The Oregonian.

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TODAY'S WEATHER—Partly cloudy, slightly warmer during the afternoon; northwesterly winds.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 69 deg.; minimum, 57 deg.; precipitation, 0.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, JUNE 1, 1903.

NO SHELTER FOR FRAUDS.

It is not a thing to precipitate a riot that frauds have been discovered in the Postal Department or in the County Clerks' office. It is to be gravely feared that things like this are more prevalent than they would be in a perfect state of society. In due course of time they are discovered, somebody is discharged or prosecuted, and the administration takes a fresh start and goes on again. The earth does not quake, nor do the dead come forth. There is an established order of procedure in such cases, and if it is adhered to with reasonable fidelity, there is no cause for depression or despair.

It would be to rage if Postmaster-General Payne were to say: This man is a thief, and I propose to reward him with promotion. It would be to get out extras if Judge Webster gave out that any irregularities in the county records or administrations should be smothered up and the guilty protected. But when everybody is proceeding in the due and proper course, it is somewhat difficult to incite the public to tear hair and crack heels together. On the whole, the Army does well in the Philippines, and it is not best to generalize too excitedly about an occasional act of impatience. We may need soldiers again some time. On the whole, taxes go to the ordained objects of local government. Forged warrants are not, so far as appears, the principal circulating medium of the community.

The spectacle of orderly procedure in detection and correction of fiscal irregularities is not one to excite the average man, of sanity as well as of honesty, beyond the point of self-control. Probably this is why the frenzy laboriously contrived at the postoffice frauds so signally fails to meet a popular response. There is no real danger that justice will miscarry or government be perverted. The ostentation of hysteria is almost as bad as the numbness of indifference. There is no fear that the Administration of President Roosevelt is going to protect or excuse grafters. There is no danger that Judge Webster will cover up any derelictions of county officials, least of all those of the Simon machine, that force themselves on his Mitchellanian attention.

A LESSON FROM STATISTICS.

According to the London Mail, nearly 20,000 persons in England and Wales in the last decade committed suicide. This statement, if correct, shows an increase of 200 per cent in suicide in the past fifty years. A striking feature of this increase is that the rate is as heavy, proportionately, in the smaller towns and rural districts as in the larger cities. Statistics further show that three men commit suicide to one woman, that more idle men than busy ones take their own lives, while, on the contrary, more workingwomen than those without wage-earning occupation commit suicide.

The belief is general that the driving and striving of business in American cities is conducive to suicide; that the high pressure to which the human engine is subjected induces a sort of irresponsible frenzy that seeks relief by stopping the machine. Against this belief the cold and unanswerable logic of statistics is set up, showing that while the rate of suicides per million of population in England and Wales is 90, the rate in the United States is only 72. Londoners at home kill themselves at the rate of 95 per million. Frenchmen in Paris and Austrians in Vienna raise this rate to 400. Germans in Berlin, Swedes in Stockholm, Russians in St. Petersburg and Belgians in Brussels kill themselves off at the rate of 300 per million every year. Yet with our large immigration from all of these nationalities added to our own restless, pushing population, we only have a suicide rate of 72 per million. The plain inference is that climate, environment, the "chance in life," to which every human being is entitled, the active push required to close with opportunity, restrain the tendency to self-destruction which finds expression in suicide in the older cities and countries of the world.

The struggle for existence here is often hard, but it is seldom hopeless. The strain on the physical and mental powers is often intense, but compensation, real or reasonably hoped-for, acts as a buoy to the mental energies. The fact that idle men more frequently commit suicide than busy ones suggests labor as a panacea for despondency or cowardice, or whatever forces, singly or in combination, tempt to self-murder. On the other hand, the fact that workingwomen more frequently commit suicide than do women who, while they labor in homes, are not thus classified, plainly suggests that the quiet home life is more conducive to the serenity and happiness of women than is the wage-earning life. Further proof of this last statement is found in the very nature of things, whereby it is decreed that the men of the world should support the women in homes, giving thereto the best efforts of an active, intelligent, sober manhood, and thus avoiding for themselves and others the temptation to commit suicide that comes through the neglect of life's possibilities and the wreck of its opportunities.

ONE WAY THEY FOOL US.

If the Chamberlain proposals could be proven capable of cementing the British Empire beyond danger of dissolution, they would deserve adoption, without regard to their possible imperfections in the economic aspect. The history of tariffs should serve to show us that their potency for good or ill is enormously exaggerated in both expert and popular understanding. It will make a great difference to the British power whether or not the colonies fall away as Spain's have done; but it will make very little difference in trade movements whether the present tariff system of the United Kingdom, erroneously called free trade, remains as it is or is modified in the direction of Continental or American systems. This is strange, perhaps, but it is true.

