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; Empire News Stand.
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.—Ricksecker Cigar Co., Ninth and Walnut; Yoma News Co.
Minneapolis—M. J. Cavanaugh, 50 South Third.
Cincinnati, O.—Yoma News Co.
Cleveland, O.—James Pushaw, 307 Superior street.
Washington, D. C.—Ebbitt House, Pennsylvania avenue; Columbia News Co.
Pittsburg, Pa.—Fort Pitt News Co.
Philadelphia, Pa.—Ryan's Theater Ticket Office; Penn News Co.; Kemble, A. P., 3735 Lancaster avenue.
New York City—Hotaling's newsstands, 1 Park Row, 38th and Broadway, 42d and Broadway and Broadway and 29th. Telephone 6374. Single copies delivered; L. Jones & Co., Astor house; Broadway Theater News Stand; Empire News Stand.
Ogden.—D. L. Boyle; Lowe Bros., 114 Twenty-fifth street.
Omaha.—Barkalow Bros., Union Station; Mageath Stationery Co.; Kemp & Arenson.
Des Moines, Ia.—Mose Jacobs.
Fresno, Cal.—Tourist News Co.
Sacramento, Cal.—Sacramento News Co., 430 K street; Amos News Co.
Salt Lake.—Moon Book & Stationery Co.; Rosenfeld & Hansen; G. W. Jewett, P. O. corner; Steipeck Bros.
Long Beach, Cal.—B. E. Amos.
Pasadena, Cal.—Amos News Co.
San Diego.—B. E. Amos.
San Jose.—Emerson W.
Houston, Tex.—International News Agency.
Dallas, Tex.—Southwestern News Agent, 344 Main street; also two street wagons.
Ft. Worth, Tex.—Southwestern N. and A. Agency.
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; Worlds N. S., 2625 A Sutter street.
Oakland, Cal.—W. H. Johnson, Fourteenth and Franklin streets; N. Wheatley; Oakland News Stand; B. E. Amos, manager five wagons; Wellingham, E. G.
Goldfield, Nev.—Louie Follin.
Eureka, Cal.—Call-Chronicle Agency; Eureka News Co.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1908.

NON-PARTISAN DEMOCRACY.

If would seem that there might be a chance for further success of Hon. George E. Chamberlain, Democrat, as a non-partisan. Indeed, from his success as a Democrat, in his local nonpartisan character, he would appear to have an undoubted right to suppose he can succeed, as a Democrat, on the non-partisan "lay," in the great field of National politics. There is nice art in the business, as he practices it, for which The Oregonian is well disposed to give him full credit.

Politics, you see, is a progressive science. The plea of Mr. Chamberlain—a Democrat—for Mr. Chamberlain as a non-partisan, heretofore has been based on the argument that there could be no party politics in the office of Governor, and it could make no difference whether the Governor was a member of one party or the other. It was said, of course, that this would not apply to any political office, as that of Senator or Representative in Congress; and it was admitted even that the candidates for President of the United States could not be expected to stand as non-partisans. Indeed, it was frankly conceded there might be politics in Congress, and the President might be expected to be a party man.

But, as already remarked, non-partisan politics is a progressive science. Governor Chamberlain, Democrat, announces himself a no-party candidate for the Senate; tells us there is nothing even in National politics that should cause division among patriots, but that local affairs in Oregon now must take precedence over all causes of National character, in the breasts and bosoms of men who truly love their country.

These local issues hinge upon the new manner of electing Senators, by enforcement of Statement No. 1; which, however, even the primary law doesn't undertake to enforce, but leaves expressly at the option of political parties and candidates for the Legislature.

With highest admiration and regard for Governor Chamberlain, and with fullest belief in his kindness of heart, we yet must conclude that he has suffered his sense of justice to go to sleep here, and in this temporary lull of conscience he has despitefully used Mr. Cake, his competitor, now making speeches throughout Oregon, as a Republican candidate for the Senate, in which Mr. Cake as stoutly upholds the primary law and Statement No. 1 as Mr. Chamberlain does, or possibly can do. Now, George, can't you be fair to Harry? Mr. Chamberlain probably will say the Republicans will not nominate Mr. Cake, and will not elect him if they do. All politics have an element of uncertainty; but we are sure that on reflection Mr. Chamberlain will admit that friends of Mr. Cake and all Republicans who wish to support him have a right to try.

