The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 15, 1908.

Mr. Abram Ruef is gay. And jubilant. He is light-hearted as "Young Abram Cupid, he that shot so true. For which you may consult your "Ro-meo and Juliet." Ruef now is in position to defy the prosecution. Cur reports from San Francisco tell us he is happy and beaming-yet reticent and taciturn. The prosecution must now come to "see" him. He is in his element when he can make or take advantage of a situation that requires him to be "seen.

Now, as our reports inform Ruef will tell all about the graft, of which he was chief ugent, promoter shall be and profit-sharer,-if promised immunity and impunity unless he tell nobody can be con-Mr. Abram Ruef still convicted. trols the situation in San Francisco. Our reports tell us he is entirely cheerful. Why shouldn't he be? He is a man of high intelligence. Before he entered upon his distinguished career of politics and graft in San Francisco he knew the laws were made, or the courts would interpret them, to protect the criminals. In modern usage and estimation nothing is a crime "if you can get away with it

Nowadays the .a . is interpreted and administered in all matters of this kind for defeat of justice. On "p'ints" of every description the courts allow criminals to escape. The Supreme Court of the United States dwells on p'ints." in the same way. The law interpreted for protection of evildoers, not for protection of society or government. But ar, there any evildoers? It is a haish question. We Are there any criminals? It is a harsher word. We guess not. We simply have allowed the claim of be regarded, and h's use of all technicalities and all "p'ints" he may raise to be employed for his immunity, to crime, from pocket-picking and wifeeating to land-stealing and robbery Pacific States has known was Matthew P. Deady. He couldn't be fooled by this kind of thing. He went right through all subterfuge to the facts. , Ruef, having the whole game in his hands once more, naturally feels an inward joy. He is not boastful, indeed; but boastfulness is not a habit of real merit and success, which appear greatest always when they shrink from public gaze. The modesty of Ruef, supported as it is by the Appel-

one of his newest virtues. This court has held that, though Ruef, in his "practice" as a lawyer, had exterted "fees" from restaurantkeepers, as a consideration and condition of their obtainment of licenses to do business, and had adivided the lation of the referendum petition is fees" with Mayor Schmitz,-in other words, had "held up" men in busias robbers on the road would do, and had forced them to pay tribute. over and beyond the license charge, for the right to do business (the business of course was carried on in a to the port, it is confidently expected tains is used for milling purposes and possessed of ability manner more or less disreputable and that a business administration of the is sold at the elevator and shipped erty worth stealing. shouldn't have been licensed at all)this court has held that the license to Portland will make it entirely self- quire it. Here the bulk is sold for ex-Keep restaurant or sell liquor is "not supporting, and at the same time af- port as wheat, and as a rule is stored property in the ordinary sense of the ford a perfect service which will at- in the warehouses a long time before word," and therefore the extortion of tract and not drive ships away from it is sold. Host of the largest grain money by Ruef, and his division of the port. The question, however, is producers of the Pacific Northwest the spoil with Mayor Schmitz, is "no one in which the cost of the service, are very particular to raise goo-tolury to properly or threat to logure even were it not self-supporting, is a clean wheat, which commands the injury to property or threat to injure even were it not self-supporting, is a clean wheat, which commands the property," and that neither Ruef nor mere bagatelle in comparison with the top figure, and would not put their

assumed at the outset. Affirmation judicial decision is accepted by them and by all grafters as their co plete vindication. No wonder Ruet and Schmitz are serene.

But if a license to keep restaurant and to sell liquor is not a property neither is a franchise to operate a street railroad; and the officials city through their attorney therefore may force a street rallway to pay them money-any sum they may name-to get its franchise. So if Calhoun and his associates have bought from Ruef, from Schmitz and the railroad franchises under which they are doing business, there is no legal offense, and there can be no penalty. Whatever Calhoun may have done, he is immune attorney can read to the trial judge this decision from the higher court and move for acquittal: which it would appears must be granted.

Ruef gets immunity and doubtless will tell all he knows; but all he knows will be unimportant, because under the rulings of the higher court no offense has been committed agains the law, and no legal penalties have These valuable prec een incurred. dents will doubtless pass into general But after all there isn't that's new in this old world. "Largehanded robbers your grave masters are," says Shakespeare's Timon, "and pill by law."

