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B. C.—Bridtt House News

STLAND, TUBBDAY, JAN. 21, 1905.

#### THE GENERAL SOVERESONTY.

If there is to be a constitutional cop tion, its work must be and will be ted to the people, for their ap-The assertion that the product convention, the constitution med by it, would be procisimed as law of the state, without having seen first submitted to the popular rote, is groundless. The principle in m, that when a constitution is framed the vote of the electors for its epiance or rejection must be taken, universal. No oligarchy can make claim a constitution for a free No oligarchy will attempt it. It is an evenly balanced argument

whether at this time there should be a Abuses have grown up under the pressystem which never will be corrected, never can be corrected, while Stution remains as it is, Again, in many particulars, a constitution made for conditions of fifty years ago with many new questions which have grown out of the development of modtimes. Only through a constitu-

On the other hand, there is a rooted and immovable conservation, that dreads and resists all change, that is dent with the present and will have innoration. Between these forces lies the debate for and against a consti-

On one point The Oregonian must exress a positive opinion. It must say hat if there is to be a constitutional tion all the delegates ought to be scied by the people, and no part of me-third or any other -should be named by the cenof the Supreme Court or by any other authority or tribunal. Formation tive and referendum in the greatest and est and most potential sense. It ted to a vote of the people fum; and though there may be dispute about it in miner matters, there never can be, in this supreme act of the sox-

eigmty of the people. Hence, therefore, those persons who ur that in order to save initiative and referendum the proposal to hold a connal convention most be voted down talk abourdly. A constitutional he taken upon its evenit is referendum. in such proceeding initiative and referendum finds its original, highest and most complete expression.

No constitution is ever "promulgatwithout having been first submitand to the people. No constitution ever will be. The attempt to force such conion would be dammed from the There is a lot of childish-foolish in these days. Some are ignorant. Some are dishonest. The admixsuch an are as to suppose that any constitution could be "promulgated" the electors. No constitution under our the assumption that it would. system ever was promulgated or ever modicum of intelligence and common

### THE PHILADELPHIA SPERCH

Full of intellectual vigor, President Roomevelt delivers discourses on all them, see; for he says nothing inconcutely. And since the weekdays do afford him opportunity enough, he utilizes Sundays for delivery of sermons or lectures—as last Sunday in the Lutheran Church at Washington. Last ight he appeared at the Union League in Philadelphia. We have his speech in

The text was the formation of the old the hands of Abraham Lincoln, when he stood as the leader in the struggle for un and liberty. From this the President passed on to consideration problems of teday on principles which Lincoln applied to the problems of his time. Conditions change, incidents wary; but the prin of the highest regard for National rell-being is paramount. At this time arises from the mighty development of strialism and necessity of increase the supervision exercised by the gistes, with their limited sover eignty, cannot deal alone with this Intervention by the United States, therefore, is necessary. eral warrant in the Constitution to gulate commerce between the states Pederal Government. Interpreta-es analogous to those delivered by Marshall, on Pederal powers, in

the early part of the last century, are necessary now on this new phase of action under the Constitution. Upon subjects where a constitution is vague as such general instrument must often be, specific powers must be read into it statute and by judicial interpreta-President Roosevelt does not put statement in this form, but it is

implied in his argument. What he stands for, on this subject, is proper supervision and regulation of corporate activity by the Government, not violent and ill-advised interference; "neither this people nor any other free people will permanently tolerate the use of the vast power conferred by vast wealth, and especially by wealth in its corporate form, without lodging ere in the Government the still higher power of seeing that this power in addition to being used in the interest of the individual or individuals possessing it, is also used for, and not against, the interests of the people as a hole." This is the keynote of the present speech. If the Constitution as it now stands will not authorize this-if such shall be the judicial interpretaon-then the Constitution will have to be amended to meet so imperative a

That the people of the United States -a vast majority of them-stand with President Boosevelt on this prin-The Oregonian does not doubt. No one indeed can reasonably doubt it, when he thinks of the vote of last November.

