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TODAY'S WEATHER-Cloudy, with occa-Winds mostly southerly. YESTERDAY'S WEATHER-Maximum

cipitation, 0.39 inch. PORTLAND, MONBAY, DECEMBER 2.

A HOPELESS PROPOSAL

Let us see-and we soon shall seewhat President Roosevelt has to say about reciprocity. The Oregonian is inclined to think he will merely mention ours is willing to let in free of duty be altruistic enough to let in other kinds, but he wants "protection" for his own

And this is general. Reciprocity would mean extension of the free list, or reduction of duties on the commodities that are to be admitted. It is wholly incompatible with maintenance turn to other things. Thus we shall of the present "protective" system; harmonize the party and regain the which, by the way, we are told, is too sacred to be meddled with at all.

Almost everything not produced in can extend the list very little unless we let in competing commodities. But it law. At what point is the system to give way?

the old dispute as between the manufacturers and the producers of the matem. We all know what our woolgrowers would say. And what our the enemy.

prunegrowers would say. We have Upon the privacy of this domestic orchards, dairies, forests and mines. President McKinley talked about rec-

iprocity, but never indicated how he tails. It is, in fact, practically impossible-without surrender of very important parts of the protective system; ductions.

We shall therefore expect President Roosevelt's reference to reciprocity, sotariff wall is not to be lowered yet.

WHEAT MARKET A PUZZLE.

Famine-stricken Russla only shipped 1,808,000 bushels of wheat last week, a material decline from the 2.544,000 bushels shipped the week previous, the 2.400,-600 bushels and the 1,864,000 bushels in the first week in November and last week in October. These shipments from Russia would be of about the right dimensions for a season of good crops, and the manner in which they hold up right along with the tales of dire distress due to a poor crop are suspicious, Naturally, with the season for navigation about to close, exports have been rushed a little, but it is apparent that something besides this fact is responsible for these shipments keeping up to possibility that the poverty-stricken people of the famine-infested districts are using a less expensive food than wheat, and that by diversifying their rations they have left that country with nearly a normal exportable sur-

There are so many factors to be cor sidered in shaping up estimates of the probable supplies of wheat in seasons like the present that accuracy is impossible, and accordingly even the oldest operators are unable to forecast the market with any degree of certainty. off immigration, or even materially to The American crop is undoubtedly the largest on record, but if Russia "made good" on her short-crop stories, the surplus in this country would command higher figures. As it is, prices have not advanced sufficiently to mee the views of many of the holders, and In some sections where the corn crop was so near a failure large quantities of wheat are being fed to animals in place of maize. The movement has ly, who was for some years the head of been sufficient, however, to swell the American "visible" nearly 10,000,000 of Labor, may be considered authority bushels in the past three weeks, and

it is now nearly 50,000,000 bushels Whether or not the wheat which is now taking the place of corn for feeding will be needed later is uncertain, but it is apparent that heavy shipments from Russia are making a very satisfactory stand-off for all the wheat that is being fed in this country. Argentine shipments have fallen away to almost nothing, but this is to be expected in that country at this season of the year, and has no particular bearing on the situation. Recent reports regarding fact that in past years our spirit of this country. Nevertheless, the present badly advised. No sum of money would

though the crop will not be up to the average. The Pacific Coast has been a following other lines of industry in very free seller of wheat since the open-skilled and unskilled labor, appreciing of the season, and has contributed ative of the opportunities offered to a larger portion than usual to the quan- homebuilders by our varied resources tities on passage, and the price is now hanging around a figure which is at least satisfactory enough to keep exporters rustling for ships with which to take care of the offerings.

The growing importance of the Pacific Northwest as a factor in the grain trade is shown by the very heavy shipments that have been made for the season to date. With no attempt at force ing the market, exporters and millers have put affoat in wheat and flour from Portland and Puget Sound in the first five months of the season over 13,000,000 bushels or over 2,000,000 bushels more than in any corresponding period in former years. Of this amount, over 9,000,000 bushels went out as wheat for Europe, and as but a single cargo of this season's fleet has arrived out, practically the entire amount is affoat. fleet will commence arriving out in large numbers within the next thirty days, and, together with the heavy shipments from California, may have a bearish effect on the market. Portland alone has 5,000,000 bushels of wheat afloat for Europe; and for the benefit of the holders of the remaining 10,000,000 or 12,000,000 bushels which will yet go forward from this city it is hoped that it

