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
Weekly, one year	1.50
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, MONDAY, AUG. 31, 1908.

RAILROADS AND BUNCOMBE.

It is not probable that the State of Oregon will enter upon the policy of railroad construction. Indeed it is most improbable that it will. Yet all the state wants and Oregon must have a railroad to Coos Bay, and through Central Oregon from East to West, and also a railroad to Tillamook Bay. Also a railroad across Central Oregon. It has been only a reasonable expectation of the people of Oregon that some part of the large profits derived from the Oregon system by the combination that controls the railroad situation within the state should be employed in making needed extensions. But it has not been done, though promises have been abundant. During the past year money for new undertakings on a large scale has been practically unobtainable, in the loan markets. It is much the same still. But this condition now is manifestly passing away. By next year we may certainly expect active movement for railroad extension in Oregon.

But whether this shall be so or not, the people of Oregon will hesitate before they start the state upon a policy and career of railroad construction. And then they will not. There is much use of buncombe by politicians, and a pretty bank of popular folly for them to draw upon; nevertheless, we may say with great certainty that this "won't go." Many may indeed walk up to the brink and look over and down. But they will not walk on and down.

When Governor Chamberlain intimated at Coos Bay that the time was at hand when the state should do its duty to the people, meet the emergency for a central road across the state and supply the delinquency of the railroad management under which we had so long suffered, he was just talking for buncombe, with his own political objects in view. He doesn't expect the state to undertake anything of the kind. Talk is cheap, and Mr. Chamberlain, like many another politician, has plenty of it. We all want that railroad that Coos Bay and Central Oregon want, and we shall get it—some time. But the state will not build it. If it should, it would have to build other roads, or try to build them, wherever wanted. The securities wouldn't sell, or if they should sell, little would be realized for them. State bankruptcy is not an inviting prospect for the general taxpayer.

But nothing can be done right now, since, fortunately, a few shreds and rags of the old constitution of Oregon remain, among which is the provision that the credit of the state is not to be loaned nor debts nor any manner of liabilities created in excess of the sum of fifty thousand dollars; nor shall the state subscribe to or be interested in the stock of any company, association or corporation. There is no inhibition, indeed, of the direct power of the state to levy taxes and put the money into railroads; but owners of property probably would object to the alluring prospect—fearing the quick return of pay-day, with the revolving years. It is true the constitution might be changed any day, by a majority vote; yet we think Governor Chamberlain, notwithstanding his brave talk at Coos Bay, will not, in his sober moments, urge such change. He wants the popularity that will lead to continuous political success more than he wants railroads. Talk in this direction may be very well. But action would be fatal. The people of Oregon will applaud theories that don't cost them money; but they draw the line at innovation that would bring the tax collector upon them.

Mr. Harriman will not be in the least alarmed at the threat of railroad-building by the state. He would be rejoiced rather than dismayed if the state should go into the business, because he knows he would soon get the roads, at a fraction of their cost. But the state must have the roads, and it has a right to expect and to insist that Mr. Harriman shall build them—and that before the extension to Puget Sound.

NEW PLAN IN IOWA.

Senator Allison was the declared choice of a majority of the Republican electors of Iowa, at the primary held last June. His death annuls that choice, but the law as it stands contains no provision for another primary election, in time for designation of his successor. The Governor, therefore, has called an extra session of the Legislature for August 31st (today), to supply the defect. But Oregon has been a warning, and the law will now be amended so as to prevent Democrats from nominating the Republican candidate. Indeed, the Democrats already have their candidate, who was nominated at the same time Allison was; and now they are to be kept out of the Republican primary.

How is this to be done? By the simple method or expedient of declaring by law that no vote shall be counted for Senator, on the ballot, unless the ballot shall show that the elector has voted for the Republican Presidential electors, for the Republican nominees for the state offices, for the Republican candidates for the Legislature and for Representatives in Congress. Though this law is to be made for a special emergency, it will be proposed to continue it in force, substantially, as the law of the state, for future elections. Since the Republican majority in the Legislature is large, it is believed there will be no difficulty in passing it. Republicans in every part of the state, including members of the Legislature, have been consulted about it, and are said to have given practically unanimous assent.