Has it never occurred to our publicists and politicians that experience holds up a perpetual rebuke alike to their free trade lunacy and their protection balderdash? Free trade, we are told, has made England great; and in this country we are told that protection has made the United States great. One doctrine is as absurd as the other. In spite of free trade, Great Britain is anxiously asking what her manufactures must do to be saved; and, in spite of the iniquities of our own tariff system, our industrial growth is the wonder of the world. Free coal and iron, cotton and foodstuffs, have been the reputed corner-stone of British commercial ascendency; but across the Channel there is German and French activity, sustained in spite of heavy exactions from predatory tariffs. Irreconcilable systems flourish side by side in Asia. There is one law at Manila, another at Hong Kong, another at Shanghai, another at Nagasaki, another at Vladivostok, another at Tongking, another in Sumatra, another at Kiao Chau. Each nation pursues its own way and clings tenaciously to its own theory.

If there is any aspect of tariff revision in the United States which has been unceasingly and earnestly urged by those very manufacturing interests which are most deeply interested in protection, it is the demand for reduction or removal of duties on raw or partially developed materials imported by our factories for working up into finished products. Our industry, they say, is dreadfully handicapped by these tariffs on manufacturers' materials. Yet the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903, will, it is announced, surpass all previous records in the importation of these materials. The last fiscal year broke all previous records, with $415,000,000. This year's total will reach $500,000,000. The volume of this branch of our imports and the percentage it forms of our total imports may be thus indicated:

Year.	Amount.	Per cent of all.
1860	$ 85,000,000	25
1870	720,000,000	28
1880	232,000,000	37
1890	262,000,000	34
1900	380,000,000	46
1902	415,000,000	47
1903	500,000,000	48

There is no disputing that the tariffs on these manufacturers' materials are obstructive to business. The cost of raw materials would be lessened with each reduction made in the duty. Yet the importations grow in spite of them; and not only that, but they grow about equally in such lines as copper and rubber, which are free, as with hides and wool, tin and tobacco, which are taxed. It is something so with our exports. For our trade with Germany grows without much regard to her retaliatory and discriminating tariffs. France, too, has been hitting at us hard, yet the record does not show any perceptible cessation in her purchases from us. For example:

WHEAT EXPORTS NINE MONTHS.

	1901. Bushels.	1902 Bushels.	1903 Bushels.
United Kingdom	57,000,000	63,000,000	41,000,000
Germany	4,000,000	16,000,000	12,000,000
France	834,000	3,000,000	1,500,000

CURED BEEF.

	Pounds.	Pounds.	Pounds.
United Kingdom	35,000,000	12,000,000	14,000,000
Germany	5,000,000	6,000,000	8,000,000
France	69,000	105,000	94,000

It has been the good fortune of the sheep and wool industry to be investigated by experts judicial enough to report that its rise and fall can never be truthfully referred to tariff changes. It is probable that substantially the same conclusion could be reached as to other industries. The British commission that recently investigated American industry found many instructive devices in use here upon which to make favorable comment, but the tariff was not among them. The rise of tinplate in the United States was due, not to the McKinley bill, but to cheap iron. The sugar that poured into San Francisco from Hawaii under reciprocity caused not a ripple in the American market. Not subsidies, but cheap money and cheap iron, will give us a merchant marine. Beet sugar in the United States has advanced steadily under the variant regimes of McKinley bounty, Wilson neglect and Dingley tariff. What was tea consumption in the United States affected by the tariff of 10 cents a pound put on in 1898 and taken off in 1903?

It suits Mr. Chamberlain to exploit his tariff proposals as if the life and death of the empire were hanging in the balance with their fate. Much in this way do we put on warpaint and strut across the stage in this country when the fearful contingency arises that we may be turned out of office. Then do we plead in melting tones with Cleveland for the sacred and inspired doctrine of free raw materials, or weep with Hanna over the opposition's menace to the full dinner-pail and the campaign fund. Alas, that statesmen should take themselves so seriously, and thrice alas that, by their skillfully pumped up heroics, the multitude should be induced to take them so seriously also! For if Mr. Chamberlain and all his superiors, subordinates and adherents were incontinently turned out to grass, the signal ball might perchance still fall near noon at Greenwich, and cargo-boats ride gally in and out of London town.

