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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 1996

## THE NEW YORK GAS LAW.

Governor Higgins has signed an 80cent gas bill for New York City. This is a distinct assertion of the right of a State Legislature to regulate the charges of gas companies, and is a worthy precedent to study, and, as far as conditions permit, to follow. Gov-Higgins gives an interesting statement of his reasons for signing the bill. Distrust of democratic institutions prevail, he says, where wealth rather than manhood determines who shall enjoy the choicest privileges in the community, where public-service cor-porations flourish while consumers suf-

One might imagine that he was speaking of conditions in Portland instead of New York, and his reasons for regulating corporate greed are just as valid here as there. The utility companics should be restricted, he argues, to a fair return on their investment-not their aqueous but their cash investnent; and the state has the power to hold their charges down to an equitahie rate. This is a legislative function purely, and the courts will not interfere ith its exercise except where a price for gas is established which is "clearly and beyond all doubt" confiscatory fact, the court is compelled to say that private property has been taken for public use without compensation. "The power and duty of the Legislature to fix an equitable price for gas is clear," continues Governor Higgins, and "the example of prompt and us action should be a restraint on extortion and greed" and an evimore of the readiness of public servants to do their duty.

such evidence has been a little tardy

pending the decision of constitutional points could not be taken away by leg-islation; and Mr. Fulton now says that there are few who dissent from this opinion. It seems, indeed, extremely easonable. Moreover, it rests with the courts in the last resort to decide whether their inhibitory authority can be clipped or not, and what reason is there to expect that they will decide against themselves? So there you are. A rate bill which does not provide for court review is unconstitutional. One which does provide for court review necessarily destroys the efficiency of the Interstate Commerce Commission and subjects rate regulation to all the uncertainty and procrastination of judicial proceedings, since every order the

mission may be suspended by injunction. To limit court review to nstitutional questions is mere ineptitude, for it is a duli inwyer who cannot raise a constitutional question in every case whatever.

The Constitution and the courts cupy today somewhat the same obstructive position against rate regula tion as they held fifty years ago against the restriction of slavery. The outcome of that obstruction was had for slavery. It is safe to prophesy that any power within this country which succeeds in convincing the people that it is beyond the control of the law will ultimately be annihilated. The Nation will permanently tolerate no anarchistic el Just now the railroads and other beneficiaries of special privilege are in state of anarchy, using the law for their own benefit, but seldom obeying it, and stubbornly resisting every effort bring them into equitable subjection. The debates upon the Hepburn bill and the decision of Judge Humphreys in the packers' trial seem to indicate that. with the Constitution as it stands, their resistance may be successful; but, of course, such temporary success will only force the people to resort to measures more radical than those which have falled. If the Government cannot regulate the railroads, it must own them. The continued existence in country of a power absolved from the

INSURANCE IN OREGON.

authority of the law is unthinkable.

1905.

The annual report of State Insurance commissioner Dunbar for the year 1905,

just made public, shows a heavier fire loss than in any previous year except 1903. The Oregon loases reported by the insurance companies are approximately \$200,000 greater than in the previou year, and the net premiums are correspondingly less. The amount of bus ness transacted by fire insurance com panies remained practically unchanged policies written in 1904 amountin to \$110,557,192.36, and in 1905 aggregating \$110,530,493,34. The fire losses reports by the insurance companies amounted to \$775.364.88 in 1904, and \$968.829.72 in

The losses in 1903 were \$1,314,-660.29. The net premiums in 1964 were world. \$1,227,270.62, and in 1905 they were But this showing is not \$1,009,629.53 bad for the insurance companies, not withstanding a decrease in their net income. They received from the people of the state nearly \$2,600,000, puid back about \$620,000 as premiums returned. and \$968,009 on account of losses, lear ing them a million dollars as compensation for the service to the people. In other words, the people paid out for