We take it that the course and outcome of the contest will be this: Mr. Chamberlain, a pronounced and inflexible Democrat, and an ardent admirer and supporter of Mr. Bryan, will endeavor to secure his election to the Senate as a non-partisan—using his appeal for Statement No. 1 as a means of getting members of the Legislature pledged to him. Democratic candidates for the Legislature will take that pledge, for the party advantage for non-partisan purposes that they hope to derive from it. Republican candidates for the Legislature—with a possible exception here or there—will pledge themselves to vote in the Legislature for the choice of their party expressed at the primary, and at the polls, in the June election. The Oregonian doesn't profess nor pretend to know which party will win. It doesn't know, and hasn't known for some years, that there is any Republican party in Oregon. It is aware, however, that there is an earnest and compact Democratic party, posing under shrewd leadership as non-partisan, standing solidly together and using every device and expedient to win votes on all sorts of "issues" except those for which the party actually stands.

THE PROPORTION OF INSANE.

A very good guide to an estimate of the number of the people of a modern state is found in the statistics of their insane. There is scarcely a surer index of population.

In all civilizations on the modern basis, or under modern conditions, the number of insane persons, or of persons whose mental condition is such as to require the attention and care and treatment of the state, is about 1 to 360 of the inhabitants. It is a singularly uniform ratio, differing little in countries that keep accurate statistics. The law that regulates the ratio or proportion no one knows. The fact is one of those strange and unaccountable things in the world of mind and of men.

In the Insane Asylum of Oregon there are 1500 patients. Almost, not quite, all the insane of the state are in the asylum under detention and treatment. On the ratio of 360 to 1 the population is 540,000. The same ratio gives a population of 720,000 in the State of Washington, which is just about the number. In the State of New York the number of insane is slightly in excess of 23,000. The multiplication of the ratio gives a close approximation to the actual population of the state.

In European countries the results are very similar. Some mysterious law makes the ratio. The results have been observed for more than a century. Men find the law as they find the law of gravitation or electricity; but what lies behind the law they are yet to discover—if they ever do.

But perhaps a far greater proportion is insane, and society deals only with those whose insanity is very observable. It was Carlyle who said: "These British Islands contain thirty millions of people, mostly fools." Twelve millions have since been added to the number.

RIVALS OF PANAMA CANAL.

The recent pessimistic utterances of John F. Stevens, formerly chief engineer of the Panama Canal, regarding the future of the big ditch, have attracted widespread attention. The ability of Mr. Stevens as an engineer and the prominence he has attained, of course have served to give his opinions greater weight than is ordinarily accorded to experts who discuss such topics. According to the Stevens theory, the business which the Panama Canal is expected to carry will continue to go "westward, to the Far East" by way of the transcontinental railroads and the trans-Pacific steamers, because if this route shall offer advantages for through freight to the Orient, it will still be more advantageous for traffic destined for the Pacific Coast ports.

But since the commencement of work on the Panama Canal there has come into prominence another transportation route that is already making heavy inroads on the business of the transcontinental rail lines, and will always be a prominent factor in making of freight rates between Atlantic and Pacific Coast terminals. The American-Hawaiian Steamship Company, under its latest schedule, is delivering New York freight at San Francisco in 26 days, which is faster time than the average freight train across the continent. Rates by this line are lower than by the railroads, and with improved facilities at both the Atlantic and Pacific terminals of the Tehuantepec National Railway the new line is in a position to compete for a large share of the traffic even after the completion of the Panama Canal.

The Tehuantepec route, by reason of its 180-mile rail haul that necessitates twice breaking bulk in cargoes while en route, is at a disadvantage with the all-water route that will be followed on completion of the Panama Canal. This handicap, however, is partly if not completely overcome by the saving in distance. It is but 4226 nautical miles from New York to San Francisco by the Tehuantepec route, while by the Panama route the distance will be 5495 miles. This saving of 1269 miles in distance means a saving of about six days in the time of the average freighter. This, of course, would be insufficient leeway to admit the Tehuantepec route's handling lumber or any commodities which are slow to handle, but as the present active competition with the American railroads shows, the route will always be a prominent factor in the making of rates.

The line is known in Europe as the "British-Mexican rival of the Panama route," but unless there is a radical change in the conditions governing the freight movement between the two coasts, it will always remain more of a rival of the American railroads than of the Panama route. On one point there is not much difference of opinion—the opening of the Panama Canal, and the Tehuantepec route and the transcontinental rail lines both struggling for business, will enable the shippers to learn just how cheap freight can be carried between the Atlantic and the Pacific Coasts.

PACIFIC FLEET NEEDED.

Every true American citizen will feel a pride in the showing that our splendid battleship fleet will make in its triumphal voyage around the world. It has already accomplished a feat unequalled in naval history. The fine condition in which the ships reached this Coast has astonished the world. The belief that the long voyage through cold and heat of two oceans would develop structural weakness or expose defects in the engine-rooms, has all been dissipated by the matchless performance of the fleet. But while we are all anxious that the rest of the world should see at close range what we have accomplished in building a navy, it will be a matter of regret that some of the vessels are not permanently retained in the Pacific.

