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FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1905.

A PLEASANT DUTY.

It became the pleasant duty of the people of Oregon City this week to a woman. entertain the old soldiers and their faithful helpmates, the Women's Re-

While it was a duty, deserved and proper, the entertaining of these old veterans may rather be considered a being decimated, however, with each the ungentle, into the magnitude of French frontier. succeeding year, it will not be long damning facts. until the handful of surviving members of the Grand Army of the Rewill be lacking.

Still, tributes to their memory will out again. be offered annually through time unending as we decorate their silent tombs with the choicest of flowers on the weeds until they choke down the

Memorial Day. But, let us make the few surviving years of the old veteran most pleasant. Scatter flowers along his pathway handmaiden of slander. It whispers of life and do not preserve them for evil into the ear of the world. It is

WRITE MORE LETTERS.

Free delivery of mail for Oregon City, while a possibility, is by no means an assured fact, as yet.

Postmaster Randall informs us that except there is a material increase in the receipts of the Oregon City postoffice between this and the end of the month, there exists a serious doubt as to whether the receipts will equal the required total of \$10,000 which is essential before any city can ask for the free delivery of mail service.

The fiscal year upon which will be based the estimate of the receipts of the Oregon City office with respect to applying for a free mail service, will

is within our reach, let's exert ourselves and gain the service.

WOULD SIDETRACK JUSTICE.

There is being circulated a petition addressed to the Governor and requesting the commutation to life imprisonment of the death sentence recently imposed on George W. Lauth, the convicted Clackamas county mur-

In noting the fact, a newspaper reno reason upon which the intervention of the Governor is asked, but adds that at the proper time a statement of the case will be offered by counsel for Lauth.

What possible excuse can be offered for asking that the sentence be commuted? There is not the slightest pretext of an excuse or reasonable grounds for asking that the Governor interfere with the judgment of a jury and the sentence of the court.

Lauth had a fair and impartial trial, was defended by two of the most able lawyers in the state. has exhausted every means known to criminal procedure in the courts, and now faces the gallows. And why should he not pay the penalty?

The murder was premeditated and deliberately executed. There was no plea of self-defense. There could not have been offered such a plea. Lauth's youth is urged in his behalf and the friends of the young man claim that he was incited to a commission of the crime by the trifling whims and the monetary exactions of a sporting woman of whom he was insanely enamored.

To quote the words of Judge Mc-Bride when sentence was pronounced the second time, the crime was the unfortunate termination of "a misspent life, an unbridled temper and disposition and an uncontrolable passion." Lauth was aware of the illegal relations existing between himself and the woman he murdered. Besides, he had knocked about the world enough to know what is to be expected of women of her character. He assumed the chances and, like hundreds of others, lost.

At the very least the woman was the equal of her illegal consort. She was too good too be the target for a gun in the hands of a man with an

ungovernable temper. Sympathy for the murderer may be all right but when it is allowed to interfere with the execution of the judgment of a fair and impartial court and jury and in the face of absolutely not the slightest provocation for the commission of the deed, then such expressions are out of place. The effect is to increase or at least encourage the commission of crime rather than to place a check on such

HOW'S THIS?

The indebtedness of Clackamas county has been reduced to the extent that the county is now paying 23 per cent less interest than was being paid a year ago.-News item, last week's

Oregon City Enterprise having charge of the Firemen's Tournament and Fourth of July celebration make provision for a number of temporary benches to be allowed by the provision of temporary benches to be allowed by the provision of temporary benches to be allowed by the provision of temporary benches to be allowed by the provision of temporary benches to be allowed by the provision of the provision of temporary benches to be allowed by the provision of the provi of temporary benches to be placed whose main experience with automoalong the side streets opening on to biles has been dodging them in crowd-Main street for the accommodation of ed streets to think that the machines the many people who will assemble at are to be used directly as instruments the prominent street corners during of offensive warfare. He may think

IS THAT SO.

A demented Swede was taken in place to another. City, from which belief he violently refused to be divorced. The case is evidently hopeless.-Albany Herald.

There is nothing on record to show that even a demented man in his ravings ever indicated that there is such a place as Albany on the map.

WOMAN'S HONOR.

A beautiful and fragrant flower is coaxed into bloom by the genial sun-shine of tropical countries. It is calltender that if it be touched with but a breath no power on earth can prevent the blight or wipe away the stain. Such a flower is the good name of

One breath of suspicion, one word bruised forever. Men and women are not sufficiently

mindful of this fact. Too often trifles light as air are disprivilege. At the rate their ranks are torted by the frivolous or the base or

public will have responded to the final fools have whispered reputations to case of a sudden emergency. roll call and the opportunity to honor death. Once started, they travel like ever France has such good roads these men who made such heroic sac winged vampires on their missions of that there is no comparison between rifices and endured much privation infamy, gathering filth as they pass this use of the machines and the ex-

> Thus common gossip takes up the ord-Herald. work of spreading the compost upon fairest flowers.

Gossip is the black witch of false hood, the courier of bad news, the decorating the grave when he is gone. dumb to utter good, but with a thousand tongues it spreads the base, the vile and the impure. It repeats nothing that is not bad, it forgets everything that is good. It is a snake in the grass, a filthy reptile that travels with its belly to the ground, leaving its trail of slime behind. It can damn with faint praise, and without sneering teach the rest to sneer. It is the master of innuendo. It can circulate falsehood with knowing winks and with an hundred arts of deception convey the lie it dares not utter.