PAYING THE PRICES

All was not serene at the Democratic caucus in Washington Saturday. Certain resolutions, offered by George B. McCiellan, of New York, designed to turn the party's back to the past and its face to the future, offended Representative Ball, of Texas, who assured the Gold Democrats: "We can never win unless men calling themselves Democrats support the National platforms of the Democratic party." Mr. McClellan may be right, but Mr. Ball is not wrong. That is, however astray he may be on finance or the rights of private interpretation, he is not wrong in his idea that the platforms of 1896 and 1900 are to be laid jauntily away like a garment and forgotten in a night. It is not good morals that one can make a misstep and not lose his pace; it, and then will have to "give it up." that he can wander in by-paths and For nobody in this great country of bring up with the procession that has kept the true way. Mr. Fitzgerald, of Toreign commodities of the same kinds New York, says the money question is as those he himself produces. He may settled. The Democrats did what they could for silver, but the country wouldn't have it. The country wants the gold standard-has declared for it twice; so let it go at that. Industry cannot abide uncertainty as to the legal standard of value, therefore let us recognize the gold standard and country's confidence.

But this will not do. It so happens that the loyal adherents of Bryan and our country is now admitted free. We sliver are not the men to be thus put down. They are unwilling that those who defeated them in 1896 and 1900 shall is asserted that not one jot or tittle now assume to dictate the tenets of shall pass from the protective tariff the party. If they will come back to the family board, let them sit at the foot of the table. Their part is not Manufacturers doubtless want free dictation, or even counsel, but silence raw materials. But this would raise and humility. Party regularity must be maintained, party discipline must be enforced. They who bore the burterials of monufacture. It would quick- den and heat of the day will not make ly overthrow the whole protective sys- way for eleventh-hour arrivals who have been but now in the hands of

great numbers among us who will keep broil it behooves not the outsider to in-their eyes shut to the iniquities of the trude, but the Bryanite Democrats cling steel trust's operations-protected in not more stubbornly to their financial the domestic while it sells at lower planks than clings the business sentiprices in the foreign markets-only so ment of the country to its distrust of are getting the party. The horse that runs away advantage for themselves through pro- is never worth quite so much again for tection of the products of their fields, family use. We do not advertise for ex-convicts to entrust with our valuables. Memory, in short, is a most inconvenient institution for erring men would handle this intricate business, and parties. If Mr. McClellan and Mr. He attempted no suggestion as to de- Pitzgerald could have their way, and enunciate through the Congressional caucus that the Democratic party now, as ever, is in favor of honest me and the leaders in Congress have given suppression of riot, and support of the it out that there are to be no tariff re- flag everywhere and always, that would not make it so. That would not remove the attainder of dishonesty and disloyalty that rests upon their party called, to be merely perfunctory. The for its course the past few years. Years of penance must atone for the wild debauch of one July day at Chicago in 1896.

A MATTER OF POLITICAL PRU-DENCE.

In his annual report, recently pub Commissioner of Immigration, placed special stress upon the necessity of the represents the safety of our institutions. The "unchecked and unregulated introduction into the body politic of elements unassimilated, and in many cases unassimilable," Mr. Powderly regards as dangerous to the peace and security of the Republic. In his view, Congress must enact suitable legislatheir present proportions. There is a tion, either with or without the co-operation of the states, for the purpose some reference to the law of supply and demand. Otherwise a great and growing evil, as represented by those nassimilable hordes, will threaten and now and again disturb the social and civil order of the country, with results perhaps temporarily of a local nature, out in time far-reaching and disastrous He urges an awakening to the undertaking as a measure of self-preservation, not necessarily as a means to shut try the recent vast consolidations have diminish it, but to deal with it so that it may cease to be the menace that it

now is to social and civic order. That there is a menace in carelessly admitting to the rights and privileges of citizenship the hordes that come hither, unchallenged, except as to their physical ability to earn a livelihood, the records of our political, social and industrial life plainly show. Mr. Powderthe organization known as the Knights on the question which he raises anew in his report. No one knows better than he, because no one has had a better chance to know, through personal observation and official touch with foreign- States is probably still remote; but there ers of the mischief-breeding class, how detrimental to the best interests of mate. The greatest obstacle would be labor is the wholesale admission of the obstructive political influence of the these people into the industrial life of railway companies, and the immense the country, and how impossible it is addition to the number of Government when once here and in the hands of employes which the public ownership vote-getters and jabor agitators, to control or eliminate such an element. The prove offensive and impracticable in tension of the exclusion act, they are

sturdy foreign element, agricultural or too many. Hundreds of thousands of these have become part and parcel of our body politic to its substantial adworthless and the mischlef-breeders and turn them back from our shores is to make for good citizenship. To discourage the immigration of the others is to encourage men of the latter type to come hither, enter upon the duties and enjoy the privileges of American citizenship on the broad basis of personal and political freedom.

