The Oregonian

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

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
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—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.

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

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1908.

PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE.

The fact becomes known that the Philippine Assembly, after long debate, and balance between variant opinions, now rejecting and now amending and renewing an expression of desire for independence, finally adopted, at the last moment, when the Assembly was closing, a resolution which declares that the Philippine Islands wish to be independent and go it alone.

It is not strange. In all breasts there is desire to be free from authority, and especially of foreign authority; and a belief, moreover, that each and every body of people have the right of freedom and independence. Of course, however, unless they are well and far advanced towards self-government, they will have to fight it out among themselves. But they don't know that their chief enemies are those of their own household.

Our people of the English colonies of America took it up in 1770 and fought it out, during many years. They gained their independence. But are the people of the Philippine Islands as well qualified by racial characteristics and historical antecedents to assert and to maintain the principles of national independence and of self-government? Are they qualified at all? They are not, of course.

In the first place, the principles of self-government are wholly alien to a people in their stage of civilization. Next, it must be remarked that vigorous and effective self-government never yet has appeared in tropical countries; perhaps never will. But, then, are they to be oppressed by foreign masters? No, they are not to be oppressed. But the United States in ten years has done for the Philippine Islands more than they ever would or could do for themselves in ten centuries. The Filipinos need us far more than we need them. We are starting them on the road to instruction in everything. What they need is the example and instruction of the great outer world, enforced with authority at once considerate and mild and effective. Left to themselves, these people would still be savages, for all time. Spain gave them a start, indeed; yet Spain's government was a government of medieval times—not sufficiently progressive. It was dominated by ancient ideas of politics, of religion and of industrial and commercial life, in which the interest of the mass of the people was considered little or not at all.

On a wholly different basis is the rule of the United States. The people are invited to participate in their local government. They elect a local Legislature. The best talent is encouraged to come forward. Internal administration is adjusted to their wishes and to their interests, as far as consistent with the larger experience of those who have known through ages the responsibilities of representative and independent self-government. It must be expected, however, that this will not suit the daring and revolutionary spirits, who are not taken at their own valuation now, but who have an instinctive thought or feeling that if the authority of the United States were removed they might be great men at home. Of all such the word "independence" is the cry.

It is human nature. But it does not follow that it would be wisdom. Would a half-civilized, revolutionary republic, consisting of a vast number of unassimilated tribes, on many islands, be a good to itself or a good to the world? Yet they want "independence"; they want "self-government"—which means that they desire to be as free as possible from effective government. A writer in the Political Science Quarterly for March last, who has made personal study of the conditions in the islands, says: "To the masses of the people 'independencia' is a magic thing which they do not understand but which they intensely want; it is a panacea for all evils, the secret of prosperity and the key to the millennium. Just what it is they do not know, but they know that they want it. There is unquestionably at present a vague but developing sentiment of nationality. The obstacles in the way of the rapid development of such a sentiment are very great, although slowly disappearing." Doubtless altogether true.

And yet the Philippines, left to themselves, certainly could not maintain their independence. The people would break into factions; the factions would invite foreign aid against each other; outrages against foreign subjects in the islands would bring quick demands for indemnity or redress, and places in the islands would be seized for enforcement of the demands. But what would be the attitude of the United States? Could our country permit such things to be done? Is it to hold a protectorate over the islands, to prevent them from falling into the hands of others? Then if it is to be responsible for the islands it cannot grant them independence. It must hold the sovereignty or quit altogether. Yet the sovereignty of the United States may be, and it is, consistent with large measure of local self-government for the islands.

It may be expected that the Denver convention will demand "independence" for the Philippine Islands. But we doubt whether the people of the United States will believe that in present circumstances it should be granted. Moreover, by the time the people of the Philippines shall have advanced to a true basis of self-government, it is probable they will be proud of their allegiance to the United States and by no means willing to sever it. We could quit the Philippines at any time. But can they afford to quit us? Yet we believe the people of the United States would not, on direct appeal, express a wish to withdraw the National flag from the Philippines. Our Pacific States certainly would not.

MORE POWER FOR THE PEOPLE.

Senators in Congress are officials of the United States. The Constitution of the United States prescribes the manner and method by which they are to be elected. This does not suit the people of Oregon; and they resolve therefore to nullify or circumvent the Constitution.

