# The Oregonian.

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For sale in Denver, Colo., by Hamilton & Isodrick, 906-912 17th street; Louthan & Jackson Book & Stationery Co., 15th and Lawrence streets, and Julius Black. YESTERDAY'S WEATHER-Maximum tem-

TODAY'S WEATHER-Rain; brisk southerly

FORTLAND, FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1904.

### ESPRIT DE CORPS.

It is impossible to see how the police committee can condemn Officer Franklin for his part in the comedy in which he played so feelingly opposite Mrs. Lulu Winters Called to the lady's apartments to gain information concerning a recent robbery, he found the lady at home, indisposed, and, in fact, in bed. He thereupon seated himself, so it is alleged, on the side of that useful and convenient article of furniture. remarked that she was a dear, good woman, and tendered her an osculatory embrace which she was too ill (so she avers) to resist. We undertake to say that Officer Franklin in this epidid nothing but live up to the high standard of gallantry set him by his superior officers; and in his further defense we offer this plank from the police committee's platform as enunciated by General Beebe himself; Its object has been to establish and maintain discipline, build up movale, and create an esprit de corps throughout the force.

It is credibly reported that Detective Joe Day, in exemplification of this esprit de corps, once shook his fist in the face of Chief Hunt, saying: "You officer Slown has estimatedly office observation, in the further exemplifica- 88 tion of esprit de corps, that Joe Simon will clean up the town at the forthcom-More directly in line with the esprit shown by Officer Franklin are the operations of Officer Roberts in living off the contributions of divekeepers and their victims in the North End. We can see no reason, therefore, for censure of Franklin. Esprit de corps should stand by him as it has already stood by his companions in discipline, morale and gallantry,

# THE DOLLAR AND THE MAN.

There was trouble on the Isthmus of Panama; Americans were in danger and the forces of the United States were promptly sent there to protect them. There is trouble in Santo Domingo, and warships have hurried there to protect the lives of American citizens. Trouble is brewing in Corea and American marines, are already there in force to see that Coreans, Russians or Japanese shall not harm the head of a citizen of the United States.

There is a man in the White House puts the man before the dollar. They know it on Wall street; they know it on the boards of the anthracite roads and mines. They know it in Northern Securities and in the shippard trust. They know it at Kishinel and Beirut, at Bogota and Santo Domingo, in Salt Lake and Charleston, in Manila and Seoul, in the Government printing office and the Postoffice Department and the Land Bureau, in the Republican National Committee and in the Senate of the United States.

The only person who has not heard of it and will never hear of it is a certain perpetual candidate for everything in eight, who has been bowling for some eight years about the dollar being be fore the man. He is preoccupied with a chase after \$50,000 before the woman and with memories of his recent dalliance with the crowned heads of Europe. Mr. Bryan's policies would put the man so far before the dollar that it could never catch up with him

# LESS WOOD AND MORE STEEL

It is certainly a reassuring decision the authorities have made, in substituting steel as far as possible for wood in the new Morrison-street bridge. It is in line with the universal demand for less wood in theater construction. The rensed congestion of people in our cities, whether in assemblies or in transit from place to place, brings forcibly before the mind the pressing necessity structural weakness.

authorities will not be willing in the fu ture to stop far short of the demand that | pipe came a story that a Minneapolis a theater shall contain nothing that is ery, gas tanks, ropes, curtains, wooden this world, this was important if true, a blow, sets and painted walls. Construction and a great many reliable Eastern pa. of the building itself, of course, is easily pers were led to believe that it was compassed with iron, steel, stone, brick, true. Accordingly, we find in a paper tiling and concrete. Tungstate of soda of such unquestionable reliability

ropes, costumes, furniture, etc., if not bursting into flames and spreading the combustion. Even the stage, which it is thought must be of wood, can be made similarly slow-burning. The floors, carpets and seats are susceptible of like treatment,

The extent to which incombustible materials have already taken the place of wood is very great. Tall buildings in our large cities are commonly constructed of stone, steel and tile, as The Oregonian building is, so that there is practically nothing to burn. Yet the danger in an office building is nothing to the danger on a bridge, on a steamer or in a theater. It is clear that with all the preparations that can be used to make wood uninflammable, the decrease in its use already certain to ensue will help to solve the problem of existence after the forests have all disappeared.

REIGN OF THE FUBNISHED ROOM. It is said that 10,000 men in the City of New York go to dinner every even-ing with mistresses. At this rate there would be in Portland some 1000 men similarly situated. The proportion of single to married men is less in New York City than in Portland. On this we are not left to conjecture. There are 20 single to 15 married men in New York. There are 20 single to 15 married men in Portland. This is for men over 25 years old. In New York there are 27,000 married men under 25. There are probably 2700 in Portland.