Birm readily

STATEHOOD FOR OKLAHOMA. Political conventions promise state good to territories as glibly as they point with pride to themselves and view with alarm their adversaries. Yet no state has been formed since 1896. when Utah was admitted, despite the steady growth of population and the compelling periods of territorial Governors. There is, for example, Oklahoma, with a population of some 400, 000 a "native-born" percentage of 96, will find buyers and consumers cager and an illiterate percentage of only 6 among the males of voting age.

If population is to be the test, Oklanoma certainly does not suffer by comparison with other states at their day of admission. Of the states in the fol lowing table, the first four were admitted in 1889, the next two in 1890, the last in 1896, and their population in 1899

was:

Not only this, but many of the older states appear to even worse advantage, Colorado, which was admitted in 1876, had a population of only 194,327 in 1880. Nebrasko, which was admitted in 1867 had a population of only 122,993 in 1870. Nevada, admitted in 1864, reached its maximum population of 62,266 in 1880 California, admitted in 1850, had 92,597 inhabitants, according to the census of that year. In 1860 Iowa had 192,214 people, and it was admitted four years before, in 1846. Illinois, which came into the Union in 1818, had a population of only 55,162 in 1820,

The accepted and cowardly answer to the Oklahoma request is that we can't admit it without also admitting Arizona and New Mexico, which are not yet fit. Perhaps they are fit-New Mexico has a population of 195,310, and 93 per cent of that population is native born but the people are largely of a persistent Spanish type and 28 per cent of the possible voters are illiterates. Arizona's pepulation of 122,931 is also partly of the same Spanish type, and 24 per cent of the males of voting age are illiterate. But suppose they are not and that we have enough unfit states as it is-are we too craven a lot to give Oklahoma her due because we can't give other territories what are not their due?

The easiest way, and therefore the most probable, is to admit the three remaining territories at one guip, and so make an end of them. Thus shall we be spared the pains of courage and investigation. In some such way, doubtless, the tariff will be handled. Let us not touch the steel trust, lest some one should mention lumber or wool, and thus overwhelm us with confusion,

DRIFT TO PUBLIC OWNERSHIP.

The Hartford Courant thinks that great railroad combinations, like the are steadily driving us toward Governefforts to bring interstate roads under effective National control have ended long time ago. in failure. Government supervision under the law has broken down; the law is daily violated, while railroading is concentrated upon an increasing scale of magnitude. The Springfield Republican agrees with the Hartford Courant that the failure of full and effective Government regulation means Sovernment ownership; to that conclusion the combinations are forcing the by the Interstate Commerce Commisviolating the law by a system of pooland granting rebates contrary to law. lished, Terence V. Powderly, General In the grain and flour traffic there is so much secret discrimination and cutting of published rates that the flourrestriction of immigration within the milling concerns of the West have limits of a political prudence which asked the President to say something about it in his annual message. New York Railroad Gazette says:

But why should the millers, or President Roosevelt, or any one else, waste time discuss-ing a proposition to change freight rates if the officers of the law are unable to device any means of compelling the railroads to obey an order for a change when it is issued?

Government ownership prevails in Continental Europe, Australia and India, and the present tendency appears of distributing the alien population with to be toward complete public ownership. The countries of importance which stand aloof from the public ownership of railways are Great Britain, Canada and the United States. The method of public control over private ownerseriously wanting in England and in this country. In both countries railway of government control, and in this coungreatly vitalized the movement toward public ownership. Of course, the injustice and political corruption which inhere in private ownership would not be altogether absent in public ownership. It does not follow, because the public wnership of railways is excellent for Belgium or Prussia, that it would be equally good for the United States. It is a choice of evils at the best for the present, and the drift of the time is in direction of the public-ownership policy that in France certainly has resulted in greatly improved municipal government and still greater improve-

> ment in the condition of the people. Adoption of the policy of general put lic ownership of railways by the United is a slow, steady drift to it as an ultiof the railways would involve might

is much smaller than first reported, al- events of each succeeding year. Of the defeated Government control in both state and Nation seems to many in curable short of public ownership.

