The Oregonian.

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Oregon, as second-class matter.

TELEPHONES.
Editorial Rooms....106 | Business Office....667

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
By Mail (postage prepaid), in Advance—
Daily, with Sunday, per month.....$0 85
Daily, Sunday excepted, per year.....7 50
Daily, with Sunday, per year.....9 00
Sunday, per year.....2 00
The Weekly, per year.....1 50
The Weekly, 3 months.....50
To City Subscribers—
Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays excepted.15c
Daily, per week, delivered, Sundays included.20c

News or discussion intended for publication in The Oregonian should be addressed invariably "Editor The Oregonian," not to the name of any individual. Letters relating to advertising, subscriptions or to any business matter should be addressed simply "The Oregonian."

The Oregonian does not buy poems or stories from individuals, and cannot undertake to return any manuscripts sent to it without solicitation. No stamps should be inclosed for this purpose.

Puget Sound Bureau—Captain A. Thompson, office at 1111 Pacific avenue, Tacoma. Box 955, Tacoma postoffice.

Eastern Business Office—The Tribune building, New York city; "The Rookery," Chicago; the S. C. Beckwith special agency, New York.

For sale in San Francisco by J. K. Cooper, 746 Market street, near the Palace hotel, and at Goldsmith Bros., 236 Sutter street.

For sale in Chicago by the P. O. News Co., 217 Dearborn street.

TODAY'S WEATHER.—Probably occasional light showers; warmer; northwest winds.

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 1900.

The Philadelphia platform is a flat, vapid, platitudinous and slovenly stump speech. Just one thing the Republican party has done for which credit is due it. It has established the gold standard. This is the source of the National prosperity about which the platform says so much. The gold standard has given confidence in money and business, and the people do the rest. The chief fruits of "protection" on which the platform-makers have spent their record is support of great trusts and further enrichment of great millionaires.

What was the use of a convention to nominate McKinley? And what will be the use of a convention to nominate Bryan? Boss rule might as well do its business without this farce of indirection. A few powerful bosses have dictated the nomination of McKinley; a few powerful bosses will dictate the nomination of Bryan. The play of concealment, the farce of pretense that there is deliberation in it, or that the people have any real direction of it, is ridiculous—just as ridiculous as a like proceeding in a recent county convention, more particular designation of which perhaps is not necessary.

It has required audacity on the part of those who have worked up the job on "back pay" alleged to be due to former firemen, in the service of the City of Portland; but audacity in such matters is seldom wanting. The unscrupulous broker supplies any quantity that the claimants might lack. These "claims" date back to the Frank and Pennoyer administrations, to cover whose deficits the city has been compelled to sell already an enormous block of bonds. A broker has bought up most of the "claims," for a small sum, and now wants the city to "compromise" with him by paying a proportion or part. The Common Council at its meeting on Wednesday refused, and we think the new Common Council will refuse likewise, as it ought. These "claims" can be defeated. On two occasions Judge Sears has virtually turned them down, and good lawyers do not doubt that the Supreme Court will do likewise, since the claims are of a character heretofore defeated in that tribunal. There should be no "compromise" on these cases by the city. They should take their course through the courts. They rest on a shameless demand, since the claimants agreed, one and all, to take certain salaries, receipted for those salaries, and now demand more. There could be nothing more dishonest than the manner in which these claims have been worked up; and the public cannot but view with suspicion and disapproval any proceedings for "compromising" them.

Foraker had an awkward task, and he discharged it as gracefully as might be. He is not an admirer of the President. He has not always been friendly to him. But for McKinley Ohio might have another candidate for the Presidency, and his name might have been Foraker. And, as political history is made nowadays, what Ohio wants the country gives.

With Mr. Hanna, the Republican party is down on bad trusts, but thinks the good trusts ought to be left alone. This is not definite or satisfactory, but it is hard to see how anything more definite or satisfactory can just now be devised. Protected trusts can be reached by tariff reduction, or removal; but that is not enough. Who is to say which are good trusts and which are bad? What general law aimed at combinations of capital can be devised that will not do as much harm as good, or more? The trust problem calls for wise and judicious statesmanship, and it cannot be solved by fierce partisan declamation and sweeping denunciation of all capital and capitalists. We may expect the Kansas City patriots to have a very severe fit of anti-trust rabies, and propose something quite severe, like confiscation and capital punishment. But it will come to nothing. The industrial interests of the Nation are powerful and able to protect themselves, because common justice and the mutual welfare will support them. Rational measures for the control of any monopoly and the regulation of every combination in restraint of trade they must and will submit to. But what is the remedy?

