The Oregonian

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.
(By Mail.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	$8.00
Daily, Sunday included, six months	4.25
Daily, Sunday included, three months	2.25
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75
Daily, without Sunday, one year	6.00
Daily, without Sunday, six months	3.25
Daily, without Sunday, three months	1.75
Daily, without Sunday, one month	.60
Sunday, one year	2.50
Weekly, one year (issued Thursday)	1.50
Sunday and weekly, one year	3.50

BY CARRIER.

Daily, Sunday included, one year	9.00
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75

HOW TO REMIT—Send postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your local bank. Stamps, coin or currency are at the sender's risk. Give postoffice address in full, including county and state.

POSTAGE RATES.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

10 to 14 Pages.....1 cent
16 to 28 Pages.....2 cents
30 to 44 Pages.....3 cents
46 to 60 Pages.....4 cents

Foreign postage, double rates.

IMPORTANT—The postal laws are strict. Newspapers on which postage is not fully prepaid are not forwarded to destination.

EASTERN BUSINESS OFFICE.

The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency—New York, rooms 48-50 Tribune building. Chicago, rooms 510-512 Tribune building.

KEPT ON SALE.

Chicago—Auditorium Annex; Postoffice News Co., 178 Dearborn street.
St. Paul, Minn.—N. St. Marie, Commercial Station.
Colorado Springs, Colo.—Bell, H. H.
Denver—Hamilton and Kendrick, 906-912 Seventeenth street; Pratt Book Store, 1214 Fifteenth street; H. P. Hansen, S. Rice, George Carson.
Kansas City, Mo.—Hickseeker Cigar Co., Ninth and Walnut; Yoma News Co.
Minneapolis—M. J. Cavanaugh, 50 South Third.
Cleveland, O.—James Pushaw, 307 Superior street.
Washington, D. C.—Ebbitt House, Pennsylvania avenue.
Philadelphia, Pa.—Ryan's Theater Ticket Office; Penn News Co.
New York City.—L. Jones & Co., Astor House; Broadway Theater News Stand; Arthur Hotaling Wagons; Empire News Stand.
Ogden—D. L. Boyle; Lowe Bros., 114 Twenty-fifth street.
Omaha—Barkalow Bros., Union Station; Mageath Stationery Co.
Des Moines, Ia.—Mose Jacobs.
Sacramento, Cal.—Sacramento News Co., 630 K street; Amos News Co.
Salt Lake—Moon Book & Stationery Co.; Rosenfeld & Hansen; G. W. Jewett, P. O. corner.
Los Angeles—B. E. Amos, manager ten street wagons.
Pasadena, Cal.—Amos News Co.
San Diego—B. E. Amos.
San Jose, Cal.—St. James Hotel News Stand.
Dallas, Tex.—Southwestern News Agent, 344 Main street; also two street wagons.
Amarillo, Tex.—Timmons & Pope.
San Francisco—Forster & Orear; Ferry News Stand; Hotel St. Francis News Stand; L. Parent; N. Wheatley; Fairmount Hotel News Stand; Amos News Co.; United News Agency, 14½ Eddy street; B. E. Amos, manager three wagons.
Oakland, Cal.—W. H. Johnson, Fourteenth and Franklin streets; N. Wheatley; Oakland News Stand; B. E. Amos, manager five wagons.
Goldfield, Nev.—Louie Follin; C. E. Hunter.
Eureka, Cal.—Call-Chronicle Agency; Eureka News Co.

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, FEB. 6, 1908.

CHANCELLORSVILLE.

It has required a long time to get the truth as to the disastrous battle of Chancellorsville. But it may be said to have been practically settled by the Memoirs of Schurz and Howard, recently published, and by the review of the campaign of Chancellorsville by the well-known writer, Colonel Theodore Ayrault Dodge. Schurz's statement is extremely vigorous. He shows that he had attempted for several hours to call Howard's attention to the movement of the Confederates across the front of the Federal Army, and especially of the Eleventh corps of the Army of the Potomac, with the evident purpose of making a flank or rear attack, but that Howard could not be convinced. Schurz commanded a division in Howard's corps. He saw with his own eyes the Confederate movement, and the continuous march of the Confederates across the front of the Eleventh corps was confirmed every hour, by scouts, pickets, and skirmishers who witnessed it. Howard, in his memoirs, does not deny this. But he says the information from Hooker's headquarters was that the Confederates were retreating, and that this movement, seen from the front of the Eleventh corps, was but a part of it. This flank movement by the Confederates was partially disguised by turning its direction away from the front of the Eleventh corps, which completed the deception. Soon, however, the direction was changed, and the Confederate column, veering round, was ready about five P. M. to strike the flank of the Eleventh corps, which it did with an energy and fury that telescoped it completely, produced a massacre and rolled back the survivors in precipitous flight. It was known at the time that the Federal Army had no head or leadership at Chancellorsville. But the details of the blunders have not hitherto been fully known.

