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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1906

IN SEARCH OF AN ISSUE.

We are at last permitted to know just what Mr. Bryan meant by his famous remark in London that "free allver was not at present a living ques Mr. Moreton Frewen, the English bimetalist, explains the whole matter in a letter to the New York Times. Of course the phrase "not at present' implies that some time in the future free silver may again become a vital issue, When? Mr. Bryan told Mr. Frewen the precise moment. It will be when a tyrannical government under the domination of the insatiable goldbugs melts up the silver dollars now in circulation and demonetizes them. If this is the only contingency which

resuscitate the free-silver issue, Mr. Bryan's "not at present" may be understood to mean "never"; for certainly he is the only person, living or dead, who ever dreamed of melting up the silver coin now in use. Dollars and smaller pieces are essential to do mestic commerce, and silver is the only metal available for supplying them. Gold is too dear for such a use; paper is not convenient. The fractional paper currency which many can remem ber during the later years of the Rebellion was satisfactory to nobody The Coast was never afflicted with it, but the Middle West and the East were, and gladly did they cast it aside for silver coins when these were re stored to circulation. Even the \$1 and \$2 Treasury notes are not extremely popular. People in general prefer coins, though for some purposes the paper dollars are in demand. They are convenient to send by mail in place of the postal currency which Congress still denies to the people at the instance of the express companies.

Our eliver coins are not likely ever to he replaced by gold. Whether silver, paper or something else is used to replenish the supply as it wears out is not of any importance. The main thing is to keep small money in circulation and to make it as suitable as possible for popular use. It is a credit currency and from its nature must be so, since values in question are too minute to be expressed by gold tokens. The manifest absurdity of the retirement of the silver dollars tempts one to be-lieve that Mr. Bryan could not have been entirely frank with his bimetallic friend Frewen; he must have made tingency which would revive the ghost of free silver. What could it have been? The Commoner, Mr. Bryan's newspaper, throws some light on the question. The Commoner is in a passion because the Government does not coin the seigniorage, or gain accruing to the Treasury when bullion is made into money. This is a considerable sum, taken one year after another, and if coined would sensibly increase the amount of money in circulation; but what would be the use? The present need of the country is not for systematic inflation, but for a currency which would not help, but perhaps Mr. Bryan had this in mind.

The annual increase in the world's supply of gold, which in 1893 nobody has, as Mr. Frewen says, taken the question of free silver out of politics for all time, or at least until the mines of Alaska and the Transvaul fall. In referring to the question as he | there is no room for any others. Fordid, Mr. Bryan made a move in the political game as bad as it was un The Nation was at that necessary. time ready to forget the old controversy and give him an unprejudiced have less money but infinitely more enhearing upon living issues. These are terprise than those who for so many important and difficult enough to exercise the best thought the city. even of the Bryanic intellect, but he was not satisfied to let bygones be bygones. He could not live for the present and future, but must revert to the the principal owners being San Fran-past and try to revive the specter of claco people who for more than forty ent and future, but must revert to the the dogma which had twice been the ruin of his party. It would be well for Mr. Bryan and his adherents if he yarde and iron works have been busy could follow the benevolent advice of | for months in constructing and repairthe Springfield Republican and organ- ing all kinds of marine craft, and, ize an aggressive campaign this Fall the demand for the larger type of veson pertinent issues.

he would not disturb its slumbers. and his achievements"? Certainly not for the business with vessels well by invoking the sheeted corpse of free adapted to the trade. silver to squeak and gibber through the campaign. The Springfield Republican suggests that he can easily neuthe Republican claim to the ruth that the Democrats supported the quite as loyally as the Republicans, if not more so. Certainly what opposition there was came from the Repub-

speeches this Fall should claim the proper share of credit for his party. With this to checkmate the Republicans and with an aggressive demand for tariff revision, it is confidently be-lieved by their New England adviser that the Democrats could meet their

opponents victoriously. This is very doubtful. The Democrats supported the President because his measures were manifestly right and they did not dare to oppose him. Without the support of his own party their backing would not have carried through a single bill. On the other every bill that passed would hand. have been safe if every Democrat in Congress had opposed it. Practically they had no band in the legislation and deserve no credit for it. It may be feared, therefore, that this part of the Springfield Republican's advice is futile. As for the tariff, nobody knows what the effect of a vigorous demand for revision would have upon the popular mind. The people may be eager for immediate revision; they may be ontent to walt until Mr. Roosevelt shall demand it, as he surely will. The only way to find out is to try it on and see what happens.