Congress has a generous habit, just before adjournment, of making a gift of a month's salary to all its employes. It might be thought that this is mere prodigal waste of the public money, but it is apparently inspired by a wise forethought on the part of whatever party happens to control Congress. Just now the Republicans have the majority, and they distributed the usual largess at the last session. The extra salaries amounted to about $80,000. A few days ago all the Republican employes were requested to call upon Mr. Schrader, who has been secretary of the Congressional committee. It was suggested that one-half their extra pay would be acceptable as a contribution to the Republican campaign fund, but they could give what they saw fit. Mr. Schrader has felt obliged to make an explanation of his action, and it is that—

These men are not under civil service rules and are not assessed. A good many of them have, heretofore, complained that there was no recognized committee-room, and no one authorized to receive campaign contributions. This year it was decided to give the generously inclined no such excuse, and they were notified that they might call at the Raleigh, where they were told that anything they might feel inclined to give would be thankfully received.

It would appear that the complaints of the "generously inclined" had not reached the proportions imagined by Mr. Schrader, for the receipts under his thoughtful plan have only aggregated about $1500, whereas it was estimated that at least $10,000 ought to be raised.

AN IDEAL AMERICAN CITIZEN.

Governor Roosevelt, of New York, who has been nominated for Vice-President by the Republican party, is an ideal American citizen, who has always made his highest duty to himself and his country in peace or war his polestar. He is in his prime of intellectual and physical manhood. He will not be 42 years of age until October 27 next. He comes of excellent American stock, who for more than a century have joined to superior capacity for mercantile life, banking, law and politics a passion for public and private philanthropy of the practical sort, men who had an aptitude for political reform and carried into politics the strict honor and integrity of their private life. Governor Roosevelt clearly inherited his pugnacity and his robust taste for fishing, hunting and outdoor recreation. He was a political reform leader in the New York Assembly in 1881, the next year after his graduation from Harvard College. He led the minority in 1882-83 in their fight for state civil service reform and primary election laws. He abolished the fees of the County Clerk and Register, reformed the Sheriff's office and Surrogate Court, deprived the Aldermen of power to confirm appointments and conferred the responsibility on the Mayor. He was chairman of the New York delegation to the National Convention in 1884, and was beaten for Mayor in 1886.

Roosevelt is well equipped with the knowledge that belongs to a statesman. His historical scholarship is attested by his "History of the Naval War of 1812," by his "Life of Benton," "Life of Gouverneur Morris," and other works. He has done a vast amount of useful, honorable and able work in politics. His personality saved the Empire State to his party in 1898. He has a prompt, aggressive, energetic, fearless and altogether honest intellect. He is a born partisan, who has no patience with good-natured political optimism; with that apathetic repose of spirit that sometimes passes current for statesmanship.

Roosevelt never cajoles, never wheedles, never flatters. He always strikes straight from the shoulder, and seeks to bear down opposition by the sheer weight of his battle-ax. There is no taint of the political dude about him. He does not expect to put a lion to flight by flapping a perfumed handkerchief in his face. He has always been a frank, truthful, steadfast friend, an uncompromising but honorable foe. Disdaining all concealment of his purposes, or his opinions, and all compromises with his foes, Roosevelt has fought his way to the top of political life trusting to nothing but the weight of his sword and the strength of his arm. His uncompromising, aggressive, pugnacious temper sowed the seed of so many petty resentments, sighing to be satisfied in a crop of revenges and retaliations, that it was wonderful he so long escaped destruction from the political machine which he defied. Up to his return from the Cuban War, Roosevelt had been conspicuous with Elihu Root in the ranks of the anti-Platt Republicans. He never conciliated. He cultivated no social magnetism or tact to compel love and melt hate everywhere. His manners, while marked by manly dignity and cordiality, are not distinguished for social charm. His strength has been the fact that there has been no taint of the dirty, trading, treacherous, sycophantic politician in his imperious and forceful composition. His ascendency has been won by hard knocks in the open field. He was never found in ambush. He never tried to corrupt the garrison or betray the camp. He has been always a very active and ambitious soldier in the Republican ranks, but he never forgot that no gentleman can become an officer by fraud and fawning without first ceasing to be a gentleman. He has always been a bold, daring, chivalric soldier, who scorned to play pirate, pickpocket, brigand or pawnbroker in politics. He has never stooped to conquer. He would not accept a crown if he had to kneel and grope in the dust for it.

To his friends Roosevelt is open, kind, cordial and true; but he is never obsequious to the crowd. He never conceals his likes and dislikes; never fires from ambush or uses the weapons of uncivilized warfare. With some superficial infirmities of temper and manner, he is a brave, able, patriotic and entirely practical statesman. He is a man of splendid personal courage and enthusiastic patriotism, and it is the memory of Roosevelt leading his men in the charge that gave us victory before Santiago that has made him dear to the hearts of the people, who remember to his advantage what feats he did that day. Courage is a common and cheap virtue sometimes, but the courage of Roosevelt was of the sort that made old veterans of the regular Army cheer him as a man who did not fear his fellowship to die with them side by side under the folds of the American flag.

