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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27, 1907.

FRANCHISE-HOLDERS AND OTHER PUBLIC OFFICERS.

A franchise is not a ditch, Neither is it a collection of gas pipes, nor a steam engine, nor a building. To some but it is not. On the contrary, it is very necessary, for many persons, not naturally stupid, constantly confuse franchises with the material property which franchise-holders accumulate and use in their business. Just as a lease of land is not land, so a street rallway franchise is not the rallway. It is not the track, the right of way, the ver station nor the cars.

The franchise of a street rallway company is the right obtained from the public to lay tracks on the highways. o carry passengers and collect fares The franchise of a gas company is not lis mains, but the right to lay its mains in the etreets, convey gas through them and charge for it. To lay a gas main in one's private property requires no franchise. A franchise is needed only hen some individual or corporation ereign power of the city or state. The control of the etreets is an attribute of sovereignty. It is a function of gov-erament. When this control or any part of it is handed over to a corporation, then that corporation becomes a part of the machinery of government

Sovereign power is delegated to it. It becomes a public official. Sovereignty is delegated to the Sheriff when he is elected to his office. Like-wise it is delegated to the Governor of the state and to a United States Ser for when they are legally chosen. Election by ballot is one method of delegating sovereignty to an individual. The granting of a franchise is another method. Many Kings have perpetual franchises; that is, sovereignty is delegated to them in perpetuity, and the same is true of many other public officers in Europe. But in this country we make no perpetual delegations of sovereignty to our President, our legislators or even to our Supreme Court Judges It is delegated to the judges during good behavior, but they cannot trans mit it to their successors. Therefore it s not perpetual. None of our elective officials thinks of claiming a perpetual franchise. Their terms are all strictly

But in some cases elective officers, who held only a temporary franchise, have 4ried to bestow perpetual delegations of This, of course, is logically abourd, because no one can grant a greater power than he himself possesses; but the corporations invariably seek to maintain the validity of such grante. They thus claim to be holders of public office in perpetuity. They contend that they have been made an eternal factor in the revernment. This is contrary to our American theory, which does not admit that sovereignty can be allenated forever from the people, but must be rethe delegation renewed. We may say of all our officials, the street railway mpanies, the gas company, the Sherlff, the members of the City Council, that they each hold franchises. One franchise delegates sovereignty for one purpose; another for another purpose; but in principle they are all identical. The constitution of Oregon expressly

denies that any franchise may be perpetual. The franchises of all our elective officers are fixed as to duration hile concerning franchises, or delegations of covereignty to corporations, it provides that they may be repealed by the body that granted them. Thus, no for the Philippines indicates that a matter how the grant of a franchise may read, it cannot be perpetual under mentions no time limit, this merely makes the franchise indefinite in duration and it may be repealed at any a high tariff must be maintained for

Legislature, whether or not the Portought to receive compensation when it is repealed. Must we pay our public coming understood by the workingman officials for relinquishing their offices as well as by their trust employers.

The Sheriff High wages are desirable, but the rolling up individual fortunes, but also

The Oregonian give up his franchise without compensation when his term ends. Why not the gas company? If we must pay our officials to get rid of them at the end of their terme, then it is useless to fix the n perpetulty.
The gas company, let us remember, is

a public official just as much as the when the Legislature says it does. No definite limit being fixed, the Legislapany ends. Must we pay it for doing ernor for the same thing? If we admit to perpetual ownership of his office, since his title is indisputable for a fixed period, while that of the gas company s terminable at any moment.

But, it is argued, the company has made a physical investment on the strength of its franchise; and that this investment will be deteriorated by the repeal of its sovereignty. Therefore tition from the insignificant, poverty-this deterioration ought to be made stricken Philippines. good.