THE JAM AT THE DOOR

The country theater or entertain ment hall lighted by coal oil lamps has added another panic and tragedy to its account. Man, when controlled by sudden fright, is the most unreasoning of animals. The stampede of the buffalo of the plains was not more senseless nor frantic than that of a company of human beings when terror takes possession of them. The tragedy at Boyerton, Pa., which cost a undred lives Monday night, was but a sad repetition of many that have gone before. Under the menace sudden and horrible death, caused by the explosion of a lamp, the entire audience in the village theater made a rush for the exits, trampling into unrecognizable pulp the weak who were unable to stand against the strong. Humanity run mad shrieked and fought and fell in the effort to through entrances barricaded by fallen human beings.

There was a counterpart on a larger scale of this scene when the Iroquois was burned in Chicago ing the holiday festivities of 1903, the asualties, including dead, injured and missing, reaching nearly 1000, mainly romen and children. On a smaller scale, but replete with all of the horrors of such a scene, was the burning a filmsy wooden hall in which Christmas tree festivities were being held in the little town of Silver Lake. in Southeastern Oregon, twelve years In this latter instance, like that of Monday night, the coal oil lamp was the immediate cause of the loss of life, while the frantic efforts of the surging crowd toward the exit were responsible for a majority of the deaths that resulted. The horrors of such a scene beggar description and go far to excuse the unreason with which terrified people fighting for life cut off in their fright and terror the only possible means of escape by creating "a jam at the door."

TO PROTECT OUR SHIPPING. More than 1200 vessels, of approxinately 3,500,000 tons carrying capa-

city, entered and cleared at Portland during 1907, the increase over that of 1906 being nearly 800,000 tons carrying capacity. This enormous amount of shipping carried the products of the Columbia Basin to Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, Siberia and South America. Some of it steamed around the Horn to the Atlantic ports, and along the Pacific Coast it distributed Oregon and Washington products as far south as Panama. This business has been worked up to its present proportions with but a single railroad sys tem discharging freight on Portland change? Do you think it advisable to docks; and, now that the facilities for make the change now?" In these draining freight out of the vast Columbia Basin are to be doubled or trebled by the early advent of the live Union of Walla Walla, attention sonable to suppose that the increase number of years been the subj let us pause. Criminal is a hard word. in shipping will keep pace with the much discussion by farmers, shippers improved facilities. But to be sure and railroads, it gains increasing that such will be the case, it is of prominence each year because the vital necessity that this stream of traffic find no obstructions in the and Washington from states and terrichannel after it reaches Portland. Every possible precaution must be is increasing, and they naturally retaken to remove all "sabilities which gard the methods of their old homes as might in any manner tend to divert superior to those of the Far Norththis traffic to other ports after it has west. The Oregonian is not an expert traversed the water-level route from the Inland-Empire to tidewater. The railroads will drop this freight at the first point reached, when they can secure the maximum rate for hauling. If there are obstructions like a poor tug or pilot service, an insufficient channel to the sea, or any other imthe wrong-loer that his, "rights" shall | pediment that is not met in ports with | spent a large sum of money building which Portland is in competition, these obstructions must be removed or the port will suffer in consequence be converted into protection of every The shipowners are not compelled to send their vessels here, and, with completion of the Harriman lines to Puof the mails-with accompaniments get Sound, the railroads entering here of murder, if that were necessary to will not be compelled to drop their success. The one judge whom the freight at Portland. Both will seek the port where they can secure the maximum rates at the minimum cost

of handling the freight. The Port of Columbia bill, which has just met final defeat in the courts, was intended to give the Columbia River countles power to improve the river and bar service, to reduce pilotage rates, and in other ways remove all cause for complaint on the part of shipowners. To attain the objects sought by that bill, it is now late Court of California, appears as proposed to enlarge the powers of ...e. Port of Portland so that at a minimum of cost a perfect service can be maintained from Portland to the sea. This measure will be submitted to the in half the time now required, will June election: As the time for circu- ing made, but so lor - as the grain limited, every voter who is interested around Cape Horn the change is hardin the growth and maintenance of ly probable Portland's maritime trade should at the earliest moment place his signa- reason for what should be done here, ture on the petition. With the intug and pilot service by the Port of

bilities which may exist will be trous and far-reaching in their effect.

THAW'S INSANITY.