The Des Moines Capital, in its comment, says: "This new law will give every Republican his opportunity to exercise his influence, and it will prevent an old-time Republican from having his vote neutralized in his own party by the ballot of an old-time Democrat. . . . Whoever thought out or discovered this plan of cutting out the Democrats ought to have his reward, whether the man is Senator Dolliver, Judge Walter I. Smith, or some other. Several distinguished men are laying claim to the honor of the discovery. It is understood that Representative Haugen claims it. No matter who claims it, it is a good thing."

It is strictly in accord with the spirit and purpose of the Oregon law, as expressed in the long preamble thereto, which declares that **"the nomination of candidates for elective offices by political parties is the best plan yet found;"** and that "the government of a state by its electors and **the government of a political party by its members are rightfully based on the same general principles."** But the Oregon law failed to make provision for enforcement of these principles, or for carrying them into effect. It will interest the people of Oregon, especially the Republicans, to watch the Iowa proceeding.

THE NEW POLITICO-FINANCIAL HOBBY

The United States may go into the banking business, but probably will not. Should it do so, however, it would monopolize the business by driving all others out of it. If the United States is to guaranty bank deposits it will, of necessity, absorb the entire business; because it must also control the loans and direct the entire management of the banks. Responsibility of the Government to depositors will compel the Government to hold the entire business in its hands. From this conclusion there will be no possible escape.

Mr. Bryan asks: "Why should not the Governmept make the depositors in the National banks secure?" Because the Government has not absolute control of the National banks. It has supervision, but not ownership. If it is to guaranty deposits it must put itself directly and completely in the place of the banker. Then we should have a government of centralized power indeed.

No man has ever been more fertile in shallow financial expedients than Mr. Bryan. As untenable and perhaps as dangerous as his scheme of free silver coinage is his present proposition of guaranty for bank deposits. There is not one person in the country who knows anything about the responsibilities of banking—whether a banker or a customer of legitimate banking—who is not against him on this later scheme, which he is now pressing with an insistence similar to that of his recent advocacy of the silver fallacy—though now scarcely less anxious that his silver record should be forgotten than eager to press his new remedy for "relief of the people," by pledging the Government to payment of their bank deposits.

Reckless plungers in banking doubtless would favor a scheme in which they would find or expect to find opportunity. Guaranty by Government would encourage their peculiar operations. They would take even greater chances than they take now; for, whatever might befall their speculations they would rest in the assurance that their depositors would be protected by the Government or by the other banks of the country.

But operations of this description, it is assured, would be punished. Whether punishment would be more certain than now may be doubted. But certainty of punishment in case of failure will not deter men from taking chances; for they will believe they have "a sure thing" in the speculation and will be able to make good. Moreover, lost money is seldom or never recovered by prosecutions.

It is argued, however, that panics would be avoided by guaranty of deposits by Government; since depositors, knowing their money was safe, would not demand it. Doubtless there is something in this statement; yet it does not answer the objection that losses suffered through reckless banking would have to be made good at the expense of prudent banking—that is, in the final analysis, at the expense of those persons who use the banks legitimately—whether as depositors or borrowers—and should not be taxed, even indirectly, to make up losses caused by others. There can be no insurance of bank deposits that is not paid for; and they who get the benefit of the insurance must pay it.

Besides, business is business, and there is no magic in government. Crises come when governments "go broke," as well as the body of the people who support them. Even the United States would probably find itself at one time or another loaded up by guaranty with forms of security upon which it would be impossible to realize. Even Government guaranty, in a universal panic, would be of no avail, for the time. Nearly one-half our states, at one time or another, through excess of speculation and guaranty of securities, have plunged into bankruptcy, and some of them have been driven to repudiation. The General Government could as easily be carried into such a situation. Granted, however, that this would not occur, the question remains, why should the Government, or conservatively managed institutions be required or expected to make good the losses sustained by banks associated with speculative interests? Still further, why should people be told that they needn't exercise any care in selection of safe places for deposit, since all losses are to be made good, anyway?

This scheme of Bryan's is a politico-financial hobby, as his free coinage of silver was, and can no more abide the tests of rational discussion and sound judgment. Bryan's talk on financial matters always was babble.