The State of Nebraska has been suc cessfully thwarted for seven years in its attempt to enforce a maximum and generous laws-orderly and law- freight law. Session after session the abiding people—the Nation cannot have Cullom bill, which would confer on the Interstate Commerce Commission the power to fix rates, has been kept smoth ered in the Senate committee. It may vantage. To discriminate against the not be expedient to give the commission this power, but it is a thing of serious consequence that all considera recognize in the larger and better class tion of the bill has been blocked in of foreign immigrants qualities that committee. The recent history of the Nicaragua Canal legislation further Illustrates the power of the great railways to prevent the enactment of transportation reform or relief, even when vigorously demanded by the people.

> An instructor in English literature li Tufts College, without giving notice of his intention, prepared this list of questions and examined his class in it: 1. Name stx plays of Shakespeare and to

Who is the author of "Paradise Lost," "Pickwick Papers," the "Biglow Papers," am. Bede," "Idylla of the King," "Abot

3. In what hook does each of the following characters occur: Mordecaj, Iago, flecky Sharp, King Agrippa, Minnehaha? 4. Name one work each by Wordsworth, Carlyle, Huskin, Matthew Arnold and Brown-

The class consisted of sixteen men and eleven women-three scolors, thirteen juniors, nine sophomores, two freshmen. Fifteen could not name two of Scott's ovels; two could not name six of Shakespeare's plays; three did not know who wrote "Pickwick Papers," and seven did not know who wrote "Idylis of the King." Only four knew who wrote "Abou Ben Adhem." Twenty students knew not Ingo, but all save seven could locate Minnehaha. This teen had never heard of Becky Sharp; twenty-four knew nothing of Matthew Arnoid; fifteen could name no work of Carlyle's or Browning's, eighteen no work of Ruskin's. All but eight could name a poem of Wordsworth's, Similar examinations have disclosed equal ignorance among the undergraduates of Harvard and Williams. The New York Sun sarcastically says concerning this undergraduate ignorance of English literature: "But we don't expect people to read Tennyson. They have Edwin Markham; and Thackeray and Dickens pale before the flery genius of Caine and Corelli. The Tufts instructor is not sufficiently modern in his ideas."

Ninety-three per cent of the lands in the Philippine Islands belongs to the public domain. The Philippine Commission's suggestion that the natives who are squatters now be given individual titles, and that the remainder of the lands be thrown open to investment and settlement, under conditions that will restrain monopolists, may be regarded as offering a rational means for pacification of the islands; since it may be taken as certain that the occupation of the public domain by American settlers and American capital would go further toward establishing peace than the occupation by an army alone. If Americans are allowed to develop the resources of the islands, the savage inhabitants will soon be tamed,

Reproduction by the New York Ever ng Post recently of its first number, issued 100 years ago, called out several questions from its readers. One of them asked the meaning of the heading "Telegraphic Dispatch," as it appeared in the Evening Post of that early time, The paper answered, saying: "In 1801 the word 'telegraphic' was commonly applied to dispatches sent by semaphore, by other systems of signaling, and also by swift relays. After the in troduction of electricity, the adjective 'electric' or 'magnetic' was used bepresent consolidation in the Northwest, fore 'telegraph' to distinguish such messages from those which were sent by ment ownership. It is pointed out all other systems." Signaling from a distance was called "telegraphing" a very

A newspaper of New Hampshire, analyzing the census report for that state, says that comparison of the returns with those of fifty years ago shows how completely manufacturing in that time has supplanted agriculture as the leading branch of industry. Speaking of the progress thus shown, it is stated alone want to put up about \$500. that "it becomes the more striking country. The evidence recently taken when compared with the slow growth of population. Since 1850 the popula sion at Chicago supports this charge tion has increased only 29 per cent, but that the railroads are systematically the average number of wage-earners has increased from 27,092 to 70,491, a ing; that they are making secret rates gain of 159 per cent." The greatest growth is shown in boots and shoes,

> The citizens of Troutdale have done reading-room in that village. A taste for reading and for the pleasures of a quiet evening, as contrasted with the roystering of the country dance and the village "play party" can scarcely fail to result from the successful accom-plishment of this library and readingroom scheme. It may be noted in passing that the Troutdale library is not "free" in the sense that the books may be taken therefrom at will. A suitable fee is charged for this privilege, though the reading-room is free to all who desire to enjoy its benefits.

