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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 23

THE PRESIDENT'S ERROR.

We have it on high and unhesitating authority that President Roosevelt is making some very serious errors these days, and they are of a sort calculated to injure him in quarters where he might otherwise give great satisfaction and delight. He will not soon be forgiven for the offense which those concerned will take at his course. They will remember it against him. will make much fuss about it. They will make him very tired-and their capacity in that direction is almost un-

There is the mistake of Payne. The President had it in his power to throw Payne out of the Cabinet. He could have pleased numbers in this way and have earned the hostility of Payne and his friends. He might even have alienated the Republicans of Wisconsin. It was a bad break.

Mistake No. 2. Why didn't he reinstate Miss Todd and thereby please numbers, and gain the hostility of the two Senators from Delaware? It is sad to see a man like Roosevelt, an author, a cultivated gentleman, a member of the church and of yacht clubs, and in other respects well qualified for allenating votes, pursuing tactics which tend to dispel the hypothesis that he was born yesterday.

Mistake No. 3-the turn-down of Williams, supposed World's Fair Comper from Alaska. made himself busy against ex-Senator Thomas H. Carter, a figure of some influence in Republican circles. He opposed Williams, but it was the hope of me of the President's most assiduous and ostentatious friends that he would antagonize Carter and stand by Williams. This he has refused to do, and it is feared by the aforesald ostentation and assidulty that now Montana may be for Roosevelt in 1904.

It is a pity when a good man like Roosevelt perpetrates such astounding and depressing evidences of political sense. Why can't he follow the advice of the mugwumps and earn the same political triumphs which have given them so many Presidents, Governors and Mayors; so invincible possession of electoral colleges, so overwhelming matorities in both houses of Congress? If he would only heed the disinterested counsel of these almost too-wise and frequently oversympathetic friends, he might proudly reckon among his enemies not only the trusts and organized labor, the banks and the common people, the Catholics, W. C. T. U. and negroes, but also the entire membership of Congress and the Republican machine in every state.

We warn the President that his present course will soon bring him to the parting of the ways. He cannot have the support of the voters and of mugwumps both. He must choose between them. He must either take the hard heads or the soft hearts. If he continues to strengthen himself with his own party, he need expect no votes at the National convention from the Civil Service Commission or Citizen Train.

IN LEAGUE WITH THE DEVIL.

I have been deeply impressed by the very Hated men since the abolition of the canteen.

If men are unable to get a glass of beer in a secent and orderly manner in the garrison they will resort to the brothels which cluster aron the reservation, where they often sink into de-bauchery and ruin.—Annual Report of Briga-dier-General Frank D. Baldwin, commanding the Department of Colorado.

We do not know General Baldwin, but that makes no difference. He is very easily sized up from this utterance. He is a fine man to talk about debauchery and ruin! Who is he to talk of "decently and orderly" manners? Who is any one, in fact, unless he thinks as we do, we of noble character and perfect conscience, not as other men are?

General Baldwin, apparently, choo to ignore the fact, of which we cannot suppose him ignorant, that liquor-selling is a bad business and liquor-drinking a bad practice. No one should be permitted to sell liquor, no one should be permitted to drink liquor. We think we say so; hence it is so. Hence nobody shall think or say anything else Hence the law shall declare that no man shall drink, in the Army or out of it. Hence any man who talks as Reidwin talks is not only a fool, but an arrant knave as well.

He has unbounded assurance to speak of morality at all-he, a man who has the hardihood to prefer the canteen to

whether the soldlers sink into debauchour way? What difference is it if the Army is demoralized, so that our own infallible conscience becomes the guide of all others? Let the men go to brothels, if they want to; let the Army be made worthless. These are small matters so we have gained our point.

There is no need of evidence or argument in a matter like this. We know what ails Baldwin. The simple fact that he does not think with us shows that he is at heart in a base conspiracy with the brewers and distillers. He holds nightly cabinet meetings with his Satanic majesty. However, perhaps it is just as well as it is. If all men were converted to our views, what could we howl about? Who could be accused of conspiracy with brewers, distillers and Beelzebub? What would become of the New Voice?

