THE MORNING OREGONIAN, FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1905.

The Oregonian

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Or., as second-class matter, SUBSCRIPTION BATES.

> INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE. (By Mail or Express.)

9.00 5.00 2.55

.83 7.50 3.90 1.95

other

and Sunday, per year and Sunday, eiz months and Sunday, three months and Sunday, per year without Sunday, per year without Sunday, six months without Sunday, per year without Sunday, per month y, per year Dal

BT CARRIER.

THE WEEKLY OREGONIAN.

(lesued Every Thursday.) Weekly, per year Weekly, six months Weekly, three months .15 HOW TO REMIT-Send pasteflies money arder, express order or personal check on your local hank. Stamps, coin or currency are at the scider's risk.

EASTERN BUSINESS OFFICE.

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1905.

A LEADING SUBJECT.

Taxation of franchises is not longer to be overlooked in Oregon. Sale of a single street car line franchise in Portland, for six millions of dollars, has brought to the front here a subject which-though not new in other statesis new to us.

Oregon cannot longer ignore the polscy of taxation of corporate franchises. They are the most valuable of property. It is the franchise, granted by the state, that gives the value which has been sold recently in Portland for so great a sum. The stock has been sold for this money-not the bonds, upon which the have been built. The marke value of the stock, linked with or based on the franchise, is clear profit. It has cost these people nothing. It is a great property, and must pay tax on the val-

The greatest properties today in Portland are these corporate franchises. In this little city these properties, which have cost the exploiters nothing at all but the trouble of making charters and working Legislatures, and interchange of traffic with Common Councils and tals, are selling fo

scription which presupposes a grant-s to the attempted shifting of the blam privilege of a public nature conferred on are very keenly put in the following ndividuals by grant from government." language:

newspapers, who assist each other

ing in the nature of franchise about it.

REPORTING THE MITCHELL TRIAL.

The purpose of The Oregonian in

rinting from day to day a complete

stenographic report of the Mitchell

trial is to place all proceedings and all

the facts in possession of the public.

The trial is in itself an event of great

moment. The series of occurrences lead-

ing up to the present climax has attract-ed immense attention not only in Ore-

gon, but throughout the United States.

There has been great diversity of opin-

Senator Mitchell, and many persons

have believed that he has been made

the United States Government. These

faithful transcript of the testimony,

and all of it, will be able to determine

finally and forever whether their belief

has been well founded. They will learn,

too, whether the activity of President

Roosevelt and his representatives in

frauds and attempting to bring to jus-

tice the alleged swindlers and conspira-

has had for its basis a malicious desire

member of the Oregon Congressional

The casual reader of The Oregonian

ous labor involved in this undertak-

does not, perhaps, understand the enor-

ing on its part. Take the issue of yes-

terday, for example. The stenographic

cluding the stenographic report,

President's latest message, which was an

exceptionally long document, took up

only about thirteen columns of space in

The Oregonian, making about 17,000

words, the gigantic task that this news-

paper has before it may perhaps be

The mechanical achievement is not

the only one. To take down in short-

trial and to transcribe the reporters'

and for typographical composition by

magnitude. Speed, accuracy,

tes in time for the labor of editing

delegation.

ords,

fully appreciated.

bing to the bottom the alleged land

rs has been justified, or whether it

degrade and punish an important

ons, by reading in The Oregonian a

on as to the merits of the case against

The Associated Press has nothing with which we are The evils. The error corporate in name, but individual in fact. Guilt is always personal. So have as officials can hids behind their corpora-tions, no remedy can be effective. When the Gevernment searches out the guilty men and whatever from government or from the public. It is simply an association of persons engaged in the publication of collection and exchange of news. The makes corporate wrong-doing mean personal pumlahment and disbusor, the laws will be field in which they operate is open to all who choose to enter it. The Associ-If this rule of granting immunity ated Press therefore is not a franchise

from punishment to the officials of the concern. It has nothing whatever from offending railroad companies is fol-lowed in all cases, there will be no punthe public or from government, and can't be compared in the remotest way ent for any violations of the Elkins with street-car lines, with gas or tele-phone companies. There is not an elelaw. The excuses offered by Secretary Morton are too thin and transparent to ment of privilege in it, and it has nothbear the strong light of publicity, and ing that is subject to taxation-no propfrom appearances the President has erty, privilege or franchise, no easepermitted his zeal in behalf of a perment either of public or private nature. sonal friend and member of his official no stock, no money-nothing but the activity of its members engaged in colfamily to overstep his usually excellent judgment in such matters. This Santa lection and exchange of news with each Fe case will not speedily pass out of public notice, and, like Banquo's ghost, Hence there is nothing in equily or in it will reappear to bother some of the justice or in the laws of the land re-

friends of the accused men. Mr. Morquiring it to share the joint product of ton's vindication is on a par with that the activity and enterprise of its members with any person or persons not of don't do it again." the association, nor ever will be. Equally certain it is that there is noth--

DEATH ON A FAST TRAIN.