Reports from Washington to many newspapers indicate that there has been little, if any, growth of the ship-sub-sidy scheme in the favor of members since the last session. There are some, indeed, like Senator Frye, of Maine, ship has been fairly tried and found | sidy scheme in the favor of members influence has defeated the undertaking who believe sincerely in the theory of governmental grants to private corporations; but on the whole the movement of opinion in Congress, as among the people, is away from that doctrine.

New Jersey is not in favor of any restrictive measures against the trusts. She invites them to organize under her laws, and takes in fees therefor which pay the whole charges of her state gov ernment. Indeed, she has now a surplus of \$2,000,000 in her treasury, derived mainly from this source. New Jersey likes octopuses.

The Oregonian has said that the peo ple are hard to arouse to the need of tariff reform, and the conclusion drawn at Seattle is that The Oregonian is about to acquiesce in the protection long ago who died after 32 years of marfetich-worship. Other basis for argument is needed in the Seattle sanctun beside the one supplied by self-con

sclousness. If it be true that the Chinese in the United States are raising a fund to be used for defeat of the proposal for ex-

A "GO," AND A FAST ONE.

Pendleton East Oregonian. Portland covers herself with glory by securing subscriptions amounting than \$500,000 within forty-eight nours, and then proceeding to raise the local capitalization for the Lewis and Clark Pair to \$500,000. The record is perhaps unique in all cities of the United States. It is to be doubted if any other ever raised so much in so short a time. when population is taken into account.

Throughout Oragon will rise an enthuslasm that will assure success for the big Exposition. It will create a ment so strong as to remove all difficulties regarding liberal legislative appro intion and make it a matter of form introduce a bill and pass it through both houses.

Let no one floubt that the Exposition will be a "go." it will be a "go," and a fast one, and will bring to Portland and Oregon more substantial ben-any event that has preceded it. benefits than

But Not the First Time.

Dallas Chronicie,
Portland, for the first time in her
young life, has surprised herself. Starting
out Monday morning to raise 120,000
for the Lewis and Clark Fair she finds herself, at the end of the three days agreed upon for taking up the subscrip-tion, with \$05,000 subscribed, and about \$60,000 in sight. The secretary of the ex-coutive committee says this is the largest amount that has ever been subscribed for a public undertaking in the same time on the Pacific Coast. The enter-prise involved in this magnificent showing is as gratifying to many of us out-side Portland as it is to the Portlanders themselves. They will not stop now un-til they have raised the subscription to half a million. But whether they do so or not Portland can now, with the best grace in the world, ask the rest of Oregon to subscribe liberally to an enterpristhat bids fair to do more to advertise the resources of the state than anyth that has ever happened in its history.

The Fund Is Raised.

Dalles Times-Mountaineer. The Lewis and Clark Cestennial is now an assured fact. Portland has ruled the \$300,000 it started out to get, and has now set the mark at half a million. 'committee that had been appointed solicit subscriptions to the capital stock in the city made partial reports Wed-nesday night of three days' work, and it was found that the total subscriptions would aggregate fully \$500,000, with sev-eral large concerns to hear from. With that amount of money raised by

Portland, the people of the city and of the entire state may be depended upon to do the rest. All of Oregon is inter ested in the Exposition, for everybody recognizes that it will be a good thin for the state. But since Portland is t the direct beneficiary it could expected that the city should bear preater burden of the expense. Now Portland has made a substantial move let the rest of the state do its part, both financially and by moral support.

Ashland Tidings. Portland's Lewis and Clark Centennial Fair is going to be a sure go. The can-vassers for subscriptions to the stock of the fair started out Monday morning and before night it was understood that the entire \$300,000 of stock would be sold as a result of the day's work. The commit-tees having in charge the matter of solic-iting subscriptions have made no report. but it is known that the amount already pledged, and that which the foreign cor-porations are expected to contribute, will equal, if not exceed, \$300,000—the amount of the capital stock of the Lewis and Clark Exposition corporation

What the Fair Will Be Worth.

Dallas Itemizer, proposed Lewis and Clark Cen ennial Exposition at Portland in 1965 is peginning ginning to take shape. A capital ock of \$300,000 has been decided on and on. H. W. Corbett has subscribed for one tenth of it. If other wealthy men are as liberally inclined its success is as-sured. It might not pay as a direct pe-cuniary investment, but it would be of them would remain and the others who go back would serve as a big advertis-ing committee.

Others Will Give Moro Observer,

Hon, H. W. Corbett has subscribed \$25,000 to the Lewis and Clark Centennial n account of the First National Bank, About \$45,000 has been subscribed by other citizens of Portland, aside from Mr. Corbett's personal subscription of \$30,000, making the first \$100,000 of the \$300,000 which Portland expects to take as a popular subscription. A similar course should be planned for each county in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Mon-tana. In Sherman County the sheep men

Within Our Means.