JUST SOME PLAIN STATEMENTS. Is it tolerable that one should wear the gurb of the gospel who wears no honesty? Here again is our Reverend Doctor, Brother Edgar P. Bill, declar ing that the people were not deceived as to the meaning of the liquor lawmiscalled local option-adopted by the vote last June, and taking a fling at The Oregonian for saying they

That there was fraud in this business and a system of deceit not very well let it be admitted, to the character of holy men, is a truth that does not depend on the word of The Orethemselves, who between June and No vember quarreled over the intent of the law and the purpose of the "combine that, through deceit and fraud, had carried it. The newspapers not three months ago were full of their acrimon ous dissensions, of their charges and counter charges. It was admitted that the probibitionists had framed the law air heavy and blue with asseverations that there had been had faith in it fraud, trickery and deceit. This element, that had furnished the great majurity of the votes, confessed that they had been deceived, cheuted and fooled; and when it came to forcing the vote it November for application of the law they protested and roared, declared they had not so understood the bill and had been completely misled and tricked into voting for it.

Hence the aggregate vote, which had is obsolete. Further, there is lack of given a majority for this tricky law power in the old constitution to deal in June, was heavily against the prohibition feature which there was an at tempt to enforce under it through the vote of November. Now, since this tional convention can these new wants | hely apostolic fraud is well understood It would be beaten overwhelmingly if submitted again to the popular And these people know it. Let the vote

Our good Brother Hill, with his sans ous sneer, declares that "to say that the true meaning of the law was net known throughout the state is to confess that one at least of our newspapers is not widely read." The Oregonian never has been able to stem tides of deception, fraud and folly, at once. It has wrought many years against various crozes, till it could make Oregon understand. particular fraud, decelt and folly is now well understood, and the persons who fathered it are now in an agony of fear lest it should again be submit-

What is needed is the conversion of this fraudulent set into a genuine and honest local-option law. And this will be done-though not with the approval of those who perpetrated the deception. or of their dissembling apologists like Brother Hill.

## JUSTICE TO THE PHILIPPINES.

We are told that Senators and Repreentatives from the beet-sugar states are determined to prevent the passage of any bill intended to reduce the duty on Philippine sugar, and in this fight they will have the co-operation of deleons from Southern States which are interested alike in the cane-sugar and tobacco industries. The prospects are that the best-sugar men will win

Now in fact it is very questionable

whether the free introduction of the eugar product of the Philippines into really inconceivable that one should be the United States would at all affect prices here. Free sugar from the Hawattan Islands did not. Yet our sugar states fought that proposal flercely. The whole product of the Philippines, joined will be promulgated, until it first has to that of Hawati, would go but a little been approved by the popular vote, way towards supplying our vast mar-Then it will be "promutgated" by the ket We import 1500,000 tons of sugar a proper authority. Let he have some year, chiefly from Cuba. The Philippine product would not create a flutter in the market. Moreover, the great sugar trust would take it up, and prices to consumers would be no lower. But there would be better prices to the producers and workers in the Phil ippines; and those islands are entitled to this result. They are held to allegiance to the American flow, and should not be compelled to pay taxes or submit to robbery for the privilege of do ing business with the United States. It will be said however, that there is vast capability of production in the Philippines, and that ultimately their supply of sugar will fill our market and put our own sugar producers out of business. The fact, however, probably is that increase of consumption in the United States, where more sugar now consumed than among any equal population on the globe, will more than keep pace with increase of production of sugar, both in the Philippines and at

Cube is our great source of sugar supply. Annexation of Cubs would give us free sugar in quantities sufficient to affect our market. Nothing else would. Yet if Cubs should offer herself to United States, a tremendous fight would be made against her, by various protected interests in all parts of our

Since the Philippine Islands are terel. tory of the United States, we are bound every consideration of right, by every obligation of decency and honor, to extend to them free facilities of trade with us. We have no right to bold them if we are to continue to oppress them. We are not permitting

yet we hold them up, for booty, our-selves. It is shameful. It can't last. They should have and must have the benefit of the free movement of their products into the United States. If we deny them this we have no right to

hold them. Moreover, it is a false pretense which their products are excluded. Their sugar and rice and tobacco are produced in quantities sufficient to cut prices in the United States. And if were, would cheaper sugar, rice and tobacco be calamities to the mass of our consumers? The real question however, is one of justice to the Philippines and of our obligations of honor to ourselves.

