The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1907

THE "BURDEN OF THE MILITARY. POWER."

"Half a million men," says a Social-This number, differently em-

Probably it would not, more probsince it is well known, and indeed a tions of the Jews, which have dis-settled principle, that dependence is graced history and humanity, as a increased as general and indiscrimin- means of fortifying them to resist it. ate effort is made to relieve it. But an-

The labor of the men employed in supporting the military power of the country is not lost. On the contrary it is employed to good advantage in many ways; perhaps to the best possible advantage. In the first place it gaged in the preparation of materials. of clothing, arms and provisions; in construction of vessels and fortifications; in supplying transportation, horses and equipments; in building, arming and manning our ships of war. The military service thus becomes the support of one of the great departments of the industry of the country. It is a department that could not be cut out without loss to a vast number of correlated interests. There is no mistake more common than the assumption that everything that is spent for support of the military and naval wasted. Abandon it, and the numper of the destitute would be enormously increased; because the pay, wages, trade and industry that support great numbers would be cut off. s useless to say they could go into other and better business. Are not other employments crowded already? How many men are employed, and for long a period, in the construction of a single battle ship? And for Mr. Bryan and his party. general supplies for the needs of the things are, perhaps we haven't—even Army and Navy? And in construction though there is a lot of citizens who Army and Navy? And in construction of land defences? To abolish the will be satisfied neither with scarce Army and Navy would cut off industries whose value exceeds \$300,000,000 with high prices nor with low prices, not be diverted to support of the destitute people of the country, for there would be no way to pay it; and be- the prescriptions of Dr. Bryan. sides, if it were done, the destitution it would beget would soon be tenfold greater than it is now.

Yet there is still a greater reason. utmost peril the country could not be left in a defenceless con-Even now, its Army and Navy are smaller than prudence would re quire. If we do not maintain and our means of defence, more loss could be inflicted upon us in three months by an enemy than all th' money we pay for support of Army and Navy during any generation would besides loss of prestige and national character, deep humiliation, and probably total change of our sys-

tem of life and government. The Socialist scheme, whatever form it takes, always contemplates abolition of the military arm. It is not consistent with the dignity, welfare or safety of the country.

THE REWARD OF THE PEACEMAKER. "They say" there is a joke in diplomatic circles on President Roosevelt It was his intervention that ended the did the same. Their combination to war between Russia and Japan. Now that end resulted in overwhelming Japan, though she had inflicted great triumph for the gold standard, and losses on Russia, was much nearer the there has been unexampled prosperity end of her resources, and peace came as a godsend to her. That Russia wrong way, and give the excuse for would have triumphed finally is not it that "the interests" were for the doubted by men anywhere who keep in touch with the game of nations. But the Czar, having troubles at home,

offices of the United States, and peace and great simpleton. was made. Japan thereupon thought It was right to uphold the gold very highly of her achievements, and standard, without regard to any who was ready to whip anybody.

ward that is generally the portion of opposition to publicity, regulation and the peacemaker. It was a blunder, control by law of the vast corporate these critics hold, when he interposed affairs with which they are connected. to end the Russo-Japanese war. He They did a good thing when they would not have done so, they say, had helped to maintain the gold standard, he had an adequate conception of the but are doing bad things when they Japanese character. Had the Presi- try to put themselves above the laws dent become exceedingly engrossed enacted for control of corporations at that particular time and had to people. forego his role as the world's leading ending ships to the Pacific and fortifying our non-contiguous possessions as a warning to Japan that we will tolerate no aggressions. Russia in the know to be right, only because some long run would have probably been others whom they suspect or dislike long run would have probably vould not now be in a mood where their ambitions endanger the friend- porters.

This may be banter, mostly; but anyhow, it is entertaining.

IS IT A DANGER?

