The Oregonian.

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

TELEPHONES.

Editorial Rooms......166 | Business Office...667

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By Mail (postage prepaid), in Advance—

Daily, with Sunday, per month	$ 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

POSTAGE RATES.

United States, Canada and Mexico:

10 to 16-page paper	1c
16 to 32-page paper	2c

Foreign rates double.

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—47, 48, 49 and 50 Tribune building, New York City; 469 "The Rookery," Chicago; the S. C. Beckwith special agency, Eastern representative.

For sale in San Francisco by J. K. Cooper, 746 Market street, near the Palace Hotel; Goldsmith Bros., 236 Sutter street; F. W. Pitts, 1008 Market street; Foster & Orear, Ferry news stand.

For sale in Los Angeles by B. F. Gardner, 259 So. Spring street, and Oliver & Haines, 106 So. Spring street.

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

For sale in Omaha by Barkalow Bros., 1612 Farnam street.

For sale in Salt Lake by the Salt Lake News Co., 77 W. Second South street.

For sale in Ogden by W. C. Kind, 204 Twenty-fifth street.

On file in Washington, D. C., with A. W. Dunn, 500 14th N. W.

On file at Buffalo, N. Y., in the Oregon exhibit at the exposition.

For sale in Denver, Colo., by Hamilton & Kendrick, 906-912 Seventh street.

TODAY'S WEATHER.—Showers; continued cool; westerly winds.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, MAY 18.

THE WRONGS OF LABOR.

His happy faculty of expressing in effective phrase the drift of modern thought served Judge Williams well in his speech at the banquet of the Sons of the American Revolution Thursday night, when, speaking of labor and capital, he said:

> My opinion as a general proposition is that wage-earners do not get a just proportion of the proceeds of the businesses made profitable by their labor, and when thousands upon thousands of profits are piled up for their employer their united effort in such cases to obtain a good remuneration for their labor should be encouraged by all fair-minded men.

In this friendly word for organized labor we see reflected a growing conviction of society toward the ranks of workingmen. Its very appearance at the University Club, and its enthusiastic reception in an audience drawn from our best social, business and intellectual life, may serve to put a degree of disapproval upon the pessimistic tendency of most of the speaker's remarks. The very enthronement of sefishness, which Judge Williams so vigorously bewails, is negatived by the generous indorsement his arraignment of it gained. It is half the battle against an abuse to have that abuse pointed out and denounced. When they are unseen or ignored, then only are abuses really dangerous.

Opinion concerning labor and capital, the worker and the boss, has been undergoing a great change in the United States within recent years, and it is a change full of promise. Unreasoning hatred of corporations merely because they are corporations seems to be dying out in some such degree as unreasoning hatred of trades-unions just because they are unions seems to be dying out. That is, we are increasingly disposed to judge the operations of capital trusts or labor trusts, not by preconceived standards, but by their effects, good or bad. "By their fruits ye shall know them." The high-handed methods of Standard Oil are tempered in popular esteem by the reduction in price of kerosene. The overweening avarice and ambitions of our iron and steel trusts are something mitigated by their enormous payrolls, by their princely benefactions, by their conquest of foreign markets, and by the undeniable evidences of prosperity that attend their reign. And the disfavor with which students and business men were once accustomed to regard labor organizations has shown a tendency to abate in favor of a disposition to judge unions by the work they do for good or for ill.

Society is in a receptive mood regarding the wrongs of labor, and great weight is going to be given to its claims of being underpaid. The immense fortunes our trusts are piling up take away all excuse of inability to pay fair wages, and their close combinations go far to discredit their resistance to unionism among employes, provided the labor organizations operate within the law. There is certainly something incongruous in the spectacle of a street railway combination which controls the lines of six or eight New York cities objecting to men because they belong to a labor trust. It is also noteworthy that the dispatches from Albany and Troy give the impression that the labor leaders there are opposing violence as a bad thing for the cause of labor itself. A general enlightenment on this head would do more than any other single thing to advance the cause of labor in popular estimation. The trouble at Albany is probably due as much to unwise business management on part of the railroads as on the side of the men. One of the crying wrongs of labor is the uprising of mobs in cities at times of strikes and perpetration of outrages which are charged against labor, but which are only remotely its work, if at all.

There is, perhaps, no more hopeful phenomenon of our industrial life than this growing susceptibility of society to the wrongs of labor. It is no part of government to support the laborer, but it is government's duty to give him the largest possible opportunity to work for himself and to gain to the full and enjoy the fruits of his exacting toil. In an increasing degree society is coming to understand how much of its future depends upon the condition of the masses. Old Egypt looked upon its myriad slaves as of no more ethnic moment than the blocks of stone they hewed under the lash, or the bricks they fashioned under the boiling sun. Until very recently we have advanced but little beyond this ancient conception, and many superintendents have no higher rule of getting efficient service out of employes than by calling out the military and shooting them down.

