The Oregonian

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Or., sa Second-Class Matter, SUBSCRIPTION RATES. LT INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE. TI (By Mail or Express.) DAILY, SUNDAY INCLUDED. rive months.....

One month.

Delivered by carrier, per month.

Less time, per week.

Sanday, one year

Weekly, one year (Issued Thursday).

Sunday and Weekly, one year.

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The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency-New fork, rooms 43-50, Tribune building. Chi-ago, rooms 510-512 Tribune building.

KEPT ON SALE. Auditorium Annex, Postoffice News Ca., 178 Dearborn street.

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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, JANUARY 11.

BATTLING RAILROAD GIANTS.

The railroad plot thickens in the Palific Northwest, and occasional peeps brough the veil of mystery which hides he mighty forces behind the scenes only serve to strengthen the belief that Oregon, Washington and Idaho are ut to witness the greatest struggle that ever engaged the attention of railroad-builders in the West. The report from Chicago that the Harriman Interests were behind the North Coast road, now seeking entrance into Seattle, has some of the earmarks of authenticity. The Harriman-Hill fight is on in dead Pacific Northwest the dummies who have been put forward have been at times shunted into the background long enough for the public to get a view of the real power behind the

Mr. Harriman regards the building of the North-Bank Railroad by the Northern Pacific as a direct invasion of terriory in which he had reigned supreme for so long that he thought he owned it. It is thus perfectly natural that he should resent invasion of his terrifory by an immediate move on the territory of the enemy. He is fighting every inch of the advance of the Hill road to Portland by the most strenuous methods known to the science of railroading. And yet it is easily apparent that all of the craft and cunning of his own, as well as that of his clever employes, will not keep the Hill road out Portland and Portland territory. With the advent of the Northern Pacific there will naturally be a division ch has heretofore pa tribute to the Harriman lines. And it is highly probable that Mr. Harriman has serious intentions of replacing some of the traffic which he will lose in the division of territory with some that he will draw from the exclusively Hill territory on Puget Sound.

Portland can no more expect Mr. Harriman to overlook the Puget Sound field than Seattle and Tacoma could expect to keep Mr. Hill out of Portland territory. Under the new regime both Portland and the Puget Sound ports will have the advantage of competition. and the increasing development of the tributary country will give not only the Hill and the Harriman systems plenty of business, but will also supply an overflow sufficient to earn dividends for several other roads than are now heading in this direction. Mr. Harriman may strengthen his position by a line to Puget Sound, but the strongest anchor which he is putting out to windward is the building of the numerous long-overdue branch lines in the territory tributary to his main lines, and to Port-

The coming of more transcentinental lines to Portland is a matter of tremendous importance to this city and the entire Columbia Basin. Of even greater importance is the development of the long-neglected regions of richness now in readiness to pay tribute to this city as soon as transportation facilities are provided. Mr. Harriman is now devoting himself to the branch-line needs with great diligence, and so long as Portland's requirements in this line of construction are met we can view with equanimity his construction of a line

ONE PHASE OF IT.

- Line

No man should be prudent, industri-us, economical and self-denying, throughout the course of his life. For, should such be his life and character, the law would penalize his efforts, insist on taking away from his estate the bestowing it on "society," for support of those who are too lazy to work and for themselves. This is the inheritance

The ideal citizen, then, is the indolent, The ideal citizen, then, is the indolent, an a hundred playe. The elder Boiton worthless individual, who never exerts is a perfectly familiar figure on the himself or accumulates any property;your hand-to-mouth, beggarly aristocrat, who is much better than anybody eise because throughout his life he has been lazy, duil and worthless. He is some enough, but without individuality; gret. General Harrison took up the too proud to be a drudge, and if he any one of them might change places earns anything-which is seldom-he with any other and no harm done; spends it at once upon excesses, and is Bub Hicks, the raw freshman, differs a good citizen because he is always from the others only in his clothes and to the simple walks of agriculture. "dead broke,"

The late P. W. Gillette, of Portland, made the mistake of working hard, of little more so. As for the women, they cultivating the virtues of prudence and are, if possible, less original than the of economical and yet decent livingthereby leaving a small estate. The state now wants it, under the inheritance tax law. It will help somewhat to support a number of those who are

too indolent to support themselves. It is not to say that the inheritance phase of it. The assumption on which daughter in "Ben Hur," and a thousand tax ought to be cut out. But this is one

property, even in moderate degree ought to be penalized. The best officen. then, is the man who doesn't exert himself, does nothing in the world, and who leaves nothing behind him.