THE INFLUENCE OF GARMENTS

Ever since our first parents-as the tory goes sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons, the subject of dress has been more or less a vexatious one to civilized peoples. As a pamperer of vanity, a source of humiliation because of its poverty, the sport and prey of fashion, the exponent of fads and whims, the influence of raiment upon character has been recognized. Now comes a professor of one of the Western colleges who holds that much of the wickedness that sports in bifurcated garments is due directly to the cut of the clothing. This, he asseris, is especially true in the case of boys during the formative years of their school life. The difference in the characters that are developed by boys and girls is, he thinks, largely due to the difference in training. In support all that they can afford. This is the of this theory he cites the following experiment:

Two sisters married two brothers. Two boys hildren as girls. The two children were taugh hat they were girls, freessed as girls, give toils, etc., and treated ab girls. This was con inued until they were 7 years of age where he children entered a public school, where the ere refused admission until the proper change clothing was made. Both mothers assured that immediate moral degeneration was the sult; from modest girls they became forward eys, quiet changed to noise, while frankness ad truthfulness became deceit and hypocrisy.

This is, indeed, eloquent testimony to the effect of dress on character. There will, of course, be differences of opinion as to its conclusiveness. Foreseeing this, the professor reasserts that there is no superiority of girls over boys as such; it is what they wear that makes girls modest and boys bold. That this statement may be upheld by fact he relates other incidents in support of it. 'A mother," he says, "who has an older girl and a younger boy told me this After long play the boy grows tired of playing as his sister wants and becomes unruly. She has adopted the expedient of clothing him in the cast-off clothes of his sister, when he always becomes doctle. A Washington mother some times puts overalls on her little girl of 11 or 12 to save her clothing. In such dress the girl readily fights boys, while in her usual dress she will only 'sass

The experience of many mothers, in the last few years, supports that of the Washington mother here quoted. For the sake of economy in the laundry bill and to give freedom of movement to their limbs and bodies, it has become the custom to dress little girls on the beaches and at mountain resorts in overalls, that have duplicated in cut and material those worn by their brothers. With the tiny tots, according to the statement of observant people, this sort of apparel makes no difference. But the larger girls thus dressed become hoydenish, rude, bold and unmannerly. And does not every mother know that the most refractory boy becomes docile when put into petticoats as a

These and similar observations have evidently led the Western professor to conclude that the line of progress lies in the assimilation of man to woman. Specifying upon this point, he says:

He must lose what remains to him of the sav-age; she, what clings about her of the sixve The perfect equality in a political and social sense must come ere long. The limiting of man's field where he is inefficient and the widening of woman's sphere where she is ef-fective and capable are problems with which the twentieth century may deal. Not less a man, not less a woman, but a being more se viceable to the race must each be.

This is a fine-spun theory, so fine in deed that there is grave danger that when placed as warp in the busy loom of life the heavy woof of fact that will be thrown into it will cause the fabric to bulge unevenly and break in unexpected places.

RESPONSIBILITY ELSEWHERE.

If gambling is to be stopped, there is me man in Multnomah County whose primacy in responsibility cannot be He has more power in the matter than all other officials put together. That man is John Manning District Attorney.

Gambling is forbidden by a state law. It devolves upon the District Attorney to file information or secure indictments against lawbreakers and bring before juries the necessary evidence to convict them. John Manning was appointed District Attorney by Governor Champerlain as a reward for political service, Not to be too specific as to the nature of that service, it involved negotiations with the gamblers of Portland.

The election of Governor Chamberlain and the consequent elevation of Manning were achieved through the support of the gamblers of Portland, and the sequel is that John Manning has never turned a hand to punish or interfere with this class of lawbreakers, Mr. Manning will say that if any one will swear out a complaint he will prosecute: but meanwhile he does nothing The city authorities arrested and tried upwards of twenty persons for gambling last Winter, but to no effect. This is why Mayor Williams views further procedure along that line as hopeless.

Mayor Williams is willing to bear the responsibility that rests upon him; but there is no reason why he should bear the responsibility that rests upon the District Attorney. There is no reason why the representative of the law and order element should be blamed for the shortcomings of the man representative of and elected by the wide-open element. All that the Mayor can do he has done-arrest gamblers and bring them before the courts. If they are acquitted, that is not his fault, and it is futile for him to repeat a fruitless farce. Why gambling games are running today is simply because those who have been arrested by the police have slipped have had himself impeached long ago. somehow through the fingers of the prosecutors, Municipal and public -County Judges and juries. If the District Attorney will show the Mayor a few convictions of gamblers, we venture to say that the police will not be long in making fresh arrests. The

ute or the courts that try. These should get their share of censure, if far escaped notice.

AN ARMY OF CHILDREN.