This is gossip-and it is more. It is a human Harple who with unsated appetite leaves its feast on festering reputations in the charnel house of character to devour the good name of its lying tongue stabbed many a reputation of woman. There was a time Oregon City is certainly entitled to man's honor. We were nearer the pi- These are declared to be minent peril. But with the advance organizations. of civilization people have become porter states that the petition recites shotgun made them do a generation spiracles against the public. be washed away with blood.

name of women. No story should be ter behind volunteer committees" and influential friends-nothing but her assuredly will not hold up Mayor tion to no editor in vain.

ter not to print the news than to ungood woman.—Baker City Democrat.

-0-THE AUTOMOBILE IN WAR.

If the Russo-Japanese war continues long enough, it will provide an interesting test of the possibility of using automobiles in war. Some six months ago the Russian government gave a large order for automobiles to a firm in Hanover, Germany. Deliveries followed in march, and since then the "crews" of the machines

To be sure, you are growing old. But why let everybody see it, in your gray hair? Keep your hair dark and rich and postpone age. If you will

only use Ayer's Hair Vigor, your gray hair will soon have all the deep, rich color of youth. Sold for 60 years.

"I am now over 60 years old, and I have a thick, glossy head of long hair which is a wonder to every one who sees it. And not a gray hair in it. all due to Ayer's Hair Vigor." MRS. H. R. BUNTIS, Becida, Minn.

for -White Hair

on sea. But he will be wrong. The automobiles are wanted for no purpose more deadly than the rapid transportation of troops from one

The machines that have been secur-His notion is that he is in Oregon ed are designed for use not on good roads but on rough tracks and across country. The very best of material has, of course, been employed, and the motors are four-cylinder and of high power. We are not informed how many soldiers each machine is designed to carry. The preliminary tests were very severe, and are said to have been highly satisfactory.

The automobile corps will be divided into squads, in each of which one man will be told off for special training in the handling and repair of the machine. The others will be given cy, but their main work will be to fight when they have ben carried to the right spot. From what descriptions we have of the Manchurian of slander, will leave it marred and country, if automobiles can get across it successfully they ought to be available for use in war almost anywhere. It is said that the City of Parisalone

has automobiles enough to convey 100,000 men within a few hours to the That sounds like a very large tale, but no doubt the Too often lies born in the hearts of French automobiles would be of imscoundrels and circulated by lips of portant service in moving troops in from knavish lip to foolish ear and periences that will fall to the lot of the new Russian corps.-Chicago Rec-

THE PROGRESS OF REFORM IN PHILADELPHIA.

Those spoils politicians of Philadelphia who cherished the belief that the reform wave would spend itself in a short space of time, that the civic storm would "blow over," are doubtless considerably exercised over the continued activity of the converted mayor and the steps he is taking to "repeopleize" the municipal government and emancipate it from boss and machine rule.

He has made certain appointments which, according to the independent press, indicate a determination to banish graft, pull and politics from the police and public works department. He has issued an order prohibiting assessments of city employes by ward leaders and an even more telling supplementary order announcing that membership by such employes in ward clubs of a partisan character would be regarded as evisary that the people of this city give the local office a loyal patronage.

when newspapers were less prone to dence of unfitness to hold office and publish stories compromising a wo-discharge properly the duties thereof. a free delivery of mail. Now that it oneer ways and the shotgun methods blows to the gang," for policemen, of protecting the good name of women firemen and other employes will no obtained by common consent and longer have to take orders from outthose who dared to speak disparaging siders claiming power over them ly of any of them did so at their im- through their influence in the party

Mayor Weaver has also destroyed more law abiding, there is more of opportunities for ballot stuffing and a disposition to adjust all differences repeating by declaring that registrain the courts. But this, instead of tion lists must be carefully revised making men less careful of the at- and the "lodgings" kept by policemen tacks they make upon women it and firemen critically inspected. The should make them more careful. They lawless gang has not hesitated to should do through reverence and remake officers of the law and city emspect for the sex what the fear of the ployes its tools in the crimes and con-

ago. We are glad of the growth of Finally, the mayor has appointed law abiding spirit of chivalry an unofficial advisory committee which made every man the guardian the ranks of prominent citizens-busof every woman's honor and decreed iness men, divines, editors-to advise that the slightest stigma could only him with regard to the difficult and complicated questions confronting his The newspapers of this country who administration. This move has been fight the battles of law and order criticised as a bad precedent, but cirshould be the first by precept and ex- cumstances after cases. It is one ample to protect and shield the good thing for an executive to "seek shelprinted concerning them and compro- thus dodge responsibility, and another mising them which might be untrue, thing to solicit disinterested counsel and when a woman has no wealth, no and guidance. The dethroned bosses good name-should appeal for protec- Weaver's hands. He needs not merely moral support but expert advice in A woman's honor is worth more the independent course he has adoptthan a newspaper story, and it is bet- ed, and to whom should he turn for assistance if not to prominent citi- street, recently vacated by G. A. Heinz. zens of integrity, experience and ability?-Exchange.

> The election of a Democrat as mayoror of Portland, a Republican stronghold, is but another warning to the Republican party of Oregon. It means that there must be no more dirty polities, no more electing Republicans to office who imagine that, being Republicans, they can do anything and be safe, no bitter factional feeling in the ranks, more unity, a better understanding, and Republican nominees who can stand on their past record and not blush. The trouble is that the old regime has been running out of decent material and has been trying to paim off poor excuses. election of Dr Lane as mayor of Portland is a slap at the Republican party that will awaken it to its right senses and lead to combine and selection of invulnerable candidates. It will be looking more after the welfare of the party than that of any certain clique or individual.-Woodburn Independ-

WHAT SPECIES?

The editor called on Homer Davenport Saturday. The cartoonist recognized him at once. It is remarkable what a memory he has for birds .-Ashland Tribune.

In Mad Chase.

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