The terrible disaster which snuffed out more than a score of lives on the Twentieth Century Limited will, for a time, cause the more timid travelers to take pamage on slower trains. If it is proven, as charged, however, that the accident was due to an open awitch, it is not clear that much, if any, of the blame for the disaster can be charged up against the high speed of the train. It is noticeable that the loss of life in this latest disaster was smaller than that in a collision on the Western Maryland Railroad a week ago, when the train was moving at only less than half the speed which the Lake Shore's crack train was showing when she huried so many of her passengers into eternity. It is fully as painful to be killed on a slow train as on a fast one, but the horror of the disaster to the Twentieth Century Limited is intensified by contemplation of the tremendous speed at which the train was flying. In mention of the Pennsylvania Railroad's fast train in these columns about a week ago, it was stated that "the timid traveler will experience an involuntary shudder in mentally contemplating the effect should a broken rall, misplaced switch or other cause send this flying mass of hundreds of tons of steel and

wood into the ditch with its human freight." The possibility of such a cene became an actuality much sooner than was expected, but the only new feature in the wreck was the high speed of the train. There were the same burning care

eport alone occupied nineteen columns with their pinioned victims dying in of closely-set matter (nonparell), or omewhat more than 26,090 words. The awful agony, the crunch and grinding of wood and steel welding into a mass account of the trial, with its descriptive of wreckage, the splintering of glass, and pictorial features, made a total, including the stenographic report, of twenty-four columns, or approximately 30,000 words. Besides this, The Oregothe engineer lying dead under his engine, even the same old misplaced switch that in the past has cost so many lives was alleged to be here in meeting of the Common Council. Many nian contained an unusual volume of important telegraphic and local news, evidence. All these scenes and features making an aggregate of eighty-four col have appeared in other trainwrecks on slower trains, and they will appear umns, or somewhat more than 100,000 When it is recalled that the again in the future on slow as well as

fast trains. If, as the railroad company claims. the switch was turned purposely, no punishment on earth is too great for the criminal guilty of the deed, and if it was the result of carelessness on the part of an employe, there also should the punishment fit the crime. In order that an example may be afforded to hand the proceedings of the Mitchell promote vigilance on the part of other employes.

LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETIES.

The Oregonian is work of exceptional By common consent it is admitted Intelligence, indefatigable industry and great physical stamina are all necessary in the reporter. These qualities Mr. Sholes, who has undertaken the work, tual amount and value of the assets, the formed and old ones renewed. asesses in an eminent degree. When liabilities, and as to recent manage

gestions for National "effective supe "noision" over "great insurance corpora tions which do an interstate busine The comparative word "great" should not govern a question of this kind. The report of Superintendent Hendricks, of the State Insurance Department of New York, published on the same day as the

President's letter to Mr. Morton, is good evidence that a state officer deal most effectively with an office like the Equitable, and there are none greater. The other ground for the Pres ident's suggestion seems to be the term "interstate" as applied to life insurance business. This is also a new departure. National control over interstate commerce is reserved in the Con-stitution. For reasons of convenience, more, perhaps, than on logical grounds this reservation has been and is being widely extended. In this all acquiesce. But reasoning by which the ordinary and legitimate business of the Equita ble, for example, is called "interstate is hard to follow. The office has its home and habitation and citizenship in the State of New York, where, its business both originates and centers. That offered by the verdict "Not guilty, but the State of New York through its commissioner can supervise, through its ourts can control and restrain, through its laws can govern, is being demon-strated now. New York has no wider powers than any state in this Union. Let the states do their work first. If

they fall so to do, and their failure is essential, not accidental, it will be time to consider how far "behind the state stands the Nation."

Parmalee's 'bus line has carried mil lions of people across the City of Chi-cago, where for years the owner of the line had practically a monopoly of the business of the railroads and hotels. Having this monopoly, Parmalee naturally at times charged a dollar for a 50-cent ride, and by industry and frugality accumulated a fortune of \$400,000. But few of the men who paid Parmalee a dollar for the 50-cent rides will now regret it when they read of the disposition of the fortune left by the 'bus magnate. All of the money is left in a trust fund, and the net income is to be ed to the purchase of food and fuel for poor and needy families. Here is an example which other rich men of Chicago could follow without jeopardiz ing the opinion in which they are held by the public.