The Thaw vaudeville opens again in New York, with fair prospects for a long and thrilling run. Mr. Jerome, representing the state, seems ready to play his part in the farce with niertness and vigor, and who knows legal surprises he has in store to whet the jaded interest of his audience The defense is also represented by the ablest performers in legal vaudeville to be found in the country. Upon the whole, the show promises to surpass its former presentation in heart thrills and shudders

The stake in the trial is the life of s moral imbecile. His alleged prime was the murder of a leprous scoundrel whose death relieved the world of an intolerable incubus of vice. In killing Stanford White of course Thaw broke the law, and if he was not insane at the time he ought to be pun-Still, it should not be forgetten that his crime was one of those leeds of mixed import where gratitude for results struggles with condemnation of motives. thankful to be rid of Stanford White that we are almost tempted to forgive

for shooting him Good citizens do not quite forgive Thaw's breach of the law, but they some so near it that everybody looks with some sort of approval upon his absurd plea of insunity. He was not insane. His mind was as near health when he shot White as it ever was in his life. Perhaps, if the truth were known, that was the one moment of his entire existence when he was perfectly sane. Certainly, though the murder was most regrettable, it was more like a useful act than anything

But the effort of his lawvers will be to prove that at the precise moment when he fired the shot at White Thaw was insane, while both before and after that infinitestimal instant he was sane. It would not do to make him out a chronic maniac or a congenital Idiot though that would be easier than the task chosen by his lawyers. He does not want to be known for the rest of his life as an incurable imbecile; nor does he wish to create the belief that he is subject to insane spasms and may therefore shoot some body else. The purpose of the defense will be accomplished if it can prove that Thaw's predisposition to insanity culminated at the exact moment when he shot White, and will never culminate again.

He ought not to have much difficulty in making his proof. Numerous expert allenists of international reputation stand ready and eager to swear to anything Thaw's lawyers wish, in onsideration of an honor rium of sufficient magnitude. These erudite scientists have sworn to things quite as absurd heretofore without bluching One rather fancies that they have forgotten how to blush. nowadays to prove that any person whatever is insane in any set of cir umstances you choose; and you may prove it, too, by expert evidence of the most exalted character. The only essential prerequisite is the fee. Thaw was insane when he sho White, we are all insane a dozen imes a day. A man is insine when he grumbles at his wife, when he kicks the cat, when he swears at the. weather. In the Gulteau trial one portentous alienist gravely asserted that all men were insane. The testimony offered at recent murder trials trongly corroborates his opinion. If the whole population of the country are not insane, then the alienists are not sane; but their mania does not take the homicidal turn. It seems rather to assume the form of a ravenous appetite for fees.

SHIPPING WHEAT IN BULK

"Can we export wheat in bulk? If so, what would be the cost of the queries sent The Oregonian by the Farmers' Educational and Co-opera-North Bank road, it is, of course, rea- called to a question that has for a number of farmers coming to Oregon tories where wheat is shipped in bulk on the subject, but notes from obser vation that the only determined attempt ever made to ship wheat bulk from this region was a failure. The Peavy Elevator Company at the time of its appearance in Oregon and Washington was the largest grain ele vator company in the world, and it a chain of elevators in the Pacific Northwest for the purpose of handling wheat in bulk.

It experienced trouble in transporting the wheat to tidewater and in sending it foreign. Specially con structed cars which would hold bulk wheat were not always available in the large numbers required, and gondolas, stock, coal and furniture could not be used for grain in bulk. The impossibility of ventilation on the long trip to Europe in which the wheat ships pass through the tropics "line" the ships with outside tiers of sacked wheat, thus greatly increasing the expense of both loading and dis charging. The foreign buyer insists on "condition" being guaranteed, and climatic influences made this impossible with a mixed cargo, or with one wholly in bulk. The building of the Panama Canal, which will enable vessels to reach the European markets voters of Multnomah County at the undoubtedly admit of the change be stand . the 14,000-mile

Citing what is done in the East as a tains is used for milling purpe throughout the year as the mills

lays at this time in removing any disa- of which might be inferior. In the elevator the receipt would call for specified number of bushels of No. wheat, and in the delivery the identity of a particularly sheice lot of No. would be lost. When it is stored in the sack the grawer can sell his own

crop of wheat on its individual merits The wheat trade of the Pacifi est is in the hands of men who have made a study of world-wide con litions, and their abandonment of the elevator system after giving It a fair trial would indicate more clearly than anything else that the time is not ripe for shipment of Pacific Coast wheat in bulk.

