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PORTLAND, MONDAY MAY 15, 1908.

TARIFF REFORM OR BEER TAX?

The National expenditures for the current fiscal year have so far exceeded income something like \$34,000,000. and the deficit is not likely to be much less when a balance is struck on July Congress knew that it faced a deficit when it made its enormous appropriations last Winter, but it cheerfully went ahead with the labor of building been built. In the vicinity of a greater navy, extending the rural 000,000 Panama canal. To be sure, not pended in the canal work, but provision for an outlay on an immense scale must it is one of the factors that must be reckoned with in the task of keeping the Government outgo and the income somewhere near together. The rural free delivery is no longer a luxury: it s a convenience and an expense that has come to stay, to the extent of more than \$20,000,000 per annum, even on the ent basis. No one wants to shut it off, but, on the contrary, everybody agrees that it should be enlarged. The for? The pensions, the Navy, the Army, all must be maintained on their present not be called on to enact a river and conditions that expenditures are not, in the aggregate, nor even in many details, to be curtailed. The country simply must raise more revenue.

The imminent fiscal dilemma of the Government is certain to bring about renewal of the tariff reform agitation. and consent to lower schedules on such and consequent improved revenue; or ducing the tax on beer after the Spanish war \$25,000,000 per annum was cut off, and \$20,000,000 from tobacco alone. No doubt our public-spirited citizens who congregate around the beer halls bors of the completed magnificence and settle questions of state would be the great Lewis and Clark Exposition. willing for the brewers and tobacconists to contribute generously to the public revenues if the cost to the cor was not increased; but the brewers and the tobacco trust would want to have something to say about that, and they are the kind of people the stand-patters usually listen to most attentively. If beer and tobacco are to be taxed. our financial troubles will be over for a time, and the tariff need not be disturbed, except for reasons of sound general policy; if they are not to be taxed, the tariff must be changed. The standpatters are going to have something to orry them when the proposed special session of Congress convenes next Fall.

SLAVES OF THE LAMP.

It is a frequent observation that any man once a railroad man is always a milroad man. The rush and vitality of and parcel of the whole enormous enterprise, the big scale of the work and its engrossing interest, the feeling of feship in an army of employes, the responsibility, from small beginnings to great endings-all of it animen in their various degrees, un-

Away from home they need no grips and mystic signs. Infallibly each recognizes each. Badges and uniforms are for outsiders; in the inner circle they are not required. A language has sen gradually formed which all speak,

East and West. Very naturally, on this basis is built priests of the temple. Sometimes this goes so far that the railroad service. the great combination which is called the "Rallroads of the United States," cted into a kind of idol on which no rash hands may be rightly laid. This

these men is in the great Babylon that thread, twine, towels, etc., and then hands off; leave it to us, is the idea underlying half the opposition to the President's Rate-Making Commission.

Our friends the conductors (whose ice is of great interest to all, as we hope it is a pleasure to them) utter. in their corporate capacity, the same melody. Of course, it is entirely genuine with them, the outcome of life and belief shared with the whole body politic of the railroad service, from presidents downwards. Equally, of course, it is intensely a class utterance. The public admits all they say of the sysem which has been developed, and of which they form part-that it is huge, complex, delicate. They know that to disturb its equilibrium is most dangerous. But they refuse to look on it as something apart from and higher than the Nation itself. They regard it as a creation of and tributary to the Nation. Therefore, the pressing question is if it is needful now to introduce still stronger check in the operation of the great machine, to reassert original powers. On that matter the public is seeking evidence of railroad men and others. Opinions may be useful, but they cannot always be suffered to de-

FAIR WILL BE COMPLETE.

Portland is ready for the Lewis and Clark Fair. Those timid souls feared in the beginning that the undertaking was too much for the city and state are now the boldest advertisers and loudest proclaimers of the merits of the magnificent undertaking. It has grown under their eyes to be a splendid creation of unexpected beauty-a great monument to the artistic genius and the financial enterprise of the promoters. Nothing is wanting to please the eye, to instruct the intelligence or to suit the requirements of the most modest pocketbook. The blooming days of Spring unfold a picture of splendor that even the most daring imagination a year ago would not have ventured to paint. No one who goes to the grounds can offer any reasonable criticism for any feature of the Exposition. It is obvious to the most casual visitor that it is to be complete to the smallest detail. All the experience gained in previous Expositions has been concentrated here in a successful endeavor to build a Fair that would be sure to please every visitor from any part of