The Jewish Chronicle, of London noting a number of intermarriages be tween Jews and Christians, and adancing its plea for "strengthening the moral and religious conscience of our people," states what it seems to think a profound and perplexing quandary, in these words:

The Jewish people are beginning to realize that so long as they remain dispersed and without terriforial footbold the amenities or modern civilization are a greater danger to their national existence than the connement of the ghetto and the barbarities of orch and thumbscrew and pogrom. It is understood, of course, by the

general reader, that the national exstence of the Jewish people, menloned here, is purely an ideal state maintenance of which, during so long a period, is among the most striking phenomena of history. That Israe will ever again be an actual nation using the term in a secular sensea nation and state in which the people will be gathered together in their sep arate political sovereignty - seems most improbable of things. But Israel even in its ancient day, was scarcely a political state. It was a religious body, based on ideals that never can be wrought into effective political nationality. This is said with the more onfidence, because they never have been. The Jews, as a people, nowhere contend for political power. national existence is an imperium in mperio, based on their nature as people, and maintained with a devotion to ideal conceptions, and to a

pride in their history, without a paralel in all time. To one who surveys the history of this people it seems improbable that the danger to it suggested by the London warning is very real. The intermarriages seem no more frequent than those of the ancient times, denounced and deplored by the proph Susceptible as they are, equally ets. with others, to the amenities of modern civilization, the modern Jews yet everywhere preserve their racial integrity almost without a break. This, ist paper, "are constantly at work in in the main, concerns themselves; for this country supporting the military it nowhere interferes with their duties of citizenship. But even if there were played would abolish every case of danger of the absorption of the Jews destitution from the Atlantic to the through the amenities of modern civ-Illyation, into other races and nations we can scarcely think that the paper ably it would increase "the destitu- from which we have quoted would tion from the Atlantic to the Pacific:" | welcome continuance of the persecu

was the scarce and dear dollar, evidence on this point is found in a Prices could never rise, but must go on falling, falling. The gold barons the news columns of yesterday's Orewould have all the money. Labor gonian, as follows: would be enslaved. The workman, or small tradesman, never could own his home. Wages would fall to the starvation point. Farm products would bring nothing. On these croakngs even Oregon came near casting its vote for Bryan.

But the gold standard was upheld; and now what? From the same and now sources we hear that high prices are -the high wages the employer grumbles about.

But perhaps the country is in pretabout paying the wage rate, and wage-workers on the other hand complain Are not of the high cost of all they must con-

sume If the gold standard had rulned the country we should have need of But as money nor abundant money, neither

What is to be the guide of our con duct, in matters moral, political and other? Judgment of situations, on their own merits and on high prin ciples, as they arise, or mere opposition to the course of others who may be disliked, or in whom we may have no confidence? Is it enough, for us, if we find a particular class of persons pursuing a certain course, to take the opposite, without inquiry where it will lead us?

To explain what these inquirles mean, let us say that shallow people still attempt to explain that it was right to oppose the gold standard in 1896, because "the interests" were for it. You are to take an opposite course then, on any measure, to that taken by "the interests," even if the course they take is altogether right.

That the great financial forces the country did stand together in 1896 to uphold the gold standard, is undoubted. And the great labor forces ever since. Some, however, voted the gold standard, and it was right, there-

fore, to go against it. He who regulates his conduct on

It was right to uphold the gold might be for it or against it. So they say President Roosevelt is of the great lords of finance, right on receiving that peculiar brand of re- that question, are wrong now in their with some important question at home and trusts, and for protection of the

The American citizen, master of a will take a stand against what they the supposed motives of its sup-

LIGHT ON THE JOINT RATE. The wheat growers and small flour manufacturers of the Inland Empire have been a little slow in understanding the full meaning of the joint order which the Washington Railroad Commission has ordered to accommodate the Puget Sound milling trust. It is perhaps better late than never that they should at last show signs of grasping the importance of The Walla Walla Bulletin which in the past has been a warm supporter of the Railroad Commission in its efforts to help out the Puget milling trust, recently printed from The Oregonian a protest against the joint rate. Apparently having no personal knowledge of a matter of such vital importance to Walla Walla and the surrounding country, the editor of the Bulletin submitted The Oregonian editorial to E. S. Isaacs, manager of the H. P. Isaacs Milling Company, of Walla Walla, who gave the following opinion:

Replying to your inquiry concerning the orrectness of the recent Oregonian edito-ial on "Joint Rates," I beg to say that the rate as it now stands is a direct blow and straight discrimination against the flou-nilling industries of Eastern Washington ocated at points wholly in O. R. & N. terri ory, of which there are a number. I may add that upon the announcement of the new rate the discrimination was so glaring that I at once wrote to the board, cailing their attention to the conditions created, and I shall be pleased to advise you later as to disposition made of the complaint.

