# The New Age

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#### THE FIGHT IN WASHINGTON,

The fight in the republican ranks in the State of Washington is becoming more strenuous and determined as the time approaches for the legislature to meet. Governor McBride is determined to force his railroad commission bill through the legislature. and at the same time he wants to elect Preston, an anti-railroad man, to the senate, but it is very unlikely that he can do either, especially as the delegation from King County. where Preston lives, is almost unanimously against McBride's railroad commission hobby. The railroad men, with the irresistible J. J. Hill at their head, are making a fight against the proposed obnoxious bill, and are pretty sure to beat it. Preston never had any reasonably good chance for election. The governor has apparently made a great mistake in forcing this issue. A railroad commission would only harass and annoy and perhaps to some extent "hold up" the railroads, and would do the people generally no good whatever. The railroads have built up and developed Washington, and will do so more and more. It is chiefly due to them that Washington has forged so far ahead of Oregon. And It would be sheer folly for the Washington legislature to pass laws to "cinch" the railroads.

Mr. Levi Ankeny, of Walla Walla, still appears to be well in the lead as a senatorial candidate. He is not especially a railroad candidate; he is to a great extent independent of them; but he is not their enemy. rather is friendly to them, as long as they keep within due bounds, as any man aspiring to such a position should be. Mr. John L. Wilson expects a large amount of help from Senator Foster, but is not likely to get a great many votes through the senator's influence. A secret bargain made four years ago does not have any binding force now. It promises, however, to be a very interesting fight this winter over at Olympia,

#### THE TELEPHONE HOLD-UP.

The New Age doesn't go much on public ownership in general, but one eral government, should take over, control and own, is the telephone systhe service in many instances is abominably poor. The people are fairly "held up" by these telephone monopolies, and the wonder is that they have endured the present sysimmense profits, girl or women employes are shamefully underpaid and overworked. It is no wonder some person and Negro of Negress." Isn't or disobliging. They all, throughout the country, ought to organize a union, every woman operator becoming a member, and then demand their rights, reasonable pay and hours of work, and go on a strike if their demands were not acceeded to. The \$6 a week, and a brief, light lunch, eight hours a day. The millionaire proud. telephone companies can well afford to pay increased wages and grant reduced hours, at the prices they charge the public. How long are the people going to stand the impositions?

#### FORTUNE'S APPOINTMENT.

The President has again shown his desire and intention fairly to recognize the colored citizens of the country by the appointment of Thomas Fortune, editor of the New York Age, to be a special commissioner to our insular possessions, a position that carries a salary of \$5,000 a year. Mr. Fortune after Booker Washington is perhaps the ablest and most prominent colored man in the United States. He is not only the editor of the New York paper mentioned, but is an author of high repute, a brilliant writer and speaker, and a man of great force and influence. Though in business in New York his residence is in New Jersey, and to him, probably, more than to any other one man, is due repeated republican victory in that state, in which are many thousands of colored voters. The New Age cordially congratulates Mr. Fortune upon his appointment, and has no doubt that he will make an excellent record in the important post to which he has been assigned.

The Virginia constitution, intended to disfranchise Negroes, is to be tested in congress and in the United States courts, and John G. Carlisle, the eminent democratic lawyer, is to manage the case for the opponents of the unconstitutional constitution. He will do it as well as any man in the country, if he is a democrat. It is time for the highest courts and congress to determine whether, in spite of the United States constitution, Negroes can be legally disfran-

No body can find out whether 'Jack" Matthews is chairman of the republican State Central committee, as well as United States marshal, or not. There is nothing small about Jack; he can hold one or two or three offices and not perspire a bit,

A system of regularly retiring old employes on pensions will be put into effect January 1 by the Union Pacific railroad company, which is further evidence that all corporations are not 'soulless."

Ex-President Cleveland is a great fisherman, and now it is hinted that he is fishing for a third term as President.

Mr. Bryan can still talk and write, but politically he is an away back number, all the same.

The Council is doing some good work; at least the councilmen are earning their salaries.

Who will be the next senator from Oregon? Nopody can answer this conundrum.

