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ODAYS WEATHER - Showers, warmer therly winds.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, SEPT. 24.

PHE HEART OF THE PROBLEM.

We shall not justify our occupation the Philippines by defining our title the islands. The paramount issue in expansion controversy is not wheth that title was legitimately transred to us, or whether Spain had any to sell. We shall fustify our ocpation by our present and future acm. Subtle abstractions or legalities tion. We are not just going into e Philip pines; we are there. The fact st be faced, nothing else. The real me is whether we are able to govourselves. Even if the subjects of uld not obtain against the fundamensingle issue. If we are fit to govern Philippines, we are fit to stay there, we are not fit to govern them, we uld clear out.

Neither is the assertion pertinent that

Filipinos once had a stable governdone is done, and antis should recize the fact. Expansionists may ant, without impairing the integrity their position, that we destroyed that ernment. The assertion and the session do not touch the issue. We face to face with the present, and aust meet it squarely. We are conned more with the future than with past. If we are fit to govern the pinos, we should do it. If not, we uld clear out. Thus the dispute reves Itself into its lowest terms. The verging arguments converge to the ediency or inexpediency of spreadg beyond the sea our National idea dividual freedom concomitant with eficent government. We are to dede if we can do this without hazardg the genial spirit of that idea. Beide this high conception of the issue, nsent" and "imperialism" reveal true character as catchwords ich fade into nothingness amid the ar light of rationalism. If we are fit govern the Philippines, we are fit to tay there. If we are not fit to govern m, we should clear out.

Abstractions will only cloy the discusin. We must deal with a question expediency. Not what is best to be ne, but what is best to be done under circumstances, must engage us. may reason from the inalienable ats of man, from the doctrine of ular sovereignty, or from the preat of consent of the governed, up to usions which show our conduct inous, but our conduct is not thereby ssarily made so. We may torture ory indictment that we have shattered inalienable rights of a sovereign ple, have destroyed their firesides d have ravaged their country after e manner of Tarleton in South Carona, but we cannot be oblivious of the To should look at the issue stripped on disconcerting habiliments. If we to stay there. If we are not fit to vern them, we should clear out.

He who doubts the ability of the nerican character to evolve a scheme government adapted to the Philipes doubts the most essential attriite of our National life. Teutonic ing has always prided itself that it aid meet every political difficulty and e with every political exigency. It always succeeded in a manner hich has most conserved personal ogative and spared individual privie. It has not always succeeded in a A perplexity which never ere had been experienced sometimes ild not be solved in a day, or ever a generation. By a long course of Mical development the English sysm has reached its present perfectionch perfection as the human mind only ws perfection. The English sysm which includes the American, is only one that has made human ghts inalienable, for everywhere else ey, are alienable. One has merely to vey the organizations of the two propean governments which make tensions of individual equity to see their subjects are abused in called inalienable rights from the adle to the grave. All imitations of erican and English models have ed of the originals.

It is absurd, therefore, to say in the kness of bigotry that the Filipinos, ith their narrow scope of political exdence, can fashion a pattern of govnent superior or equal to the Amern. Yet they must do this themselves, of be independent thereafter, if they to have consent." The historical e Filipino insurrection conclusively alism to affirm that we, with all political heritage, are less fit to just the work of regeneration than find in confronted with the real issue. we are fit to govern the islands, d hence we shall stay.

It is wrong to synonymize independ-

as distinct as they possibly could be. Absolute freedom never exists, either may be less freedom in a country which is independent than in another which is not. Freedom is entirely separate it. All sorts of concealed efforts to cir- his price, and quite as evidently has from the condition of independence or dependence. The individual has more freedom in Australia, which is depend- sibly for primary reform, but in reality ent, than in France or Germany, which for perpetuation of the present machine are independent. Canada is as free as rule. The Oregonian warns the people England or the United States, yet it is of the state and the members of the they are capable of exercising, nor will time comes it will ask the people and limit that freedom. They shall be more free under us than they would be under their own dictators, or under a state of anarchy, or under the rule of reform's real enemies but pretended any other nation. We are fit to give them this freedom; therefore we shall stay.

According to the Declaration of Independence, the adopted shibboleth of the new Democracy, rebellion is justiflable when a government becomes too bad to be endured. Upon this sentiment clares that the Filipino rebellion is jusincongruous hodge-podge of semi-barbarous races, is a nation, entitled to the state. They are further entitled to independence because of the vicious government of the United States. We should be grateful to the Democratic party for this grand discovery. We did not know before that our Government was too bad to be endured. Oregon has good cause to withdraw from the Union tomorrow. However, it might be wise first to prove that our Government is too bad to be endured. Nobody has done this yet; probably has not thought of it. The opportunity for some Populist-Democrat to win lasting fame and honor has come.

