

The Oregonian.

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divert this anti-railroad fight to the discredited device of a railroad commission. There is nothing within the legitimate province of a railroad commission that the Legislature of Washington cannot enact and the courts of Washington enforce.

THE INFALLIBILITY OF THE HEAVY-WEIGHT.

Mr. Bailey, of Texas, is young. So is Mr. Beveridge, of Indiana. Beveridge is 40, Bailey is 25. But while the Indiana man is 5 feet 9, and weighs 150 pounds, Mr. Bailey stands 6 feet in his stockings and tips the beam at nearly 200. Let no one suppose that a question of veracity between gentlemen, or a matter of fact concerning the actions of Secretary Hay or Solicitor Penfield can be settled upon their merits without regard to feet high or pounds weight.

THE ENGINEERS' STRIKE.

The strike of the marine engineers, if carried to extremes, will work serious hardship on a large number of people who ordinarily should not be expected to have their interests affected by the differences which arise between the engineers and their employers. Railroads have opened up avenues for trade in most districts of the Northwest, where products of a perishable nature are grown for the city markets, but not in all districts are these facilities available, and scattered all along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers and their tributaries are gains and losses entirely dependent on the transportation facilities.

enough greater than the demand, no advance can be made in freight rates and accordingly no advance in wages. With the men, if there are not enough engineers who are satisfied with \$100 per month and board and lodging, wages must advance whenever there is an opportunity to operate a boat at a profit under the higher wage scale.

A RECORD WHEAT CROP.

Details of the wheat crop of the Pacific Northwest for the year 1901, as printed in yesterday's Oregonian, make an interesting showing for the port. The exports for the entire year were approximately 17,000,000 bushels, or only about 1,000,000 bushels less than for the record season of 1900-1901. These figures prove conclusively that Portland has lost none of the wheat trade which she has developed and handled from its inception. The crop of 1901 in Sherman, Wasco, Gilliam and Morrow Counties alone was over 3,000,000 bushels smaller last year than in 1900, and to offset this decrease in territory was exclusively Portland's there was less than 1,000,000 bushels increase in the Willamette Valley, and but very little of that was moved.

GET IN THE GAME.

That the race is not always to the swift nor the battle to the strong, the Portland baseball team has had abundant reason to think during the past three weeks. During that dark and unbecoming period it accumulated a consistent record of defeats, broken only by a single victory. Everybody, including their opponents, said the boys played good ball, though, as the event showed, it was not quite good enough.

up a star pitcher like Engle, or Whitbeck, or Salisbury, which is very well indeed. Therefore we say, get in the game, gentlemen, and the public that loves good sport and clean sport will stay with you.

PHILIPPINE GENERAL.

The worst thing in the Philippine bill, as Pat would say, is what isn't there; for the wisdom and conscience of the Senate prevailed over the desire of the House to recognize the gold standard for the islands. This pitiful subservience to a fallen idol is itself about the only cause for mourning, because the practicability of Mr. Connant's advanced and comprehensive coinage, currency and banking system, under the present rudimentary situation in the Philippines is at least open to question.

PLEASANTIES OF PARAGRAPHS.