When the new Army service rifle was adopted six or eight years ago, it seemed a queer thing that the Government of the most inventive nation on earth should go to Europe for the model of its most common weapon. Afterwards it turned out in the Spanish War that we had not even chosen the best of the foreign models; the German Mauser exceeding our Krag-Jorgensen in range and effectiveness. American inventors, military and civil, had not then given their attention to production of a new rifle. For the last five years the Ordnance Bureau has been at work. Now it has produced a new Springfield, certainly superior to the Krag, and said to be superior to any in the world. It has a smaller caliber but more velocity and penetration; is shorter, lighter, simpler and easier to understand. The Ordnance Bureau is now hard at work substituting these new rifles for the old Krag. In well-informed circles it is hoped that the Navy will adopt the same, so that there may be uniform supply of ammunition to the two services.

POPULARIZATION OF TAXATION.

The repeal of the law which allowed every householder an exemption from taxation of personal property to the amount of $300 will not work a very material hardship upon any one. At the same time, property to the amount of over $8,000,000 will be added to the assessment rolls of the several counties of the state. This will mean a slight lightening of the burden of taxation upon property that has been assessed in the past, and the additional burden will be so widely distributed that no one need feel it. Since the repeal of the exemption law, practically all property is subject to taxation, and the burden of government may be said to be more evenly distributed. The exemption was designed as a special privilege to families of small means, but there is room for doubt whether those who really needed such an exemption secured as much benefit from it as did those in comfortable circumstances.

In Oregon it has been the practice to assess property at from one-third to one-half of its real value, so that an assessed valuation of $300 means an actual valuation of about $600. Very few families of the class upon whom a small tax would be felt as a grievous burden have property to this amount. On the other hand, many who have personal property of much greater value manage to cover it all with the exemption, and they get the benefit of more than the law anticipated. If the net result of the exemption law could be accurately determined, it would quite likely be found that the rich or the well-to-do derive more benefit from the exemption law than do the poor.

The exemption law is founded upon the best of purposes, and in theory it can be easily defended to the satisfaction of the great majority of the people. During the hard times it was undoubtedly a blessing to many poor families, though the exemption of one man's property threw a greater burden upon that of another man, who was perhaps no better able at the time to stand it. Even now the law has much to commend it, and it is doubtful whether the Legislature intended its repeal. But in these prosperous times, when every man has or can have work at good wages the year round, the removal of the exemption will not injure any one. It cannot be said that the removal of the exemption does an injustice, for strict justice requires that each shall share in the task of maintaining the social organization. Indeed, there are many reasons why every person who enjoys the protection of the National, state, county and city governments should contribute to the expense of conducting them. A man who helps support an institution, whether it be public, semi-public or private, feels more of an interest in it than he otherwise would.

When every voter is a taxpayer more general attention will be paid to all public questions. Since the exemption law has been repealed, the number of taxpayers will be much larger, and the tax burden upon real property will be lighter to the extent that personal property is added to the assessment roll. If the new arrangement prove not to be satisfactory to the majority of the people, the exemption law can be reenacted at the next session of the Legislature. It is a fact worth mentioning that the repeal did not create any such general protest as might have been expected.

DANGER IN EXORBITANT PRICES.

Those who look to the Western immigration for an opportunity to sell farm or city property should be conservative in their ideas of values. Oregon is not likely to have a boom, as that word is generally understood, and it is certain that no boom prices will be paid for real estate in the next year or two. There is a strong movement to the Coast, and Oregon is getting her share of the immigration. It is the activity of healthful business conditions, and not the spasmodic excitement of speculation. Every one who is in touch with the immigration movement remarks that the class of people who are coming here now are very desirable citizens. They are men who have made a success in their Eastern homes, have good business judgment, and are coming here to find new homes. They are not speculators, and will not pay boom prices.

There is no intimation intended in this that any one has attempted to put real estate values higher than they should be. It is human, however, to do that very thing, and a word of caution may not be out of place. With newcomers traveling over the country looking for property to buy, it would be surprising if owners do not get the notion that they can as well secure a better price, and thereupon begin to raise their market values more rapidly than conditions warrant. The best rule for the man who wants to sell is to let property go when he is offered a fair price. The man who does not sell when he can, may not be able to sell when he would. People who are coming here want property at reasonable prices, and if they do not find it they will go elsewhere. It is better for the state to have a purchaser pleased with his investment after he has been here a year or two than to have him disappointed and writing to his friends that he paid more than the property was worth. If you have property to sell, let it go when you get a fair price, and leave the purchaser a chance to make something. Such a policy will add to Oregon's population and build up all our industries.