THE MINNEAPOLIS SETBACK.

At first blush the result of the direct primary nominations at Minneapolie is a staggerer Democrate marked Il not change the actual face of the their ballots for the weakest Republican candidate for Mayor and thus insured his nomination. Loud are the protests of the politicians against the law, and proposals for its repeal and amendment n the Filipinos; whether we can do are offered on all hands. The night with justice to them and with honor of the Minneapolis election The Oregonian obtained a special dispatch he and of consent did obtain, they from Minneapolis on the working of the primary law. The comment that came was from the Journal, but was so evidently partial against the law that some hesitation was felt about printing it. It was printed, however, as it was then too late to obtain a different report. It now appears from the St. it, and that we destroyed it. What Paul Pioneer Press, just at hand-a paper without superior in reputation for candor and public spirit-that the Journal's comment was, as suspected, unfair. The Pioneer Press says:

With the exception of this one untoward

circumstance, the law and the system demon-strated its success. Those who have been ac-customed to make a living by politics, and those generally who prefer the excitement of the game to the welfare of the public service or to real popular rule, have not scrupled to declare in private that the people could not make proper nominations. Loud as they have been in their professions of love for "the people," they have fought, and will make the Minneapolis test an excuse for continuing to light, a system that takes out of the hands of the politicians and places in the hands of the people the business of nomina-But the Minneapolis test showed that their distrust or professed distrust was ut-terly unwarranted. Not only did the rank and file show such engerness to take advantage of their new privilege that the vote was actually greater than in the regular elec-tions of 1898, but they voted quickly, indicat-ing minds already made up as to the merits of the various candidates with whom a preliminary canvass had acquainted them, nor did the novelty of the machinery embarrass them. This was shown by the rapidity with which the very early morning vote, which is gener ally supposed to include a large proportion of those who have little political discrimina-tion, was cast. In districts where this vote is heaviest an average of almost one ballot per minute was checked off, indicating a thorough understanding of what was expected and no hesitation in marking. . . . The Minne-apolis law, in a word, ought not to be re-pealed, but extended to cover St. Paul, Duluth and the other cities and counties of the state.

The "one untoward circumstance" to which the Pioneer Press refers was the nomination of Dr. Ames, the objectionable Republican aspirant, by Democratic votes. It is evident that consolences with the supereroga- a direct primary law which admits all voters indiscriminately to the use of one blanket ballot containing the names of all accredited aspirants affords the opportunity that was availed of by the Minneapolis Democrats. There are two ways of answering this objection. One is by a proposal to have voters designated on poll-books by their parties, or else give e fit to govern the Philippines, we are each voter a separate party ticket such as he shall choose. In this way the chances of Democratic tampering with Republican nominees, or the contrary, would be reduced to a minimum; for if a man had to use an entire party ticket, he would not be apt to deny himself the prerogative of influencing his party nominees on all the rest of the ticket for the sake of voting for

> a weak opponent on a single office. But there are objections to this plan so great that the other way of answering the difficuly is perhaps preferable. The objections are that the espionage of the state in such matters must be very sparingly exercised. It is doubtful if the state has any right to make a man declare his party affiliation, if he has any, and it is doubtful if the state has the right to forbid a man to exercise his choice for candidates by voting a mixed primary ticket. It is readily conceivable that freedom in this respect might frequently be the sole reliance of the community to defeat for nomination a powerful and corrupt aspirant for office. All the liberty practicable must be allowed the voter. Otherwise the law's constitutionality and its popularity will

be jeopardized. The other way of answering the objection naturally raised by the Minnespolis incident is by denying its seriousness and explaining its menace away. For the fact unmistakably appears from the detailed accounts of the Minneapolis election that the man Ames, while objectionable to politicians, has a noteworthy following among the people at large. The most serious element in the situation, however, is that dopment of the individual idea neg- the political machines of both parties en the proposition. The record of are opposed to the direct primary system, and employed this means to bring ratives the proposition. The evolu- it into discredit. This puts the matter on of personal privilege scouts the in a different light. If the bosses think outtion. It is an offense against ra- by such cute tricks as this to overcome public sentiment in favor of direct nominations, they are likely to themselves in error. Nothing crude Filipinos. Wherefore we are could show this fact more forcibly than the conclusion of the Pioneer Press that

the Minneapolis system should be ex- The Oregonian's opinions are its tended over the whole of Minnesota