of

fire insurance a million dollars more than they got back. Life insurance companies fared better, for their reports show an increase of over \$260,000 in net premiums, as compared with the previous year. They wrote risks amounting to almost \$15. 000,000, making a total of over \$61,000. 000 of life insurance policies in force They collected during the year premiama aggregating \$2.097,011.28. paid osses to the amount of \$405,601.49, and returned premiums to the amount of \$139,079.14, leaving them net premiums value possibly \$29 per ton. The valuaof \$1,572,157.15. The people of Oregon naid out for life insuran year a million and a half dollars more than they got back. Comment upon the McCalls and McCurdys and Depews might be appropriate, but will be left to the reader. The disclosure of crookedness in the management of life insurance companies seems to have injured the business somewhat in 1905, though all the leading companies show an increase in both the number and the amount of policies outstanding, and a similar showing is made in the aggregate. The total num ber of life insurance policies in force at the end of 1904 was 32,906, amounting to \$54.341,466. During the year 12.074 losses to the amount of \$408,601.49, and to \$54.341,466. During the year 12.074 pollcles aggregating \$14,959,691 were issued and 7174 policies amounting to \$8,176,221 ceased, leaving in force at the end of amendment to the Hepburn bill. The 1965 a total of \$7,806 policies amounting to \$61,124.926. Of the total of over \$8,000. year, only \$408,000 was due to losse paid. The assurance that even the companies that were involved in the most corruption were absolutely sound accounts for the continued increase in policies written.

THE MORNING OREGONIAN, TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 1906.

ful selection of the trees, intelligen labor in planting, and such protection as transplanted plant life needs to make it take root in new environment are necessary elements to the development, in a useful sense, of the Arbor-day idea. Unless these can be given, It will be well to make this day a children's picnic occasion merely, with a programme that will inculcate a love of trees and an interest in all growing things.

SOME FIGURES THAT LIE.

The Department of Commerce Labor, in response to the protest from Portland against the omission of important trade statistics, makes the weak excuse that "Portland has not furnished the department with the data, bence the department has been unable to make a showing on any but foreign trade." Senator Fulton is inform that the department is "willing and anxious to give Portland due credit, but is compelled to depend upon information from the commercial organizations of the city or other private sources of information for its dats." The Bureau of Statistics attached to the Department of Commerce and Labor has an annual appropriation of a vast sum of

money. Thousands of dollars are spent in sularies for individuals who are carried on the payroll as "statisticians. The uninitiated have always believed that the work of a statistician was to gather statistics. These "statisticians" make frequent pleasure jaunts aroun the country for that alleged purpose and even the "stay-at-homes" who sign vouchers as statisticians are generally supposed to perform statistical work. It is apparent, however, from the en planation offered Senator Fulton that, while the department is "willing an anxious to give Portland due credit, nothing that involves work on the part of the Government employes must b expected. Instead, the statistics must be compiled and sent forward ready to print. We have high-priced consular agents in all parts of the world, presumably looking after our trade inter

The Department of Commercia ests. and Labor at great expense issues daily pamphlets containing reports from these agents. Within the past fortnight these reports have noted a de-mand for American lumber in three for-

eign countries which have not as yet been purchasers of American lumber any great extent. These consular agents, by reference to the official reports of the department under which they labor, will learn from the Seattle and Tacoma harbormasters that the two Puget Sound ports ship large quantities of lumber. Microscopic examina tion of the report, however, would fall to reveal any mention of lumber ship-ments from Portland, although this city

saws and ships more lumber than Tacoma and Seattle combined, being the largest lumber port in the known

Service which costs nothing is gener ally worth just about what it costs-no more, no less-and for that reason me of the unofficial reports which are padded out by our enterprising friends or Puget Sound and given official sanc tion by the Department of Commerce and Labor are worth-what they cost In the February report of the Seattle harbormaster we find the bulk of the imports and exports coastwise consisted f "merchandise." There were 12,57 ons. valued at \$1,155,663, from Pacific Coast ports; 3479 tons, valued at \$312,126. from Alaskan ports, and 6679 tons, valued at \$668,693, from local ports. The bulk of the "merchandise" imported by Seattle consists of lime and oats. These commodities are worth \$12 and \$27 per on, respectively, and yet they figure i the harbormaster's report at a value-

tion of more than \$90 per ton The bulk of the merchandise from constwise ports is fruit and garden truck from California, averaging in

insurance helps pay the tax. Every merchant who protects himself from loss by the burning of his stock of goods, and every householder who a policy upon his furniture, pays share of the insurance tax. He p ler who had He pays his portion of the tax in the small percentage of his preium, and perhaps does not know at the time that a part of his money is going into the state treasury; but the fact remains the same. The tax is easier to pay,

possibly, and causes less irritation, be-cause somehow or other the tax fea-ture is concealed and forgotten.