THE GREEDY SLUGGARDS.

Too many tots and parcels of land in Portland are still held unimproved, for increase of values. This is an old evil has been an evil these forty years, and more.

As values of the unimproved lots and parcels of land rise, through the energy of the community, to which these deadhead owners contribute nothing, their greed increases and grows. They build nothing, but wait for the spirit and activity of others to make them rich. The like greedy sloth or slothful greed is witnessed in other young and growing cities.

Here the Kansas City Times says a good thing, worth repetition. A partial remedy, it says, might be obtained by a change in the method of raising taxes. Were the valuations placed more on the ground and less on the improvements, part of the burden assumed by the progressive citizen who makes his land useful and enriches the sluggards round about him would be removed.

Hence the Kansas City paper justly says: "The enterprising man who is ready to develop his property by the erection of dwellings or stores or office buildings or factories is not so com: that communities can afford to penalize his efforts by any burden in addition to that imposed by monopolistic combinations"

THE OREGONIAN'S GUESTS.

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The Oregonian has undertaken to give twenty-three young women a fifteen days' outing in Yellowstone Park during the coming Summer. The paper will pay all expenses, and it will otherwise provide every facility and convenience for a comfortable and enjoyable journey. Selection of The Oregonian's guests will be made by readers of this paper in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. It will be a popular voting contest on conditions that will be named hereafter. The contest begins January 15, 1906, and ends May 15, 1906-abundant time to demonstrate absolutely who are the twenty-three young ladies that stand highest in popular regard and favor in the various communities of the Northwest.

The Oregonian will say no more about this undertaking at this time, beyond giving its pledge that the voting contest and its results will be a project carried out with entire impartiality between all sarnest, and at a number of points in | the contestants, and that it is, in all respects, the most important and attractive contest ever undertaken by a newspaper in the Northwest. The Oregonian is quite sure that sufficient public interest will be aroused to justify all the trouble and expense it has assumed to make the project a complete success.

. THE COLLEGE WIDOW

Consider the moral situation of young man on his way to enter Bingham College who yields to the allurements of a woman and enters Atwater College instead. Nothing very bad about that. Surely a man may choose his own college freely. Yes, but this young man was going to Bingham to the sale in December by the directors play as an expert on the football team, of the Isthmian Railroad of \$628,000 not to study. He had given his promise and the team was depending on him. Remembering that the Canal Commis His situation was much the same as that of a lawyer who has received a more than enough to pay all its debts, retainer or a soldier who has enlisted. the transaction looks startlingly like a For either the lawyer or soldier to dishonor which the youth and beauty of the seductive Delila whose wiles prevailed over his fidelity would scarcely mitigate. May a football hero break his plighted faith which a soldier, a lawyer or a merchant is bound to hold

The traditions of the drama permit the base-born peasant to be a liar or even a thief. The comic characters may cheat, they may be pickpockets; but the hero must be a man of honor. He may be as stupid as Mr. Ade's Billy Bolton; be may be. like that doughty halfback, a mere unintelligent, though soon docile, animal, but he must not break his word. He must prefer honor before life and before love. Many traditions Mr. Ade has disregarded, to the charm of his play; but in defying this one and creating a hero who breaks his word for love without remorse or even apparent sense of having violated the high code of gentlemen's ethics, the playwright has planted a canker in the heart of his

charm of "The College Widow" must hero. . Big as he is and stupidly goodnatured, one feels quite certain that in the railroad business he will exercise honor as he does in football-not so much from malignity as from ignorance of the difference between right and wrong. He is typical, of course, but he is neither interesting nor pleasing. One almost regrets that Jane Wither spoon did not fool him, for he is just the sort of man to divorce her when her beauty fades and marry some sprightlier woman. That the football brute without intelligence or honor who serves as hero does not spoil the play, or even mar it much, at the first glance, only shows what a very good play "The College Widow" must be

upon the whole. None of the male characters singly adds much to the play, though they best part of what he had acquired, and make an agreeable little group. Any one of them at random might be dropped without being missed a great too worthless to accomplish anything deal. The college president is singularly imbecile. The tutor is purely conventional, and can be found better done American stage, and especially in the American novel. He is a mere shadow, and a rather faint shadow, of the wellknown "Senator." The boys are wholemanners. When broken in, he is just the same as the rest, only perhaps a men, though better drawn. The athletic girl is old in fiction; the grass widow is never omitted from Army stories, though in them she kieses subalterns instead of students. Jane Witherspoon, who bewitches the hero from honor and duty, is a thin echo of Cleo-