ence with freedom. The two ideas are shows us just what we knew beforethat is, that the direct primary reform must expect to contend with the most ers of intelligence and in all circles of with or without independence. There determined struggles of politicians to honest criticism, to neither of which prevent its realization. All sorts of classes the Leader is eligible. The open arguments will be urged against Leader evidently thinks every man has cumvent it will be made by the offer the best of reasons for thinking so, beof bogus bills at the Legislature, ostena subject of Great Britain. Just so, the legislature to be on their guard against Filipinos will have as much freedom as these specious schemes, and when the dependence upon the United States the Legislature to support a genuine is to be expected. The task will be to discover and expose the schemes of the friends.

ANTHRACITE COMPLICATIONS. The anthracite coal strike is no exception to the general rule that problems of this sort are too complicated to be settled by a simple wave of the that party bases its opinions. It de- hand. Questions of public policy are tified. It asserts that the Filipinos, an is not sufficient, as regards corporations, to shout, "Down with the trusts!" or, as regards our responsibilities in the political organization of a national Philippines, to cry "Imperialism" and run away. Public sympathy is with the miners in the anthracite difficulties so long as violence is avoided, and is cated, admirably adapt themselves to arbitration, though they confuse the candid mind and prove that even where the best intentions exist on both sides, friction at innumerable points of contact is hard to allay.

> Perhaps the best-known cause of disagreement is weight of a ton. The mines sell 2240 pounds for a ton, whereas the miners are compelled to mine perhaps 3500 pounds in order to produce 2240 pounds of screened coal. The miners receive no pay, nominally, for the waste material mined but thrown away. The equity of the case, then, may not necessarily be that the price per pound now accruing to the miners for the 2240 pounds net shall be extended over the whole 3500 pounds, net and waste. It is obvious that a price can be agreed upon for the 2240 pounds that, while not precisely accurate, shall be on the average fair. It is not a matter to be settled off-hand, but to be

> reached by mutual agreement. The miners are compelled to pay the owners \$2 75 a keg for powder, which they profess to be able to buy for \$1 50 a keg. This is certainly wrong. But when it is explained that this rate on powder is an intimate part of the arrangement involving also the wage scale, the question at once passes from the simple to the complex. The owner's contention, moreover, is that freedom of miners to buy powder wherever they choose would be likely to result in purchase of inferior and dangerous powder, so the question gains a further complication from admixture of a matter

of public policy. The miner's demand that the company hire its own shovelers seems flaw-less on its face, but the claim is made by the owner that the practice of the miners themselves hiring the shoveler and paying him was instituted at the miner's own instance, because a lazy shoveler would impede the miner's work and prevent his earning at his full capacity. The price of the shoveler's pay, it is explained, has already been allowed to the miners.

The company store is an unmitigated injustice, for which there is no defense, and the matter of the company Good times and ready money have only doctor is one of policy, on which no

We have cited these details, which are more fully explained in another column on this page, not for the purpose of discrediting the miners' demands which in the general view resolve themselves into a desire for increased pay and greater freedom, nor to present the side of the owners, who seem singularly regardless of public opinion and public rights, but simply to show that the question is one calling for calm investigation, and not for violence on one side or cold-blooded indifference on the other. The efforts of disinterested persons of influence to compel acceptance of arbitration by both parties to the controversy should be pushed unremittingly to a successful end. To permit this fearful struggle to continue indefinitely will be a crime against our vaunted civilization.

AN AFFECTIONATE TRIBUTE.

The Albany Democrat thinks it has sufficiently answered The Oregonian's position on trusts when it has quoted Mr. Hanna to a different effect. If the Democrat thinks The Oregonian is in any way bound or affected by what Mr. Hanna says, or that it undertakes to stand sponsor for his opinions, or that its views in general are those inculcated by Mr. Hanna, it might profitably consult some of its Republican exchanges. There is a great deal of Republican foolishness in the Hanna press, and that it is not faithfully reproduced in The Oregonian is a source of rage and grief to the Hanna press In yet more pitiable case, however, are the Bryanite organs, who resent not finding in The Oregonian the clap-trap they are accustomed to deal with in Republican machine papers. Their only resource in this baffled state is to impute to The Oregonian what it never said, or else to make a puerile attempt to confound it with the utterances of Hanna. This is a party exigency which may provoke pity, but not wrath. The truth lies somewhere between the extremes of party contentions, but this is a fact not calculated to appeare the rage at The Oregonian which is shared In about equal degree by our Republican and our Democratic critics. Because unvaried adulation of Hanna and McKinley is not the rule in these columns displeases the Seattle Post-Intelligencer just as grievously as it does

the Albany Democrat, We should apologize to the Democrat. perhaps, for connecting it with a reference to the Cottage Grove Leader, which indulges this original reflection: The Oregonian says it fully indorses the tariff plank of the Democratic platform, but whines that Bryan does not talk much on this subject. Oh, well, Bryan knows Harvey has got his price for supporting Mr. Hanna anyway, so what is the use in wasting his breath