MURDEROUS NEW NAVAL WEAPON.

A new submarine torpedo has been invented by an officer of the United States navy that promises a revolution in naval warfare. It carries an inner tube from which an explosive projectile is thrown at the moment of contact between the torpedo and the side of the ship. Experiments thus far have demonstrated that no ordinary armor can withstand its force. The belief prevails in naval official circles that the projectile torpedo will penetrate the vitals of a ship in any known circumstances.

The most important feature of this invention is the fact that the new projectile has been made possible by the discovery that an alloy of steel with the newly found steel vanadium is not merely unusually stout, but extraordinarily light. It is claimed that this alloy has all the strength of the finest steel and only one-tenth the weight. Yet the quantity of vanadium used in the making of this alloy is only one-quarter of 1 per cent. It appears to have a peculiar effect, known in metallurgy as scavengering, literally the elimination of certain gases from the steel composition.

So successful has been the production of the alloy that it is now in use by makers of aeroplanes and dirigible balloons. The Wright brothers are said to be employing it in their aerial apparatus. It is superior to aluminum, the lightest metal now practically produced, for the reason that it has stoutness and rigidity which aluminum lacks.

It is never safe to predict from experiments what a new engine of destruction will do in actual warfare; still if the vanadium tube proves equal to the expectation of its inventor that highly evolved engine of war, the Dreadnaught battleship type, may soon become obsolete.

GROWING BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

Reports from the Eastern States show proofs of increasing activity in business. Almost every line is "booming" again. In the iron and steel industry work is again at nearly full tide; and the same is true in most manufacturing lines. The volume of railroad traffic is steadily increasing. The year's crops are uniformly heavy, and prices are good. There can be no legitimate cry of "hard times"; even for the purposes of a political campaign.

In the Pacific States there have been no hard times, as a consequence of the collapse of speculation in the East last year. Work that we had expected to be pushed has, indeed, been suspended; but our own proper resources have not failed us. Our people have been little in debt, and have felt no distress at all comparable with that which followed the collapse of 1893.

Last year's reverse was wholly due to the desperate acts of certain plungers in Eastern cities, chiefly in New York, by which the general public was frightened into withdrawal of money from the banks, causing curtailment of credit and industry and discontinuance of many industrial enterprises. It is mostly over now; but the storm never was violent enough to impair in any serious way the vital energies of the country. There will be lively business this Fall.

GUMMOSIS.

At the recent meeting of the Northwest Fruitgrowers' Association there was a discussion of the disease of cherry trees commonly known as gummosis. From the reports of this discussion it is evident that there is nothing definite known as to the nature of the disease or as to successful remedies. Even horticultural experts who should be authority differ in their opinions, though all agree that the disease is a serious one, for, if not checked, it results in the death of the tree. Since cherry-growing has become an extensive industry in this state, and will become many times greater in the next few years, it is of much importance that exact information be gathered concerning gummosis and its remedies.

One cherrygrower of many years' experience asserts that the disease is one of the sap, while another of just as much experience declares it is a disease of the bark, and a third says the oozing of gum from the bark is due to some sort of injury. Another grower is of opinion that over-cultivation or over-irrigation causes the trouble, while others, who have cultivated their cherry trees thoroughly, are just as certain that cultivation does not cause it. Scoring the trees—cutting a number of slits up and down the trunk through the outer bark—is the remedy most commonly recommended, on the theory that the bark fits too tight and that the sap oozes from the tree for that reason. But this remedy has not always been found effective, and, even if it is a proper course of treatment, no one seems to know at what season or under what conditions the scoring should be done. Other remedies suggested by those who have tried them are spraying with Bordeaux mixture, rubbing the gummosis sores with blue vitriol, injecting kerosene in the sore. But, since scarcely any two growers agree in their observations and opinions, and authorities differ, the whole subject is one which should receive the most thorough investigation as early as possible, so that the cherry industry of Oregon may be fostered.

CROP-MOVING FUNDS PLENTIFUL.