Gervais Star. Portland proposes to have and to hold an Exposition in 1995. Since the opinion that it would take \$15,000,000 to run such an event has been dropped the chance for its success brighten. If we mu have such an Exposition in commemora-tion of Lowis and Clark, then let us as a people be reasonable and have only as big an even as our means will permit. well in setting up a public library and reading-room in that village. A taste chough and independent, as well, to main-for reading and for the pleasures of a self.

A Grand Achievement.

Dallas Observer Portland raised the entire amount of subscriptions for the Lewis and Clark Exposition corporation—\$20,000—in two days. This spiendid achievement speaks volumes for the enterprise of Oregon's metropolis. With the worthy example set

Enthusiasm Is Unbe

scribed. Enthusiasm has begun to rise, and with careful management of every detail there is no reason for failure. The fair will be a great thing for the whole Northwest. The capital stock will now be increased to \$500,000.

Portland to the Front. Albany Democrat.

Hurrah! the Lewis and Clark Exposition is a go. Portland has come to the front with flying colors. The Exposition will be the biggest advertising scheme in the history of the Northwest, and the entire section of the United States is interested in seeing it made a success. Now is the golden time of this country to make it-

Sentimental Value of Life Insurance Ladies' Home Journal,

ried life, and made it possible for his widow to say afterwards: "For 22 years we were like chums. Never in all those years did I know what it was to receive a hasty word from him. He was always the same; loving and considerate, ever thoughtful of the day that was, but so mindful of the day that might might be, that now I have not a

single thought or worry to take one moment from my thought of him."

I knew him well. At least I though At least I thought the coming crop in that country have a National hospitality has outrun our posituation under which the political accomplish anything in that direction. So. But I never knew how truly great better tone, and, as usual, the damage litical prudence is well proven in the nower of the railways has virtually "Grafters" are probably at work.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Wilbur-Eirwin Opera Company made shother bit at the Baker Theater yesterday, giving in the afternoon and evening the best performance of "La Mascotte" that has even been men here. Not only did the principals have a better portunity to show what they could do than in "Said Pasha," but the music 's better, the comedy brighter, and the mounting and costuming was far more brilliant. The opera was enloyed by crowded houses both afternoon and eve-

ning Mr. Kohnle, as Prince Lorenzo, and Miss Kirwin as the mascot, both had an excellent chance to arouse laughter, and they made the most of it. Mr. Kohnle's every action was funny, his songs were the hit of the evening, and his make-up was exceedingly clever. His burleagu in the last act was one of the best things of the kind ever seen here. Miss Kirwin carried off all the honors rightfully be longing to a prima donna, and added many admirers to the large number she made as Serena.

made as Serena.

The costuming was particularly artistic, and the chorus, which is with scarcely an exception the prettiest and best-trained ever seen in the city, was fully equal to the requirements of the opera. The specialties between the acts and cidental to the opera were all good. Six girls in street make-up won five recalls by their olever singing of "The Pride of Newspaper Row," and the other vaude ville numbers were appreciated.

"La Miscette" will be the bill until next Thursday night, when it will be followed by "Fra Diavolo."

"A WISE WOMAN."

Bright Comedy Pleases Packed House at Cordray's.

"A Wise Woman," a comedy of m than usual brightness, was presented by a runall but good company at Cordray's last night, to a house that filled every scat in the theater and most of the standing room. Judging from the laughter and applause that formed a constant accom-paniment to the words of the actors, it was a welcome change from the melo dramas which have been the last two or

three attractions. The plot is rather a complicated affair. but hinges on the love affairs of one Pau Roach, who has made love rather too cothusiastically to a Casino actress before his marriage, and who, to placate his guardian and keep that custodian of the funds in good humor, makes a secret of his own marriage. The Casino girl turns up, enters Roach's employ as a servant, and keeps things humming for everybody during her stay, but Roach manages to get things straightened out in time for the nal curtain. Frederic Murphy, who plays Roach, is

a first-rate comedian, with a rapid trick of speech that gives much zest to what he does, and a way of making his audience feel that he has really entered into spirit of his part. Gale Satterles played Peter Clincher, Rosch' friend, has a pleasing stage presence and if natural style. He sang three songs with good effect, but the second of the three might be improved by a little judicious expurgation. John Ferguson made a good guardian.