"descrt air"? We take it that this brother is hungering and thirsting for a notice, and as prosperity has warmed all hearts with a disposition to relieve the distressed, he shall have it. The fact that own, and not for sale, and the further The Minneapolis election, therefore, fact that The Oregonian does not now

press has this drawback-that it provides no punishment for indecent exposure.

of prosperity in New England cotton manufacture is the substantial increase reform bill. Very little open opposition of the capacity for output of the widelyknown Ann and Hope mills, at Lonsdale. The number of spindles added is 35,000, so that in 1901 there will be a total of 105,000 spindles flying under one roof. This is remarkable as showing an expansion of prosperity in a district wherein four years ago contraction of the cotton industry was painfully in evidence, attended by dire forebodings of its relative extinction through decreased demand and the rapid growth of cotton manufactures in the South. simple only to the simple-minded. It All the sophistry of Colonel Bryan and his political lieutenants, urging upon the people of the United States the desirability of a change in our industrial policy, cannot offset in the mind of the intelligent voter, whose memory runs back for the space of four years, the logic of growth as exemplified in this And it is but a single instance of a change from industrial depression to inprobably right. But the questions of single instance of industrial expansion. detail involved are many and compli- And it is but a single instance of a dustrial activity, that is verified by thousands of whirring spindles in mills where oppressive stience reigned but now, and in payrolls carrying in aggregate hundreds of thousands of dollars monthly into homes shadowed a few years ago by that most bitter of all poverty, the enforced poverty of thrift.

The authorities of Yale University have opened a labor bureau for the advantage of students who have need to earn the whole or a part of their expenses through college. The plan is a novel one, and promises to be useful. Already it is said there are more applications filed for students' services than the bureau is likely to be able to supply. In connection with this effort it is his expenses by his own labor, and one out of every twenty earned the entire cost of his college education. It may well be supposed that men thus equipped with the spirit of independence and self-support will carry into their life endeavor an equipment of energy and experience that free tuition. so-called-in reality education at the expense of the taxpayers of the state, since nothing is free-does not provide. Education by personal effort and selfsacrifice cannot fall to prove a help in any career.

A gratifying incident of Pendleton's grand street carnival was the visit of Portland business men, who were royally welcomed and apparently made themselves agreeable. These and kindred social happenings are strengthening the ties between Portland and the rest of the state. It would be a mistake to suppose, however, that the surrounding country is developing new traits of good-fellowship and hospitality. The fact is the disposition has been there pull hitherto to make both ends meet. A man with his nose incessantly at the grindstone can't be very sociable, no matter how he craves companionship. enabled the latent pioneer spirit of they long continue

The steamship Deutschland, in her ecent record-breaking passage across the Atlantic from New York to Plymouth, maintained an average speed of 23.36 knots, or 26.5 miles per hour. The time of the voyage was 5 days, 7 hours, 38 minutes. The record of human edurance and suffering in the engine and fire-rooms will be forever unwritten. A suggestion of it only was in the utter physical prostration of a number of the men who kept the mighty enginery of the steamship at a top rate of speed during these days Atlantic. This is emphatically an age of rapid transit, everything else being sacrificed in the desire to annihilate space and "get there" ahead of time.

per of convicts in the Oregon Penitentiary must be a source of gratification to citizens and taxpayers of the state, This is another evidence of the fact that the state has passed through the pioneer and boom stages and has become a settled community. It is possible, as Mr. Gilbert says, that changing from the fee system to salaries has had bearing on the matter, but it is also possible that the undue eagerness for fees in previous years led to abuses that the penitentiary record in some degree reflected.

Unseemly strife and scandal over the text-book contracts for the Washington State public schools indicate that there must be great profit in the business of supplying these books. Perhaps the best way of getting a fair deal for the people is to throw the market open again, as it was before the modern idea of uniforming the equipment of the schools and the minds of the children got into such vogue.

A Heavy Responsibility. Chicago Chronicle.

A hundred thousand men in the anthracite mines in Eastern Pennsylvania go out on strike. The very same day the price of coal in Chicago jumps 75 cents a ton.