Society is only looking out for itself when it stands between the honest, faithful workingman and his enemies, whether they are grasping corporations or the rabble of manufacturing centers. It is from the ranks of these workingmen that the Presidents and merchant princes and giant manufacturers of tomorrow will be recruited. The successful man whose picture is on the front page of the newspapers, and whose contributions are sought by the magazines was not born on Beacon Hill or along Fifth avenue. He began life on a farm, or as a newsboy or a poor clerk or a mechanic. Every opportunity should be afforded such men to rise. It will make a difference to the next generation whether it grows up contented with its lot and justly paid for its services, or embittered under oppression with a sense of injury because denied just participation in the fruits of its labor. "For the laborer is worthy of his hire."

A WORLD OF LAW.

Fiction has no more moving story than the tragic death of Olaf Berg, electric lineman, who went to the aid of a friend in trouble and slowly roasted to death upon a live wire from which he was unable to free himself. What a cruel master electricity becomes, which as a servant is a most efficient contributor to use and beauty! The forces of Nature are helpful when kept under control, but awful devastators, unreasoning and unpitying, when they gain the ascendant, and rush upon their hapless victims. The devouring fire, the pitiless sea, the consuming electric current, the cancerous germ attacking the body of the experimenting scientist, the wild beast, turning in a moment of unexpected frenzy upon its erstwhile feared and loved trainer, the loosened flood of the reservoir spreading desolation over the valley it has been accustomed to bless with water, light and employment, the glacier, burying in its awful bosom the explorer who has loved it long and well—these are exhibitions of Nature's seamy side which may well cause us to distrust her beneficent purposes and which cause believers in an old theology to cry out, "Can a kind, just God exist and permit these cruel visitations upon the innocent?"

At length we shall understand that we live under a reign of law. The universe is not governed by caprice or favoritism, but by constant forces, impartial and unchangeable. Shelley, who loved the sea as few men love anything, was swept to destruction as remorselessly as if he had never sung its praise. Trust not the enrapturing murmur of the waves; they will snuff out your life as unconcernedly as they toss a spray of seaweed upon the sand. It was nothing to Mount Rainier that Edgar McClure climbed its sides with love and pride; it took his life as gladly as it would have torn the assassin from his intended victim. It is nothing to Nature that the devoted physician is studying cancer or leprosy in hope of abating suffering; it will fasten the germs upon his flesh at the smallest opportunity. The electric current burned its way to the vitals of poor Olaf Berg as gaily as at Sing Sing it speeds to the brain of the most hardened criminal.

On the whole, the gain from caprice to iron law is not only good for wisdom, but for edification and solace. Once we know that causes produce their due effects with unfailing certainty, the way ahead of us is made clear beyond the peradventure of a doubt or misgiving. If there is no loving care in Nature, there is, on the other hand, no vengeance. To comply with Nature's laws is to be assured, not only of freedom from persecution, but of escape from indirect disadvantage accruing from interposition on behalf of some more favored object of concern. It is great gain to be persuaded at last that Nature is no respecter of persons; that as her sun shines alike on the evil and the good, and her rain falls on the just and the unjust, so we may rest assured that the conception of a just God is not to be tested by the operation of natural law upon those we love, when unwittingly they stray across the forbidden path. We may, in contemplation of the orderly progress of all things, even derive greater confidence

. . . that somehow good
  Shall be the final goal of ill,
  To pangs of Nature sins of will,
Defects of doubts, and taints of blood;

That nothing walks with aimless feet,
  That no one life shall be destroyed
  Or cast as rubbish to the void
When God hath made the pile complete.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

Banker Hirschberg, of Independence, has set an example to moneyed men who expect to profit by the development of the dairy industry which is well worthy of emulation. Although it has been already demonstrated that the manufacture of butter and cheese is destined to become of vast importance to the state, the business has reached the point where progress is barred by the lack of ready money with which to stock pastures with good milch cattle. When the average farmer balances accounts for the year he finds the margin of profit so narrow that he has little capital to invest in cows, and as a result he reluctantly turns away from branching out into a field he feels sure would yield good returns. Mr. Hirschberg has come to his relief by offering to lend him money with which to purchase cows, exactly as the country banks furnish the money with which the wheatraisers harvest their crops. If, in addition to his cattle, the farmer sees fit to equip himself with a separator, Mr. Hirschberg stands ready to advance him what is necessary to buy one. In this way he has already materially increased the patronage of the Independence creamery, given the dairy industry in the vicinity a decided stimulus, and taken no risks beyond those ordinarily incident to his business.