Theodore Roosevelt was nominated for Vice-President by the voice of the American people, because in peace or war he has always been a thorough man from scalp to sole, not a mere cockade in war or a weather-cock in politics.

MISTAKES OF CONSCRIPTION.

Lord Rosebery favors the reformation of the existing military system of Great Britain through the adoption of some form of conscription. It has been suggested that the militia ballot law, suspended since 1829, be revived. It makes all male persons between the ages of 18 and 30 liable to military service, according to the quotas called for, though it grants many exemptions and permits of the employment of substitutes.

It is doubtful if such a draft could be enforced today successfully in Great Britain or in the United States. When our war with Spain broke out we easily obtained 250,000 volunteers, and our regiments for the Philippines were promptly filled up by voluntary enlistment; but during our Civil War, when our Government undertook to enforce a draft or conscription, it met with a riotous resistance, and was an unpopular measure chiefly because it permitted of the employment of substitutes. It was plausibly said in 1863 that under the conscription act it was a poor man's blood against a rich man's money, for exemption from personal service could be obtained by a drafted man on payment of $300 to the Government or by furnishing a substitute. The drafted man who could not find the money or the substitute was obliged to render personal service, and naturally the poor man who was drafted hated the Government which permitted the well-to-do conscript to buy exemption from personal service. No man is exempt from military service in the great Continental armies of Europe, except on the ground of physical infirmity. If he is pronounced by the army surgeons mentally sound and physically fit for a soldier, he cannot buy exemption or furnish a substitute. He can only escape personal military service by flight from his country. If there should ever be another general draft in this country, it would be dangerous to public order to permit escape from service by payment of money or furnishing a substitute. In event of a great war with France or Russia, Great Britain would doubtless be obliged to resort to conscription, if seriously threatened with invasion.

WHAT CURE FOR THIS WRONG?

The Southern delegates violently protested, and the Philadelphia convention receded from its purpose—if it had a purpose—to establish proportional representation. It might have been desirable that some other than ex-Senator Quay be found to urge the reform. His motives are not above suspicion. They are not founded on any sincere desire to do an act of plain right and justice. Equitable reapportionment would especially benefit Pennsylvania; but, behind that clear advantage, Quay sought to make the convention an agency to administer a rebuke to Hanna, who is largely responsible for the delivery of the Republican party of the extreme South into the hands of disreputable politicians and characterless adventurers.

What genuine right had the South to protest, and why should its protest have been heeded? There is something monstrous in the assumption of these men—many of them—that they are an integral part of the Republican party, and should have an influential and determinative voice in making its nominations, shaping its policies and controlling its destinies. They do nothing for the Republican party except to get it into trouble and bring upon it reproach and scandal. They have secured for it the contempt and the fear of most respectable Southerners, who oppose it because they must, and who despise its disreputable leaders because in common decency they cannot help it. They leave the burden of Republican endeavor to the North and to the border states, while they fatten on the spoils. Others sow, but they reap.

Nearly all contests of consequence before the National convention come from states whose total Republican vote does not equal the vote of Oregon. Louisiana showed up with three contesting delegations, Texas and Alabama with two each. In all there had been bitter rows over the control of the machine, because under this Administration the machine is the sole avenue through which the patronage is dispensed. There was apparent in no instance, where the Federal Brigade was clamoring for recognition, a high and worthy purpose to make of the Republican party a useful and efficient organization to carry an election and establish Republican principles. On the contrary, it is regarded as a mere packhorse upon which may be loaded personal ambitions and petty struggles to get out of politics all there is in it. The President systematically reposes in the state machine the power of peddling out the offices. The protests of all others are unheeded. The Wimberlys are given fat place over the indignant remonstrances of all Louisiana. When the ax is laid at the root of the evil by a Republican Administration, we shall be relieved of the humiliating spectacle of quarreling and fighting placemen trying to break into a Republican convention. And if the Administration does not do its duty, the convention itself can minimize the evil by reducing the representation and giving them less to say and making it impossible for any candidate for a renomination to secure it by the simple process of packing a convention with his own creatures.

IMPORTATIONS FROM THE TROPICS

According to the "Summary of Commerce and Finance," which has just been issued by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics, our imports of tropical products in the ten months ending with April aggregated in value over $300,000,000, an average of over $1,000,000 a day, and indicating a total value for the year of $365,000,000. These imports show a wide diversity of products. In the list we find India rubber, fibers, raw silk, cotton, cabinet woods, indigo, ivory, dyewoods, and many lines of chemicals. Of most of these things the manufacturers of the United States require and take in constantly increasing quantities. The importation of raw materials for auxiliary use in manufacturing forms more than one-third of our total imports, and a large proportion of this comes from the tropics. Of India rubber alone the imports of the ten months amount to more than $27,600,000; of fibers, $20,000,000 worth were imported; of raw silk, $40,000,000 worth; of cotton, over $7,000,000; and of gums, more than $5,000,000.