the world, whether he has or has not seen other Fairs. If this seems extravagant language, one has but to make a short journey out to the grounds to learn that it is the truth, but not the whole truth. Sixteen days remain before the opening of the Exposition. A brief survey

of the situation shows, first, and most important, that the Fair will be ready; and, second, that Portland is ready. It has been a source of no little worry heretofore as to what we are going to do to accommodate the multitude visitors. It is admittedly true that our hotel accommodations-that is, commercial hotels-are inadequate. But a great number of lodging-houses have the grounds many temporary hotels, with free delivery and constructing the \$200. | satisfactory quarters, have been erected. Rooms can easily be obtained in more than \$5,000,000 has so far been ex- all parts of the city. Accommodation bureaus have been established for assignment of visitors to quarters of be made by succeeding Congresses, and every desirable kind. Application at any of these places will settle the room question for any anxious newcomer without any trouble whatever. Restaurants have sprung up everywhere; some of them permanent, others temporary. Street-car facilities have been much improved. The whole question of quarters for all who come has been, The Oregonian thinks, fully solved.

It is the testimony of pre-Exposition visitors that there is today in Portland oblem is, how is it going to be paid little or no "gouging." To be sure, the and harbor improvement will scarcely here with a purpose of seeing many cost less, though the next Congress will things will find that he can make a very little money go a long way. harbor bill. It is obvious under present he wants broiled chicken, truffles and custard pie three times a day, he will have to pay for them; but he should. Portland always was a place where an adequate meal could be obtained for 50 cents, even for 25 cents, and so it will doubtless be for the ensuing six

These things are said for the benefit who still have their doubts. They can articles as steel ralls and hides, for ex- take The Oregonian's word for it that ample, resulting in large importations from June 1 to October 15 it will be worth their while every day to see the they must devise some other plan of Lewis and Clark Fair; and that none filling the treasury. The only other will be disappointed through lack of is rich enough to give us all a farm, plan is an internal revenue tax. In re- preparation on June 1. The Oregonian hopes, too, that every person in Oregon will be here, so that he may return

FARMERS AND A FLAX MILL.

It is unfortunate that the building of a flax mill in the Willamette Valley must be delayed a few years longer, that the farmers do not engage in flaxgrowing to such an extent as to supply the necessary material, and there being no established supply of flax, manufacturers will not come here to build a account of the threatened reprisals of mill. On the other hand, the farmers, the foreign buyer is that of Germany. seeing no certain market for their product, will not displace their grain had a pretty free rein in that country. fields with fields of flax. Many of the Oregon farmers came from Missouri, and they are waiting to be shown that | conditions it is not surprising to learn there is a greater profit in flax than in the crops they are now growing.

Oregonians have the reputation of being conservative, and are often idly than that of any other country dothe business, the sense of being part charged with being too slow to embark ing business with the Vaterland. The in new enterprises that involve some degree of risk. It is this spirit of conservatism-the inclination to travel in beaten paths-that causes farmers to hesitate to give as many acres to flax approach to this gain was made by as the flax-growing promoters would wish. Willamette Valley capitalists are | cent increase in that period. til a caste, a brotherhood, has been not investing their money in linen mills, and farmers are not giving their fields

to the production of flax. But it is not intended that this situation shall put an end to the production of flax for fiber in the Willamette Valley. some time ago manifested interest in more liberal policy, showed an increase the enterprise by sending an agent to in imports from Germany of 30 per Salem to investigate the situation, has cent. The imports into Germany from sense of sacredness, of being made a reduced rate on flax fiber from the United Kingdom showed a decrease the Coast to Eastern manufacturing for the period mentioned; but, despite points, and it is expected that by this this unfavorable balance of trade, the means the production of flax can be United Kingdom increased her imports encouraged. When farmers have from Germany more than 42 per cent. learned that it will pay them to raise It is this unfavorable showing for Gerflax here they will increase their flax many that is responsible for the prese shows itself in the testimonies of the acreage. When capitalists find by ac-radical demand on the part of the railroad presidents before the Senate tual operations that flax fiber can be Germans for legislation intended either tual operations that flax fiber can be Germans for legislation intended either produced in the Williamette Valley, to restrict our export trade with stions are at stake, but the pride of shipped East, manufactured there into Germany or force a reciprocal tariff of butters