A CRUEL SLIGHT.

We condole with Mr. Varnum. He has our heartfelt sympathy. Hismethod of word butchery is systematic. heroughgoing and complete. It spares Destruction goes before it and ruin dwells in its wake. As a scheme of spelling reform nothing could sprpass it in hideousness and nfusion. And yet the President has coldly passed by Mr. Varnum's nethod and adopted Professor Brander Matthewa'. Thus is modest merit over-looked and the pretentious compromise encouraged. For, awful as the reormed spelling looks and puzzling as Mr. Roosevelt's letters will be to his correspondents when Mr. Loeb has etudied out the system and got it in working order, nevertheless it is but a compromise with evil-a sort of agreement with Satan and league with hell, as it were.

With all its vain pomp, the reform only brings regeneration to a paltry 300 words, and those by no means the worst ones. The rest are left to wal-low in their sins. What word needs reforming worse than "sleve"? Who ever spelled "sleve" right without looking in the dictionary? Yet "sleve" escapes the muckrake, and so does "colonel," which is a still more horrible example. One would have thought that Mr. Roosevelt, when he began to reform, would at least have taken up the cases of "gnomon" and "bdellium," to say nothing of "myrrh," but he did not. He left them just as they were. We suspect the influence of Standard Oil in this matter. We scent the fine Italian hand of Mr. Aldrich. When all comes to be known it will be found that Elkine is not without a share in the iniquity. The reform is a fake, a mere opiate to juli the people to repose while they are exploited by the dictionary makers and plundered by the spelling-book trust.

Had Mr. Varnum been consulted, we should have had some results worth while, "Eugene," for example, would have sailled forth preened and plumed as "Yewdjeign." "Malheur" would have become "Gmagihewyrrh." While "Rickreall" would have appeared transformed and glorified as "Yrrh-reighykurreeawgl." This is reform that means something. This goes to the root of the matter. Of course Mr. Roosevelt is a free man, even if he is President, and he has the right to spell as he chooses; but when he under takes to reform it is a pity that he stops on the threshold. To the real beauties of phonetic spelling it is to be feared that he is as blind as ever. did not call in Mr. Varnum Instead of Brander Matthews.

THE NEW PORTLAND SPIRIT.

In another column The Oregonian prints a communication from Eureka. Cal., calling attention to the seeming indifference of our people regarding trade expansion north and south of us. The letter contains some ideas and suggestions which could be acted on to advantage; but the arraignment of Portland business men for lack of enterprise is hardly warranted by the facts. Infusion of new blood and upto-date energy has wrought a change in Portland, and, while there yet remains a number of immensely wealthy people who, like the raven, "still are sitting," and incidentally, like the raven, still are "croaking," the newer element is more progressive and public spirited. It was this new blood that onceived and pushed to its highly sucessful termination the Lewis and Clark Exposition.

This new Portland epirit is reflected in such work as the building of a \$350,-Club, and in the remarkable campaign shall expand and contract automatic- of publicity which is being carried on ally to meet the varying necessities of for the benefit not only of Portland, commerce. Increased coinage of silver | but of the entire Northwest. The newcomer who arrives at Portland with a view to investment in some enterprise calculated to increase not alone the profits of the newcomer himself, but also to add to the prestige of the city, can still meet with that old-time chilly reception accompanied by the information that the field is well filled and tunately for Portland, the evil of this kind of talk is offset by the more optimistic efforts of a large and growing number of public-spirited men who years have obstructed the growth of

The Oregonian understands that the schooners now building on Coos Bay are only partly owned by Mr. Inman, years have had their schooners built at the Coos Bay yards. Portland shipsels grows, there will naturally be Free silver sleeps with the snows of more of them constructed here. yesteryear, and if Mr. Bryan were wise steamer Kilburn is too small for the Alaska trade, and it would be worse How can be meet the Republicans this than useless to attempt to break into Fail with their issue of "the President that field without first being equipped