The census of 1900 shows that Portland contained at that time 53,000 males and 37,000 females. There are not enough women, to be sure, but as only 14,000 of them are married, the masculine excuse of insufficient supply would not avail. Of these 53,000 males, 35,000 are over 25 years of age. The ages of married men in Portland are not given are notified by their own governments. in the census, but if we assume that 2700 of the whole 17,000 married men in Portland are under 25, the percentage of married to single over 25 is brought down to a ratio of 15 to 20, as we have Portland contains something like 40,-

000 men over 21 years of age, and of

these only 17,000 all told are married. The small birth rate of the city is thus in a measure accounted for. It is easy to say that young men are growing wild and young women prefer independent employment and good clothes to the burdens of motherhood. This is true, but it does not solve the problem or suggest a remedy. One reason, of urse, is laxness of home training, arother is decline of religious conwiction, A powerful agency in the abatement of matrimony and decline of birth rate is coeducation. It is of no use to plead that coeducation confers better educational results. Perhaps it does. But what is certain is that it tears down the veil of mystery and romance and ideal. ity with which each sex was once enveloped to the other's eyes. Close contact brushes away the glamor from Dulcinea as well as from Lancelot. The numan frailties that separation once concealed are now thrust upon attention. Romance has gone and with it that blind infatuation with which Nature was wont to lure us on and people the globe apace.

Whatever the cause, the results are here. The woman in "Sapho" she would rather be a man's mistress than his wife was the prototype of an increasing number of American girls. Her followers dwell in furnished apartments, whose generous allowance for rents is transforming half the hails in Portland into rooming-places sprinkling apartment-houses over town thicker than saloons.

The Peterkins who prod the bulls and blankety old blank, if you tear me bears in the cotton and wheat markets tired from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sundown, I'll tear you down!" It is also a do not stop to inquire "What good came ter, and when the cotton states seconded, matter of considerable notoriety that of it?" when war is raging by cable in January, 1861, all the United States and grapevine wire. The good, so far they are immediately cerned, is very apparent, espe-cially at this time of year. Exhilarating news of the character which is usually scarce at this season of the which work overtime whenever the Chicago Board of Trade farmers are "long" Hessian fly flies not, and neither does owdrifts which enshroud the wheat plant. It may awake later in the senson and collaborate with the farmer in creating the "poorest wheat crop we have had in forty years," but for the immediate present the fly and the bug market than they are on the police protection tariff. Even the weather is against the promoter of market news too wet for a drouth and too dry for to be of any consequence as price factors.

Even cotton was in a fair way to report of the deceased but unburied statistical bureau of the Department of Agriculture had worked out like all similar reports, the reaction had followed, and for a few days the only signs of the boll-evil or other detrimental features were where the speculators had become "balled up" by taking the Government report seriously. The reaction had followed, and in the In the case of war between France utter absence of anything but legitimate factors in the situation, prices were adjusting themselves to a busilike commercial ennul was distressing to the tollers of the pit and curb. What of the world. better, then, in the way of a New Year's present could a kindly fate offer than a real, live, up-to-date war scare. which has set the speculative blood tingling, brought glad visions of dollar wheat to the farmer, and of cheaper cotton breeches to the laborer? Nor do the expected benefits of an expected may be followed by formal declaration war end here. An airy-fairy pipe dreamer connected with a Minneapolis | Mexican General Arista tumbled into bureau for the distribution of stories and news of a lurid hue noted that the prospective war in the Far East had clared by either Mexico or the United prospective war in the Far East had resulted in some of the Pacific Coast millers booking large orders for flour shipment to the Orient. "If from Portland, why not from Minneapolis?" said the dreamer, as he smoked up preparatory to eliminating the 2000-mile rail haul between the two cities, and land- of antiquity, while the practice of forof more protection from fire and from | ing the Minnesota product f. o. b. ship c. i. f. included on an even basis with lightly regarded by the enlightened Conscientious and resolute municipal | Oregon and Washington product. Out of the haze that curled up from this firm had booked an order for 100,000 twenty-four hours, which under the mbustible. A "fireproof" theater, as barrels of flour for shipment to Hong it is, contains highly inflammable scen- Kong. Like much else that happens in humor, since it was a case of word with

ing editorial comment on the pipedreamer's vision:

dreamer's vision:

The opening of this new market for Minmesona four has had the effect, so it is said
by experts on the Minnaspolls Board of
Trade, of raising the price of wheat about
7 cents a bushel. It has created such a demand for wheat at Minneapolls that the
millers are scouring the wheat regions of
the trans-Mississippi Southwest for the supplies they cannot get nearer home. The recept of an order of such magnitude by amilling city in the heart of the continent is
a fact of portenious significance.

a fact of portentous significance. Nothing but a war scare would have ever permitted that story to pass muster as it has, and if the "experts of the Minneapolis Board of Trade" succeeded in raising prices of wheat 7 cents per bushel they should pension for life the dreamer who started the story. not all a blessing," but it is highly productive of highly colored stories and highly priced wheat. Meanwhile, all of flour, wheat and similar supplies that are needed in the Far East will be supplied by Portland, Puget Sound and San Francisco, without the cost of a 2009-mile rall haul being added.