The coal in Chicago yards may have been paid for at a price leaving Chicago dealers a fair profit at the old figures. The price goes up just the same.

The dealers may "protect" their regular customers by selling for a time-perhaps selling the entire supply for domestic use for the Winter-at the old rate. These regular customers are fairly well-to-do people, most of whom have already laid in their Winter supply. They do not Those who, for any cause, have

been unable to lay in a supply mus bleed. It is the old law of human life enunciated in Palestine nearly 2000 years ago, "To him who hath shall be given; from him who hath not shall be taken even that he hath." While the law is in some that he hath. sense inevitable, it is said that it should be made to bear with extraordinary se verity by avoidable acts.

Those who are responsible for this strike in the near approach of Winter have on the near app much to answer for to their own accusing consciences.

Can nothing be done to put an end to the barbarous strife between employers and employed which is the cause of so

and never did support Mr. Hanna is much misery? Multitudes will ask this known and acknowledged by all read-

country profit by the example of New Zealand in "compulsory arbitration." Refusal to Arbitrate Is Censurable

New York Commercial Advertiser. To the unbiased observer this appears cause from self-consciousness there is no appeal. Our boasted freedom of the disagreement as to the amount of pay increase that is possible in the present state of the market. There is disagreement as to the extent to which admitted evils prevail. These are almost like facts In practical evidence of the revival by any impartial tribunal put in possession of data the companies need not care to conceal, since the very large lie of their stockholders is entitle know them. Public opinion will not excuse either operators or intelligent leaders if they let the strike pass into a more acute stage without honest attempt to arbitrate. They will divide a heavy responsibility-business responsibility to owners whose property is to be dissi-pated, human responsibility to workmen whose maintenance is to be withdrawn. That both will be deeply to blame if no settlement is made is the most general feeling in relation to the case. Strikes public opinion. It is clear that public opinion supports neither side of this in its present stage. It would pass eagerly and strongly to that which made the first sincere and practical move for arbitration.

Bryan as Author and Critic.

Chicago Tribune. It is pleasing to note the naive ap-proval with which Mr. Bryan surveys is kindly and generous praise for a critic to bestow upon an author. "It courageously meets the issues now before the country," he continues, "and states clear-ly and without ambiguity the party's position." Such approval from Critic Bryan must be profoundly gratifying to Author Praise from any source is sup-Bryan. posed to be sweet to an author, but praise from so high an authority must be cially saccharine. Mr. Bryan's criticism of Mr. Bryan's literary production at Kansas City is of a sort that should meet the approval of the higher critics, since it is based on internal knowledge. No man knows more about the inside ap-paratus of that platform than Bryan, the critic-unless it be Bryan, the author. Since it meets the unqualified approval of both, it can probably also be accepted by Candidate Bryan. It seems to be a case for bouquets all around. It is well that Mr. Bryan finds himself thus unanishown that in the class of 327 men who were graduated from Yale last June about one in five paid a large share of highly either of his powers as an author or of his good taste as a self-complacent critic.

MEN AND WOMEN.

The death of Max Koner is reported at Berlin. Koner was one of the six German painters to receive the gold medal at the Paris

Max O'Reil, the famous French humorist who has been seriously ill at Rhurso, is gain-ing strength, and will soon be, able to return to France. It is greatly feared, though, that he will never be quite himself again.

Finley P. Dunne, author of the "Mr. Dooley" papers, has resigned as managing editor of the Chicago Evening Journal, and will remove per-manently to New York City. Mr. Dunne has manently to New York City. Mr. Dunne has been connected with various Chicago news-papers for about 15 years.

Rev. Dr. Joseph Parker, pastor of the City Temple, London, is about to retire from the ministry. He is the leading Congregationalist preacher in England, and has a fame which, like that of Spurgeon and Beecher, is world-wide. His views are broad. He believes in the stage, which he says "responds to an intelnet which is ineradicable."