Sugar, of course, leads in the constantly increasing proportion of imported foodstuffs. The proportion of this product that comes from the tropics is much greater than in immediately preceding years, the Dutch East Indies, lying not far distant from the Philippines, being now our largest single source of sugar supply.

For the ten months the value of the sugar importations exceeded $50,000,000, a fact which, taken in connection with our increased domestic supply, shows an enormous growth in sugar consumption, that can only be accounted for in increasing prosperity among the working people. The old days in which the sugar bowl was kept in the thrifty matron's lap at table and the contents doled out sparingly to the youngsters, and in which candy was a luxury to be enjoyed only upon the Fourth of July, clearly belong to a past era. The "sweet tooth" is in fact one of the developments of the age, and there is not the least likelihood that it will be surfeited either by our increasing importations of sugar or the increase in sugar-beet area and manufacture at home, nor, indeed, by both combined. If the supply keeps up with the demand, it will have to bestir itself constantly. So far as can be discerned by means of statistics, there is not the slightest danger of overproduction in sugar.

The Boer leaders are praised by ignorant people for their recent raids on Lord Roberts' communications. They do not deserve praise, but blame, for their attack came too late. When Lord Roberts was at Bloemfontein, he was dependent on a single long railway line for the food, ammunition and supplies of 50,000 men. If the Boers, instead of wasting time besieging Wepener, or scooping up small detachments of his army, had concentrated their forces and incessantly attacked the railway, they might have long delayed Roberts' advance. But this was never done until Lord Roberts had reached Pretoria. If there had been a natural-born leader of mounted riflemen among the Boer commanders, like the Confederate General Forrest, Lord Roberts' railway communications would have been incessantly raided between Bloemfontein and Norval's Pont from March 15 to May 1. The truth is, the Boers have exhibited a great deal more courage than they have natural military brains. General Cronje, the moment he ceased to fight behind defenses, showed no military skill. General Joubert showed no enterprise before Ladysmith in raiding General Buller's railway communications between Colenso and Estcourt. In the very kind of warfare in which mounted riflemen ought to excel, the Boers have produced no leader of superior talent.

The nomination of Governor Roosevelt for Vice-President probably will send the Republican nomination for Governor of New York either to General Francis Vinton Greene, a distinguished graduate of West Point, or to Congressman Payne, of the Twenty-eighth New York District, chairman of the committee of ways and means, and leader of the Republicans in the House. Payne is an old party warhorse, and quite a famous speechmaker. If General Greene should be nominated and elected, he would not be the first West Point graduate who has risen to be Governor of a state, for McClellan was elected Governor of New Jersey, General Marmaduke Governor of Missouri, General Fitzhugh Lee Governor of Virginia, General Nicholls Governor of Louisiana, General P. O. Hebert Governor of Louisiana.

Brigadier-General Ludlow, who for more than a year has been Military Governor of Havana, says that the death rate of Havana was reduced from 65 in 1000 in the month of January, 1899, to less than 24 in 1000 in April, 1900. Yellow fever has been destroyed as an epidemic in Havana. The entire City of Havana and other cities of the island have been scoured and cleansed. Enlightened methods of sanitation have prevailed. The harbor of Havana has been purified. The streets have been made cleaner, according to General Ludlow, than those of Washington or any other city he knows. Every house has been inspected.

The Mining Exchange can do a useful and important work. If it preserves the integrity of its quotations, and if it keeps wildcat schemes out of its lists, it will command public confidence, and it will make Portland a mining center. Mining is an industry that is now contributing a large share to the prosperity of the state. It has somehow been difficult to persuade capital to take the interest in our mines that their merit warrants. That is its misfortune and ours. The outlook is for much better things in future.

Most of the Gold Democrats of Chicago have been harmonized with the Bryan faction. Ex-Mayor Hopkins, one of the organizers of the Palmer-Buckner movement of 1896, declares that the call for a meeting of Gold Democratic leaders at Indianapolis after the Democratic National Convention has been held will not draw a corporal's guard, and that the idea of nominating a third ticket is absurd. He predicts that the platform made at Kansas City will be made endurable to the Gold Democrats.

The strength of the Republican party lies, first, in the fact that better times have come since McKinley was elected, and second, that the re-election of its candidate will be a guarantee that the battle of the standards shall not be reopened for at least another four years. The labor interest, which "burnt its mouth eating the cold plum porridge" of hard times following Cleveland's last election can take no risks in this campaign.

"Mr. Croker is coming back to drive the trust stock traitors out of Tammany Hall," we are told by one of his New York organs. Mr. Croker owns 1500 shares of ice-trust stock, Elizabeth Croker 1500 shares, and F. S. Croker 25 shares. The cause of his great indignation evidently is that the Van Wycks got the lion's share, and were found out.

