The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, SEPT. 28, 1906.

SIGNS OF A RAILROAD STORM.

Seven years ago a Railroad Commis sion in Oregon fell into such general disrepute that it was abolished by the Legislature by practically unanimous Since that time public sentiment has been veering round to the commission idea again, until the trans portation committee of the Portland Chamber of Commerce has recom mended that such a body be created, because, "with all the great railway systems centering in a few hands, w onfess we see no other alternative than the creation by the state of some authority who will represent the peo ple as a whole, with adequate authority for investigation and ample power to enforce its findings."

This indicates a significant change of sentiment. Why has it come about? The railroads, neglectful of the needs of a fast-growing traffic, have themselves to answer for it.

The change spreads beyond the membership of the Chamber of Commerce. Undeniably the commission idea has many advocates where seven and ten years ago it had few or none. This is not to say that a commission bill would yet carry in Oregon before the people tion to the fact that the people of this state, annoyed and exasperated by inabout for means of forcing the railroads into supplying transportation facilities more in keeping with the demand, behold in the commission plan the easlest and readlest remedy, just as the people of the State of Washington a Legislature to create such a body.

It is to be noted that this important or a commission in Washington and that in Oregon: In Washington it was primarily for regulation of rates, while in Oregon it is for regulation of service. Rates in Oregon are not altogether satisfactory, but shippers would put up health, lies near its base. The United with them if the railroads had sufficient States Government is fitly a party to cars for handling the traffic. However, this centennial celebration, since Capare that he will not be convicted when it is easy to foresee that if the demand tain Zebulon Pike and nearly all the for a commission shall gain further im-

Responsibility, then, for the growing demand in Oregon rests on Harriman, who virtually controls the railroad situation in Oregon with his O. R. & N. and Southern Pacific. He can arrest the discontent by suplying cars enough to move the freight of Oregon within reasonable time and to stop the present embargo on 60 per cent of the freight that has been waiting for transporta-

It will not be possible to stay the commission idea in any other way; in- preter, from St. Louis on and out deed, it may not be easy to stay that through the newly acquired province idea at all. The State of Washington. through its commission, has progressed from St. Louis on July 15, 1806, the a good way toward "making good"; it purpose being to supplement on the has ordained joint rate on wheat, to southwestern border the work which compel railroads to exchange ship- Lewis and Clark were completing along ments with each other at regular the Northwestern line. Pushing forthrough rates, instead of imposing on | ward by boat and on horseback, Pike shippers the sum of the two local and a detachment of his men followed charges of such a transfer; and it has the Arkansas River into Colorado, put in force a distance tariff to equal- wandered through it in a zigzag course ize distributive rates, and to give Walls | and discovered the mountain that bears Walla merchants, for example, fair his name on November 16, 1806. After ers' license law is to provide a fund to chance to compete with Spokane. Fur- many vicissitudes Captain Pike, then pay for the protection of game. Its thermore, the commission idea has Brigadier-General, was killed, six years gained ground in the enlargement of later, in the war with England, at the mination of game. The law is not popthis body will do much under the new rate law to regulate rates equitably, prohibit discrimination and control railroads in the interest of the public. States. The commission idea, then, is strong throughout the country

Shortage of cars and locomotives is This gives rise to the demand for remittee finds that Oregon shippers have cars but have received only 1522, "or

It has been a common cry at this seaon for half a dozen years past. But it never tled up traffic as it has been do ing this time. This shortage could have been foreseen, at least a large part of it, and provided against by the railroads. As the committee says, a railroad should maintain "an equipent that will handle the business busy times, even though it may be idle

during occasional dull times. We believe its equipment should keep pace with the growth of business and the public should not be the sufferer through the working of a policy which puts a premium on the handling of the greatest amount of freight with the east possible equipment.

Here is the core of the whole question that is leading up to regulation of railroads in Oregon. Public sentiment. stirred up by the forced shut-down of thirty sawmills, delay and impossibility of getting cars, slow transit and other grievances, will secure radical legislation, if it shall not be appeased. It cannot be appeared by promise of the new railroads to Coos Bay, Central Oregon and Wallowa. For what is the ise of more railroad tracks if there are not enough cars for tracks already built?