Ethel Balch as Honor Racket was the star of the feminine portion of the cast, throwing much energy into her acting, and proving herself more than ordinar-ile clever. She has a sweet, clear so-prano voice, and her singing was a feature of the evening. Alice Geer makes good Mrs. Roach, and Marie Lamour very beautiful woman, is equal to the part of Maud Evelry. The play is well staged and costumed. It will be the attraction all the week.

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

"Shore Acres" at the Marquam Tonight.

Tonight at the Marouam Grand Thea ter the beautiful play of James A Herne's, "Shore Acres," will open an en gagement of three nights. It is much to the credit of the American stage that a play like "Shore Acres" has gained sured. It might not pay as a direct pe-cuniary investment, but it would be of immense value to the whole Northwest. Thousands of Easterners would thus be induced to visit this region, many of them would remain and the others who at which it has been maintained. The play has never been permitted to be in-differently presented. The company now appearing in "Shore Acres" any able artists, who formerly appeared with the author in this piece.

William Collier in "On the Quiet," William Collier, a "quaint" comedian, who has made an enviable reputation for himself and is now almost alone, in the interpretation of the higher class of comedy, is to come to the Marquam Grand Theater next Friday and Saturday nights, with a matinee Saturday. Mr. Collier achieved the greatest success of his ca-retr just Winter, at the Madison-Square Theater, where for six months he presented Augustus Thomas' successful com-edy, "On the Quiet," to crowded houses. The cast of the play will remain prac-

Chicago Record-Herald. But, though the facts are perfectly evi-ent to every one, an element in the convention ignores them and acts exactly as thought it had met not to approve, but to bury reciprocity. This element, upon being asked to make concessions to the foreigner, would refuse, even if it were now protected beyond all reason. It wants, above everything, to enjoy mo nopoly created prices in this country and among its representatives will be found those who are producing cheaper than the foreigner and underselling him in the world's markets.

metropolis. With the worthy example set by the people of Portland, it will not be a difficult matter to raise funds for the great Exposition in other parts of Oregave the correct answer to this question when he said at the New York Chamana and the Northwest, and the success ber of Commerce banquet that they would not tolerate "as a permanent trade policy the selling of goods abroad at a less price than they were sold at home," and he uttered a true note of warning when he added: "If they believe that tariff duties have any influence upon the maintenance of such conditions, the man or party that stands for the perpetuation of such duties is destined bitter disappointment." The American consumers are not a fac-

party conventions.

Oue Hundred Years Ago. New York Evening Post.

In the Evening Post for November 24, 1891, appeared an item of news, elsewhere reprinted in full, which began: "This morning, in the 19th year of his age, Philip Hamilton, eldest son of General Hamilton-murdered in a duel. The comment which accompanied the acc of young Hamilton's death was as follows: Reflections on this horrid custom must occur to every man of humanity; but the votce of an individual or of the press must be ineffect and without additional, strong and pointed be islative interference. Fashion has pinc upon a footing which nothing short of this car

One may suspect that it was the b reaved father who wrote these words. If not he, it could only have been his friend, William Coleman, the first editor of this paper. However that may be, the comment on the tyranny of public opin ion in regard to duelling received a start-ling filustration in both Hamilton's case and Coleman's. Within four years Alexander Hamilton had fallen by Burr's pis-tol, and Coleman had killed Captain Thompson, who had taunted him with evading a duel with Chectham, of the American Citizen.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The weather is diluted. The first snow of the season is about

November came in like a butterfly and went out like a fish.

The Wide West certainly has a right to expect an open Winter. At last accounts Santos-Dumont was

still the Darlus Green of France, General Buller knows where he will

eat dinner this Christmas, anyway.

The curious thing about the New York dramatic season is the run of "The Mossenger Boy."

Personal-Messrs, Tom & Jerry have arrived in the city and will remain until after the holidays.

The farmer who has a good crop ot Christmas trees will not need to worry about his Winter wheat.

York who have not told Mayor-elect Low how the city ought to be run. Why doesn't some one write an arith-

There are still one or two men in New

metical poem to accompany the historical novels and geographical plays? Bread will soon be an expensive luxury, as all the grain raised in the North-

west will be needed to feed the wild ducks.

Now is the time for some statistician to figure out how far the message would reach if the words were placed end for end.