All the characters are co Not one of them gives the least sign of trivial, too utterly bald to account for its charm. Jane entices Billy to break his word with Bingham and play on the Atwater team. He wins the game and she marries him. That is all, absolutey all. Two acts, or scenes, whichever they may be, recount the seduction The third exhibits the game of football. The fourth seals the hero's happiness We must look elsewhere than in the plot for the element of delight in "The College Widow." Nor shall we find it in the literary style. Mr. Ade knows nothing of style and despises what he knows. His books are one enormous solecism. The language of his play is

slangy, thin and poor. The charm of the play, which is un deniable and very potent, lies partly in the youthfulness of the characters and their irresponsible conduct. Not in anything they do, but in the way they do it. Most that they do is foolish or wrong, and most of what they say is silly, but the freshnese of youth covers and beautifies it all. Moreover, the illusion of the college campus is fairly well maintained and that of the foot ball game is almost perfect. The boys and girls are real; the talk is clean, lively and amusing; the action is swift; the sexes are brought into pleasant and healthy intimacy; the situations are natural, and, above all, the excitement of the football game is nursed to a skillful climax. The memory of college days is agreeably awakened; the sentiments are mildly stirred; the moral sense is shocked just enough, perhaps, to be interesting. If this does not account for the charm of Mr. Ade's de-

PROGRESS IN PANAMA. The President in his hopeful message isely urges Congress not to reduce the salaries of the Isthmian Canal Commis sioners or their subordinates. Their employment upon the Isthmus, as he ays, is temporary. While engaged there they must drop out of the current of professional life at home. Their places will be filled, their merits forgotten, and when they return it will be almost as strangers to build up their reputations and business relations like mere beginners. This is a substantial sacrifice made by these men for the good of their country, and it merits

lightful play, what does or can?

Besides their financial sacrifice, the officers of the commission are obliged to live under conditions more or less dangerous to health. The comforts of civilization can be at best only partially established in such a place as Panama, where the climate, the work to be done and the habits of the people all tend to make misery perennial and health and happiness difficult. It can hardly be believed that the wish of such men as Mr. Gorman to reduce salaries comes from any good will to the canal or any real thought of economy Obstructionists always to this great National enterprise, as soon as one excuse falls they search for another and care little about reason or justice, so long as they can find fault.

With his message to Congress upon Isthmian affairs, President Roosevelt transmits a letter from Secretary Taff which explains two transactions that have been criticised a good deal, and not entirely without cause. The first is worth of bonds to pay debts of the road. sion owed the railroad at that time piece of franciad finance. rather smooths the matter over, but he made the directors buy back their bonds and has warned them not to try it again.

His other explanation refers to the notorious Markel supply contract, and is as satisfactory as the case admits. What one really hopes for is to see fewer occasions for explanation coming to light in Isthmian affairs, and a general settling down to steady, hard, honest work. When that happens, nobody will object to generous salaries for the workers, and, with Roosevelt and Taft both pushing, it is bound to happen

PROVIDING FOR EX-PRESIDENTS

duty to place ex-Presidents of the United States in suitable positions is never out of print for long at a time. is small, comprising at present a single individual, who seems to be perfectly able to fix his own status, financially and otherwise. It is also true that the list never has been a formidable one not be sought in the character of the and that in the very nature of things it is not likely to become so. Hence the effort in this direction would see to be overstrained and the columns that the same brutal contempt for faith and | are from year to year written about placing ex-Presidents to be burdened with much ado about nothing

As indubitable evidence that our o ex-President is amply able to take care of himself without outside suggestion or interference, we find Grover Cleveland occupying a position that carries with it the modest salary of \$12,000 Three large insurance companies are to provide this salary, and the duties of

the position are not specially exacting. That President Roosevelt will look out for himself when the time comes, without the necessity of National worry about his future, is practically a foregone conclusion.

