind of thing. And stop their printin' pictures of his slawin' off. And if another Sweetenham leaked us, we'd be rannin' things.

We'd have the Panama Canal all finished by July. And every time you'd get up—see whin, the fair would be. He'd use the big stick on the folks that he'd be makin' the Governor into consideration at nearly every step. They realize that the Governor will have the last "say" on enactment of a law, and that his veto, if exercised, will bring into prominence any error the Legislature may have committed, and bring credit to the Governor.

Probably none of the members would acknowledge being influenced in their course by the possible action of the Governor, yet it is noticeable that "what the Governor will do" is a very common subject of comment when Republican legislators get their heads together in informal conference.

The Governor has, for example, given particular attention during his administration to eradication of the evils in the administration of the land affairs of the state. He has made known his attitude toward land sales procured by fraud. If, toward the Legislature should pass a bill favorable to the land-grabbers, there can be no doubt about the action the Governor would take, and the Republican Leg-

islature would find that he had put it "in a hole." On a number of other subjects of general public interest the Governor has an opportunity to place the Legislature in a bad light. If he makes a mistake, and no one doubts that he will do so on occasion offers. He has several advantages, chief among which is the fact that in a contest between one man and 50 public sympathy is pretty likely to favor the one.

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