As little does the method of appointment of other Federal officials suit the people of Oregon. They have nothing to say about the selection of the Federal Judges, the Marshals and District Attorneys, the Postmasters and Collectors of Revenue, and the whole train of Federal officials. The total tribe and troop of them is appointed without consultation with the people and without regard for their wishes. All these officials should be elective. That is, the President should be required to appoint such persons for all these various offices, and permitted to appoint only such as have been selected through the primary law and general election, under the statutes of Oregon. It is indeed a pity if the people of a great state who are able to change the constitutional method of the election of a single Federal official can't do it for all; especially since it is this cloud of officials that comes in closer touch with us than any Senator can.

To get rid of the tyranny of the Constitution is an effort worthy of freemen. Especially odious and oppressive is the machinery of the courts of the United States. Every candidate for Judge, Marshal or Attorney should be nominated by the people through the primary and confirmed by the election. Initiative statute like that controlling the election of Senators should be offered, for the next election, through petition; requiring the President of the United States to await and observe the mandate of the people of Oregon on this subject; and recall should also be extended to all such officials. It can be made as effective in law as the change in the election of Senators—as binding legally and morally. We should like to know why the people of Portland or of Scio are not entitled to say who shall be their Postmaster? We pine for true liberty, genuine freedom, the simple and honest rule of the people; and entertain no doubt that others pine for it as much as we do. But it is our own fault if we do not work the possibilities of primary law, initiative, recall and statutory mandate to the full accomplishment of our freedom. Hereditary bondsmen, know you not, who would be free yourselves must strike the blow?

A MENACE TO INDUSTRY.

Mr. George W. Culma has hit upon an idea which deserves attention. We say attention, mind, not approval. Attention may lead ultimately to approval, but since the idea is somewhat novel it is perhaps not well to commit oneself to it rashly. Mr. Culma lives in Montclair, N. J., a town, we take it, which, like other towns in other states, is perturbed by the perennial liquor problem. His idea presents what may turn out to be a working solution of this problem. He would permit no man to purchase intoxicating beverages without a license.

The world has turned on its axis a long time, and many generations of men have passed into the tomb, but nobody ever thought of this before. It is truly original. It stands investigation pretty well, too. For example, nobody could sell liquor unless somebody bought it. Hence, if the sale is perilous to the state, the same is true of the purchase. If it wrecks a man's moral nature to stand behind a bar, so it does to stand in front of a bar. If it is an evil deed to put the bottle to your neighbor's lips, it is just as bad to offer your lips for the putting. Whatever iniquity may be connected with the liquor business is certainly two-sided. There can be no seller without a buyer. There can be no saloon without customers. Hence if the seller must pay a license fee, why not the buyer also? If the saloon must compensate the city for the detriment it causes, why ought not the customers of the saloon to pay for their share in the detriment?

One can easily imagine that Mr. Culma's plan is too effective to be adopted. If every patron of the bar had to pay a license fee and wear a conspicuous badge proclaiming his privilege, it is pretty certain that the sale of beverages would fall off amazingly. The drink problem would disappear upon the first day after the law went into effect, and that would never do. What would become of the occupation of the temperance reformers if such a thing were permitted to happen? In a Presidential year we must be cautious about depriving people of their jobs.

APPEAL IN LUMBER CASES.

Advices from Chicago are that the railroads will appeal to the courts for relief from the order made by the Interstate Commerce Commission in the lumber rate cases. This action on the part of the railroads will hardly occasion surprise, for, while the decisions of the Commission were favorable to some of the interests involved, as a whole they were not of a character to elicit the unqualified approval of the lumbermen themselves. It is this dissatisfaction regarding some of the decisions that may aid the railroads in their appeal. The opening of the "Portland gateway," through which Washington lumber can pass to markets formerly under exclusive control of the Oregon manufacturers, will hardly prove satisfactory to the men who have built up a trade in those markets and who have no great desire to divide it with their competitors, some of whom are using Japanese labor in their mills, yards and camps.

The decisions of the Commission, which will appear in full in tomorrow's Oregonian, when examined in detail present some features that must prove puzzling to many of the lumbermen themselves. For example, the sentiment in Oregon against the opening of the Portland gateway to the Washington manufacturers was practically unanimous, both on the part of the shippers and the railroad as well. In effect, it forced the railroad company, which at the time the complaints were filed was unable to handle all of the business offering by its Oregon patrons, to take up additional business offered by the Washington lumbermen. This not only deprived the Oregon mills of badly needed facilities, but it admitted into a field which by right of location was in exclusively Oregon territory a competitor who lacked the forethought to build a mill where it would be available for supplying the coveted trade.