Valley consumers, they will begin to see that the manufactured products can be turned out of Valley mills and the

double freight charge be saved. No question whatever exists as to the quality of flax fiber produced in Western Oregon. Repeated experiments have shown that the quality is unsurpassed. There is some doubt in the minds of men who have idle money whether it will pay to undertake the manufacture of linen products in Oregon, It will take some time to settle this point, but soon or late the facts and figures will bring about the building of linen mills. With water power going to waste, with fertile fields yet uncleared, with a growing population seeking employment and creating a larger demand for manufacds, there can be no other outcome. The day may be distant, but the time will come when Oregon will point to her flax fields and her linen mills with the same pride that she points to her hopyards. They will furnish profitable employment for men, women and children, and add each year their proportion to the growing wealth of the state.

SAME OLD TACTICS.

News dispatches from Lewiston indicate that the railroad combine which has throttled trade in the North Pacific states is making an effort to head off the proposed independent line from Lewiston to Grangeville. Great excitement is reported in the Panhandle metropolis, and real estate is booming in anticipation of something that is supposed to be about to happen. To the people who have followed the methods of the railroads on similar occasions in the past it does not appear that there is any immediate necessity for becoming excited. The trick of throwing surveying parties in the field for the purpose of forestalling some enterprise hostile to their interests is an old one with the railroads. They have worked it in all parts of the Pacific Northwest. and on at least two occasions have made it sufficiently effective to block Portland's plans for reaching the rich trade field of the Nehalem.

The action of the Northern Pacific in planting a few colonies of surveyors in the Clearwater field was practically a certainty, for emmisaries of that road were decidedly active all the way between Grangeville and Lewiston while the subsidy was being raised for the electric line. They assured prospective contributors to the subsidy that it was the intention of the Northern Pacific to construct immediately a road from Grangeville to Lewiston. This assertion failed to check the movement in favor of the independent line, and it has accordingly become necessary to party. Neither is the act of dusting out the cobwebs and cleaning the paintwork on the Northern Pacific steamer J. M. Hannaford a very strong indication that that craft is to be placed in service in opposition to the O. R. & N. steamers. The Hannaford is not as good a boat as the O. R. & N. steamers. and if the management of the Northern Pacific had any immediate desire to get into the Snake River steambout trade, they would simply resort to their favor ite "strong-arm" methods and make the O. R. & N. steamers deliver the freight to the Northern Pacific, with no questions asked and no back talk permitted. This railroad "bluffing" in the Lewis ton country reached a much more acute stage several years ago, when the O. R. & N. followed the surveying decoys with graders, rockmen and bridge gangs. No freight has yet been hauled out over the grade they made, bewever, and if the Lewiston people should listen to the song of the Northern Pacific siren until their own project was abandoned, it may be many years before the surveyors who are causing the present

range of prices for food and lodging is excitement are followed by the conconsiderable, but so it is everywhere, struction gang, Railroads would be in many sections of the Pacific Northwest if the rails had been put down wherever the surveyors ran their lines and set their stakes. Less surveying and more construction work in the Idaho country, and also in Central Oregon, would be more encouraging to those "hottled-up" districts.

GERMANY DEMANDS RECIPROCITY.

Delightful, indeed, would be the con dition of trade in this country if we could continue to dispose of all of our The stand-patters must either give way of those persons outside of Portland raw and manufactured products to foreign buyers without the necessity of buying anything from them. such conditions we should soon individually and collectively be reveling in wealth, and the old slogan, "Uncle Sam could be changed to, "Uncle Sam is rich enough to give us all a bank." This who can come to Portland on June 1 Utopian trade condition will never exist, for the reason that if we con home and inform his friends and neight tinue to sell to the foreigner without taking some of his products in exchange. It is only a question of time until his buying power is exhausted and he ceases to be a customer. We have not actually refused to buy goods from some of our best foreign customers, but in many cases we have erected a good but, perhaps, all things considered, it strong tariff barrier, which has made is better so. The difficulty seems to be it much more difficult for them to enter our markets as sellers than it is for us to get into their markets,

A case in point which is attracting considerable attention at this time on Our producers and manufacturers have the tariff, where any is levied, being of very modest proportions. Under such through the Department of Commerce and Labor that our export trade to Germany has been increasing more rap department's figures show that our exports to Germany have risen from 194,-551,000 in 1890 to \$222,414,000 in 1903, an increase of 135 per cent. The nearest Russia, which is credited with 60

But while we were scoring this 135 per cent increase in exports the principle of reciprocity was working so badly that our imports from Germa showed an increase of but 12 per cent and amounted to only one-half as much The Southern Pacific, which as the export, while Russia, pursuing a

which will give the Germans easier access to our markets.