ASKING FOR LESS. In this hustling age and country it is difficult matter for a man to catch the public attention, even when he sets out with the deliberate intention of doing so. The energetic Thomas W. Lawson, of Boston, had to conduct a prolonged campaign before his rhetorical antica came the cynosure of everybody's eves, and when such a hustler as the for of the mysterious "System" cannot bound into prominence it is evident that something decidedly unusual is necessary to bring the spotlight of public attention upon a man.

Dennis Mulvahill, who used to shovel coal into the furnace of a factory, was some time ago elected Mayor of Bridgeport, Conn. He has given that city a strictly "business" administration, but that has not done much to attract to him the eyes of a wider public than the municipal. Now, however, the former stoker and present Mayor has done something that calls forth a startled gasp from seasoned politicians and hard-headed men of business. Recent ly the Legislature raised the salary of the Mayor from \$1500 to \$3000. Mulva-hill has requested that it be reduced to the former figures.

It is unnecessary to comment upor the startling nature of this action, its revolutionary principle, or its extraor-dinary effect upon other officeholders in Connecticut, "The Mayor's job is casy," says Mulvahill. "I never had so easy a job in my life before. I can earn \$1000 less with the same amount of work." Of course, 'ew will agree that it is easier to be a Mayor than a fireman. The two occupations are not to be compared, cannot be compared. being of altogether different natures. But every one will agree that Mulvahill is likely to be a good fireman and a good Mayor and a good man in any job that he may take. In the midst of all that is being said and written about graft in these days, it is refreshing to come across one man who do ant More than he thinks he earns. however freakish his action appears to the legislators who offered him more oney It is but seldom that the Mulvahills exhibit their bonesty in a manner that attracts the public attention so strongly, but it is consoling to reflect they are scattered through country in sufficient numbers to keep graft from striking deep into the Na-

#### BEEF TRUST BROKEN?

Supreme Court of the United States made short work yesterday of the contention of the beef trust that their headquarters being in Chicago their purchases and males were made from the Chicago office; therefore they were not interstate traders, and not amenable to the Federal law against combinations in restraint of trade. The trust had the audacity to make this defense, although, when assailed in the state courts, they had denied their jurisdiction. The next proposition of the Government was that a sequence or combination of acts, each separately taken, being lawful, could be proved so as in the end to demonstrate an unlaw ful conspiracy. The trust set up that by the combination of lawful acts an intent to create and operate an unlawful conspiracy could not be maintained.

ment of the court.

scheme as a whole is within reach of the law; that the neveral acts are bound together as parts of a single plan, and that this plan may make the parts unlawful; that its effect on commerce among the states is not accident. idary, remote, or merely probable. So the beef trust, in carrying on the siness as shown, iles under the ban of the law. The Supreme Court has spoken in terms which all can understand. Let us recall what kind of an aggregation this beef trust is. It is the appurent hand of the National Packing Company, of New Jersey, formed in March, 1903, with a capital of \$15,000, 990. In this, six of the smaller companies were merged. But under the ontrol are operated Armour & Co., of Chicago, with \$29,000,006; Swift & Co., of Chicago, with \$35,000,000 of stock and \$5,000,000 of bonds, and half a dozen smaller concerns with \$6,000,000 or \$7,000,000 more. A few millions more of unseen origin do not count in the figures among which we are moving.

By avoiding an apparent blending of all these concerns in one, doubtless the astute men who thought out the of working intended to avoid the apsearance of evil. Still, their acts have low disclosed the plan for the world to This is what they did, not in isolated instances, but in the regular course of dally business, and each of which acts they describe as harmless

in the eye of the law; They arranged a scale of discriminating rates with the railroads and forced the roads to become parties to it. which put competition out of sight They pooled these unlawful profits. They made uniform prices for their goods and enforced acceptance of these prices from their customers, and for hade the slightest variation of the customers' terms and credits under severe penalties. Their prices they depressed at any point in their whole territor below a living point to kill out competition. This being effected, they raised prices at their own sweet will. much for their sales. Now for their

purchases: Selecting some distant market poin open to large shipments of stock there they raised the prices above marke rates and held them there until the entire locality was excited to make shipments to that point, Suddenly lowering prices, they compelled the luckess stockman to sell to them or to hold their stock unsold. Not a state, hardly county, in the Middle and the Pacific West but has felt the weight of their They owned the refrigerator-car lines, and either forbade the use- of the railroads to collect for them ruin-

