

## TAFT WOULD HAVE MORE WEST POINTERS

Only 30 Per Cent of the Officers of the Army are Graduates of the Academy

WASHINGTON, October, 14.—President Taft next winter will urge Congress to increase by 125 the number of cadets appointed to West Point every three years, instead of every four years, as at present. Less than 30 per cent of the whole number of officers are graduates of West Point, and each graduating class is about 80 short of the number necessary to officer the army.

The present strength of the corps of cadets at West Point was established many years ago, when the army consisted of only 25,000 men. In 1901 the army was increased to its present strength of 80,000 men and 4500 officers.

About the same time congress authorized an enlargement of the military academy buildings and has from year to year appropriated about \$6,500,000 for the purpose, but no increase has yet been made in the size of the corps of cadets.

## "RETRACT THE CHARGE OR TAKE CONSEQUENCES"

Atlanta, October 14.—A personal encounter between Democratic Congressman Griggs and William Schley Howard appears to be imminent. Howard who is opposing Congressman Livingston of Atlanta for reelection, charged the Georgians who supported Speaker Cannon in the rules fight were bribed; that "Livingston voted with the Republicans on the rules resolution," and that "the other Democrats from Georgia were promised Democratic census supervisors as a reward for bolting their party."

Griggs has written Howard demanding that he "retract the charge or take the consequences."

No one believes that Howard will retract.

Every one of the seven Georgians who bolted is being opposed for reelection, their opponents charging them with treason to the party.

### Exaggerated Cruelty.

A well known gentleman took horse exercise daily, accompanied by a magnificent bloodhound, until he conceived an enthusiasm for cycling, when he altered the program by leaving the bloodhound at home and taking as his companion a fine dachshund.

The pair were passing through a village recently when a laboring youth remarked to his "pal":

"If Oi wor profine minister Oid put a stop ter this 'ere bicyclin' business."

"Why?" queried the other.

"Cos it owt ter be stopped, if only for th' sake o' that dog as is a-puffin' along behind ther," rejoined the first speaker. "It ain't sport; it's cruelty to hanimals."

His companion disagreed and said he thought the dog benefited by the exercise.

"Exercise!" retorted the other scornfully. "D'ye call that exercise? You never saw that dog afore 'is master started bicyclin' did yer?"

"No, I didn't."

"Well," said the youth, "'e wor one o' th' finest bloodhounds you lver clapped eyes on, an' wot's 'e now? 'Is body's dwindled away to nowt, while 'is legs is worn clean darn to th' stumps. Oi repeat, it's cruelty ter hanimals."—London Bystander.

### Got His Money's Worth.

A lady palmist was recently prosecuted, and an amusing incident was noted in connection with the case. One of the witnesses called by the police was an individual who did not appear to be overhardened with intelligence. During a smart cross examination defendant's counsel asked him:

"On first going into the room did you pay a shilling fee to the defendant?"

"Yes," was the reply.

"What did she tell you in return for the money?"

"Oh," said the witness, "she towld me lots o' things, some on 'em true, some on 'em half true an' some on 'em less."

"Now," continued the counsel after the laughter had died away, "this is the point I wish to get at: Was there any attempt at imposition? Did you lady impose upon you at all?"

"Oh, dear, no!" was the response. "I knowed it wor all gammon, so there couldn't be no imposition. Besides, it wor a bad shillin' as I giv her, to start with!"—London Tit-Bits.

## SUGAR REFINERIES WAR TO BE FOUGHT OVER AGAIN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Action has been begun before the Interstate Commerce Commission by the Federal Sugar Refining company of New York against the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, the Central railroad of New Jersey, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, the Erie, the Lehigh Valley, and the New York, Ontario and Western and the Pennsylvania. The company alleges unjust and unreasonable charges for the transportation of sugar from New York City to eastern and western points, and discrimination against the complainant in favor of John Arbuckle and William A. Jamison, who operate sugar refineries in New York City and Brooklyn.

The case involves the much mooted question of lighterage of sugar and other freight from points within the lighterage limits of New York City and the rail terminals.