Native Hawaiians are Democrats because a Democratic President—Grover Cleveland—prevented annexation. It will be difficult to convince the Democratic party that it ought to be grateful to Mr. Cleveland for anything.

Chairman Lodge might have added a touch of realism to the proceedings by recognizing him as Governor Taylor, of Kentucky, via Indiana.

Some people are born great, some achieve greatness, and others have Vice-Presidencies thrust upon them.

Judge Tripp may well wonder, if his boom was so soon to be done for, what was it ever begun for?

Jim Ashton, too, was seen and heard. Now let the campaign proceed.

"NOT A WALK-OVER."

Earnest Note of Warning From a Leading Republican Journal.

The Chicago Times-Herald, one of the most earnest of Republican journals, known also for the specially intimate and friendly relations between its editor and President McKinley, in its issue of Sunday last had an article entitled "Not a Walk-Over," portions of which follow. Partisanship likes to shut the eyes to difficulties and dangers but the truest friends of a party are those who speak with entire plainness. "Harmony" in a convention is not always an assurance of success in an election. It behooves Republicans to read and consider statements like these, and not cherish the delusion that the contest is already won. The Pacific States will vote for McKinley, for expansion is the chief argument that will move them; but whether this argument will have the same force on the Atlantic side no one is entitled to say; and, moreover, other arguments, as those relating to trusts and labor, will probably have more weight there than here. The Times-Herald says:

It is about time the Republican leaders quit congratulating themselves over the rosy prospect and face the fact that their party will not have a walk-over next November. The story of political conventions is full of warnings that infernal harmony often precedes a fall at the polls. It begets recklessness and a neglect of the means necessary to win before the people.

The time has gone by when the leaders and the rank and file of any one party can elect whom they choose and upon whatsoever set of principles they may see fit to formulate. When parties grow arrogant and merely study their own aims and desires they invite the destruction promised to the folly that says there is no God—which in a republic is equivalent to saying there is no people.

The Republican party may well plume itself on the passage of the sound-currency bill, establishing our finances on a solid, single gold standard. In that enactment the party has fulfilled the promise and expectation of its victory in 1896.

But that very enactment has loosened the bonds that held thousands of independent voters to the Republican ticket. The country is secure for at least six years from any successful assault on its financial credit.

This alone liberates thousands of voters from the necessity of supporting the Republican ticket as the only defense against the legions of repudiation and National dishonor.

That the Democracy intends to avail itself of the hopelessness of a campaign against the gold standard is proved by the indefiniteness of its state utterances in indorsing the 16-to-1 plank of the Chicago platform.

Neither must the Republican convention ignore the fact that there are thousands of voters who cast their ballots for McKinley and Hobart four years ago who are stubbornly disaffected toward the party's policy or want of policy in Porto Rico and the Philippines. There is the possibility of the loss of many votes on the false cry of imperialism.

The strong and unquestionable card of the Republican party is the wonderful prosperity of the people and the Nation. This prevents disaffection in the party ranks, but it is not a powerful influence in winning votes.

Let us summarize half a dozen questions that may cost the Republican ticket votes:

1. The Agitation Against Imperialism.
2. The Army Canteen Question.
3. "Our Plain Duty" to Porto Rico.
4. Backward Steps in the Civil Service.
5. The Hay-Pauncefote Treaty.
6. The Sampson-Schley Controversy.

We do not include the subject of trusts in this enumeration of weak spots in the Republican armor, for the opposition is without a lance that can pierce it, and the scandal over the ice trust in New York has operated to the disadvantage of the Democrats.

But the Republican party must pronounce boldly for a Constitutional amendment providing for the election of United States Senators by popular vote in the states. The Senate is the stronghold of trust interests, and it must be reformed.

We have said enough to show that the Republican convention cannot afford to regard its nominees as good as elected.

It may well remember that after Philadelphia comes Kansas City, and after Kansas City, November.

There are a million votes in the United States upon which no party has a mortgage.

Harmony in June does not insure a walk-over next fall.

TRUSTS AND THE PROMOTER.

The Era of Speculation Apparently Nearing an End.

New York Journal of Commerce.

No one has been discussing industrial combinations lately with more intelligence than Mr. Dill, whose professional work has made him exceptionally familiar with the topic. His address at Williams College was particularly valuable, because it draws the line clearly between the class of combinations that have an economic justification and that are for the public good, though they cause some individual hardships, and the combinations that are created by a spirit of speculation, and whose ends and means are alike bad.