### DECLARATION OF WAR.

In ancient times, and even in the Middle Ages, war was formally de-clared by sending of a herald. The The Persians sent such a messenger to Athens and Sparts. Rome made formal declaration of war, and the practice of the Middle Ages survived into the nineteenth century. Before the invention of the telegraph and the construction of the railroad, ample notice was given not only to the enemy, but also to the neutral states engaged in commerce with the beiligerents. It is now no longer customary to send the enemy formal announcement, but notice is given neutral states, and the citizens of governments about to engage in war The need of such declaration no longer exists, owing to the telegraph and other modern inventions. The power of de-claring war rests in the United States with Congress. In our practice the United States has engaged in warlike operations sometimes in advance of and without any formal declaration naval war without formal declaration existed between the United States and France under the administration of

President John Adams, when Commo dore Truxton captured two French frigates in the West Indies. Our war with Mexico began without any formal declaration of war on either In May, 1846, General Taylor, side. who had advanced into the disputed Texan territory between the Neuces River and the Rio Grande, was attacked by a Mexican army under General Arista. Two battles, Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, were fought. Arista was defeated and driven across the Rio Grande. On the receipt of this news President Polk asked Congress to declare war against Mexico. Congress passed resolutions recognizing the fact that a state of hostilities existed and appropriating a large sum of money for the support of such military operations as the action of Mexico might oblige the United States to undertake. The declaration of war of Great Britain against the colonies was proclaimed in the fight at Lexington and Concord and the battle of Bunker Hill, and the Declaration of Independence was the acceptance of the gage of battle by the The declaration of war on part of the Southern Confederacy was the firing on Sumter, and the acceptance of this declaration of war was Lincoln's proclamation of April 15, 1861,

calling for 75,000 volunteers. A state of war on the part of the seceding states had, of course, existed from the time of their secession. South Carolina, on its secession, in December, 1860, took possession of all the United States forts, when Major Anderson reforts were seized by the orders of the Governors of the seceding states. But the Southern Confederacy was not or-ganized until February 9, 1861, and its first official declaration of war against makes the speculative blood flow faster | the United States was a demand for the surrender of Fort Sumter, followed by year. The jaws of the chinchbug, a bombardment when that demand was refused. In the matter of the great wars of the nineteenth century England foron wheat, are frozen together, and the mally declared war against Napoleon in May, 1808, but the Continental powers it light, for it is sleeping under the of Europe in the Napoleonic wars seem not seldom to have dispensed with any formal declaration of war, as in the great campaigns of 1805, 1806, 1807 and

The United States formally declared war against Great Britain in 1812. Engare having no more effect on the wheat | land made formal declaration of war against Russia in 1854, and France against Austria in 1859. France made formal declaration of war against Prusof the poor-crop scare variety, for it is sia and her allies in 1870, but Prussia's war against Austria in 1866 really began the rust, even if the season were far with the invasion of Hoistein by Prusenough along for these contingencies sia and her subsequent summons to Hanover, Saxony and Cassel to reduce their armies to a peace footing and join the new German confederation proposed drift along on its merits. The bullish by Prussia. A formal declaration of war followed their refusal, but war had substantially begun against Austria before this date. These facts show that a nation may or may not declare its hostile intention by a formal declaration of war. It seems to be a matter solely of discretion and necessity. Where the warlike purpose seems to be an open secret, formal declaration is not given. and Germany, formal declaration of war was made as a matter of international propriety, since Paris contained ness basis. This prospect for anything 50,000 Germans in its population and was one of the great cosmopolitan cities Great Britain's habit seems always to have been to make formal declaration of war, but it has not been the invariable practice of the Continental powers of Europe.