On this case alone the Commission was unanimous in its opinion, there being dissensions in all of the other cases, Chairman Knapp and Commissioner Harlan taking the position that the advanced rates are justified by the changed conditions since the old rates were established. While conditions have changed since the old rates were established, they have also undergone some striking changes since the Interstate Commerce Commission began investigating these cases. This is noticeable in the Willamette Valley rate cases. The Valley mills protested against an advance from $3.10 to $5 per ton on lumber, and, in refusing to allow the advance, the Commission stated that "the advance exceeds by a considerable amount the average profit of the manufacturer in the Willamette Valley, plus the price of stumpage." The Commission also expressed the opinion that, should the advance be allowed, the smaller mills would be obliged to close down. As lumber has declined from $6 to $10 per thousand in the California markets, where much of the Valley output was shipped, it would now be difficult for the Commission to determine accurately whether it was the advance in freight or the decline in lumber prices that forced the smaller mills to close down.

It is of the highest importance to the Pacific Northwest that our mills enjoy a low freight rate to market, but if this low rate is made at the expense of every other commodity, some of our shippers would like to see the case investigated a little further under the changed conditions which the panic of last Fall brought with it. If the case is tried out in the courts there will hardly be any Portland lumbermen testifying that they became millionaires in the business within the past year.

THE INSURANCE OUTRAGE.

The heavy advance in insurance rates in this city should not occasion much surprise. It is so thoroughly in keeping with the methods of the companies which yearly make enormous profits out of the business in this city that we see in the notice of advance only a continuation of the general policy of exacting the last possible cent that can be forced from the people. While not at all surprising, this latest hold-up presents at least one new feature that cannot fail to excite comment. Fire insurance in Portland has always been a profitable business. Climatic conditions and a good high-pressure water supply have combined to minimize the usual risks attached to the business, and the losses which the companies have been called on to pay have been quite inconsequential in comparison with the enormous amount of premiums collected. Under such conditions it has naturally been difficult for the insurance men to conjure up excuses for their frequent rate advances.

The San Francisco earthquake and fire was used as a pretext for advancing rates two years ago, although it never has been made clear why Portland should be penalized simply because San Francisco had proved to be a bad risk. Followed to its logical conclusion, a system of this kind will eventually result in low rates on powder-houses in distant states, the risk equalization being effected by increasing the rates at Portland, where losses are small and infrequent. The new feature of this latest advance, which is only 25 per cent, is in the excuse put forward. It is contended that the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company is supplying electric current of a character that enhances hazard of fire, and that, instead of the direct current now in use, it should be changed to an alternating current, with which there is much less liability of loss by fire. The merits of the contention will hardly be understood by the people who are asked to pay the bills. The fire record does not seem to corroborate the theory advanced.

Admitting, however, that the fires which we might have had and may have in the future were caused by an improper and unsafe electric current, it still remains questionable whether all of the blame and expense for the alleged carelessness should be saddled on the people. If the electric company is jeopardizing our property by supplying an unsafe current, it is doing so under permission granted by the City Council. But do any of the property-owners who are about to be mulcted for an additional 25 per cent premium ever recall a determined effort on the part of the insurance companies to force the Council to do its duty by making a demand on the electric company that the unsafe current be replaced by one that was safe?

Is there any good reason why the parsimony of the electric company, the indifference of the Council or the grasping proclivities of the insurance trust should permit this unreasonable advance in rates? Portland has been an easy graft for the underwriters, and will probably continue to be so until a more decided stand is made against the injustice. This latest "cinch game" may be the means of awakening interest in a local insurance company which could be organized for the purpose of selling insurance at something near its actual value, based on the risk involved.

Writing from hearsay, handed down from imperfect memory, the author of the sketch of Francis Marion Dodge, who died a few days ago at Woodburn, has recorded several very palpable mistakes. He has mixed up the Cayuse Indian War of 1847-48 with the Indian War at Puget Sound in 1855-56. It was in the latter, not the former, that Marion Dodge served. He enlisted in Captain Gilmore Hays' company at Olympia, in October, 1855; again enlisted in January, 1856, and continued till the end of the war. Hays was promoted to the rank of Major, and commanded a battalion of four companies, and A. B. Rabbeson succeeded to the command of the company, in which Dodge became a sergeant. Major Hays lived many years at Olympia, then went to Idaho. He died a long time ago. Dodge was very young at the time of the Indian War, but was a hardy and daring fellow, and a very active scout. Colonel B. F. Shaw, who led the expedition which Dodge accompanied across the mountains, from Puget Sound to Walla Walla and Grand Ronde, to finish up with the hostile Indians there, died at Vancouver, Wash., a short time ago.