Love never laughs at goldsmiths.—Life. It is probable that after singing—The author of that song died last week. He did not catch the murder?—Puck. Good Name for Him.—That child seems to stir up a lot of trouble for his mother. We call him the walking dead.—Chicago Evening Post. Mother—Oh, Mildred! You naughty little girl! You know you ought to slap me!—Mildred—Where ought I to slap her, then, mummy?—Punch. So Little a Bargain.—She didn't need to care anything about getting into the 400. "No, but she heard that it had been reduced to 288."—Philadelphia Bulletin. Careful, Indeed.—Ding—I tell you my wife is a conscientious housekeeper. Why, only yesterday I saw her putting insect powder in the clock.—Ding—Why? Ding—To get rid of the ticks.—Baltimore Herald. Unreasonable.—John says he is a selection, with you would get drinking. You know it is nothing in the world but slow poison. "There you are, Miranda," he returned. "I'll minute a man takes out life insurance you women folks get unreasonable!"—Baltimore News. He's All Right.—First Congressman—You have voted against every measure that was for the best interests of the Nation. What will you say to your constituents when you get home? Second Congressman—Say? I'll tell 'em I've got authorization for Mad Creek.—New York Weekly. Rubbing It In.—She had just handed him the boy milk. "You are a heartless woman," he blazed in a tone of degree more bitter than quinine. "But, thank heaven, I have at last found you out." "Be it so," rejoined the human refrigerator. "and what is more, you will continue to find me out hereafter should you call."—Chicago Daily News. "This country," said the owner of the Blue Bunk, "is getting so good for a gentleman to live in, I've had over a little girl yesterday, and when I offered to pay her a reasonable amount the brute got a club and said 'I'll minute a man takes out life insurance for the police.'" "The unreasonableness of the lower classes," replied the owner of the Yellow Demon, "almost passes comprehension."—Chicago Record-Herald.

ize that I am not fit to be free, and I think you have done the best for me." A person sane enough to reach this conclusion would seem quite as fit for the death penalty as Giteau and Colognes. The fact that this professional nurse could ply her vocation so acceptably that she never lapsed into a victim for murder, ought to make doctors doubly careful in their selection of such attendants. Sairey Gamp and Betsy Prig were seldom humane and never sober, but while they might pick a patient's pocket, they were not disposed to poison his drink.

WATER SYSTEMS COMPARED.