In the case of Japan and Russia it is quite probable that some unexpected military collision may take place which of war, just as General Taylor and the each other and fought two battles in States. The North American Indians sometimes made formal announcement that they were about to take the war path, and it is an interesting fact that formal declarations of war seem to have en the rule among the great nations mal declaration of war has come to be powers of Continental Europe. The Boer ultimatum was a declaration of followed by invasion within War. circumstances reads like a bit of grim -

A strong protest is going up from "You're wrong there," said a man at the end of the room; "there's two o' thim against the passage of the bill provid- with ivery bottle of Casey's whisky."

mal markets. It is not exactly what benefits are to be derived from this latest attempt to regulate a business which is conducted on radically different lines in different states and different countries. Every additional item of cost, whether it be for freight, insurance, inspection or any other vice, falls on the grower in the end, and the business that can be transacted with the smallest amount of official friction will yield the best returns. Good wheat will always sell for more money than poor wheat, and even the official grading of the Government will not make an inferior article sell for as high a figure as can be secured for something better. We have a good il.

Not wrong in itself. The moral philosophers will grant you that. It is no treading upon the corns of the quintessementhing better. We have a good il. lustration of the grain-inspection farce in our neighboring state, where the owners of wheat purchased at interior points without inspection are forced to accept compulsory inspection and pay the attendant expense when the wheat reaches tidewater. No inspection law, state or National, can depreciate the value of good wheat or increase the value of poor wheat.

The Chamber of Commerce is deserving of great credit for the effort it is making to prevent a reimposition of the duty on coal. Our representatives at Washington have been urged by the local organization to use their efforts to prevent the duty going into effect again on January 15, and, as the members are in a position fully to understand the matter, their request will carry more than ordinary weight. The admission of coal duty free last year was the means of giving Pacific Coast grain tonnage that has ever been available. As a result rates on outward cargoes Washington have been urged by the As a result rates on outward cargoes were the lowest on record, and all of the saving over former freight rates went into the pockets of the producers. was thus proven that the removal of the duty benefited two classes, the producers who needed a plentiful supply of tonnage to make freights cheap, and the consumers, who were enabled to secure cheaper fuel supplies.

It is now denied that the Grand Trunk Railroad will make its Western terminus at Port Simpson. The report which was given out to this effect a few weeks ago has undoubtedly caused such an advance in "town lots" in Port Simpson that the railroad company did not care to go where property was so valuable. There is also a possibility that the railroad managers will not take the general public, including the land speculators, into their confidence when they finally stake out their Pacific Coast terminus. There have been instances in the past where the aforesaid public not only refused to give thanks for the information, but actually turned around and "cinched" the unconscious benefactor.

The ordinance requiring theater ticket scalpers to pay a license is in line with sound policy. The evil of speculation in theater seats is universal in our cities, and Portland can hardly expect to escape. Probably the patrons will have to pay the license indirectly in the long run, but it is worth something to have the business in responsible hands. In case of unusual extertion, somebody's name will be on an official record at the City Hall and can be applied to. The best policeman in all such mat-ters is publicity. We know the manager, we must also know the specu-Let us have no anonymous or mysterious skulking behind some inscrutable personality in the background.

E ROOM TO SERVE We have been taught that for sophistical diplomacy the Russian takes the

pers are very pacific, but directly it devolves upon Japan to answer their tone suddenly es pessimistic. This is very signifi-

The fact, of course, is that it is Russia's turn to reply now, and the biggest hullabaloo of ten years is on full blast. This also "must be very significant," but to what purport we must leave the wily Oriental mind to estimate.

"The company is now capitalized at \$25,000,000, but is apparently penniless, reads a Washington dispatch regarding an Alaska railroad company which is seeking Government aid for the struction of a railroad from Valdes to Tanana. There may be some question about the merits of the scheme, but from the financial showing that has een made there can be no denying the fact that they need the money. It is not quite clear, however, why the company stopped adding ciphers when they were capitalizing. It is just as easy for penniless companies to incorporate for \$25,000,000,000 as for the smaller sum.

The failure of C. B. Wade at Pendleon, unlike many such affairs, seems likely to result in sympathy for the principal loser. His misfortune gains in claim on good wishes from the public, in the admirable conduct of himself and wife in their efforts to deal justly with creditors. The panic at the bank, slight as it was and speedily as it was allayed does not reflect much credit upon the depositors. It is strange that any should tremble for the security of funds intrusted to an institution at whose reonsible head stands the name of Levi Ankeny.

The receipts at the Portland Custon House for the year 1963 were \$769,333, an average of over \$2000 per day for every day in the year. For a number of years the Portland Custom-House has enjoyed the distinction of being the most profitable to the Government of any on the Pacific Coast, it costing less to collect a dollar in duty than in any of the other Pacific Coast districts. The returns on expenditures for the year are not yet available, but from the heavy receipts reported it is a certainty that the showing will be fully as satisfac. tory as in the past.

Portland will entertain a large number of influential visitors the coming week. They are certain of cordial welcome from everybody, and there is no better initiative than greeting with the National colors. So let the flags be fly. ing to the breeze early next Monday morning.