And the same is true of nearly every form of indirect taxation. Was it the express company that paid the stamp tax during the Spanish-American War? Not at all. Every man who shipped a package was charged for the stamp that went on the receipt. Did the tele graph companies pay any portion of the war tax? Let any man answer who was called upon to pay for the revenue stamp that was pasted upon his mes revenue sage

This is not offered as an argumen against the plan of indirect taxation. but merely as a denial of the assump tion that the corporation pays the tax. Indirect taxation has as much to commend it as the practice of putting up bitter medicine in sugar-coated pellets And yet there may be instances in which the tax would fall upon the corporation. This would be true in the case of corporations which have a charge that could not be raised to meet the small amount of the tax. Take, fo example, a street railway compan which charges a five-cent fare. If a aw should be enacted requiring pay ment of a 2 per cent gross earnings tax, this would mean one-tenth of a cent on each fare. The company could not raise the fare to six cents, so it is evident that, unless some change could be made in the rules regarding transfers, the tax would fall upon the con poratio

From this it must be plain that, in order to impose and collect a tax upon a public-service corporation, the pub ic must have and exercise not only power to establish the tax, but also the ower to regulate the rates to be charged the public for service. What would be gained by imposing a grossarnings tax on a gas or electric con pany, if there should be no limitation upon the power of the company to fin the charges, the quality of the service or the accuracy of, meter readings The people, or such portion of them a deal with public-service corporations have a right to a voice in the fixing charges which they must pay, and, until this right has been recognized and enforced by effective laws, the distribution of the tax burden cannot be equitably adjusted.

The American wheat market seenu to be quite puzzling in its antics this eason. The decrease in the visible yesterday was the smallest for the past four years, and the total was 15,000.00 ushels greater than one year ago,

World's shipments were nearly 3,000.00 bushels greater than a year ago, and quantities on passage were 5,000,000 bushels greater than on the same date last year. Despite this array of bearish figures, the market showed a substan tial gain in Chicago, and even the European market was a shade firmer. The Argentine again demonstrated its prom inence as a factor in the world's markets by showing up with shipments for last week of 4,932,000 bushels, or nearly one-half of the total amount shipped countries. Russia, with ship from all ments of 1.944,000 bushels, is clearly still a factor to be reckoned with in spite

of her troubles and famines at home. Even the small boy is not the only

one attracted by the Wild West show A ministure rebellion is in progress among the Apaches at Fort Sill because permission to join a show has been reon the stage.

## THE SILVER LINING. By A. H. Balk

A sprightly and good-natured cerre pondent evidently thinks that I have Prineville Review. Invisible skirts are to be worn by the tiven brute man too large a showing, and air sex this coming Summer. The lum hastens to offer the following claims of ornamental sex to versification's hor ors. I hasten to print it. Here:

A Few Women. Many a woman's a Christian, Only a few are bad; Many a woman is ready To tackle any old fad.

Many a woman is naughty. Many a woman is good. Many a woman stands ready To try a new breakfast food

Many a woman is giddy. Many a woman is gay. Many a woman is will To give her man away

Many a woman is short, Many a woman is long. Many a woman so cheap You can buy her for a song.

Many a woman lacks money And never has enough, It isn't very funny Always to lack the stuff.

Many a woman is taken Many a woman is left, Many a woman is happy After she is bereft.

Many a woman is quiet. Many a woman's a tease. Many a woman in Summ Is herribly tortured with fleas.

Many a woman's true-blue Many a woman's a fake.

Many a woman's a ninny

But when it comes to a show-down They are nervy enough to vote.

Many a woman is sick. But if they are young and wealthy

Many a woman to willing-Willing to save a dime;

Many a woman is sour

Many more are sweet. Many a woman gets weary Trying to cover her fee

Many a woman is waiting

And ready to come to the fore. If you dare to doubt us

We'll have to write some more. FINALE.

I'm not a goose, but a mallard, Making a fight for fame. Trying to make 'a h' Bailard

Hide his head in shame -RHYMING SUSAN.

Good timber claims are becoming scarce. and soon all of the vacant ones will be gobbled up. There is no safer or better investment in the world. A claim, which will cost \$600 now. will be worth that many thousands within a short time. When each duty comes up. say, "Now or never for speed." Remember, facility counts. . . .