The Council and Board of Public Works seem to be pulling in opposite

Get ready to have the best kind of a Merry Christmas,

#### FROM OUR EXCHANGES.

St. Louis, Dec. 5.—There will not be a Negro building at the World's The authorities have officially decided to follow the general classification of exhibits, which does no recognize racial distinctions. National or governmental divisions of exhibits are the only distinctions to 20216 Stark St. be observed.

Cuba is threatened with a race war which, if it comes, will unquestionably hasten annexation. The leaders of the white element, foreign and native, of the population of Havana are bringing pressure, it is said, to bear on President Palma to constrain him to exclude Negroes from the state receptions in the coming winter. The Negroes, on the other hand, threatened to raise a disturbance if Palma refuses to invite them. As the Ne-groes and mulattoes number about third of the entire population of Cuba, an as they are clamorous for recognition by the government, the chances are that President Palma will be placed in a very embarrassing position by this race conflict.

Sixty Pullman car porters met in thing this and other cities, or the gen- Saratoga last Saturday and formed an association for the purpose of abolishing "tipping." They claim abolishing "tipping." that the company should pay porters tems. The charges are too high, and living wages and not compel them to depend upon the generosity of the traveling public to make good. are with you men,

The legislature of Louisiana passed a law providing for the separation of tem so long. While they are making the races on the street cars of the state, but "oindefinitely postponed" a measure "to prombit the living together in concubinage of any white of them are occasionally inattentive this consistency for you? The white man's desire for separation from Negro women does not go as far as we would like.

Who dares say the Recorder is wrong? Here's what it says of Washington: "Booker T. Washington or any other Negro who, on such historic and important occasions as the public would be with them almost to celebration at Yale sometime ago and a man, and woman. Instead of \$5 or the inauguration at Princeton last week becomes a drawing card and is \$6 a week, and a brief, light lunch. lionized by people of rank on every they should receive twice as much side is a character of whom every wages and be required to work only country or people should be justly

A YOUNG WIFE'S ANXIETY.

"How do you cook craps, Mrs.

'Craps, my dear? What are they?" "I don't know, but I heard my hus-band say something about shooting some, and I thought he might want me to cook them."-Philadelphia Bul-

What Puzzled Tommy.

Tommy had been worrying papa with the usual number of unanswerable questions, and had been threatened with condign punishment if he did not keep quiet. He fidgeted about in silence for some time, but at length broke out:

"Pa, they say the rain falls alike upon the just and the unjust, doesn't "Yes, yes. Don't ask silly ques-

tions." "And it isn't just to steal another

man's umbrella, is it?" "Certainly not. If you ask any

"But, pa, the rain doesn't fall upon the man that steals the umbrella, and it does on the man that had his stolen. Funny, ain't it, pa?"-London Answers.

Castles on the Rhine. It is stated that from the mouth to the source of the Rhine 725 castles. formerly the homes of war-like chiefs, are to be found overlooking its waters.

She Knew Better. "Here is a man," said the defend ant's counsel, with a tremulous voice,

"here is a man handicapped at the very beginning of his life. From the time he 'Phone Clay 213. lay a helpless infant in the cradle to this day, when he sits helpless under the pressure of years and affliction, he has labored under the name of Ishmael Abinadab Watts."

He was about to say more when the plaintiff rose from her seat and shook a work-worn finger in his direction. "I expected I was going to hear

strange things in this courtroom," she cried, with shrill indignation, "but I didn't cal'late on sech foolish talk as that! There never's been a day in his life that Abinadab's labored, nor thought of laborin'. He's the most shif'less, lazy-"

But here she resumed her seat, owing to sudden pressure from her relatives in the rear, and the counsel, a little flushed, went on in a somewhat different strain.-Youth's Companion.

Not Original. "I suppose you have selected an original subject for your graduating ad-

dress," said the father. "Not exactly original," replied the member of the high-school class, "but very interesting." "What is it?"

"'Abraham Lincoln. "-Onlo State Journal.

When a man goes at things head first he often gets there with both feet.

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