He Knew.

Columbia Jester, "This," said the lecturer, "is a picture of the Ipsicus masidonian thermomonocly-tus, an animal that has been extinct for ver 4000 years."

or other chemicals will render scenery, the St. Paul Pioneer Press the follow- ing for National grain inspection at ter- INTERROGATION MARK AT HOME

New York Sun. snow was falling woolily; the sky was glaring biliously; the overshoes of a virtuous and toiling population mainly commuters, were cumping along atolidy, when this communication from the City of Homes drifted into this office plain-

To the Editor of the Sun-Sir: In order b settle an argument, will you kindly let us have your opinion on the following question: Is it wrong for a wife to ask her husband upon his return home, after several he absence, where he was? B. KAT Brooklyn, December 29. Not wrong in itself. The moral phi-

sential, abstract and sternal right to ask that delicate question; and curiosity is the mother of knowledge. It is natural that a wife should be interested in the proceedings of her party of the second part, or fiddle. But here discretion should step in to run the ranch. A household not composed of illuminate seraphim and saints cannot be conducted upon the plan of absolute and total con-fessions and confidences. Married Man in his present state, has an aversion to publishing his diary every day. There must be dark continents, unknown regions in the geography of his days and nights, and it is imprudent for a wife to subject him to the time table. Some smack of liberty clings to him from his presentable and unpractical parties. unregenerate and unmarried period.

the devil to pay in the family when that trust is dead. Besides, it is a peculiarity of Man to object to being questioned He resents examination. It is likely to make him gruff and reticent. As he is always led by the nose by his wife if she is even passably intelligent, she can afford to humor this little eccentricity. Rain questions upon him and he will only shut up the more tightly and radiate grumpiness. The female trust company must keep a proper reserve. In his own hour and time, if he be left to himself, he will be effusive enough about his movements. The instinct of ancestors probably arboras in that hastic he still the still a set of the still and the set of the still a set of the still are still the set of the set of the set of the still a set of the probably arboreal in their habits is still strong in him, and he will chatter after the manner of the Bandar Log; but be easy with him until he has fed.

Observe the vayring accents of a chant that many men hate to hear: WHERE have you been?

Where HAVE you been? Where have YOU been? Where have you BEEN? Where have you BEEN?
Never mind. Give it something to eat.
Perhaps it is tired. You wanted it to
come home, didn't you? Well, it has
come. Welcome it. Suppress the strain
of indignation. The wise woman hath
said in her heart: "All men are chitdren, and most men are 'chumps."
When the machine has been greased and
stoked, perhaps the toy will sing. Mesn-

whell the machine has been greated and stoked, perhaps the toy will sing. Meanwhile, don't monkey with it.

After "several hours' absence" the heart should grow fonder. How could people live together at all if they had to live together all the time? Memorandum to wives: Don't ask him too many questions to many history. tions; too much interrogation makes nose turn up.

### The Beauties of Subsidy.

Louisville Courier-Journal The Portland Oregonian, which, though a Republican newspaper, is not in love with the system of paying bounties to ships, gives a significant example of how snips, gives a significant example of how it works in practice. It notes that ocean freights there have been advanced a dellar a ton, so that it costs 2500 more to carry a cargo of wheat to Europe. This happens in spite of the fact that idle ships by the score are strung all along the Pacific Coast.

The reason for this is attributed to the

The reason for this is attributed to the French bounty system. When the bounty-fed ships of France found some difficulty prize; yet an utterance credited to Baron Hayashi at London is fully abreast of Count Cassini at his best. The Japanese statesman said:

fed ships of France found some difficulty in getting the rates they wanted, they were ordered out on the ocean to sail in bullast, where they got under the law a certain amount for every mile traveled. I notice that when it is Russia's turn to Many of them are owned by British capi-reply the Russian and some European patalists, and they not only get a bounty for salling without cargoes, but they enable other British ships, not subsidized, to advance rates. Thus there is a double profit for the ship-owners, and higher rates for the owners of produce that must seek a European market. The ships un-der the French flag earn so much from the bounty that they are indifferent

us to cargoes. The advocates of bountles in the United States pretend that they will help the shippers. But they are careful so to frame their bills that the bounties must be paid whether cargoes are carried or not. The Oregonian shows that the French bounties actually contribute to put up freight charges.