The degree of LL. D. was conferred by direction of the board of trustees of Pacific University last Wednesday upon Mayor George H. Williams, of this city. and Governor George E. Chamberlain, The honor is prized by the recipients as coming wholly without their knowledge of its intent, and further because of the fact that this old and honored university is not prodigal of favors in this line. Governor Chamberlain was present and made happy and appreciative response to the honor conferred. Mayor Williams, serenely unconscious of the honor that the day held for him, was at the time presiding over a prosaic regrets were expressed at his absence on an occasion that brought him a title at once deserved and unsought.

An old-fashioned picnic was held a few days ago in a grove on the banks of the Rickreall, in Polk County, near the old home of Senator Nesmith. Of course every one had an enjoyable The old-time picnics "that our infancy knew" have never been surpassed as a means of wholesome nealthful enjoyment for body and soul, Old and young find refreshment and invigoration in a day of relaxation in the shady coolness of a Willamette Valley grove, where the purity of the water dispels all thought of other drink and that the new chairman of the Equitable | the bountiful spread of home-made eathas gone to work in the right way by ables puts all bakeshops to shame. setting the best experts obtainable to Good cheer without limit prevails or work to ascertain facts-as to the ac- such occasions; new friendships are

OREGON OZONE A Ballad of Butter.

Mary had a little goat; It followed her to school; Little Mary didn't know't Was dead against the rule.

All the children laughed and played To see the capers cut By a goat that stayed and stayed Of childish pranks the butt,

When that little goat had been In school an hour, about, After having butted in. Why, then it butted out.

The public is informed through the columns of an enterprising horticultural jourand that the raised bottom in the strawberry box "is a decided advantage in protecting the top jayer of berries in the box beneath." and does not exist merely for the purpose of enabling the dealer to palm off short box on the buyer. This is a sufficient explanation so far as the straw berry box is concerned, but it does not elucidate the raised bottom in the sodapop bottle.

One of the unfathomable mysteries of ommerce lies in the fact that when a 10-cent clgar becomes "the heat seller in the world" its quality declines to the S-cent grade.

Miss Adelaide Clifford, an actress in De Wolf Hopper's "Wang" company, has won a verdict of \$2000 for damages received while she was walking the ties on the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad. The evidence showed that Miss Clifford was not inting ties in the time-honored manner of the peripatetic Thesplan hitting the tie trail for home after a barnstorming Waterico, but merely walked along the track to reach a station after the trainmen informed her that the train was not going farther. Nevertheless, the verdict should send a thrill of hopeful anticipation through the surging breast of the lean and hungry Tasslus the melancholy Havelet and the jolly Second Grave-Digger, who heretofore have faced the future with foreboding and have entertained grave doubts as to whether their soles stand the strain.

Chambermaids and beliboys at Portland hotels are hereby informed that if they will keep their eyes wide open next week they may learn something greatly to their. advantage. The members of the National Editorial Association are coming. Mr. William A. Ashbrook, corresponding secretary of that select coterie of multi-mily lionaires, left \$9000 in paper money in his apartments at a St. Louis hotel last week when he departed to join his editorial brethren. Through the carelesaness of the chambermaid, Mr. William Miller, a brother editor, was permitted to find the \$9000, which he restored to Mr. Ashbrook, his zeal to restore the money he left \$18,000 in his topcoat pocket, lying on a seat in the first section of the train, which he missed. There are several hundred of these opulent editors, and their oney will be good here in Oregon, even if it is made of such filmsy material that they can carry \$18,000 of it in one pocket and forget that they have it.

"All's Well That Ends Well."

was a Harvard junior, and he knew He his Latin and Greek. And she was a little simpleton

down there by the creek; And he was handsome and winning, though learned, not overwise,

And she had hair of billowed gold and heaven's blue for eyes.

He was spending his last vacation, and he stayed up there at the house. he seemed to like the girl from the

first, though she was shy as a mouse; the pair went fishing together (she lived, you know, by the creek)-

And men are sometimes 'witching, and women are sometimes weak!