As General John B. Gordon, the commander-in-chief, sat on the platform at the Confederate Veterans' reunion in New Orleans, a Texas woman rushed up to him and kissed the old soldier before an immense audience. The veterans yelled with delight, while General Gordon arose and bowed again and again to the fair Texan. This emotional and picturesque performance illustrates the difference—the superficial difference—between the sections. This is not said in criticism or rebuke of the woman who paid this impulsive tribute to the "lost cause," but since the death of General Sherman, who believed it was more blessed to give than to receive kisses, there have not been any public compliments of this sort presented to the distinguished veterans of the Union Army. The Northern men are colder and more self-restrained in their temper and manners, and impulsive osculatory honors paid to old soldiers in public are not expected nor desired. General Sherman kissed every young woman he met without asking her leave, and Hobson kissed in public early and often, but Hobson is a Southern man born and bred. Henry Clay, the famous statesman of Kentucky, was in the habit of kissing any young lady who was introduced to him to whom the salute was acceptable, and he always assumed that every young woman courted the distinction of having been kissed by Mr. Clay.

The Des Moines Register and Leader (Republican) devotes nearly a column of editorial to an analysis of Henry Loomis Nelson's letters to the Boston Herald regarding the opposition to Roosevelt. Summing up, the paper says: "President Roosevelt is to be denounced as a foe to capital of more dangerous Populistic tendencies than Mr. Bryan, a friend of labor unionism, in every way an unsafe man for the trusts and the capitalistic classes. A Democrat is to be nominated who will favor the repeal of the Sherman law, the nullification of the anti-merger decision, the destruction of organized labor, and the restoration of the sentiment that capital must not be restrained. That Mr. Nelson voices the sentiments of a large body of Eastern trust magnates, both Republican and Democratic, there is no doubt. The only question is, Does he voice the sentiments of interests powerful enough to dictate the policy of the Democratic National Convention?" The answer is a most transparent negative. But the Democratic approach to the Roosevelt problem is strongly suggestive of the increasing burden the party is destined to feel in Bryanism.

It is the unhesitating judgment of The Oregonian that the Morrison-street bridge proposal should carry. The question is not what should have been done years ago, when we were all crazy on free bridges and idiotically hostile to tolls. The question is whether a dangerous and inadequate structure should be left to disgrace us in 1905. As for the fear that the public will be outgeneraled by the City & Suburban in arrangement of the details, we cannot afford to do public business upon the theory that our officials will be corrupt or inefficient. Authority should be given the Executive Board to negotiate as is necessary. If the board betrays the public's interests, it can be reckoned with for malfeasance. The theory that we should stop imperative progress now because something else might, could, would or should have been done in the past is too childish for grown men to be governed by.

The Montreal, Ottawa & Georgian Bay Canal Company proposes to construct a 22-foot deep waterway through the French River and Lake Nipissing to the Ottawa River and down that stream to tidewater at Montreal. By this waterway the distance from Chicago or Duluth to Montreal will be no greater than the sailing distance through the lakes from the same ports to Buffalo, about 900 miles. This route includes only thirty-two miles of excavated channel. The rest is all open lake and river navigation. Making allowance for delays at the locks, it is figured that a vessel will take only about fourteen hours more for the voyage to Montreal than for the voyage to Buffalo. By the construction of a 21-foot canal from the St. Lawrence via the Sorel River, Lake Champlain and the Champlain Canal to the Hudson, the Canadian waterway could be tapped for the traffic carried by that route. Such a waterway would cost $100,000,000.

The action of the laundry drivers in declining to go out on sympathetic strike because of a contract with their employers have done nobly by themselves and by organized labor. Unionism can never lose its function as a by-word and a reproach until unions keep their promises. Yet we shall probably hear very little acknowledgment of this good act of the laundry drivers from those who would have made the welkin ring with disapproval if the contrary course had been taken.

An article on this page, from the New York Evening Post, in which the permanence of collective bargaining is recognized, is commended to those who fancy that unions must be crushed. Not the use, but the abuses, of unionism are to be reprobated. We shall have combinations of employes as long as we have combinations of employers. The aim must be to confine the operations of both to just and legal methods.

The April immigrant arrivals at all ports of the United States numbered 128,286, the largest number ever recorded of a single month. For the ten months of the fiscal year arrivals number 620,711, and the May and June inpour promises to carry the figure above that of 788,992, which was reached in the fiscal year 1882, and for 20 years had stood as the high record of immigration.

A man who is a kleptomaniac, and knows it by having been in trouble repeatedly, has no right to engage in an occupation which subjects him to frequent opportunities to steal. A criminal prosecution and newspaper publicity may teach such a man a needed lesson, although the suffering caused thereby to his family is to be regretted.