The primary reason for sending this fleet to the Pacific was to quiet any alarm that might be felt over possible trouble in this part of the world. The cruise was also undertaken as a "try-out" to determine the degree of efficiency that could be reached on a long voyage into strange waters. It was an enormously expensive test, although it was probably worth all of the money that it cost, but now that the fleet is in the Pacific, in easy steaming distance of the only part of the world in which it is ever liable to be called on for action, it would seem the part of wisdom to retain as many as possible of the vessels here. The parade round the world, as now planned, is not for warlike purposes. It is to show the rest of the world our progress in building and handling ships.

Out here on the Pacific, where our interests are steadily expanding and where foreign political conditions are uncertain, it is highly important that the ships be instantly available when needed. Even the Eastern States, which protested strongly against the voyage, have always admitted that the Pacific would be the scene of the next big conflict between the world powers. While this predicted conflict may still be some years in the future, it is most essential that this Government be in a position to act quickly if it is necessary to act at all. Rushing a fleet from the Atlantic to the Pacific in time of war would be a vastly more dangerous and expensive move than the present practice cruise.

THE CZAR AND HIS PEOPLE.

Recent accounts of Russian affairs raise a curious question in international ethics. It is possible for a private individual to dehumanize himself by vice and crime to such an extent that decent persons cannot admit him to their society without injuring their self-respect. Does anything similar ever happen in the case of a man who is set to rule over a nation? Does the time ever come when a sovereign, under the shame and guilt of accumulated crimes against his subjects, makes himself an outlaw with whom no civilized government can hold intercourse without violating the common rules of Christian decency? Something of this sort we have seen happen of late in the case of Leopold of Belgium. The offenses against civilization which this monarch has committed have been so numerous and flagrant that there seems to be a consensus among men of right feeling to avoid him as one would shun a person stricken with some loathsome disease. To ask or receive a concession from Leopold in the Congo stamps one as somewhat deficient in his standards both as a gentleman and a Christian. It is one of those things which cleanly people do not do.

Morally, the Czar of Russia cannot quite be classed with Leopold. Frightful though the miseries have been which he has inflicted upon his subjects, still it is commonly agreed that he has not sinned through avarice and lust, but rather through cowardice and mental weakness. Intellectually deficient, like so many of his colleagues upon European thrones, lacking in those qualities of resolution and courage which are essential if one would rule mercifully and well, he has nevertheless shown at various times a decided inclination toward better things than the dire medieval tyranny that stifles the life and blights the soul of Russia. That his impulses would be merciful rather than cruel, liberal rather than tyrannous, had his education been enlightened and his environment wholesome, we cannot doubt. He has shown as much by his conduct on many occasions. But it is the unspeakable misfortune of Nicholas, in addition to his weak intellect, or because of it perhaps, to feel an astonishing reverence for his besotted priesthood and the degraded superstitions which that priesthood teaches in the place of religion. He has also an enormous vanity, an admiration for himself which is absurdly out of proportion to his merits as a man or a ruler, and he lives withal in a constant cloud of incense to the shades of his ancestors. These facts, taken in connection with his belief, undoubtedly genuine, that the Almighty selected him to rule over Russia, and that by diminishing his hereditary authority he would cross the purposes of his creator, enable us to understand something of the character of this most unfortunate and pitiable of rulers, this man whose work, in spite of all his good impulses, is wholly evil, this monstrous anachronism in a world which purports to be governed by a just God and the precepts of the moral law.

Nor should we forget, in trying to account for the tale of crimes which Nicholas must answer for, that he is a born coward. It is not so much through wickedness as timidity that he seeks to recall on Tuesday the promises he makes on Monday. It is not an inborn love of mendacity that moves him to deceive his subjects, but rather a shivering sense of fear for the consequences of his own concessions. He is haunted by the apprehension that he will go down in history as the Czar who allowed the autocracy to be wrecked. He dreads to be remembered as one among the tribe of monarchs who could not preserve their inherited power intact; and rather than incur this shame he hesitates not to break his oath at every turn and inflict cruelties beyond all name or number upon his unhappy subjects. A strong sovereign could have set Russia free at the close of the Japanese war. But Nicholas is a weakling, and he found the task beyond his powers. Frightened at the spirit of liberty which he has himself helped to evoke, he shrinks from its presence and seeks to lay it by the direst resources of the tyrant.

The measureless wrongs of the Russian people move Americans to a bitterness of judgment upon Nicholas which is in marked contrast with our customary National habit of tolerance. We obtained civic liberty through a struggle whose annals are only slightly tainted with cruelty. All the more deeply, therefore, do we sympathize with the perdurable woes of Russia and all the keener our exasperation with the ruler whose selfish and criminal folly thwarts the reasonable aspirations of his people for freedom.