A Bryan-silver organ says President Cleveland was not big enough for his country. His vision was "limited by skyscrapers." He didn't know anything about the Mighty West, or he would have stood like a wall of adamant for free coinage of silver, at the revealed ratio. He was ignorant of the vast historical development and mighty experience of the ages in finance, along the Platte bottoms and in parts of Oregon. He "lived in a narrowed circle." He should have consulted the silver mineowners and the enthusiastic patriots of the measureless West, whose ideas and purposes reflect the culture and experience of the whole firmament of man and time. Never mind Europe. "Tell with" men who talk about the value of silver in the markets of the world. Here was the free American, clapper for Bryan, living in the illimitable West—a child of natur' and a child of freedom, whose boastful answer to the tyrant and the despot is that his bright home is in the settin' sun! To this standard it must be admitted that Grover Cleveland doesn't "measure up."

There is a charming naivete in the remark of Dr. Davis, who confesses that as a candidate for the Legislature he thoughtlessly "took the Statement." He says: "Well, when we took our Statement No. 1 pledges I had no more idea that George Chamberlain would be elected United States Senator than that this roof over our heads is going to fall in right now." Then there is complaint that Mr. Chamberlain, candidate for the Senate, was "not running under his true colors," and so on and so on. It is more interesting than instructive. There has been experience aforetime, and lots of it, against all sorts of bunco games, those of politics included. Suppose Mr. Chamberlain did call himself a Roosevelt man and non-partisan? Is there any man who does not know that the amiable political operator is a Democrat by nature, nativity and necessity, as far removed from all Republican sentiment "as from the center thrice to the utmost pole"? And this means not merely the pole of earth, but the immeasurable distance of the sidereal pole.

The last rivet in the North Bank bridge over the Columbia was driven Thursday and the long-expected road is at last completed through to Oregon. The bridge across the Willamette is nearly ready for traffic, and by the time the grain fleet, which is now being chartered for new-crop loading, reaches Portland, the North Bank trains will be bringing solid trainloads of wheat into this city from territory which has until this season been inaccessible from Portland. With twenty-six feet of water on the river entrance at low tide and the entire wheat crop of the Pacific Northwest available for the roads which reach Portland over a water-level grade, Portland's position in the wheat trade is assured beyond all doubt.

Would election of Taft or Bryan prove best for the country? A vast number, who care little about arguments for party, are asking themselves this question. The general presumption is in favor of Taft. Certainly election of Bryan would not ruin the country now, as such result would have brought it to ruin in 1896, by change of the money standard from gold to silver. But what do those people mean, who, when you talk business or recommend investment, say "Wait till after the election"? Whence these "obstinate questionings"? There will be time to examine all these things before November.

With the recount practically ended, Mr. Hearst is still nearly 3000 votes short of McClellan's plurality. With the vanishing prospect for securing the desired number of votes Mr. Hearst's attorney makes the announcement that he is in possession of sufficient evidence of ballot-box stuffing to invalidate the title of Mr. McClellan to the office of Mayor of New York. This would indicate that the advertising possibilities of the contest had not yet been exhausted and that it was the intention of Mr. Hearst to pose as a martyr as long as the contest can be maintained.

Says the Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser: "There has not been in the history of this country so flagrant misuse of official power and patronage as has been expended to bring about this result (the nomination of Taft)." Oh, yes! There was President Buchanan's effort to prevent Douglas from getting the Democratic nomination at Charleston. It succeeded, too. But it divided the Democratic party and was a leading step towards the Civil War.

So subtle an agent is electricity that no expert dare declare precisely in what circumstances it will commit arson. On this point it will be very interesting, not to say important, to learn from the fire records in Portland the past twenty-five years how many buildings have been ignited and how much property destroyed by the direct current. With such information, easily obtainable, the justice of increased insurance rates may be equitably determined.

An Oregon physician gave his patient a hypodermic injection of antitoxin and the patient died almost instantly. The Coroner's jury attributed the death to the treatment, but the brother physicians have joined in a written statement commending the methods of treatment adopted by the accused doctor. So there you are. The patient is dead and will be dead a long time.

In the interests of peace and harmony, among distinguished American patriots, let us hope Mr. Hearst's contest with Mr. McClellan may end before the next Mayoralty election in Greater New York.

Considering past favors, to say nothing of others to come in the campaign this Fall, it is no wonder that Taft rejoiced over an aquatic victory by Roosevelt's alma mater.