Is this true? Oftentimes a Senator buys or builds a palace when he goes to Washington, and in this palace he expects to live and exercise his franchise, or official power, for many years. But a rude fate interferes. He is deprived of his office. His mansion is worth less than it was when he bought it. Must people make good his loss? They should if it is right to pay the gas company for the repeal of its franchies. Public officials who make investments upon the prospect of continued power so at their own risk. Just as the Senator knows that he may fall of reelection, so the gas company knew all the time that its franchise might be revoked.

The people do not contract to keep their officials in power forever nor to insure their investments. The people of Oregon did not contract with the holders of the gas franchises in Portland to insure their investment. passing the Coffey bill the Legislature would not have impaired that invest-The City Council of Portland would have granted a new limited franchise to take its place. Franchise and plant are wholly distinct, though by a clever trick they were confused by the gas lobby in the State Capitol until several Senators were made to believe that revocation of franchise an intangible thing, but a function of govereignty-meant confiscation of physical property-the plant and pipes. The rick is plainly visible from this factthe Hodson amendment to the Coffey bill, which amendment compelled the City of Portland to pay the gas com-pany for relinquishing the old franchies, did not require the city to pay for or purchase the physical properties of the company. Those properties were still to be owned by the company after the unlimited franchise was revoked. remark may appear superfluous. How absurd, therefore, that the people of Portland should pay money for that old franchise, given away free by the people of Oregon, fifty years ago, and used ever since, to line the pockets of its possessors with gold at the expense of the public.

NO PROTECTION FOR SALMON For protection of the salmon industry of the Columbia River, the Oregon Legislature did little or nothing, nor will the Washington Legislature do more, since remedial laws must be enacted concurrently in the two states.

The closed Suriday and the shorter fishing seasons in April and August both were killed in the Oregon Senate. though agreed to by joint committees of the two houses from the Legislatures of the two states.

hatcheries of the Columbia River are to be almost idle, as during the last three years, or until there shall be laws to save breeding salmon from the greedy clutches of men who cannot otherwise be held from immediate profit

Once more the figheries have legislated for themselves and again have done nothing or worse. It has been said frequently that the fisheries will not be protected until they have been almost destroyed, or until other interests of the two states shall take the matter out of their hands and legislate in a sensible manner. Must this turn out true?

Again The Oregonian points out that the plight of the industry comes from the catching of too many salmon and the escape of too few for breeding. We shall see if two years more will teach was limited to American products the leeson.

ANOTHER TRUST VICTORY.

Filipino hopes for fair treatment on tariff matters were dispelled by the United States Senate Monday. vote of 46 to 11 the amendment reducing the tariff on sugar, tobacco and rice was tabled, and the dusky inhabiants of our Pacific dependencies were thus made to realize to the fullest extent the blessings conferred on them by American freedom. It has been shown repeatedly that the entire sugar. rice and tobacco output of the Philippines is insignificant in comparison with the amount consumed in the United States, and that half a dozen other countries in which America has no such interest as in the Philippines are now supplying much of this home demand.

It is an iniquitous and unfair policy all along the line that compels the American people to pay higher prices for commodities than foreign consumsumed by them from time to time and ers are obliged to pay for the same goods, but the worst feature of this shown when it is applied to the Philippines, a country in which it is quotations of these stocks and bonds our solemn duty to encourage development of all legitimate enterprises. forced our authority and our laws on them, and, having done so, the very least we can do is to permit them to develop their crude industries to the department store was the country or best possible advantages. The American camel is already staggering under a load of tariff iniquities, which will bear the increase in weight of but few straws. The numerical etrength in the Senate of opposition to fair treatment

ing the old threadbare argument that the protection of the American workingman. The fact that this system enables the trusts to sell in foreign marland Gas Company, which holds one of kets at lower prices than they exact these indefinite grants of sovereignty, in this country every article that is of the small stocks of merchandise effected by the tariff is gradually be- even in a restricted or special line; but

There has been some advance in

wages in this country, but it has not Governor of the state. Its term expires been at all proportionate to the advance in the commodities for which that grew out of the first endeavor. the money must be spent. The foreign ture may set any limit it likes, and workmen today in many branches of then the term of office of the gas comindustry can buy more with his small wages than the American can purchase us the favor to go out of office when its term is up? Why not pay the Govtariff that increases the cost of living, that the gas company owns in perpetu- thus reducing the purchasing power of fact, the Governor has the better claim still firmly intrenched, but the day is vote has been such a powerful factor in government in Britleh Columbia who are now professing fear of compe-

WILL MR. HARRIMAN EXPLAIN?