Lewis and Clark committee will be inthe plight of the old woman who lived in the shoe. It is reported that General Miles has

If subscriptions keep coming in, the

not bought more than 100 copies of Secretary Aiger's book to give to his friends An ex-Assistant Secretary of the Navy and ex-Coionel of the Rough Riders, Presi-

way through that Army-Navy game. Congress will now take the responsibility for running the country off the hands of the barbers, who have been discussing it industriously ever since there has

dent Roosevelt was able to root all the

been nothig else to talk about. Recently a lawyer in London was crossexamining a witness connected with a company whose directors had been charged with fraud. He was pressing the witness to admit that a certain circular or prospectus was of a dishonest nature, which susgestion the witness stoutly repudiated. "You all understood, I suppose, that this document was going to the public and the importance of telling the truth in it?" asked the lawyer, "Certainly," "And did rou tell the truth in it?" "We did"-

slight pause-"to the best of our ability."

The French writer asserts that Russia ontains 32,000,000 horses of various breeds, from the tarpan, the singular wild horse of Turkestan, to the thoroughbred Arab, Perhaps the most interesting are the Kirghiz and Knimuk horses, the useful cavalry animals of the Don, the unequaled packhorses of the Altai and the small but serviceable breed of Finland. Extremes of temperature and the hardships of a nomadic existence in the most merciless of climates combine to make the Kirghiz among the hardiest horses on earth. All Winter they have to find a bare subelstence on roots beneath the snow and the enormous mortality in these wanderings exercises a continuous process of selection. Fast and long racing are the chief diversions of these rough tribesmen and even their courtship is pursued in the saddle, every marriageable maiden, ared no more than 14 years, having to be chased on horseback and transferred to the saddle of her wooer before she is his legitimate bride,

Congress and the Arid Lands. Brooklyn Eagle

There are in our West 500,000,000 acres of arid land which are yet in the pub gift. Wonderful results have been obtained through individual efforts to reclaim the desert, and when one considers what might be done by Federal management, emagination is startled and gladdened by the possibilities. It is an empire that lies fallow beyond the mountains, an empire wherein millions who now overcrowd our cities may live in the comfort and freedom that are denied in stony towns. To make homes for these millions it will be necessary that the Government prepare tically the same as during the New York run. This engagement will be one of the important theatrical events of the seamust be planted to insure constancy in water supply; reservoirs must be created by damming valleys, in order that the sup-ply may be ample in volume; canals and drains must be dug across the country for miles, with gates and dikes and other such appliances; and there must be uni formity in laws respecting rights to use of water. Most of the arid land is in what have recently become states, but by the same authority or co-operation whereby forest reserves and National parks, Indian and military reservations and experimental stations have been secured for public uses, the needed ponds and canals could be created.

A patriot, a man of senius, a man of sanely audactous prevision, a man of Eastern culture and of Western experience, is President of the United States, He could signalize his Administration in no grander and in no more excellent way than by identifying it with the beginnings of the great work and of the great duty of reclaiming the West on the lines the Eagle sets forth today.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

The Provoking Jubberers.—'Don't you despise people who talk behind your back?" "I should say so. Especially at a concert or during an interesting play."—Philadelphia Evening Builetin. A Temptation.-He-No, dear; no church for A Tempitation as in this morning. I should like to go, but, unfortunately, I have a touch of headache. She —Do come, darling; a good sleep is the very

thing for it.-Brooklyn Life. Busy Man.-"Did you marry an industrious, hard-working man?" said Miss Cayenne. "Yes, indeed," said the girl with the picture hat; "Harold is never idle. He plays golf all Sum-mer and whist all Winter."-Washington Star.

Papa—See that spider, my boy, spinning his web. Is it not wonderful? Do you reflect that, try as he may, no man could spin that web? Johnny-What of it? See me spin this top? Do you reflect, try as he may, no spliter could spin this top?-Tit-Bits. Would Have Gtu.-A fellow who hunted the gnu Was asked, "What on earth would you gdu

If the savages tried

To entch you for your hied? and he answered, "I'd kill off a gfo."
-Baltimore American A Mind-Render.-"I suppose," said the physician, smiling and trying to appear witty, while feeling the pulse of a lady patient, "I suppose on consider me an old humbug?" tor," replied the lady, "I had no idea you could ascertain a woman's thoughts by merely feeling her pulse,"—Chicago News.

Sympathetic "Why does the use mourning stationers" "Oh, she's done that ever since one of her episton went to the deadletter office." Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

Mr. Stutten-They tell me Neighbor Harris' cat is dead. Mrs. Stutten-Oh, I'm so sorry! It used to take up Fide's time so pleasantly backing at her!—Boston Transcript.