POLITICAL VAUDEVILLE.

Mr. Hearst will attempt this Fall the running at full speed in opposite direc-The platform of his own Indetions. pendent League, which has the first ind best claim to his allegiance, clares sheompromisingly for municipal ownership of public utilities. The Demcratic platform has no use at all for nunicipal ownership, but proposes to have the Government fix the rates for all public-service corporations. The difference between the two methods is fundamental. If the Government fixes the rates, leaving the ownership in the companies, then the public gets all the enefit and the companies take all the risks. With public ownership the comparties would, of course, be paid in full

or their property and would thenceforth remain without risk or profit. But the question which interests us ust now is, how Mr. Hearst can manage to ride on these opposing platforms without splitting himself in two. How favor and oppose municipal ne day and oppose it the next; dexterity of that species is not at all unommon. But how can he devote one page of the American to arguments for nunicipal ownership and the following page to arguments against it? Will e hire one outfit of spellbinders to champion municipal ownership and another to oppose it? How will he man age his campaign? No doubt his genus will be equal to the emergency, and n the plenitude of our faith we can only wait and wonder what he will do. e suspect, however, that the diffi-

culty in the case is greater for simple minded observers than it is for Mr. Hearst himself. It may be imagined without much mental strain that s platform does not mean a great deal to him. He had about as lief run on one as another, and would experience no serious embarrassment in running on half a dozen at the same time, all different and opposing. "Paris vaut bien me masse," exclaimed the great Protestant French warrior; "I'll go to mass for the sake of getting hold of Paris." Mr. Hearst, one conjectures, feels much the same way upon the question of municipal ownership, and all other questions, for that matter. He is quite ready to go to mass or etay away, or do anything else, in fact, that may seem likely to help him along the road to the Governorship. Voltaire once sued out a writ of mandamus ordering the parish pricest to hear him confess lead honest lives, the inexorable centior the Legislature, but to call atten-and-anti-municipal ownership is not his sins. Hearst's simultaneous proquite so farcical, perhaps, as Voltaire's plety, but it is not far behind.

THE PIKE'S PEAK CENTENNIAL.

A centennial celebration of more than local interest and significance was inaugurated at Colorado Springs last Sunday and will continue throughout helpless paralysis with scarcely even a did two years ago, when they elected the present week. The celebration is in honor of Captain Zebulon M. Pike. the early explorer of the then dim and difference exists between the demand distant Rocky Mountain region, whose name and achievement in its discovery is perpetuated in "Pike's Peak."

Pike's Peak is Colorado's best-known landmark, and Colorado Springs, significant of hope to those in failing tives of many Indian tribes, the once Comanches and Cheyennes, whom Captain Pike met on his tour through the beautiful and rugged wildernesss a century ago. How like a romance it reads-the

and his little band, composed of one Lieutenant, three noncommissioned officers, sixteen privates and an interof Louislana! The expedition started the powers of the Interstate Commerce capture of York, now Toronto, and unission, and it is expected that many years after his name was given not only to the mountain that bears his name, but to many counties, towns and streams throughout the United

The present celebration is not much to commemorate the memory of crops. The city sportsman pays no a brave soldier and a tireless, Intrepid same tax except his license fee; the the cause of the uprising in Oregon. explorer, though all honor is bestowed upon the achievements of Captain Pike, ciprocal demurrage, whereby a railroad now a century old. Its chief purpose should pay for delays in supplying cars, is to mark by steps, and present by just as shippers now pay for delays in | contrast the development of Colorado. holding them. It has made delays on A part of the Great American Desert the road and consequent losses to ship-pere. The Chamber of Commerce com-expanse of tablelands and mountains a self he is a serious loser. counterpart of the "sandy deserts of required in the last ninety days 3767 Africa." He did not conceive that is unfair to the farmers. Their objec-Western expansion could bear the banabout 40 per cent of the rolling stock ner of civilization beyond the borders needed." The committee finds that on lumber shipments this season the relative car shortage of the railroads has on his route the States of Missouri, Kansae, Nebraska, Texas, Louisiana and Colorado have sprung. The details which it produces than the city sports-

tails and crystallizes their magic into the plain facts of a nation's history and a people's and country's development.