The decision of the Oregon Suprem Court uphold'-g the Tuttle road law is a fortunate event !- the history of road improvement in Oregon. While that law does not meet the require ments of conditions in all communities, it is an effective measure where droumstances make it applicable. The law provides for the permanent improvement of a highway at the expense of owner of property within two miles on either side of the road, the cost to be paid in installments. The principle is the same as that upon which most of the street improvement laws are based. The work cannot be done without the consent of the prop erty-owners themselves, and, on th other hand, a minority cannot prevent the work. Whether improvements shall be made under that statute is optional with those who are most directly interested. Its provisions are not obligatory upon any community In some localities it is quite likely tha this method of paying the cost of road improvement would be found unsatis factory, but it is well to have the law upon the statute-books for the benefit of those who wish to operate under it. The law is fair and reasonable and was wisely upheld.

The great trans-Affantic steamship lines are at it "hammer and tongs" and rates for passage are shrinking so rapidly that no schedule seems safe for twenty-four hours. The second cabin rate has been cut to \$30. there is no peace in sight. These perodical rate wars on the Atlantic demonstrate in the clearest possible manner the impossibility of maintaining anything like a monopoly on the high seas. So long as traffic is heavy and the ships are running to their co pacity, rates are maintained-in fact. are advanced occasionally, as was th case a few weeks ago, when the eastbound immigrant rush taxed the ca pacity of the steamers. But whenever the supply of steamers exceeds demand for accommodations the same old wars develop and American citizens can travel across the ocean at less cost than would be incurred at a first-class hotel.

If the Catholic Church or any other ower, secular or religious, can de vise a plan to prevent hasty marriages of youthful subjects, the divorce evil may possibly be lessened. There is some doubt about the efficacy of discipline in such cases, however. As

John G. Saxe has it: Who ever heard of a marriage deterred Or even deferred

any contrivance so very absurd scolding the boy, and caging his bird But suppose the evil of precipitate marriage is averted by law? What of the evils that follow? Is hasty mar riage, after all, worse even when followed by divorce, than the evils that follow irresponsible, thoughtless and immoral association between the sexes? Let the board of managers of the Florence Crittenton Home and the officers of the Juvenile Court answer

Between New York and Brooklyn by subway, the time is now reduced to five minutes. Already the pressure at Brooklyn bridge has been greatly Rapid transit under the riv. duced. and from Manhattan Island. will shortly solve the whole problem of increasing congestion in the lower part of the old city. Far out into Long Island and New Jersey the streams of urban population will extend; and there are persons now living who will see a population of ten millions within a radius of fifteen miles from Central Park

The man who shot, near Chehalis, Wash. Sunday, a little girl who was trying to shield a pet dog will proba bly enter the "didn't mean to" ples when arraigned for his crime. ther this nor any other plea should avail to save his neck from the halter case his innocent little victim dies If her injuries do not prove fatal, he should be given a term in the peniten tiary aggregating half of an ordinary The fool with the gun is lifetime. not a whit less dangerous the criminal with the gun, and should be dealt with accordingly.

In the Atlantic Monthly for January Henry Lee Higginson plends for "Justice to the Corporations." But they don't want justice. They want to be let alone while they cortinue to Ipose injustice upon the people. Hig-ginson says in his opening paragraph that the public has been seeing corporations punished. But when and where? What fines have been paid and what sentences served? Is it punishment to find a corporation guilty after trial and innocent after an appeal?

If the Russian government wants to know whether Stoessel bravely defended Port Arthur or not, let it call twice forced the elevator company to 'in the Japanese officers. They will "line" the ships with outside tiers of testify to the skill and valor of the defense—thereby paying tribute their own skill and valor and persistence in the attack. What else, they will say, could the Russian General have done but surrender to our prow

> The time consumed in drawing jury for the second Thaw trial was much shorter than for the It is to be hoped that taking testimony will be correspondingly has tened, and that there will be no 15 .-600-word hypothetical questions.