At an early hour Monday morning the grounds surrounding the various olhouses in this city were thronged with children, and the overflow in numbers extended in groups and lines for several blocks in every direction. Taking a cursory inventory of the numbers and a look at the schoolhouses thus surrounded, one involuntarily wondered where all of this squirming, shouting, active mass of humanity could be stowed during school hours with due regard to individual comfort and cubic air space. "It seems to me that an unnecessary note of alarm was sounded about 'race suicide' a while ago," remarked a thoughtful man, as he halted near one of these congested centers of education on his way down town. And truly the danger from this source seems to be remote, unless, indeed, it is a menace less than six years old.

After a vacation of three months, during which time the building committee of the School Board has been busy with the effort to extend the seat ing capacity of the several schoolhouses to meet the growing demand, the question, "What shall we do with them?" is seriously asked as the children, including a large reinforcement of "sixyear-olds," literally swarm the buildings.

It is one thing to furnish in theory ample school facilities for all comers, and quite another to reduce this theory to practice on the basis of funds that overburdened taxpayers declare to be problem with which the School Board has been busy during vacation. layed by strikes, hampered by dilatory tactics of various kinds in the industrial field, pushed for time, the work has still progressed toward completion upon the several schoolhouses and annexes, but it is, nevertheless, still unfinished and to all appearance the seating capacity of the schoolhouses will, when all work under way on school

buildings is completed, be inadequate. This is the price that a city pays for its growth in homes and families; this the answer that the mothers send back to the wall of "race suicide." The price should be cheerfully paid, since it represents a growth of the most substantial character—a growth that is perma-nent and full of promise.

ON THE BASIS OF SELF-INTEREST. A while ago the great mercantile and manufacturing establishments of Chicago notified their employes that playing the races and all other forms of gambling or immoral conduct, including the excessive use of tobacco and liquor, would render them liable to peremptory dismissal. As might have been and no doubt was expected, a vigorous protest went up in the name of personal liberty, of which it was held the notification was an unwarranted and unwarrantable invasion. It cannot be doubted, however, that this course of procedure, if rationally maintained, will prove beneficial to employes as well as employers. The rigid surveillance of his employer is excellent training for a young business man in a large city, as he will gratefully acknowledge when he has himself become a responsible employer.

The interference, so called, of railroad nanagers in the drinking habits of their employes has done more for temperance in the last five or ten years than all the temperance lectures, temperance societies and temperance pledges of many years preceding. The order that railway engineers and others in most powerful battleships. As a matauthority on moving trains would be subject to dismissal for induiging in intoxicating liquors was not made in the interest of morality or of moral reform, but purely in the interest of business. Railroad companies, under the laws, are responsible for the safe movement of their trains, hence responsible for such acts of their employes as are like ly to put these trains in peril of wreck. This being true, they cannot afford to take chances as employers on men who drink to excess. Corporate self-interest here met response in individual self-interest. The railroads demanded sober men for responsible positions, and it got them. Mercantile and manufacturing firms need sober men and men who do not gamble to insure the intelligent performance of their work and the honorable accounting of their funds. When they are determined to have such men. and only such, in their service, they will

This is practical reform. It does not seek to invade the domain of private rights, or, as Young America is wont to call it, "personal liberty," beyond the point where it is the employer's business to interfere. He wants and must have sober men and men who are not "sports," to work for him. These who will not accept the conditions have no cause to complain if they are discriminsted against when it comes to employment. The case is in their own hands. Their right to decide the question at issue is unquestioned and untrammeled.

NEW STUNTS FOR THE MAYOR.

We are given to understand that neither the Mayor nor any other official as discretion in the enforcement of ordinances. If it's written in the book, it goes, and that's all there is of it. For example:

Ordinance No. 10811-Any person who shall expectorate or spit on the floor of any streetcar or other public conveyance, on the floor of any public hall, building or office, or upon any sidewalk . . shall be fined not less than ten dollars nor more than twenty-flow dollars, or by imprisonment in the City Jail not exceeding ten days.

Ordinance No. 3983.—Any person who shall

throw or deposit in any street, sidewalk or footpath of the City of Portland, any broken glass, bottles, crockery, nalls, or throw, de-posit or sweep into or upon any street, sidewalk or footpath, any paper or other sub-

stance . . not less than five dollars nor more than fifty dollars. Any person or persons who shall ride or drive any animal or animals over any of the bridges in the city at a greater rate than a walk. No person using any animal, except attached

to a dray or truck, shall leave such animal without securely fastening the same, and no person having or using any animal attached to a dray or truck, shall leave such animal without first securely locking the wheels of the vehicle 3 not less than five dollars nor more than fifty dollars.