There is an essentially correct reaso for a man feeling superior to his fellow men when he rises early in the mornin and knows that many of his confrere are still asleep. Keep on doing this and you'll win out nobly. The world is willrling around at rather a lively gait, and the fellow who works while the sleeps stands a good show.

All the world's a stage, and every mothr's son of us wants to be the man.

A bachelor can sew on buttons better than he can mend his ways.

to support him and that they take the only means of publicly showing their gratitude by voting solidly for the straight Republican ticket. The odds are against people who marry to get even. He remarked that theatrical life was

Washington Trapper's Prowess. expensive, for it took quite a figure to go Zach Turner is a mighty hunter and s CONTROL OF GAS RATES.

New York Tribune, April 4. Expressly denying the "confiscation" argument on which the gas companies

based their case, Governor Higgins

signed today the Page-Agnew 30-cent

gas bill. This bill, he explained, was

dations of the Stevens committee which the Legislature did not heed when it passed the bill creating the gas com-mission and despite the declarations that by it the Legislature was usurp-

The enacting of this law, the Govern-or holds is a distinct rebuke to the

concerned the City of New York. After taking much testimony on cost of pro-duction, value of plant and possible in-come of the gas companies, the com-mittee reported a number of bills, in-cluding an 80-cent gas bill for New York City, and also a state gas com-mission bill, the latter for the purpose of dealing with the question generally, with special reference to other mu-nicipalities where no legislative in-vestigation had been had to guide the action of the Legislature.

action of the Legislature. Its findings sustain this bill and jus-tify the conclusion that present rates are excessive. Had all its bills become

law, no action by the gas commission would have been necessary for New York City, and no such action was originally contemplated. The Legisla-

ture is now only carrying into effect the original recommendations of its committee. The SJ-cent bill having been defeated last Winter, it became

neccessary to resort to the commission to obtain the desired relief which the committee sought to give forthwith. But the Consolidated Gas Company not only

questions the constitutional power of the Legislature to delegate to a com-

mission the authority to regulate rates, but challenges in the courts the fair-ness of the 80-cent rate already estab-

lished by the state commission for the Borough of Manhattan. It is therefore entirely consistent and proper for the Legislature to deal with the matter di-rectly and as effectively as possible, rather than to abandon the orig-inal scheme of legislation recommend-od by the committee.

inal scheme of legislation recommend-ed by the committee. Distrust of democratic institutions prevails where the self-interest of the few is potent and the self-interest of the many is powerless; where wealth rather than manhood determines who shall enjoy the choicest privileges in the community, and where public serv-ice corporations flourish while consum-ers suffer. Distrust of democracy like-wise prevails where wealth is con-stantly threatened with confiscation by unjust and unequal laws. The hope of democracy lies not wholly in

hope of democracy lies not wholly in municipal ownership, where, the fair incentive of personal gain being with-

drawn, public utilities may perhaps be operated in a shiftless manner and at a loss, so that taxation of property must be resorted to in order that such

utilities may be enjoyed at less than cost. It lies rather in the careful re-striction of cost

cost. If lies rather in the careful re-striction of companies to a fair return on the value of their investment. Con-fiscation, if permitted by political ex-pediency, which looks no further than the next campaign for the rule of right to govern its action, is prohibited by the constitution of state and Nation.

by the constitution of state and Nation.

When one devotes his property to a public use he grants the public an in-terest in that use, and must submit to be controlled by the public for the com-

mon good. The state has the power to

make reasonable regulation of the charges for services readered by cor-

a price which is reasonable. The power

turing and selling illumination what extent may this regula-

The authorities must fix upor

porations engaged in the bu

tion go?

further, the rule of rehibited

merely another part of the recom

ing the powers of its commission duty of all good public servants

# To the Woods!

IN THE OREGON COUNTRY.

Roseburg Review. That Chicago story about Elijah Dow-is's harem would indicate that the prophet had designs about a seat in the United States Benate.

Would Be Johnny on the Spot.