Considering that they owned or controlled both the manufacture and sale of all the side or waste products of the packing-houses in the combine—which them to trade with others, we have cut | gave the

market for all such articles—one would have thought the legitimate profits on an enormous capital might have con-tented them. Not so. The possibilities of the old rhyme fascinated them-

That they should take who have the power And they should keep who can. The tool they have worked with has been unlawful preference on the railroads. Take this away and competition can have play. Tillsthis is effectually done, nothing is done. True, their capital is immense, but this can be du

plicated. Their management of busi-ness is astute, capable, sharp. They have no monopoly there. The hand of every stockman in every state is against those who have levied unholy tribute. The dealer in every state who would fain do an honest husiness by buying and selling at fair prices in open -he longs for independence as of old. The great public of the United States knows that it has been robbed under forms of law. It rejoices that the Supreme Court has taken a long step toward giving it relief. It looks on to the release of the railroads from the domination of the beef trust as that which will set free traffic from one side of the continent to the other.

The plan of loaning state funds to the banks is not likely to be popular with the people. If the banks need the that is sufficient reason why they should not be trusted with it. they want it to loan out to others, there is a still stronger reason why their desire should not be granted. If the people are to borrow state money, let it be directly from the state and not through the banks. If there is money in the treasury which cannot be logical upon real estate security, let the State Land Board loan it to school districts under the act passed by the last Legislature. In these times, when money is in demand and the rate of interest charged by the state is only 6 per cent, there would seem to be no reason whatever why there should be any money in the funds from which loans are made. As for the general fund, from which the expenses of the state are paid, there should not be for any considerable length of time any con siderable amount of money that could be loaned. Shortly after the receipt of annual tax payments, there will be quite a sum of money in the treasury but unless the tax levy is too high, this amount will not be available for loans for a length of time that would make it an object to any bank in first-class financial condition.

Fighting along the Hun and Shakhe Rivers does not necessarily indicate that an important battle such as that of Lisoyang will be joined by the opposing forces. The conditions which have kept the armies inactive so long still prevail, and the peace of Winter is not likely to be disturbed by any great battle just now. Furthermore, Kuropatkin will hardly choose a ment of such anxiety regarding the conditions at home to take the aggressive. With a feeling of insecurity about the railroad service and the prompt forwarding of supplies a General would need Napoleonic daring to risk a de cisive forward movement, and Kuropatkin hitherto has displayed qualities of an entirely different character.

Associated Press dispatches from S Petersburg attribute a report that Father Gopon is a Jew to the invention of the police department, which is desirous of creating a prejudice against this popular leader. That such a report has been current in other circles is shown by a letter written to the New York Sun last week by a Russian of New York. The writer declared Gopon to be a Jew, and showed the extraordipary credulity of the Russian mind by adding that the priest's object was not merely the overthrow of the despotism, but the establishment of a Jewish re-

The St. Paul & Tacoma Lumber It holds that the the principal stockholder, declared a 15 per cent dividend on a capitalization of \$1,500,000 for last year's business. The dimensions of this dividend hardly warrant the contention of some of the Washington lumbermen that nothing out a "40-cent rate" on lumber to the Rast stands between them and bankruptcy. Railroad business has been good for the past year, but it is doubtful about there being any 15 per cent dividends on the lines that are asked to cut the lumber rate.

Not the least interesting thing about the Russian popular movement is the sympathy it excites in other countries. nstrations in favor of the strikers and the revolutionaries are occurring in most European countries, tending to show that the outbreaks in Russia are not sporadic manifestations of a tem porary discontent, but the outcome of deepseated feeling which is at last having its effect.