There is no discretion in these matters. Let the entire population be jailed at once. As for the Mayor, he should

The pity of Mayor Williams for the dogs that careless or cruel owners have permitted to be imprisoned in the city pound is shared by all persons of humane instincts. Especially is this true of those who through the ownership of

has no power over the attorneys that faithfulness of the animal. If the owner of a dog cannot, or from any cause does not, wish to pay the license fee, propcensure is to be passed. They have so erly imposed to keep the city from far escaped notice. himself quietly and painlessly kill the creature, or delegate the task to some one who will do the work properly. It is both unnecessary and inexcusable to allow the defenseless animal to be caught in the poundmaster's net, rudely and with more or less cruelty caged, conveyed to and shut up in the pound, and, after several days of hunger and wretchedness, dispatched. The case is one of cruelty to animals in which the Humane Soicety is powerless to act, but which appeals to the pity of every one who has owned and proved the faithfulness of a kind, intelligent dog.

> By the recent death of Dr. Thomas March Clark, Bishop Tuttle, of Missourl, becomes presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States. The venerable bishop was born in 1812. His life thus covered the period of the four American wars of the past century. With Phillips Brooks he stood at the head of the Broad Church movement in this country. His death was not deplored as was that of Phillips Brooks as being untimely. He had mounted the last decade of his century and had long been in feeble health. Hence his death was accepted as a legitimate call of Nature. His hold upon the affections of his people was, however, strong, and age and weakness intensified it rather than caused it to relax. He is mourned with tender reverence by thousands who recognize the fact that his work was done and the time of his release fully due.

A tender and just eulogy of a dead friend by a long-time associate in business is an act that is commendable to the writer while it calls up memories that all too soon will sink into oblivion of the faithful performance of duty along the road of life. Such is the tribute paid by Eugene Shelby to his oldtime friend and associate in business, William A. Atlee, who died in this city last Sunday morning. Those who knew Mr. Atlee during his active working years will recall through this timely tribute many acts that distinguished him among his fellow-workers and fellow-citizens as a just and honorable man in the years that are gone. The revival of such memories before they sink into final eclipse does credit to human nature.

The misery of London's poor has called forth many philanthropic efforts, but none more practical and generous than that which has built up the Barnardo Home for Waifs into an institution that sheltered 9785 boys and girls. The doors of the homes open to one word-destitution. The infant of a day and the boy or maiden verging on adult life are admitted freely, without distinction of race or creed, if destitute. The halt, the blind, the incurably diseased, all are admitted freely, if destitute. And, once admitted, all are trained practically. The boys are taught trades and the girls are trained as domestics, lacemakers, and in many other occupations. The Barnardo Homes are a fine example of practical philanthropy.

The importance of armored cruisers was the chief lesson drawn by experts from the recent British naval maneuvers. This is satisfactory to the United States, which has always been "long" on armored cruisers. There is every reason to believe from the small experience the nations have had with modern ships of war that the heavily armed and heavily armored cruiser will take her place in the line with all but the ter of fact, the distinction between these cruisers and battleships is one with little difference to warrant its being made. The types approach more nearly with every new man-of-war that is launched.

The Chamber of Commerce report on conditions at the Columbia River jetty is just what The Oregonian said it would be and just what it should have been. It reflects credit upon the diligence and fairness of the committee that framed it, and records a wellmerited vote of confidence in the Government engineers. Our dispatches indicate a similar cause for satisfaction relative to work upon the dredge Grant, Neither the jetty nor the dredge is to be spoiled by ill-considered haste. The engineers are not to be "swayed from their judgment by popular clamor or newspaper criticism."

Public opinion, as the court of last resort, is to be evoked by the members of the Ministerial Association in opposition to the policy of the present city administration on gambling. We are told every day in the year, and are as citizens of a republic bound to believe, that all power rests with the people. The present furnishes a capital chance to prove or disprove the assertion that the taxpayers of Portland are against the Mayor in this contention,

Many people are accustomed to speak of irrigation as a wizard agency, and to quote the two blades of grass sentence, and yet a concrete example of the wixard's power will surprise them. In a report on Egypt just made by a government expert it is shown that a tract of land no larger than the irrigable area of California supports from agriculture alone 6,000,000 people, supports an expensive government, and pays the interest on a national debt that is half as big as that of the United States,

"Banking in the Leading Cities" is the title of an article in the current number of the Bankers' Magazine. Short histories are given of two Portland banks, the First National, which is the oldest National bank on the Pacific Coast, and Ladd & Tilton, a firm that began a banking business in 1859. The article is illustrated with excellent halftone cuts.