The Eleventh corps, under Howard, in line of battle, faced south all day. It was upon the right of the Federal Army. Upon the left and center Lee engaged Hooker, yet so feebly as to make him believe the Confederates were in retreat. Meantime Stonewall Jackson's flank movement was in operation. Jackson's corps was 26,000 strong, out of 62,000 that constituted the Confederate Army. But Hooker had become possessed of his fixed idea that the Confederates were retreating, and this idea he communicated to Howard, who held to it tenaciously against all representations that the movement of Jackson's corps across Howard's front meant a flank or rear attack. Neither Hooker nor Howard was undeceived till the onset of the Confederates made it impossible for the Eleventh corps to change front to meet the attack. The Eleventh corps was facing south, the attack came from the west, towards the east. It was a flank attack, which no provision had been made to meet. Yet officers and men of the Eleventh corps had seen during four or five hours the Confederate movement which they believed portended it.

Howard, in his Memoirs, says he was riveted to the position by orders from Hooker, and the woods were so dense that the actual movements of the enemy could not be followed nor ascertained. Schurz, on the other hand, declares that through patrols and scouts the general movement of the Confederates was sufficiently known, and that Howard, at frequent intervals during the day, was apprised of it, but was incredulous. He had his orders from the headquarters of the commanding general; he was rooted to the spot; he did not feel at liberty to change his front to meet an emergency that had arisen and many had foreseen, and his corps, struck on the flank, was simply rolled up and run over. This was the disaster of the battle of Chancellorsville. The fault, primarily, was that of the commanding general. The corps commander lacked initiative and quickness to meet an emergency, yet when the attack came he did all that the commander of corps of 10,000 men, placed in a false position, could do to meet the attack of 26,000, directed by an enterprising leader. It was one of those unaccountable things that occur in war.

Howard is apologetic. Schurz critical and aggressive. The latter has the better of the statement and argument, for in work of this kind Howard is no match for Schurz. Yet Howard throughout the war proved himself again and again a man of soldierly judgment, and a resolute fighter, too. The main fact of this campaign was that Hooker, an excellent leader of a corps, and a proverbial fighter, was unequal to the command of the Army of the Potomac. The battle of Chancellorsville was not a general battle; it was hardly more than an affair of detached and separate positions, in each of which men were fighting without supports, and 40,000 men of the Army of the Potomac, that ought to have been brought into the battle, never fired a shot. There was the lesson of a disaster which foresight should have averted, but the like of which was not permitted to occur again.

A PLEA FOR LIBERTY.

Will not Brother U'Ren, to whom all Oregon looks for championship of our liberties, get up a constitutional amendment, so that referendum may be called on the decisions of the courts? This, positively, is necessary to protection of the rights of the people and the enforcement of justice. Let us have the decisions of the courts reviewed by the people, and where wrong, redressed by a popular vote. For specific illustration, it would take no great while to restore to our old pioneer friend, Marquam, the property that has been wrested from him.

What our people have chief reason to complain of is the tyranny of the courts. Through the right they claim to pass on the laws and on their validity, and to reverse decisions of juries in all sorts of cases, civil and criminal, the courts of the land become the absolute rulers of the people. It is an oligarchy that crushes the righteous decrees of the people. Far more important than initiative, far more important than the referendum call on bills passed by the Legislature, is the right of the people to call the referendum on the decisions of the courts. Hitherto and now the Supreme Court, not the Legislature, not the people, has declared or ordained the law of Oregon. How much longer will the people submit to the decrees of this oligarchy? Brother U'Ren, champion of the people, will see, of course, that every decree of the Supreme Court ought to be referred to the people for their decision as to its rightfulness and justice.

Here is the true test, the real citadel, of liberty and justice. How every free man must hate the decrees of an oligarchy from which there is no appeal! Are the people entitled to rule this country or is an oligarchy to rule it? Let us have an appeal to the people through the referendum on the decisions or decrees of the courts, and especially on those of the Supreme Court. The statesmanship of Oregon City, that has nothing to do but stunts of statesmanship, ought to be equal to this emergency. Let the people rule, not a row of doctors on a bench, in stoles and gowns and wigs and panoply of pretensions.

Let us have the referendum on the decisions of the courts. It is high time that vox populi were made to mean something.

NOT YET, BUT SOON.