Combinations of the former class began many years ago. This more successful competitor enlarged his establishment by buying out the less successful ones, or several manufacturers combined to purchase materials in large quantities, and therefore on better terms, or to avoid destructive competition, or to save the cost of agencies and traveling salesmen. All these are economic and commercial reasons; they have developed the partnership and the small corporation, and the development of the large corporation is merely a continuation of the same process. But a few years ago the promoter observed this process of consolidation and he concluded that there was money in it for him. So he got options on various concerns and effected their consolidation with a capitalization in excess of the value of the business, a good part of the excess being his fee. It was worth to him what he could sell it for, and the parties to the combination were generous in the matter, because it did not cost them anything. If the stock voted to the promoter were worth anything, it would be made so out of the public; they retained stock that represented more than the value of their property, and they felt that what they were giving away cost them nothing.

But this issue of stock had to be marketed. This brought the financier into the transaction. The creation of stock for sale had to be increased still further, so that there should be enough to go around, satisfying the promoter, the members of the combination and the financier. The most distinguished of promoters admitted to the Industrial Commission that the common stock of these combinations represented no value. It served primarily as counters in the game of speculation, and it secured to the holders a share in the profits if they should exceed an amount necessary to pay 7 or 8 per cent on the preferred stock. The stock issues being far in excess of the actual investment in the business, the opportunities of profit in stock speculation became greater than those in dealing in the products of manufacture, and here the pirate appeared on the scene. So Mr. Dill traced the successive appearances of the promoter, the financier, the speculator and the pirate in combinations, formed for no real industrial or economic purpose, but for the sake of manufacturing and speculating in securities.

We quite agree with Mr. Dill that most of the evils of these combinations are working out their own remedy, and we presume that the rest would do so. We are as much opposed to Legislative meddling as he is. It is almost impossible to frame a law that shall strike the speculative combination and leave untouched the economic combination. But we believe the overcapitalization might advantageously be stopped. It is true that the public is growing shy of buying speculative stocks, and that if overissues cannot be sold there will be no motive for their creation. But this is a slow and expensive process. The burnt child dreads the fire, but the burns are apt to be serious, and it would be wiser to prevent the fire so far as may be. Legislation that has been drawn by promoters and speculators in the interest of stock-watering, and for the promotion of speculation ought to be repealed. The cornering of an industry has proved impossible, the floating of stocks that rest upon speculative rather than real value is growing more difficult; the community does not need to fear greatly the permanent effects of these non-economic combinations. But no state ought to invite their creation and supply facilities for their raids upon the community.

Paris Leads in Style.

Scottish American.

In what is called "style" the Parisians surpass the world. Nine out of ten dress in black, which shows to the best advantage the fine figure and brilliant complexion. There is usually a French touch of color in the hat; the hair is massed in the most bewildering fashion, a veil with black dots is always worn, and the ensemble is simply indescribable. The shop-girls look like fashion plates, and even the housemaids have an air about their dress which can be described only by the word "Parisian."

GOSSIP OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

WASHINGTON, June 17.—The Western people will be ungrateful to the Republicans if they do not take into consideration a very magnificent piece of legislation which was passed at this session, which affected most of the states west of the Mississippi River. The bill known as the free homes bill, which passed both houses and became a law, had been pending in Congress for five or six years. It was in the closing days of the 50th Congress and in the 51st and 52d Congresses that a great deal of legislation was put through providing for the cession of Indian lands in various Western States and providing for their being opened to settlement, and usually in such cases quite high prices were allowed the Indians for the lands. Each of these concessions provided that the settlers should pay for the lands the full price which was paid by the Government to the Indians. It was soon found that this was a great hardship to men, especially where the price was $2 50 or more an acre, and even $1.25 was a great deal to pay by persons who had gone upon the lands in good faith to make homes, and further, when it was contrary to the spirit of the homestead law, which did so much to settle the West in previous years.

All the efforts to secure the passage of a bill which would relieve the settlers from the payment of this great price per acre has failed in every Congress. It was in this session that the matter was taken up in earnest and pressed with a determination to secure consideration. Speaker Henderson was unable to stem the tide which Speaker Reed successfully resisted for four years, and finally allowed the bill to be considered, and it was passed with little or no opposition. The people of these Western States, who are on these reservations, and those who wish to go upon the ceded lands, which were held back because of the fact that they had to pay for them, will probably not be stampeded either by the cry of silver, by trusts, or imperialism to support the Democratic party.

The Situation in Kansas.

Some considerable apprehension is felt by the Kansas Republicans because of the strong sentiment among the old soldiers of that state against Pension Commissioner Evans. It will be recalled that Kansas has a larger soldier vote than any other state in the Union, and the old soldier is a great factor in Kansas politics. A number of undesirable decisions rendered by Commissioner Evans have affected Kansas veterans, who, as a result, are up in arms and clamoring for Evans' removal, and threatened to bolt the Republican ticket unless some assurance is given that Evans will not be reappointed at the head of the Pension Bureau. Republican politicians familiar with the conditions in that state say, however, that there is a slight indication that the anti-Evans sentiment is dying out, and they hope by the time the election is on that the feeling against the Commissioner will have so subsided as hardly to be considered an issue. To secure this end, the Republican leaders have been injecting with all possible force other and more important issues into the Kansas campaign, in the hope of diverting the minds of the veterans to the real issues and important questions of the day. They well realize that at best the situation is very precarious, and that if Kansas goes to the Fusion party, it will be after a very bitter and determined fight. Kansas Republicans are anxious to give their electoral vote for McKinley, but the fusionists are equally enthusiastic for Bryan, and the campaign in that state promises to be very interesting and lively. If the Republicans win, it will be because they have worked incessantly under a heavy handicap, and have won well-deserved laurels for themselves and their party.