It is still possible to travel from Seattle to Victoria for 25 cents. In such circumstances it seems strange that so many people remain in Seattle.

Sometimes it is necessary to make hay even if the sun does not shine.

DOOLEY ON THE DEMOCRACY.

Forecast of the Platform Coming From Denver.

Mr. Dooley in the American Magazine.

"It takes all kinds iv men to make up th' Dimmycratic party, an' thin there are hardly enough. They come to th' convintion fr'm ivry corner iv th' earth, fr'm th' pine-clad hills iv Maine, where th' close season fr a Dimmycrat is on'y two months, to th' banks iv th' Rio Grande, where a Republican has to go over to Mexico to vote. They'll all be there.

"They'll be ivry diff'rent kind iv a Dimmycrat iver I seen. There'll be Dimmycrats who believe th' protective tariff shud be destroyed, an' those that believe it shud be tickled. Th' Dimmycratic party has niver altered in its opposition to a protective tariff. It recognizes in this system th' soorces iv preedytory wealth, an' manny iv th' ills that our body polytick is subjick to, includin' th' happiness iv th' few. It recognizes thim an' is glad to recognize thim. How d'ye do? How are ye?"

Following are a few of the gems from the Denver platform as "Dooley" foresees it:

"We favor an income tax, an' incomes suitable to support th' same in proper state."

"We believe in rural free delivery. Ivry farmer should have his bills on th' first iv th' month."

"On th' currency question we have an impression that we have said enough. Anny wan who wishes to know our opinyons on this momentious question can look thim up in th' files iv th' papers iv twelve years ago, an' may he lose his eyesight doin' it."

"An' finally, an' this is where we come in sthrong, we denounce an' deplore all an' siv'ral th' policies iv th' administhration now dhrawin' to a close. Undher this rejeem poverty has increased ontil it is now powerful beyond th' dreams iv avarice; th' laborer is no longer worthy iv his hire, or wasn't ontil a little while ago; fortunes have become swollen ontil they bust; th' coorts are no longer th' refuge iv th' poor and opprissed, but what they were intended to be."

Holland Says Submarines Useless.

Newark (N. J.) Star.

John P. Holland, inventor of the Holland boat, declared to a Star representative that the submarine boats belonging to the Government, and for which millions were disbursed, are absolutely useless, and that any further expenditure for these boats, as contemplated in the naval appropriation bill, will be a criminal waste of the public money. "The appropriations," said Mr. Holland, "should go to the building of battle ships, which constitute the great unit of naval power."

The inventor was asked if only the American built submarine was useless, if the European type excelled.

"By no means," said Mr. Holland; "the submarines of France, England and Germany are of just as little practical use in naval warfare as ours under the conditions that exist today.

"The original Holland boat, designed and built by me, was intended for harbor defense, and to operate against a hostile fleet beleaguering a port and anchored outside within a few miles. Such was the blockade of Santiago Harbor by Sampson's fleet in 1898. But we did not then have the high-powered guns of the present day. Harbors are now protected by ordnance carrying projectiles to such effective distances that the hostile ships must keep 12 or 15 miles off and also keep constantly in motion. Against these ships a submarine would have no power."

The Other Billings Is Heard From.

ASHLAND, Or., June 25.—(To the Editor.)—My attention has been called to a recent communication in The Oregonian, wherein the writer severely criticises some of the work of our great state school, the Oregon Agricultural College. The communication is supposed to be written from Ashland, Or., and is signed Marvel C. Billings. In reply, I wish to say:

First, That no such person as Marvel C. Billings is known here. All the "Billings" mail is put in my P. O. box, and, with the exception of a very short time, has been so for the last 32 years.

Second, I have two boys—one a graduate of the O. A. C., the other of the U. of O.—who have each learned that Oergon needs all of its good educational institutions, whether they are supported by the state or otherwise.

Third, This particular Billings family has always been on the side of good education, local or state.

Fourth, Your correspondent, doubtless with an assumed name, should have known that any referendum measure against education would not even sprout in the dry climate of Jackson County.

G. F. BILLINGS.

One Woman Worker's Church Record.

Hebron (Me.) Dispatch to Philadelphia Record.