Still, it must be admitted that after man has been President of the United States it is difficult for him to find a position in keeping with the dignity of his past office. He can scarcely afford to go into politics, since he would thereby degenerate into a mere politician-a creature that he has learned by contact to detest. The fame of General Jackson suffered through his career as a politician after his retirement from the Presidential chair. The failure of General Grant as a bunker after he left the White House is still a matter of repractice of law after his defeat for a second term, and in it was eminently successful. President Hayes returned which he was eminently fitted to adorn at the close of his not brilliant term of service, and as an affable, modest, quiet country gentleman completed the short tenure of his years.

question of placing our ex-Presidents is a superfluous one. They have a habit of placing themselves, and may fitly, as American citizens of integrity, experience and intelligence, be left to shelk's attend to their own placing. There would probably be no serious objection it is based is that efforts to acquire more. All the women might have been raised in Congress to a proposition to

grant an ex-President a life salary; but this is not necessary, and would be more in accordance with the principle which declares that "to him that bath wit or of any humor except what lies in | much shall be given" than with that animal spirits. The plot of the play is which underlies independent, self-respecting, American manhood.

> The United States Court of Appea at Cincinnati has decided that the Chinese exclusion act of 1904 continued the former exclusion law in full force, regardless of the bearing which the expiration of the treaty might have on the matter. This decision will add a little fuel to the flames which are already blazing in some parts of China. Under the treaty which expired by limitation in 1904. China had nothing to expect in the way of modification of the exclusion act, but the Orientals undoubtedly expected a more liberal construction of the new act which became necessary with the expiration of the old The excuse made by the Chiwhen protests have been made against the boycott, was that they demanded nothing but more liberal treatment of students and others entitled to admission to this country. The general belief is that increased latitude in the treatment of students was desired in order to facilitate the admission of a horde who were not students. It is now quite clear that the existing exclusion act will keep out the undesirable coolle class, and so long as it does the Chinese will continue the boycott.

An Astoria dispatch states that, owing to the rough weather at the mouth of the Nehalem River, the merchants doing business in that isolated region have not yet received the goods ordered by them for the Christmas trade. This "Nehalem country" is one of the richest spots in Oregon. It has vast tracts of the finest timber on earth. The soil is of marvelous richness, and agricultural and dairy interests in the limited degree possible by such wretched transportation facilities have shown great results. All of this latent wealth lies dormant within less than 100 miles of Portland, and perhaps the highest tribute to its worth is in the fact that there are men who will devote money and time in endeavoring to do business in a region so hampered for transportation facilities that goods ordered for Christmas have not been received by January 10. When the building of a railroad to Tillamook and Nehalem affords that country an opportunity to do business, the traffic turned out will be a source of wonder to the railroads which neglected it for so long.

In big capital letters the Astorian de-"There is no city on the continent with her natural advantages that is as desperately inert as Astoria." "It is time," adds the Astorian, "that something was doing, and this paper is going to put up a fight for it." What Astoria is going to have, we are told, are these things, to wit: "A railroad to the Tillamook country via the Nehalem and the coast, a sea-wall from Tongue to Smith's points; a modern and model hotel; a splendid park or system of parks; a trolley line to the coast resorts; and minor things that will come of themselves if these potent and important others are supplied." Certainly, brethren. Pitch in, and we shall rejoice with you.

Now that Baron Komura has declined. to commit harl-karl and the Japanese have ceased their disgraceful murmurings for blood money, the Japanese government is making preparations to distribute \$75,000,000 among the soldiers who fought in the late war. The Mikado is also passing around a number of promotions for the faithful of his cabinet, and by the time the little brown men get ready to go ov take the Philippines as a "dessert" for the meal they have just made off Russia, loyalty will be fully restored.

An appropriate hint to commercial bodies of Portland, when banquets and annual meetings and New Year's programmes are in the air: "Spokane citizens have subscribed \$40,000 to advertise Spokane and Eastern Washington in the East this coming Spring." say their papers and applaud. Yet it would seem that advertising of that city and country had been thoroughly done, not once, but often. But they keep at it.

The President's refusal to allow Repsentative Overstreet to name the "Surveyor of the Port at Indianapolis" has badly discouraged that gentleman and he wants to do something about it. He might begin by finding out what are the duties of a Surveyor of the Port in a great maritime center like

Talking about "mergere," we are told by an esteemed contemporary that a merger of churches is one of the great mergers wanted. Yes, indeed. What is the difference between liberal Judaism and the liberal Christianity of Unitarianism? Ask Dr. Wise and Dr.