Before the Interstate Commerce Commission closes its investigation of his esoteric experiments in railroading, Mr. Harriman will probably seek an opportimity to explain away that manipulation of Union and Southern Pacific dividends which is said to have put \$10, 000,000 into his pocket in the course of a day or two last August. The public was ingeniously led to believe that the dividends had been passed by the directors. The stock fell. Mr. Harriman and his friends bought coplously of the declining shares. At the psychological moment the news came out that, instead of passing the dividends, the directors had declared one of 10 per cent on Union Pacific and 5 per cent on Southern Pacific. Both were extraordinsrily large. The stocks flew upward and Mr. Harriman and his favored co operators sold at the top notch what they had bought at the lowest. This is the tale which it is hoped, for the sake of his good name, that Mr. Harriman will take an early opportunity to

disprove. If the tale is true, as it probably is, this maneuver is an excellent example of that sort of "thrift and industry by which our economic magnates transfer other people's property to their own possession. It is the sort of "pro-ductive energy" which has brought the great wealth of the country into the hands of a small part of the population. It is one of those "magnificent enterprises" which Chanceller Day so much admires, and which enable Mr. Harriman and Mr. Rockefeller to endow education without expense to themselves. It was not quite so outrageously cruel as the employment of peon labor on Mr. Ryan's new railroad in the South, but it was cruel enough to break hearts and wreck homes. Surely our benevolent railroad despot will seek an occasion to explain it.

THE PANAMA RESIGNATIONS

Chief Engineer Stevens, of the Pan-ama Canal, has followed in the footsteps of ex-Chief Engineer Wallace by tendering his resignation from a posi-tion of great importance, but apparently one of overwhelming responsibil-ity. It will be remembered that Mr Wallace was roundly scored by the Administration and the people for abandonment of the great work before it had hardly begun. In view of the praise that was showered on Mr. Stevens when he accepted the charge, it will now be interesting to note the spirit in which his descrition of the cause will be received. It is a matter f regret that these frequent changes ! project.

It would seem that a little more stafollowed on the canal would vastly imfor the sake of the future good of the prove the situation. A man of the repstation of either Wallace or Stevens very rarely assumes a position of such great importance without having some ntention of seeing the work through It is thus clear that when, after a few weeks' trial, he abandons the task. there must be something objectionable or difficult which did not appear on the surface when the position was accepted. Perhaps it is politics, that bane of all legitimate business-like efforts. Certain it is that polities cuts a big figure and when, at a sacrifice of vast sums of We money, the purchase of canal supplies There was also politics in the wave of protest over the employment of Chinese

on the canal work. It is even hinted that politics has appeared in the scramble for the contract for constructing the canal. Hard-head-Stevens type have contempt for either red tape or politics, and so long as the canal work was in a measure involved in one or the other of these factors it could not well have been other than distasteful to them. Judged by the past, the next engineer in charge will talents to their utmost.

FIELD'S GREAT FORTUNE.

According to a late inventory, filed in the Probate Court by the executors of the estate of the late Marshall Field, of Chicago, his estate is worth between \$90,000,000 and \$100,000,000. Doubt no to the exact value arises from the fact that the inventory places no exact value upon the real estate that comprises about one-fourth of the whole and gives only the face or par value of the stocks and bonds. On the basis of the current it is believed that the estimate of \$100,-000,000 is not extravagant.