The tariff revision delegation which visited Washington with a view to securing appointment of a commission to investigate the subject and recommend amendments to the present tariff schedules should feel most grateful to Speaker Cannon and Chairman Payne of the House Ways and Means Committee. Had the worthy Speaker and his associates followed the method of procedure usual in such cases, they would have warmly welcomed the project. They would have aided in the selection of a commission and in due season received its report, which by resolution would have been laid on the table, under the table or thrown out the window, neatly, diplomatically and effectually. But the Hon. Speaker and Chairman Payne were using the mailed fist instead of the velvet glove when the delegation called, and the visitors will not experience that "hope deferred" that "maketh the heart sick."

There will be no lingering uncertainty in their minds as to what Congress will do, for Congress will do nothing. "I fear greatly that your tariff commission would turn itself into a debating school," consolingly remarked the Speaker, and Chairman Payne was positive that "you cannot convince me, gentlemen, of the wisdom of appointing such a commission at this session." Speaker Cannon was certain that a return of the country to its commercial and financial status of six months ago would be "of inestimably more worth than any tariff revision that the skill of man could frame." Of course, Mr. Cannon and Mr. Payne and their friends intend to revise the tariff—"not yet, but soon." The protection pap bottle must not be pulled away from our infant industries until they are able to take stronger nourishment.

There is the steel trust, for example, with net earnings of only $160,984,477 last year. It has been organized since 1901 and in a little more than six years its dividends have amounted to but $837,935,273. And yet there are well meaning individuals, presumably endowed with sufficient ability to enable them to reason from cause to effect, who will take issue with Mr. Cannon and argue that the iniquities of the existing tariff system are indirectly responsible for the drastic change from prosperity to stagnation. Had the steel trust (only one of many tariff-fostered offenders) been satisfied with profits of $100,000,000 last year, the people would have effected from this source alone a saving of more than $60,000,000. Had the steel trust in the six and one-half years of its existence been content with net profits of $500,000,000 instead of $837,935,273 the American people would have had an additional third of a billion dollars with which to stave off the hard times which have been unjustly forced on them.

They have been robbed, shamefully robbed, by men like the Laird of Skibbo, who has studded the land with libraries which are monuments of shame to the system by which he robbed the many for the benefit of the few. Schwab frittering away his million dollar salary and $10,000,000 annual profits at Monte Carlo; Corey, his successor, reveling in a nastiness that disgusted two continents; and Thaw, another beneficiary of the system, are all shining examples of the effect of an unrevised tariff. Meanwhile Cannon, Payne et al will continue their "Ajax-defying-the-lightning" stunt, until there comes an upheaval of public opinion that will sweep into power a party that will revise the tariff. Unfortunately, there is nothing in the past records of that party that warrants the belief that the revision will be wholesome or effective. It would be far better for the country if the Cannons and Paynes were jettisoned from the Republican party before it is wrecked.

GAME PROTECTION.

The intimation that the Oregon Fish and Game Association will move to protect wild fowl on their breeding grounds shows that we are at last on the route toward game laws that will be effectual. Wild animals are not exterminated by the slaughter of adult specimens, but by the destruction of eggs, the helpless young, and dams while still giving suck or essential protection. Could this reckless slaughter be stopped there would be little need of laws limiting the number that might be shot during the open season, though such laws are by no means useless.

The fundamental principle in game protection is to safeguard adults in the breeding season and prevent the wholesale destruction of young specimens by human and animal foes. When this is done the species are seldom threatened with extermination. Game becomes more plentiful every year in England and Scotland because it is rationally protected. If the State is to spend any money for this purpose the best way to do it is to form protected breeding places where game may multiply in peace and safety. The effort to prevent shooting over vast unguarded areas is largely futile.

A DRACONIAN MEASURE.

Of the initiative corrupt practices bill to be submitted to the voters next June the purpose is commendable. It is imperatively necessary in a Republic that electors should cast their votes with all possible freedom, not only from corruption, but also from undue influence of every sort. It is better that a man should vote foolishly under the honest direction of such intelligence as he possesses rather than wisely under the dictation of a boss or a candidate. Moreover, the voter has the right to demand from the State protection from annoying solicitation and efforts at undue persuasion on election day. It should be his privilege to go to the polls unhindered and unhampered, without harassing besetments. The less heat, excitement and contention we have at the polls the better. The voter has questions to decide by his ballot which are quite as weighty as any that come before judges on the bench, and he should be as well protected as they are from improper influence and distraction. In spirit the corrupt practices bill recognizes the supreme importance of the ballot and seeks to surround it with adequate safeguards. Hence, the spirit is praiseworthy.

Still, there are serious objections, not to the general purpose of the bill, but to the nature of some of the restrictions it imposes. Nobody need waste any sympathy upon the petty boss whose election day activities it would cut off. His ambition is to create as much noise and silly disturbance as he can at the polls, hoping to carry measures by blind passion which calm reason would defeat. Any measure which seeks to secure sensible consideration and honest voting is sure of his opposition. Nor would it cause much hardship to candidates. They have a long time to persuade, argue and convince, if they can, before election day comes round. If the law should interpose and bid them hold their peace after the voting begins they need not repine. What they cannot do in two or three months of talk they are not likely to do honestly in two or three hours. Elections are not held primarily for the benefit of candidates, but for the State or Nation, and if the public good demands that they keep out of sight after the polls open it is the public good which should prevail and not theirs.