By a vigorous course of diet Secretary Taft has reduced his weight from 314% pounds to 294% pounds. Very good. But it looks to us as if there was yet something to be done.

Unless this Hill-Harriman scrap ends soon, Judge Frazer will detect little difference between holding down the woolsack and having a brand-new baby in the house.

A correspondent wires the important information that there is no law or order in Goldfield. Mayor Lane and his Philippine Islander need not feel abso-Mr. Rogers and his counsel want de-

lay. The Supreme Court of New York has taken a hand. No doubt Mr. Rogers wants time to think up some new Kensas is going to investigate the smoking opium. This fad, like other freight rate question. The freight rate refined and ingenious excitements, may

question might as well make up its mind to be settled. The dispatches indicate that Winter cruising bids fair to become a fad among the steam yacht owners of No.

26 Wall street. Apparently the same brand of bad luck that elects a man Mayor out West dooms him to a Police Commissioner's Job in Gotham.

It seems from these examples that the Ex-Private Smith, of Hood River who is against the canteen, is hearing om the rest of the Army, which is

Do they call it a "fish-tail" burner because of the lies it tells the gas

THE SILVER LINING.

I was glad when they said unto me et us go into the house of the Ladds Blessed be everyone that feareth the Ladd; that walketh in his ways.

Peace be within thy walls, oh Portland, and prosperity within thy palaces.

Chicanery cannot fight squareness It hasn't the wind.

Beneld how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity .-- H. Lane.

It is better to be abused and misunderstood doing right than to lose your self respect doing wrong. One man in a hundred may be right

and the rest wrong, though 99 disagree with him. "Did you make a good impression?"

Sitting in his Fifth-avenue home after pocketing 83 per centum interest for the day on about \$20,000,300, Russell Sage mused in smiling comfort. while his wife played softly on the melodion, "Every Little Bit Helps."

hugged her.

The more snobby the neighborhood the less likelihood that the neighbors will call. No trouble now in finding such a neighborhood in Portland. Which means that the place is getting less country-townish, more cosmopolitan and more inhabitable. Lawson showed us Rogers. Rogers is

ow showing us Missouri. The task to make Rogers show us Standard Oll secrets is a more difficult one.

Will the Belasco be a store, a lodging-house, or a ten-twent'-thirt'?

The roller skating rink craze is again spreading over the land, to the immense devastation of the theatrical business. Scarcely a road company now on tour is reported as making money in the East, and the skating mania has struck the Pacific Coast-Portland included, although Portland is properly a New England town in its fundamental qualities of public temperament. Last year the vaudeville houses checked the flow of public amusement money toward the first-class theaters and this season the roller skating passion looms up as another pest in the eyes of high-grade theater managers all over the United States. Surely the manager and the burglar lead precarious lives. However, what is prettier than a girl on roller skates, gliding along with her fellow, arm in arm, hand in hand, skimming over the waxed boards? Nothing, except it might be the same couple skating on the ice!

Wanted; in large lots: Incorruptible ministers of the gospel; statesmanlike politicians; men who hate graft so nuch that they will not take it themselves; high-minded lawyers; humane and intelligent physicians; modest actors; newspaper men who respect everybody's rights; honest merchants; po lite salesmen and their female proto types; accommodating street-car conductors; healthy girls who love the open air; fellows with normal appe tites who enter life's fray with ear nest good will; mothers who love their homes; fathers who have ideals and stick to them.

How many of these are there in Portland?

I forgot the answer.

Do not be among those who think resolutions are valueless because some

are broken Don't be so cautious and so suspiclous that you miss the opportunities.

The truth is a mighty dangerous thing to meddle with, and you'd better not bother about tinkering with it unless it is very, very handy.

About half the world have the rocking-chair habit mentally and physically. That's why three-quarters of the population are unsuccessful,

The Hon, Grover Cleveland continues to answer the question, "What shall we do with our ex-Presidents?" with complete success and apparent satisfaction to himself and the public.

It is stated that commanders of liners plying between German ports and Buenos Ayres are implicated in the white slave traffic and that hundreds of German girls are annually sold to a Buenos Ayres firm, which pays fixed commissions on all girls delivered into their hands. The girls, who are all between 14 and 15 years old, are sold at auction at Buenos Ayres at prices which run from \$1000 to \$1200.