And so it happened that never a college vacation passed

HOW ASSOCIATED PRESS WORKS FOR NEWS ouncement from New York of Pope Leo's Death a World "Beat First Magnitude-Lightning Moves for Supremacy-Points

Melville E Stone in July Century. worn out by a long period of exacting labor, I set out for Philadelphia, with the purpose of spending a few days at Atlan-tic City. When I reached the Broad-Street Station in the Quaker City, I was Street Station in the Quaker City, I was startled by a number of policemen crying my name. I stepped up to one, who pointed to a boy with an urgent message for me. President McKinley had been shot at Buffalo, and my presence was re-quired at our Philadelphia office at once. A message had been sent to me at Tren-ton, hut my train had left the station precisely two minutes ahead of its ar-rival. Handing my baggage to a notel parter, I jumped into a cab and dashed away to our office. I remained there un-til dawn of the following morning.

. . . The opening pages of the story of the assassingtion were badly written, and I ordered a substitute prepared. An in-experienced reporter stood beside Presi-dent McKinley in the Music Hall at Burfalo when Cholgosm fired the fatal shot He seized a neighboring telephone and notified our Buiffalo correspondent, and then pulled out the wires, in order to and render the telephone a wreck, so that it was a full half hour before any addition-al details could be secured. I ordered competent men and expert telegraph op-erators from Washington, Albany, New York and Boston to hurry to Buffalo by the fastest trains. All that night the Bufthe fastest trains. All that night the Buf-falo office was pouring forth a hastily written but faithful and complete account of the tragedy, and by daybreak a rollef force was on the ground. Day by day, through the long vigil while the Free-dent's life hung in the balance, each in-cident was truthfully and graphically re-norted. In the clearing hungs of the great ported. In the closing hours of the great tragedy false reports of the President's death were circulated for the purpose of influencing the stock market, and to counteract them, Secretary Cortelyou wrote frequent signed statements, giving the facts to the Associated Press,

The illness and death of the late Port onstituted another event which called or news gathering ability of a high or-Preparations had been made in advance. Conferences were held with the Italian officials and with the authori-ties at the Vatican, all looking to the establishment of relations of such intimacy as to guarantee us the news. We had been notified by the Italian Minister of Telegraphs shat, because of the strain-ed relations existing between his government and the papal court he spould for-bid the transmission of any telegrams announcing the Pope's death for two hours after the fatal moment, in order that Cardinal Rampolia might first no-

LONG NEWSPAPER SERVICE.

St. Louis Globe Democrat.

any activity last half a century, but Henry R. Davis, in the various capacities from carrier up to business manager, has been part of the Providence Journal for that length of time, and that paper has issued a book telling of it and giving a sketch of itself during the past five decades. This is a remarkable record, and recalls the fact that Senator Joseph R. Hawley, who died a few weeks ago, was sditorially connect-ed with the Hartford Courant for fortyed with the Hartford Courant for forty-five years, except during his service in the army in the War of the Rebellion. Senator Anthony had a similar relation to the Providence Journal for nearly as long a time. Ex-Senator Chandler, of New Hampshire, has a newspaper con-nection extending over several docades. Instances of long newspaper service can be found outside of New England also. Horace Greelev was editor of the also. Horace Greeley was editor of the New York Tribune from its foundation in 1841 to his nomination for President in 1872, or thirty-one years. This was considered at the time a notably long record, but it has been beaten in dura-tion by his successor. Whitelaw Reid became editor in 1872 and continued at the head of the paper this mele Through such delightful byways, nor sped the days so fast: And when September came again and he had to say "Good-bye." There was a tear on a maiden's check killed during this campaign, besides 12 Colonels commanding brigades, six of them at Cold Harbor alone. At Franklin seven Confederate Generals were killed, and during Sherman's campaign five, the became its editor-in-chief. Henry Wat-terson has been editor of the Courier-Journa; for much more than a generation. The Portland Oregonian has had H. W. Scott for its editor for forty years. For forty years Crosby S. Noyes has been editor of the Washington Star. For over half a century, as boy and man, Daniel M. Houser, the head of the Globe-Democrat, has been connected with this Union Army losing three. At Gettysh five Confederate and five Union Generals were killed, ten in all, besides three Union Coloneia commanding brigades. At Frederleksburg two Union and two Confederato Generals were killed. In all, the Union Army lost in killed or morially wounded 59 general officers, 23 brevet Brigadier-Generals and 34 Colonels com-Democrat, has been connected with this paper and its progenitors. The longest councetion with a single newspaper which we ever heard of was that of William Durant, who, at the time of his death, two years ago, as treasurer of the Boston Transcript Com-pany, had been associated with that pa-per for seventy years. William E. Cra-mer, at his death the other day, had been editor of the Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin since its establishment by him in 1867, or fifty-eight years, which almost breaks all the records among heads of daily newspapers. The only instance Democrat, has been connected with this manding brigades. Taking the proportion as one killed to 4.52 wounded, this would indicate that 407 Confederate Generals were killed or wounded out of a total of 415. Probably, however, the general officers were the se-lected wictims of the sharpshooters, who shot to kill. In one regiment of the Civil War, subjected to the ordinary casualities of battle, the First Minnesota at Gettya burgs. 35 per cent of those engaged were killed and 55 per cent were killed and wounded. In 42 other regiments the perdaily newspapers. The only instance beating it which we recall at this mo-ment is that of Alfred E. Burr, who had been editor of the Hartford Times for instance had centuge of killed in different battles was been editor of the Hartford Times for almost sixty years. For two-thirds of a century the Springfield (Mass.) Republic-an has been under the control of a Sam-uei Bowles, the present head being the grandson of the founder. For seventy years the New York Herald has been un-der the proprietorship and general direc-tion of a James Gordon Benneti, father and son, the present Benneti being in control thirty-three years. 18 or more. The ratio of killed to wounded in 56 battles of the Civil War was 1 to 4.5 varying between 1 to 3 at Williams-burg and 1 to 8.7 at Arkansas Post. The burg and 1 to s. at Arkansas Post. The average among the regular troops was 1 to 452. The mortally wounded equaled 64 per cent of those killed outright. In the German army during the war with France the proportion was 61 per cent.