Over one hundred carloads of wheat were received at Portland Saturday. Compared with the two hundred to three hundred carloads per day which come into Portland when the season is at its height, this is not very much grain, but it is a remarkably good showing for August, and argues well for a heavy volume of business later. It is interesting to note that neither the early movement of grain nor the high prices at which it has been selling have had any perceptible effect on the money market, either locally or in the East. The New York Financier, in its review of financial conditions in New York for the week ending last Saturday, says: "The chief feature of the situation is the piling up of money in New York from all sources, despite the fact that the season for crop-moving is now approaching its highest limit."

It will be remembered that one year ago an extraordinary depletion of reserves in New York was in progress for several weeks before the storm broke, and not only was it impossible for the West to secure any assistance from the financial center of the country, but it was also impossible for Western banks to get their own money, which was in the hands of the New York banks and trust companies. In strange and agreeable contrast to that situation is the remarkable showing made by the New York bank statement for the week ending last Saturday. With deposits of $1,394,617,300 in the clearing-house banks, there was on hand a surplus reserve of more than $65,000,000 in excess of legal requirements, while the increase in deposits for the week was more than double the increase in loans. Banks and trust companies in New York not included in the statement of the associated banks showed deposits of $1,043,060,500 and loans of $933,000,000.

The Canadian crop was so small last year that no demands whatever were made on New York for crop-moving purposes, but this year our northern neighbor has already taken $11,000,000 out of New York for crop-moving purposes, and the drain is still in evidence. That this country has abundant funds for handling its own crop and at the same time supplying Canada with an unusually large amount of gold would seem to indicate that after all the provision for emergency currency was unnecessary. Prices for wheat, corn and cotton, the three great staples which absorb the greater part of the crop-moving funds, are much higher this year than last, and the amount to be moved is also greater than that of last year.

The West seems to be pretty well fortified for financing the crop with Western funds, but it is gratifying to note that the East is in such shape that if the emergency should arise, the matter of securing aid would be less difficult than it was last year. There will need to be a radical change in the figures in the near future, if crop-moving is to cause any strain on the money market. From present indications, when the "back flow" of crop-moving funds sets in, there will be such enormous additions to the reserves that cheap money will stimulate industrial activity in many lines which have been proceeding under very easy sail since the panic at crop-moving time last year.

The Astorian is responsible for the statement that "fully 85 per cent of all the merchandise used in the City of Astoria now comes from San Francisco." It explains the matter with the further statement that "this means that the Astoria merchants have revolted against the charges of Portland merchants, and also what are alleged to be the high and unreasonable charges of the A. & C. Railway Company." This is a matter that should be investigated by the transportation committee of the Chamber of Commerce. Messrs. Hahn and Lewis, who have been active members of that committee, are not only in the business of selling goods, but they also take an active interest in river transportation. It would seem that a slight cut on the price of the goods, combined with an open-river freight rate, might cut down the percentage of Astoria trade that is being driven away from this city. The Astoria dollar is as good as any other dollar, and if, as claimed by the Astorian, the Astoria merchants are being "gouged," the said "gouging" should be investigated and the blame placed where it belongs.

Colonel Watterson has given out an address in which Bishop Walters, of the African Methodist Church, attacks Taft for his attitude in the Brownsville matter, charging him with being a party to "the blackest conspiracy ever perpetrated against negro soldiers." This, of course, is expected to lead the negro vote into the Bryan corral, but the wisdom of the move is questionable, for in driving in the negro vote there is sure to be a displacement of some of the white vote which might otherwise have fallen to Bryan. The recruit was explaining the workings of the chain-shot. "You place one cannon here, and another over yonder," said he. "Then load each with a ball, to which the chain is attached, and when you fire the chain mows down the enemy." "Supposing," said the listener, "that one cannon is discharged before the other?" "In that case," said the recruit, "the blamed thing swings round and plays hell with us fellows." Is it possible that Colonel Watterson is trying the chain-shot experiment with Bishop Walters' letter?

"A Democrat of the old school" writes in the New York Sun: "The theory of the initiative and referendum is that no man can be trusted to represent the people, but that all legislation must be initiated and finally enacted by the mass of the voters themselves. In such a case the vote of the most ignorant counts as much as that of the most intelligent member of the community.

It is just as well to encourage the Dutch to go ahead with their discipline of Venezuela. The Castro gang needs it, and a small country like Holland can do what wouldn't look well if done by a big empire like Great Britain.