The price is not large. I have a pocketbook with my name on it that cost me \$1300.

In Norway they have a new and fantastic kind of drunk. Norwegian papers relate that tho who have sunk lowest in Christiania

have now discovered how to drink with their nose. The "Orebladet" describes how it is ione. The drunkard fills the palm of his hand with "aquevit" (very strong

through the nose. This is repeated several times, although once is enough to render a man intoxicated. "Nose-drinking" has become a rea vice with some individuals. The effect of it is terrible, because the whole nervous system is paralyzed in a moment, and the drunkard remains almost anconscious for several minutes, After vards a sleepy fatigue is felt, as after

Good-Bye to "Joe." Boston Herald.

J. C. S. Blackburn, who has represented Kentucky in the Senate for nearly a quarier of a century, has met the fate of Then one by one they jostled off, all pitchers that go to the well too long. It was a tearful sight, Politicians, generals, prize fighters, hard riders and high jumpers—they all go down at last if they persist in entering the lists, it can be said of Senator Blackburn that he has well represented his State in all that is most characteristic of it in printhat is most characteristic of it in prin-ciples, codes, manners, language and ap-pearance. Not many Southerners of the old type will remain in the Senate after this year, and it is a question if their successors will add as much to the pic-ture-squeness of that body or to the pun-gency of the debates.

BAD EFFECT OF COMMON SALT You cannot bent the right. It is good Its Excessive Use a Fruitful Cause of Bright's Disease.

Samuel G. Tracy, M. D., in New York Times.

Apropos of the recent death of Charles neys, it seems a fitting time to say something of the danger attending the excessive use of common table salt, especially

if one has an affection of the kidney.

It has been demonstrated by well-known physiologists that only small amounts of sodium entoride (common sait) are essen. tial for the well being of man. Bunge claims that a person using a mixed diet only requires from 1 to 3 grams (15 to 30 grains) daily; however, mose people consume excessive amounts, from 10 to 20 grams (150 to 300 grains). Professor Widal found that when a patient who had ne-phritis or kidney disease was given 10 grams (149 grains) of sodium chloride immon salt) for several days he increased in weight, due to dropsy produced by the sait. The amount of albumen in the urine increased, and headache, nausea and stupor developed, producing a condition resembling uremic poisoning. Professor Widal was able to make the dropsy "A strong one, I should say: I appear and disappear at will by increasing or withdrawing the use of the salt.

Recent reports from the New York
Board of Health show that the mortality

from kidney disease is greatly on the increase, bence it behooves us as intelli-gent physicians to disseminate such mowiedge as will be preventive or remedial in Bright's disease or other diseases of the kidneys. Refraining from a too strengous life and the avoidance of excesses, particularly in diet, alcoholic drinks and common salt will do much oward the prevention of diseases of the

kidney.

The reason why a person who has ne britts should use but little common salt is because the excessive use of it produces dropsy and retards the activity of the sweat glands by increasing the ocmotic pressure of the blood. Two grams (30 grains) of salt are a

great plenty for the average person. Milk contains from 1.2 to 1.7 grams per litre (little over a quart); 100 grams of bread has an average of LI grams; 100 grams of beef has about 1.15 grams. Widal, who is recognized European authority on this subject, recommends the following daily diet in kidney diseases: 400 grams (about 12 ounces) of meat; 1,000 grams (about 1 3-4 pounds) of potatoes; 100 grams (about 3 ounces) of sugar; 80 grams (about 2 2-5 unces) of butter (unsalted) and 2500 cucentimeters (about 22-3 quarts) of

Both Needed Trimming.

Tit Bits. An old lady of his flock once called upon Dr. Gill with a grievance. The doctor's neckbands were too long for her ideas of ministerial humility, and, after a long harangue on the sin of pride, she intimated that she had brought a pair of scissors with her, and would be pleased if her dear pastor would permit her to cut them lown to her notions of propriety.

The doctor not only listened nationally. ut handed over the offending white bands to be operated upon. When she had cut them to her satisfaction and returned the bibs it was the doctor's turn. "Now," said he, "you must do me a good

turn also "Yes, that I will, doctor. What can it

Well, you have something about you which is a deal too long, and which causes me no end of trouble, and I should like to see it shorter.' "Indeed, dear gir, I will not hesitate,

What is it? Here are the scissors; use them as you please."
"Come, then," said the sturdy divine; "good sister, put out your tongue.