All of this, however, will come in good time. Portland is growing more rapidly than ever before in its history. In every branch of industry, in popu glory of the rate bill, the pure-food lation, building and manufacturing, oflaw, and so forth. He can say with ficial statistics record greater gains than have ever been made before. This different mind on the matters at issue President in his demand for these laws phenomenal growth of business has are not likely to join in advising the almost overtaxed the facilities in some | Cuar to hold on or to let go. The King lines of trade, and a little time is re-quired to "catch up." These congested finds peace and safety in deferring to lican side. These measures, therefore, conditions will not prevail for long, the Springfield paper argues, belong to however, and as rapidly as possible approve the policy of repression upon the Democrate as much as to the Re-Portland will swing into position for which the Russian government is depublicans, and Mr. Bryan in his handling all business to which its com- termined; nor can the Emperor of Ger- action, not of words.

manding position and growing enterprise entitle it. This means not only a big increase in the coastwise trade, but a large share of the Alaska trade as well.

STRICKEN VALPARAISO.

The worst has at last been learned about the earthquake that caused the ruin of Valparaiso and other office and towns of Chile a week ago. The conditions are similar to those that prevailed in San Francisco immediately succeeding the great calamity of April 48, with this difference, that the lawless element in the South American city was more ruthless in the pursuit of pelf than was the same element in San Francisco. Acts of cruelty and even of barbarity are reported, which would cause anybody but a South American bandit of mongrel breed, or a Kurd, or a Cossack of pure blood, to shudder with horror. As to the rest, the scarcity of food, the condition of the shelter less hundreds who are living out of doors, afraid to enter such dwellings as are left standing, the tremendous loss of property and the general condi-tions that make military rule necessary-the cases are similar if not identical. The loss of life in the South American disaster far exceeded that in San Francisco, and the energy that set to work in a short time to rebuild and repair will probably be found wanting n Valparaiso.

Be this as it may, the conditions prevailing in the latter city may well enlist the pity of the world. The needs of these people may not be as great as were those of the people of San Francisco, for the simple reason that their wants, in ordinary times, are not as numerous. But such needs as are com-mon to all humanity-shelter, food and clothing, each in kind suited to a people's accustomed mode of living, are pressing, and measures have been taken, in an extent relatively limited,

to supply them. The kinship of humanity is not as strong as that of blood, of race and of neighborliness. Hence the people of the United States will not respond, and cannot be expected to respond, as munificently to the cry of unhoused wretchedness in Valparaise as they did to a similar cry from San Francisco But the gift hand of the American people is never empty when human destitution, brought on by sudden, unpreventable disaster, makes appeal for aid. Overflowing with the bounty of pity and good will, it was but now extended across the North American con-tinent and down the Pacific Coast to the Golden Gate. It has already been extended to Valparaiso, carrying such relief as has been asked and the demand for which is the most pressing. Taking the matter in hand, the gov-ernment of Chile has instituted such measures for relief and protection and for the punishment of human vultures that prey upon the very vitals of misfortune as were found effective in San Francisco. These things a people must do for themselves if they are done. is only by means of money and stores that aid from abroad can reach a stricken people.

THE ANNUAL DIVIDEND.

An abundant harvest of grain, hops and fruit is assured in Lane County. There will be work, and a demand for the labor of every ablebodied man woman and child in the county, at good wages, for the remainder of the seaon. Thus says a news dispatch fro Eugene, and its statement is true of the entire country. In this lies a guarantee of the great dividend between investment and labor, of which the latter will receive its full quota.

Upon this dividend and its distribution depend pretty much every element that goes to make up what is called prosperity. Upon this basis farmers, the entire industrial and trade army in fact-is building expectations of the most prosperous Fall and Winter of recent years. Mills and railroads will be kept running upon this dividend throughout the year. Stores will be kept open and business at every connter will be brisk because of it. upon it, schools and colleges will thrive and grow populous.

These dividends comprise in aggre gate throughout the Nation many billions, more or less, of clear assets, of which no class, no industry, no corporation has a monopoly, and from which no ablebodied man is barred They swell the payrolls of the factories, the profits of the merchant, the savings bank account of the farmer the cash account of the grocer, the public fund upon which business is transacted, and National credit is established. They will glisten in nev paint on the farmhouse, and make tidy display in the fresh garments of school children. These annual dividends of agriculture make generous showing all long the line of education, industry, trade and business. The man who does not share in them is the lounger of the park, the idle camper by the roadside, the thriftless vagrant of the village But for those who answer to the hones call with energy and purpose, the annual dividend is sure.