The only effect a Democratic victory in the First District today would have on the National mind would be to encourage the opinion that Oregon has repudiated President Roosevelt, and that on the heels of his recent visit. A vote for Reames is a vote for the trusts.

The purchase of the Morrison-street bridge and the worthless Stark-street ferry happened a good while ago, but has not, apparently, been forgotten. If the new bridge project is defeated at today's election, it will be the revenge of those who have grown displeased with that old incident.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING A FACT

New York Evening Post.

Ex occidente lux. The first extensive and sweeping settlement of the labor troubles now or lately afflicting the country comes from Denver, a locality in which we should hardly have expected to find a precious example of moderation and good sense. That city, like many others, has been lately dividided into opposing camps of capital and labor, and the organizations have been so complete that they have seemed to reproduce the old fable of the belly and the members. But just as the starving process was about to begin, a committee of the Chamber of Commerce and of a local labor union came together, and made a settlement which was ratified on both sides, and all strikes, lockouts, and boycotts were declared off. The dispatches say that the victory seems to be with the laboring men. It would be ungracious to deny them praise for the conciliatory mood which they have displayed, but we observe that while the agreement forbids employers to discharge workmen because of the affiliations with unions, it also permits them to employ nonunion men. The other terms of settlement are equally honorable to both sides, embracing a plan of arbitration for all existing disputes in all trades whatsoever. Such an agreement is well worth study and acceptance by other cities similarly perturbed.

The Denver troubles, like most of those now existing in the United States, presented the spectacle of organized labor confronted by organized capital. Although unusual, this was not the first example of the kind that we have witnessed. The great strike and lockout in the building trades in Chicago, which lasted a year and a half, was a precursor of what we now behold in New York, Omaha, and several smaller cities, and again in Chicago itself. The combination of employers is a natural, indeed a forced, movement in the evolution of what economists call the problem of distribution. This problem asks how the joint product of labor and capital shall be divided. What proportion is each partner entitled to receive, and by what tribunal shall the respective shares be determined?

Nobody now questions the desirability of collective bargaining by those who have labor to sell, since in no other way can they be reasonably sure of getting their fair share. It follows that employes must be at liberty as a united body to make fresh demands from time to time for more pay or for changed conditions, just as employers, either collectively or separately, must be free to refuse the demands, or to make counter claims as circumstances may require. Hitherto the rivalry of employers has generally prevented them from presenting a united front to the demands of organized labor. The fact that they have combined to resist them is presumptive evidence that the demands are becoming intolerable; but even that fact does not teach us that society would be better off without organizations of workingmen, or that collective bargaining could be safely dispensed with. It merely tells the old tale that in this self-seeking world all sorts and conditions of men must guard their own rights and look out for their own interests, and that no class can safely intrust these tasks to any other class. This maxim applies to employers and employes alike. The best defence of each against the other is the strength and mutual respect which union implies and most commonly guarantees.

It is unfortunately true, and it greatly complicates the labor problem, that labor organizers are often narrow-minded men, bent rather upon magnifying their office and exerting their authority than upon benefiting the industry in which they are supposedly engaged. Upon this point Mr. Henry White, one of the fairest and most trusted labor leaders in the country, said in a recent debate in Philadelphia:

> To prevent excesses of the union is a grave question. . . . Those who suddenly acquire power are unable to measure its limitations, or to realize the responsibilities that go with it. This much, however, can be said to allay this apprehension: As the unions become stronger and gain in experience, they tend to conservatism, and their rashness is but the evidence of crudeness. The hard and stern conditions confronting them can be relied upon to keep them within bounds.

In the same debate Mr. William H. Pfahler, representing the employers, made a similar reckoning of black sheep among his own class, speaking of the stiff-necked employers who "deny the right of labor to organize for its own benefit, and who refuse to confer with employes or their representatives upon such questions as may be of benefit or mutual interest." Besides the haughty and unbending employer who has "nothing to arbitrate," there are others who systematically strive to get the last possible farthing out of their employes, and who force this policy upon their more considerate and humane competitors as the price of their continued existence in business. Thus the fair workman and the fair employer are flanked by mischief-makers and firebrands, who, although a minority, perhaps a small minority, are yet able to overturn and frustrate the wisest counsels of the class to which they belong, and often do more harm than all their associates can repair.

The Denver settlement, so far as it goes, justifies the organization of employers as an offset to that of laborers. It also justifies the employers in refusing to cast out the nonunion men. In fact, that policy would be equivalent to a surrender of their business to the tender mercies of the walking delegate, and to the worst type of the species, since the one making the most extreme demands would get the largest number of votes if the nonunion men were driven from the field.

Our Simpleton Tuft-Hunters.

Washington Post.