Drain Nonparell. We don't like to publish a birth after the child is weaned, a marriage after the boneymoon is over, nor a death after the widow is married again.

or holds is a distinct repute to the grasping corporations. Governor Higgins, in approving the bill, set forth his reasons at length. In his memorandum he said:

The corporate interests affected by this legislation contend that, insismuch as the Legislature of 1995 created a Answer All Letters Hood River News-Letter. as the Logislature of 1995 created a gas commission with power to regulate the price of gas after investigation. It is inconsistent now to fix such price by iaw. A brief reference to the history of gas legislation refutes this plea. The joint committee of the Senate and As-sembly was appointed to investigate the lighting question only so far as concerned the City of New York. After taking much treatments on cost of non-We have a good country with many ex-eptional advantages, and every loyal dilasen should feel that he is a committee of one to let the world know Write your friends. thereof **Buy** Dirt

clear

From the Minority Standpoint.

Baker Democrat.

Whenever a man organizes a political machine he spreads corruption. The trus citizen will fight the machines in his county and precinct, wipe them out and restore clean, honest politics.

Prineville Point of View.

Puter, the irrepressible, was taken and allowed to disappear again. For the good of the State of Oregon and its landed in-

habitants, Mr. Burns, for God's sake don't bring him back. We don't want him here,

The Love of Country.

Gresham Record. The foundation of democracy is the small farm. Give a man a home, if only an acre of ground, that he may call, his own, and his love for it will endear him

to the Nation thus making a patriot of

Washington Glant,

and Jim is probably the biggest man in the state. He stands 5 feet and 7 inches in his stocking feet, weighs about 28) pounds, and has a reach from the to the which measures seven feet.

**Opportunity's Last Knock** 

Drain Nonparell.

Nature's Evener.

Albany Democrat.

Experience has shown that prospects

don't amount to much until the weather is established for the year. Our farming interests have become sufficiently diversi-fied so that a shortage in one direction is

Oregon and the Rate Bill.

Klamath Republican.

It is up to the people of Oregon to show the best friend of their rights that has ever been in the White House that they

approve of his course, that they are ready

generally followed by a surplus in se

Yakima Republic. Fitzgerald is a resident of Wapato

Review.

Baker Democrat. He who invests his money in commer-cial real estate, protects himself against the dangers of mortgage foreclosure in hard times, cannot pokelbly fail, invest his money wherever he may.

Many a woman will marry

Any wealthy old rake

And deadly afraid of a goal,

Many a woman is healthy.

They can always have their pick.

Many a woman is happy When working overtime

in some parts of the country; public servants have often been more deeply impressed with their obligations to the privileged interests than with their duty to the community. But the times are full of change. Legislators have experienced a very gratifying change of heart, and it is fairly certain that whatever in reason the people insistently demand in the way of regulation of public-service corporations they will get. Let the demand be made clear and unmistakable and it will be granted.

### CAN RATES BE REGULATED?

Senator Fulton, according to The Oregonian's Washington correspondent, threw some light in a recent interview upon the rather perplexing question of the significance of the White House bill, as it went to the Senate, contained no provision for a court review of the findings of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Its friends sup-posed, as Mr. Fulton states, that review by the courts would prevail as a matter of common right in cases where the Commission had exceeded the scope of its authority or had made rates alleged to be confiscatory; but others hold, it. seems, that this is not the case. In their opinion the silence of the bill upon the matter would amount to a denial of court review in all cases; and since the railroads are clearly entitled to their day in court, in the cases specibill would be unconstitutional fied, the without an express provision for re-

This may be so, but it presupposes an astonishing eagerness in the courts to lavalidate an act of Congress. The Hepburn bill is silent upon the right of court review. This silence may possihly be interpreted to deprive the railroads of that right, and if it does it is unconstitutions!. But it may also be good to posterity the enormous drain interpreted as not meaning to stultify upon our forest wealth that is now gotself by trying to forbid by implication what it could not forbid openly, and in that case it would be constitutional. Why should we suppose that the courts are so eager to nullify the bill that they would adopt the former construction! Their rule is to construe a law so as to avoid conflict with the Constitution, if that is possible; still in this case, the see some reason for making an might

White House amendment accepts the theory that the courts are eager to sullify the rate bill, and therefore it makes express provision for review of the Commission's findings in all cases where they are confiscatory or beyond the scope of its authority. Since the railroads can allege that every rate fixed by the Commission is confiscatory and that every one of its acts is beyond its authority, this, of course, amounts to permitting a court review of all its findings, and pending such review the order may be suspended by injunction.