OUR BAD CRIMINAL RECORD.

In Germany there are five homicides year for each million of the population. In the United States there are 129. Murder is thus twenty-five times as common in this country as it is in Germany. Since the comparative safety of human life is one of the standards by which civilization is estimated, it follows that, if German civilization is not twenty-five degrees above our own in all respects, it certainly is in this one at least. Thoughtful men here and there have sought reasons for our patent and humiliating failure in dealing erime, and many have been suggested, but none of them seems quite adequate and all taken together leave something still to be explained. The most common explanation of our disgraceful criminal record is to deny the fact. It is frequently stated that we seem to have more crime than other nations only because our police is so much more active and efficient; more arrests are made in proportion to offenses committed and the courts are nore severe in imposing penalties, This is soothing to the soul, but it is

ot true. Among all the police forces of the world those of American cities are astonishing feat of riding two horses the least efficient. In many cases they are in intimate sympathy and close alliance with the criminal classes. Their efforts are often directed, not to the arrest of criminals, but to the extortion of money from them as the price of im-Thieves and murderers pa munity. from city to city to ply their trade without interference from the police and often without their knowledge There is none but the crudest method of registration and identification of criminals. A vigorous writer in the Chicago Tribune instances all these as reasons for our National failure in dealing with crime. He might have added that the average intelligence of our police forces is low. They are selected reasons altogether unconnected with fitness for their duties and kept in place without regard to the quality of their work. Real detective ability is seidom met among them. Their only way to get at the facts in a given case of crime is to apply the torture, known ownership at the same time? We can as the "third degree," to suspected per-well understand how he might favor it sons and extort some sort of a confes-Our most celebrated detectives are those who are most skillful in the

use of the torture. Of course evidence obtained in this manner is of little use in court, and one of the principal reasons why convictions are so rare in our criminal trials is the abhorrence of juries for olice methods of obtaining evider and distrust of confessions and admis sions forced from helpless prisoners under duress. The little word "graft" explains the incompetence of American police forces to deal with crime. Graft secures positions for the officers and graft is the guiding principle of their

Crime is safe in many American cities, therefore we must expect it to be common. But this is not the only reason for its prevalence. Our penitentiaries, jails and reform schools are training schools for criminals. Persons sent to these places for comparatively trifling offences emerge thoroughly trained in the technique of burglary and murder and eager to exercise their expertness upon the society which they believe to be their foe. No effective system exists to provide honest work for discharged prisoners. No attention is paid to their goings and comings No matter how malignant they may be they are turned loose upon the community and left to work their will. No matter how zealous they may be to ment of their fellow-men almost forces them to continue a career of crime graduates from jails, reform schools and penitentiaries must outnumber many times over the output of our normal schools and colleges, and it practices the lessons it has learned with incomparably greater diligence and skill; while society looks on in thought of helping, guiding or restrain-

ing these dangerous men. A person who takes a few obvious precautions in committing a crime is not likely to be found out and arrested in this country. The number of mur-ders and burglaries which are too 'mysterious" for the police to fathom is something astonishing. But even if the criminal is arrested he need not feel in serious danger. The chances men of his expedition belonged to the torney may find it expedient to "let petus, it will doubtless include rate United States Army. Other participents in the celebration are representation in the celebration are representation in the celebration are representation. Should the case come into court, then populous and warlike peoples of the great plateau, the Pawnees, Arapahoes, almost impenetrable perwark of technic almost impenetrable network of technicalities, rules of evidence, appeals and love. reversals which make actual punishment so remote that it has little terror. Once in a while a self-confessed criminal like Stensland goes to prison with epitome of the journey of Captain Pike | little formality and delay, but such events are exceedingly rare in our

riminology. The simple truth is that Americans are not a law-abiding people. neither, submit to the law willingly ourselves nor require submission in others. We all admit that fundamental duty of government is to prevent and punish crime, but we rest boastfully satisfied with a government whose faildalous.