### As to Next Year's Election. New York Sun.

Opinions of Congressmen and prominent politicians in the states as to the drift of public sentiment concerning candidates and platforms for next year have been published, and they are interesting read-ing, but they are not important. The really significant indication is that

in both parties the most sagacious and most conservative of the members are giving to the whole subject of next year's election serious attention and more gen-erally and earnestly than at any recent period of American politics. The complaint so often uttered and the most intelligent of the citizenship and the ablest and most influential in the affairs of this country outside of politics are neglectful of their political duties was never justified, and least of all has it any justifica-

The year which begins on Friday is likely to see developments which will sur-prise many of the political diagnosticians. It will demonstrate that, after all, the American people have not lost their political sanity and are not in any dang of losing it for the benefit of politic of losing it for the benefit of political swashbuckiers or incendiaries or social colutionists.

Three months from now a canvass of opinion concerning the political situation will be far more valuable.

### The Correspondence School. Brooklyn Life.

(Vide back pages of all the magazines,)
Are you satisfied with your present salary?
Why not learn how to charm the gallery?
We teach the address art by mail
With a guarantee that you cannot fail,
As Armour & Co. have agreed to take
All the raw hams which we can make.

Can you play a tupe on a fine-tooth comb?
We train virtuosi by mail, at home.
M. Pat de Restie, the famed musician,
Guarantees each pupil a fine position,
As he has a method which we control,
Whereby each stick may become a Pole.

Poets made by mail. How can you be sure That you haven't a gentus for literature? Our Mr. Reilly gives special care To every poet prepare. And gives his personal guarantee That one of his possus shall be printed, free We will make your fortune here and now, Our Finance by Mail will tell you how. We guarantee the success of each And every pupil that we may teach, As our Mr. Morgan agrees to take All money that all of our students make.

If you are sickly and puny and pale.
We teach you to lift a horse by mall.
Have you had minfortune? Are you in just?
We teach you how to get out-by mall.
Would you learn to write these ada? Don't fall
To study our system—taught by mall.

### PLAY FOR TRUANTS

Chicago Trib It is true, of course, that in preventing the truent from developing into the criminal one could go even farther back than the truent school. Dr. Woods Hutchinson, in a recent article in Contemporary Review, said that if he had to choose between view, said that if he had to choose between a playground without a school and
a school without a playground he would
choose the playground without a school.
Play—and this is a physiological as well
as a pedagogical fact—develops the brain
as well as the body, the judgment as well
as the muscles, morals as well as physique.
In our river wards, where playgrounds
are a necessity of civilization, the schoolboy finds no vent for his spirits except
in the dubicus pleasures of the street and
of the alley. It is almost impossible for
him to escaps becoming a petty trespasser. The depredations which the country boy commits innocuously on fields,
woods and streams, the Nineteenth Ward
boy commits "viciously" on buildings, cars
and tracks. Surrounded on all sides by
things which he must not touch, his flights
against the bars of his cage land him in
court.

In the Nineteenth Ward bardly any

In the Nineteenth Ward hardly any schools have playgrounds. There is a cramped playground at the Andrew Jack-son school, but the children are not al-lowed to use it because of the loud noises which they emit during the process. At the Skinner school the playground is paved with brick, a curious public ex-penditure which betrayed Probation Officer Riddle into the unkind remark that he would like to take the contractor to his brick playground and make him test the bricks in a slide for second base.

The Illinois Legislature of 1991 authorized the Board of Education to condemn land for playgrounds in connection with schools. In the name of the boy whose body is all a-tingle for exercise and whose buoyancy of spirits is now diverted into disorderly conduct, let the board act on this authorization as fast as it can. eer Riddle into the unkind remark that

# The Case Against Smoot.

Harper's Weekly. It is well known that the accused Sens tor from Utah is one of the so-called a apostics of the Mormon Church. The protest is signed by 18 citizens of Utab, of whom 14 are Republicans and four Demo-crats. It avers that the Mormon hier-archy is invested with supreme authority in all things, temporal and spiritual; that the mandates of this authority are an-nounced and transmitted by the first president and 12 aposties; that, as a matter of faith or belief, this body of men has not abandoned polygamy, and that, consequently, it must be held to connive at and encourage polygamus practices. at and encourage polygamus practices.

This protest may seem, at the first glance, to raise a nice question, but we do not believe that the Federai Senate or the United States Supreme Court would have much difficulty in deciding it. It should be obvious to all intelligent men that the absolute religious liberty guaranteed by our Constitution would be devoid of practicular significance if the professor of particular beliefs could be held responsible. tical significance if the professor of par-ticular beliefs could be held responsible for the translation of those beliefs into acts by others. How could a Chinese, a Japanese, a Moslem, a Jew, or even an agnostic, be secure in his citizenship under such an interpretation of our Fed-eral organic law? There is but one rea-comable and endurable construction of the sonable and endurable construction of the Constitution. With a man's personal be-liefs, or with the tenets of the church to which he sees fit to belong, our Federal authorities have absolutely nothing to do, so long as the citizen does not per-sonally commit such acts which are pro-hibited by a Federal statute. It would be in the highest degree dangerous—nay, ulti-mately fatal—to the principle of complete toleration in matters of opinion and be-lief if the construction of the Constitution advocated by many well-meaning persons in the case of Senator Smoot should be accepted by the Senato and sanctioned by the United States Supreme

# How the Minister Evened Matters.

Court.