An Infant but Prosperous City.

The Bend Bulletin has a right to some pride when it can state that, at the be-ginning of the second year of the corporate existence of Bend, the citizens can

First-Municipal government in full Second—Streets opened, sidewalks laid.
Third—A six-roomed schoolhouse.

Fourth-Eleven water hydrants bought and installed. Fifth-Fire-house built, and fire protect tion organized and equipment costing \$1300 provided. -City cemetery of 40 acres, bought,

fenced, partly cleared and platted. Seventh-A City Jail built and two po licemen employed and paid. And no debt

miles. Most of this work done on faith.

Inspection of Factories.

Who would believe that there were 146 factories in Jackson, Coos, Josephine and parts of Lane and Douglas counties, running machinery on a scale important enough to call the attention of the State Labor Commissioner? Yet that is Com-missioner Hoff's report. But, he says. most of them he found machinery exposed so as to endanger life and limb Owners have been notified to provide safeguards. No doubt part of this recklessness is due to the fact of so many these undertakings being young, and hardly finished in final details.

Purify Drinking Water.

Portland gets her drinking water straight from the mountains to the city, uncontaminated. Other cities in Western Oregon have been demanding purer water than they have been getting. The East-ern purchasers of the water works at Eugene and Albany could not do anything better to secure reasonable popularity than to proceed at once to install modern and effective filtering plants for both these cities on a large scale. They announce that contracts have already been let for the installation at Eugene.

Another East and West Link.

new telephone line, Central Eastern Oregon with the Wil-lamette Valley, over the Cascade Mountains, is a sign of the times. From Aibany to Cascadia, a mountain Summer resort, the line exists. Thence it is to cross the mountains and reach Prine-ville in a direct line in the coming Spring brandy made of corn) and sniffs it up or early Summer. A forerunner, doubtless, of the railroad.

Journey of the Water Wagon.

The man who drove called "All aboard Twas January first— And every man—there was a horde Who wished to lose his thirst Upon that good old wagon climbed And settled down to ride; Then loud their husky voices chimed; "All ready; let 'er slide."

Before the wheels had fairly turned One fellow lost his grip; Another for this comrade yearned, Which made his fingers slip; The next they struck a jagged bump, A dozen lost their hats; Each for his top piece mu The balance cried: "O

"I'll only one was left to scoff, And he was fastened tight; But e'er another mile they sped This fellow wiggled loose;" "The barn for me," the driver said,

"I see it is no use." It's fares stay but a while The driver has his little woen For every passing mile; Folks wonder why the job haws stand, But laud him not in haste—

By Poultney Bigelow, in the Independent, The strictly engineering or technical difficulties in the way of building the Panama Canal have vanished, if they ever existed. Today the canal is a feas-Yerkes from Bright's disease of the kid- lible project, provided we have the three conditions-money, labor and administration. We have money enough, and there is plenty of labor to be had, for the asking. The administration that is reflected in our great railways and that chaladmiration of the world for lenges the

PANAMA MISMANAGEMENT.

economy and efficiency is on all sides of us-waiting for a call from Washington. The famous speech of Chairman Shonts is a strange slur upon our colored fellow-citizens: "Unless a much greater efficiency can be developed than can be developed at present, we shall have to look elsewhere for our labor." Does Mi Shonts know that all the labor at th Isthmus is negro? Negroes there are paid in silver, not gold, and their pay days are irregular. They are returning to Jamaica from Colon by the shipload.

Along with an American merchant, Mr. Robinson, who has lived in Colon since 1857. I walked about the city and found that around the central market there whiff of air blew poison into the publi market. The meat on the butcher-stalls hung unprotected against flies, dust and the plentiful body of germs which were breeding luxuriantly in the moist, hot

air. "Did Mr. Taft inspect the labor quar-'No." answered my venerable

I prayed him to let me show him the eal state of things on the isthmus, but ie declined; he professed to know all about it from 'official' sources. "Mr. Taft spent five days down here," said an eminent engineer to me. that time he attended three dances and succession of social functions. But he had no time to look into the condi-

tion of the laboring man."