THE HUNTERS' LICENSE. The ostensible purpose of the hunteffect seems to be to hasten the exterular among the farmers of the state and no one ought to expect that it would be. To exact a fee from a man for the privilege of shooting birds on his own land is a piece of petty tyranny which is not made any more tolerable by the fact that they have fed on his farmer pays this and also the value of the grain which the birds consume. Trifling as this may seem, a fair computation will prove that it exceeds the license fee. Sometimes the birds are positively destructive, and unless the

In any case the hunter's license law tion to it is well grounded, not only on the reason already mentioned, but for others. It is exasperating in the exshould have no more right to the game

while the farmer can only indulge in ooting upon occasions when his daily labor permits.

In all equity the owner of the land should have the paramount, if not the exclusive, right to the shooting upon it. Whoever hunts over his acres do so by his permission and not otherwise. This bit of evident justice can be secured by a severe trespass act better than in any other way. The icense law, with its results, amounts to petty confiscation of the farmers' property rights for the benefit of the city dweller. The circumstances being as they are, the rural population cannot be expected either to pay the license fee or to observe the game laws with much enthusiasm. It is no surprise to earn that game birds are likely to become extinct unless some change is made in the direction of equity and

What sort of a political gathering was it that convened at Seattle Wednesday and masqueraded under the name of Democrats? Practically the convention indorsed for Congressional candidates three men selected by labor leaders; Bryan's views on Government ownership of railroads were overwhelmingly disapproved, and with the same unanimity he was indorsed for President in 1908; tacit approval was given to ex-Senator Turner's letter commending the Administration of Roosevelt, and the platform contains more Populist planks than Jeffersonian doctrine. It was the smallest conven tion in years, whole counties being unrepresented. A few years ago a reporter interviewing Senator Dolliver asked, "How is the Democratic party in your state?" to which Jonathan P. replied: "There is no Democratic party in Iowa." Cannot that remark be applied to the State of Washington also'

It is evident that the collateral heirs of the late Russell Sage did not engage ideal twentieth-century lawyers the purpose of breaking the great miser's will. There is to be no contest; hence no fat fees. Mrs. Sage has com promised with the outsiders by doubling their legacies, thus killing off litigation cheaply. Either the heirs had most slender ground for a contest or legal counsel of rare type.

Persons who resent the imputation that they are "standing in" with the Southern Pacific when they oppose revocation of the Fourth-street franchise may be speaking the real truth. It may be they are "standing in" other interests which would be affected quite as much as the Southern Pacific. since they hold the same kind of franchises on other streets.

The movement to merge the starveling churches in small towns is sane and sensible. One strong church is more than ten times as useful to a community as ten weak ones. well-fed preacher is worth a dozen who must spend all their time keeping the wolf from the door with none left to fight the devil.

Des Moines and Omaha have joined the goodly band of cities which forbid secret fraternities in the high schools. Before the present year expires there ought not to remain a single city in America where these extremely undesirable organizations will be tolerated

At least nine members of the City Council are quite sure railroad passes did not influence their votes on the Fourth-street franchise, prove this for the satisfaction of their fellow-citizens in future developments. they are hanging on to their passes.

The New York Democratic Convention extends to "that great American ader and typical American, William J. Bryan, cordial and sincere felicita-The glad hand and the pleasing word, but nothing doing when it comes to pledging votes for 1908.

Under the new meat inspection law under the label "Frankfurter style sausage," from which the only reasonable deduction is that we have never had the real thing and have been eating an imitation article all these years.

The nickel-in-the-slot receipts in Portland for one day would just about complete that Y. M. C. A.-Y. W. C. A. building fund. Why not donate them? People who have money to burn don't necessarily need to put them in cigars more than 364 days every year.