Benjamin Constant, the French painter, is now busy with two portraits of the Princess of Wales, which he has taken to Paris to fin-ish. In this country he is not unknown, About eight years ago, while in Philadelphia, all the time, but it has been a hard he painted the portraits of George W. Childs and Anthony J. Drexel. They hang on the

Thomas Oliver Colt, who died in New York blow from a baseball bat. When he had albitter disagreement need be kept up, if friendliness to reassert itself. May most recovered, the little finger of his left The finger was placed in position and held there with the hand by means of plaster of paris. When it had grafted is was cut off at the middle joint, and air passages then inserted. The operation was entirely successful.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Bill-Wot did 'Arry get for picking up the oldy's purse when she dropped it? Six months.-Tit-Bits. A Certainty.-Playwright-Sometimes I de whether this play will be a success Man

ager-Nonsense! It has no plot; it abounds in cheap sentimentality; it is vulgar enough in spots, and the scenery is fine. It can't help but succeed .- Life. Judging by Other Instances,—"You think we ought to undertake the publication of

and hours in which she flew across the this novel, do you?" asked the head of the publishing house. "Well, I think it would be a financial success," cautiously replied the reader. "Why?" "Because it is written by a girl, and deals with subjects of which she ought to know very little."-Chicago Evening

Not the Conventional Woman .- "Rut I don" know you, madam." the bank cashler said to the woman who had presented a check. But this woman, instead of saying haughtly. "I do not wish your acquaintance, sir!" mere-ly replied, with an engaging smile: "Oh, yes, you do, I think. I'm the 'red-headed old virago' next door to you, whose 'scoundrelly little boys' are always reaching through the fence and picking your flowers. When you started down town this morning your wife said. 'Now, Henry, if you want a dinner fit to eat this evening, you'll have to leave me a little money. I can't run this house on the city water and 10 cents a day—" "Here's your money, madam," said the cashier, pushing it toward her and coughing loudly.—Chicago Tribune.

The Changeless Plays.

've wandered to the theater; I've been to see the show. I've listened to the same old jokes we heard

was hard and slow The last act saw his finish, Tom, like twenty

The heroine-she suffered, Tom-you should have heard her weep— Her hair was golden in its hue—for peroxide is cheap. She found the missing well, though, Tom-she always did, you know, When we went to the theater some twenty

years ago. about the ma-in-law, Likewise the goat, the stovepipe and the female suffrage jaw. And, res, they sprung the one about the good

old bald-head row. It sounded as it used to, Torn, some twenty The here struts about the stage, and hearsely whispers, "Ah! I see it ali!" And then the crafty villain mutters, "Bah!"

The play is just the same, dear Tom, the plot is thickened so, It looks the same as when we went some twenty years ago. soubrette is the same, old boy-she has the same old wink. Her cheeks are just as radiant-they have

She's billed as "Little Tottle" now-and say, she doesn't show Her age as much as when she played some twenty years ago. The songs are full of "Mother, dears," the star takes all the stage,

jokes and other dialogue show very little are. youngest of the lot, dear Tom, the soubrette's cheeks still glow pinkly as they used to do some twenty

The

THREE VIEWS OF THE STRIKE.

The Owner's Side.

Interview in New York Commercial Advertiser.

The powder question is a long story.

The present price, \$2.75 per keg, was fixed after the close of the Civil War. The mining of anthracite coal is fraught with many dangers, and in order to lessen the dangers from firedamp and other gases, it is necessary to adopt every precaution. If the companies were to supply the powder the miners would be sure to grow more or less careless in using it. So the best course has been to compel the minors to purchase their own powder. They use it with greater care, and use smalle charges. The companies buy the powder in order to be sure that nothing but the best is used. If the men were to it themselves in the open market they might buy an inferior grade, and thus cause a great deal of danger. When the powder scale was fixed powder cost \$2.75 per keg. Since then it has been reduced in the open market until now it can be bought for about \$1 50 per keg. We have several times suggested to our men a re arrangement of the scale. A miner works under a wage scale which gives him a net amount per car of coal. A small car carries about 2½ tons. Now, if we were to reduce the price of powder to \$1.50 per keg, we should have to make a similar reduction in the price paid for a car of mined coal. Therefore, the miners would have the same net salary. Our miners have always refused to readjust the price of powder. They say: "What is the use? We get just as much by paying \$2.75 as we would if we paid \$1.50, so let it go." Regarding the hiring of their own shov-The miners work in little chamelers. bers and niches here and there, and have one or two, and sometimes three, shovel-ers, to put their coal in the cars. It would be almost impossible to have a foreman over each of these gangs, and the shovelers, being Huns or Poles, be inclined to loaf. This would hinder the miner in his work. The miner is anxious to get out all the coal he can, and so he says to us: "Pay us the wages you would pay a shoveler, and we will hire them and pay them ourselves. We'll see that they get the coal out of the way all right." And we let them hire their shovelers, and pay them the additional They compel their shovelers amounts. to shovel from six to eight cars of coal a day-according to the vein they are working in, and we could not possibly get that much work out of them.