Of course, it may be argued that the Germans did not buy anything from us except commodities of which they were in need. Equally true it might be said that we would have purchased more from the Germans had it been to our advantage to do so. This, however, does not make it clear that a slight readjustment of tariff charges tending more toward a reciprocal basis might not be to our advantage. Our millions of consumers might find it profitable to purchase more German wares if tariff conditions were easier, and, in turn, Germany would have more money to

spend for American products. The official figures show that in 1903 we sold Germany \$222,414,000 worth of goods, and for the same period purchased from that country but \$111. 626,000 worth With this balance of trade of more than \$110,000,000 per year against them, it is not to be wondered at that the Germans are scowling over the matter and threatening retaliation unless we practice a mild degree of reciprocity.

The young men and women who are preparing to be graduated from the colleges of Oregon next month should spend some of their leisure moments absorbing the spirit of a comment made by the Saturday Evening Post upon one danger of college education. The Post says that "If, while getting the education, the youth gets also social snohbishness, he or she goes forth the worse for college and a force for evil. young man has already passed the day of usefulness who looks with contempt upon the laborer who works with hi hands. That young woman is still densely ignorant of the highest duties of life if her education causes her to sit in idleness in the parlor while her mother toils in the kitchen. A snob of the most disgusting type is he who makes a display of his learning for the mere purpose of gratifying his vanity. Work with the mind is as honorable as any if it be honest and useful, but it is no more honorable than honest useful work with the hand. Don't be an intellectual peacock.

The antiquated navigation laws of ur country prevent Americans from of law. increasing our merchant marine by the methods in vogue in Germany, England and other enlightened countries which are foremost in the ocean-carrying trade. At the same time storms, fire and other disasters help some, and our fleet is growing. About a month ago the British steamship Peconic, which was wrecked on the Atlantic Coast was given American register, and now the owners of the German ship Columbla, which was dismasted and towed put up the old bluff with a surveying into Victoria almost a total wreck a year or two ago, will convert her into a barkentine and ask for American reg-Some day we shall awaken to the fact that this is a foolish and slow method for securing American thins. and, on awakening, we shall buy ships fresh from the foreign yards, and put the American flag over them and suc cessfully operate them in competition with the nations which have for years enjoyed the privileges denied us.

The action of Secretary of State Dunour in sending conspicuous notices of the forest fire law throughout the state is timely and commendable. The property loss through the indiscriminate burning of slashings each year amounts to many thousand dollars. This year here is a special reason why extraordinary care should be exercised in preventing this nulsance. There will be thousands of people here from all parts of the United States, and they will be here in the greatest numbers in what is usually known as the smoky season. They will be deprived of the sight of one of the chief attractions of the trip across the continent if their view of our magnificent mountain and river scenery ured by the heavy smudge of the forest fire. This is a matter in which a personal interest, and if due take care is exercised old Mount Hood and her sister peaks will be visible in all of their glory throughout the season.

It is obvious from the official report of the Portland Open-Air Sanatorium that a beneficent work is being done The number of patients is so large that the facilities are overtaxed, and deficit must be met. It is probable, indeed, that the generosity of the public time to carry on this humane enterprise, but there are many good people in the world who have money to bestow on worthy objects, so that they will not complain if they are satisfied that their bounty is judiciously disposed. The record at the Sanatorium is wonderful. Cures of tuberculosis have been effected. Many patients have been improved, and all have been made to feel that the world is not so hard-hearted after all, and cares a great deal what is done for its invalids.