If the Bulletin and Mr. Isaacs and few others vitally interested in the joint rate had paid more attention to the warnings sounded by The Oregonian, the Railroad Commission would have encountered such a protest that the discriminatory rate would never have been ordered in. The strength displayed by the Puget Sound combine was so pronounced that there is small likelihood that the Commiss pay any attention to the belated pro-

test of Mr. Isaacs. The Washington Railroad Commission, in ordering the joint rate, ex-cused its action with an allegation that wheat for shipment to Puget Sound commanded higher prices at interior points than for shipment to Portland. further alleged that this preferential was a permanent condition due to greater competition among Puget The testimony from ound buyers. which these deductions were drawn was supplied by a self-confessed liar named Nessley and by the Puget Sound millers who desired a joint rate so that they could secure wheat cheaper than under existing condi-The Oregonian has proved time tions. after time, through submission of official figures of unquestionable accuracy, that Puget Sound is not a better market for wheat than Port land. Some excellent corroborative Nez Perce, Idaho, dispatch printed in

*A boost in the price of barley from 85 cents to \$1, onts from \$1.02 to \$1.05, and wheat from 63 cents to 65 cents, is the result of operations of an independent grain-buyer named P. W. Lawrence, who bought farmers warehouse receipts here today to the amount of 100,000 bushels.

The Nez Perce country is in exclusively Puget Sound territory. wheat growers do not suffer from the "lack of competition" ruining us. Wages are so high that Washington Railroad Commission houses can't be built. All materials charges against Portland. But here in have gone to excessive prices. And O. R. & N. territory, where, accordthe cost of living has increased to ing to the Railroad Commission there such extent that the wages of the is less competition than there is in workman will not support his family Northern Pacific territory, the farmers have been receiving more than 10 cents per bushel above the price which the flerce competition of the ty good condition after all and would Puget Sound buyers had forced wheat not care for "a change," even though in the Nez Perce country prior to the employers on the one hand grumble arrival of Mr. Lawrence, who we suspect is a Portland buyer intending to do a little shipping from Puget So in opposition to the low-price combine low so firmly intrenched there. joint rate question is now before the courts, and its merits will be decided on stronger and less biased testimony than that which produced the surprising order.

The suggestion of the Republican Civic League that the old crematory The labor so employed could neither with adversity nor prosperity. Whatever the condition, it is wholly be improved and used yet awhile is probably the best thing for the country, for there bad, and they will commend you to It would make unnecessary for some years a heavy expenditure, which at best would be largely experimental Should the city undertake the purchase of a site, the erection of a costly plant and a plan for gathering and isposal of the garbage with its own force of men and teams, it would launch upon an undertaking whose cost certainly would outrun all estimate. At this time Portland can hardly wish to be committed to it. Does the city want another big and always increasing plant to support, and another big and always increasing pay roll? It seems impossible now Wouldn't it be better to fix up the old

concern and go on with it? A tourist from the East who has visited the Pacific Coast tells a new fish story. He relates to the Brooklyn Eagle that passengers crossing Salt Lake on the new cut-off amuse themselves by fishing out of the car windows. He caught some mighty big carp there, he says. Perhaps he shouldn't be blamed for not having remembered that no fish, of any kind, exist in Salt Lake. But that's a minor blemish to the story.

Two hundred business men of Seat-"the interests" were for the tie will make a trip to Honolulu on a specially chartered steamship for the purpose of establishing closer relations with the Hawallan and not being a very warlike charac- such motives as these acts without Islands. They ought to succeed. Port- can plutocracy.

ter, accepted the tender of the good judgment, is a very shallow person land sent a large delegation of one man down there and as a result several thousand tons of freight and made a fair start in the business. fortunately for the permanency of the newly established steamship line, we too busy in other directions. Portland is a great town for putting up money for almost any purpose except the establishment of a steamship line to Honolulu or Alaska. As for making a personal visit to our customers, present and prospective, we are too busy. Some day it may be necessary to get a move on. Not yet,

but soon.

The Oregonian supposed it to be pacificator, he would not have to be portion of the sovereignty, ought to generally known that it was Bull Run, be a person of discrimination and of Virginia, scene of battles of the judgment. But some are not. They Civil War that supplied the name for the stream from which Portland obtains its water. Yet from inquiries others whom they suspect or dislike | constantly made it is evident there victorious had she continued the have taken their stand on that side are those who do not know. The struggle and the little brown men if isn't the cause they consider, but stream was visited by some young men from Portland, at a time when the It is the shallowest of all name Bull Run was in everybody's ship of their country and the United grounds of political or moral action. mouth. The stream may have been seen by white men before then, but it bore no name, so far as they knew. Nothing more natural in the circumstances than that they should call Bull Run, and introduce knowledge of it to Portland, as a future source of water supply, under that name.