The ultimate success of dairy farming in Oregon depends upon the willingness of capitalists to assist it, and Mr. Hirschberg is the first to undertake voluntarily to do so. The creameries already established must rely on the farmers to supply them with raw material, and if the farmers are enabled not only to keep up their herds but to enlarge and improve them by the addition of strains of better blood, not only will these creameries keep their churns in operation, but others will spring up to take care of the surplus milk that will soon be furnished, and Oregon will become famous as a prosperous dairy state. There is plenty of capital in Portland today seeking investment, and certainly it could be put to no better use than in building up a business which will prove of immediate benefit to the state and city.

California furnishes an example

which proves that Mr. Hirschberg has used good judgment in this latest business venture. Two years ago a large ice plant was built at Fresno, in the San Joaquin Valley. To utilize the considerable amount of cold-storage space available it was suggested that a creamery be established; but, as in the Willamette Valley, the farmers had few cows and no money to buy more. The management, however, proceeded to interest capital, and soon succeeded in securing what money the farmers needed to purchase herds. Farmers who would agree to care properly for their stock and furnish milk to the creamery were advanced money to buy cows on a basis of easy payments at a low rate of interest. Today, as a result, 10,000 pounds of butter are turned out of the Fresno creamery daily, and the plant promises to become the largest of its kind in the United States.

A few months ago a carload of heifers, which are badly needed today in Oregon, were shipped from Roseburg to Fresno. These heifers should never have been allowed to leave the state, and if Mr. Hirschberg's example is generally followed, there will be a demand hereafter for all the young stock the state can produce. What has been done in California can be accomplished in Oregon with far less energy, as the conditions for dairying are far more favorable here. It is to be hoped that the seed sown by the Independence banker will bear fruit, and that it will soon be as much a part of the business of the country banker to lend money to stock the pastures as to furnish funds with which to harvest the crops.

DESERVES ENCOURAGEMENT.

The race meeting to be held in this city today should draw a good crowd, not only because the proceeds of the affair are to be devoted to a most worthy object, but because the events as arranged promise good, clean sport, which should be encouraged. Horse-racing is older than civilization. As a tribute to the regal character of the diversion, it has been known as the "sport of Kings" since the days when Kings supplanted the chiefs who ruled over the scattered bands of people who wandered up and down the earth in the days of savagery. The literature of all ages and of all people pays frequent tribute to the noblest creation in the animal world. Whether it was the big charger, with his "neck clothed with thunder," rushing into the heat of battle, the clean-limbed racer bearing a young Lochinvar and his lady love beyond the reach of the pursuing Nemesis, the handsome Arabians dragging the chariot of a Ben Hur to victory, or the hardy mustang of the prairie speeding for help against the invading redskins, the horse in literature and history, like the poor, has been "always with us."

The horse has always shown a willingness to co-operate with mankind in affording the public honest sport. The love for racing is in his blood, and the average thoroughbred takes as keen a delight in galloping over a course as can possibly be afforded the spectators. Unfortunately for the horse as well as for his admirers, the greed of man has almost ruined horse-racing as an honest sport. "Of what interest can be a horse race?" asked a far Eastern potentate whose sluggish blood had never had a chance to move faster as he viewed a contest between thoroughbreds, "for any one should know that some horse are faster than others." The gamblers, who have ruined racing might go a step farther in these days of crooked jockeys, electric saddles, "dope" and other nefarious devices, and wonder what interest there could be in a race which was fixed so that the faster horse was to be beaten. However, when racing is taken up for pure love of the sport, as is the case with the Portland Hunt Club, there is yet a chance for the re-establishment of the sport in popular favor in this city. There will be no long waits between heats for the benefit of the poolbox, for the poolbox will not be there. There will be no division of purses as an inducement for a fast horse to be distanced by a slow one.

In short, the contests will all be on their merits, and it is sport of this class only which will restore horse-racing to its proper level in this city and state. The breeding and development of fine horses has added vast sums to the wealth of this state, and there is nothing like a well-conducted race meeting to awaken an interest in the industry. For this reason, also, it is to be hoped that the meet at Irvington Park today will have a patronage in keeping with the worthy object for which it is given.

SHEEP AND THE FORESTS.

To the current number of the Forum Early Vernon Wilcox contributes an article in reply to an article on "Sheep and the Forest Reserves," by C. S. Newhall, printed in the Forum for February, 1901, in which sheep were condemned as an unmitigated nuisance when grazing on forest land. Mr. Wilcox disputes the arguments and conclusions of Mr. Newhall as not of universal application, but as a rule applicable to special or local conditions only. The observations of Mr. Newhall were made chiefly in California, but Mr. Wilcox holds that those arguments against sheep-grazing do not hold true for forest reserves in Montana, Idaho or Wyoming. Mr. Wilcox, replying to the charge that sheep eat and tread the country bare, says that sheep seldom, if ever, graze in the timber, or even under the shrubs, in any of the forest land of Montana. Most of the sheepraisers in Montana direct their herders not to allow the sheep to graze in timber areas, on account of their liability to get lost. The stockraisers of Montana regard the forage conditions of the range as good, and in many instances better than during the days when stockraising was a new industry.