Day's office was certainly not guilty of contempt of court. His act was evidence that he believes the judge possessed of ability to acquire prop-

The thief who broke into Judge

Five suicides within twenty-four hours at Boston, attributable to bad weather, furnish further proof that the equable climate of Oregon contributes largely to the sum of human hap-

Only half price for an upper berth? Schmitz, consequently, is liable to peninterest involved. The maritime comwheat in an elevator, where it would The Pullman Company ought to be been pledged
alty. This was what Ruef and Schmitz merce of Portland is at stake, and debe mixed with a dozen other lots, some made to pay folk for sleeping in them. ern interests. The Pullman Company ought to be

Astray by Soldiers.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Jan. 14-(Special.)-The story of two girls of tender ge running away from their homes, con ing to Vancouver, falling in with a gang of oldiers from the fort, sinking lower and ower till they were arrested by the po-ice in a raid on a disreputable ledging-iouse, was revealed, in this city last

night.

Grace Fanning, aged II, and Edna Coffee, aged I6, are the youthful wrongdoers. The Fanning girl comes from Kelao, Wash, and the Coffee girl from Oregon City. The former is described as a wild girl, who runs away from home at every opportunity. The latter comes from a good home, which is always open to her should she choose to so hack.

should she choose to go back.
Their homes will be closed to them however, for when arraigned in the policy court this morning, the girls pleaded guilty, but the city ordinance was waived, and they were turned over to the county authorities to be sent to the Reform

The girls have been in Vancouver for two months. Both are of good family, and say they had no intention of wrong-doing till they met the soldlers, who accomplished their ruin. From then on they took the downward path.

MURDER CASE IN KLAMATH

Heavy Criminal Docket Will Keep Special Court Session Busy.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Jan. 14.— Special.)—Judge H. L. Benson has is-ued a call for a special term of the Brouit Court for Klamath County. February, rendered necessary by "joker" of Governor Chamberlain joker" of Governor Chamberlain in everlooking the declaration of three holidays during the period of suspen-sion of legal machinery by executive order. Harry Corpron and Peter Peter-steiner will be tried for the murder of James M. Johnson, whose death resulted from injuries received in an alter-cation, which occurred Christmas eve. Jack Neville, charged with horse-stealing, and who has been confined in the County all for several months, will have his day in court; and Joe Coburn, from the Indian reservation near the Yainax Agency, is alleged to have wrongfully and illegally taken a cow bearing the brand of another. Ernest olson, charged with assault with a deadly weapon on the person of the editor of the Merrill Record, will also have an opportunity to make his de-

ISSUE CALL FOR CONFERENCE Athletic Convention in Walla Walla First Week in February.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, Seattle, Wash., Jan. 14.—(Special.)—At a meeting of the associated students of the University of Washington today it was voted unanimously to send letters to all the leading colleges and universities in the Northwest, advocating a conference to be held in Walla Walla, the first week in February and writing the inweek in February, and writing the in stitutions to have one delegate in at

These letters will be sent to the universities of Oregon, Idaho and Montana, Oregon Agricultural College, Washington State College and Whitman College. The object of the proposed conference is o agree on rules to govern the athletic elations of the Northwest colleges.
The university asks to have the institu-lons communicate with the students' secretary whether they will attend the onfere

Washington has always been hearty in its advocacy of a conference and, in fact, ook the initiative in the present wide spread agitation.

NINE CASES OF SMALLPOX

Clackamas Heights Families Are Under Quarantine.

OREGON CITY, Or., Jan. 14.—(Spe-lal.) — Nine cases of smallpox have evoloped at Clackamas Heights and a strict quarantine is being enforced. The 11-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. The II-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs.

A. Waer Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Rudolph
and son, Oren, aged 15; J. J. Deford's
three children, one of them a baby, and
A. J. Rudolph and his grown son have
Coast. been seized with the disease, and the condition of A. J. Rudelph is serious, though the remaining cases are mild. About four, weeks ago Miss Mar Swift came to Clackamas Heights from Southern Oregon and after her arrival a wedding took place at the Deford home, where she was staying. She had smullpox at that time, but it was not known, and many of the friends and neighbors of the family were exposed

ROCKWELL OUT FOR CONGRESS State Tax Commissioner Aspires for the Nomination.

SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 14.— (Special.)—T. D. Rockwell, of Spokane, State Tax Commissioner, today announced his candidacy for the Republican Congressional nomination from the Third district, deciaring that he stood for the doctrings of Romanult. stood for the doctrines of Roosevelt, and, if elected, would do all in his power to advance the policies of the President. He favors the opening of the Columbia and the Snake Rivers and the rectamation of the arid lands of state.

the state.

Nationally, he wishes a better Navy, more Government aid for the National Guards of the different states and further powers for the Interstate Commerce Commission.

ARRIVES MINUS A MANIFEST

French Bark De Boisdeffre May Be Fined \$500 for the Oversight.

ASTORIA, Or., Jan. 14.—(Special.)—The French bark General de Boisdeffre, Captain J. Laroque, arrived this afternoon, 170 days from Rochester, England, via Hobart with a cargo of cement. The bark comes without a manifest or bills of lading for this she may be subjected to a fine of \$500 by the Customs authorities. It appears that she sailed from Rochester hurriedly on July 31 in order to avoid a delex of 10 days on account of the tides. hurriedly on July 31 in order to avoid a delay of 10 days on account of the tides, and for that reason Captain Laroque was unable to secure his manifest!

Commandery for Hood River.

HOOD RIVER, Or.; Jan. 14 - (Special.) M., has been formally notified by the officers of the State Lodge of Masons in officers of the State Lodge of Masons in Portland that it has been granted a commandery. The new commandery is the only one in Wasco County and the competition for the coveted prize between Hood River and The Dalles was keen. The Dalles being the county seat and a larger and older city than Hood River, expected that it would win out. Members of Hood River Lodge are much classed over the bonor conferred on it. pleased over the honor conterred on it, and are contemplating a celebration of the event in the near future.

Miners to Resume Work in Spring. BAKER CITY, Or., Jan. 14.—(Special.)— The annual meeting of the Highland Gold The annual meeting of the Highland Gold Mines Company consumed a two-days' session. It was decided to resume work in the mines in the Spring, money having been pledged by the Eastern and South-

TWO YOUNG GIRLS GO WRONG FIERCE ATTACK ON LAWRENCE

Both of Good Family, but Are Led Railway Attorney Declares Commis

sioner Is Prejudiced SPOKANE Wash. Jan 14 - (Special.) A flerce attack by Judge M. J. Gordon attorney for the Great Northern Railway Company, upon State Rallway Commis sioner J. S. Lawrence, in which the lafter was accused of holding opinions against the transportation company, which should disqualify him from sitting in judgment upon them, was the feature of this morning's session of the Commis

Judge Gordon asked to have placed in the records a clipping from a Spokane newspaper, in which Mr. Lawrence was quoted as saying that the railway companies had chosen to magnify the value of their terminal property in Spokane six or seven times its real value, preferring to pay high taxes than to lower rates in accordance with the value of their lands

the newspaper report was substantially correct. He denied however, that his tatements would have any effect on his

"The State clothes the Railway Com mission with the same power that is given to a judge and jury in trying civil or Triminal cases," said Judge Gordon. "A judge would have no right to give out plnions in regard to a case while that ase was sub-judice. The Commissioners and to be fain to the railway are supposed to be fain to the railway companies."

Mr. Fairchild, chairman of the Commis-

sion, interposed on behalf of his colleague. and for a time the discussion waxed

TENDER TRUCKS JUMP TRACK Traffic Tied Up for Six Hours Near

Grants Pass. GRANTS PASS, Or. Jan. 14 - (She cial.)-Train No. 15, in charge of Conductor Risley and pulled by Engineer Butler, narrowly avoided a serious wrack this afternoon about three miles outh of here, when the trucks of the tender of engine No. 2423 jumped the track and skidded along the ties, literally chopping them in two for nearly train length. Traffic main line was blocked for about six hours. Train No. 15 was returned to the yards by an engine frem train 1-o.

The scene of the accident is straight piece of track, but the road-bed is soft and sandy, and it is thought that the heavy engine and rolling stock may have caused the track to Much praise is given Engineer for his quickness in bringing ain le he train to a standstill.

After No. 15 had been pulled into the yards a light engine was taken from the roundhouse, well supplied with tools and a crew of men, who worked the greater part of the after noon to get the trucks of the wrecked on the rails and place the track in shape for travel.

DEAD OF THE NORTHWEST

William Grant, Pioneer Capitalist of Eastern Oregon.