In San Francisco the contest for control of the government of the city has assumed phases that interest the whole country. It is what Midshipman Easy would call "a triangular duel." The party that elected the convicted thief, Schmitz, is hoping to maintain its hold by election of its candidate, McCarthy. Good citizenship, fighting for regeneration and redemption of the city, is supporting Taylor. A diversion in favor of Me-Carthy is attempted by the candidacy of Ryan, who runs as a Republican In any other city the people in the circumstances existing in San Francisco, would come together and elect Taylor. They may possibly in San Francisco. But it seems doubtful

The Northern Pacific has announced that its North Bank road will be completed from Kennewick to Vancouver by January 1, 1908, and into Portland over the new bridges six months later. This will bring the new line into Portland in ample season for handling the 1908 grain crop of the Pacific Northwest. Failure of the Port of Columbia bill to become operative, prevented removal of some of the disabilities which have hampered Columbia River shipping, and, in order that we may be prepared for the increasing business that will follow the opening of the North Bank road, it is not to early to begin formulating a plan for correcting the evils which have given us trouble in the past.

Occasionally the divorce courts disclose the story of a wife whose extravagance brought her husband to poverty. Yet very rarely is such a heard. If all the stories of wastefulness were related it would be found that in a hundred cases the husband has squandered the family income where in one case the wife has thus spent it. Not only from choice but often from necessity, the wife practices the many small economles that make possible a scanty saving for a day of adversity. hueband carries the purse and his are not only the opportunities but the habits that end in poverty.

A banker of New York is quoted as saying this: "The Clearing House has decreed that persons who buy stock control in banks, put the stocks up as collateral for loans in other banks and borrow the deposits of the banks they to float their corporation schemes shall not do business under Clearing House auspices in this town." seems to have been that "credit system" which Roosevelt was denounced for knowing nothing about and wickedly helping to destroy.

"This upset is all due to one man who knows nothing about the credit system, which is the basis of busi-ness." Such is the accusation of plungers who have come to grief during the last fortnight. The "one man" of course is Roosevelt. The credit sys-tem is all right, when it is right; but when overworked as it has been during the past three years by the plungers and gamblers, the collapse is inevitable and can't occur too Roosevelt only turned on the light.

From Governor Vardaman comes the startling prediction that Roosevelt couldn't carry a single precinct in Mississippi. Quite true. The present Jawsmith's predecessors and fellow citizens fixed the Presidential vote of that state thirty years ago at midnight campaigns with shotguns. Bishop Scadding's the right sort.

He believes the best plan to advance Oregon's interests is to people the State with more good Episcopalians; hence his missionary work on the At-The fuel problem is becoming com

plex indeed when a logging company abandons wood as fuel and adopts oil in its stead. But this is what an Astoria logging company has done. It

a deer and shoots him it might be a good idea for some sensible court to mistake the hunter for a murderer and send him to prison for man-If it be true that misery loves co pany, the riot-ridden people of San Francisco may now find some comfort

strike and riot at Yonkers, N. Y. Trains on the North Bank road will be a fine New Year's gift for Vancouver. Still, even so important an event has its pathetic side; it will set

Can't some friend of Governor Vardaman do him a genuine service by getting out an injunction against violating interstate decency by the misuse of his tongue?

At last the reason is disclosed for Chancellor Day's oft-repeated attacks on the President. They were advance advertising for his new book.

ington to call Governor Vardaman an unveneered savage German royalty must have

It will be in order for Booker Wash-

taking lessons in morals from Ameri-

WHAT THE STATE PRESS SAYS.

Giving an Editor's Wife the Worst of It Gresham Herald.

That was hardly a square deal.

The was hardly a square deal.

Clerk Fields sneaked up and kissed the bride while the editorial back was turned to see if our better half was watching-and then-well, it was time to go. That's the way we editors always get the worst of it.

Real Need of Spreading the Light.

Irrigon Irrigator.
We believe the time has about arrived when instead of sending our money to convert the heathens of the Far East we should with it send misionaries to New England to show the Yankees that an acre of Oregon dirt is worth a whole county of the Massachusetts soil.