Mr. and Mrs. Velguth doubtless used an automobile in order to hurry up their honeymoon. Love laughs at jallers, and it is pleasant to wear Cupid's handcuffs; but you never can tell what upsets will occur on the course of true It will be recalled, too, that about

1898 the New York Republicans nomi-

nated another candidate for Governor whom the bosses didn't want. Later he became President. But perhaps Mr. Hughes has thought of all that. The School Directors may be able to ead an unwilling contractor to a poor-

ly-built schoolhouse; but can they prevent him from driving everyobdy else to drink by his exasperating delays and queer methods? Taft will declare himself Governor if

a self-appointed dictator seems to be what they have been looking for, they ought to be pleased with the success of their revolution. The Mexicans are foolhardy to indulge in a revolution at this time. As peace officer of the continent, with a big fleet and army at his command.

the Cubans shall fall to be good. As

of New York; but there are Democrats who think they merely substituted for him another prominent actor in the lit-

tle Garden of Eden affair, some years

Ex-Banker Stensland, now of Joliet has dispelled a popular notion that there is no royal road to the penitentiary for embezzling bank presidente What has become of Banker Gourdain?

General Funston is at Havana, but refuses to say anything. The Cubans will have no reason, then, to assume treme that the man who owns, culti-vates and pays the taxes upon land a good part of it.

"Mr. Hearst," says the New York

DIRECTORS MUST Ridgely Says Their Neglect Causes Looting of Banks.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 27.-The sponsibility of bank directors was dis-cussed at the opening session of the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Bankers' Association today by W. B. Ridge-ley, Controller of the Currency, recent bank-wreeking being taken as a text. Mr. Ridgely said that, except in rare instances, there is never any reasonance excuse for the fatture of a bank or trust ompany. He continued:

It is almost always the result of inexcusable olly and incompetence or dishonesty and raud, and often due to all of these com-sined. When a bank does fail, it is the fault hined. When a bank does fail, it is the fault of the board of directors. Many others may be to blame, but the final responsibility rests upon the directors, and the whole board as a board, and the members as individuals are to blame if they allow the officers or per-haps only a few of the directors to so man-age the business of the bank as to bring on nsolvency. The directors may be entirely gnorant of what is being done, but it is their fault if they allight themselves to be kept in ignorance or to be deceived and thus permit

He quoted the provision of the National banking act defining the duties of directors and requiring them to take an oau perform those duties. *He quoted de-sions of the United States Supreme Court and lower courts holding them responsible for loss due to neglect of those duties, where the directors pleaded ignorance. He proceeded to say how com-mon it is for bank directors to leave everything to the officers. He continued

Leave It All to Officers.

There are, however, still too many case There are, however, still too many cases where the directors content themselves with choosing officers whom they believe to be honest and competent and leaving everything to them. Fortunately, when the right kind of officers are chosen, the results obtained are often quite as good as when the directors follow up the business more closely. There is much to be said in favor of one-man management of any business, and especially of a bank, when you have the right mun in the bank. bank, when you have the right man in the right place. It is apt to be vigorous and efficient and successful. Many of the great banks of the world, as well as the most successful railways, industrial and commercial enterprises, owe their commanding success to the gentus of one strong man who, by his force and high character, has completely dominated their affairs.

The results are better than one might have supposed, but they are not as good as they should be. The weakness and shame of Amer-lean banking is that more often than it should happen there are scandalous failures of banks which have been robbed and looted by officers who had so gained the confidence of their shareholders and directors as to be given absolute control of the business will ittle or no supervision, check or examination

on the part of the directors.

There is no excuse for such robbery of bank. It cannot happen where the directors are honest and doing their duty. It is no an-awer for the directors to say they had confidence in their officers and did not know the real condition. It is their business and their sworm duty, to know the condition, and to prevent such stealing.

Cannot Blame Examiner.