The number of killed and wounded at Warsaw, Poland, during Sunday night was 160. "Outdoor life in the city here is at a complete standstill," say the dispatches. However, the grave yards seem to be doing a lively business.

The United States Supreme Court showed unaccountable want of consideration for Mr. Armour's feelings by declining to take the beef trust's word for it that it is not a trust

A reward has been offered by a Chicago man for information concerning the whereabouts of John D. Rockefeller. Ida Tarbell and Thomas W. Lawson please take note.

Now that LaFollette is to be Sena tor, a waiting world is puzzled to know what Wisconsin will do for a Governor.

### Slightly Personal.

Needy Corr. Aurora Borealis. Last Sunday Flora was seen walk-ing east, then north, then west, but atill didn't see Frank.

Charley Konschak wears a sad look "Dear" Emma is gone. Church last Sunday evening. After services he escorted little May home. As little May can easily walk under his arm it is natural to suppose that Mr. L. S. got several mittens before

#### NOTE AND COMMENT

The California Arrow is not the only high-flyer in the state. An impassioned ode to "Bromo-seltser, twin brother to the boose," appears in the

Seattle Argus. George Edwardes, the London mu omedy man, has been telling New York reporters why members of the peerage marry chorus girls. He says that to win a stage beauty, surrounded by admirers is so difficult that the excitement of rivalry attracts the lordlings. This is novel view of the matter, and upsets our idea that the young peers married girls they saw most of.

"The Darling of the Gods"-and of the parquet.

None of those bills for the protection of fish; in the water and out of it, has a word about a close season for cannet salmon. Representative Kuney should amend his bill.

Whenever an orator declares that words fall him, look out for a fresh avalanche of them.

The Milwaukee Wisconsin refers to a windstorm as a "boreal lashing."

An admirable Crichton of the other sex has been discovered by the Pilot Rock This Umatilia girl is "rosycheeked, vivacious and would rather work than pose as a model for an artist." She is also musical. Lately circumstances threw all the cares of a boarding-house upon her shoulders. The girl did the cooking, meals were served on time with ome-made cakes and ples, "fit for the gods," and "wash day found her with sleeves rolled up and as handsome as a Princess." Besides, this pearl of Umatilla didn't miss a single music lesson. The Record, in return for a year's subscription -in advance-will reveal the girl's name to any respectable young man with a goodsized bank account and a kind disposition Certainly the Record's editor is a good press agent, and it will probably be some time before a better story comes from another county.

Portland's highwaymen stick to old methods, and refuse to drop the sudden sandbag for jiu-jitsu

Men appear to be adopting the custom of being photographed holding a pipe, probably to show that they've got so thing in their hands, even if there's nothing in their heads.

An English schoolboy recently defined "etc." as "a sign used to make believe you know more than you do," and anyone who remembers writing school essays will recognize the truth of the definition.

It is very annoying to the man of sentiment to reflect that the soothing touch of a loved hand doesn't do the fevered brow half so much good as a hot towel slapped on by a loquacious barber.

Apropos of Dr. Brougher's sermon on "If I Were a Millionaire," H. W. Decker recalls the following verses:

wish would be to scatter good cheer along the way; If I had a million dollars, I would say goodbye to care.

And every night some glad one would name me in his prayer." day, by stroke of fortune, the

dreamed came true; brought him a million dollars from an uncle he never knew-Wrat of the noble impulse the good man had before? wore himse Hen more. self out trying to make it a mil-

George Wallace Williams should have engaged Hallie Erminie Rives to interpret his feelings on reaching the top of Council Crest.

Paraguag is about to "reorganize her The less of anything some finances. people have, the more time they spend discussing it.

Pictures of soldiers at the library! Oh, demon of militarism!

Great Britain and Nicaragua will get together on the turtie-fishing dispute. In the meantime we content ourselves with

Some of the Lewis and Clark add in the Eastern magazines are so attractive that we have almost resolved to visit the Fair.

the mock variety.

Does "couple"-the married kind-demand a plural or a singular verb. A Kansas paper recently referred to a couple as "it," thus settling the question for itself. In the latest issue of the New York Sun we notice a different treatment. A story reads: "There was a wandering couple at the Tenderloin station on Saturday, and at the City Hall on Sunday trying to get married. Perhaps these are How would it be to say: they." haps these are it?" Referred to the Garfield Literary and Debating Society.