order may be suspended by injunction. Mr. Knox remarked long ago that the power of the courts to suspend the or-ders of the Commission by injunction

# TREE PLANTING.

Arbor day is just at hand in many states of the Northwest and Rocky Mountain sections. Tree planting means more to some other states than it does to Oregon, or more especially to Western Oregon; but at the rate at which our timber lands are being de-nuded for lumber both to meet local demand and for the export trade, the trees that are or may be planted now will be in active demand for lumber by the time they attain sufficient size to nake them suitable for this purpose. Indeed a forest area of many square miles planted yearly and protected from vandalism will scarcely suffice to make

ing on for commercial purposes. In the language of the regulation Arbor-day proclamation. "He who plants a tree plants shade, rest, love, hope and peace for those who will come his way when he is gone." In the plain lan-guage of practical life, "He who plants trees plants fuel, shelter, homes and wealth for a future generation."

Arbor day will be observed in this city chiefly by exercises in the schools that will inculcate in children a love of trees that may be depended upon to keep them from uselessly destroying or wantonly mutilating not only trees but all useful, growing things. In the but all useral, growing things. In the rural districts of the treeless sections of the state it may be hoped that the day will be observed in a practical way. It is well enough to make the day one of frolic for the children: but, if useful results follow its observance, the spade must be used with the strength of a

man's arms in tree-planting. It is well to remember that enthusiasm of a day will not suffice to make trees grow, even though Nature is kind in the mat-ter of soil, moisture and location. Care-

a placed on it by the harbo is \$82 per ton. Exports coastwise appear with \$814 tons of "merchandise valued at \$991.758, or something over \$100 per ton, although nearly all of these exports consisted of wheat, oats, flour and millfeed, ranging in value from \$20 to \$40 per ton. Hawaii was also a good purchaser of "merchandise." taking 962 tons valued at \$56,635, or something more than \$90 per ton, although the manifests of the vessels clearing for Honolulu show but few commodities except flour, feed and lime. These figures are fair samples of the entire report, and show quite plainly the kind of service the Government is sanctioning by giving it space in an official publi cation. There are a good many barns cles attached to the hull of the Goy ernment ship, but among them all nonare quite so useless as the statisticians who allot the compliation of statistics to town-booming juggiers of figures. It is to be hoped that the Department of Commerce and Labor will be "ready and willing" to correct this abuse and complie its figures from official sources

WHO PATS THE TAX? The receipts from the license tax or

insurance companies in the State of Oregon for the year 1965 amounted to \$60,854.90, or an increase of about \$1600 over the previous year. This money goes into the state treasury. and is applicable to payment of general state expenses. It is a common as sumption that, because this money is paid to the State Treasurer by the insurance companies, the burden of taxation upon property-owners of the state has been lightened to that ez-tent. A moment's thought will dispel the illusion. The insurance companies fix the rates of insurance which they charge the people for protecting them from loss by fire. Anide from that competition which arises from the operations of a purely mutual insurance as-

sociation, the insurance companies are sociation, the insurance companies are absolute in their power to raise or lower rates for insurance. The prop-erty-owner has no voice in the matter. By virtue of an agreement among themselves, the companies all charge the same rate, and the insured can get no reduction unless some agent violates the rule which forbids him to divide his commission in order to get the busi-ness. How, then, can it be reasoned

ness. How, then, can it be reasoned that the insurance companies pay the tax? If the State of Oregon should raise the gross earnings tax from 2 per cent to 5 per cent, when the Legis-lature meets next Winter, would not the insurance companies raise their rates to cover this expense?

The gross carnings tax is merely an indirect method of taxation, and makes but little change in placing the burden. Land, of course, is not insured, so the owner of real estate upon which there are no buildings hears no part of the insured tax. But a very considerable Insurance tax. But a very considerable part of the valuable real property of the state has buildings upon it, and the state has buildings upon it, and every owner of a building who carries

the young bucks An exception had been made in the case of Geronimo, who was permitted to join the show on account of his pre-

vious good behavior, and this action has aroused the feelings of those who are forced to stay at home. There was a time when a threatened Apache outbreak was viewed with alarm, but they are so few in number and broken in spirit that their "outbreak," even if it should become a reality, would not excite much more fear or cause much more trouble than one of the kind in which they induige as part of the performance in the show.