Philadelphia Telegraph.
"Cheap men always get it in the neck good and hard," observed the big watchman who keeps nightly vigil in the dark and gloomy corridors of the City Hall's seventh floor.

Filling up his old briar, and getting it in working order, he continued, as he struck a match: "No, sir; it never pays to be cheap. Now, here's a friend of mine, a watchman in the building, who just illustrates the point to a big T. Billie is his name, and he decided to get marmarks and the decided to get marmarks." ried, just a short time ago.

they were duly made man and wife by the minister. Well, sir, they went down the alsle arm in arm, Billie quite forgetting to pay the minister his little recom-pense. This was all O. K. from Billie's viewpoint, and he had in mind applying the \$5 or \$10 that usually goes to the man of the word to the expenses of the honey-moon. The minister didn't say a word, but on Billie's return a special assessment was levied on him for pew rent. The assesament was to the tune of \$15, and as nobody else was in on the game, Billie had funny thoughts. He is sorry now that he didn't cough up to the parson. No, sir," repeated the watchman, emphatically, "cheapness don't pay."

# Some New Year's Resolutions.

New York Sun.
Nebuchadnessar was considering some New Year resolutions.
"I would like to swear off chewing," he remarked, "but under present conditions it is impossible."

Hunting up some more grass, he finished his repast. Belshazzar observed the writing on the wall "I-I think," he resolved heatily, "after January 1 I won't have any more

late suppers. Shortly after, the course of events enforced his resolution. Queen Elisabeth was holding her New

Year reception.
"I suppose," she remarked playfully, "you have all sworn off the ax. It is very likely to go to your heads." Noting the forced laughter which folowed, she chuckled at her wit.

Sir Walter Raleigh had imported the "Isn't it magnificent?" he asked. "No," replied the sulky populace, "you've just started another thing to swear off at New Year's."

### For Washington's Benefit. Spokane Chronicle. A bill that passed the special session

of the Legislature may directly benefit Eastern Washington even more than it will the neighbor state. The bill was one appropriating \$100,000 for the purchase of the right of way for a canal around the falls in the Columbia River at The Dalles. This is a step towards the con-struction of a canal which when com-pleted will give Eastern Washington water transportation to the Coast for its wheat, and, it is estimated, will at the same time give her freight rates that will average 4 cents cheaper. Much of this average 4 cents cheaper. Much of this saving should go into the pockets of the farmers throughout the section near Spo-kane and increase the wealth of the

A PARAMOUNT ISSUE.

No crime calls for signer reprobation than the crime of the corruptionist in public life, and the man who seeks to corrupt him. The bribegiver and the bribetaker are equally guilty. Both alike ain against the primary law of the state's anfety. All questions of difference in party palicy sink into insignificance when the people of this country are brought face to face with a question like this, which lies at the root of honest and decest government.—From President Rooseveit's written comment upon Fourth Ansistant Postmaster-General Bristow's report upon Postoffice Department delinquencles.

News.

"Do you mean to say you didn't give that horsethief a trial by jury?" "We didn't horsethief a trial took place. The whole town 'uf turn out to see it, and some one would be sure to sneak in and steal more burnes."—Washington Star.

"My desr," and the sick man, "you know I ordered a seaiskin sucque for you for this Christmas, but in view of my present condition I think we had better cancel the order."

"But, John," ruplied the loving wife, "a seeling acque wouldn't be inappropriate for mauraler any circumstances. I've seen any number of widows wearing them."—Philadelphia Press.

### NOTE AND COMMENT.

More Sentence Sermons. Psalms don't seem half so impressive when they are sung instead of being chunted.

It used to be that most people went to church at least three times-when they were baptised, married and burled. Nowadays they are not baptised. are married by a magistrate and when they die they are cremated.

Some curates merely abandon their mothers' apron strings for those of a bishop.

A bishop without gaiters must be very dignified to look at all episcopal. The church tenor is often a twofer. It's easy enough to read the lesson; the trouble is to heed it.

A big fee makes a beautiful bride. The best preacher reads the Bible with less interest than the morning pa-

Few temperance people are really quite easy in their minds when they recall the miracle at Cans.