Smith dropped into a saloon yesterday o get "just one drink. When that was gone he promptly ordered another.

"Thought you were only going to drink one," remarked a friend. "That's all," said Smith. "I'm treating my cold this time."

The evidence appears conclusive that Bianche Bates had a shoe-lace unfastened yesterday.

Again the fair land of Poland is blood-

Says the Rev. D. S. Toy: "Salvation is going to spank Portland." First call for a shingle in your pants. WEX. J.

#### Will Surprise Everybody. Eugene Registe

The big Exposition at Portland is going to surprise the world. It is growing in extent and public interest every day. Already every department gives promise of being crowded, and the whole state is oded with letters of inquiry and urgent calls for literature. All that remains She was last be done is for Oregon to awake to its going south toward home, a little golden opportunity in making hundreds of thousands of homescekers fully acquainted with the state's vast and varied what's the matter, Henry, you don't make any more trips to Union lately? to see the Fair and look up permanent for the property of the mitten down there, or cations within our borders. Are Eugene is there a superior attraction in Needy? I.—S—— was a visitor at the Zion matter? resources before they leave for Portland

#### Increase in Price of Mules. Fulton Gazette.

In 1849 the father of Jacob Maddox, of McCrecie township, who has grown gray in the business of buying rule colts, invested in a bunch of colts that cost \$15 cound, and they were sold in the following Mr. I.— S— got several mittens before he finally got down to something like his own aise.

On Sunday last a certain young man escerted two young ladies home from singing at Zion, one on each arm, and both of whom are his seniors in years. One of them was another man's girl at that. What does it mean? I home he price paid was Hi; in 1897 the bluch average of \$55. In 1855 the price paid was Hi; in 1897 the bluch neighbors are going to investigate.

# SHORT STUDIES OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

SWITZERLAND

THE government of Switzerland is to students of political institutions, and especially to American students, one of the most interesting governments in the world. Like the United States, Switzerland is a federal, constitutional republic. this composed of 19 cantons and six half-cantons. The cantons of Switzerland, like the states of the American Nation, were formerly held together by weak and film-sy articles of confederation. Following piets authority over all the affairs of government of the states of the American Nation, were the states of the American Nation, were stated by the initiative and they nevertheless, exegcise a more complete authority over all the affairs of government. the example of the American States, the Swiss cantons in 1848 formed a more per-Swiss cantons in 1848 formed a more per-fect union by adopting a constitution which gave the federal government sov-ereign control over all matters in which the cantons had a common interest, and at the same time reserved to the cantons authority over all matters which had merely a local or cantonal importance. But the men who made the Swiss consti-tution in 1848 and those who revised it in 1874 did not slavishly imitate the constitution in 1858 and those who revised it in 1874 did not slavishly imitate the constitution-makers of the United States. While the government they made resembles in many respects the Government of this country. In many particulars it differs from it, and the particulars is which the Swiss government differs from the American Government are even more interesting to American than are the features in ing to Americans than are the features in which the two governments are alike.

The federal executive of Switzerland is strikingly different from that of the Uni-ted States. The Chief Executive of the United States is the President. The chief ted States. The Chief Executive of the United States is the President. The chief executive of Switzerland is the Federal Council (Bundesrath). The people of the Pederal Assembly. The Federal Council (Bundesrath the head of the government as long as they will stay. Some prominent members of the Council have served on it more than 15 years, and one member has served more than 25 years. New members are usually chosen from the Federal Legislature. They must then resign their places ture. They must then resign their places marked benefits on the country. The use made of the initiative in the coverage of the initiative in t as Legislators, but they have the right to speak in either house at any time. The Federal Council is never a partisan body. All the leading parties are usually represented upon it. Neither its President nor its vice-President can hold his

office two successive terms, nor can both be chosen from the same canton. The Federal Council exercises much influence upon legislation, and it is a supreme court of appeal in certain cases involving constitutional questions. But, of course, its principal duties are such as pertain to the executive in all governments—those, viz., of enforcing the laws of the nation dealing with foreign powers, directing the movements of troops, etc. For administrative purposes the Council acts as a cabinet, responsible to the Legislature-its members do not have to resign when they cannot command a majority for their measures in that body.