What we do not understand is the anxiety on the part of well-bred, self-respecting Americans to entertain in a social way people of whom they know nothing whatsoever personally. In this part of the country we see a great deal of it, but the years only increase our perplexity. Strangers come along with a reputation for great wealth. We fly at them, smother them with solicitude, pursue them, fawn upon them, bow down before them. The same happens in the case of foreigners who own or have borrowed a title, or who hold some trumpery official position. We may never have heard of them at all; may be utterly ignorant as to their birth, breeding, or repute at home. But that makes not the slightest difference. We literally implore them to enter our homes, our clubs, our social circles; to eat our dinners, drink our wines, smoke our cigars, and acquire intimacy with our wives, sisters and daughters. Does any one know why? Certainly, we do not. It is a mystery which grows more baffling and more distasteful every day. To us it is inexplicable that any society, certain of itself, secure as to its position, and careful of its own dignity, should receive, much less invite, persons who do not approach it equiped with unquestionable credentials. In our philosophy, it is the last resort of servile snobbisness to open the door to wealth or title or official position simply as such.

Danger Signals for Autos.

Detroit Free Press.

The auto must provide some other sort of a conditional death notice. It should have a one-horse power calliope, a big-mouthed phonograph to shriek: "'Ware the juggernaut," a drum with an electric attachment, a brass cannon with blank cartridges and smokeless powder, or a trained dock crator with a half-bushel of lungs to announce the approach of devastation on "sneak-tire," wheels.

Their Differences Not Great.

Detroit Free Press.

There is not so much discord among Mr. Cleveland, Mr. Bryan and Colonel Watterson as one might think. Mr. Bryan and Colonel Watterson agree about Mr. Cleveland. Mr. Cleveland and Colonel Watterson agree about Mr. Bryan, and it is likely that Mr. Bryan and Mr. Cleveland agree about Colonel Watterson.

THE JOHN SHERMAN OF MEXICO

Minneapolis Tribune.

They are calling Senor Limantour, Secretary of the Treasury and "designado" for successor of Diaz, the John Sherman of Mexico. Sherman gave a fixed value to our greenbacks by putting a gold reserve under them. Limantour means to do just this for the silver coinage of Mexico. He has been in New York, selling half of a new issue of $25,000,000 two-year treasury gold bonds "for internal improvements."

Of course gold is not needed for that purpose; but the gold is to stay in the treasury as a reserve, while other funds pay for the improvements. Mexico has been getting part of her custom dues in gold for some time to pay interest on sinking fund bonds and make the beginning of a reserve. The whole amount it is intended to accumulate as soon as possible is $50,000,000. On this it is thought they can support $100,000,000 of silver coinage at the fixed ratio of 32 to 1, the same as Japan, British India and the Philippines.

That will require an entire new coinage of silver. The main trouble with the Mexican coinage is that it is too universal. The familiar sunburst dollar has been coined in Mexican mints, first by Spain and then by the republic for centuries. It is estimated that the entire output has been $2,500,000,000. This has been scattered all over the world, and much of it has gone into the melting pot or into Eastern hoards. Still it has bigger circulation than any other money, even the fi' pun' note, since it is current at its bullion value all over Latin America and all parts of Asia reached by commerce.

It would be hopeless to try to call all this money in, and folly to offer to redeem it at any fixed ratio. The Mexican treasury would be swamped when silver fell and drained when it rose. The plan of Secretary Limantour is to leave it to its fate, whether to furnish counters to countries that have no better money or convenient storage to Oriental misers, and put a brand-new coinage in the place of it.

There will be no more free coinage, of course, or there could be no fixed value. The government will buy silver bullion and coin the $100,000,000. It is believed that this amount will be kept at par by the demands of trade; but if it should fall below the government will stand ready to buy up at par any amount up to its reserve of $50,000,000 of gold.

To save these coins from the melting pot, should silver rise above the 32 to 1 ratio, the international silver commission lately appointed will try to induce all silver-using nations to suspend purchases for coinage when the price is above that ratio, as it would be plainly to their interest to do. This is the weakest point in the scheme, which otherwise differs from adopting the gold standard only in using silver instead of paper counters.

Monopoly Only for the People.

S. M. Owen, in Farm, Stock and Home.

Private monopoly is as foreign to our institutions as an invading army could be; as truly imperils the security of our homes, our political independence and the welfare of posterity. And no sacrifice that it might be necessary to make to repel such an invader can be too great. It is admitted that at present the rule of monopoly seems to many of us mild, gentle and even helpful. But to the thoughtful, to those who look beneath the surface, to those who are familiar with the rule of that fearful power in the past, it wears its wonted visage, and they know that it is bent upon its traditional mission or raid, which should be prevented at all hazards. No more direful fate can befall a nation than the centralization of its wealth in the coffers of the few, and that condition inevitably follows the sway of private monopoly, though several years may elapse before the true condition is revealed to all its people.