Yankee Inventiveness.

Lippincott's, In a little Massachusetts town lives a

man who for two causes enjoys death less local fame. For one thing, he is the only native of the place who has been to Europe; and he, moreover, per-formed while there the ensuing feat.

Dogs and Snake Bites.

New York American. Preof of the old assertion that dogs

"Number of missing bond, ——. (Signed) Monteñore." This bore on its face no reference to the death of the Pontiff. and would be transmitted. The blank was to be filled with the hour and mo-ment of the Pope's death, reversed. That is, if he died at 2:33 the message would read: "Meistone, New York, Number of missing bond, 32. (Signed) Montefore." The object of reversing the figures was, of course, to prevent a guess that it was a deception in order to convery the news. If the hour had been properly written they might have suspected the purport of the message. "Number of missing bond, Montedore." This bore o the mersage.

When finally the Pope died, although his bed was completely surrounded by burning candles an attendant hurried from the room into an ante-room and called for a candle to pass before the lips of the dying man, to determine whether he still breathed. This was the signal for another attache, who stepped to the telephone and announced to our correspondent, two fulles away, that the Pope was dead. Unfortunately the hour of his death was four minutes past 4, so that whichever way it was written, whether directly or the reverse, it was

Nevertheless the figures were inserted in the blank in the bulletin which had been prepared, it was filed with the tele-graph company, and it came through to New York in exactly nine minutes from the moment of death. It was relayed at Havre, and again at the terminal of the French Cable Company in New York, whence it came to our office on a short wire. The receiving operator there shoutwire. The receiving operator there should ed the news to the entire operating room of the Associated Press, and every man on every key on every circuit out of New York fisched the announcement that the Pope had died at four minutes past 4: so that the fact was known in San Franco within eleven minutes after its

The Reuter, Havas and Wolff agents The Reuter, Havas and Wolff agents located in our office in New York re-transmitted the announcement to Lon-don, Paris and Berlin, giving those cities the first news of the event. A comparison of the report of the London Times with that of any morning paper in the United States on the day following the death of the Pope would show that both as to quantity and quality our report was vasily superior. The London Times had a column and a half; the New York Times had a page of the graphic story of the scenges in and about the Vatican. The New York Times story was ours. This was no notable an event that it oc-This was so notable an event that it oc-casioned comment throughout the world.

Seven hundred newspapers, representing every conceivable view of every public question, sit in judgment upon the Associated Press dispatches. A repre-sentative of each of these papers has a that Cardinal Rampolia might first no-tify the papal representatives in foreign counties. This was done as a gracious act of courtesy to the church. To inset the emergency we arranged a code message to be sent by all cable ines, which should be addressed, not to the Associated Press, but to the general manager in person, and should read:

LOSS WAS GREATER.

Army and Navy Journal.

From the archives of the Confederacy on deposit in the War Department, the Military Secretary, Major General Ainaworth, has brought to light some interesting data concerning the commanders of the Confederate forces in the field in the fateful days of 1851-65.