One writer declares that "Bryan is sure to get the vote of Kansas." Another, that "Bryan is alarmed about his own state." There is not much need of caution about receiving these and similar opinions as very valuable.

Custom has made Thursday of state fair week Portland day, but in late years practice has added the next day to accommodate the overflow. This is merely a hint to Mr. McMurray, who runs the traffic end of it.

Now that Governor Chamberlain has assailed Harriman's railroad trust so soon after that happy tete-a-tete at Pelican Bay, Harriman has also discovered the foxy politics of "Our George."

The elevator operator who has figured that he travels twenty miles a day and gets nowhere should not be discouraged. At least half the time, anyway, his work is elevating.

Silverton wants a Sunday train service and should have it. There is no reason why transit should be tied up one day in the week on any railroad in Oregon.

No party ever was more completely under boss and machine rule than the Democratic party of Oregon at this time. Chamberlain and his bunch are "it."

In keeping matters of school business from the public, the School Board is following a long habit. Rather late now to find any fault with it.

Do the Fulton politicians profess to think Chairman Cake could do anything more for Taft by coming home?

Clear weather has resumed at the beaches to make the rain-affrighted sorry they fled home.

GUARANTY OF DEPOSITS.

Bryan's New Financial Vagary and Its Consequences.

Chicago Tribune.

The legislation which Mr. Bryan favors would foster wildcat banking to the disadvantage of solvent banks and conservative bankers. The reckless bankers would dance and the prudent ones would have to pay the piper.

The guaranteeing of deposits would, as the Postmaster-General points out, encourage the speculative spirit among the less conservative bankers. They are held in restraint now by the knowledge that they are imperiling the money of depositors when they become venturesome. Remove that restraint by guaranteeing deposits and bankers who are inclined to be reckless would take mad chances and make hazardous investments they would not think of now. They would reason that whatever might happen their depositors would be safe at the expense of other banks.

Undoubtedly Mr. Bryan is as sincere in his advocacy of the guarantee plan as he was in his advocacy of free silver. He thinks the one will be the salvation of depositors, as he thought the other would cure all the monetary ills that humanity is subject to. But when he was preaching free silver the business men of the country were arrayed against him. So are they with few exceptions in this matter of guaranteeing deposits. That is because they know something about banking and he knows singularly little. Mr. Bryan must be given credit for an earnest desire to add to the happiness of his fellow men, but, unfortunately, about all the schemes to that end which he originates would do more harm than good if put in operation.

SHOULD READ MORE HISTORY.

Presidents Heretofore Have "Promoted the Succession."

Brooklyn Eagle, Ind. Dem.

Those who declare that Mr. Roosevelt exceeded all precedents, in forwarding Taft, do not know what Andrew Jackson successfully did to make Van Buren his successor in 1836, and what Van Buren vainly did to try to make himself his own successor in 1840. History will work havoc with those ignorant or disregardful of it. Yet the worst critics of Roosevelt are idolaters of Jackson, and before Jackson, of Jefferson, who prescribed Madison and Monroe to be his successors through 16 consecutive years.

Washington's preference of John Adams to Jefferson in 1796 was excused to a Federalism which the Father of his country never showed in office or disguised in politics. Jefferson's successful prescription of Madison and Monroe, for two terms each, redounds to his fame. Jackson's prescription of Van Buren to be his successor united war on nullification with direction to friendship, which double object raised the gamecock of Tennessee to a high place in the hearts of his countrymen. That Lincoln, had he lived, would have named his own successor is, by few, doubted. Had Cleveland been a great politician, as well as a great reformer, he could have saved his party from division and named his own successor. Roosevelt, a great reformer and a great politician, has named Taft as his choice to succeed him, and those who applaud Washington, Jefferson and Jackson for doing a like thing, while condemning Roosevelt for his imitation of them, should read more history, in order to do justice to the present Chief Magistrate.