It is said that monopoly we must have henceforth, that the old competitive system of doing business has gone forever, and ought to go. Grant it; but if so, the monopoly must be the people's monopoly, like the postal business, for instance, if we are about to escape disaster. To bring this about may prove disturbing and costly, but true patriotism does not balk at such considerations when in pursuit of its objects.

A Woman's Postscript.

New York Times.

This is a true account of one person's idea of "breaking the news gently." The cook, whose home was off in the country, appeared before the "powers above" with a letter in her hand. "I'll have to go home for a couple of days, mum," she said. "My cousin's just written to me," and she handed over the crumpled bit of paper with an audible sniff. "Dear Mary," it ran, "you had better come home at once, your father is very sick," and it continued with many particulars of the illness. At the end was a postscript, which, like the old joke of a woman's P. S., had the pith of the matter. "So long as you'll be driving up from the village you may as well bring the undertaker along with you in the wagon."

Ohio for Roosevelt.

Cleveland Leader.

Governor Nash throws a sensible side remark into the present controversy that is exciting the politicians. The Governor says Ohio will be for Roosevelt next year, no matter what the convention does this year.

Danny Deever.

Rudyard Kipling.

"What are the bugles blowin' for?" said Files-on-Parade.
"To turn you out, to turn you out," the Color-Sergeant said.
"What makes you look so white, so white?" said Files-on-Parade.
"I'm dreadin' what I've got to watch," the Color-Sergeant said.
For they're hangin' Danny Deever, you can 'ear the Dead March play.
The regiment's in 'ollow square—they're hangin' him today;
They've taken of his buttons off an' cut his stripes away.
An' they're hangin' Danny Deever in the mornin'.

"What makes the rear-rank breathe so 'ard?" said Files-on-Parade.
"It's bitter cold, it's bitter cold," the Color-Sergeant said.
"What makes that front-rank man fall down?" says Files-on-Parade.
"A touch of sun, a touch of sun," the Color-Sergeant said.
They're hangin' Danny Deever, they are marchin' of 'im round.
They 'ave 'alted Danny Deever by 'is coffin on the ground;
An' 'e'll swing in 'arf a minute for a sneakin', shootin' hound—
O, they're hangin' Danny Deever in the mornin'.

"'Is cot was right 'and cot to mine," said Files-on-Parade.
"'E's sleepin' out an' far tonight," the Color-Sergeant said.
"I've drunk 'is beer a score o' times," said Files-on-Parade.
"'E's drinkin' bitter beer alone," the Color-Sergeant said.
They are hangin' Danny Deever, you must mark 'im to 'is place,
For 'e shot a comrade sleepin'—you must look 'im in the face;
Nine 'undred of 'is county an' the regiment's disgrace,
While they're hangin' Danny Deever in the morning'.

"What's that so black ag'in the sun?" said Files-on-Parade.
"It's Danny fightin' 'ard for life," the Color-Sergeant said.
"What's that that whimpers over'ead?" said Files-on-Parade.
"It's Danny's soul that's passin' now," the Color-Sergeant said.
For they've done with Danny Deever, you can 'ear the quickstep play,
The regiment's in column, an' they're marchin' us away;
Ho! the young recruits are shakin', and they'll want their beer today,
After hangin' Danny Deever in the mornin'.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Sir Launfal in Oregon.

Oh, what is so rare as a day in June?
Then if ever come perfect days,
The sun climbs high in the cloudless sky
And drops on us his burning rays.

The Panama hats and the white duck pants,
And the shirtwaists bloom again;
And then in a trice, when all is nice,
Down comes a pouring rain.

Good morning, have you bought your supply of garden hose yet?

One would not think the people of Kansas would have any use for a fireboat.

The people of Topeka probably wish some one of their patriarchs had had the foresight of Noah.

Willamette University is out of debt, and the next thing it will do will be to get back in again.

About the only people who hail graduation exercises with delight are the graduates and the dressmakers.

This is in truth a funny world. The people of Ottawa are praying for rain and it's all falling in Kansas.

With all this scandal in the Postoffice Department, it is a wonder some one hasn't tried to raise the price of stamps.

The man who bought a piece of real estate in the middle of Lake Michigan found out that it was not so real as he thought it was.

People in San Francisco and Santa Barbara don't have to go to the Chutes and baths for excitement. All they have to do is to take a trip on an ordinary streetcar.