No New Problem. Philadelphia Record.

Some persons are needlessly alarmed over the relations between labor and capital, as if these were very different from what they always were. There is nothing new in demands for better wages, and when business is particularly good these demands are especially vigorous, and the unions are rapidly recruited. When business falls off wages decline and the unions find it impossible to prevent men from working for a half loaf when they cannot get a whole one, and the membership of the unions declines. The men will work, whether they get more wages or less, but they are going to get all they can, and when they believe the employers are making large profits they are especially im-perative in their demands. But when the men are satisfied that they are getting all they can they will stop asking for more. They will not shut up the factories and halholes. What difference does it make Mayor can have people arrested, but he a dog have proved the affection and paralyze the business of the country.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCES. WASHINGTON SHOULD AID.

Editorial in Seattle Post-Intelligencer, September 22. Henry E. Reed, of Portland, is visiting Seattle on behalf of the Lewis and Clark Exposition, which is to open in Portland in 1905. It is Mr. Reed's hope to create such an active interest in the project as

Exposition a success. Washington and Oregon are two states which were added to the American Union, largely as the result of the Lewis and Clark expedition, as the American title to this territory is based upon original discovery and occupancy, the expedition furnishing an important link in forging this chain of title. Idaho and portions of both Wyoming and Montana are likewise included in the territory so acquired, Naturally, Washington should take a deep interest in the coming Exposition, de-

to insure the hearty co-operation of

Washington with Oregon to make the

state There is the further obligation resting upon this state that it is the wealthiest and most populous of the states formed out of the original territory of Oregon, Washington ought to have an exhibit at Portland second only to that of Oregon It may confidently be assumed that this state will do its part toward the Exposition, and will co-operate earnestly and heartily with its sister state to that end. The Washington delegation in Congress will do no more than is expected of them by their constituents if they likewise aid to the extent of their abilities in securing for the Exposition Congressional appropriations on an adequate scale and according to precedents set with other expositions designed to commemorate important events in the Nation's history.

signed as it is to commemorate such an

important event in the history of the

EDITORS THROWING VERBAL BRICKS

San Francisco Argonaut. When Pulitzer selected members of the advisory board of the new school of journalism, from among the "greatest living editors," he hurled the Apple of Discord into the editorial Olympus. Never again, we fear, will harmony spread her brooding wings over metropolitan newspaper-dom. To begin with, the Evening Post, whose editor was not invited to share in the solemn councils of the advisory board, commented on the proposed school thus caustically:

A general refusal to buy or advertise in a newspaper which persistently sins against good taste and decency would do far more in a month to "tone up" our daily press than would the graduation of hundreds of "bachelors of journalism." . . We are bound to say that no great moral uplift can derive from a source which has done so much, in the past 29 years, to degrade American journalism—even if the gift be made by way of explation.

Thereupon Advisory Board Member McKelway, through his paper, the Brooklyn Eagle, magisterially rebuked the Post for its "cynicism." More in sorrow than in anger, the Eagle pointed out that, by its unjust criticism, the Post's editor had forever dashed his chances of being one of Pulitzer's journalistic Immortals.
"It is within the knowledge of the present members of the advisory board of the proposed school," said the Eagle, "that it was Mr. Pulitzer's intention, on his return in October, to request a wellknown member of the staff of the Post to become a member of the board." "If we had only known!" tragically exclaims the Post at this awful revelation, meta-phorically tearing the editorial locks. But the Eagle was not yet through with the Post. Listen to this:

Happily, the understudy of qualities, which should neither be imitated nor emulated, is marked by a weakness of denotement and a deebleness of delivery which reduce the damage, though without decreasing the elementary ncy and the clotted inanity of the per-And here is another choice bit from the

World itself, appropos of some misstate-ments about it by its evening contemporary: It is possible that the management of the Columbia School of Journalism may think it desirable to establish a kindergarten depart-ment in which budding journalists may learn that moral censors should not habitually lie about their neighbors. Such a department would justify its existence, even if it trained

no other pupils than the editors of the Evening What good examples these editors are setting to the downy-lipped pupils in the school of journalism!