In the Hands of the Fuel Trust. Echo Register.

There are milions upon millions of cords of wood within 20 miles of Port-iand, much of it along streams and railroads, and yet the fuel trust flourishes down there like a green gourd vine, ex-acting more for fuel than is paid in remote and treeless parts of Eastern Oregon. A queer lot of local statesmen in the Rose City.

New York vs. Irrigon.

Irrigator,
A big town! But we would rather subsist on rabbit potple in Irrigon than dwell at Del's in Gotham. And possibly we know something about it, for we were born and brought up there and spent nearly 30 of our 62 years mighty close to Broadway. Now we live close to the soil, and it beats Broadway to a frazzle.

Sorry Days for the Geese,

Condon Globe.
The season for goose shooting on the Columbia is now on and the heights along the river are lined with hunters. Experts claim that there are and will be more geese along the Columbia this year than ever before and it is a common thing for a single man to bring to from five to fifteen in a few hours Hunters from all over the state are already on the grounds and many are going from Condon.

Invading the Harriman Preserves.

Moro Observer. Another Harriman splurge passed up the line Saturday equipped with automobiles for crossing the country from Madras to Klamath Falls, with engimeers and surveyors, carrying field in-struments and camping outfits, pre-paratory to spying out the strategic points and holding them against the Oregon Trunk Line, the independent raliroad announcing its intention to build up Des Chutes River from its mouth to Madras and on to the Klamath country, the only rallroad that appears to offer a hope of entering the Harriman preserves, as Central Oregon has come to be known.

Stage Driver Was Lost.

Madras Pioneer. Passengers who left Shaniko on Tuesday evening's Prineville stage, re-late an aggravating experience. The driver was a new man, unfamiliar with the roads, and instead of keeping the Prineville road took the one leading Princyllie road took the one the pro-toward Bakeoven. In spite of the protests of passengers who were familiar with the route, the driver carried them out on the wrong road 13 miles before he was finally convinced of his mis-take. Then he drove back to within about four miles of Shaniko and took the right road, and the stage with its weary passengers reached Heisler Station at 3 o'clock in the morning.

KING EDWARD IS GROWING DEAF. Buys American Hearing Device to Aid Hearing of Himself and Queen.

New York Times.

Edward VII of England is growing deaf. This fact recently became known when artificial hearing instruments were shipped to Buckingham Palace, London, by the American Line steamer New York for the use of the King and Queen Alexandra, who has long suffered from deaf-ness. The instruments are the finest and

most complete ever made.

Last Spring the King and Queen granted an audience to an agent from New York, who demonstrated the utility of a new American device. The dem stration was in every way a success, and a set of specially made instruments was ordered to enable the head of the British Nation and his consort to carry on a conversation in an ordinary tone of voice, which has been difficult.

The instruments have been made so as to enable the King and Queen to talk together without the use of a trumpet or horn. The transmitter, or sound concentrator, will be attached to the clothing of the royal couple. In the case of the Queen it will be hidden in the folds of her Queen it will be hidden in the folds of her dress, while that for the King's use will be hidden from view underneath his coat. The sounds are focused on the concentrator in the same manner that the rays of the sun are focused by means of an ordinary reading giass. At this point of focus is placed a supersensitive microphone, which takes up the focused, or magnified, sounds and conveys them to the ear by means of a small, slik-covered tinsel cord, through which an electric current is conveyed by a small battery to an earpiece, which is held to the ear. The batteries are carried in the pocket, being about three inches high and an inch and a half in diameter. The carpiece is somewhat three inches high and an inch and a mair in diameter. The carpicce is somewhat smaller than the ordinary telephone car-piece, but highly sensitized, and can be hidden in the hand. The only visible part of the instrument is a portion of the silk cord which connects the concentrator with the earnice.

cord which connects the concentrator with the earpiece.

The third instrument contains a double transmitter, for table use. This will be set in the center of the table, covered with cut flowers. Wires will be attached, running under the table to the part of the table occupied by the King and Queen. This will enable the conversation between the royal pair and their guests to be conducted without interruption.