It is no answer, either, to blame the bank examiner or the supervising authority. The ex-aminer and the banking department may or may not be to blame. Sometimes they are at fault in not having discovered conditions som-The examiner does his duty if he discover ers dishonesty and crime after it is com-mitted. He can do nothing until some, per-hape all, the harfn is done; until the loan is made, the forged note is in the bank, the fraudulent entry made, and the money gone. It is for the examiner to discover fraud. It is the directors' business to prevent it. If they do not, they are gullty of criminal intent or almost equally criminal neglect. No officer car ob and ruin a bank, unless the directors are his confederates or dupes. He argued the necessity of a close check on bank officers by directors, even

when the latter have supreme confi-dence in the officers. He said:

Bankwreckers Not Fools. It must be remembered that it is only me who have the talents to establish reputation for capacity, probity and honor who get the chance to commit such crimes. They are gen-erally men of unusual talents. A bank-wrecker is never a fool. It takes rather exceptions; ability to first acquire a position where it is possible, and then to carry out the plan. Only a man of considerable nerve and courage would dare to try such a thing. could carry it on without early discovery What L wish to impress most on any bank director who may happen to hear or read what I say is that it is men who have just as high reputations and stand just as well among their friends and associates as the men you are trusting, who occasionally commit these glasantic frauds in bank management.

No man who is in charge of a bank and intends to conduct its business honestly and legally can resent any amount of supervision or examination by his board of directors. He recommended the employment of a

Loans to Bank Officers.

Above all, the directors of a bank should most closely scrutinize the loans to officers and other directors, and see that they are kept down to not only legal, but safe, amounts. down to not only legal, but safe, amounts. Far the most frequent cause of bank troubles, in fact, the almost invariable cause of bank fattures, is the granting of credits far beyond the legal and prudent limits to the officers or to one concern or group of alled concerns, generally owned and managed by the officers or directly owned and managed by the hosticers or directly or indirectly, some large negative interest.

pecuniary interest.

I do not remember a case where a bank officer had the moral courage to let loans of this kind carry down his bank without resorting to crimes of some kind to conceal or postpone the catastrophe, in hopes that some

postpone the catastropie, in hopes that some fortunate circumstance might intervene to save him and conceal his fraud.

It is not good business or good banking to have men on the board whose interest lies in borrowing from the bank more than they should prudently or can legally loan, or who would be tempted to risk large sums of the money of the bank to protect their own interests rather than those of the bank.

It is no new responsibility I am trying to create. It already exists in the law as it has It is no new responsibility I am trying to create, It already exists in the law as it has been construed by the Supreme Court. Any man who accepts a place, on a bank board must accept this responsibility, and take an oath he will diligently and honestly manago the affairs of the association. He thus adds a moral to his legal obligation, and is bound, in all honor and good faith, to observe his oath and obey the law. oath and obey the law.

Insured by Penny Paper.

NEW YORK, Sept. 27.—A special cable dispatch to the Times from London states that the heirs of one of the victims of the Granthan disaster have received \$1000 insurance, which was effected at a cost of 1 penny. The insured was a regular sub-scriber to a London penny weekly which insures its readers against accidents and big fleet and army at his command.

Mr. Taft is too near them to make the pastime safe.

Adam wasn't nominated for Governor of New York; but there are Democratical and the safe and the sa

> CHICAGO, Sept. 27 .- Two cars of coldstorage chickens and over ten carloads of meat were condemned yesterday by Chief Food Inspector Murray and his assist-ants, to say nothing of 15 carcasses of diseased cattle and four calves. The condemnation of the chickens was due to private advices received by Mr. Murray from Canada. When he learned that the lot had escaped him and was on the way to New York, he notified the authorities there so they can catch the shipment at its destination.

Cold-Storage Chicken Condemned.

Quits Army to Become Broker.

NEW YORK, Sept. 27. - Lieutenant Charles H. Daly, who resigned his com-mission in the United States Army two

DIRECT HAZING THING OF HISTORY GREAT STORM IN ALGERIA Bulldozing of Freshmen Extirpated

> at West Point Academy. WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 .- No more favorable report of the conditions at the Military Academy at West Point has been made in recent years to the War De partment than that of the board of visitors, of which General Horace Porter was president, made public by the War Department today. The board says it desires "to express its unanimous opinion that the management of the academy, both in discipline and efficiency, is of the highest order and an honor to those harged with its administration. An interesting report is made by the special committee on instruction.