Deducting Il names of officers who did not qualify for one reason or another, we have in this list 415 Generals, and the records given show that of these 74 were killed or mortally wounded in action, or 18 per cent.

This is a very striking showing when we recall the almost entire immunity of the Russian and Japanese armies fighting in Manchuria from fatal casualities to general officers. We recall but one who has been reported killed in battle in the Far East and if there are others they must be very fer: whereas the percentmust be very few; whereas the percent-age of casualties among the general officers of the Confederacy cess of the percentage of casualties among the rank and me of the Russian and Japanese armies as given by General Bliss. who has the best of facilities for learning the facts. No less than 31 general officers of the Confederacy were killed in battle during the 11 months of campaigning and ending with Appoint of the Wilderness and ending with Appoint or. Ten Brigadier-Generals of the Union Army were also

Seldom does anybody's connection with

lions upon millions. Greatest of getrich-quick schemes ever pushed in Oregon are these.

The Assessor takes notice of this spe cles of property and of its value. He calls on the District Attorney for an opinion, and that official holds that these corporate franchises are proper-ties, and should be taxed. After the recent sale he could come to no other con clusion.

Oregon has suddenly awakened to the fact that these corporate privileges have enormous value. Bonds have built the visible property, and the whole market value of the stock is based on the franchise, which itself is a monopoly. Its value, moreover, has been wholly created by the community, and a few individuals have usurped it

We may require, and probably must have, specific statutes, to bring this species of property in Oregon under proper taxation. We must have a law which these monopolistic franchises shall be declared property for the purposes of taxation; and probably the best way to get it would be by direct initiative petition. It could not beaten before the people, but might be in the Legislature. For they who hold these privileges-our "first families and "best citizens"-will have their hired agents and paid lobbyists in the halls of legislation, to steal bills, work committees, play with normal schools and other local grafts, to defeat just taxation. The state of this subject is a forecast of strenuous times in the politics and legislation of Oregon

WHAT IS A FBANCHISE?

If The Oregonian possessed a franfranchise should be assessed for taxa-

When an effort was made two or three years ago in the Legislature to treat the Associated Press as a franchise monopoly, The Oregonian explained at length and in detail the nature and character of the Associated Press, showed that it had no public rights, no rights derived from the public, was not a stock organization, made no profits, had no revenues, paid no posed of newspapers which exchanged news with each other, and that each member of the club or group of members hired the telegraph companies to carry their news, Seeing, from this precentation, that there was not an element of franchise or monopoly in it, the Legislature of Oregon refused to treat company.

o others than its own members. What does the word franchise meanused in this sense of a property sub-ject to taxation? It is defined as "a mined by the counsel originally emprivilege arising from the grant of a ployed by the Government to probe the

his labors in the courtroom are completed, the task of dictating to a corps of typewriters begins. The rapidity and excellence with which this labor is performed are remarkable, for the copy is all delivered to The Oregonian before midnight each day. Up to this time, while the great mechanical facilities of The Oregonian have been severely tried, they have stood the test. and the paper has gone to press on its regular schedule. The expense of doing these things is cheerfully borne by The Oregonian in the confident expectation its enterprise will be recognized that and its desire to tell the whole truth

DECEIVING THE BLIND GODDESS.

will be appreciated and vindicated.

That there has been a miscarriage of ustice in the Santa Fe rebate case is The Atchison, Topeka & Santa vice-president for a period of nearly two years, directly violated the provisions of the Elkins law by returning to the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company a heavy rebate on all of the coal shipped by the company over the Santa Fe lines. This rebate was so liberal that all opposition in the territory reached by the olorado company over the lines of the was the extinction of all semblance to ompetition with the Colorado company that Secretary Morton is not stretching the truth when he says that it was the only shipper in the field, and consequently there could be no discrimina-

Secretary Morton denies that he was a stockholder in the fuel company st the time it was enjoying these special chise it would be very right that such rates which no other company could secure, but when the Colorado Fuel & tion at its value. But The Oregonian Iron Company was enjoying its great-has no franchise. Its owners have no est prosperity, about three years ago, it was noticeable that what is known in Wall street as the "Santa Fe crowd" were among the big winners by the upturn in the market. If the matter were probed to the bottom, it is not improb able that it would be found that there were some officials in the railroad company who were stockholders in the fuel company. This phase of the matter, however, is not directly connected with the point at issue. It was proven bedividends, but simply was a club com- yond the shadow of a doubt that the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad was guilty of flagrant violation of the of investigation and publication. All Elkins law. Blame for that violation rests with some one in authority in the company. Mr. Morton states that it ame necessary to protect a traffic

the Associated Press as a common car-rier, to regard it as a franchise or prop-ule, which gave to the fuel company erty, or to require it to deliver its news such an enormous advantage over its competitors. It surely had the sanction of some one higher in authority than

vereign or government, or from pre- matter, and their sentiments in regard acquiesce in President Roosevelt's sug- also the pupil and the teacher.