"You say he's devoted to music?" "I adores it." "But I never heard him ask h to sing." "Yes, I know. That's because ! likes music."—Milwaukee Sentine!. First Magnate—My doctor advised me to take a trip abroad for my health, but I'm not going. Second Magnate—My lawyer gave me the same advice, and I am going."

take a trip abroad for my health but I'm not going. Second Magnate—My lawyer gave me the same advice, and I am going."

Judge.

"There is a great deal of injustice in literature." "Yes," answered Miss Cayenne: "they still insist on putling the name of the author on a book instead of that of the man who makes the handsome cover design." "Washington Star.

"I've decided." said Riter, "to devote myself exclusively hereafter to the writing of poetry." "Glad to hear it." said Krotchett. "Think that's my forte, sh?" Don't know about that, but I do know that I never read poetry."—Philadelphia Press.

"Life," observed the philosophical boarder, "is merely a game of chess on a large scale." "Nothing of the sort," protested the newly married boarder. "It's exactly the contrary. The game of life doesn't really begin until you mate."—Chicago Tribune.

"Now, Johnny," asked the gentleman who had kindly consented to teach the class, what does this fascinating story of Jonah and the whale teach us?" "It teaches us," said Johnny, whose father reads practical articles on practical people, "that you cannot keep a good man down."—Harper's Weekly.

Political Issues in Georgia. Whitser (Ga.) Courier.

The question of who should get the nomination was settled here in this way: We had a big jumping mate and Bill Jones jumped 15 feet and we the nomination for Coroner.

THE NEED FOR CHARITY. Criticism of Other Beliefs Than Ours Rife in the Community. Washington Post

A number of The Post's contemporaries, both secular and religious, are devoting a great deal of their space to criticisms demnation is, in some instances, extreme ly severe. They seem to think that they apostolic blows and knocks.

It has been suggested by some of these zealots that there should be a statute enacted by Congress and each of the several State Legislatures for the punishment of persons who avow their belief "In things impossible and altogether shocking to well-regulated minds." Such suggestions are entirely lacking in wis-The notion of punishment for a belief, no matter what it may be, betrays ignorance of the constitutional rights of citizens.

In this country one is permitted to believe anything. The law does not undertake to regulate or control thought; it deals only with acts. A great variety of opinions, some of them abhorrent to most good citizens, may be safely held and fearlessly uttered by persons who claims to be Christians. But when an opinion fructifies in unlawful acts the law steps in. The same rule applies to politics and sociology. Even anarchistic views may be avowed with impunity, but when they are reduced to practice, when their fruitage is in the diabolical shape of assassingtion, the police and the courts will, if pos-sible, pass the authors of such deeds along to the executioner.

Professors of Christianity or at any rate of trinitarian Christianity, which term includes all but a small minority of those who go by the name of Christian, should be guarded in their comments on beliefs of Christian bodies. All of us who belong to any church or sect of trini tarians have solemniy declared our belief in at least two miracles, the virgin birth and the resurrection of Christ. not reason, is the basis of belief in those tenets of orthodox Christianity.

Is any one miracle or alleged miracle more wonderful than another? Why should any orthodox Christian, any man who believes in the two teneta above, think or speak unkindly other Christian who believes in many less miraculous things? It seems to us that there can be no limitation of the power that can perform a single miraculous act One of the wisest and most learned men of his time, in protesting against forcible action toward Christ and his disciples sald in effect, that if God was with them man could not prevail against them, but if they had not divine authority their

ovement would fail. thing that natural laws forbid. The power that can, in a single instance, sus-pend natural law, may well be esteemed capable of performing other acts that are said to be performed in these days, but which millions of Christians refuse to believe, and at which they are often inclined to sneer. "Alas for the rarity of Christian charity," an increase of which is and as the award has been made, this the world's greatest need at this time.

AERIAL LOCOMOTION.

Much Has Been Accomplished-Continual Experiments in Progress. Recent performances with balloons have brought out many incidents in the

history of aerial locomotion. The French led the way in this art, beginning more than two centuries ago. The first steps in advance of the drifting balloon, involving the use of propelling machinery, were also taken by them. So much progress has been made that the air five can now be driven against a wind of less than 14 miles an hour. Results still greater are not deemed impossible. The drifting balloon is of some use, but not very much, except for such utilities as carrying dispatches out of a beleaguere city or obtainment of knowledge of at mespheric conditions at high altitudes. It is said that the highest altitude ever reached in a balloon was 37,000 feet, or seven miles above the earth. Two Englishmen, Coxwell and Glaisher, were the aeronauts, ascending from Wolverhampton, England, on September 5, 1862. Both survived, but M. Tissander, a French aeronaut, who, with two companions, made a trip through the clouds in April. 1875, was not so fortunate. They reached an altitude of five and one-half miles and only one of the three survived. The history of ballooning is filled with such tragic events, the most recent being the death of Andree and his companions in their attempt to voyage through the air to the North Pole.