Bryan May Have Two Mates.

Chairman Butler, of the Populist National Committee, takes a more sensible view of the Democratic Vice-Presidency than many members and leaders of his party. He admits that he would like to see Mr. Towne nominated by the Democrats as the running mate for Bryan, but thinks there will be no friction if some other man is chosen for that distinction. He says first of all the Democrats should select some man who would make an acceptable President in case of Bryan's removal, and thinks that such a man will encounter no difficulty. Butler says that in case there are two Vice-Presidential nominees, they will work in harmony for the Bryan cause, and will strengthen rather than weaken it. After making his run out through a part of the West, the Populist chairman declares that the Democrats of the West are very confident, and that personally he does not see how Bryan can be defeated, "unless the Democrats do some foolish thing not now anticipated."

Still Printing Bryan's Speeches.

In the campaign material which has been manufactured of late through the medium of the Congressional Record it is observed that there are very few Democratic or Populist speeches that are complete without inserting the speeches of Bryan, and also the long tables of trusts. These tables of trusts and these speeches of Bryan have been printed over and over again in the Record, and as many as a dozen different Senators and Representatives have used them as a part of their remarks. Of course, the well-known object of this is to have these documents made subject to the franking laws, so that they can be shipped all over the United States without the payment of postage.

MEN AND WOMEN.

The latest fad of Emperor William of Germany is the collecting of the boots and shoes of famous people. He has already got together at Potsdam some 2000 pairs.

Girls are not employed at the telephone switchboards at Cairo, Egypt. Men are used, and are required to understand English, French, Italian, Greek and Arabic.

Congressman John Allen, of Mississippi, has intimated to several of his friends that he will probably retire at the end of his present term. He has served in all eight consecutive terms.

R. C. Gill, the veteran superintendent of models in the Patent Office, at Washington, has charge of about 400,000 models of United States inventions patented during a period of over 100 years.

J. C. Monaghan, who has been appointed Professor of Commerce in the new School of Commerce to be opened at the University of Wisconsin, this Fall, has recently resigned as Consul of the United States at Chemnitz, Germany, where he has been stationed for the last seven years. He was one of the Democratic Consuls who were retained under the McKinley Administration.

The Countess of Pembroke, at a recent drawing-room, wore a magnificent white and silver gown and light peach velvet train, which was trimmed with old point de Flandre that had once belonged to and had been worn by Queen Elizabeth. It was in admirable preservation, and consisted of deep flounces, partly of floral design, and also displaying a terrace walk, with birds on pedestals—quaint and curious.

The Townsend triplets, old ladies aged 77 years, celebrated their birthday in Knox County, Maine, June 20. They are in excellent health. When young girls, the "Townsend triplets," as they were everywhere known, worked in the cotton mill, where General N. P. Banks spent his youthful days as a bobbin boy. The sisters entertain very pleasant memories of the lad who afterward rose to such distinction.

The Craze of Lynching.

New Orleans Times-Democrat.

There is not any manner of doubt but that a fearful wrong was done by a crowd of people from Mississippi City, Gulfport and Biloxi when they lynched the two negroes, Askew and Russ, yesterday morning, soon after midnight. Not so much as a tittle of evidence pointed to the complicity of two men in the outrage and murder of Christina Winterstein; but, on the contrary, every vestige of testimony obtained or obtainable pointed to the diabolical crime as being the work of one man.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Today's weather—Guess for yourself.

Judge Bartlett Tripp did not even also ran.

Teddy wanted to no, but they didn't let him.

Thomas C. Platt, of New York, is now shouting, "Long live McKinley."

And now the question arises, Who is the Roosevelt of the Democracy?

If Bryan had his ear to the ground yesterday he undoubtedly heard something drop.

The Administration wanted but little in Philadelphia, but it didn't get that little Long.

The Chinese tongs which are making so much trouble around Pekin do not belong to the ice trust.

The man who built the Oregon had to retire gracefully before the man that filled the pages of history with the records of his deeds.

The mute, inglorious Websters who have failed to make a name,
Because the headlong Roosevelt boom blocked up the road to fame,
Now bitterly reflect on fate, and curse their cruel lot,
For well they knew their part, and they were Johnnies on the spot.
But now they see their dreams of fame, like shadows, quickly fade,
The nominating speech they wrote was never, never made.