The bill seems to forbid all such activities as "treating," personal solicitation, and intimidation on election day. We can not see that anything would be lost that is worth keeping if this part of it became law. It may be said that the saloons are closed in any case, but the pocket flask is usually much in evidence and is often as harmful as the open saloon would be. Moreover, men should not vote this way or that because somebody asks them to do so. Their ballots ought to be directed by their brains if they have any. It is not a bad thing, therefore, to forbid pleas, importunities and endearments on election day. The less of such things we have while voting proceeds the better.

But it is said that the bill would also forbid a candidate to make a speech or a newspaper to publish political articles on election day. This is very doubtful. The language of the proposed act possibly admits of this construction, but it seems to aim rather at personal solicitation and corruption. It says nothing of what newspapers may or may not do. But if the initiative bill forbids candidates to deliver speeches on election day it is bad. If it forbids newspapers to publish political articles on that or any other day it is worse. In either case the bill ought to be rejected. A speech by a candidate sometimes contains matter that is worth listening to. Certainly the voter should be permitted to receive all the instruction he can both from this source and from the papers.

It seems also that the bill forbids discussions between individuals on election day. These discussions are almost always carried on "to induce or persuade" voters to vote or refrain from voting one way or the other. If the bill would make such discussions unlawful it is to that extent undesirable. The more free, open, manly, argument we have, both on the day of election and other days the better. This is one way of letting in the light on public affairs, and the more light we have the safer we are.

The fact is that the initiative bill goes so far in pursuit of a perfectly proper aim that it verges toward intolerable tyranny and could probably not be enforced if it should be adopted. The common experience with Draconian laws is that they fall immediately into desuetude. A secret ballot, a wide clear space around the polls, a ban upon liquor, whether in saloon or the pocket flask, and above all a rigorous limitation of election expenses, these would seem to be sufficient safeguards of the purity of the ballot. After all we must rely somewhat upon the voter's own intelligent volition. Intimidation and corruption can be prohibited without forbidding all argument and discussion. The proposed law would even prevent temperance advocates from weeping and praying with sinners at the polls and penalize the instructive orations of women suffragists. Without these attractions it is very doubtful whether voters could be induced to attend elections and we might have to get along with no rulers at all if it were adopted.

Out of that cesspool of illicit love, murder and general nastiness that has made the Thaw trial notorious and odorous, appears one redeeming ray. A sister of the murderer who had sold herself for a foreign title has regained her freedom, as an indirect result of the murder trial. The Duke of Yarmouth had apparently always treated his American duchess with the contempt to which she was entitled for marrying such a being, but his cruelty, together with that of his ducal family, reached such a stage after the Thaw trial began that the countess in desperation began suit for divorce. Of course the Thaw millions that were settled on the royal rake cannot be regained, and nothing can restore the wasted youth of the countess, but the example is worth something, and if the duchess would only consent to write her experiences as a member of the European nobility it would not only prove one of the "best sellers," but it might also prevent some other female fool from taking the downward step.

Coroner Finley's opinion of his own conduct in the Radium quackery murder imbroglio is extraordinary. He says he has done no wrong, that he would do the same thing over again, and if the people think he has done wrong they need not re-elect him. Very likely his re-election is a matter which is already past discussion. But it seems to be a defect in our system of government that an official who displays dense insensibility to his public obligations can not be promptly removed. Since Coroner Finley sees no wrong in writing incorrect death certificates while in a dream or hypnotic trance, of course he is likely to do it again and again. Since he is unable to recognize where his private duties as undertaker end and his public ones as coroner begin, there will be continuous confusion between the two as long as he remains in office. "The recall" may be inexpedient as a general rule, but there are cases where it would seem to fit most admirably, and this is one of them.

China has officially notified Japan that, in pursuance to an agreement with Russia, she has opened customs stations along the Manchurian frontier. Japan has completed the restoration to Russia of certain property which was in dispute at the close of the war, and the Muscovite seems to prefer doing business with the Chinese, for the present at least. If the trade pact under which the two countries are to work becomes sufficiently strong there are possibilities for the men of Nippon some day to be invited by the Chinese to vacate territory to which their title is similar to that by which Corea is held. A Russo-Chinese combination might cause Japan more anxious moments than she has experienced since she was first attacked by the "world power" fever.