The events of current Russian history fail sometimes to arouse our sympathies, however, because their very horror makes them incredible. They read to us like a frightful tale from another planet. We can scarcely conceive that they are happening in the world where we live. It is almost impossible for us to believe that in the early years of the twentieth century, which have begun so prosperously in America, there is a nation on the earth which is passing through the torments of Dante's hell to conquer the commonest rights of man. And yet it is all true. It is true that the bold incentive, the high emprise, the generous courage, which in America make a path to wealth and honor for a man, in Russia condemn him to torture, exile and death. Let those who teach that the kind of government we live under makes no difference with our happiness consider these facts a little while and see how their opinion stands the ordeal.

Great Britain has decided to make no provision for meeting the four German battleships of the Nassau type before 1909-10. This is not only an abandonment of the time-honored "two-power" standard, but it leaves the Mistress of the Seas, in point of new warships, far below the scale of Germany alone. This policy of retrenchment has awakened considerable criticism in various parts of the empire. According to the London Saturday Review, which criticises the Naval Board with a freedom that would make a Hearst paper mild in comparison, the new construction estimates are but $37,500,000, compared with an average expenditure for ten years ending with 1906 of $41,850,000. This, despite the fact that construction cost has advanced nearly 80 per cent in the ten years. From the tone of the Saturday Review, some of the British people seem to fear that Emperor William may have designs which he may forget to write to Tweedmouth.

The phantom airship that has been hovering around Tacoma, Puyallup and other Puget Sound cities, where is sold a poor grade of "the stuff that dreams are made of," has apparently scaled the Cascade Mountains. A North Yakima dispatch announces that the aerial mystery sailed over that city Saturday night, "clearly outlined against the sky above the brilliant lights carried on the car." When Tacoma saw the airship, it was reported to be flying the Japanese flag, but the Yakima dispatch fails to mention what colors it was sailing under after it crossed the Cascade Mountains. As North Yakima is the home and headquarters of the Jones Senatorial boom in Washington, there is a possibility that the airship contained some of the Walla Walla politicians, making a still-hunt in the interest of Senator Ankeny's candidacy.

But Mr. Cake, who came out for Statement No. 1 a good while ago, has the advantage of anteriority over Chamberlain. The latter comes late to the feast. Should he claim the honors? Besides, if Mr. Chamberlain should be elected to the Senate and take his seat in that body in March, the duties of the office of Governor would fall to the Secretary of State, Mr. Benson, a vile Republican, and therefore a ringster, whom the people couldn't trust. But possibly a way could be devised, under initiative amendment, to get rid of him before all the liberties of the people were swallowed up and lost. Maybe "the recall" would be sufficient. Anything to relieve the strain on anxious patriotism.

It will cause a pang to all who knew him to learn that E. L. Coldwell (Jerry) is dead. He was an excellent citizen, faithful friend and good man. As a reporter and general writer on The Oregonian for more than twenty-five years he did his whole duty both to the public and to the newspaper. His genial nature, quaint expression, rare humor and absolute devotion to fairness and truth made friends for him as widely as he was known. For some years latterly he has been incapacitated for work, due to a heavy fall by some accident on the street pavement. "Jerry" did his whole duty as a man, and reared to usefulness a family which honors his memory.

Some of you talk about "the people's choice." When you got Jonathan Bourne, did you get the people's choice? No; you got a party's choice—not the choice of a party, either, but the choice of the fragment of a party that constituted a plurality of it, among many candidates. Party fealty, loyalty, allegiance, elected Mr. Bourne. Yet this is the very sentiment now decried and that "the new method" would destroy.

Mr. Chamberlain is a great admirer of Mr. Roosevelt, tells our people so in his announcement and thinks all Roosevelt men ought to vote for him. Perhaps they will. But Mr. Chamberlain will speak and vote for Mr. Bryan; and if the two shall be elected, the one to the Presidency and the other to the Senate, the poor Republicans of Oregon may well fear that in all matters that relate to their political wishes and interests they will be forgotten.

The name of "Jack" Matthews begins to reappear in the political literature of Oregon, the double object of its use being to produce a fright about bossism, and to put the name of The Oregonian in odious company. Let that pass as a joke; but if there is a dead rat in the political sewer it is Jack Matthews. Brethren, don't worry.

Ruef confessed to Burns, and Burns told the San Francisco Bulletin, and the Bulletin published the statements of Ruef as to Tevis, and Tevis sues the Bulletin for libel. The press has made a mighty mistake, evidently, in publishing things about the good men of San Francisco. Ruef and Schmitz and Tevis will make 'em all sweat for it.