ment, and its influence on each and all of the foregoing items. Light first, ac-tion next. Enough is known already to set the policy-holders' minds at rest on the main point, the essential stability solvency of the institution. and. Whether past management has served to diminish the surplus to any material extent we shall hear in due time. It may turn out after all that the eminent gentlemen who handled the funds in manner peculiar to "high finance" and shared their profits with the office which provided the money basis for investment or speculation have, in the ultimate summing up, added to the total assets. It is a traditional patent among that class to gain money by trading, and if any one in the United States had mastered that art, it was the very men who pulled the strings of the transactions of which so much has Fe Railroad, of which Paul Morton was been heard. Whether such business was legitimate, even decent, for directors of an insurance office, handling the aggregate savings of the thrifty and provident multitude, is a far different question. The glamor of successful money-making has an undeniably blinding effect on both the public and on those immediately interested. Methods and customs are thus obscured. In Santa Fe was eliminated. So complete the end, however., the yet stronger searchlight of instructed public opinion dominates the situation, and many doubtful things are made exceedingly plain. To this end the Equitable scandals have contributed.

It is not too much to predict that the day of syndicates and secret agreem among life office directors, at any rate to make personal profits from handling the office funds, is about past. Ex-President Cleveland is not the first or only one to proclaim that the offic

of director, president or manager of such corporations is about synonymous with trustee, and that the handling of trust funds for private gain is not only wrong, but very hazardous, with the door of the penitentiary in sight. "They (or we) all do it," has been the only possible excuse up to date. And what a poor one!

How is it to be generally known, from this time on, that insurance offices generally are on firm and clean ground? Various states have answered the question by creating insurance commissioners, charged with the power and duty states might do so. If powers are not wide enough, they can be extended, for this is a matter in which the states of this Union have undentable and complete control. Every corporation has a birthplace and home. Every one knows that a corporation is an artificial per

son, created through compliance with the laws and regulations of the state of its origin-which can supervise its creation, control its working, lay down rules for its management, tax its profits, fix the conditions of its life, death and burial. It is difficult, therefore, to

An automobile stage is running be-

ween Salem and Independence, making the run of twelve miles in an hour and fifteen minutes. Two round trips a day is the service given. A smooth-surfaced road with curves reduced would make great increase in speed possible. and would reduce the amount of power needed as well as the wear and tear sustained. Perhaps the experiment between Salem and Independence will show that interurban auto lines are practicable and that interurban electric rallway lines cannot successfully compete therewith. The trial of the horseless stage will be watched with interest.

The sugar trust lopped off 10 cents per hundred on the price of sugar yesterday. The decline, coming at a time when there is an unusual demand for the great staple for preserving purwould have been somewhat mystifying had people failed to remember that the trust is beginning to feel the alleged necessity for crushing out the competition of an independent company which is widening its swath in the Pa cific Coast field. A decline in the price of sugar or oll should never be taken as an evidence of generosity on the part of the skillful manipulators who ontrol such a large share of the world's supply of those important commodities

Dilapidated flags, whether on schoolouses, public buildings, stores or dwellings should be replaced with new bunting. This is a season when Portland should not show neglect. speaking of flags, the one that sur-mounts the 200-foot staff is too small.

If the dove of peace should land in Washington, which all of us hope, there will be little danger of injury from the American Eagle. He is blg and strong and willing to fight, but he never will start a row with a peaceful one of his kind. -

The Washington Post says Chicago is a very decent place between strikes Whenever a newspaper of high character like our Washington contemporary makes an assertion of this sort, it should simultaneously produce the proof.

The undenied statement that Grover Cleveland has bought an automobile. taken in connection with his trusteeship of the Equitable, may be taken as good evidence that he has retired from poll tics

At this distance it looks as if Measure Hyde and Alexander when they went into their holes pulled the holes in after them.

This is the season when the schoolhouse janitor feels the joy of freedom;

-

with such delightful by Three

that would grace an angel's eye.