ditions are very satisfactory. The committee says: The practice of hazing new cadets, at one me prevalent among the older students of the academy, has been effectually stamped out, and we have been informed that no in-stance of real hazing has come to the attention of the academy authorities during the last three years, or since effective measures were employed for its abolition. This exellent state of discipline could only have esuited from the hearty co-operation of the tudent-body, when once it had brought to is attention the fact that the having prac-ice as carried on was seriously impairing he usefulness of the institution. The esprit de corps and high code of honor prevalent

ine and hygiene, which states that cor

argely attributed to this gratifying status among the students themselves. Athletics at the academy have attained a very high degree of excellence and the wislargely om of the authorities in so amending the rules as to require gymnasium work of ca-dets in all classes has already been dem-onstrated after only a year's trial and will e further confirmed with each recurring

the cadet ranks were never more satis-ctory than at the present time, and that

hazing no longer exists here must be very

Shaw Increases Federal Deposits.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.-Secretary ounced that \$26,000,000 will be do osited with existing depositary banks in he following cities:

New York and Chicago, \$3,000,000 each Boston, Philadelphia, St. Louis, New Or eans, \$2,000,000 each; Baltimore, Louis ville, Kansas City, Cleveland, \$1,000,000 each; Pittsburg, Buffalo, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Detroit, Cincinnati, St. Paul. Omaha, Des Moines, Denver, Sloux City Memphis, Peoria, Atlanta, Louisville and Sloux Falls, \$500,000 each.

Reward for Arduous Labor.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17 .- Orders have een issued by the Navy Department for o Joppa in order to give the members of her crew an opportunity to visit the Holy Land. This, a somewhat unusual priv-llege, is accorded the men of the Glacier because of their arduous experience in conducting the drydock Dewey from Bal-timore to the Philippines. The Glacier is now on her way to the United States.

Uncle Sam Owns Palma Island.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 .- It is said at he State Department that no doubt ex ists as to the American ownership and control of Palma's Island, one of the small Islands on the southeastern edge of the Philippines. About 18 months ago the War Department requested the De-partment of State to determine whether not Palma's Island was included in Philippine group owned by the United States.

New Washington Postmasters.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Sept. 27.—Washington Postmasters appointed: Ferry, Richard M. Stoddard, vice L. H. Mason, resigned: Taylor, John F. Keenan, vice Ward Harris, resigned.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Sept. 27.-A civil service examinafor postoffice clerk and carrier.

Civil Service at Eugene.

Whitney's Daughter Married. LONDON, Sept. 27.-Mrs. Whitney Dem-me, daughter of the late David Whitney, and Edward Schmidt, both of Detroit, were married today in the Presbyterian Church on Belgrave Square. The peremony was followed by a wedding breakfast at Claridge's, given by Mrs. Hoff, of Paris, a sister of the bride.

Child Murderer Sent to Reformatory ALBIA, Ia., Sept. 27.-Oscar Napier, the 8-year-old boy who was convicted by a jury last Sunday of murdering 7-year-old Frank Adams, was today sentenced to He recommended the employment of a the reformatory at Eldora to remain unregular auditor to check up officers. He continued. The boy broke down and wept pitcously when he was sentenced.

Congress on Divorce Laws.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 27.-Another meeting of the National Congress on Uniform Divorce Laws will be held in this city beginning November III. The congress will consider the draft of a statute which it will seek to have adopted in every

state in the Union. H. O. Wilson Is Promoted. HELENA, Mont., Sept. 27.—H. O. Wilson, for many years general agent for the Oregon Short Line Railroad at Butte,

has been promoted to the position of dis-trict freight agent, of San Francisco for the Union Pacific, says a Record special

Considine to Marry Actress. NEW YORK, Sept. 27.-It was an

Houses Wrecked, Roads Torn Up

and Slides Kill Natives. NEMOURS, Algeria, Sept. 28.-(Special.) -A terrific storm yesterday swept over the western portion of Algeria, bordering on the Mediterranean. In many places the storm assumed the proportions of a Houses were knocked

nadways, were torn up and landsildes An avalanche of mud destroyed a portion of the town wall at this place. Re-ports from the neighboring country tell f great destruction. Several natives were killed and many injured.