"Ideal Girl of Today." St. Paul Pioneer Press, CHICAGO, Sept. 18.—A Chicago young

oman has been chosen as "the ideal girl f today." Since the marriage at Lake Geneva unday of Miss Carrie Woolfolk, daughter of Colonel Alexander M. Woolfolk, to Granville W. Browning it has leaked out that the bride was the one selected from all others by Mrs. Margart E. Sangster as the living prototype of the ideal girl who is the heroint of her latest novel "Janet

The frontispiece of the book, supposed to represent an ideal, is in reality a por-trait of Mrs. Browning, nee Woolfolk, It was at the special request of Mrs. Sangster that the Chicago girl consented to the use of her picture. By her marriage Mrs. Browning has made perfect the similarity between her-self and the character of Janet Ward as

drawn by Mrs. Sangster. Janet Ward was the daughter of a Ten nessee clergyman, who had more charity in his soul than money in his pocket. Janet taught school and went through college, although it was sometimes a struggle for her. She longed for a career. She wrote some poetry that was accepted by the magazines. Then she went to New York and did newspaper work. Later she wrote novels which proved popular, and a brilliant future opened before her But the lure of fame and the brilliant future were not enough. She married a oung minister of a New York parish, Miss Woolfolk was graduated from the Hyde Park School. She was "caught in the whirl of the period." She longed for a career. She began the study of art. Her natural talent and her enthusiasm for the work gave promise of noteworthy achievement. She gained the praise of her masters, and her friends predicted for her a remarkable success. But true to the character in the book, she had chosen to forget about the career. and Mrs. Browning are still on their honeymoon trip in Minnesota.

Louisville Courier-Journal. The Catholic priest who has started a crusade against the oath required by the International Typographical Union seems likely to become famous, as he is being unanimously supported by the church, which has always condemned oath-bound secret organizations. Officers of the union explain that the oath that they will hold the interests of the union above all other institutions, "political, social and religious," is only used in a Pickwickian sense; but the Roman church does not believe in quibbles. The consequence will inevitably be that the oath must be recanted or the Roman Catholic members refusing to do so will be excommunicated. The Roman church never recedes from its position. A good deal of squirming will be done, but the issue is easy to predict.

The Knife and the Cheese

Philadelphia Ledger. If the captains of finance mean to se President Roosevelt because he has. when occasion required, valiantly stood against them and for "law and order," they will once more illustrate the informing fable of the cheese that made war upon the knife. They will possibly re-member the result of that contest—the cheese was cut into indistinguishable atoms and the knife was brightened.

Chicago Tribune, Here is an interesting item for the "Telegraphic Tittle Tattle" columns of the papers of the United States: "There are now on the books of the Chicago police department the names of 180 persons who have been reported missing since August 1, 1903. Only five or six of these persons have since been reported found."

How interesting this is, how startling, and-best of all-how true! The inquisitive person who writes to the police department will find that his telegraphic title tattle column has given him a piece of irrefragably accurate information. It is gospel truth that-there are now on the oks of the Chicago police department the names of 180 persons who have been reported missing since the first of August, and that only five or six of these persons

have since been reported found.

The inquisitive person will then probably write an article on the dangers of life in Chicago and on the possibility that some day the whole city in one of its Irrespon moods will disappear from the shores of Lake Michigan and turn up in Man-

What a beautiful thing a lie is when it s made, not out of whole cloth, but of a half truth! It was that kind of lie that inspired Mr. Kipling to write his exultant dithyramb on

A Most impeccable lie,

A quite unwreckable lie, water-tight, fireproof, angle iron, sunk-hinge, time-lock, steel-face lie. The other half of the truth on which the 80 missing persons lie will be founded is that whenever Mother hasn't seen Maggle for 15 minutes she runs or telephones to the police station and tearfully demands the immediate return of her child. The desk sergeant heaves a sigh of internal weariness and of external sympathy and chalks down a name and an address and a description. Then when Mother goes a description. Then when Mother goes home and finds Maggie asleep in the coal bin she is so happy that all recollection of the deak sergeant is effaced from her mind. That doesn't bother the desk sergeant. He knew that Maggie was in the coal bin. He has been acquainted with a

long line of Maggies. Those few disappearances which are not of the Maggle kind are usually accomplished by adults who know what they are loing, and frequently have a perfect right to go away from here if they want to.

Nevertheless, it is perfectly true that since the first of August 150 persons have been reported missing to the Chicago police. Could anything be more spectacularly and scintillatingly mysterious?

The Sign-Board Evil,

Chicago Tribune.