THE DALLES, Or., Jan. 14.-(Special.) News was received here today of the leath of William Grant, a former resi-ient of The Dalles, which occurred at Beulah, Malheur County, January 9. For many years Mr. Grant was one of the foremost capitalists of the North-west and was well known to all planeers of Eastern Oregon. He was about 66 years old. A native of Scotland, Mr. Grant came to Oregon in the early '60s, joining here his brother, Robert Grant, who then operated the largest meccantile business of this section. His business interests became very large, and in a few years he was one of the largest property-holders in this portion of the country. Mr. Grant was one of the original own-ers of The Dalles Military Road Company, which in later years became the Eastern Oregon Land Company. Some fifteen years ago he left The Dalles and made his home with his brother, Adam Grant, head of the firm of Murphy, Grant & Co., in San Francisco. For the p two years he had resided with his co ins, the Murray brothers, in Malli

PRESIDENT IN CONFERENCE

WIII Meet With Officials of Various Railronds January 27. WASHINGTON , Jan. 14 .- President

Roosevelt today made an appointment for January 27 to confer with a committee of the operating vice-presidents of leading railroads. The appointment was made by Senator Warner, of Missouri, at the re-quest of the St. Louis & San Francisco Raliroad. The committee will represent, among others, the New York Central. Pennsylvania, Burlington, Northwestern, Illinois Central and San Francisco roads.

The object is to bring to the attention of the President matters regarded as adversely affecting railway operations. It is understood that legal consideration of pooling agreements will be one of the important topics. The President has litherto indicated his position as favorable to such agreements under proper suof the Interstate Commerce

MORSES OUT OF ALL BANKS

Successors Elected to Succeed Former Associates of Heinze.

mer Associates of Heinze.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14.—Many changes in the boards of managers of New York financial institutions were made at the annual election of officers of National banks today. Samuel H. Wheeler, of Bridgeport, Com, was elected to succeed Charles W. Morse on the directorate of the Fourteenth Street Bank. At the Garfield National Bank no successors to Charles W. and Harry P. Morse, who resigned some time ago, were elected. The stockholders of the Mercantile National Bank, which up to a few months ago was controlled by Charles W. Morse and F. Augustus Heinze, elected Edwin Gould, William Nelson Cromwell and William Nelson Cromwell and William H. Taylor.

Speculated With Bank's Cash.

NORTH ATTLEBORO, Mass., Jan. 14 .-NORTH ATTLEBORD, Mass. Jan. 1.— The fact that Frederick E. Sargeant, the late cashler of the Jewelers' National Bank. of North Attleboro, which is now in the hands of a receiver, had been hy-pothecating the funds of the bank became definitely known today, when the surety company which furnished his bonds paid over to the receiver of the bank the sum of \$20.000, the full amount of the bond. The examination of the cashler's per-sonal affairs has shown that he had ac-counts with several Boston brokerage houses, and it is believed that he lost heavily in speculation.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash ington, D. C., Jan. 14.—The President has just signed a proclamation which diminates 131.643 acres of the Blue Moun-

A MERICAN unpreparedness for war ses and several bitter experiences, in past history. But doubtless this lack of readiness for emergencies would never have been productive of such dire results as in the event of a conflict with Japan, so much talk of the possibility of which has been in the air for some time past. As to the probability of such an engagement that, of course, is another The two governments are matter. obviously friendly, but it is the people that make wars and the people of have their own ideas about the right of Japanese to emigrate here at will. These ideas, needless to say, are widely at variance with the current American persuasion. Whether this issue will precipitate a serious breach is purely a matter for speculation.

America's unpreparedness for war is not a matter of speculation, however, When the Navy gets around to the Pacific Uncle Sam will be in position to give an account of himself by sen, the thing of greatest importance by odds. The American Navy is superior to that maintained by Japan. The American gunner admits superiority to none while Japanese gunnery, though not of an inferior order, is far from extraordinary. The Navy, it must be conceded, could look after itself.