Mr. Wilcox denies the contention that the grass is destroyed by the trampling of the sheep's sharp hoof, but holds, on the contrary, that the sod of ranges which is frequently overrun by large bands of sheep is denser and yields a greater amount of forage than sod in its natural condition on the range, and that sheep do not kill native grass by trampling or by eating it. To the charge that sheep are indirectly responsible for forest fires, Mr. Wilcox points out that one evident means by which fire can sweep through large areas of forest is removed by the eating and trampling down of coarse, herbaceous growth, and the consequent formation of a sod of short grass in the open park areas which are found throughout forest regions. Sheep do this more effectively than other animals in many localities, and they encroach to the least possible extent on the neighboring forest areas. In Montana the natural areas of forest growth are not those upon which sheep graze, and no sheepraiser in Montana is disposed to complain of any limits set to his sheep range by natural forest areas.

Mr. Wilcox's own observations in Montana do not corroborate the charge of Mr. Newhall that sheepraisers and sheepherders deliberately set fire to forest areas for the purpose of burning off trees and allowing the grass to grow. The camp ou[illegible] of the sheepherder in the mountain ranges of Montana includes, almost without exception, a small sheet-iron stove, and campfires are rarely built under any circumstances. Furthermore, sheepmen are deeply interested in the prevention of fires in forest areas, since sheep are the most helpless of all creatures in case of fire, and are therefore most apt to be destroyed. The vast majority of forest fires he imputes to the carelessness of tourists, hunters and trappers, who are less easily watched and controlled than sheepherders. A forest patrol can readily locate a herder with a large band of sheep, whose movements are slow and whose trail is easily followed. Hunters and tourists travel with a small outfit, go where sheep would not be taken, have no well-planned route, and almost invariably build large camp fires, which are left smoldering after the party has broken camp.

Mr. Wilcox holds that no evidence has been presented to show that in states like Montana, Idaho and Wyoming the sheepraisers have abused their privileges, or that sheep have actually done any damage upon the forest reservation. No injury to these forest areas has been thus far found which could be attributed to sheep-grazing. The maintenance of a slow and gradual flow of water from the mountains depends fully as much upon the presence of good sod full of grass roots as upon the presence of trees. Some of the steepest of mountain slopes are well covered with grass, although unprotected by tree growths. In Montana the continued grazing by sheep brings about the gradual extermination of all weeds except a few not regularly eaten by those animals. The grasses, native and introduced, endure continued cropping better than most plants, and come to occupy the ground as the weeds are gradually exterminated by the sheep. The majority of the sheepraisers in Montana would be glad to co-operate with the Government in maintaining the forest reservations in their present condition, in preventing fires, in protecting timber in other ways, and in preventing any evil effects of overgrazing. The observations made by Mr. Wilcox during his four years' residence in Montana convince him that no deterioration can be found in any mountain range where sheep were grazed.

The work of mischief-breeders in Albany has terminated, as threatened for several days, in death through the resistance of lawless men to the power of the state, exercised for the protection of its citizens and their property. The situation in that city, so graphically described in the reports of the Associated Press and scattered broadcast over the country, is sufficiently appalling, as it would seem, to warn workingmen and employers alike in the various places where strikes are threatened and strife is brewing, of their duty to avoid by reasonable concession a climax in which all the forces of mischief meet and contend for mastery. What is now occurring in Albany, it may be remembered, occurred in Cleveland two years ago, leaving behind the inevitable consequences of death, loss of wages, destruction of property and bitter hatred. Violence and its far-reaching consequences will be duplicated from time to time as long as masters and men refuse to be governed by the principles of justice in their dealing with each other in industrial life. Albany today presents an object-lesson in violence born of unreason, which the chafing forces of industry may at this time well pause and contemplate, with honest purpose to shun its reproduction in their own localities.

We weep for Aguinaldo, in disgrace. Gave his "consent," and not only that, but gave it to the enemy! Can he ever more bear himself with that noble criterion at Lincoln, Neb.? Gave his "consent"! Could he have done a more heinous crime against the household gods of anti-ism. Indeed, the Lars and Lemures moan with midnight plaint. If we mistake not, his abjuration of the faith should expel him even without formal ado from the faculty of the anti institute. For a faithful anti to yield to anything with the aid or consent of any nation on earth, would seem to be the crest of opprobrium. But for him to cast down one of the sacred principles of his order in such fashion is the crest unto the crest of infamy—aside from the flagrant violation of fraternal etiquette. A plague upon him! Let Aguinaldo bag his head and never more look an honest anti in the face.