Taft and Roosevelt Democrats.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

The appearance of "Taft Democrats" here and there, but more especially perhaps in the East and the South, raises the question how much they resemble the "Roosevelt Democrats," who have been so much in evidence in recent years. A close study of the two breeds might prove somewhat enlightening. Judging entirely from a superficial observation, it seems evident that "Taft Democrats" and "Roosevelt Democrats" come from entirely different atmospheres and have entirely different ideals in politics. The Democrats whom Mr. Roosevelt drew into his following were radicals from the Bryan wing of the Democratic party who helped to snow under Judge Parker so terribly in 1904. The Democrats Mr. Taft now attracts are largely conservatives from the wing of the Democracy that has always regarded Bryan with aversion and which blames him for supporting Mr. Roosevelt's radical policies. Mr. Taft, in short, is attracting conservative support, as compared with his rival. If Mr. Roosevelt can hold for Mr. Taft the "Roosevelt Democrats," while the candidate himself draws the "Taft Democrats," the combination will prove one of the most irresistible in American history.

Watterson on New York Journalism.

Through the Louisville Courier-Journal Watterson expresses his opinion of the journalism of New York, because it doesn't "fall in" for Bryan. Here is a breezy paragraph:

> The pretext for this poor quality of statesmanship and journalism is a single name; one man, admittedly patriotic, upright and clean. Yet New York lives and thrives off the West and South; makes outcry against freight and other discriminations; is occasionally moved to a humor which looks very like jealousy of Chicago and St. Louis. Why should this be so? Obviously because either of some dissonance of sympathy—for there are not wanting plenty of common interests—or the lack of breadth of grasp and sagacity of vision. The iron-clad partyism of the Tribune may be dismissed with the tag "Taken for Granted." The proprietary brand of the Hearst organs is too ever-present to have itself seriously considered. But the cosmopolite indifference of the Herald, the pert cynicism of the Sun and the toplofty turgidity of the Times—not to mention the frisky pomp of the Evening Post, which seems still to be edited on the Heaven side of Jordon—bode nothing less than a New Sectionalism. This is a menace alike to New York and the country at large.

Snubbed at Court, She May Be Princess.

New York Despatch.

Friends of Mrs. Ida Von Claussen, the beautiful American who unsuccessfully attempted to get herself presented at the Swedish court in 1907, say that she will soon be persona grata at any court in Europe.

Mme. Von Claussen is now in Rome, and it is rumored that she will shortly become a princess. She can be either one of two kinds—Russian or Italian. Report has it that Prince Paul Ourousoff of Russia and Prince Sforza Caesarine of Rome are in a close race for her hand.

Mrs. Von Claussen in April of last year besieged President Roosevelt and the State Department in Washington, D. C., in an effort to have Charles H. Graves, American Minister to Sweden, recalled from his post for snubbing her.

A Unique Invention.

New York Sun.

Guests at the Hotel Astor when they see a small electric bulb near the telephone in their rooms light up know that there is a letter for them in their mail box in the office. In each mail box there is a copper flap that is pushed back when a letter is put in the pigeonhole, and the flap completes the circuit that lights the small electric lamp in the guest's room. The device is the invention of Fred A. Muschenheim, brother of the proprietor of the hotel.

An Awful Responsibility.

"Marie Corelli is to write a novel against the drink habit," says the Macon News. It is time; her former novels have doubtless driven many people to drink.—Washington Herald.

MRS. WOODCOCK AT YAQUINA.

Political and Labor Questions as She Finds Them in Her Travels.

Newport Mail.

The famous Mrs. Woodcock, of Portland, blew into the office of the Mail Tuesday morning, and expressed a few carefully bunched remarks anent modern political and economic questions.

She arrived at Yaquina with 25 cents and a return trip ticket, and is now being sumptuously entertained at a private cottage. Apropos of the unemployed problem, Mrs. Woodcock said: "Lots of men should be on the rockpile. They don't work, but still expect to get their money. I went over to the Plaza block, where they lay like blades of grass, and one said: 'Jesus didn't have to work,' and another asked me if I could employ 60 men, and I says 'I ain't no railroad camp.'"

As for politics, as a member of the Republican National committee and one of the chief supporters of Roosevelt, Mrs. Woodcock's opinion carries great weight. Taft is her choice, and she will probably open Taft headquarters at the Salem fair. Mrs. Woodcock favors Chamberlain for Senator, because he has had experience and favors the Postal Savings Bank. She may do a little political work for Taft and Chamberlain in Newport if she can find helpers.