There are many intervening miles between Port Arthur and St. Petersburg, and considerable time has elapsed since Stoessel struck the Russian colors at the Far Eastern outpost. For this reason and because of the somewhat conflicting testimony of witnesses and the undoubted jealousy existing between the commander of the fortress and some of his understudies, almost any verdict which may be rendered in the court-martial case will be subject to criticism. It should also be remembered that if Russia punished all of her subjects who blundered and plundered during the late war, the next following census would show a material reduction in the population.

W. J. Bryan asserts that Wall street is a worse gambling joint than Monte Carlo. The question now arises, is the peerless leader speaking from hearsay or—perish the thought—did he, during his recent European trip, place a few winning bets on the red or the black at Monte Carlo and then lose the winnings by going "long" on Amalgamated Copper in Wall street?

The Oregon Weekly, published by the students of the University of Oregon, is a credit not only to its editors and managers, but to the institution. Its news and editorial columns are conducted upon a high plane and never fail to the low frivolity, not to say vulgarity, in which many college papers seem to delight.

An airship has been seen hovering around Tacoma. Passengers on the Northern Pacific train which viewed the strange craft, assert that it was flying the Japanese flag and carrying red and green lights. The necessity for impetus to the temperance movement in the city of destiny is quite clear.

More time wasted by the City Council framing an ordinance to keep women out of saloons. Why don't they build a ten-rail fence in front of the "ladies'" entrance? That will bar every city-bred female.

Thomas Jefferson Cleeton, born in Missouri, is Republican nominee for United States district attorney for Oregon! Where did he get that name?

Oregon can boast that she has paid her full share toward Harriman's new $4,000,000 dwelling.

BEAUTY'S LIGHT LEAVES SENATE.

With Our Own Mulkey's Retirement, All Now Is Darkness.

Washington Post.

There cannot be any harmony or substantial joy in Congress hereafter. The withdrawal of the Hon. Fred Mulkey from the Senatorial race in Oregon means that an unseemly squabble will result among Senators who suppose themselves to be handsome. They will endeavor to seize and wear the mantle lately worn with such grace by the matchless Mulkey. From this strife deadly enmities will be engendered, and legislation will suffer while embroiled statesmen contend for the greater prize of fame through pulchritude.

It was a blow to the best interests of the United States when Mulkey's incomparable figure was carried by his majestic legs out of the greatest legislative arena in the world. So long as Mulkey the matchless stood in the Senate, the pretensions of other men to beauty, or even to comeliness, faded and turned gray. It was idle for Senators to groom themselves, or to cast sheep's eyes into the galleries; there was no comfort anywhere. Mulkey, the Orpheus of Oregon, drew the eyes of all the fair, by the mere exhibition of his fatal beauty. Other Senators were useful, but he alone was ornamental. His pre-eminence was undisputed, and peace reigned in the Senate by reason of the solitude of his conspicuousness. But now, with the great light out, other stars appear, twinkling with more or less ambitious ray. It will not do to name them—but they are there.

The Hon. Mulkey withdraws from the race in Oregon because he has not received the support of those leaders who champion "Statement No. 1"—the proposition that the candidates for the Legislature must pledge themselves to elect to the Senate the person favored by the people in the primary. Even in the act of disappearing, however, the incomparable Mulkey declares his undying adherence to the great principle embodied in Statement No. 1—that is, the principle that the people of Oregon shall amend the Constitution of the United States. It is, in truth, a thing worth dying for; but the passing of beauty never fails to inspire melancholy thoughts. "Done to death by envious tongues" is the epitaph that should adorn the political grave of this Adonis of the salmon belt. Is it any wonder that the Oregon leaders failed to support the admirable Mulkey? How could they do so, without stultifying themselves and denying their own claims to beauty? Alas! It is true now, as of old, that "slander's mark was ever yet the fair!" Beauty, fatal, mysterious, alluring, accursed beauty! It has destroyed the Hon. Mulkey, and now the lust of the fame of it threatens to set other statesmen by the ears.

WHAT ARE REPUBLICANS TO DO?

Ought to Agree on Modus Vivendi for Statement No. 1.

Corvallis Gazette.

Republicans should come to some common "modus vivendi" as to Statement No. 1. They might unite in opposing it to the uttermost because it is in direct opposition to the Constitution of the United States.

Unable to agree to this they might find a common ground in giving the statement the force of pledging members of the Legislature to support only the choice of their respective party's nominee for United States Senator.

This is open to the objection that it conflicts with the provisions of the Federal constitution which each member is sworn to support.

Whatever course may be pursued Republicans should come into harmonious action on this as well as on all other questions. Surely they cannot be blind to the purposes of the Democratic leaders. Surely Republicans should now refuse to aid any scheme to elect Democrats to the most important positions.