The death of David Steel will recall to the few who have been connected with newspaper work in this city for a third of a century a past era in journalism with which the deceased was to some extent identified. Never a forceful, but always a genial, man, and faithful in the performance of his allotted duty, David Steel was for many years a familiar figure upon the streets in the capacity of advertising solicitor and collector. His health compelled him in early life to abandon the confinement of the printing office, to the work of which he was in early life accustomed. For some years past he has led a retired life, apart from its active duties, but retaining throughout all of the vicissitudes that came to him the character of a kindly, honorable, upright man.

The "oldest Mason" in Oregon bids fair to become a noun of multitude, rivaling in number the "first child born of white parents" within the limits of the state. The distinctions of accident do not amount to much as historical events, but men are not lacking who take pleasure or pride in and seek to make the most of them.

Mrs. Nation will appeal her case because there were anarchists on the jury which convicted her. Anarchy among anarchists is the ne plus ultra of anarchy, indeed.

If the President had taken the northern route instead of the southern, he would not only have seen the Pacific Coast, but would not be in his present pickle.

Conditions in China must be deplorable when the only peace is that within range of the rifles of the allies.

MAY 18, 1901.

PHILIPPINES CURRENCY.

New York Evening Post.

Sound Currency furnishes an interesting documentary history of the monetary situation in the Philippines, compiled by L. Carroll Root from official reports on the subject. Conditions in the islands are not immediately alarming and are likely to present technical difficulties rather than large questions of theory, yet it is easy to see how Congress might make a bad mess of the matter if it should pursue its former policy of "going it blind" on currency questions. When the United States first took over the islands, it found there a silver standard which had succeeded a nominal gold standard about 1875, shortly after the first downward rush in the price of silver. Gold was driven out by the Mexican dollar, which was preferred to gold on account of its greater bulk and suitability for the business of the people. The use of such dollars was legalized in 1876, those in circulation being made a legal tender, although further importations of them were forbidden the following year.

At the time of the American occupation, therefore, there was no gold in circulation in the islands, and the standard was an arbitrary one, the dollar fluctuating in value partly with the price of silver bullion and partly with local demand and supply. The prohibition on importing Mexican dollars was abolished almost immediately after the advent of the American troops in Manila, in consequence of representations made by local banks concerning the increased need of coin produced by the greater volume of business. In consideration of the permission to import, the banks guaranteed a rate of exchange not worse than $2 Mexican for $1 United States. Prior to July, 1900, the banks were not called upon to maintain their guarantee, for the Mexicans remained from 1 to 7 cents less valuable than the ratio of 2 to 1. Late in July the American dollar was quoted at only $1 98 in Mexican money, and this decline in price led to a discrimination against American currency on the part of the natives, which was only partly remedied by an arrangement, effected by the Philippine Commission, for the exchange of Mexican dollars against those of the United States at the rate of 2 to 1, and a duty of 10 per cent on the export of the latter.

There are four proposed methods of dealing with the question. The first is the familiar bimetallic policy. Waiving for the present the danger and wrong of pressing down a crown of thorns upon the Filipino brow, it is clear that any effort to maintain Mexican dollars at a $2 parity with our own might be a very dangerous undertaking, and that bimetallism cannot be thought of for an instant. Inasmuch as Mexico is a free-coinage country, the United States would be practically offering to maintain the world's product of silver at a certain price, provided only that it had passed through the Mexican mint. The commission's efforts to "keep the ratio steady" in the Philippines have already been expensive and very troublesome. Nor would a second proposed plan—the rough-and-ready method of merely extending our system to the Philippines, without change of unit—be exactly fair. In an unprogressive country like the Philippines, it would take a long time to readjust the scale of prices and wages in terms of a unit twice as large as that hitherto prevailing.

The third and fourth modes of dealing with the problem are the establishment of a gold standard, with a unit corresponding to the peso (Mexican dollar), or with, in other words, something like half as much as the present American dollar, and the policy of "open mints" in the Philippines, which implies the acceptance of a single silver standard, with free coinage, but without obligation to redeem. The latter suggestion has perhaps been most widely approved. But it should be observed that the old confusion, of which we are all heartily tired, but which seems to be inevitable whenever monetary discussion is aroused, between a gold standard and a gold medium of exchange tacitly underlies nearly all the statements on the subject. In considering the relative advantages of silver and gold as standards the theoretical arguments are too familiar to need much discussion. It is enough to say that the retention of the silver standard would carry with it all of the usual disadvantages—fluctuating par of exchange, instability of value, etc. The commission itself admits that "as long as the principal currency of the islands is Mexican money, the ratio of exchange between it and United States money will be subject to constant fluctuation. . . . Every such fluctuation operates to the injury of all business interests except that of the local banks and speculators in currency."

The situation is much like that which existed a few years ago in Japan. The gold yen and the silver yen were of equal value in 1875. The subsequent decline of silver caused gold to pass out of circulation. In 1897 silver had fallen to one-half its former value. The gold yen had been out of circulation more than 20 years. It was unknown to the common people; when used at all, it passed as the equivalent of two silver yen. The government adopted the gold standard and took the yen for the unit of value, but did not coin any gold pieces of one yen. The smallest gold coin is the piece of five yen, aproximately equal to our quarter eagle. Then the government made silver subsidiary to gold and legal tender for only 10 yen. In this way all the evils of the currency system were cured in a very short time, and without producing any commercial confusion.