Arthur J. Collier, a graduate from the University of Oregon in the class of 1888, is one of the writers of a bulletin just issued by the Department of the Interior setting forth the progress of investigations on the mineral resources of Alaska. Mr. Collier, who was a professor in Portland University and Willamette University from 1895 to 1900, has been connected with the United States Geological Survey since 1901, and has rendered the Government valuable service during his four years' work in Alaska. Oregon is pleased to see her college men succeed, and feels a just pride in their achievements.

San Francisco is expecting a call from a Japanese third-class cruiser. which has been scouring the Pacific In quest of prey, and, like the Russian cruiser Lena, is supposed to be in need of fuel and repairs. If the Lewis and Clark Fair management could extradite this pair of fighters and anchor them off the Fair grounds this Summer, they would prove attractions which, just at this time, would put the star feature of the Trail 'way to the bad.

General Kuropatkin, who figures as a war here, scapegoat or coward, according to the standpoint from which he is viewed, says that Russia is not sending her best men to the front. It has been obvious for the past year that the men she was sending were not as good as the Japanese, but the good soldiers, if there are any, are so busy rounding up nihilists and protecting the royal fam-

Fruitgrowers report an unusual num then, we shall have an unusual number

NOTE AND COMMENT. Often the first step in divorce proceed

ngs is the marriage. Herbert Croker is said to have been 'traveling for his health." lude stop-over privileges at booze and

ideal from a health standpoint

oplum joints can hardly he regarded as

The Argonaut says that in Italy, when ever a famous criminal trial is on, the newspapers take sides violently, search for evidence, and assume all the prerogatives of the court. That they are even more sensational than the American press in this regard is indicated by the fact that Italians reading accounts of great cases in the American papers are always struck with the moderation of tone shown, and wonder how it is that Americans take so little interest in what interests the whole world. "The Americans are a great people," say the Italians, "but cold; they don't even warm to their own crimin-

als!" It would be worth while to learn Italian, just to read more sensational criminal stories than appear in the American press.

Two Kansas City people have been mar ried three times and divorced twice. Up to date the parsons are ahead of the lawyers in number of fees, if not in amou

The Italian government is watching ar art gallery upon which Connoisseur J. Pierp. Morgan has cast his eye. An Italian law forbids the exportation of certain works of art, but the government probably thinks that J. Pierp. might get the treasures, return them as he did the Ascoli cope and obtain another decoration,

It requires great courage to be

The beef packers complain that they are treated as criminals, which is, of course, premature.

in St. Louis a woman has obtained a erdict for \$50,000 damages in a breachof-promise case. Such a sum should attract skilled labor to St. Louis.

High school "frats" will try the effect of an injunction against the School Board of Seattle, which has come out against the secret societies. This will at least give the pupils some practical knowledge

Because of suspected Japanese designs on Indo-China, France will expend a t of money in protecting her possessions there. Pretty soon every square mile in the Orient will have its fort and garri-

The Crown Prince of Germany is eviently a born ruler. He succeeded in having "ouff sheeves" removed from the wedding dress of the Duchess Cecilia.

Articles on "How Kuroki Fought" are so interesting to the Russians as would be an authentic story on "How Kuroki Will Fight.

In Frankfort, Ky., is a quaint character named Ezekiel Hopkins, says an exchange, who once gained local fame by discovering a piece of broken track and flagging an excursion train in time to save disaster. So it was decided to present Ezekiel with a gold watch. The head of the presentation committee, approaching Ezekiel with bow, said: "Mr. Hopkins, it is the desire of the good people of Frankfort that you shall, in recognition of your valor and merit, be presented with this watch, which, they trust, will ever remind you of their undying friendsh Without the least emotion Exekiel ejected from his mouth a long stream of tobacco juice, took the watch from its handsome case, turned it over and over in his wrinkled hand, and finally the utmost naivete with "Where's the chain?"

lic, those tall, sylphlike creatures who every citizen of the Northwest ought to float about like denizens of a higher sphere in their wonderful black satins? whom all things are becoming. not be merciful and employ a dumpy let for dumpy customers?" Customers usually like to be led into temptation, and this plaint is quite by itself

A cabinetmaker, it is reported from Antwerp, was so enraged at finding the financial strain is so heavy that a lottery ticket which he had used as a pipe-light had gained a prize that he cut his child's throat and drowned must be depended on for an indefinite himself in a canal. From this we learn that one should never:

First-Buy a lottery ticket. Second-Burn a lottery ticket. Third-Win a lottery prize. Fourth-Give way to pique,

An exciting news item says that the City of Vienna has established a phytonathological institute for the study of diseases of plants. They might begin upon the municipalitis evident in Chicago's street-car plant,

Why Japan Fights.