The water system of London, presumably one of the best in Europe, is like most other things in London—a creation developed by the processes of piecemeal and patchwork. It is in private hands, operating under special franchises, and consists of eight companies, each limited to a specific district. The area thus served is 50 square miles, and the number of houses is 84,621, in which something more than 3,000,000 persons live. Last year there was delivered by the eight companies 75,700,000 gallons of water, for which there was paid a little less than \$12,000,000. The aggregate expense of these several companies was \$5,157,700, which leaves a balance of considerably over \$5,000,000 out of which to pay charges, interest and profits on the investment. As to the amount of this investment there are no available figures.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Isn't another big fire about due? Tillman was the original, at all events. Washington continues to be the home of strenuous athletics. The fights in the Senate require neither gross agents nor preliminaries. We'll send a set of umpires along with the team next time they leave home. Bailey and Beveridge would make a fine alliterative title for a sparring team. The Portland ballplayers have returned from their outing. They were out most of the time. The sergeant-at-arms of the Senate should be made permanent referee by act of Congress. The Governor of South Carolina to the Governor of Texas: "It's a long time between rounds." It is hardly surprising that a man of Beveridge's oratorical talents should be called into the ring. The Government might save surgeons' bills if it supplied every Senator with a pair of boxing gloves. New York is completely independent of Croker. Several million frogs fell there in a shower the other day. Kansas will pay \$2.00 per day for 10,000 harvesters. That settles all doubts as to the politics of the state. It has been demonstrated that there is no limit to the number of games a ball team can lose if it takes itself seriously. Scotchmen are making heavy purchases of American tools and machinery, and will soon be buying their Scotch whisky over here. We pay to see a championship fight when a better one is on view in the Senate chamber, and the Government furnishes the seats. The Fourth of July reminds us that J. P. Morgan's grandfather achieved considerable fame without making even a million dollars. The scientists who have been exploring Mount Pelee have discovered that when a mountain is in eruption it is not safe to look into the crater. If "science" is to prevail in lawmaking, the President may take off his coat, step out on the floor of the Senate, and put in a few rounds for suffering Cuba. It is rumored that the Harvard track team has clinched Tracy and Merrill for the distance runs next year. They may also do some indoor work, as they are tolerably familiar with the bars. A boy came into a local barber shop the other day with a bottle, and wanted it filled with 25 cents worth of hot air. It was not given to him, probably because the shop wasn't in the retail business. Bernard Shaw is out against the apostrophe, which he denounces as being un-grammatical, let's say, headachecaus, I've havent, that's, let's, he advocates dont, I've havent, that's, let's, he advocates dont, I've havent, that's, let's. The New York Sun tells of a distinguished author, whose name is not recalled, who goes Mr. Shaw one better by calling for the abolition of the dash in the printing of case words. A painting of Fort Sumter in war time, made in 1853 by Lieutenant John K. Key, a nephew of Francis Scott Key, author of "The Star-Spangled Banner," is on exhibition in Charleston. It was shipped through the blockade to England, where it remained until it was returned to Charleston a few days ago. It was the property of Colonel H. W. Fielden, of the British Army, and has been presented by him to Augustine T. Smyth, of Charleston. Colonel Fielden resigned from the British Army to accept a commission under the Confederacy, and served through the war on the staff of General Beauregard. It was at his request that the picture was painted. The bust of Thackeray in Westminster Abbey had several years ago upon its cheeks those pendant whiskers that are called "weepers" from their resemblance to the foliage of the willow. Today the whiskers are no longer there. Their destruction was due to William H. Lambert, of Philadelphia, the greatest collector of Thackerayana in this country, who has many portraits in oil and many ink, pencil and wash sketches of Thackeray, and hence should know how the novelist looked at every stage of his life. Mr. Lambert is sure that Thackeray never wore "weepers," and, therefore, he volunteered not long since to stand the expense of the removal of the objectionable whiskers from the otherwise accurate and spirited Marchetti bust. Mrs. Thackeray Ritchie arranged the matter; the bust was taken for a brief space out of Westminster, and the whiskers were trimmed down to the proper length. Mr. Lambert was permitted to have a replica made of the Westminster bust, and it now stands on one of the landings of the stairway of his house in Germantown. PLEASANTIES OF PARAGRAPHS. Love never laughs at goldsmiths.—Life. It is probable that after singing—The author of that song died last week. He did not catch the murder?—Puck. Good Name for Him.—That child seems to stir up a lot of trouble for his mother. We call him the walking dead.—Chicago Evening Post. Mother—Oh, Mildred! You naughty little girl! You know you ought to slap me!—Mildred—Where ought I to slap her, then, mummy?—Punch. 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"You are a heartless woman," he blazed in a tone of degree more bitter than quinine. "But, thank heaven, I have at last found you out." "Be it so," rejoined the human refrigerator. "and what is more, you will continue to find me out hereafter should you call."—Chicago Daily News. "This country," said the owner of the Blue Bunk, "is getting so good for a gentleman to live in, I've had over a little girl yesterday, and when I offered to pay her a reasonable amount the brute got a club and said 'I'll minute a man takes out life insurance for the police.'" "The unreasonableness of the lower classes," replied the owner of the Yellow Demon, "almost passes comprehension."—Chicago Record-Herald.

The individual allotments to the Seminoles of land in Indian Territory represent a value per capita to members of that tribe of \$208. The Indians have long been touch with civilization as represented by modern methods of agriculture, and there is some reason to believe that they will take care of their individual holdings instead of squandering them, as the Western reservation Indians have in most instances done. Vagabond Indians are very similar in ways of thriftlessness to vagabond whites. There are hundreds if not thousands of tramps, for example, who if each were given a farm the first of the year, would be landless at its close, with a grievance against thrifty property-holders who take care of and add to their accumulations year after year. It is impossible to help, in the true sense of the word, people who do not, will not and apparently cannot help themselves. This is a well demonstrated principle of political economy, and it applies impartially, without regard to the color of the skin.

THE PITTSBURG (Pa.) DISPATCH.

points out that Charles Francis Adams, in discussing the question whether the Constitution of the United States should be amended to give the President a veto over the fact that the Union was not established by the present Constitution. It was established by the Articles of Confederation. Those articles declared that a Union was formed; that its title was "The United States of America," and Article XIII expressly enacts that this "Union shall be perpetual." This Union was not dissolved by the adoption of the Constitution. On the contrary, the latter document expressly states that the number of deaths in 1849 were comparatively few, and since that date the cholera has never put in a formidable appearance.