Marshall Field may almost be said to be the father of the modern department store. It is true that the basis of the village store, where merchandise of all grades, from soft soap and dairy butter to naile and silk, hardware and calleo was kept for sale. But the strictly classified and methodically conducted department store, culminating in the great establishment of Marshall Field smashing defeat at the polls is needed and others only less enormous in extent to bring about this much-needed reacted, was a growth the magnitude of which must have astonished Field him-

There is a difference in opinion con cerning the benefits which the public and the wider business world have de rived from the evolution of the department store and the practical extinction

fice to his successor. The Governor will wages to the same extent that it has of men and women. The result of the "protected" the manufacturers of the effort of Marshall Field is told in nine commodities which the wage-earner is figures, the contemplation of which forced to buy. Every article of im-portance used by the wage-earner, for could be told, the presentment would food or raiment, is steadily advancing be far more astonishing, as it would terms, for they really own their offices in price in this country and lowering show myriads of homes established and in perpetuity. cated, echools and churches maintained and the basis of more than one modest competence laid from the increment

Harmony among the railroad-buildrs seems to be fully as pronounced up in Canada and British Columbia as it is along the north bank of the Columthat causes high wages, it is also the bia River or on the tidelands of Puget Sound. The Grand Trunk Pacific, which is invading the field of the Canaity the fraction of sovereignty which the high wages. The trusts, grown rich dian Pacific, has met with opposition has been delegated to it, we must also and powerful, are arrogant, and, as since its inception, and has had to fight admit that the Governor owns his. In shown by the vote in the Senate, are its way to the Pacific. The latest illustration of hostility toward the new road coming when the wage-earner, whose is shown in the refusal of the provincial the perpetuation of the iniquitous sys-tem under which we now labor, will Government giving the Grand Trunk take a broader view and there will be a right of way across the Metlakahtla reversal of policy that will sweep into obscurity the prominent standpatters was apparently stronger than the Ca-Indian reservation. The Grand Trunk nadian Pacific at Ottawa, but finds conditions reversed on the west end of the

Governor Chamberlain, after weighng carefully the arguments made elther side, decided to veto House bill No. 367, which permitted the indiscriminate slaughter of Oregon birds-urged in the alleged interest of horticultureand did so in a brief and pointed message. The veto, as stated, was in response to a strong protest against the bill from men and women all over the state, many of whom are engaged in horticulture, agriculture and gardening. Intelligent representatives of the two last-named industries recognize the birds as their friends and coadjutors, while the horticulturist can reasonably protect himself during the relatively brief season in which robins and othe birds eat fruit, by planting enough for the birds as well as for the market.

The headquarters of the grain-bag trust, referred to in yesterday's Oregonian, is at Calcutta, India, and the local distributors of the grain bags are as much at the mercy of the trust as are the farmers who use them. The elevator system for handling the grain without bags will work well so far as it effects grain used for milling and home ensumption. Pending the completion of the Panama Canal, export grain must still be shipped in bags. The vexed question will be settled as soon as the rapidly increasing demand for milling and home consumption reaches proportions where it can take care of all the grain produced. The Calcutta bag trust will then seek other markets for its output.

Pacific Coast news regarding the movements of the Japanese is inclined to cause perplexity as to what the little brown men are actually trying to do. For example, we find in yesterday's dispatches from San Francisco they are pouring into this country by hundreds, while a Seattle dispatch notes the departure of a large number who are returning to the land of their birth to enter the army. Japan might save the passage money by "swapping" lots.

How about broken pledges at Salem? Speak up, Mesers, Bailey, Beach, Free-Beutgen, Beveridge, Bayer, Wilson and Farrell. You promised the people at election time to vote for bills to repeal perpetual franchises, but in the Legislature you voted for an amendment to the Coffey bill so as to grant the Portland Gas Company perpetual right to hold its franchises unless the people should buy them. Speak up, gentlemen.