Before you undertake to disprove the statement that Hood River orchards will be worth $1000 an acre, even if apples are a dollar a box, remember that it was made by a man who started with nothing but energy and intelligence for capital and got rich in a few years raising apples.

If the Southern Pacific had sold those granted lands in the last five years, instead of barring out buyers, there would be still more innocent purchasers behind whom to take refuge.

'Twas a good thing the Republican Convention in Marion County did when it turned down a motion to recommend a legislative slate. Give everybody a chance.

Europe thinks we are too bumptious, says an observant American just returned from a tour. England and Spain have good reason so to believe. We bumped them.

Isn't this a rainstorm? Isn't it? Why, then, as our old friend Falstaff exclaimed, "I'll tickle your catastrophe."

After all, the only statesman in Clackamas County without smirch is Mr. Brownell.

STAMPING OUT BUBONIC PLAGUE.

Medical Aspect of Prevention Work at San Francisco and Seattle.

Chicago Record-Herald.

There has been no great excitement over the suggestion for a war against rats in this city, but such a war is considered absolutely necessary as a protective measure upon the Pacific Coast. We have already called attention to the fact that many thousands of rats have been killed in San Francisco to prevent the spread of the bubonic plague. Up to December 1 there had been 109 cases of the disease there, which had resulted in 66 deaths. A campaign of prevention had been carried on by Federal and local authorities, but with all that had been done there was a feeling that the local papers were more intent on suppressing the news than on suppressing the plague. A special commissioner for the Journal of the American Medical Association was very outspoken in his criticism of the secrecy that was maintained.

We find now that what we said is substantiated by the president of the Board of Health at Sacramento. That city has been free from the plague, but does not propose to neglect precautionary measures because of its escape so far. It is proposed that a large fund shall be raised to provide for an incessant war against the rats, and that the importance of the subject may be thoroughly understood the Board of Health has issued a pamphlet in which it says:

"The bubonic plague is primarily a disease of the rat. It is transmitted by a flea. A flea living on an infected rat becomes infected. If the infected flea bites a human being the person bitten becomes infected with the plague. The percentage of infected rats in San Francisco has increased threefold since September last. An epidemic is possible there when Summer begins. There are no cases of bubonic plague in Sacramento. We want none, but we are in great danger."

Regarding San Francisco, the president of the board indicated at a public meeting that there was an apathy there that deserved censure, and something worse than apathy. One paper absolutely denied that the city had had a case of the plague. In an interview a citizen of San Francisco had charged that Dr. Blue, surgeon in the United States marine service, who is fighting the plague, was seeking to work up a scare for his own benefit. On the other hand, at this same meeting a representative of the marine service said that the people of San Francisco were aroused now and that they were doing about all that they could do.

So far as we know, only one of the Pacific Coast cities besides San Francisco has had a case of the disease, and that is Seattle, where there had been two cases only up to December. It does not appear that the country generally is in danger, but obviously it is a matter of National concern that such a pest should be got rid of as speedily as possible.

TRIBUTES TO MR. BRYAN.

The Muse Falls Into One of Her Gushy Moods.

Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Former Governor Vardaman of Mississippi is now editor of a weekly which he calls The Issue, published in Vicksburg. It is a journal of the order of The Commoner, which is edited by a gentleman whom former Governor Vardaman greatly admires.

So greatly does he admire him, indeed, that in a recent number of The Issue he devotes a column to eulogizing him on the first page, closing the eulogy with this tribute to Mr. Bryan from the gifted pen of Edwin Markham:

Thrilled with the cosmic oneness he will rise,
Youth in his heart, and morning in his eyes.
While glory fallen from the far-off goal
Will send mysterious splendor on his soul.
Him do the toilers know to be their friend,
Him will they follow faithful to the end,
Though every leaf were a tongue, to cry,
Thou must!
He will not say the unjust thing is just.

These lines will no doubt attract considerable attention, and it is only reasonable to expect that many attempts will be made to equal or surpass them. This being the case, The Inter-Ocean hastens to enter what promises to be a friendly and interesting competition:

Raised by his chinwork, upward does he soar,
Wind on his stomach, thunder in his roar,
While glory fallen from the far-off goal
Sends out mysterious cyclones from his soul.
Him do the pee-pul know to be their friend,
Him will they follow faithful to the end,
Tho' now and then when he draws breath for a
Fresh gust
They pale for fear his windbag's going to bust.

Of course, these lines may yield a point or two to Mr. Markham's in chaste beauty, but in the matter of truth, which Mr. Tolstoi pronounces the foundation of real art, we feel sure that they atone for any lack of the divine fire.