A correspondent thanks the Tribune for remarks recently made by it about the sign board evil, and says "if the news-papers would make a strike at sign board advertising and bring it into discepute with the public it would do more to clean the streets from the nuisance than all the appeals that could be made to property-owners or advertisers." The newspapers have said a good deal about the subject at one time and another, but they have aclikely to do much if they keep up a vig-orous campaign. The men who advertise their goods on bill boards believe that kind of advertising pays them. So long as they are of that opinion they will find property-owners who will be eager to rent them space. The love of beauty or the hatred of ugliness will not induce them to surrender the few dollars which the advertisers give them. The "almighty dollar" is an irresistible argument. Probably most of the money spent on sign board advertising is wasted. It is seldom that one hears anybody say that he bought something because he saw its virtnes recorded on a billboard. If it were possible to convince sign board adver-tisers that they are throwing away most of their money they would stop instantly, and a great many hideous products of the sign painter's art would disappear from the streets, but they have not been convinced yet, and appeals to them to cease disfiguring the city are quite thrown away. They will say they are not esthetes, but business men, and that while their sign boards may be ugly they are lawful and profitable.

Agreement With Chamberlain,

New York Tribune. Mr. Balfour refers to the American system as the preferable one. He sees that the makers of the American constitution were the founders of the true free trade generations before Cobden. "The most momentous, perhaps the most permanent, victory for free trade was won when interstate tariffs were forbidden in the United States." These are his words. They exactly express Mr. Chamberlain's idea, too, and the ideal toward which he is endeavoring to urge the British Empire. Under insular free trade Great Britain is helpless, enslaved, bound hand and foot in the presence of her industrial and com-mercial enemies. She has freedom to buy and sell wherever others do not undersell her, but she has no freedom of ne-gotiation. The most envious and longing looks of her clearest hended statesmen are cast toward America, where prevail at once the greatest freedom of trade and the greatest freedom of negotiation the world has ever seen, and the greatest freedom, we may add, from tariff wars. It is of hopeful omen to Great Britain that at this epoch making crisis in her career she has the services of so sane and logical and profound a thinker as Arthur Balfour, and so fearless and ag-gressive a leader as Joseph Chamberlain.

Chicago Inter Ocean.

From the beginning of the disclosures of corruption in the Postoffice Department there has been an attempt on the postoffice of the control of the postoffice and Republicant and Republ part of some Republicans and Repul newspapers to minimize the scandal. Such an attempt is foolish. Crime knows no politics. Graft is nonpartisan. It will be a great help to clearness of public thought and to honesty in the public service if we all remember that crime has no politics-that every administration must guard against theft, no matter what its politics, and that graft is the most oughly nonpartisan thing in the world

The Brave Old Oak,

Henry F. Chorley. A song for the oak, the brave old oak, Who hath ruled in the greenwood long; Here's health and renown to his broad green And his fifty arms so strong. There's fear in his frown when the sun goe

And the fire in the West fades out; And he showeth his might on a wild midnight, When the storms through his branches shout. Then here's to the oak, the brave old oak.

Who stands in his pride alone; And still flourish he, a hale, green tree, When a hundred years are gone! In the days of old, when the Spring with gold Had brightened his branches gray, Through the grass at his feet crept maldens

aweet, To gather the dew of May, And on that day to the rebec gay
They frolicked with levesbme swains.
They are gone, they are dead, in the churchyard laid.
But the tree it still remains.

Then here's to the oak, the brave old cak. Who stands in his pride alone; And still flourish he, a hale, green tree,

When a hundred years are gone! He saw the rare times, which the Christman

chimes
Were a merry sound to hear—
When the Squire's wide hall and the cottage
small
Were filled with good English cheer. w gold hath the sway we all obey, And a ruthless king is he; But he never shall send our ancient friend To be tossed on the stormy sea.

Then here's to the oak, the brave old oak, Who stands in his pride alone: And still flourish he, a hale, green tree, When a hundred years are gone

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Anarchist's Tomate. Two Italians have been sentenced to six months' imprisonment for throwing a

tomato at Premier Combes. Dat Comb' he is ver' bad-a man, He put-s tax on macaroni; To pay-a him we got-s plan-We geta fruit dat's phoney, We smack-a him wit' ripe tomat'— Watta you link-a dat?

He come to make-a speech Marseilles, Da big-a man is ready-We spoil-a speech wit' ripe tomat'— Watta you tink-a dat?

One cop-a he was at da front, He take us to da coop-a; Da Judge-a say just six-a mont'-We swim-u in da soup-a-Get-a six mont' for one tomat'-Watta you tink-a dat?

The Servian regicides don't seem able o let go.

Most Irish comedians depend on the Dutch for their comedy, The Ministerial Association should now

have no difficulty in escaping ennul. It looks as if Vigneux's and Mrs. Riggs' resignations will be close together,

Some cases make the ball system seem an undesirable thing. Sam Parks' is one of them.