No one feels called upon to enter occur, for the moral effect as well as Vardaman, of Mississippi, that "when the actual less of time is bad for the whisky-soaked and addicted to the use of cocaine and morphine, the negro le the worst type of flend." It is, morebility in the management and methods over, a fact well known at police headquarters that when a white man absorbs these drugs in quantity the act is not conducive to the development of angelic qualities in him.

What will be the ultimate effect of the Rhodes scholarships? . Will they transform our canaller colleges into preparatory schools for Oxford, the most reactionary and sterile of foreign uni-versities? Oxford is the ancient and impregnable fortress of plutocratic toryism. Mr. Rhodes planned well for his class in purchasing patronage for it from democratic America.

E. H. Harriman announces that he will retire from business next year when he reaches his 60th birthday. This ought to make James J. Hill reconsider his determination to quit, for life would scarcely be worth living if "Uncle Jimmy" did not have to spend so much ed business men of the Wallace and time and money pushing to one side the boulders that Mr. Harriman rolls down

The interest of \$42,000,000 at 5 per cent is \$2,100,000 a year, almost twice as much as the annual expense of our state government. Thus Mr. Rockefeller's eduhave work cut out sufficient to tax his sation board exercises double the financial power of the State of Oregon, and financial power is, at the bottom, the only power there is. How is that for centralization?

> Several other gentlemen besides Messers, Annand, Sharkey, Masters and a few more of the City Council have the support of the gas company in their political ambitions, the others being Multnomah legislators who "stood in" at Salem, like the "solid nine" of the Council.

> Dr. Lyman Abbott is quite right in saying that trusts are "for the public good which is "for the public" has thus far gone to somebody else and will continue to do so as long as "somebody else," and not the public, controls

Few will lament the death of Senator

Beach's voting-machine bill. As Gov-

ernor Chamberlain says, it "smacks of

an effort to legislate in the interest of

one or more establishments with lowpriced machines," Governor Chamberlain has done good work with his yeto since the Legisla-ture adjourned. The Legislature seems never to fall to put thunder in his

Now that wicked passes are under the ban, Oregon perhaps contains worthy gentlemen who think 2-cents-a-mile tickets the proper thing.

Don't swear at the railroads when when their terms expire? The Sheriff High wages are desirable, but the rolling up individual fortunes, but also you pay your fare, but at the dear does not expect pay for yielding his of-protective tariff has never protected in giving employment to a multitude people and the Legislature.

A DELUGE OF FREAK BILLS. Weird Legislation Congress and State

Legislatures Asked to Euact. New York World. From time to time weird bills on subjects ranging from anti-tipping to taxing bachelors have been introduced in Congress and in the various State Legislatures. To round up the most foolish bills offered for statesmen to ponder upon the World inspected its correspondents at prominent capitals to telegraph what each deliberate body considers its prize per-formance, and the result follows:

Washington.—There are many freak bills introduced during the session of Congress, but most of them are intro-duced "by sequest." The two prize pieces of attempted legislation at this session are the Murphy anti-tipping bill and the Wharton resolution giving the President the right to suppress newspapers that print matter that offends his ideas of

by the District of Columbia committee as a joke. The Wharton resolution never will be reported out.

"There should be some law under

Murphy and Wharton are both first-Murphy and Wharton are both first-termers and both have been defeated for re-election. Murphy is from Missouri. He came in with the great Roosevelt wave two years ago. Wharton is from the stockyard district in Chicago, and he also was boosted in by President Roose- York." velt's popularity.

Topeka, Kan.-The Kansas Legislature this Winter changed the name of George Denoif to George Bell, but neglected to change the name of Mrs. Denoif. Mrs. Denoif made so much trouble for Mr. Bell that he came back to Topeka to lobby for a bill to change the name of his wife.