The forests of Oregon are heavily assalled-first by an enormous and constantly increasing market for lumber, and again by fires that are running riot in various sections. The latter is a devastating force, making no returns for what is taken; the former is equally devastating, vast areas of timber that represent the growth centuries, falling before it. But it makes returns in wages, aggregating an enormous sum yearly, to woodem and millworkers, makes the cultivation of denuded forest areas possible, permits enterprising millowners to amass large fortunes, and meets a legitimate demand of commerce. The fate of the foreste under assault of these combined forces is easy to foresee. It will take years, as it did in Maine, even at the present rate of devastation, to destroy our forest growth, but, as was the case in Maine, and in many states of the Middle West and Northwest, the result is sure. The use of our abounding forest wealth is legitimate; it is only its waste that is to be deplored, and, if possible, checked,

It is said that the Czar, in sheer desperation, has asked the Emperor of Germany and the King of England to advise him what to do. In pursuance of this request William will meet his Uncle Edward in a few days at Friedrichshof, where the two will take the troubles of Russia under advisen The two monarchs, being of entirely of England, a constitutional ruler, who

many, who is a born tyrant and an aggressive one at that, be expected to counsel Nicholas to moderation. What Russia needs is a ruler with a keen perception of justice, wise political foresight and manly determination Lacking this, the advice of other rulers is not likely to be of profit.

In 1880 Conkling of New York, Cameron of Pennsylvania and Logan of Ilinole undertook to smash the prece dent set by Washington that two terms of the Presidency were enough. powerful trio of Senators insisted that Grant should be a candidate onee more. and they secured 306 solid votes in the National Republican Convention of that year. When the time arrived for presenting names. Conkling electrified the immense crowd with this "exor-

If you tak me where he comes from My one reply will be, He halls from Appointatox And the famous apple tree.

Judge George H. Williams was a nember of that convention, and tells of it in The Sunday Oregonian tomor-

Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, in a recent special census report on the blind and deaf of this country, has furnished facts that should give pause to cousins german, or first cousins, who desire to ntermarry with each other. He shows that about 5 per cent of the cases of blindness in the country are children of irst cousins, and that the same is practically true of persons who were born deaf. Of the blind whose parents were thus nearly related, about one in four had been born blind, while among the olind whose parents were not cousins the proportion of the congenitally blind, was somewhat less than one in fifteen. The social and economic lesson con veyed by these statistice is one that intelligence should never ignore at the

The Czar of Russia has placed upon he danger line between himself and his oppressed subjects another picked regiment of Cossacks. Ignoring the cause, he seeks to ward off the effect It is one thing to cover an ulcer, guite another to drain it of its virus and give the wound a chance to heal. This difference Nicholas has not yet recognized in the treatment of the vital ma ady that is eating out the heart of his empire. The double guard of soldiers may protect him, for a time at least, from a violent death, but the bitterness in which plots for his death are brewing will not be assuaged thereby

Chauncey M. Depew, the aged jun for Senator from the great State of New York, has been heard from after months of silence. Not as a politician, however, not as a railroad magnate, not as a financier, nor yet in his time-honored role as an after-dinner speaker. The once gay but now somber old man exceeded the automobile speed lmit a few days ago in a suburb of New York, and, with his machine and chauffeur, was taken to a rural police station and held until ball could be procured. The incident merely served to recall a name that had been long forgotten and practically out of print.

If Cuba cannot, after several years experience and much friendly ald, govern herself without outside intervention, the quicker her people vote for annexation that will entitle them to protection, without the asking, of the Stars and Stripes, the better, A turoulent folk, always getting into trouble with each other and crying out for is not capable of self-govern-"help," ment. The Filipinos are of this class, though they protest the fact, and it looks as though the Cubans, with all of their coaching, had not yet graduated from it

A Salt Lake newspaper prints a pa thetic wail over the woes of dishwashing, which, it says, are eternal and irremediable. That dishwashing is disagrecable business may be conceded, but it admits of amelioration. Were man lord of the kitchen, he would have invented a dishwashing machine ages ago which would cleanse the pots and platters, while he sat in the salon playing pedro. Why has not woman invented such a contrivance? Why did she go without a sewing machine until man made one for her!