For 70 years Mrs. Adelia Everett never missed a sermon, prayer meeting, Bible class, Ladies' Aid Society, or Sunday-school at the village Baptist meeting house, not even when her son was born inconveniently close to a service. Sunday evening, after going home from the evening service, she dropped dead. Her extraordinary record was brought to an end when, at the regular monthly meeting of the aid society, her funeral was held. Mrs. Everett was 81 years old. The little church was built when she was 11 years old, and she became a member. She was very strong and well, but, even when sick, would insist on being taken to church. Nearly 30 years ago she became so hysterical at the thought of missing service, four days after her only son's birth, that she was carried to the meeting.

Pistol Shot Shatters Paper Heart.

Allentown (Pa.) Morning Call.

Joe H. Hart received a unique post card from Annie Oakley, the champion woman rifle shot of the world. To the left of the picture is Miss Oakley, holding a pistol aloft, and in the center is a red heart, pierced by a pistol shot. The card is postmarked Newark, N. J., the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Butler (Annie Oakley is Mrs. Butler in private life.) Mrs. Butler pierced the card itself with a shot from a pistol.

Dreams His Way Out of Mine.

Pottsville (Pa.) Dispatch to Philadelphia Record.

While imprisoned by a fall of coal at the West Schuylkill colliery David Moyer fell asleep and dreamed he saw a manhole by which he could escape to the surface. When he awoke he succeeded in finding the manhole, which had been abandoned so long ago that it was forgotten, and while efforts were being made to rescue him he surprised the rescuers by suddenly appearing in their midst.

Chances Against Injunction Plank.

Washington (D. C.) Post, Ind.

By the time Congress has thrashed out the tariff question and enacted a new tariff law, the "injunction plank" just adopted after such superfluous excitement will be very ancient history indeed, and the question itself may have become "academic." If it should survive and come before Congress, it would come as a new question to new Legislators, and the chances would be against any legislation.

Woman's Right to Powder Bag Upheld.

St. Louis (Mo.) Dispatch.

Judge Tracy, of St. Louis, fined Christine Johnson $100 for seizing his wife's powder bag and throwing it out of the window, saying a woman had a right to use a powder bag without interference.

M. E. GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Mountain Labored and Brought Forth a Mouse.

PORTLAND, June 25.—(To the Editor.)—The atmosphere having cleared since the adjournment of the late general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, it may not be amiss to consider results.

Some good things were accomplished, such as devising a definite plan for the better support of the wornout preachers and the widows of those who have died in the work, which the Pacific Christian Advocate of this date fails in its summary to mention; giving permission to pastors to pass over the old requirement of six months' probation of persons coming into the church; simplifying the working of the benevolent boards; and the election of some good material to the episcopacy. It must be said, however, that the net work accomplished by the conference as a whole is not a little disappointing.

The conference was clearly lacking in leadership, as shown by its failure to comprehend the spirit of the age. This was shown in its refusal to remove from the discipline a silly list of things church members may not do, such as dancing, playing cards and going to a circus, leaving them clearly by the letter of the law at liberty to visit Sunday baseball, prizefights and such other things as are not catalogued in the famous paragraph No. 248. The board of bishops, in their customary episcopal address, urged the conference to eliminate the present wording, but the wisdom of a lot of sophomore delegates refused to change it.

The conference likewise refused flatly to appoint a commission to act conjointly with a commission appointed by the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South for the purpose of giving to world-wide Methodism a new and improved doctrinal statement. What the result of this procedure will be is not clear. Most likely the church South will have sense enough to proceed with an undertaking demanded by modern scholarship and an enlightened constituency. It is notorious that much of the present statement is as dead as the man (Cranmer) who wrote it more than 400 years ago. The attitude of the late general conference in this matter is inexplicable, unless it be the utter lack of competent leadership.

The term "presiding elder" was, with due pomp, dropped from the discipline, and "district superintendent" supplied. But what of that. With the conscious certainty of frowns from good people who in the main shout over what is done by church tribunals, for no other reason than it was done, it may be stated that better work might have been done in the election of bishops.

Bishop Smith, a choice and able spirit, but already 69 years old, with bishops being superannuated at 72, is a little puzzling. It is likewise no secret that Robert McIntyre has seen his best days, while bishops Neulsen, Hughes and Lewis have not demonstrated any distinctive fitness for the place, and are from the very nature of the case an experiment.

But the slogan was, "smash the machine," all of which is in order. It remains to be seen, however, whether smashing the machine brings better results than following the impulse of a crowd, who, like a lot of sheep, go all the same way, and for no other reason.