The original bill was introduced by E. P. Rochester of Scott County. He said Denoif wanted a name the neighboring farmers could remember. When Mrs. Denoif learned what had been done she suspected a trick and notified her hus-band that he must go to Topeks and remain there until he rectified the mis-

Jefferson City, Mo.-In addition to the bill to tax bachelors, freak bills intro-duced at this session of the Missouri General Assembly included Dr. anti-tipping bill, which passed the House but was killed in the Senate; Mr. Houston's bill to regulate spendthrifts, to pre-vent them from disposing of the money they have inherited; the bill by Mr. Carter of Clark to prevent, under heavy pen-alty, one person from treating another in a saloon, and the bill by Mr. Stapl of Atchison preventing the manufacture and sale of parlor, or popping, matches in the state.

A bill by Mr. Barry of Ralls prohibits swearing under penalty of a fine of from 50 cents to 31 for every "cusa" word uttered. The bill allows a person to say "darn It."

ng ball on vacant lots in the country and another requires farmers to cut all the morning glory vines and cockle burrs from their farms.

Indianapolis, Ind.-The Indiana Legislature is ridding the record of foolish bills. One, by Representative Pearson of Lawrence County, prohibits stray geese and chickens from running through his premises. Another prohibits gilling eagles, of which there is but one in Indians. Another calls for \$500 fine for walking on the grass in the Statehouse

Other bills introduced provide for we man suffrage, one dog to a family with-out being taxed, prohibiting football on Sunday, "doping" horses to deceive purchasers, fining children who desert their

Augusta, Me. The most talked of bill Before the Maine Legislature is one to allow any person the right to kill any dog found running at large.

Representative Forrest J. Martin of Bangor, a dog fancier, has introduced a bill, the entire text of which is "A dog is a domestic animal." If this should be come law in would be come to the manufacture of the should be come to the same to the become law it would be necessary for owners to keep their animals at home like other domestic animals.

Denver, Colo.-The bill in the Colorado Legislature that took the freak premium is that introduced by request by Representative Albert of Otero County and labeled "A Bill to Prohibit Football." It provides a penalty graded according to frequency of the offense and amount of damage to the anatomy of any oppos ing player. Managers and promoters football would be heavy contributors in fines and the players would be classed as felons should they do serious damage to an opponent, and might be held in cle confinement to await the outcome of a particularly serious case which might have a fatal termination.

Madison, Wis .- One freak bill before the Madison, Wis.—One freak bill before the Wisconsin Legislature is to prevent the sale of antiquated "hen fruit." Its author explains that he is tired of going to so-called first-class hotels and calling for a holled egg for breakfast only to be served with an article that must have been laid before the Civil War. He wants all eggs stamped with the date of their laying, with a penalty of a fine of \$50 for each egg not stamped. An amendment has been offered that all hens be provided with automatic stamping devices. with automatic stamping devic

Hartford, Conn.-The fool bills in the Connecticut Legislature include one taxing bachelors. One bill provides for bounty on 'coons. Another requires pr vate detectives to take out a license from the Controller.

Most of the bool bills in the House are referred to the committee on woman suffrage or to the committee on graveyards.

Boston, Mass. - The session of the Massachusetts Great and General Court has been up to the average in freak legis-lation introduced. The bill to tax bach-elors, projected by some Wakefield wo-men, has not progressed beyond the committee-room yet, and its fate is doubtful A bill for the incorporation of a cemetery for pet cats is fathered by known Newton society women, and of the legislators take it seriously.

Gives 100 Cats to a College. St. Paul Pioneer-Press. Colorado has been endowed with 100

pedigreed cats by Mayor Henry C. Hall, of Colorado Springs, Colo. They are all valuable, declares Mayor Hall, and no joke is intended, although some of the friends of the city's chief officer do not look at it in a sober light. Mayor Hall wants the cats used for propagation to keep up the supply, the surplus to be turned over to the biological department of the college for dissection and research The trouble about it is that the specimens to his collection until it bework. Mayor Hall became interested in came the largest in the West.