Colonel Gantenbein wants it understood that the best of feeling prevails between the volunteers and the regulars, after that little brush at American Lake. We are sure of it. But it could have been improved if the regu lars had got away with the volunteers. Perhaps.

Dr. W. Reed Blair, of New York, thinks monkeys could talk if they had noses. Professor Garner, who has again gone to Africa to learn monkey language, is likely to discover that monkeys can talk, but, being wise, will not, knowing man would put them to

"Judge Bennett is a good lawyer, but he struck a hard proposition in defend-ing men for land frauds. He has lost all his cases," remarks the Albany Democrat. Naturally, eince he had against him the combination of Hepey and the facts.

After hearing of the dreadful destruction by earthquake of Robinson Crusoe's island, it is some relief to learn from a current newspaper paragraph that there are 16,000 uninhabited islands in the Indian Ocean.

Mr. Cortelyou has given a dollar to the Republican campaign fund, and "Gas" Addicks is reported to have sent in another dollar. Yet one more dollar is needed. Who'll make kimself famous by sending it in?

The Georgia campaign has safely passed the hip-pocket stage, and the mint-julep era will be innugurated when the Democratic nominations are ratified peaceably in November.

The railroads have talked it all over

and they have decided to obey the law. It is wiser, and safer, under this Administration. But there may be other administrations. "Cap" Ormsby "hopes for" clemency because of his part in the land-fraud trials, "but doesn't expect it." Blessed

shall get it. The Hood River Growers are now getting something like \$3 per box for their output—a cause for congratulation, if you are never apple-hungry.

are those who expect nothing, for they

TRADE OF THE LOWER COAST. How Portland Is Looked Upon by Some Critics.

EUREKA, Cal., Aug. 19.-(To the Editor.)-I happened today to be where I could hear a conversation between two prominent business men of Eqreka, Cal., concerning the effort of Portland citizens to get a steamer line to Alaska, and it may interest you to know the estimate they have of efforts in that direction. One of these men, I learned, is the local manager of a large lumber company owning several vessels of their own, and the other man was a banker of Eureka. The banker asked the lumberman if he thought the effort would amount to anything, and he very emphatically re-

piled "No." He said:

"Portland business men can talk more and do less than any set of men on the Pacific Coast. They are not loyal to their town. Why, even their own lumbermen go away from home to get lumber schooners built. R. D. own lumber men go away from home to get lumber schooners built. R. D. Inman is having one or two built on Coos Bay right now, and he could just as well have had them built in Portland. It should be an easy matter to get \$350,000 subscribed to a stock company in Portland; and get Joseph Supple to build them two steamers about the size of the F. A. Kilburn. This could be done during the coming Winter and the boats be ready for business as soon as navigation opens in the as soon as navigation opens in the Spring. Then give every business-house that will subscribe \$500 stock one free round trip for their best traveling man, provided they send him after business; and in a year's time they would have the boats paying expenses and, after that, it would be clear sating. During the Winter they could be used in the Coast trade between Portland and Friese and thus

tween Portland and 'Frisco, and thus be kept busy the entire time."

This is the substance of the conversation and unfolds a plan that might be made to work. These Coast towns like to trade in Portland and the advent of a railroad in here from the portland was a part of the coast of the coa north by way of Coos Bay is not going to lessen the water traffic at all, but will rather increase it, as there will be a large addition to the population along the Coast in the next few years Double the business could be done with this territory now if the mer-chants could be assured of regular steamer service. EUGENE WILLIS.

PLAIN, OLD TWO-LEGGED HEN. Saw Her Duty and Stayed With It.

Corvallis Times.

She was just a plain, straightforward old setting hen. It is not even necessary to record whether she was a Plymouth Rock or a common harnyard specimen, for it is a case where blood cuts no figure. Her escutcheon is one that a mere matter of blood can neither

that a mere matter of blood can neither add to nor detract from.