The general conference likewise took itself too seriously. A gathering that cost the church members at home in round numbers $130,000, using much of its time throwing bouquets at each other in the reception of fraternal delegates, discussing resolutions of no particular consequence, making junketing trips to points in the region round about, was pleasing enough, no doubt, to men of the cloth and to laymen and laywomen, many of them dazed by the new experiences, but expensive to the church at large and disappointing in results.

The great leaders of a former generation in the Methodist Church, Henry Slicer, Daniel Curry, Edward R. Ames and John Lanahan, are dead, and the men to take their places are not seemingly at hand; a similar condition existing in the Congress of the United States. Is it because we are living in an age of velvet?

C. E. CLINE.

HIGHER SCHOLARSHIP FOR WOMEN

Never Have Fair Scholars Better Encouragement to Stury Than Now.

Boston Transcript.

The president of Vassar College told the senior class of that institution and the relatives and friends gathered to enjoy the commencement exercises, that "the world is not giving much encouragement to women to go on in the higher scholarship."

In this statement he was evidently making a distinction between the higher education and the higher scholarship; between the broad basis of preparation for life which a college training is supposed to give and that same training carried to a higher power as a vocation. Just what encouragement the college woman needs to follow her ideals and realize her ambitions he did not state. The world is looking for results and it has no prejudices any longer with respect to the sources from which they flow. There is a generous recognition of achievement. Mr. Carnegie endowed his Washington Institution in order to discover the "exceptional man," but the exceptional woman would doubtless be just as welcome.

There never has been a time in the world's history when there was such general and unstinted encouragement of higher scholarship for women as there is today. The establishment and liberal endowment of women's colleges during the past 30 years has been the earnest of this. The proper encouragement consists of opportunity for the full use of the equipment received and a survey of the field will show that all the women scholars are profitably and fitly employed who desire to put their attainments at the world's service. Nor are the openings to obtain this advanced training lacking. Some of the women's colleges themselves offer them and in the great universities they are increasing and more and more being improved. There are scholarships and fellowships available for their use, and the masters and the doctors are leaving their portals in ever increasing numbers.

On the practical side the woman scholar not only has small ground of complaint that she lacks recognition, but she has reason to congratulate herself that when she wins a title it is not an accident of position or circumstance, but is an evidence of achievement and is so recognized. She is rarely the target of an honorary degree.

Here Is a Puzzle.

Western Oregon (Cottage Grove).

Multnomah County gave Mr. Chamberlain 1000 majority. Therefore, for argument's sake, we shall say that the majority of voters of Multnomah County are in favor of Mr. Chamberlain for United States Senator, and of course that carries with it the Statement No. 1 idea. Lane County gave Mr. Cake 700 majority. Therefore for argument's sake, we shall say that the majority of the people of Lane County want Mr. Cake for United States Senator, and this, too, carries with it the Statement No. 1 idea. Now, are the members of the Legislature from Lane County going to vote the wishes of the people of Lane County, or are they going to vote the wishes of Multnomah County?

Taft Stands as Synonym for Tact.

St. Paul (Minn.) Dispatch.

The Secretary of War has made the name of Taft seem a synonym for tact, but that quality, which is simply the use of a cool head, is only one of the reasons for his success and popularity. He has not been afraid to do what he thinks right, as in the 1905 Ohio campaign, when he fought the machine politicians of his own party and seemed to put himself out of the reckoning for future honors.

TOGO, AMERICA'S PROUDEST GOAT.

His Wool Woven Into Mohair Trousers Made for Secretary Taft

Denver Republican.

Our congratulations to Admiral Togo, the most aristocratic angora goat in the great state of Texas, from whose wool was woven the mohair trousers presented to William H. Taft by the Texas delegation to the Republican National convention.

Through the ages the goat has been looked upon as a rather soulless animal, of limited usefulness, fashioned more for the purpose of drawing children in soap-box wagons than for benefiting humanity in general. But Admiral Togo has shown that, next to the six-cylinder automobile, the goat is the most wonderful animal in the world. One year's clip from Admiral Togo has been sufficient to make a pair of trousers for William H. Taft, next President of the United States. If a year's clip from one goat will make such a pair of trousers, the clip from a million goats will make trousers for four million men of ordinary architectural dimensions. The sum is easy, and any schoolboy could figure it out if it were not a sacrilege to do sums in vacation time.

And be it understood that Admiral Togo is not the only goat in Texas. The state is full of them—goats of both sexes and all ages and dispositions. Texas babies play with goats as other babies play with pet dogs, and no Texas home is without its fighting goat to repel burglars. Some Texas poet—no doubt Judd Mortimer Lewis, of the Houston Post—has sung of the Lone Star goat:

In other states the feol killer
Slays him who rocks the boat,
But in the Lone Star state he lays
For him who kicks the goat.