As to an army-there would be the hitch in event of extensive land operations. Of men to fight there would be no lack. is a matter of pride that 10,000,000 fighting men can be produced, if necessary: But men are fot the only requisites campaign. Equipment is the main thing

Should war suddenly be declared at this time for any cause or other a call of 250,000 volunteers would be little more than sufficient for a first line of defense And yet in order to arm and equip such an army it would be necessary for the Government to arm the force with three different kinds of rifles. Fifty thousand constituting the regular Army, have the new Springfield rifle. The National Guard, 100,000 strong would have the Krag-Jorgenson rifle and the balance would have to depend on the old style Springfield, at least until new guns could be prepared. The disadvantage thus. brought on is obvious. Confusion in placing ammunition could hardly be avolded. Uniform, arms and ammunition are a necessity of modern warfare.

The regular Army now stationed within the United States numbers something like 30,000 men. Another 20,000 are on duty in the Philippines, where they would have to be left in event of hostilities. regular Army here would be practically absorbed in the organization of a big volunteer force. Should our neighbor see fit to land a big army on the Pacific Coast there would be nothing to prevent such an expedition, provided the were attempted while the fleet is safely at a distance. It is very doubtful if such an invasion would be attempted, but if so, the Coast territory would have to be conceeded to an invading army of say 100,000 men. Captain J. R. M. Taylor, of the Fourteenth Infantry, stated in a recent paper on the crists in the East that an invasion of the Coast could not be prevented on short notice and that in event of a force being landed and marched inland the American line of defense and base would be in the vicinity of Ogden. Utah.

Patriotic and well meaning civilians have not been inclined to accept such a proposition as plausible. "We used guns in hunting and we wait for an army and pick them off. The whole country would be up in arms. That is a common view among those unacquainted with things military.

The day has passed for warfare of that nature. The day of the minute man has

nature.

gone. An invading army sends out line after line of advance forces and squad after squad of scouts. Well meaning after aquad of sco people waiting behind trees with ifies would simply be picked up one after the other and strung up to the nearest trees. Civilian forces would only be in the way, giving an enemy no other in-conveniece than that of burying them. An invasion while possible, is not regarded as a probability even in event of war until the naval supromacy has been settled leastwise. Could a nation like say Japan, get control of the sea invasion would be rendered easy by establishment of a base at any favorable point on the Coast, Tiliamook for example. The nation in question has an army of some 250,000 trained fighting men. They are equipped with a peculiarly effective rifte of uniform make. This army of 350,000, seven times greater than our own armed force, is organized, trained, equipped and dis-ciplined to the minute and could be gotten in marching order within 48 hours. Aside from this force Japan has similar equipment for a sufficient number of volunteers to bring the total fighting force up to 1,000,000 men. Her transport fleet,

up to 1,000,000 men. Her transport fleet, too, for carrying a large force, is the greatest in the world.

While the better elements of both countries truly hope a clash of arms may never come yet it is only characteristic of Japanese methods that a plan of campaign has already been elaborately prepared at Tokio. American tacticians say the first blow would be at the Philipthe first blow would be at the Philip pines. There is doubt whether the forth-fications at Cavite could be forced. But a sufficient army could land most anywhere on Luxon and attack Manila from the rear. The handful of American troops now there could offer but weak resist-sance and reenforcements could not be sent until a formidable convoy could be

ance and reenforcements could not be assured. Putting troopships to sea is a dangerous matter, where there is a hostile fleet at large, Hawall, too, would fall an easy prey and doubtless would be utilized as a base. Arrival of, the fleet, of course, would change the aspect of taking Hawall although it would not alter the situation as regards the Philippines. As to the utilimate outcome no American will admit any apprehension. The moment a war was declared big lubberly, sleepy Congress would awaken from its lethargic state and provide for an army. Arsenais would be put working day and night. Millions of sirrong men would stand ready to answer, the call to arms. And after the first hapless army put in the field had been wiped off the earth and unpreparedness had claimed its toll of lives, the situation would be in hand, the decks would be cleared for action and some unlocky little nation action and some unlucky little nation would get a most thorough spanking. From a military standpoint, America is a sleeping glant, which it behooves no power to awaken.

Gets Political Job in Idaho.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Jan. 14 .- (Special.)—D. A. Utter, who has been engaged in the brick-making business in this city for the past six months, will leave in a few days for Boise, Idaho, climinates 13.63 acres of the Blue Mountain National Forest, as recommended by the Forest Service. The greater part of the area eliminated consists of open grass pointment of Surveyor-General for the lands. The boundary has also been changed to exclude some heavily timbered land, title to which has passed from the Government.