Ku Hung Ming, a Chinese writer, in as article on the moral causes of the Russo-Japanese War, in the Japan Mail, says: 'In short, to put the truth in its truest and broadest sense, the real issue of the Far Eastern question, the great cause for which, as I have said, the whole Jap anese nation has been making sacrifiand are now fighting, is to make the Europeans with their greater physical strength, the European nations with the might of their gunboats, machine gun might of their gunboats, machine guns and lyddite shells; to make them recognize and treat men whom they call Asiatics as brothers, or, as Her Imperial Majesty, the Empress Dowager of China, put it, as members of one family; all one family! In fact, here you have the true real issue of the Far Eastern question. Until the European nations, until those who are responsible to God for the government of European nations, bring about such a state of affairs that those Europeans who are allowed to come to China peans who are allowed to come to Chins and Japan, recognize and treat men whom they call Asiatics as brothers, as men having equal rights before God and his moral law; until then and not before then can the Far Eastern question be satis factorily solved."

In Doubt in Alabams. Mobile Register.

The Montgomery Journal poses us when it asks whether we think George Fred Williams, of Massachusetts, or Theodore Roosevelt, of New York, is the safer and saner man. 'Pon our life. we cannot say. George Fred seems to us a kind of fly-up-the-creek; but there may be more in him than appears. As for Mr. Boosevelt, he has given the

As for Mr. Roosevelt, he has given the Constitution several severe jolts. We doubt if Mr. Williams could surprise us by doing anything worse in this line of activity. Perhaps, on the principle that we should prefer the evils we have rather than fly to those we know not of, we should record here a shade of preference for the rough-riding Colonel, but we will not. When in doubt, say nothing.

WHAT THE ORIENTAL WAR HAS TAUGHT

The Bayonet Restored as a Uneful Weapon-improved Sanitat and Hygiene-Eleven-Inch Guns in Siege Operations. Major Lisak, U. S. A., in Harper's Weekly.

modern arms, and military men every-where will search its records to learn from them the lessons they have to teach. The changed conditions and their effect on the conduct of this war will lead probably to changes in organiza-tions, in factics, in material of war, and will indicate new problems to be studied, new solutions to be obtained, in the subnew solutions to be obtained, in the sub-jects of supply and transportation and in the care of men. But while much of the information that has been already re-ceived may not be wholly reliable, and though our knowledge of details is in no way sufficiently complete to provide the data for the formation of a final judg-ment enough may be gathered by carement enough may be gathered by careful selection from official reports. from the letters of correspondents, and from observers returned from the field to permit us to judge to a certain extent of the effect of modern appliances on the con-duct of the war and to draw tentative conclusions as to what the future will develop. The war thus far has overturned some of the ideas almost univer-sally held by military men, has confirmed others, has revived some, and has brought forward new applications or new ideas which are regarded with the great est interest.

Perhaps the most complete overturning of a well-fixed belief that this war has brought about is in the matter of the bayonet, which had come to be consid-ered an obsolete weapon, and had lost its true character as an adjunct to the gun whose purpose was to convert the gun into a pike. It had become a tool of gen-eral utility for cutting meat and saplings and digging entrenchments, and was at-tached to the gun principally as the most convenient means of carrying it, and that it might be there for use as a bayonet in it might be there for use as a bayonet in the very few emergencies that were ex-pected to require such use. With the increase in the power and accuracy and quickness of fire of the soldier's rifle battles were expected to be decided at long ranges, and it was thought that hand-to-hand conflicts between the com-batants would be of such rare occurrence that special provision was not needed for them. But in the war in Man-churia there have been many conflicts with the bayonet, and indeed it may be inferred that in more than one instance these conflicts were the decisive events in the battle. In the defense of Mukden the last point held by the Russians was the celebrated Putiloff Hill, so called after the Russian colonel who led the gallant charge by which the hill was renel who led the captured from the Japanese in the first days of the defense of Mukden. After the recapture by the Russians, which was not accomplished at the first effort, and during the twenty days of fighting. charge after charge was made by the Japanese, in one day as many as four. The futility of the charges by day soon taught the Japanese that their only hope lay in attacks by night, for it was only at night that they could come into suffi-ciently close contact with the enemy to hope to dislodge him. One result of these lose combats, we are informed, was the requent mistaking of friend for foe, and both sides incurred large losses from this cause. When the Japanese finally re-gained possession of the bill there had failen around it more men than were lost by both sides during the whole of the Boer war.