# The Climbers.

A 45-story building is to be erected in

Ah, merrily beat my heart,
And youth in my pulses throbbe.
As I left the noise of the mark
And up to this office bobbed.
With pleasure a tingle,
I hung up my shingle,
And waited for patients to part.

That was sixty long years ago, And now I am old and sad; I've gathered in codies of dough, But I long for my life as a lad. When gay as a throstle With others I'd jostle, Way down on the pavements below.

It would take so much of my time. To descend from the forty-fifth floor, That not since the days of my prime. Have I dared to go out of my door. I'm an object for pity,

Alone in a city.

A lesson to those who would climb. A Holy Roller gathers no moss.

Whalebone at \$15,000 a ton begins to limb after radium. A mayor has been elected in New As-

toria. His name is Mudd.

Few of us will ask for police protection if we must be kissed by the cops. Some insults cannot be wiped out.

One is to call a man a "perfect gentle-

man." oms for light housekeeping are very scarce at Salem .- Salem Journal.

How is the supply of light housekeepers? New York is to have a 45-story building. The Man in the Moon will soon be apply-

ing for an injunction. "Young Corbett" is said to be giving up champagne for matrimony. And champagne exhilarates even if it later brings

The "boy Mozart," of British Columbia, aged 15, defied the Provincial police and escaped into Washington. From such

regret.

a musician this is the deuce of a note. Commenting on a phrase in the President's message the purist Boston Transcript said:

"Very unique." O Mr. Roosevels! On the same page was this sentence: And the awful drain by the outflow of the roung and virile of both sexes continues. "Young and virile of both sexes!" O

Transcript! Our Lady of the Snows does not always wear furs and all Western Oregonians are not web-footed. The Toronto World is moved to discourse on general and ma-

taken impressions in this vein: "Our Lady of the Snows" is not the only place in the world that suffers from a maligned dimate. England in general and London in particular have no less been the victims of the spigrammatist and the phrasemonger. o a big T. Bilded to get marothe altar, and
the altar, and the mitty strenchman, that the
metropolis without a fog was like looking up
a chimney, and in a fog like looking down one. Another of the same mercurial race, after six weeks' continuous experience of speafter six weeks' continuous experience of special London weather, wrote a friend in his beloved partie, and saked him to report whether the sun was still shining, as he had seen nothing of it during his sojourn among the beefstack and pudding-caters. "Puir auid Scotland" has not escaped, either, and her misty atmosphere flude no harder critic than the befogged Englishman. One of the super-cilious Bassenachs about to ascend a Highland coach in the midst of s perfect deluge, already saveral days old, was genially accounted by the water-proof whip, who opened the conversation by remarking affahly that they "were havin" a bit shooer an' he wadna women to see rain afore nicht." Anyway, Canada never had quite se pungent a criticism as that of the aggrieved Yankee, who wound up his deliveraggrieved Yankee, who wound up his deliverance with the crushing verdict that Britain had no weather at all, but only samples.

Damp as Astoria occasionally may be, it is far ahead of the part of Scotland where the native was asked by a distinguished visitor, "Does it always rain here?" "No," answered the inhabitant, "it whiles snaws."

# OUT OF THE GINGER JAR.

WEX. J.

"Why is it Willie is always so quiet when riding in the street cara?" him those straps could be detached."-Philadelphia Bacord. Customer-I've found out that the gallon

whisky you sold me is doctored. Dealer-Um-well, you said you wanted it for medical use,— New York Weekly.

"Bo it wasn't a very happy wedding, after all" "I should judge not from what I saw, Not a woman shed a tear during the ceremony."-Cincinnati Times-Star.

Fogg-I'm surprised that Harry's parents should be so strongly opposed to his marriage. Bass-Oh! I don't know. They are married themselves, you know.—Boston Transcript. "His keen gray eye fell upon her finely chineled lips and clear-cut brow, while the blood, suringing to her cheeks, showed how deep had been the wound which he had inflicted."—Chicago Tribune.

Mr. Jones-Oh, res; I med Dick Bachellor and told him all about the baby. Mrs. Jones-Did he liston patiently? Mr. Jones-Very; ro listoned so patiently that I was afraid at first he wanted to borrow money.-Puck.

She-what are these magazine guns the papers tell about so often? He-Probably it's some gun powerful enough to send a projectile through the advertising portion of the average magazine.—Chicago Daily News. "What are you doing with your hand in my pockets?" demanded the man who had been gazing in the shop window. "Why, str." whined the crook, "der sin't no pockets in dese trousers, an' me bands are cold."—Chicago News.

"It seems," said the leader of the rescuing party, "that the bandits bound and gagged you in the regular comic-opera style," "Oh an, they didn't," repited the victim. "The gags they used were entirely new."-Chicago