She sat calmly on her nest the afternoon of the fatal day when the forest fires in the Cascades swept the village of Berry, laying half its houses low, destroying its school building and burning up every horse in the town. The smoke hung thick, the ashes fell in torrents and the roar and crackle of the wind-swept flames was awful. in torrents and the roar and crackle of the wind-swept flames was awful. Every living toning in Berry was on the move but the setting hen. Children and women were fleeing with what effects they could carry to Detroit and the men were running here and there in the effort to save their homes. As though carved from colored stone and placed on a foundation of adamant, the old hen was motionless and fixed. Like the boy who stood on the burning deck "whence all but him had fled" she stuck to her post. The flames crept up close and even licked the moss that fringed her nest. They scorched away a portion of the long feathers of away a portion of the long feathers of her tall and ate out a bit of her comb, but beneath her warm body were her precious eggs, and she never filmehed. Yew bet yer life she stayed with it," admiringly asseverated the 11-year-old lad from Berry, who related the inci-

dent, "an' she won out."
And so she did. After the fire and in the midst of the waste of sales and ruins they found her, scarred and scathed, but still sitting beroically rewarded for the ordeal through which she passed with the "cluck, cluck" that she will chirrup to a brood of little henlets, by and by, A Carne-gle hero medal ought to be sent her.

Forty Eight Grandman at a Party.

Forty Eight Grandmas at a Party.

St. Paul Pioneer Press
A remarkable function was the "grandma day" given at the home of Mrs. E. C. Erickson, Eik Point, S. D. There were present 48 grandmothers, six of whom were great grandmothers. They were entertained by music and reading applicable to the occasion, but that which created the most amusement was the quilt-knotting contest, in which each one of the guests had to the at many knots as she had grand in then and great-grandchildren. Mrs. John R. Wood was awarded the prize, she having it grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. Mrs. Phoebe Hayes got the prize for being the oldest grandma present, her age being 86 years. present, her age being 86 years.

Growth of the British Parliament.

Nineteenth Century. This table shows the relative numbers composing the two chambers of the British Parliament at various pe-riods since the battle of Bosworth, in 1485, which Lord Salisbury fixed as "the end of the first stage in the his-tory of the House of Lords":

The peerages created during the last six months raise the total of the House of Lords well over 500.

MR. BRYAN'S "AT PRESENT." With Mr. Frewen's Argument for Silver and "Bimetalliam." Letter by Mr. Frewen to the New York

Times.
A recently published interview with Mr. A recently published interview with Mr. Bryan is I see attracting much attention. Mr. Bryan's statement reads that silver is "at present" not an issue, and the two words quoted have revived here a natural anxiety. The position of silver in the Western currencies has, in my judgment, passed forever out of politics, and it is important that Mr. Bryan's attitude should not be misunderstood. I happened to see the interview before it was published, and I drew Mr. Bryan's attention to the two words now so much in evidence. Mr. Bryan replied that his statement was sufficiently categorical because a proposal to melt up and demonetize the silver dollars now in your currency might again revive the silver question. The two words under review, it seemed to me, might have been safely omitted; in 1886 18 of gold per capital stood sentinel over nearly 30 of silver, while today in your currency more than is gold dollars secure the controvertibility of 8 silver dollars. Under these conditions there was perhaps no need to contemplate any fresh antisilver legislation, but I think it important to point out what it was that Mr. Bryan had in his mind.

Wells on the subject of silver perhaps

his mind.

while on the subject of silver perhaps you will permit use, as one who held somewhat advanced views 10 years since, to define my present position; it is without doubt the position of a majority of students of currency conditions the world students of currency conditions the world the great fall of prices over. In 1896 the great fall of prices threatened the world of trade with grave disaster, and we had been assured by Professor Suess and other geological experts that the prospect of any considerable additions to the world's gold supplies was renote. So recently as 1885 the shift of the wines was only 4.614.588 plies was remote. So recently as 1855 the yield of the mines was only 4.614.585 ounces, five-sixths of which was absorbed by the arts and manufactures, while for the last year the yield was in excess of 18,000,000 ounces. In your country the effect of the new gold on the state of the s country the effect of the new gold on prices is to some extent obscured. Tariffs possibly slightly raise your price level, and I think, although this is not the popular view, the operation of trusts has the effect of reducing prices; but in England, where the trend of prices is not interfered with by these artificial condition, the effect of the new gold on prices is now very marked. Augustus Sauerbeck, who since the death of Professor Scatters wifets out the 'index number'. beck, who since the death of Professor Soetbeer works out the "index number" for prices, shows a general rise of prices (In other words, a depreciation of gold) since 1896 of more than 25 per cent. The index number has risen from 61 in 1896 to 77 for last June; that is, the amount of produce which in 1896 would have pur-chased 61 sovereigns today purchases 77 sovereigns. It is quite safe to affirm that in the whole history of prices there has in the whole history of prices there has never been so steady and so marked a rise during a period of only 10 years. The late Professor Stanley Jevons, writ-The late Professor Stanley Jevons, writing of the much less considerable price inflation which followed the great gold discoveries in California, said ("Inventigations in Currency and Finance," p [61] "The country may be said to be calmil looking on while every contract, including that of the national debt, is being violated against the intention of the contracting narries."