As it was at Mukden, so it had been previously at Liao-Yang, where the re-sistance of the Russians at those points held most stubbornly by them was overby the hand-to-hand attacks made y the Japanese at night.
The quick-firing, long-range rifle, there-

fore, makes short-range battles, increases the amount of fighting by night, and re-establishes the bayonet as a serviceable weapon.

The enormous losses in battle, and the seemingly total disregard of human life on the part of the generals of both sides in their endeavors to accomplish the purposes of the campaigns, call for special comment. The circumstances attending the war are of such a nature as to require Japan to push the fighting with all possible energy, so as not to give her huge opponent time to gather and to for-ward to the seat of war a preponderating number of troops. In this way Japan Mrs. John Lane, writing in the Out-look, says: "Why do all the big shops this consideration probably that leads her employ, for the destruction of the pub- generals to throw line after line of troops against entrenchments and the strongest exposure of themselves, fortifications, regardless of the human

The great all-embracion sacrifice involved. It may well be doubted learned from the war. They are a serious unbending race to tions, particularly the English and Amer-

This is the first great war fought with | might be responsible for such great losses as are indicated in the dispatches received from Manchuria. It is in regard, how-ever, to the numbers engaged and the numbers lost that the discatches are the most misleading, and it may be well to await confirmation before believing that 107,000 Russians, of the 200,000 reported as engaged in the battle of Mukden, were killed or wounded or taken prisoners. In our Civil War General Grant was severeby criticised for the large losses suffered by the Union troops in the battles of the Wilderness. The orders to attack issued by Lord Roberts, in the latter part of the Boer war, are said to have co did the losses approach any such percent age as is reported in several battles of the present war, and, in addition, the Civil War had been in progress for three years when the Battle of the Wilderness was fought, and the latter part of the Boer war came after two fighting.

> From the records of excessive losses in battle we may happily turn to the evidence of the most wonderful im-provement, shown by the Japanese, that has taken place in the care of soldiers on the march and in camps, and in the treatment of the wounded. By far the greater part of the losses in all previous wars has been due to dis losses usually exceeding 80 per cent of the total loss, and in some cases, notably in our war with Spain amounting to considerably over 20 per cent. By strict attention to the most advanced principles of military hygiene, by the most careful supervision of the sol-dier's food and of the water he drinks, by strict application of all necessary sanitary measures in the camps and bivounce, the Japanese have suc in practically eradicating disease as a source of more than temporary loss to their armies. The thoroughness with which these measures are carled out may be inferred from the statement of one correspondent, who, in traveling through Korea to join the forces at the front, could discover on the road no evidences that a large army had passed over the same road but a few days be-fore him. Dr. Seaman gives similar tes-

Japan is the first nation, too, that has brought into the field, to assist in seige operations, such nuge guns as her 11-inch howitzers. These guns weigh about ten tons each, and their carriages, or mounts, about the same. The guns are designed for high-angle firing only, and are intended for use ordinarily in permanent empiacements, from which their fire can be directed against the decks of ships. The carriages are bolted to heavy concrete rection. The gun throws a projectile weighing 500 pounds, which contains a bursting charge of high explosive. The at Dainy, and transported by rail to the lines around Port Arthur, and from the railroad were hauled by the labor of troops, to the site selected for the battery. From the battery the range to the fortifications still possessed by the Russians was about 1/2 miles, and to the ships in the harbor about By means of the vertical fire from these guns the Japanese were able to reach the interiors of the forts, and the parts of the town protected from the direct fire of their siege guns. Nothing was protected against the of this battery, but the ideal target was presented by the sidns lying harbor. The howitzer shells them at their weakest pointand after passing through deck after deck, either continued on through the bottom of the ship, or exploding in the interior, as they were designed to do, ompletely wrecked the vessel

We will read with interest of the revival of that ancient weapon of war, the hand-gremade, which has been used by both greates. which has been asset by dota Russians and Japanese in the recent campaigns; and, with equal interest, of the use of a more modern device, or, rather, an ancient device modified to serve a novel purpose, namely, the small portable shields from behind which the Japanese cut the wire enteresting the from of the Russian. tanglements in front of the Russian

The great all-embracing lesson to be sucrifice involved. It may well be doubted learned from the war, not a new les-whether the people of the Western naemphasized, may be summed up it icans, would uphold their generals who one word "preparation."