At Napoleon's coronation there was re-

leased an immense balloon to which was fastened a crown illuminated by 3000 var-iegated lamps. The balloon drifted all the way to Rome, salling over the dome of St. Peter's and dropping its crown on the tomb of Nero. This awakened Napoleon's superstition and he forbade reference to the balloon in his presence.

RAILROAD RATES IN MEXICO. Changes Must Be Approved by Com-

mission Before Becoming Effective. Extract From United States Consular American Consul W. D. Shaughnessy writes from Aguascallentes that "the contemplated changes in freight rates, which were to have taken

contemplated changes in freight rates, which were to have taken effect on August 8, are still pending, waiting the approval of the Mexican tariff commission, as all rallroad rates in Mexica must be submitted to the Government before they may go into effect." The consul discusses the present rallroad situation in the country as follows:

The new classification and traight The new classification and freight tariffs were published and distributed, but the many serious objections raised against them have so far prevented their being approved and have been the means of commencing what promises to be a warm controversy between the railroads and the mining and smelting interests. The mineral interests are forward.

The mineral interests are foremost in combating the proposed raise in the rates, as they are to be more seriously affected than the agricultural and mercantile in-In some cases the rates on certain classes of ore have been advanced as high as 169 per cent, while the average increase is as high as 57 per cent, according to the distance transported. As the greater part of the Mexican mines are of the low rather than of the high grade, the cres now being shipped will not produce enough revenue under the proposed rates to warrant their operation.

ation.

It is estimated that there are and have been for many months 100,000 tons of ore piled up on the railroads awaiting shipment to the smelters, owing to the inability of the railroads to accommodate the producers of ore. These ores have been mined in view of the present rates, the cost of their production being calculated on that basis; therefore, any increase in rates if applied without ample ratio to minerwall be. notice to miners will be unjust and

The First Optimist

New York Sun Eve was reviewing the situation.
"At any rate," she chortled, "I won't have to guard the name of my dress-maker from my dearest friend."

Thus indeed did she look on the bright

Louisville Courier-Journal.

In Augusta, Me., and other towns in Kennebec County, the rise in price of meat has caused a revolt, and 1200 people have pledged themselves to abstain from meat for 10 days.

One Thing and Another

MANY years ago the late David P. Thompson was running a compass in that part of Baker County which is of several bodies of very earnest men and now Malheur. The day was hot and women who profess belief in doctrines traveling through sagebrush intensified which their critics condemn. The conthe thirst. After a while they came to a stream and they just lay down on their stomachs, and drank and absorbed and prove their own doctrine orthodox "by gurgled. As he arose Mr. Thompson wiped his mouth and said to "That's Bully Creek!" and Bull "That's Bully Creek!" and Bully Creek it is to this day. The first member from Malheur, at the session of 1889, was Hon. H. P. Napton, who was from Missourl and whose folks "owned niggers, sah, and grew tobacco" before the war. Mr. Napton's postoffice was Bully Creek, and, so the story used to go up there, a young woman back East found the name of districtions. so distasteful when addressing letters that she persuaded the member from Malheur to have it changed. It became Westfall, after a pioneer of the country. The name of the creek was also changed to Alder. Yet it is to this day called Bully and probably always will be, for Bully means something, and the state is full of Alder Creeks. Mr. Napton long full of Alder Creeks. Mr. Napton long since moved to Moniana, but seems not to have joined Mr. McKenna's esthetic club, for nobody has heard any "kicking" for a change from the control of the control o for a change from the Big Hole and Stinking Water people up that way-if they even wished a change.

> A man signing himself "A Baptist" in a paper at The Dalles, quoting Dr. Brougher's statement that there are two states through eternity in which souls shall dwell and that animals have souls as well as human beings, asks the doctor to name that in which the hogs, cats and dogs are to exist, as he does not care to associate with such. If the reverand gentleman has not time for an extended reply he might briefly tell the doubter to go and find out.