National Council (Nationalrath). The of they please, and their courts are courts council of States resembles the American Senate in being composed of two peals may, however, be taken in important cases, involving questions of either of the 19 whole cantons and one from each of the six half cantons. But instead of being all elected by the Legislatures of the various divisions of the country for equal terms, as in the United States, they are chosen in some captons by the Legislatures, in some by popular vote, in some for one year, in others for two, three, or four. The mational council is composed of

ment than any legislative body in the world, except possibly the French Cham-ber of Deputies. No treaty can be made, no war declared, no hostilities of more than three weeks carried on without their consent. They control the federal finances. No executive departments can be organized or reorganized without their consent. They hear appeals from the decisions of both the federal council and the courts. With the concurrence of a majority of the people they revise the constitution Perhaps the most interesting provis

of the Swiss constitution are those which enable the people directly to control re-visions of the constitution and even ordi-nary legislation. If the two houses can agree on a revision they pass it sitting separately, as they would pass a law, and submit it to the people. If one house wants a revision and the other house op-poses it, or if 30,000 qualified voters peti-tion for it, the question whether thers shall be a revision must be submitted to submitted to the people if 30,000 voters pe-tition for their submission. Initiative and referendum laws exist in almost all the cantons as well as in the confederation. The initiative has not been much used eration was to aim a blow at the Jewish eration was to aim a blow at the Jewish religion, and in the populous and wealthy cantons of Zurich and Berne it has been employed to repeal much needed compul-sory vaccination laws. The referendum likewise has thus far proved rather an instrument of reaction than of progress. It has not even served to quicken the peo-pie's interest in public affairs. In 1896 there were 738.25 qualified voters in the country, of whom only 389,662 voted.

The Swiss federal government cannot maintain a standing army. Only the can-tons can have troops in time of peace. movements of troops, etc. For adminis-trative purposes the 'Council acts as a cabinet, each member being head of an executive department, but it is not, as a cabinet responsible to the Legislature— cabinet responsible to the Legislature construe and special officials to execute Its members do not have to resign when they cannot command a majority for their measures in that body.

The Federal Assembly consists of the Council of States (Standerath) and the council of States (Standerath) an or rather of two members from each of the 19 whole cantons and one from each of the 19 whole cantons and one from court. This court is composed of nine judges, who are elected by the Legislatures of being all elected by the Legislatures of each of the each of the country for a term of three years. Cases involving rights or duties of federal government. ernment or its officials-"administrative cases," as they are usually called-are tried by the federal council, from which appeal lies to the federal assembly.

### FRANCE'S NEW PREMIER.

Pittsburg Dispatch. Much less is known in this country of Rouvier, whose pre-eminence as the Treas-urer of the National Revenues is almost as universally recognized in France, even by his foes, as is the superiority of Del-casse in the role of Foreign Minister. He has repeatedly been at the head of the Department of Finance, has now been in-trusted as Premier with the task of recon-structing the Combes administration, and

is a man of the most striking individual-He began life as a drummer for a bookseller, who sold on the installme books of the kind given as prizes to lade in the Lycee schools. Subsequently he en-tered the service of a Greek merchant named Zaflopoula, who was established at Marseilles and engaged in the Russian grain trade. Rouvier's business took him to Constantinople, Odessa, Smyrna, Alex-andria and to other Mediterranean ports, the travel serving to broaden his views and, having acquired some wealth by spec-ulation, he in 1869 turned his attention to politics and devoted all his energies to se curing the election of Gambetta as Parlia