The experience of Japan points the way to currency reform in the Philippines, but it implies that the Mexican dollar "must go," and a Philippine silver coinage must take its place. But gold should be made the standard, in order to avoid the difficulties that India has suffered and is just now emerging from. The argument for preserving the silver standard proceeds either from those classes which, as the commission suggests, are interested in its retention—that is, who profit from its fluctuations—or from uninstructed public officials like Paymaster Bates, who, speaking of a proposed free coinage of Philippine silver, magniloquently says that it would "gratify the pride of the natives and tend to cultivate among them a national spirit and untimately a feeling of gratitude toward this country." The sooner we get away from our present precarious position as the possible redeemer of innumerable Mexican dollars, the better.

Policy of Perpetual Amendment.

New York Journal of Commerce.

Announcement that Senator Frye will rewrite the subsidy bill is made immediately after Mr Morgan's contract to purchase the Leyland fleet. It will surprise no one who has watched that remarkable bill's history. No bill was ever rewritten so much. Every time opposition developed to it it was amended with a view to bringing in a new interest to support it. We are not aware that Mr. Morgan desires any subsidy, but if he did not it would not deter the promoters of the bill from manifesting solicitude to protect his interests, no matter how indifferent to them he may be himself. Mr. James J. Hill gave an interview in which he expressed an unfavorable view of subsidies and intimated that he needed nothing of the kind, but the bill was at once amended so as to take in the fleet he is building for the Pacific service.

Penalty Paid by Speculators.

Atlanta Constitution.

Every man still earns his living by the sweat of his brow, if not literally, at least figuratively. Those that have encountered success in speculating have spent many sleepless nights and days of racking mental torture in the effort. How many hundreds have gained success only to discover that they have hopelessly wrecked brain and body and that the gold is but a mocking forerunner of premature death?

MANNERS OF NEW YORKERS.

Baltimore Sun.

A New York contemporary contrasts the manners of the citizens of that great agregatiol with those of people in more cultivated communities, and makes something of an apology. It tells of the meeting of a courtly old gentleman from Kentucky with a courtly old gentleman from Boston in a Broadway car. While these old fellows were bowing each other out of the door of the car passengers were obstructed, the car stopped and there was almost a blockade on Broadway. This is probably somewhat exaggerated; nevertheless, too much manners and too much effusiveness are extremely tedious and tiresome. The spectacle of any manners at all except bad manners would naturally excite comment in New York. Our contemporary apologizes for New York behavior as follows:

"It is a mistake to suppose that we have not our own code of courtesy. It is the principle of keeping out of everybody else's way and never wasting anybody's time. You rush ahead of your neighbor on the street. Good. You would keep him longer if you did not. You do not beg his pardon before you ask him for a match; you would take more of his time and attention if you did. You are not likely to accost him pleasantly in a public place; he may have millions of dollars on his mind and no rooom there for the entertainment of any foolish comment of yours on the weather. You do not expect the conductor to stop the car altogether in order that you may board it. This marvelous celerity of movement in New York must go on for the general advantage. Every other man must have the right to proceed instantly about his business which you yourself demand."

In this general desire to get out of everybody's way the New Yorker is not always successful. In the mad rush and senseless stampede to be first everywhere women are jostled and pushed aside and almost trampled upon. Few will take the trouble to answer a civil question. In Baltimore and Washington gentlemen stand aside to permit women to go ahead of them into the street car or the steam car. The New Yorker, if he sees a woman getting into a car ahead of him, as a rule does not hesitate to push her along or get past her, if he can. New York people, like those of Chicago, seem to take pride in always rushing like wild Texas cattle in a stampede. A life in these conditions presents few attractions to a placid mind.

Petroleum Refuse in Russia.

Contemporary Review.