There is a prevalent idea that no rhyme has ever been found for the word "month," but a poet in Telluride, Colo., explodes the idea. He says:

> Among our numerous English rhymes
> They say there's none for "month,"
> I tried and failed a hundred times,
> But succeeded the hundred and oath.

Governor Bailey, of Kansas, has checked an unsolicited Congressional boom started in his behalf by some friends. He said to them: "I am trying to be a good Governor, and if I succeed, I shall be satisfied." He was reminded that his term would be concluded when the Legislature came to choose a successor to United States Senator Burton. "Oh, well," said he, "of course, I shouldn't throw a thing of that kind over my shoulder."

The Duke of Rutland has a record of which it would be hard to find a parallel in modern politics. He has lived to see the jubilee of his first entrance into Cabinet rank, and celebrated, a few years ago, the 50th anniversary of his first Cabinet Council. He was a Cabinet Minister before Lord Salisbury entered Parliament, when Lord Rosebury and Mr. Balfour were learning the alphabet, and when Mr. Chamberlain was beginning his business career in his father's screw factory.

Frederick II of Prussia delighted in his reputation as the most laconic man in Europe. A Hungarian magnate, taking the waters at Carlsbad acquired fame for abruptness of speech, such that the Prussian was tempted to meet him and try him in the arts of brevity. The magnate was pointed out to Frederick as he stood in the hall of his hotel. The King went up to him, and the following conversation was the result: Frederick—Bathing? Hungarian—Drinking? Frederick—Officer? Hungarian—Magnate! Frederick—So! Hungarian (taking the initiative)—Detective? Frederick—King! Hungarian—Congratulate!

B. S. Rodey, the hard-working delegate to Congress from New Mexico, is in no way cast down by the failure of his territory to secure statehood at the last session. "I feel sure," he says, "that our cause will win next time. Since this visit to the East I have talked with some of the Senators and Congressmen who were our most bitter opponents, and I find they have undergone a change of heart. If they could only realize how just was the demand of New Mexico, they would no longer offer opposition. Why, we have now over 400,000 people; since the last census over 1000 miles have been added to our railroad mileage, and over 1,333,000 acres of the public domain been settled upon."

When King Humbert of Italy was assassinated, his widow, Queen Margherita, was very anxious that he should be buried in Turin, where lie all others of the house of Savoy, except the great Victor Emmanuel, Humbert's father. Moreover, His Majesty did not wish to offend the papal party by a state funeral in Rome. The new King, Victor Emmanuel III, announced that the murdered ruler was to have a fitting burial in the Pantheon. "Victor," cried his mother, "I see you want to break my heart. You offend my religion as well as my affections." "I am sorry, mother," he said, gently, and then added: "The religion which is offended at a martyr being buried in his own Capital and lying beside his own father needs radical changes."

The real bohemian does not wish to be put on show for the delectation of persons who do not understand him. There is a story told of Maurice Barrymore, which illustrates this point. Entering a famous bohemian club in New York one night, he found a lot of commercial men in full possession. They greeted "Barry" effusively. He had hardly got himself "fairly sat" when one of them slapped him on the back and said: "Barry, speak us a piece." Then a chorus said: "Yes; get funny, old man; cut up. We've all heard that you were a great entertainer." Barry glared around for a moment, and then said quietly: "I'll do a handspring for you, gentlemen, but I can't speak a piece." Then he reached through the silence and picked his hat off the hook. That was the last time he entered the club.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

First lawyer—Well, I've just made a fortune. Second lawyer—Whose was it.—*Life.*

Exercise for dyspeptic millionaires—Inventor of new carriage, only one fit for South African roads, wants to meet financier to push same.—Adv. Financial News.—Punch.

She—They say that good-looking chap with the eyeglass is an English nobleman. He—Well, I don't believe it. I heard him say that he had no notion of marrying an actress or heiress.—Chicago Daily News.

"I suppose," said the impressionable young girl, "that you didn't have to wait long for a husband, Mrs Sharpe." "No," replied Mrs. Sharpe, "I didn't, but I do now—till midnight at least, and often longer."—Philadelphia Press.

"Well," said the New Yorker, tauntingly, "you don't see any grass growing in our streets." "That's so," replied the Philadelphian, "clever scheme of yours." "What's that?" "To keep tearing your streets up so the grass can't grow."—Washington Star.

Baxter—What fools women are to go to a rummage sale and pay three times what an old thing is worth! Blandsome (a physician)—Oh, I don't know. Mrs. Trotter bought an old bed quilt at the last sale, and in a little while