THE PORTLAND PRIMARIES. Fool Theories Don't Count

Vancouver Independent. Williams, of Portland, years of age, was renominated last Saturday, which shows the people of Portland do not take much stock in Dr. Osler's theory, that a man has reached his best at 40 and should be put out of exist

Sure to Be Williams.

Forest Grove News. There was no great surprise at the results of Portland's primary Everybody, except the other candidates, seemed to know that it would be Williams again, notwithstanding page after page of newspaper space was used to exploit the greatness of his opponents.

Want a Big Man.

Pilot Rock Record. Oregon's "grand old man," George H Williams, was nominated for Mayor of Portland at the Republican primaries held in that city last Saturday. His nomina-tion indicates the desire on the part of Portland people to have a big man at the head of their municipal government during the Lewis and Clark Fair. Mr. Williams has been Mayor of Portland for the past three years and his administra-tion has been in keeping with the wishes of the majority. of the majority.

Muzzle the Politician

Pendleton East Oregonian. So far as the reports come from Port-land, everybody is satisfied with the primary law. It seems to have given the prostituted nor warped to become a tool of politicians. If there is anything needed in Oregon just now (more than another Senator and two Congressmen) it is more purity in nominations and elections. Politics is all rigt, but in heaven's name

People Made the Choice. Wasco News.

no avail. It is probable that for the first time in the history of the city, the people have had the say as to who should be their standard-bearers. Mayor Williams was renominated, which was not to the liking of the ringleaders, while men who under the old sign would have been a power in the contest by reason of their disregard of honor in political methods were snowed under by the voters.

The Only Way.

Deen and Above pros.

Lewiston Interestate News.

Portland has just nominated candidates for the city offices under a new primary law, the direct primary. Other localities Pew have the courage to make the city offices under a new primary law, the direct primary would operate how the deduction.

If in the world you would have people with you.

Do semathing, if only to stare at a palat

The one thing noticeable was the publictry given to the several candidates in to the principles for which they sto Newspaper publicity became more th Newspaper publicity became more than ever a factor in setting out the views of the contentants for civic honors. The fight was evidently open and above board and the people had a fair voice in determining the issues upon which the campaign was made.

All Is Harmony.

Gervals Star.

Direct primary was tested in Portland Saturday and proved its ability to stand.
Something like 2000 votes were cast and
the winning candidate received 3000.
sgainst which was a combined vote of
over 6000 cast for all other Republican over 6000 cast for all other Republican candidates. In this instance there were six candidates, and each one considered he had a good show. No candidate was thrust upon the common mass of voters, he had a group of six able candidates to choose from and he did so. The result demonstrates no hard feelings and all is harmony and the chosen candidates will

Never Shirks His Duties.

Gervaie Star. Mayor Williams has been nominated again for Mayor of Portland. There is again for Mayor of Portland. There is no question about his election. To have witnessed the nomination of some of the men who come forward for that very office would have been a shame. Mayor Williams has the high regard of all men throughout the state, and while he is well along in years, yet he has great ability and energy and stamina enough to speak out plain upon any and all subjects. speak out plain upon any and all subjects where plain speech is needed. We have never seen him shirk the duty call or oppose honest will or thwart honest en-

Plan Entitled to Praise.

La Grande Chronicle The employment of the direct primary method of nominating candidates for office in Portland seems to have worked mitisfactorily. The plan has demonstrated that the power of the political bess is on the glimmer. And that is what the The result of the primaries in Portland direct primary law was constructed for. The Australian ballot reformed the traffic in votes; now the direct primary cuts the party beas off at the pockets. The only party boss off at the pockets. The only thing left is for the prospective candidate to extel his merits through the press. In

New Orleans Times-Democrat.
Stop in a street and stare up at a building.
Stare at a mast or a window or roof;
Mark ye how quickly the folk gather to you!
Few have the courage to linger aldof!