It is charged that opposition to Statement No. 1 is based on opposition to the primary election law. This is false. Statement No. 1 is not related to the primary election law. The statement might be cast into the wastebasket and the primary law with all its purposes and provisions would remain intact and in force as before. The objections to the statement are laid against the statement itself. The people of Oregon are competent through their Legislature to enact a primary election law, but they are not competent to annul one jot or tittle of the Constitution of the United States.

But it is not our present purpose to present the objections which lie against this statement. We wish only to induce Republicans to cease wrangling over it and, if possible, agree on an acceptable construction of it.

Republicans might easily accept that construction which binds to party nominees only—since the legislation that suggested the statement was by a Republican Legislature and Republicans are fully competent to fix the intent of the statement. The above indicated construction was believed to be the correct one until a few ambitious men saw how it might be worked for their own selfish ends, and so it is just now being worked to the limit.

We must confess we do not understand just how a man can be a Republican, or a Democrat either for that matter, and look to the opposing party for a representative of his principles in the United States Senate.

Boston's World-Wonders.

Lincoln (Nebraska) State Journal.

A strange story is reported from Boston. The city has an ordinance forbidding spitting on sidewalks or on the floors of streetcars. This is not the strange part of the story. Other cities, including Lincoln, have such laws. The sensational part of the situation is the fact that in Boston, which is said to be as corruptly governed as Philadelphia, the law is enforced. The fine of $100 for each offense is levied with relentless persistence, though in cases of visitors from Lincoln and elsewhere who do not understand that such laws are to be obeyed the fine is sometimes lightened a bit. It was lately discovered that the rule was being disobeyed by passengers in the smoking cars of elevated trains and a great fuss was made about it. This situation certainly deserves a place with her 50-cent gas as Boston's two contributions to the seven wonders of the United States.

Europe's Birth Rate.

Paris Telegram to London Express.

Statistics published by the Ministry of Works show the following excess of births over deaths per 10,000 inhabitants in Europe for the last decennial period:

Servia	174	Hungary	111
Saxony	147	Italy	106
Norway	141	Belgium	98
Prussia	128	Bavaria	98
Holland	127	Portugal	96
Finland	132	Austria	95
Denmark	151	Switzerland	82
Roumania	127	Ireland	51
Great Britain	125	Spain	51
German Empire	125	France	12½
Sweden	115		

SUGGESTIVE ANALOGIES.

From Bulletin of New York City Bureau of Municipal Research.

"Why haven't you tested the fire hose?"—Commission of accounts.

"We feared some of the hose would not stand a high pressure, and we need them too badly to take a chance."—Fire Commissioner Lantry.

Mothers who fear to have their children examined for adenoids, enlarged tonsils, etc., lest conditions will be found so bad as to require operation.

Business men who never balance their books for fear losses will be disclosed.

Philanthropists who do not test their giving for fear results will disappoint.

City officials who refuse to demand time records of employes for fear they will show jobs neglected and work not done, or that employes will render false reports.

Citizens who cherish their ignorance as to municipal needs, lest knowledge will impel to action that will correct municipal waste and inefficiency.

SOUTHERN DISSENT TO BRYANISM.

Nomination Will Not Be "Wholesome," Say Some—But What's to Be Done?

Boston Transcript.

The recent canvass of the House Democrats, while it demonstrates that the bulk of energetic support of Mr. Bryan comes from the South, also affords evidence that the South is by no means "solid" in its preference for him. Of the 167 Representatives who put themselves down in the Bryan column, 83 were from states of the South and Southwest. Forty-nine of the 83 expressions were furnished by the delegations from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Missouri, North Carolina and Texas. Southern dissent from Bryan worship was expressed by Representatives from Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and Tennessee, and Virginia, who in all contributed nine of the sixteen protestants enrolled in the Johnson column. Of the seven Gray supporters, five will be from the South. The "scattering" included one for Hoke Smith, from Georgia; four for Culberson, three from Texas and one from Kentucky. Taken altogether, of the 39 who were willing to be enrolled as opposing the nomination of Mr. Bryan, 21 were Southerners. This is numerically not a formidable protest, perhaps, against Bryanism, but it is by no means insignificant of Southern opinion, especially when the wide area covered by the dissent is taken into account. Johnson sentiment is found in Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia, while Judge Gray received votes in Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Kentucky.

As the South reaches up towards the North, the anti-Bryan sentiment becomes pronounced in ways more emphatic that in anonymous canvasses of the House. The Baltimore Sun recently polled 16 Democratic members of the State Senate and discovered but two thoroughgoing Bryan men in the number. The majority doubted the wisdom of nominating Bryan. General Seth, president of the Senate, was the plainest spoken, remarking that at present he did not believe the nomination of Mr. Bryan would be "wholesome." Maryland never has taken kindly to Bryan. In 1896 it gave McKinley 22,000 plurality and in 1900 nearly 14,000. It is a border state, industrial and commercial, and therefore predisposed against radicalism or policies of social and financial adventure.