The accident or occurrence by which the little son of Henry B. Maybie, of this city, lost his life a few days ago is most distressing. When two little boys contend for the possession of a loaded gun, a serious result is likely to follow No one is consurable in this instance, the father not knowing the gun was loaded or within reach of the boys. The wonder is, not that a distressing accident like this occasionally occurs, but that so many boys escape the conse-quences of a restless inquiring, med-diesome spirit in childhood, and reach

manhood without loss of some of their members.

Given a clean young man, inexperienced in practical politics, who thinks well of himself, has courage and is a good "mixer," you have the type of man that the proletariat will trust. "Sherble" Becker, Milwaukee's new Mayor, shows the trend of American politics.

"If thou art our King, order the vol-cano to stop," exclaimed a trustful subject of the King of Italy, who is visiting the stricken district. As the volcano has not stopped, it is apparent that there are still limitations to the power of Kings.

If the meeting is in keeping with the tone of the messages that burnt up the wires between Zion City and Mexico, Chicago will have Naples and her beiching volcano clear out of the run-ning as a "hot stuff" sensation.

Apostle Dowie is now in the same class with certain ex-presidents of life insurance companies, and for the same cause. Neither policy-holders nor re-ligious zealots forgive treason in finan-

A thousand dollars per acre was paid yesterday for land near the fair ground that was unsalable at \$200 per acre a year ago. Thus do we witness the slump "after the Fair."

Dowie ought to have no trouble in stablishing the title of Zion as the real church militant.

## This Mutable World

Pitthurg Post. He used to hold her little hand, But list! I fall you, litt! A year they've how been marries He grabs her by the wrist!

. . . Getting your own consent to crawl out

of a warm bed on a cold morning is the hardest problem of existence.

### Definitions.

(Tips on the Race of Life. IDLE GOSSIP-Gossip is never idle-it is the most industrious thing on earth. COUNT-When used as a noun it means the number of times you have made a fool of yourself; when applied as a pre-

fix to a man's name it means that he is no account. SLIPPER-When it's on it's an inspire tion of the devil; when it's off it's a remembrance of heaven,

THROUGH-When a horse wins a race he comes "through"; when your girl smiles and doesn't stop to speak, she's "through"; when you spend your last quarter for beef and beans, you're "through"; when election day comes most of the candidates are "through"; Dowie is "through" just at present; so is the is through just at present; so is the gas graft "through". Mayor Lane is near-ly "through"; the gamblers are not "through"; a wotsan is never "through" until she joins bands in the unboly mix-ture of wedlock and diverce.

## Need of More Hadleys.

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The Jag Indicator.

New York Press. pretty little device of the

A prestry little device of the wicked which is attracting a good deal of at-tention in restaurants, cabarets, po-sadas, cafes and hospices these days is called the 'mag indicator.'' It was invented for the benefit of good fel-lows who do not know when they have had enough to drink. It is a green frog will pink specks upon its body, and is about three-quarters of an inch iong. The customer receives one from the bartender, which he is asked to put in his pocket and to place upon the bartender, which he is soon at the customer receives one from the bartender, which he is asked to put in his pocket and to place upon the bartender, which he is soons as the customer sees upon the bar more than one frog, or thinks he sees the frog more, he is expected-nay, required—to guit drinking for the day.

trapper near raimer Junction. Wash, Re-cently he took to the King County Aud-lior one cougar and 15 wildcat scalps, re-ceiving \$2.50 bounty. As a cat will eat a bird a day, experts estimate Mr. Turner has saved for the sportamen of his region 50.600 game birds. The estimate includes the young that would die if the cats made the young that would die if the cats made them orphans

Amende Honorable.

Philomath Review

In our last week's issue the item in the Alsea column that Elzy Banton got 181 chickens from 114 eggs is a mistake. We make the correction before "poultr sharps" get hold of it and write it up for the farm paper. Alsea is a very product-ive valley, but the hens haven't yet got round to the habit of having twins. The item should have read \$1.