The Largest Engine.

Philadelphia Press.

Pennsylvania will be the possessor soon of the largest stationary engine in the world. It is now being erected at the Carnegie Steel Company's plant at Sharon.

Without foundation plates or flywheel, the engine weighs 550 tons. Two of the castings weighed 118 tons each, and to transport them special flat cars had to be built.

The engine's capacity is 25,000-horsepower, yet only one man will be required to operate it.

As the engine will be used for operating the rolling machines it will be subject to great strain. At the end of each run it will have to be reversed quickly and the load will vary from nothing to its maximum power.

A Forecast for the South.

New Orleans Picayune.

Fortunately for the South, it is able to secure but a small part of the immigration that is flooding the Northern states at the rate of a million a year. The prospect is that Southern Europe will in the course of a few years empty its entire pauper and criminal population into our Northern states, with the result that Americans born, not being able to compete with the foreigners in thrift and shiftiness, will remove to the Southern states, where the greatest progress and development are to take place, so that the crusade which a sectional government is making against the South in the matter of foreign immigration will finally prove the greatest blessing possible.

Definitions by Little William.

From Judge.

Dust—Mud with the juice squeezed out.

Ice—Water that stayed out too late and went to sleep.

Fan—A thing to brush warmth off with.

Stomach—The home of the swallow.

Salt—That what makes your potatoes taste bad if you don't put some in.

Junction—A place where two railroads separate.

Wakefulness—When your eyes are all the time coming unbuttoned.

Responsibility—What would be on one button if the other one should come off my trousers.

When a feller has low temperature, he has cold feet; when he has high, he's hotheaded.

Considerate Bridget.

Lippincott's Magazine.

Mistress—Bridget, I hope you're not thinking at all of leaving me. I should be very lonesome without you.

Maid—Faith, and it's not lonely ye'll be. Mostlike, I'll go whin there's a housaful o' company for luncheon or dinner.

An Artful Dodger.

To dodge his creditors required
Such vigilance and vim.
An auto car he went and hired.
And now they're dodging him.
—Boston Transcript.

AMERICA'S CLEAN PRESS GALLERY.

At Washington, D. C., a Vital Force in Molding National Issues.

Boston Transcript.

In this country we have no professional association of writers for the press corresponding to "the institute of journalism" in Great Britain, which has practically the power of disbarment. While laywers, clergymen and physicians have disciplinary codes comprehending their professions, the journalists of the Nation have not yet an organization capable of enforcing the well-recognized ethics of their calling on all who follow it. The press gallery at Washington, D. C., comes as near to being a governing organization within its sphere as any we have, for its standing committee can disbar members violating the rules governing correspondents from exercising their functions at the capital. The rules in question are those approved by the Speaker of the House and the chairman of the Senate committee on rules. Their general purpose is to keep correspondents disinterested with regard to legislation before Congress. Members of the press gallery are prohibited from being the agents or representatives of persons or corporations having legislation before Congress under penalty of loss of the gallery privileges. Similarly employment paid for out of the Federal Treasury excludes. Proof of false answers to these tests of eligibility works exclusion. Expulsion from the gallery is a very serious penalty.

Recently two correspondents have been brought before the standing committee of the press gallery in connection with "the Lilley charges." While exonerated of lobbying and corruption, they were nevertheless reprimanded, though restored to their privileges. The committee found that the literary work which they performed for the Electric Boat Company was done in their individual capacity in the recess of Congress, and did not bring them within the prohibition of the rules. They were indiscreet and an admonition was deemed sufficient, there being no evidence that they were corrupt. This reprimand or admonition should have a good effect for which all journalists who have the good name of their profession at heart should be grateful. A corrupt journalist is a poisoner of the source of the public's information, and one suspected threatens the public's confidence in the profession as a whole. The corps of Washington correspondents endeavors to prevent the revival of conditions of a former era, the unregulated days of the calling.

General Woodford To Boom Hughes.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) Eagle.

Stewart L. Woodford has been elected to be the head of the National league of Republicans who seek the nomination of Governor Hughes for the Presidency. General Woodford has had a great deal of political experience and is not averse to having some more. A general in the Army, he was afterward a military magistrate in reconstruction times. Lieutenant-Governor of New York, he was elected Governor, but was counted out in the opinion of many of both parties. A member of Congress and minister to Spain, he kept in touch with large affairs. He led in the canvass which elected R. B. Hayes Governor of Ohio, and came within nipping reach of the Vice-Presidency when William A. Wheeler received the nomination. We do not know that Mr. Hughes will be nominated for President, but Mr. Woodford will labor hard and speak often and eloquently to bring that about. He would not make a bad Governor or a poor United States Senator. Should Mr. Hughes become President, he may be able to choose either office. Those who mourn the loss of Woodruff would be consoled by the gain of Woodford.