ntary representative for the city of For this he was rewarded, on the fall of the empire in 1870, by being appointed Secretary-General of the Prefecture of the Department of the Bouches du Rhone. The following year he himself was elected. to the Chamber of Deputies. It was there to the Chamber of Departs. It was their that he got acquainted with that extraordinary and brilliant woman who afterward became his first wife and who was at the time representing the great Beigian newspaper, the Independence Beige, in Paris, more particularly as regarding political and social features of French metropolitics. We She was the natural daughter itun life. She was the natural daughter of the famous sculptor Cadiot. Her mother disappeared when she was scarcely 2 years old, and from that time forth her child ood was spent in the vicious atmospher of her father's studio. At 15 she became deeply infatuated with the celebrated Abbe Constant, one of the most eloquent learned priests of the age, and in 1850 he abandoned the church in order to marry her, his apostacy creating a tremendous sensation at the time. Of course the exabbe was excommunicated, and thereupor assumed the name of Eliphas Levi and be-came the friend of Blanqui and of Felix Pyat, the Communist leaders. Some years after her marriage she departed from the man who had sacrificed his brilliant pros-pects in the church for her sake, and became, thanks to the tuition of Pradier, a very talented sculptress.

### Batuschka.

T. B. Aldrich. (By permission Houghton, Mifflin & Co.) From yonder gilded minaret Beside the steel-blue Neva set I faintly catch, from time to time. The sweet, gerial midnight chime, "God save the Czar!"

Above the ravelins and the moans of the white citadel it floats; And men in dungeons far beneath Listen, and pray, and gnash their teetl "God save the Czar!" The soft reiterations sweep the horror of their sleep, As if some demon in his gles Were mocking at their misery-

"God save the Czar!" in his red paluce over there.
Wakeful, he needs must hear the prayer.
How can it drown the broken cries.
Wrung from his children's agonies?——
"God save the Cast!"

Father they called him from of old-Batuschkal-How his heart is cold! Wait till a million scourged men Rise in their awful might, and then

# ODD BITS OF NORTHWEST LIFE.

Stewe Bad. Needy Corr. Aurora Borealis. August Stewe had the misfortune of etting his nose bruised Sunday while playing ball.

## Disastrous Unroping of a Cow.

Goldendale Sentinel. Fred Chamberlin got his ankle badly twisted the other day while taking a rope from a cow he had roped.

#### The Mistake One-Coon Made. Woodburn Independent. Coons are getting thick around Hub-hard. One day last week one coon was killed right in the dooryard of a man's

place near this city. Yes, Just a Jeu d'Esprit. Aberdeen Bulletin,

The story that Senator Mitchell will introduce a bill in Congress abolish-ing the grand jury system is probably a mere Oregonian jeu d'esprit.

#### Kinks in Horseflesh. Airlie Cor. Dallas Itemizer. Dorsey Turner's team ran away a

few days ago, one was killed and the other's neck was badly kinked. They had on a set of novelty harness and ran against a pear tree Fire Fiend Visits Heppner. Heppner Times.

# The peace and dignity of the city as suddenly broken last Monday corning about 10:30, when the horrile peals of the fire bell sent the fire boys and hose carts down the street on

the double quick. Mr. Spates Held On to His Supper. Pasco Express.
Sunday night J. E. Spates threw up his hands at the command of two footpads, and was mad enough to throw

#### up his supper, although they did not succeed in getting anything from him Perquisites of a Senator-Elect.

Tacoma Ledger. Senator-elect Piles held an informal sception at the close of the session, and was showered with the congratuand was anowered with the congratu-lations of his friends. An amusing in-cident connected with his levee was the gallant manner in which he ac-acknowledged the congratulations of the ladles; he klassed them all, old and young alike, and the men in the crowd cheered again and again

### Wanted, a Mddel Wife.

Chinook Corr. Ilwaco Journal. Louie Hauffe will join his ouses, moving one across the street If they are large enough for two persons he intends to get married, but he wants a woman who can talk nothing but Dutch, and who cannot understand word of English. Then she will be able to keep out of trouble, and not be worried by people telling funny stories about him when he is out of town.

### The Smiles Are Mutual.

Winlock Pilot. Mr. Andrew Gubser, of this city, h red the managing editor of the Pilot with a pleasant call on Tuesday of this week and renewed his subscrip-tion to the Pilot and Oregonian. Such always produces a smile on the tor's face and he still has hopes of be ing laid to rest in a coffin other than the cheap pine one which we described in an issue a few weeks ago.