### Oregon Topnotchers.

J. D. Olweil, in Medford Tribune. As long as the orchardists of this valley pay strict attention to quality, the ques-tion of overproduction will never bother them. In New York City, which is the great market for fine fruits. I found that Reque River Spitzenbergs and Newtown Pippins are the topnotchers. Of course, Hood River apples of the same varieties are quite equal to our, but together they hold the pain.

# Sounds Like a Personal Appeal.

Hood River News-Letter. Hood River News-Letter. Why not establish a chair in O. A. C. to classify the grunts of our Willamette pigs? No one cares a "beaver dam" what the monkey says. We are not rasing monkeys, that is, of the Simian variety. but if our pigs could tell us when their livers are getting out of order, so that we could shovel in a little stone coal, brick-hats, or other tonic, before the pig shows his aliment by his anoearance, then he

his allment by his appearance, then h who brings this to pass will be a bene actor.

# The Pie Belt.

Lewiston (Maine) Journal. The town of Shawmut, Me., shipped 4.000.000 pieplates in one day last week. Of these, 2.000.000 went to Providence, B. L. and 1000,000 to Baltimore. Now ple has long been held by philosophers to be the real brain food of Maine and certain other New England States. Especially has pie been the substratum of the National eminence of Maine men. On ple they have reared the fabric of their

they have rearred the fabrie of their greatness-mince pie for endurance, custard pie for sympathetic tender-ness, apple pie for philosophy, blue-berry pie for rhythm, squash pie for eloquence and flow of words, pumpkin pie for old-fashjoned common sense and strawberry pie for polish and the graces of society. All of these come from pie. Baltimore and Providence have eridently discovered the fact, and emulous of our greatness, have de-cided to build on pie and wreat the supremacy of intellect, statesmanship and arf, away from Maine. But they will never do it. For hare we build not only the pie, but also the moth-ers who make them. No pie factory can compete no trust-made goods can approach those made have in the hemas of the folk. Shawmut may sell plants for pie, but Maine hangs to the woman with the aprox who moids and faittened in its fail into gias.

to regulate is not a power to destroy The property of a corporation cannot be wrested from it for the benefit of the public. Its stockholders should receive some compensation for the use of the money they have invested. Yet the courts have held that judicial interfercourts have need that judicial interfer-ence should not occur unless the case presents clearly and beyond all doubt such a flagrant attack upon the rights of property under the guise of regu-lation as to compel the court to say that the rates prescribed will neces-sarily have the effect to deny just com-mensation for private property taken pensation for private property taken for public use.

All laws regulating rates are subject to judicial review. Judicial inquiry may best determine where regulation ends and conflication begins, but the power and the duty of the Legislature in this case seem clear, and the example of prompt and vigorous action should be a restraint on extortion and greed, and welcome evidence of the loyalty of public servants to the interests of the people.

## Various Brands of Headache.

### New York Press.

"There are more than 30 kinds of head-ache." said a physician, "and sufferers from the more common forms may cure themselves by locating the cause and treating themselves accordingly. The more frequent forms are a dull pain across the forshead, due to dyspepsia: a pain in the back of the head, due to the liver; a bursting pain in both temples, due to mainutrition; an ache on the top of the head, as though a weight pressed on the skull, due to overwork; an ache between the brows, just above the base of the nose, due to eye strain.'

## Wifely Forethought

Boston Globe. Wife-It's all right if you have failed. I have \$900 saved up from money that you've given me from time to time. Husband-That will be a big help. Wife-Help? I guess it will. Why, that will just buy my Winter outfit.

### One Valuable Asset

Simplicisetmus. "What's the matter with the man in the scond story of this house? The doctor's seen coming regularly for the past three tonthe!"

"Oh, he's the doctor's best patient. He doesn't get well, and he docen't die!"

### Oh!

Cleveland Leader. Miss Elder-I believe people are ba-ginning to call me an old maid. Miss Tounger-O, no, dear Miss Elder-Thank you, dear-I-Miss Tounger-They began that years ago. years ago.

### Brought It on Himself.

Washington Star. "Tou say that Paro Jim came to his end through contributory negligence?" "Tes," answered Broncho Bill. "He showed down four aces in a poiser game, an' two of 'em was the ace of diamonds."

## The Professor's Young Wife.

Topeka Capital. There is at least this to say of Pro-essor Harrey Worrall's young and prod looking wife: She is keeping the professor off the streets.

cial matters.