Boston Transcript.
Who, when our honeymoon was o'er.
Arrived with packages galore,
And said she'd stay a month or more?
(Think real hard.)

Who made me weary of my life, Who loved to stir connubial strife, And always sided with my wife? (Don't give it up.)

Who confiscated my latchkey, Sat up till the sma' hours for me; Who made me use a big, big D? (Rhymes with "jaw," yes.) Who loved to catch me when I "fell," And such sweet stories used to tell, Until my life became a.—well (The word isn't nice.)

Who dressed my wife in clothes so gay And ran up bilts for me to pay, And minded nothing I did say? (Yes, that's it.)

Who sniffed my "baccy" from afar, And could not bear a mild cigar. Who said-"What wretches all men are?" (Heaven bless her?)

NEW YORK CITY FULL OF CROOKS About 19,000 Pickpockets Are There. New Vagrant Law Needed.

New York Times. There are no less than 10,000 crooks and suspicious characters on the streets of New York, according to Inspector William McLaughlin, Chief of Detectives. Every night, the Inspector said yesterday, his men bring in from 40 to 100 of these men who have police records, and every morning after, said the Inspector, the Mag-

istrates set most of them free.
"The situation at the present time is this," said Inspector McLaughlin, "The city is overrun with criminals, and it is up to the Police Department to protect the public. My orders to the men under me are to arrest criminals on sight, and those orders must be repriety. Obeyed Why, there are probably 10,000 The anti-tipping bill was reported out crooks at liberty in this city right

which the Magistrates can hold these

Pickpockets particularly, Inspector McLaughlin said, are operating in great numbers, and so shrewd are they that under the present conditions it is almost impossible to establish a case that will hold against them when they are arraigned. Every night his men, Inspector McLaughlin said, bring in a score or more of men, nearly all of whom are discharged the following morning. Last year, he said, he tried to have passed at Albany an amendment to the vagrant law, which, if in force, would enable him to hold the criminals when they are arraigned. Influences over which he had no control, however, had the bill recommitted, and it never saw the light again.

A similar law is now pending before the Legislature, but whether it will be-come a law or not inspector McLaugh-

lin would not hazard an opinion, "It's a new order of crook," said In-"It's a new order of crook," said In-spector McLaughlin, in talking of the pickpocket, "that has arisen in York. The modern pickpockets young men largely, and of the hardened sort. New York is going to wake up some day and find out that a law like the one now pending at Albany is absolutely necessary. The pick-pocket of today is not the pickpocket of the old days. He is a more daring sort of an individual, and very shrewd. These gentry generally travel in bands, and have their business down to such a fine point that they can pass stolen goods from hand to hand in such a manner as to make conviction ex-tremely difficult. These men would just as soon break

into a bank as commit a misdemeanor, and they appear indifferent to the outcome. They realize that under the laws in force they can work with comparative impunity. That is why I am so anxious that a law like the one now pending shall be passed."

New Haven Dispatch in New York Sun As a result of an advertisement for a wife, George Moon, a widower, 40 years old, of Ausonia, has been so overwhelmed with applicants that he has posted a "No Wife Wanted" sign on his front

Every evening for a week Moon has had from 15 to 30 callers, and he has received more than 100 letters, most of them with photographs inclosed. One woman came from New York and insisted on his paying her expenses. He demurred at first because she was a negro, but when she pointed out that his advertisement did not draw the color line he gave her carfare.

My Precious One. New York Times.

My love she is the fairest,
The sweetest and the rarest.
I would die beneath her fros
She's the dearest thing is no
She's a woman in a thousand—
Dollar gown.

She's a woman in ten thousand-

That she lives, sweet heaven, I biss; And I long for her dear "Yea." How she shings above the mass, My most fuscinating lass. She's a woamn in a million-Dollar class.