violated against the intention of the contracting parties."

The great rise of prices, a rise which is likely to be much more pronounced during the coming decade, will be the more startling because the Western currencies are now gold monometalic. The condition is interesting, and it recalls what Wolowski said in the '65s, that silver—the legal tender silver money of Europe—"was the parachute which broke the fall of gold." The invasion of the European currencies by the great mass European currencies by the great mass of gold from California and then from Australia would 50 years since have inflated European prices much more con siderably, only that subject to the the bimetallic system the new gold displace an equivalent mass of legal tender sliver and "dumped" that sliver on the cur-rencies of Asia. The mechanical action of bimetalism on the European exchange rates at that time was very simple and admirable; the California gold raised the price level in Europe; attracted to these higher prices the products of Asia poured into Europe, thus giving Asia more favorable trade balances and sucking the legal tender money of Europe into the ourrencies of Asia. But today there is no legal tender silver in Europe to be displaced at "melting-pot" rates, and thus, in Wolowski's happy phase, there is no parachute to break the fail of gold. That the present position will prove satisfactory to creditor interests I do not believe. The sovereign, and doubtless the dollar, has lost one-quarter of its purchasing power in 10 years; it is likely to lose a further 25 per cent in the next 10 years. Such changes do indeed justify Jevon's phrase that the world is looking encies of Asia. But today there is no Jeven's phrase that the world is looking salmly on at the violation of every con

Wheeler County Bear Story.

Fossil Journal. Ed Blosser killed a big brown bear ear the head of Thirtymile about near the head of Thirtymile about three weeks ago. He was herding a band of sheep for the Butte Creek Company, and his sheep had been scattered a number of times by the bear before Ed caught sight of him, quietly standing in a glade, all unaware of human presence. Ed is not much of a shot and has been known to miss a big pine tree at target practice, but he shut both eyes and biazed away at a distance of 60 yards and plugged his bearship through the neck. plugged his bearship through the neck The bear fell dead, but the nunter wasn't used to bears, alive or dead, and was sorely affaid that his quarry was playing 'possum just to get a swipe at him; so he went off in search of help to hold an inquest on the game. He soon found Waiter F. Geren, a homesteader recently from Portland, and the two with trembling hands removed the bearskin from the carcass. The hear was a big one weighing orob-The bear was a big one, weighing prob ably 600 pounds, but when Ed, in after years, tells the story to his grandchil-dren, it'll be a grizzly, weight one ton.

SOME FEATURES OF THE SUNDAY

OREGONIAN First and foremost, all the world's news by Associated Press, special correspondents and members of The Oregonian staff, making the fullest and most complete record of any

THE FIRST MANSION

ERECTED IN OREGON.
Built 57 years ago near Oregon
City by Thomas Livingston
Holmes, it still stands intact and
is occupied by the only remaining members of the family. It
has 20 rooms and was constructed after the manner of Southern
mansions with a ballroom and
accommodation for a large number of guasts. In early days this
house was Oregon Territory's
social center. The drawing-room
contains probably the oldest
plano in the state. This home of
hospitality is well described with
pen and pictures.

ING BAD BOYS GOOD ERECTED IN OREGON. MAKING BAD BOYS GOOD

WITH THE SURGEON'S KNIFE. Medical scientists declare that criminal tendencies in youth are criminal tendencies in youth are often due to pressure on the brain, occasionally caused by accident involving the skull. In Philadelphia the Society for the Prevention of Crueity to Children has inaugurated a work of vast proportions, namely, to try to cure physical defects in youngsters of criminal instincts. One case is reported where trephining the skull changed a "bad" boy's nature.