Only a few months ago the Federal company had a complaint before the commission alleging discrimination against its factory at Yonkers, but the commission held that the railroads had authority to make arrangements with private corporations for the lighterage of freight within the lighterage limits of New York Harbor provided those arrangements were not unreasonable to the shippers. The whole question probably will now have to be fought over again.

### A Chinese Superstition.

Fengshui is the Chinese superstition that determines good site or locality, and if a town on the Yangtze has not a good fengshui trade will not come to it, and it will be ruined. A town named Peishih had its pagoda in the wrong place—not far enough down the river—and the result was that all traffic which should have come to it was swept past, Peishih being left out in the cold. The people pulled down the pagoda and built another one in the supposed right spot, as nothing would convince them that the depression could arise from any other cause than that of a bad fengshui.

The city of Wanshein, on the other hand, has a perfect fengshui, two fine pagodas, and is very prosperous. But the fact that Wanshein is situated in a fertile valley, where wheat, barley and the poppy flourish abundantly, while Peishih is barren and miserable, does not concern the inhabitants so much as the fengshui site. This remarkable idea in the Chinese mind is only one of thousands like it.

### Mastication.

"The body is a manufactory," said a doctor recently. "It has to manufacture bone and blood and muscle and brain out of bread and butter, eggs, beef and milk, and a wonderful process it is. Now, the first part of the process takes place in the mouth, and, as in most factories, the first is the most important. If a wrong start is made, everything that follows is put wrong. If the food isn't well masticated and mixed with the saliva, the stomach, the liver and the intestines are thrown out of gear; consequently most of the more advanced doctors are paying a great deal of attention to the condition of their patients' teeth. They know, to garble Shakespeare a bit, that 'good digestion waits on mastication, and health on both.'"—New York Tribune.

### Out of Her Reach.

Elsie—Why is Clara always so short of money? Didn't her father leave her a lot? Madge—Yes; but, you see, she's not to get it till she's thirty, and she'll never own up to that."—Boston Transcript.

### Opulence.

"What is your idea of happiness?" "To be able to spend my own money just as if I were going to turn in an expense account when I got home."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Rank has its bores as well as pleasures.—Beaconsfield.

## COOS-ROSEBURG LINE ASSURED

Promoters of Inland Electric Close Contract for Completion of Road.

ROSEBURG, Or., Oct. 14.—At a recent meeting of the Roseburg committee with Messrs. Haas and Kuettner a contract was signed whereby the promoters of the Coos Bay-Roseburg electric line deposit in a Roseburg bank \$50,000 in cash and the same amount in stock, guarantee the completion of the Coos Bay Inland Electric railway within two years after the survey is completed and the right of way secured.

The Coos Bay committee have already signed the document, and it now remains for the Roseburg committee to raise about \$25,000 for the completion of the surveys and to secure their share of the right of way. Where any condemnation proceeding is necessary the company guarantees to fight it. It is thought this will be necessary only over Southern Pacific land, as most of the farmers along the route have promised land gratis.

By co-operation between Roseburg and Coos Bay it is thought everything will be ready for actual construction next July.

### Mr. Manning's Grudge.

Mrs. Manning—Do you think it is right to let that Greyson fellow keep company with our Martha? Mr. Manning—No, I can't say that it is. Young Greyson is a nice chap, but I've a grudge against his father, and I don't care if the son has to suffer for it.—Exchange.

### An Alibi.

Examiner—What is an alibi? Candidate For the Bar—An alibi is committing a crime in one place when you are in another place. If you can be in two other places the alibi is all the stronger in law.—Puck.

### Knew Him.

"Yes, I'm anxious to get my daughter off my hands, I'll admit."

"Then why don't you let her marry me?"

"What good would that do?"—Cleveland Leader.

## NO DECISION HANDED DOWN IN GOMPERS CASE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—The court of appeals today again failed to render its decision in the contempt case against Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison of the American Federation of Labor. The general belief, however, is that the decision will be handed down within the next day or two.

### NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will apply to the city council of the city of Medford, Oregon, at the meeting thereof on October 19, 1909, for a license to sell spirituous, vinous and malt liquors in quantities less than a gallon, for the period of six months, at his place of business at Nos. 22 and 24 Front street, North, in said city.

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