The prices of Baku petroleum, ostatki and mazoot—mazoot is the refuse used in furnaces in lieu of coal—have gone up simply because certain foreign shareholders were bent on raising them artificially. Prices were so low a few years back that railways and steamers adopted mazoot in preference to wood fuel, and went to the expense of having special boilers made for the purpose. Once grown indispensable, mazoot was artificially made more costly, and the public is now forced to pay vast sums to enrich a group of capitalists whose pursuit of gain is undoubtedly legitimate, but scarcely moderate. The nominal price of Nobel's shares, for instance, is 5000 rubles. In 1896 the company paid a dividend of 500 rubles on each share; in 1899 it was 900 rubles! The nominal value of the shares of the Caspian Company is 1000 rubles. In 1898 they paid a dividend of 480 rubles a share, and in 1899 it was 780 rubles! The 1000-ruble share of that company is now valued at 6750 rubles. The Baku Naphtha Company's share has a nominal value of 100 rubles. Its dividend in 1898 was 38 rubles; in 1899 it was 50 rubles. The share now costs 645 rubles. But these heavy gains are purchased at the cost of a great trade depression. The steamship companies on the Volga which consume mazoot assured me that the evil done was disproportionately intense and widespread. The shares of the Steamship Company Caucasus and Mercury fell from 523 rubles in 1894 to 190 rubles between the 6th and 19th of February, 1901. This is intelligible. The representatives of the Steamship Company Nadeshda, which also employs mazoot instead of wood, told me last May that they require some 7,000,000 poods a year of this mineral fuel. It used to cost them from 11 to 12 copecks a pood at Nishni Novgorod. At present they have to pay from 28 to 29 copeks. The director of some works at Tsartsin complained recently that on mazoot alone he is forced to expend 300,000 rubles a year more than before for the same quantity. It has already become a question whether the steamers and railways can long continue to employ mazoot instead of wood. The administration of the Kazan Railway has replied in the negative, and have now had fireboxes made for wood fuel, which they will henceforth burn in lieu of mineral refuse.

Responsibility of Great Wealth.

New York Times.

It is modern doctrine of wide and constantly wider acceptance that the greatest nations must not go to war with each other. The new Titans of finance in this country must submit themselves to the same canon of reason or ways will be found to make them submit. The powers they wield are so vast that their use under the conditions of rage and blazing rivalry is inevitably accompanied by injury to other persons than the immediate combatants. In short, it may be said that a pile of cash measuring some hundreds of milions is impressed with a public interest and may not be employed like mere pocket money at the caprice and liking of its owner.

Where Speculation Tends.

Indianapolis Sentinel.

Watch the record of embezzlements and defalcations and see how many of them are due to "investments" in stocks, or grain, or something else. For the last 30 or 40 years this speculative mania has been growing up under the name of business and the result is that it has permeated every corner of the country. The people who lose are not as much in evidence as those who win. They are not advertised in the papers. But if they were all known they would be vastly more conspicuous than the winners, for there are vastly more of them. It takes a great many losers to make a millionaire winner.

Stood on the Plyatform.

New York World.

In his Commoner Mr. Bryan repeats his censure of Mr. Cleveland for forcing the repeal of the Sherman Silver-Purchase law. But the national Democratic platform of 1892, upon which Mr. Cleveland was elected, said: "We denounce the Republican legislation known as the Sherman act of 1890 as a cowardly makeshift, fraught with possibilities of danger to the future, which should make all its supporters, as well as its author, anxious for its repeal." The possibilities became certainties, and President Cleveland did no worthier act than that fulfilling the pledge of his party to secure the repeal of this mischievous law.

Cool an' Green.

Frank L. Stanton in Atlanta Constitution.

Oh, the Georgia watermelon is a-growin' cool an' green
An'll soon be pullin' heavy at the stem,
An' the knife—it needs a whettin', an' the blade is gittin' keen—
Oh, the Georgia watermelon is a gem!

An' it's "Oh, my honey!
What I ekeer fer money,
W'en de Georgy melon smilin' in de weather bright en sunny?"

The sun is gittin' hotter—climbin' higher in the blue,
The hot sand is a blisterin' yer feet;
But the Georgia watermelon's lookin' witchin'ly at you,
An' you're thinkin' o' the juice a-drippin' sweet!

An' it's "Oh, my honey!
What I keer fer money,
When de Georgy melon smilin' in de weather bright en sunny?"

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Colonel Roosevelt reads the news from Albany and the shelf seems very hard.

Minister Wu ought to hurry up and get his book written so it can be dramatized in time for next season.

Owing to his limited stay in that city, it was impossible to receive the President on the customary San Jose scale.

Jail prisoners do not think that confinement lessens crime, but they must admit that it puts a temporary injunction on it.

The Secretary of Agriculture will never know how much he didn't find out about Summer fallowing by not coming to Oregon.

How is the scientist who asserts that stars give out heat going to account for the severe frosts so common in all the theaters?

A Chicago policeman recently shot a practical joker. How long since Chicago policemen have held commissions to act as understudy for the foolkiller?

The breast of the Kentuckian
With sad emotion swells
To think petroleum instead
Of whisky flows from wells.

Now that Aguinaldo is well in hand, all that remains for human achievement is to acquire Dewet, the North Pole, and the control of the Northern Pacific.

'Tis sweet to hear the honest watchdog's bark
Bay deep-mouthed anger by the orchard fence,
When we, in swift conclusion of a lark,
Have had a hunch, and safely hied us hence.

De Castellane has appendicitis, but the Goulds can afford to pay a few million dollars for an operation, provided they have a thorough understanding with the surgeon beforehand.