Senator Foraker in Weak Health.

Washington (D. C.) Letter to the Brooklyn Eagle.

Senator Foraker was physically exhausted after his brief but bitter speech on the floor of the Senate in which he attempted to prove that in at least one instance "coercion" had been tried by the administration in influencing the utterances of a Federal officeholder. Foraker is not in the best of health. Apparently he is a sufferer from some complaint more serious than worry and overwork. His complexion is sallow and his features are drawn. The speech, which lasted only about 20 minutes, left him in a dripping perspiration and it took him a couple of hours to recover his wonted composure. Senator Foraker's voice, too, while addressing the Senate, suggested feebleness. It lacked the old-time fire and vigor, and save at one or two points there was an absolute absence of the usual dash and fire that formerly made the Ohio man one of the most effective speakers in the Senate.

"The Oregonian."

Chehalis Bee Nugget.

The Oregonian has recently announced its withdrawal of support to the Oregon Republican party, and state that henceforth the publication will be independent. A newspaper of its standing and influence is able to make such a move and hold its own as a useful and necessary medium. For years The Oregonian has been one of the strongest publications editorially in the United States. It has been a model for hundreds of other humble newspapers throughout the Northwest, and more than likely the majority of its Oregon contemporaries will continue to so consider it. Whether the rank and file will accept the teachings of The Oregonian under its new colors remains to be seen.

Five to One.

Memphis Commercial-Appeal.

Five pints of milk
To five quarts of water
Bring into society
The milkman's daughter.

A FEW SQUIBS.

Mrs. Cassidy (at the zoo, looking at the giraffe)—An' phwy does the brute hov such a long neck? Mr. Cassidy—T' reach his head, av coorse.—Puck.

Slobbs—Do you consider his table manners good? Slobbs—They ought to be perfectly good. At any rate, they have evidently never been used.—Philadelphia Record.

"What are the most powerful explosives known?" queried the young man. "Two prima donnas in one opera company," replied the ex-treatrical manager.—Chicago Daily News.

"I have a Spring poem here," said the young man with the long hair, "that I would like to read." "Very well," replied the busy editor, "if it's short enough you can do it as you go down the elevator."—Chicago Post.

"Gracious," exclaimed Mrs. Goodly, "just listen to that clergyman! I'm positive he's swearing. Evidently he's missed his vocation." "No," replied her husband, "I think it was his train."—Philadelphia Press.

First Suburbanite—Did you attend the indignation meeting of the commuters last night? Second Suburbanite—No; I'm too sorry for the railroad. Why, I would just as soon hold an indignation meeting over a deaf, dumb and blind man.—Life.

Lily Bell—No, Rufus; Ah cain't marry yo' jest yet awhile. Yo'll hab to wait. Rufus—Why for mus' I wait, Lily Bell? Lily Bell—Cause three of the families mammy washes for done quit her an' now she sca'cely makes 'nough to support me an' paw.—Judge.

Conductor (to driver who has been pulling up constantly within the last few hundred yards)—Bad times fer cobblers, Bill. People ain't wearin' their boots out much. 'Ere's a bloke wants yer to pull up agen at the next 'ouse wi' the blue blinds. Driver (sarcastically)—Ho! yus! Ask 'im which part o' the 'ouse 'e'd like to be druv to—inter the parler wi' the family, or hup to 'is room in the hattic. We're on'y 'ere to erblige!—Punch.

"Brother," said the evangelist to a man who had expressed a wish to abandon his post and adopt a better way of living, "do you think you can walk in the straight and narrow path?" "Straight and narrow?" smiled the new convert. "Why, parson, that will be a cinch for me. I've been a tightrope walker for ten years."—Philadelphia Ledger.

NATIONAL GUARD

FROM now on the principal topic of conversation and interest among riflemen of the Army and Guard service will be the National matches to be held at Camp Perry, Ohio, this Summer, says an official circular just issued by the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice. The states are rapidly being equipped with the new Springfield rifle and every rifleman will have an opportunity to try out the new weapon for several months prior to the opening of the big shoot. The attendance promises to be larger than ever before, several states and territories heretofore not represented having planned to send teams. There will also be a marked increase in the number of individual riflemen and clubs from all parts of the country. The War Department will have on hand more regular troops for line and pit service. The prize list, too, will be augmented, the range facilities will be largely increased and the attendance and standards of marksmanship doubtless will be the greatest in history of rifle competitions.