It is resurrecting a fragrant reminis-cence to dig up Mr. McMurray's couplet;

Roses fragrant, roses rare, Portland roses everywhere-

Falls short of the mark. You can't at 'em. You can't sleep on 'em, for ou'll get the rheumatism; you can't cell 'em, for they're "everywhere." All you can do is to admire 'em and smell em. Now, if Mr. McMurray had written:

First-class bacon, fat salt pork, Come to Portland and go to work-That would mean something and people wouldn't accuse him of talking shop, for they know he delegates the sale of tickets to his gentlemanly agents. Mr. Sibson should adopt the McMurray lines and by changing "Portland" the fit as snug as the skin on a snake.

Now, while I'm about it, I want to mention Tom Richardson's "Down grade to Portland." That is all right in a traffic sense, yet it makes a noise like the Agency boys who go down the Malheur to the railroad with a bunch of steers, and after loading it's. "Every sensed-active in the house come way." son-of-a-gun in the house, come up to the bar." 'Down grade' is immoral. The second line of my couplet, changing Portland to Oregon if need be, is better.

is not for competition. Now that the season of fairs is over it is time to tell the latest. A man went up to a tent where some elk were ex-nibited and gazed wistfully.

"I'd like awful well to go in there," he said to the barker, "but it would be mean to go in without my family and I can't afford to pay for my wife and 17 "Are all those yours?" gasped the barker, paralyzed for the first time in

"Every one," replied the man.
"Here, by thunder, I'll fix it. I'll bring the elk out and let them look at you all. "I don't believe I'll speak to that mateful Jennie any more. What do think? She told me today she just h wore a bustle for she sat by me last

Sabbath and she says she stuck me with her hatpin and I never moved. The hate-"By the way," said the endman, "can replied the interlocutor,

cannot tell you when a hen is not a hen. Please enlighten the audience as to when a hen is not a hen."
"Why, it's when it's a pullet, sir." (This will not appear in the New York

Speaking of Senator Bourne's offer, a La Grande paper says, "the Oregon Senator is not slow when it comes to getting, next to popular sentiment." Ho

to speak, "Harriman," says the Astoria paper, "has bought land here." Sure he didn't buy water for Fish?

Any card man can give a Health Board pointers on doing up rats.

This is chestnut time and the Hawaiian

girls are still with us. Wet Lands of the Country.

Wet Lands of the Country.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

A Southern paper puts a knockout question in asking: "If the Federal Government puts water on dry land in the far West, why should it not take water off the wet land of the East and South?" The one objection that the arid lands of the West which the Federal Government is irrigating are Federal property, while the swamp lands are now the property of states—this objection is not likely to trouble even the sternest defender of state rights. "A way can probably be found," it is suggested, "to make this great public improvement through the help of the Federal treasury." If one of the many old ways cannot be made availhelp of the Federal treasury." If one of the many old ways cannot be made svail-able, a new route to the Federal treasury can be discovered. We are a nation of remarkable explorers in that branch of self-government. Undoubtedly the swamp lands, drained of their water, would be exceedingly fertile and valuable, and they would make homes for a large population, The Department of Agriculture, which is ever-ready with the statistics when a new scheme for improvement and money scheme for improvement and scheme for improvement and money spending is suggested, reports that our 77,000,000 acres of swamp land, reclaimed by drainage, would give fertile 40-acre farms to 1,825,000 families, or in all to 10,000,000 persons. Holland was rescued from the sea by dikes, and now look at Holland. Our swamps along shore from here to Texas cover 10 times the area of Holland, and it is easy figuring that we have 10 Hollands lying under water down the const.

The Neighbors Get Busy.

Washington (Ia.) Democrat. Thursday we borrowed a pair of tin shears or snips at George Stewart's hardware store from C. R. Hartman. hardware store from C. R. Hartman. On the way home to the office, J. W. Patton asked: "Are you going to trim your toe nalis?" Then we met F. F. Farrish, and he remarked: "Going to clip your hair?" And Joe Wolfe, whom we met last, said: "Well, you are going to clip "em, are you?" So every man we met had a suggestion to make, and yet they say your neighbors are not interested in what you do.

A correspondent of the Boston Globe gives the following sentences each of which contain all the letters of the

quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog. Pack my box with five dozen liquor

jugs.

John quickly extemporized five tow

bags.

John P. Brady gave a black walnut box of quite small size.