SMOOT'S FIGHT FOR THE SENATE Women and Religious Societies Had Marked Him to Be Destroyed. Washington (D. C.) Dispatch in New

York World. Reed Smoot was elected to the Senate y the Legislature of Utah January 21, 663. The Ministerial Association of that state and citizens of Salt Lake City filed a protest against him January 26, 1900, five days after his election. Rev. Dr. Lellach filed a protest February 22, 1903, declaring that Mr. Smoot was a polygamist.

nist. This charge was withdrawn.
All the various women's organizations of the country then took up the fight of the country then took up the fight against Mr. Smoot. They were assisted by several religious societies, but the bulk of the contest fell upon the women. Ex-Secretary of the Treasury John G. Carlisle and ex-Representative Robert W. Taylor were W. Taylor were employed to conduct the case for those protesting against Smoot, and Senator-elect W. E. Borah, of Idaho, Waldemar Van Cott and Colonel A. S. Worthington Worthington were retained by Mr. Smoot

defend him. Hearings were begun before the Senate committee on privileges and elections. February 23, 1964. These continued for many weeks. Officials and representatives of the women's organizations were in a tendance at every session. They filled the committee-room and occupied the adthe committee-room and occupied the adjoining corridors. At these hearings 103 witnesses were examined, and the testimony covered 3331 printed pages. The Government expended more than \$25,000 on witness fees. One witness, Charles M. Owen, who chiefly prepared the case for the restantants, absolute more than 1000. the protestants, obtained more than \$1000 A feature of the fight against Smoot

was the presentation of petitions ad-dressed to the committee on privileges and elections and to individual Senators. More than 2,000,000 people signed these various petitions. The different women's organizations sent to the Senate at one time petitions carrying more than 1,000,000 These petitions were packed in names. These petitions were packed in boxes and were presented each day, Senators from various states taking their turn. Senator Platt offered petitions from nearly 200,000 women of New York State.

After the allegation of polygamy had been dropped the confest against Smoot was waged on the proposition that as an apostle of the Mormon Church he had taken an oath which conflicted with his obligations as a Senator; that by the teachings of his church he was now committed to advocating the practice of mitted to advocating the practice of polygamy and the contracting of polygamous marriages, and that the endow-ment-house oath cailing for vengeance on those who had slain the prophets of the church was equivalent to treason. It was admitted that Mr. Smoot had but one wife and lived an exemplary life

Offers Million Dollars for His Child. Ashville (N. C.) Dispatch in New York

Merrill Beecher Mills, of Detroit, who has some fame as a yachtsman, and who is suing his wife for divorce, has offered \$1,000,000 if she will surrender to him their six-year-old child, Cynthia.

Mrs. Mills has rejected the offer, say-

ing: "I would rather see Cynthia dead than for him to have her." In her counter-suit for divorce she demands \$300,000 allmony and the custody of the

The Golden Wedding.

Samuel Hoyt in the Youths' Companion.
Fifty years married, Polly and I:
It was but yesterday, I ween,
Since I had just turned twenty-one,
And Polly was only seventeen.

Two years later, and we were wed, Folly and L one Summer day, And the birds all sang in the orchard trees And the farmers sang as they made their hav

And the village folk made feast for us.

Polly and me—and the dameds spread
Roses and garlands along the way.

And the blue sky was smiling overhead.

Many a ross path we've trod, Polty and L since that blissful day. And many a thorn our feet have pressed, And treasures dear we have laid away. And our heads are silvered, as you may see, But our hands class firmer as years go by, And we breathe our happy yows again, And the old love looks out from eye to eye.

You call us old, and you wish us Joy.

And bring loving tokens, both great and Hut Polly and I to each other yield. The dearest gift, which is more th

Love without blemish, and faith that's tried by the crucial fres of sorrow and loss: And the for and mercy of eventide Requite the pain of the noonday cross.

And again the sun and the smiling sky
Are as fair as on that Summer day
When the birds all sang in the orchard trees
And the farmers sang as they made their
hay.