"I'll come, my sylvan sorceress," he said, as he pressed her hand. With other hifalutin' words that she

uldn't understand; And I felt as I saw that parting that Fate

once more had frowned in the coils of a treacherous trusting heart had wound.

She waited all through the Autumn and all through the Winter's storm,

And all through the April showers and the Maydays mild and warm;

But still her lover was absent. "He cometh pot," she said;

'Alas! I am aweary, aweary! I would that I were dead!

You see, he had taught her Tennyson, and also Pope and Pos,

many another thing of note that a a scholar's wife should know; But still she was sweet and simple, and

atill she was trusting and true. And still she believed that her Harvard man would come again to woo.

And he came at last-on the rarest day that ever was born to June.

With a bachelorhood diploma and a Boston poo-veneer spoo

Came back again to the neighborhood he'd lived in all his life,

And settled down on his father's farm and made the girt his wife!

ROBERTUS LOVE.

England's Money.

The income tax in Great Britain is levied on \$3,598,308,000 af annual in-come, and produces \$155,000,000 of reve-

formed while there the ensuing feat, which the neighbors still recount with breathless admirstion: While in Bome the New Englander was shown a certain shrine before which burned a solitary taper. "That taper," explained the guide in machine-built English, "that taper he has burned before this shrine 20 years. He a miraculous taper. Never he has been exaue for the government. If Gibsen Bowles is right in saying that only one-third of the National in-come pays the tax, the total of incomes miraculous taper. Never he has been ex-

come pays the tax, the total of incomes of the United Kingdom must be \$10,-500,000,000, a sum almost inconceivable. That is only \$244 a year for each person, if it were equally divided. It isn't Less than 750,000 persons have more than half the total income. From money invasted abroad alone Green Britan's consideling personal and

Ins lances viewed the miracle-candic in silence for a full minute. Then, leaning slowly forward, he estinguished the flame with one mighty "puff." Turning with a triumphant chuckle to the scandalized and speechless guide, he Great Britain's capitalists probably re-ceive \$1,203,000,000 a year of income, thought no one can tell exactly. It is probable that the total of priannounced caimly: "Wa'al, it's sout now!" the

vate incomes, great and small. In the United States is over \$25,000,000,000, though the sum cannot be so closely estimated as in the island kingd-

Refused Their Money.

New York Evening Sun. Sam Hey, a saloonkeeper who had kept a place in Bradford, England, and died the other day, would give workman only one drink on payday till they had been home. He used to say: "You must go home and give your wife your wages. You may then come hack and have an-other drink when you have washed your-self and brunhed up." The English work-man does not clean up before leaving his workshop. know the remedy for every poison they are heir to was furnished in part by are heir to was furnished in part by Joseph Gaughier's canine pet, near Maple Grove, Lehigh County. The pet in question was blitten on the heel by a deadly copperhead and then_disap-peared. Hours later the dog was found half buried in the cory soil of a swamp a mile or so from home. He remained in that position for about a day, when he returned home apparently none the worse for his deadly snake-bite. workshop.

Secretary John Hay, Poet.

The stanzas below, entitled "Humility," are from the pen of John Hay, better known as diplomat, editor and historian, than as a poet. The verses were written for the World's Christian Endeavor Convention at Washington a few years ago, but have just found enduring place, being chosen now as one of the hymns in the new "Hymns of Worsaip and Service":

Lord! from far-nevered slimes we come To meet at last in Thee, our Home. Thou who hast been our guide and guard Be still our hope, our rich res

Defend us, Lord, from every ill. Strengthen our hearts to do Thy will, In all we plan and all we do Still keep us to Thy service true.

tinguish. For seven long century that taper has miraculously burn before our shrine and not once has he been-what you call-'nut out' " O let us hear the inspiring word Which they of old at Horeb heard. Breaths to our hearts the high co "Go coward and possess the land. you call-'put out.'" The Yankee viewed the miracle-candle mand.

> Thou who art Light, shins on each sould Thou who art Truth, each mind control! Open our eyes and make us see The path which leads to heaven and Theat

A Stage Farmer.

Puck

Grinnand Barrett.-Hamfatter has

Just bought a farm. E. Forest Frost -- Does he know any-thing about farming? Grinnand Barrett.-Lord, yes! Why, he played in "The Old Homestead" and "Way Down East" for years.

Miles Under the Spot Light.

Pittsburg Dispatch, General Miles' campaign for Governor of Massachusetts will enable the Nation to judge the truth of the long-standing