Justice for the Miner. Chicago Tribune,

The anthracite miners ask that they be allowed to buy powder for themselves at \$1 50 a keg, instead of having to pay their employers \$2.75 for it. It is true that in the few mines where this is allowed the wage scale is lower, but the miners figure that cheaper powder will add about 10 per cent to their earnings. They ask also that day laborers now paid \$1 25 be given \$1 50. Doubtless they would compromise on a 10 per cent advance. must be admitted that \$1 37% a day is too much for the man who leads the hard, dreary life of a common laborer in a coal mine. Nobody else is so poorly paid. In the bituminous mines \$2 is paid for day labor, and the miners are

earning now from \$2.50 to \$4 a day.

Another demand which is made is that the extra amount of coal miners are required to deliver to offset waste shall not exceed 200 pounds to the ton. The miners complain that they are sometimes forced to mine from 2700 to 4000 pounds for a ton, and are often docked exorbitant amounts for impurities sent out with their coal. It is impossible to defend their coal. such exactions, due either to the orders of the mineowners or to the attempts of suprintendents and inspectors to curry

favor with them.

The mineowners have not yielded to these demands, just as they are. Some of them might have done so, perhaps, had it been possible to reach them before the strike was ordered. Some of the operators were indifferent. Others saw only the fact that a strike would enable them the fact that a strike would enable them to get higher prices for stocks on hand. Others felt that if there were a strike it would not last long. They are the men who say cold-bloodedly now that "It is the other day, was a subject of much in-terest in medical circles. In boyhood he lost his nose and a part of his face, through a

> Mineowners who decline to consid demands of operatives because the latter can be starved out need expect no sympathy anywhere. They ought to understand that they are embarking in a perilous undertaking when they resort to coercion by starvation. Nobody can fore-tell the outcome of such a strike as the one which has just begun. Much de-pends on the attitude of the mineowners. Their rapacity and lack of feeling have brought on this strike. They can end brought on this strike. They can end it by dealing justly with their employes, who have on their side public sympathy, and who may be of such tough fiber that it will not be so easy to starve them into surrendering.

Really Means Increased Wages. New York Journal of Commerce.

Several of the demands of the striking anthracite miners, which are not so expressed, are nevertheless demands for increases of wages. The avowed demand for increases ranges from 30 per cent for the lowest-priced laborers to 10 per cent for those whose wages are highest. is, however, a concealed demand for 50 per cent addition of wages in the demand that the men shall be paid on the basis of 2240 pounds to the ton instead of on it is asked why the men should be paid according to one weight and the coal sold according to another weight. The particular unit of weight does not affect the laborer or the consumer; if tons were larger the consumer would have to pay more, and if the tons were smaller the consumer would get each ton for less, though he would not get his Winter's supply for less. The rate of wages is based upon various conditions, chiefly the prices the mining companies can get, and there is no relation between the ton the miner is paid for and the ton the consumer pays for except the relation which the cost of mining a given quantity of coal bears to the money obtained for that quantity of

The increases in wages demanded are increases for the men who are paid by the day. The men who are paid by the ton demand an increase of 50 per cent by demanding that they shall receive same amount for mining 2240 pounds that they now are paid for mining 3360 pounds. The question is whether the mining companies can and will pay so large an increase. It is not denied that the earnings of coalminers are very sinall, but they can get no more than the amount the coal will sell for less the cost of transportation, the incidental costs of production, the interest on the investment and a reasonable profit. The miners have little reason for com

plaining of a deduction of 50 or 75 cents a month from their wages for the services of the company doctor, whether sick or well. If they were sick or injured they could not get medical attendance for any such rate, and if they can be sure of getting a doctor when they need him by paying \$6 or \$9 a year, whether they need him or not, they are more fortunate than many workingmen are. The lated against by the State of Pennsylvanta, and is found no more among the mines of the large corporate operators: it is said to be limited to the private operators, and its complete suppr cannot justify a general strike. The complaint against the company butcher may be well founded, but the complaint of overcharging is so easily made by customers who do not pay cash that there room to suspect that this grievance has been exaggerated. An examination of the demands of the miners will confirm the suspicion that the chief point at issue is the recognition by the operators of the

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Hobson-but he is a closed incident. Bryan is more likely to be left than

President. A census in Scattle is worth two in

Washington

Bryan will have hard work to keep his 1896 vote from Omahaing.

The biggest fish in the Chinese puddle was the one that got away. Chicago has a smoke inspector. When

he is allowed a few thousand deputies he will take up the candidate's cigar. A California editor was robbed of \$30 the other day. The man the 50 belonged to is entitled to general sympathy.

It is understood from Mr. Bryan's letter the other day that he is willing to become a candidate for President.