But now it takes no seer to see that the time is at hand when Texas goats are going to be something more than the playthings of children and substitutes for bulldogs in the home. They are going to furnish trousers for the multitude, for what William H. Taft marching club will be complete unless it has Texas goat trousers for every member? Prosperity will descend on Texas, as it never has descended before, and Admiral Togo, who furnished the wool that made the cloth that made the pants for Taft, will be responsible for it all.

Long live the proudest goat, and may Texas see to it that he eats from a golden dish and that never a cockle-burr gets in his beard!

CONTRAST IN NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

Our Body-Maiming Fourth, and Quiet Celebrations in Other Lands.

Chicago Post.

Our thrashing machines—prize fighters, battleships and harvesters—are the wonder of the world, at once marvelous and awe-inspiring—and so assuredly is our National holiday, the Fourth. Nothing like it can be found in any other country in the world; it is ours, uniquely and solely ours, and no international copyright is necessary to protect our sole proprietorship.

The Japanese are credited with an imitative ability which enables them to reproduce by the hundred any foreign invention they covet, from a locomotive to a camp kit, and to reproduce with an exactness that preserves the very factory number of the original. But even the Japanese never have imitated our National holiday; they, simple-minded people, go to war when they wish to slay and maim.

Within the week the first victims of our Fourth have been listed and within the week also European nations have observed national holidays in a way that, were we not always in such a hurry, would cause us to stop and ponder the contrast afforded by the spectacle of Norway and Austria-Hungary celebrating their great days. In Norway a few days ago was commemorated the anniversary of the country's emancipation from the Swedish apron strings. The event was made a "children's day" and was observed with a sanity, a tranquility and a freedom from mortuary lists such as no Fourth of July has ever known.

In Vienna on Friday another great holiday was observed, the 60th anniversary of the Emperor's accession to the throne. The celebration took the form of a great historical pageant in which 25,000 persons participated and which is declared to have been the most magnificent parade of modern times. And no one was killed, no one was maimed, no property was destroyed. We can hardly imagine such a day.

And our Fourth of July. Already its death shadow, cast before, has darkened homes in different cities. And the casualty list will grow with each passing day until a month from now perhaps it will reach its ghastly climax in the death from tetanus. Our own foreign travel and the coming to dwell among us of many people from other lands have acquainted Americans with the customs of many countries. For the sake of happiness, for the sake of life itself, the life of the young, we should learn from other nations the way to celebrate our National holiday.

Abundance of Capital on Hand.

Philadelphia Press.

A year ago there was not enough money available to finance the needs of mankind. Today, American bank reserves are at the highest point in a decade, and the Bank of England's rate is as low as it has been in ten years. In 1907 expansion in every conceivable line in all civilized countries stopped short. Since then all industries in all lands have merely marked time. Under such conditions the accumulation of idle money has grown rapidly, until now it exceeds the supply for many years. Lack of liquid capital last year was the cause of the remarkable and world-wide shut-down. Can anyone doubt that the abundance of such capital now will stimulate enterprise everywhere, and so get all the wheels moving at an early day?

Boy Regiment of Cavalry, 1000 Strong.

Boston Transcript.

No city of its size has more ambitious plans for the celebration of the Fourth of July than Springfield, Mass., but these plans contemplate display rather than noise, at least the noise made by explosive instrumentalities. A chorus of 800 voices, to be heard in the open, is one of the proposed features, but the prize attraction is to be a boy regiment of cavalry, 1000 strong. If that number can be recruited and equipped. All the boys in the city who have horses or ponies are asked to report at the Board of Trade rooms at once. This will doubtless serve as a solatium for the small boy, who in that city is restricted in the use of modern detonators.

Burns Platform Over a Slow Fire.

Philadelphia (Pa.) Record, Dem.

Of all the electioneering pamphlets the Republican party has put forward not one equaled the present one in its gross flattery of a mere human being, in its impudent claims to credit for rain and sunshine, the recurring seasons, the fertility of the soil and the mineral wealth beneath, in its studied avoidance of specific information regarding its future action, and its mendacity in referring to the opposing party.

Consigns Platform to Oblivion.

St. Louis (Mo.) Republic, Dem.

This platform may be accepted as it was intended. It is a concession to tradition and nothing more. Except in respect to the tariff programme no new policy is outlined and the document may be consigned to that oblivion for which its makers destined it.