Mr. Taft, it seems, and most of theother high officials who had run down at Government expense, made them-selves ridiculous in the eyes of the res-idents by exhibiting a panicky dread of disease in a place where thousands their fello wmen were exposing

themselves freely. The natural thought in the minds of many was: "If this place is too rotten for such as Mr. Taft, why does not be order it immediately drained and cleaned? Is his life so much more precious than ours that he is hauled out to sea every evening on board a Government transport while we who have also come down here for the United States Government demned to sleep in a poisonous swamp?"

Throughout my postiferous excursion up and down this filthy city I could ind not a single man or woman who had not suffered or was not suffering from fever of some kind; not a single one who did not want to go home, but was prevented by the want of money. At present there is not a single drainage canal made at Colon—the very first need

of a swampy community, . The dredge which I saw stuck in the mud was also turned the wrong way; but that is a detail, save as it indicates the presence of political or amateur engineers. "Specialists" came to the Isthmus with Chairman Shorts and did pretty much

what the Taft party repeated later. They were met at the wharf by political ieputations and a special train, with dis-nfectants, strong drinks and mosquito nets. Then they ran across the 50 miles

of railway and back.

Each of the short five days was occupied by some short, easy railway excur-sion under the most elaborate precautions lest an insect more or less should jeopordize the success of their inexpensive out-ing. October 5, the run was to the site of the Bohlo dam, and such was the scare in the party that only one man ventured to the edge of the water. Next day anther railway run was made to the site of the proposed Gamboa dam-under

llar precauti Each night they were all carefully towed out to sea beyond the range of Colon smells, alligators, mosquitos and of those who sleep while others scratch Mr. Taft promised officially that by De ember 1 Colon would have a splendid water supply! There is today no water supply in Colon. Mr. Taft does injustice to his countrymen by treating flippantly questions involving human life by the thousands. We are not all children or

fools. We do not need reports which read-like the circulars of doubtful land companies. We have but to apply business methods o a business proposition, and then, and not till then, will the fifth fly, and also the dirt at the bottom of the big ditch. But first of all we must make the politicians fly-the barnacles, the drones, the men with weak chins and flabby lips, who oday are standing about the works of the Isthmus and acting as a constant source of discouragement to negroes who know the difference between a real man and the

"ornery, mean white trash!"

The practical man realizes that the success of the canal is bound up with the nature of the powers which may be give to the general commi-forces on the lathmus.

This proposed chief is not far off-there are plenty of them within call of the White House telephone. West Point alone could furnish a dozen of them tomor row, to say nothing of the Boston Institute of Technology.

Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Taft no doubt mean well when they give us the assur-ance that political jobbery is foreign to their natures. At the same time jobbery flourishes under their noses and they ap-pear to be incapable of stopping it. The people at large need to appreciate this fact and to consider some system which already gives ominous signs of rottenness.

Nothing in a Name?

Olympia Olympian Rather than occupy a pulpit that was not free in the fullest sense of the word. Dr. Stephen S. Wise, the brilliant rabbi of Temple Beth Israel, Portland, has de-clined a call from Temple Emanu-El, of New York. The rabbi's name appears to

NEWSPAPER WAIFS.

Mr. Stoplate-That song always moves me Miss Tersleep-If I'd known that, I'd have sung it an hour ago.-Cleveland Leader. What are your qualifications for an office boy?" "Well, sir, I can do anything from filling inketands to attending directors' meetings."—Life.

The American Tourist—I suppose I speak broken French, eh. Henri? The Waiter— Not segsactly. M'sieur. You haf a word describes, it bettaire—let me see—ab, yes describes it bettaire-let it is pulverized! - Puck.

Passerby—is that your pork down there on the road, guv'nor? Farmer—Pork! What d'ye mean? There's a pig o' mine out there. Passerby-Ah, but there's a motor car

"What a fool expression it is to say a man has been 'relieved' of his pocketbook." "Oh. I don't know. Ever lose a pocketbook with nothing in it but a memorandum of things your wife wanted you to bring ho -Philadelphia Ledger.

"I fear I shall not be able to attract much attention," said the new Congressman. "Don't worry," answered Senator Sorghum, "In this era of accusations and investigations it is sometimes a luxury not to be noticed."-Washington Star.

"Well." said Jokely, concluding one of his best stories. "I haven't noticed you laughing to say great extent." "Aw, really, now," replied the Britisher, "why should I lawf!" "Why, man alive, that was a joke I just told you." "Oh, come, now, I say; how could it be a joke if it does not make an jawf."—Philadelphia Pres