There are a few things J. P. Morgan doesn't know yet about finance, but he will have an opportunity to learn them as soon as the High School graduates get their orations prepared.

This is a queer old rhyme which is quite contrary in sense, as you read it across, running the lines together:

I always did intend	To take to me a wife,
Single my life to spend	Would grieve my very life.
It much delighteth me	To think upon a bride,
To live from woman free,	I can't be satisfied.
The female to my mind	The joy I can't express,
I ne'er expect to find,	So great in singleness,
A bachelor to live	I never could agree
My mind I freely give.	A married man to be.

There is a spice of mischief in one story told of the late bishop of Oxford. Dr. Stubbs was auditing the accounts of a national, that is to say, a sectarian, school. Among the items was a charge of £50 for an "occasional monitor." The bishop was asked by one of those present at the audit what an "occasional monitor" was. "I suppose that is the Nonconformist conscience," replied the bishop, with a smile.

A reader of The Oregonian has found the following ingenious rhymes in an old scrapbook, and sends them to The Oregonian that they may give the same pleasure to others that they have to him. Most people believe the following lines should be read as they are printed; but a crusty old bachelor reads the first and third, and second and fourth lines together:

The man must lead a happy life
Who is directed by his wife;
Who's free from matrimonial chains
Is sure to suffer for his pains.

Adam could find no real peace
Until he saw a woman's face;
When Eve was given for a mate,
Adam was in a happy state.

In all the female heart appear
Truth, darling of a heart sincere,
Hypocrisy, deceit and pride,
Ne'er known in woman to reside.

What tongue is able to unfold
The worth in woman we behold?
The falsehoods that in women dwell
Is almost imperceptible.

Hanged be the foolish man, I say,
Who will not yield to woman's sway!
Who changes from his singleness
Is sure of perfect blessedness.

Concerning the the production and disposition of "Eben Holden," Irving Bacheller tells the following story: "Being thrown out of newspaper employment, his wife urged him to try something in a literary way. "So I was a literary man for just 30 days," said Mr. Bacheller. "In that time I produced 30,000 words. It was the first part of 'Eben Holden,' as it now stands. That is, 'Eben Holden' is the original story that I wrote then, with 60,000 more words tacked on to it. I sent my story, which I then called 'Uncle Eb,' to Harper's Round Table, the Youth's Companion and St. Nicholas. They rejected it with delightful unanimity. In December a year ago a friend of mine connected with my Boston publisher wrote to me and told me that the firm was looking for a good novel. He thought I was the man to write it, for he had always believed that I had such talent concealed about me somewhere. They made a proposition to me and I accepted it. I dug down into my trunk and took 'Uncle Eb,' which had been so unanimously sat upon, sneered at, and rejected by three other publishing houses. I added 60,000 words to it, and there you are."

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Close Work.—Gladys—Did he kiss you by surprise? Ethel—Dear me, yes! Why, I hardly had time to pucker up my lips!—Judge.

Changing Names.—"If I had a name as homely as Keturah's I'd change it." "Nonsense. It isn't her front name a girl worries about."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

His Devotions.—Fanny—You bad boy! I don't believe you ever pray. Tommy—Yes, I do. I thank the Lord every night and morning that I ain't a girl.—Chicago Tribune.

Literary.—"How do you get on with your literary work, old man?" "Oh, famously! I have invented an extremely silly attitude in which to be photographed for the literary periodicals, and have now only to write something."—Detroit Journal.

It's Woman's Way.—"You're working over that telegram pretty hard. Is it too long?" "Oh, dear, no," replied the sweet young thing. "It's only nine words, and I'm trying to work in another word without changing the meaning."—Chicago Evening Post.

Hope for the Future.—Tess—Poor Polly Stout! Her rich aunt has left her a handsome sealskin coat, and she finds it several sizes too small for her. Jess—Oh, it'll fit her next Winter. She'll worry herself thin over it by that time.—Philadelphia Press.

"We had a fire at our house, and the servant girl was nearly burned to death." "Lighting the fire with kerosene, eh?" "No; it was a defective flue. You see, I yelled to the girl to get out as soon as we discovered the fire, but she said she wouldn't leave without two weeks' notice."—Philadelphia Record.

Breaking It Gently.—Clergyman (after being rescued from the shipwreck)—Mr. Smith, did I really appear scared when we thought all would be lost? Mr. Smith—I can't say that you were scared, but for a man who has been trying to get to heaven all these years you appeared most reluctant to accept the opportunity.—Harper's Bazar.

A Sunday-school superintendent, who happened to be a dry goods merchant, and who was teaching a class of very little tots, asked when he had finished explaining the lesson: "Now has any one a question to ask?" A very small girl raised her hand. "What is it, Martha?" asked the superintendent. "Why, Mr. Brooks, how much are those little red parasols in your window?" said Martha.—Current Literature.