CONGRESS HAS ADJOURNED.

without voting for Cuban reciprocity. Nevertheless, the people clearly stand with the President against the politicians. The people of Nebraska, a beet-sugar state, are with the President. State after state in the beet-sugar belt has rallied to the support of the President. Kansas and Nebraska are the most notable examples. Even in Ohio the Republicans declined to adopt the reciprocity plan of Congressman Dick. The people are almost universally with the President and against any revolt against him on the part of members of his party. If he is nominated in 1904, Mr. Roosevelt will owe his success to the people and not to the politicians, who have controlled his party in Congress. A unanimous report in the House discrediting the alleged Christmas scandal is a cruel blow not only to Richardson, the Democratic leader, who solemnly swore in the House to call a halt in the name of "the highest privilege," but also to those numerous Republican papers which took the affair seriously. The Oregonian has seen nothing to change the view expressed upon the first appearance of this crazy story, which was: "The scandal" is a pitifully small affair, and the Danish legislator's tale should be dismissed with contempt, as it doubtless will be upon investigation. Tracy and Merrill have proved to be the better wind than the bloodhounds which have been on their trail, intermittently, ever since they escaped from prison. The wearied brutes have been withdrawn from the chase for rest, while the sagacious quarry is still moving on. An inquiring correspondent is informed that the membership of the Oregon Legislature and the official vote of the state in June next will be the Oregonian of June 27. It is a good number to file away for future reference.

Water systems compared. The water system of London, presumably one of the best in Europe, is like most other things in London—a creation developed by the processes of piecemeal and patchwork. It is in private hands, operating under special franchises, and consists of eight companies, each limited to a specific district. The area thus served is 50 square miles, and the number of houses is 84,621, in which something more than 3,000,000 persons live. Last year there was delivered by the eight companies 75,700,000 gallons of water, for which there was paid a little less than \$12,000,000. The aggregate expense of these several companies was \$5,157,700, which leaves a balance of considerably over \$5,000,000 out of which to pay charges, interest and profits on the investment. As to the amount of this investment there are no available figures. The sources of the supply are various. Part of it is derived from artesian wells, of which there are 15 on the south and 19 on the north of the Thames. The New River, which is so called because it is a canal which was constructed in the reign of Charles II; the River Lea, which is a stream having about the volume of the Perkleim; Chadwell Spring, which flows in the valley of the Lea, and is tributary, but today, as a century ago, the chief dependence is on the Thames itself, and from that muddy and polluted river 75 per cent of all the water is filtered before delivery, but the opinion is that while its appearance is thus improved, its quality is not materially ameliorated. The amount of organic matter which it contains continues to be disquietingly large, and the reason why it is accepted with so little complaint is because that matter does not use water as a common beverage. The manner in which the water is distributed and in which the charge for it is computed is peculiar. Each house is provided with a reservoir having a capacity proportionate to the number of persons whom the house accommodates, and as the flow of water is not constant, but intermittent, it is incumbent upon the householder to take care that the tank is filled during the period that the water turns on. If through neglect of that duty he finds himself waterless, he only has himself to blame. The charge made for the water is not based on the quantity consumed, but on the amount for which the house rents, and it varies according to the height at which it is delivered. For small and medium-sized houses the charge is from 4 to 6 per cent on the rent, while in the case of larger houses, the rent for which is greater, the percentage is reduced. It follows that there is a considerable diversity in the bills rendered by the several companies, as so many elements enter into the calculation. In the low-lying sections the tariff is from 30 cents to \$1.50 on the rent. It ranges from \$1 to \$2 on the rent in districts which are moderately elevated, while in the quarters which are classified as high the bills are made out on the basis of from \$1.50 to \$3.

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