The degree of Southern dissent from Bryanism now manifested is historically speaking not surprising. In 1904 the South took the lead in promoting the nomination of Parker, believing that the time had come when the "old alignment" the South, the Middle West and New York, could be brought about. The result of that attempt was so disastrous to the Democracy that many of the Southern leaders who secretly share General Seth's opinion as to the unwholesomeness of Bryan's leadership feel constrained silently to acquiesce in it.

Fighting Rabbit Scares Dog.

Uncle Remus' Magazine.

While the controversy between the nature writers and observers was at its height, a valued correspondent who lives in Memphis related to the Farmer a peculiar incident that fell under her eyes in her home town. She was speaking of the controversy in general, and of Brother Rabbit in particular, and went on to remark that one day, while she was selecting meats from her butcher, she observed a large black rabbit seated on the counter, washing its face after the fashion of a contented cat. While she was paying for her purchases, and watching the rabbit with some curiosity, a small dog, attracted by the smell of meat, came into the shop and began to nose around. The rabbit no sooner caught sight of this intruder than it leaped from the counter and ran toward the dog, evidently with no friendly intention. What might have occurred under other circumstances it is impossible to say, but the dog turned tail and went scampering from the premises. Having rid the shop of its traditional enemy, the rabbit returned to its place on the counter, keeping a watchful eye on the door. Now, what nature-writer, nature-lover, observer of animals, or moose-hunter, is prepared to rise up and dispute the accuracy of observation of the Farmer's correspondent? She had no gun or other firearm, no camera, nor any of the various equipments that belong to this branch of our native literature. Is her story believable? The Farmer knows it is true, but he is not a naturalist nor a nature-writer.

The Grateful Lioness Remembers.

In Vino Veritas, in the New York Sun.

After all, John Burroughs' story is the best, and, as I saw it in the Sun, it's true. A lieutenant of an English regiment stationed in Africa was hunting for big game. He was fearless, but for some reason he hesitated to shoot at the great lioness that approached. Nearer and nearer she came, and was limping. The big-hearted soldier took out the thorn that he saw was in her foot and she limped away gratefully. And the Britisher forgot the incident.

Not so with her ladyship. She returned the next night, looked over the roster of the regiment and ate every officer that ranked the lieutenant, who, of course, by her act of gratitude, was made a colonel.

Leap Year "Popper" Makes Good.

Follansbee, W. Va., Dispatch in New York World.

The "question popper," installed here recently by the eight members of the Girls' Leap-Year Club, has already brought about one marriage and one engagement. Its great triumph was at the home of Miss Bertha McWithers, where John Williams expected to toast his shins serenely all Winter. They were married the day after the "popper" got to work. Two weeks later at the home of Miss Jean Hardy, the "popper" got its work in on Samuel Richards, who had "steadies" at Mingo Junction and at Wellsburg and Steubenville, O. Both young men are helping the young women to maintain the secret of the invention. The other six girls are waiting their turn, and they confidently expect to be married within six months. The club refuses many requests from out of town to divulge the "popper" secret.

A FEW SQUIBS.

"Your wife never sings any more. Did she lose her voice?" "No; she found her senses."—Cleveland Leader.

"Swell wedding, wasn't it? Who gave the bride away?" "She wasn't given away. The papers had all been made out for a regular sale."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Nell—Why doesn't Maude join your sewing circle? Belle—She wouldn't be of much use. Nell—Can't she sew? Belle—Oh, yes, she can sew, but she has an impediment in her speech—Philadelphia Record.

Mother (to bedraggled little daughter)—Good heavens, child, where have you been? Child—Bobby and I tumbled into the pond. Mother—But where's poor Bobby? Child—Oh, I expect he's out by now.—Punch.

"By the use of a little cleverness," began Brokeley, "I know a way to secure a very excellent substitute for gold——" "How?" asked Marbles, eagerly. "Ask for silver. Havn't got a half-dollar or so about you, have you?"—Philadelphia Press.

Mistress (angrily)—How dare you talk back to me in that way? I never saw such impudence. You have a lot of nerve to call yourself a lady's maid, New Maid—I don't call myself that now, ma'am; but I was a lady's maid before I got this job.—Chicago Daily News.

"Why don't you go to work?" "Work," rejoined Meandering Mike. "Look at de thousands of poor fellows that is lookin' fur work and feelin' miserable widout it. Now work ain't necessary to me, an' I ain' goin' to but in an' reach fur it merely fur de sake of havin' something to brag about."—Washington Star.

SILHOUETTES

BY ARTHUR A. GREENE.

A dispatch from Tacoma announces that citizens of that burg have been seeing red and green lights in the sky, airships and Japanese flags, which information leads one to the conclusion that they are using a very bad brand over there or that the male Saint Nicholas liar has changed his base.