Cheap Gas for Kansas City.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 27.—A nat-iral gas franchise, which gives the Kansas City, Mo., gas company the right to serve this city with natural gas for 30 years at an average rate of 2S cents per 1000 feet was passed by the City Council and signed by Mayor Beardsley tonight. The rate for manu-facturing facturing purposes is to be as low as the price in neighboring cities, some of

Call on Evangelist to Show Them.

BLOOMINGTON, III., Sept. 27 .- (Special.)—Because he declared immerality rife in Bloomington and accused the city officials of corruption and neglect, the Rev. W. L. Brooks, an evangelist, has been sun arges were made from the pulpit The officials say he is a sensation-n ger, speaks only from hearsay at best, and has grossly slandered them.

Crushing Dominican Revolt.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 .- Advices have been received from Commander Souther-land, of the Dixle, in Dominican waters, indicating that the Government of Santo Domingo is doing all in its power to put down the insurrection. The President is at Monte Cristi directing the operations of the Government forces in person mander Southerland says that, while the situation is serious, it is not critical.

EMANCIPATION FOR PEASANTS

Proposed New Law Will Remove Their Hardships. ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 27.-The

Council of Ministers has approved a measure dealing with modifications of certain restrictions on peasants and others belonging to the "taxpaying classes" under the old regime, including inequalities in the matter of military service, op-Hgatory exclusion from the peasant class on entering the civilian service and the acquisition of social rights, the with-holding of personal freedom in the right to choose occupation, the right of free admission to secondary schools and the right to move to other parts of the country and possess property.

These modifications greatly better the formerly almost hopeless lot of the peasants. Heretofore they were dependent ants. mon the communal laws and were unable o leave their native villages, and, if al-owed, were still bound to pay their snare f the communal tax. Restrictions on opportunities for edu-ation, allowing peasants to enter high

schools and universities only upon receiving full freedom from communial obligations and entire abrogation of the pay-ment of taxes, necessitating in most cases the payment of large sums of money, representing a life share in com-munal taxation are done away with. The measure also abrogates the bu-reaucratic manner of repression so much practiced, like the punishing of a whole community by exacting tribute for the misdeed of one of its members.

Simultaneously with the modification of these restrictions it is proposed to abolish the politax from January 14, 1997, as well as the necessity for giving security for the payment of taxes. It was fur-ther decided that certain restrictions placed on peasants with reference to the holding of property should be modified, as well as the regulations affecting the apportionment of peasants' iand among the members of their families and the existing disability of a peasant possessing no real property to bind himself by

Leased for Immoral Purposes.

DES MOINES, Ia., Sept. 27 .- The F. M. Hubbell Company, which is the incor-porated name for F. M. Hubbell, prob-ably the wealthlest man in the state, was ined \$600 in Criminal Court today for leasing property for immoral pur The judgment came after Judge overruled the demurrer to the indictment and the defendant refused to enter a plea. There were six indictments against the Hubbell Company, and a fine of \$160 was imposed in each. An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court, where the matter will be further fought out.

Shot by Pepper-Blinded Officer.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 27.—Joseph Wright, a streetcar robber, who was convicted in the Circuit Court yesterday on a charge of complicity in the murder of John Kelth, attempted to blind Deputy Sheriff Feltz last night. With hand manacled, Wright succeeded in getting a package of pepper from his pocket. Without warning, he dashed it into the eyes of the officer. Half blinded. Feitz drew a revolver and one of several shots brought Wright to the ground. Wright was sentenced to a term

Alienists Examine Hary Thaw.

NEW YORK, Sept. 27.—Harry Thaw was examined mentally and physically to-NEW YORK, Sept. 2. At nounced last night that George Considered last night that night that George Considered last night that George Considered



-From the Chicago Inter-Ocean. SECRETARY BOOT HAS EFFECTED A RECONCILIATION BETWEEN CO-LOMBIA AND PANAMA.—NEWS ITEM.