The National matches will open on the morning of August 21, as already announced. The first event will be the National team match, to be followed by the National pistol matches and National individual matches. The National Rifle Association will arrange its programme so that its matches can be completed the day before the two days allotted for practice for the National matches. Immediately before the National Rifle Association matches will come those of the Ohio Association, including the contest for the Herrick trophy, one of the handsomest in the world. It is probable that the New Jersey Rifle Association will follow with its matches during the first week in September, as usual.

It is unlikely that the National matches will again go to the magnificent Ohio range. New Jersey will make a determined effort to get them back to Seagirt and, other ranges are being talked of for the 1909 shoots. Many improvements will be noted this year and Ohio will do its utmost properly to care for the visitors. Transportation facilities will be greatly improved and arrangements will be made for subsistence of the very best.

The distances for the National team match remain unchanged, although an important change has been made in the order of fire. The skirmish run will come in as the fifth stage, being preceded by the 200-yard slow and rapid fire, and the 600 and 800-yard ranges, and will be followed by firing at 1000 yards. The new 1500-yard range, which the new rifles require, will not be used in any of the competitions, although a range of that distance is to be marked off for experimental purposes. In the National individual match, the skirmish run will come first, as last year. Eight additional gold medals and a similar increase of silver and bronze will be given in the individual match, the cash prizes remaining unchanged. The ammunition for use in all National matches is being manufactured this year by the United States Government, exclusively.

* * *

The big ceremonial event of the year will be the inspection and review for Governor George E. Chamberlain, Friday night, March 27. Governor Chamberlain, as commander-in-chief of the Oregon Guard, will attend with his military staff and inspect the Third Oregon Infantry, the Battery and Hospital Corps. Adjutant General W. E. Finzer, Colonel James Jackson and other prominent officers of the state service, will accompany the reviewing party. Colonel C. E. McDonell, of the regiment, has issued orders for a full turnout of his command and has urged the various company commanders to have every man on hand. Captain Welch has ordered a full turnout of the battery. The review will be held in the big drill hall on the first floor of the Armory.

* * *

The first shipment of ammunition for the new Springfield rifles is not yet at hand, although several cartridges have been secured. The cartridge is found to have a bullet weighing 150 grains. The bearing surface is .33 inches. The powder is pyro-cellulose and imparts a muzzle velocity to the projectile of 2750 feet per second. Extensive and successful experiments have been made to reduce the erosion attendant on high velocity and the result of these experiments is embodied in the new ammunition. The life of the average gun with the old ammunition was about 1000 rounds, although the new Springfield barrel, used with the pyro-cellulose powder, is good for 5000 rounds or more.

* * *

Presentation of the regimental colors to the Fourth Oregon Infantry, at the Eugene headquarters is to be made an impressive military event Tuesday. Governor Chamberlain and staff, Adjutant General Finzer, Colonel McDonell and possibly a number of other officers stationed at Portland will go to Eugene to participate in the ceremonies attendant upon the presentation. The regimental colors were but recently secured and under the stringent reorganization order sent out by the War Department two months ago it appeared for a time as if they would not be needed. However, extension of the period for reorganization to 1911 will give ample time in which to recruit the Southern Oregon regiment up to a 12-company basis. The colors will be presented by Governor Chamberlain and received by Colonel George O. Yoran, on behalf of his regiment.

* * *

Indoor athletics continue to receive enthusiastic attention from the local Guardsmen and the Armory is nightly the scene of spirited practice games or competition events. Membership in the Guard carries with it many things in the way of wholesome diversion and the facilities for beneficial amusement and practical instruction is unequalled by the average club. Besides, membership in the Guard costs nothing, each enlisted man receiving all privileges of the Armory and every item of equipment, from campaign hat and uniform to bayonet and rifle, without paying a cent. Military training is a thing worth seeking in the light of recent history, for in the event of war every able-bodied man would be liable to go to the front either as a willing or drafted volunteer. The man without training, of course, would be relegated to the grade of "high private in the rear rank."

* * *

The first battalion drill of the year was held Wednesday night at the Armory. The First Battalion, in command of Major F. S. Baker, had a large turnout and the drill was a successful one, few errors being made. The First Battalion will have its second drill next Wednesday night.

* * *

Non-commissioned officers' schools have been put on an active basis by the several local companies as well as by the Battery and Hospital Corps. The standard of warrant officers is much higher than ever before. The man who gets stripes now must win them in a competitive competition, without favor to any man.

Do It Now.

After Kipling—Houston Post.

God of our fathers, known of old,
We bring our troubles all to thee
This new bright coin of yellow gold.
Send us a few that we may see
This motto that aside was set;
Please do it now, lest we forget.
We have not had one of our own
And so know not of its design,
Send us—that the whole truth be known—
Not many, just—say eight or nine;
Pray do it soon and stop regret,
Lest we forget, lest we forget.