* * *

Score another victory for the champions of poor, downtrodden woman. Mayor McClellan, of New York, has vetoed the ordinance forbidding the fair sex to smoke in public places.

* * *

Some Politics.

George Ade has been elected a delegate from Indiana to the Republican National Convention, under instructions to vote for Fairbanks for President. It's a dangerous experiment, for the humorist might see the joke at a critical time and stampede the convention for himself. This department desires to go on record in favor of the following ticket:

For President, George Ade, of Indiana; for vice-President, May Irwin of New York. The platform should declare for a continuation of the present tariff system; the establishment of the canteen at Vassar, Smith and Wellesley Colleges, and in the Y. W. C. A. homes throughout the country; Government regulation of a la carte prices; the universal adoption of Statement No. 1; free and unlimited circulation of Clearing-House certificates and as many elective terms as a fellow can get.

It is a foregone conclusion that such a ticket and such policies would sweep the country. The supporters of the movement would respectfully suggest the following cabinet for the consideration for President-possible Ade:

Secretary of State, Mark Twain; Secretary of Treasury, Thomas W. Lawson; Secretary of War, Finley Peter Dunne; Attorney-General, Chris Schuebel; Postmaster-General, O. Henry; Secretary of the Navy, Jack London; Secretary of Interior, Harry Lane; Secretary of Agriculture and Minister of Commerce and Labor to be filled later. This administration of eminent humorists should be able at least to keep the country interested during the next four years.

* * *

Retrospection.

In the Kingdom of Remembrance.
There are temples builded high;
There are tombs and shrouds and coffins,
There are buried hopes and sighs;
There are smiles that wreath dead faces,
There are children's eyes and maidens',
That peer on us through the portals of a dream.

*

There are snatches of old love songs,
Hummed by ghostly lips of singers,
Serenading in the twilight of the grave;
There are strains of plaintive music,
That Death's night wind bears along;
There are major chords of sorrow,
There are moans and groans and whispers,
That are echoed by the heart-strings in the gloom.

* * *

We are gradually becoming civilized. The practice of referring to all single women who have passed five-and-twenty as "old maids" has grown obsolete.

* * *

The happiest guest at a fashionable wedding is the divorce lawyer.

* * *

The rose of platonic friendship usually has its thorn of love.

* * *

People who are always discreet are as dull and uninteresting as a census report.

* * *

Her Vindication.

WANTED—Housekeeper for widower; one with auburn hair preferred.

Here at last is a vindication for the much-maligned red-headed woman. An avenue has opened for her which not all the jokesmiths in the land can obstruct with white horses and such like ribald impedimenta. The above "want ad" appeared in yesterday's paper. It is bona fide and proclaimed in the faith which widowers have in the auburn-haired members of the housekeeping sex. Could higher indorsement be asked? The fact that the seeker gives the world to understand that he is a widower is in itself a guaranty that he is a man of experience. There can be no appeal beyond the judgment of a widower. He might have printed it: "A connoisseur wants," etc. An intelligent public would have understood just as well. The applicant does not inform us whether his bereavement is of the sod or grass variety. But it is small difference. In either event he establishes himself as an authority. He wants a housekeeper.

Not a meandering female who will keep the telephone or the pavements hot or one who will hold continuous levees of itinerant policemen in the kitchen. Rather he desires a woman who will keep the house in order and warm the precincts of his domicile with the glow that radiates from a halo of red hair. And he means red, although he is too much of a gentleman to say so and temporizes with "auburn," a nondescript word at best.

No maid or matron of the peroxide habit need apply. No tresses which compromise between golden and lavender will look good to our hero. Not even an apologetic crushed-strawberry hue will suffice. Such shades are the sign manual of frivolity. They lend themselves too readily to the fear of dust swept under the beds and potatoes boiled in the footbath.

* * *

This housekeeper must wear upon her brow the dominant color scheme of the world. It must be red. Not to differentiate too closely it may possibly incline toward the hue of the lowly carrot, suggesting domesticity, or the brick, suggestive of red-haired possibilities. It may be even defined in department-store nomenclature as cerise, but neither the inky blackness of the raven's wing, nor the pristine glint of gold, neither the staid uncertainty of gray nor the romantic fol-de-rol which we associate with locks of brown will find response in the yearning soul of this widower who wants a housekeeper. Being a widower he knows, and, knowing, he wants what he wants. The problem of lady help is about to be solved. A way is opened for unemployed red-haired women. Vive la widower! Vive la "auburn-haired" housekeeper.

* * *

Our friends usually reserve their encouragement until it curdles into condolence, which latter is always too late to do any good.

* * *

Isn't it about time to make murder a capital offense in Oregon? The open season for homicide seems to have continued long enough.