'bad' boy's nature. IN **JAPANESE**

MOUNTAIN MONASTERY. Among the little brown men they have patron saints whom

the populace make journeys to worship. Anna Laura Miller went to the shrine sought by plous Orientals and writes en-tertainingly of the visit.

COURTING DEATH FOR MERE PLEASURE.

An average of 200 lives are lost every year in the Alps and not all are amateur mountain climball are amateur mountain climb-ers. Guides frequently are vic-tims of fatal accidents. Ma-games of the Pacific Northwest may felicitate themselves on the safety of mountaineering here as compared with Switzerland's perils well set forth by a cor-

FAMOUS QUARREL BETWEEN GARFIELD AND CONKLING.

Judge George H. Williams tells about it. The reminiscence takes in the Republican National Con-vention of 1880, of which he was a member, and recounts the ctfort of a triumvirate of "stal-wart" Senators to force the nom-ination of Grant for a third Presidential term. Garfield was the convention's choice and Conkling supported him in the campaign, but after the election the New York Senator was turned down cold.

ONE PERFECT OREGON TROUT STREAM.

"Nan," who is camping on the banks of the Breitenbush, in the Eastern part of Marion County, describes a mountain stream that meets every mood of man and appeals strongly to natural ngings.

HAUNTED HOUSE ON HARNEY HILL

A landmark at Vancouver, Wash, erected by General Will-iam S. Harney, of Mexican War-fame. With this dwelling are recalled many incidents of early ploneer days.

THE CHUMP, THE DOG AND THE WHITE TROUSERS. Being an account of a trip to Mount Scott of a Summer evening on the trailer. It is far from

ATHLETICS AS THE

RICH MAN'S SALVATION. An article by Dexter Marshall showing how the multimillion-aires of the East are encouraging their sons to cultivate health and develop strong bodies, with portraits of young men who have become prominent in athleties.

MR DEVERY VISITS A PARIS VAUDEVILLE.

Percy Lindon-Howard relates how this distinguished New Yorker saw the show, which was not under the most favorable conditions. WATCHING FOR

THE EXPLOSION.

Dr. George C. Cressy writes from Dr. George C. Cressy writes from London concerning the waiting attitude of all Europe toward the impending revolution in Russia. He also tells how Eng-land persists in misunderstand-ing the United States.

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD OF SPORTS

Many features lend especial interleat to the sporting pages this
week. Latest particulars are given
in full concerning the Gans-Nelson
fight which is now the center of
attention for the entire country,
as well as the Pacific Coast, where
the battle is to occur. Baseball,
rowing, tennis and other sports
are also well handled. No other
paper in the Northwest is so thorough in this department as The
Oregonian. Associated Press dis-Oregonian. Associated Press dis-patches are supplemented by spe-cial dispatches and letters and columns of local articles. A Call-fornia letter from Harry B. Smith.

SOCIETY, MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

In these departments will be found a thorough resume of the fields they cover. As the time for the opening of the theatrical season draws nearer, news of the stage is of greater interest, and this is covered fully. Social happenings are becoming more numerous as the Summer days draw to a close.

THE OREGON AND WASHINGTON BEACHES

The Summer resorts are still the scene of great activity. Although the crowds are diminishing some-what, there are still large colonies at all the outing places, and the closing weeks are proving the best of the season. A page devoted to the Summer folk is well illustrated.

WITH THE BUILDERS

AND REALTY FIRMS The regular weekly building and realty review gives the details of sales which are being made and descriptions of the many new buildings under construction. It illustrated with pictures of som of the attractive new residences.

ANNUAL REGATTA AT ASTORIA

All lovers of sport are awaiting with interest the Astoria Regatta which is to occur the last of the present month. During its progress there is continual galety in the City by the Sea. It is expected that the meet this year will be one of the most successful ever held, as an excellent programme of sports has been prepared. Prac-tically all of the fastest boats of the Northwest will be entered the various races. An illusted article will be given cover ing this subject.



SUGGESTION TO THE PARTY MANAGERS