If the porter would only ride in the baggage-car, Pullman passengers would never need to see a train-robber. We get a rose with every thorn. Anetic

is writing some more poetry, but fortunately, so is James Whitcomb Riley. Trade unions resolute against foreign

pauper labor, and then resolute with sympathy when pauper foreign labor goes out on a strike.

An Indiana man was told by an anget the other day that when he was going to die, and he expired at the appointed time. There is nothing miraculous about this. Many a Sheriff has done the same thing:

Among others summoned to serve on a jury in the State Circuit Court a few days ago was W. H. Courtney, an oldtime citizen, who has a fair share of the ready wit possessed by hosts natives of the Emerald Isle. While he was being examined as to his qualifications for a juryman, he was asked if he knew any of the lawyers present. He said he believed he knew them all. He was then asked if he had ever had any business connection with any of them. He glanced over the somewhat lengthy list of legal practitioners present, and with a shake of the head replied: "No; and I never want to." This is about on a par with the reply of another old-time citizen of Irish birth, who, on being treated by a friend to some specially fine old whisky, swallowed two-thirds of a tumbler full without winking. When asked if he wanted some water he replied: "Wather-no; there's wather enough in that whisky."

A citizen of Portland a number of years ago purchased a large tract of land in a fertile section of rolling land something less than 50 miles from this city. He planted out a large apple orchard and a peach orchard. A few years later he was sending friends here sample boxes of his peaches which were as fine as any ever seen in this market. Several days ago a friend met him and inquired how his peach crop turned out this year. He said he had no peach crop, as he had pulled up all his peach trees. When asked if his peaches had proved a failure he replied that they had not. The trouble was that they were too good and some people in that region became so fond of them that they stole them all. His orehard was out of sight from his house, and people from a distance, great or small, invaded his place from the rear at night or on a foggy day, with horses and wagons and actually harvested his crop and carted the fruit away. On this point he had the peach trees pulled up and burned and now the thieves are mourning because they practically killed the goose which laid golden eggs.

The melancholy days are come, the saddesa nothing to live on, and "the moment they of the year, are distressed financially they will re-

break of day And paws and saws and saws and saws and saws and saws away.

Its rasping sound's enough to make

flesh get up and creep, And when its whire begins you know it's good. , and off with sleep.

And to your cortured, francic soul to add

another sting. You lie there and reflect that you are paying for the thing. You presently will hear the sound of oft-

repeated blows Upon your door; the steam saw men have come to get your hose, For their machine must work, they my, and therefore it must crink, And so you go and get the hose and stiffs what you think.

They go away, but soon leave off their counterfelt of toil.

And rouse you from a doze to ask if they can get some oil. You ask them if they'd like to have you

come and saw the wood, they reply full solemnly, they do not think you could. Perhaps you saunter out of doors, and see with rising ire.

For every stick of wood they saw, there's two go in the fire,
And wonder at how your patience so unfailingly endures, For all the wood, both sawed and burned, is-

that is once was-yours.

Your not a vicious man, perhaps, and do not like to see A fellow mortal mangled up to a minute

But still in watching them you feel you'd be rejoiced if you Could put one sawyer in the fire, and saw his

A teamster who is inclined to be "sporty" and is anxious to gamble on every possible proposition, always when he buys outs, stumps the dealer to judge the weight of the sack for a wager of 25 cents. The dealer, who handles more sacks of oats than his customer, invariably wins the quarter, to the chagrin of the betting man.

One day not long ago the dealer saw his customer prowling around the warehouse and imagining that he was up to some mischief, kept an eye on him. The teamster found a billet of wood which had been left over from last Winter, and after weighing it carefully, put it back against the wall. Next day he came in to buy a sack of pats, and this time he was stumped to judge the weight. He said he was not at his best judging sacks of oats, he could do better on other things. He looked around and finally no ticing the old chunk of wood, said he

would bet on judging the weight of that, The dealer said "all right," and put up his quarter. The teamster said did not want to bet a quarter, and insisted on betting \$2.50. Finally the dealer reluctantly put up 32 50, and they marked the weight of the chunk. The teamster judged it about three pounds too high and the dealer half a pound too low, so the latter pocketed the stakes. The teamster seemed dumbfounded. He looked over the scale and said there must be something wrong with it. He was assured that the scale was all right, and finally in support of his idea, stated that he had weighed the chunk of wood the day before and it had weighed three pounds more. "Ah!" said the dealer, but you did not weigh it after I had sawed three pounds off it." The teamster had no more to say, and hereafter will

not be so ready to back his judgment.