Mrs. Nation is to star as the "Defender of Homes," that is, other homes than her own,

The "best dressed man in Chicago" is dead. It is a cluch he won't hold the title in his new abode.

The President is setting a dangerous precedent in abolishing offices on the sole ground that they are unnecessary. Rear-Admiral Evans seems to place

class as those of Kentucky juries. For an allegedly debatable question, that of forest reserves is regarded by

naval courts-martial verdicts in the same

Oregonians with singular unanimity. The Colorado Populists have discovered rebels in the state. Down with the rebellion that would foster law and order.

In common with every other American battleship, the Indiana now holds the world's record for heavy gun-practice. The deputy sheriffs are apparently re-

quired to exercise some judgment in al-

lowing prisoners to escape from the rock-

pile. The principal feature of Chicago's centennial celebration appears to be the ommemoration of a fire that took place

The tenderfoot may miss a hundred shots a day, but his builet always finds the mark when he mistakes his friend for a deer.

the races to some advantage, when even peanut vendor can afford to be robbed Despite many efforts to prove the con-

Salem people must have been playing

grow downward. There should be some other charge than that of destroying property against gentle Scoggins, of Astoria, who blinded a

trary, the fashions, from high-heeled

shoes to divorce, begin at the top and

dog with ammonia. George Francis Train appears to be the only citizen that approves the Central Labor Union's course in the Government printing office matter.

The Adventure of the Tin Dollar, Sherlock Holmes comes to life in a few days to unravel mysteries at \$1 a word. By offer-ing \$2.25 for all words of more than five letters. The Oregonian has been able to secure advance.

sheets of the series.

On the disappearance of Holmes in Switzerland I had come out to Portland for rest. Last Thursday afternoon a familiar voice halled me. "Hello, Watson; I see you are opposed to the city's gam-

bling policy." I started and looked 'round. The words had come from a policeman in white gloves. "All right, Watson, I'm in disguise. No one will suspect me of being

wise to anything." "But how," I asked, "did you know my views on the gambling question?"

"I observe," replied Holmes, "that you have not been shaved for some days. Consequently I am safe in saying that you went broke playing bank, and a man that bust is always against gambling." "Wenderful," I murmured. "But come

to my room." "One moment," he whispered, as he hastily removed his white gloves. "There, now I am an unobtrusive citizen again, Ha! There goes General Beebe,"

"Marvelous," said L "How did you know?" "I saw him salute his reflection in a hotel window just now."

"He reflects, then," said I, with a flash of Holmes' reasoning powers. A frown darkened the expressive features of my companion. He was evidently jealous. "As you have had nothing to eat for four days, take this dollar and buy a square meal. I will meet you after

"How will you know where to find me?"

I asked. "Don't worry. I'll know all right," responded Holmes, and I hastened to a restaurant. After a hearty meal, I tendered the dollar. "Bad," said the proprietor, letting it fall heavily on the counter. The hurry-up wagon was called, and I was taken to the City Jail, where Holmes was waiting for me.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS "There's one great beauty about this Wagner

"What's that?" music. What's that; "It's so blamed loud you can't hear the society people chattering in the bexes,"—Cloveland Plain Dealer.

"All here?" asked the host. "I believe so," replied his wife. "Very well," he said. Then, turning to the entertainer he had engaged for the evening: "Hurry up and be funny now. We're waiting to laugh."—Chicago Post.

"Of all the unlucky dogs," mouned the poor dog as the not fell over him. "I'm the worst yet." "No," replied his captor, the sausage-maker, "you are not the wurst yet, but you will be pretty soon."—Philadelphia Ledger. "These papers are here for you to read while

waiting for your orders," said the waiter in the eating-house. "Well," replied the man who had been waiting over an hour, "I think you should supply novels,"—Philadelphia Record. When a woman has spent a lot of her husand's money at a Summer resort it gives her a good deal of satisfaction to get home on a hot day and say to him: "Goodness! I thought you wrote me you were having cool weather at home."-Atchison Globe.

"I got up at 5 o'clock this morning," re-marked the married man, "to go to a fire," "Where was it?" asked the backelor. "In the kitchen stove—after I made it," replied the narried man, sadly. Cincinnati Commer

"What are you going to do now?" his intimate friend inquired. "Well," gloomly re-sponded the defeated puglilst, "there's so-blamed many has-beens on the stage now that I guess the only thing for me to do is to go and be a Chautaugua attraction,"-Chicago