In words of burning import and of most imposing length
They pictured forth the candidates whose longest suit was strength.
In metaphor and simile most beautiful to read,
They pointed out the very man to fill the Nation's need,
And rhetoric and eloquence were strikingly displayed,
In these soul-stirring speeches that, alas! were never made.

They had them finished months ago, and probably laid them by,
To pull them forth and shout them out, in words that shook the sky;
They gave their copies out to the Associated Press,
So that the local papers need not publish them by guess;
But ere they got the floor the game was both begun and played,
And we'll ne'er see the speeches that were never, never made.

In base, ignoble manuscript they'll gather mold and dust,
With never once an editor to mark the copy "must."
The strongly worded passages intended to enthrall
Each woman, man and little child in that convention hall
Must lie unopened and unread until they are decayed;
Alas! for all the speeches that were never, never made.

Individualism in War.

Brooklyn Eagle.

Englishmen are nearing the time when the lessons learned in the South African war must be applied to the reorganization of their own military system, unless they are willing to risk a repetition, at some future date and on a greater scale, of those disasters which marked the earlier stages of the conflict with the little Boer republics. No campaign of modern times has so completely demonstrated the value of individualism in the field. The Boer is an independent, intelligent unit, quite capable of fighting without continual direction from his officers. His eye is trained to judge distances under all sorts of meteorological conditions, he never makes the mistake of sighting his rifle for a thousand yards when the distance is only six hundred, he is taught that reckless exposure to death is not necessarily the most useful type of bravery, and his inherent ability as a scout prevents him, as a general thing, from blundering headlong into defeat. So much confidence have the Boer generals in the individual fighting standard of their men that they have been able on many critical occasions to thin their lines to a point which an English or Continental officer would have considered suicidal.

The defects of the Boer military system are the merits of the British. The burgher army is practically untrained, as an army and the tendency to individual action is in consequence, not infrequently carried too far. When driven from position after position, as they are today, the Boers would be more than human if their forces withstood the inevitable attrition that follows in the work of continuous defeat. They may cut off detachments and harass communications, they may withdraw artillery into safety, but they cannot, in the long run, sustain anything better than a disjointed and useless guerrilla campaign. Their mobility in the field; their skill in the intrenching under any and all conditions; the general efficiency of their officers, due to practical and not theoretical training; the cultivation of individualism, which includes ability to shoot and scout; these are among the military virtues possessed by the Boer which England and the world at large will be compelled to copy.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

"One grot trouble wid dis yeah," said Uncle Eben, "is dat so many folks hab sech high ambitions combined wid sech low principles."—Washington Star.

An Offer to Be Considered.—"What's that message from Aguinaldo?" "He sends word he will cheerfully quit fighting long enough to come over and help us civilize St. Louis."—Indianapolis Journal.

In the Near Future.—Mrs. Bull (of London)—Isn't it unreasonable to spend every night in the week at your club? Mr. Bull—But, my dear, it's a rifle club, and every patriotic Briton must learn to shoot!—Puck.

True to His Faith.—Mrs. Sparks—Can't you get that stovepipe together, John? Rev. Mr. Sparks—No, I cannot, Mary; and if it wasn't that I'm a minister of the gospel, I'd kick the whole darn business to pieces.—Judge.

Nicely and Aguinaldo.—Boer Sympathizer—I think our country ought to back up that young and struggling South African Republic. Cautious Citizen—Oh, I don't know. Things in Cuba and the Philippines look as if our country needed some young and struggling republic to back her up.—Chicago Record.

Vocation.

Katharine Tynan in the Spectator.

If I might choose my simple lot
Far from town and quite forgot,
All in a sheltered nook and warm,
'Tis I would have a violet farm.

No daffodils should me entice,
Nor hyacinths with their breath of spice,
The tulip with her painted hood
For me should wither where she stood.

Instead of sheep upon the sward,
The modest violet I should herd;
Instead of golden heads a-row,
Should see my violet harvest blow.

Under an arch of wild, wild cloud,
Below an opal mountain bowed,
All in a humid world and cool,
With winds and waters beautiful.

What airs across my farm should fare!
'Tis sweet where pinks and roses are,
But pinks and roses hide the face
Before a violet-peopled place.

No shortest day of all the year
Should fade without a violet's cheer,
Invisible sweetness hid within
And folded up in swathes of green.

Though white and purple babes be born
When Daffodil his flaming horn
O'er quiet hills and vales shall sound
And stir the sleepers underground;

What country bliss can equal mine,
With violets for my flocks and kine,
With violets for my corn and store?
What could a mortal wish for more?

Under a mountain pansy-dark,
Loved of the eagle and the lark,
And set too low for fear or harm,
'Tis I would have a violet farm.