Mrs. Woodcock, after rapidly sketching the salient points in her glorious career, closed the interview with a summary of the Portland real estate market. The visit of this redoubtable party leader will probably leave a lasting impression on our city.

OUR GREATEST QUESTION.

An Opinion on the Subject by Grover Cleveland.

In the September American Magazine "The Interpreter" presents a mass of new information about Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Grover Cleveland and others in the form of personal recollections, new stories, and so on.

"The Interpreter" once asked Mr. Cleveland for his opinion as to the greatest question before the country.

"Oh, there is only one," he said. "We can see our way through most of our difficulties. We can at least imagine a solution of all problems but one. But the negro question baffles everybody's understanding. No one knows what the answer is. No one knows when it will demand an instant answer. We can't take away the franchise from the negroes. No matter how foolish it was to give them a vote, we can't turn back. At the same time we can't let them gain political supremacy in the South. It will take centuries to educate them. I don't know what to think about it. It will be a burden on our children and our children's children."

Cow and Calf in a Well.

Estacada Progress.

On Sunday some Portland people were looking around the Wood Manufacturing Company's plant when they discovered a cow in the well, which is used for the purpose of maintaining water for the engine room. The authorities were notified and ropes secured and the cow, which has red and white spots on back and sides, and a bell, and a calf, probably two months old, was with her, was drawn out not much the worse for her cold bath and imprisonment. It is supposed she must have been in the well two or three days.

A Tall Bunchgrass Story.

Mitchell Sentinel.

A gentleman came in town the other day and was telling a most wonderful story to a small crowd of us present, about what happened to him in an early day here when the bunchgrass grew so tall that it would hide a man on horseback. Everybody present expressed surprise except one man; he said nothing. He did not even change his countenance. One of us who noticed that the story had no effect on him said: "You do not seem to be astonished in the least at this wonderful story." "No," said he, "I am a liar myself."

Autos Help Hotel Business.

Boston Transcript.

Statistics from a fashionable White Mountain hotel show that while 60 per cent of its visitors came by automobile last year, 75 per cent of this year's arrivals may be so credited. The automobile has come wonderfully to the rescue of the Summer hotel business, serving to counteract the loss of business through the tendency of people to seek private cottages.

Undignified Suggestion.

London Times.

Chief No Shirt and his dusky followers amongst the Umatilla Indians are highly indignant over the action of the authorities who ordered their ponies dipped for mange. The little horses are infected with the disease and are badly in need of a bath. If No Shirt himself was run through the vat it would not do him any particular harm.

German Military Band Expert Retires.

Berliner Tageblatt.

Professor Rossberg, inspector of military bands of the German army, has applied for leave to resign on account of his advanced age. The Kaiser has granted his request and he will leave the army on October 1 next.

Professor Rossberg has done much to bring German military bands to their present state of perfection.

A BUNCH OF PICK-UPS.

Judge—"What is your profession?" Witness—"I am a poet." Judge—"That's not a profession; it's a disease."—Judge.

Sillicus—"It doesn't cost anything to accept gratuitous advice." Cynicus—"No; not unless you act upon it."—Philadelphia Record.

"This is no laughing matter," remarked the theatrical manager, when he realized that his farce comedy was a failure—Philadelphia Record.

"You have done your best to enforce the blue laws?" said one official. "Yes," answered the other; "but the police were color blind."—Washington Star.

Anarchist—"Shall we dynamite the candidate when he arrives?" Chief—"Why should we mix ourselves up in it? The citizens are going to give a home-coming."—Puck.

Ella—"I'm to be married tomorrow, and I'm terribly nervous." Stella—"Yes; I suppose there always is a chance of the man getting away up to the last minute."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Mrs. Binks—"My daughter is taking French lessons of Prof. Henri Devere." Mrs. Minks (of the adjoining suite)—"Oh, is that it? I thought it was a cold in her head."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Friend—"Hallos, Pat! I scarcely knew you with your whiskers off." Pat—"The same wid me, me bhoy; I didn't know meself when I looked into the glass, except by me voice."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

"And haven't you ever taken a ride in an automobile?" asked the man with the new machine, pityingly. "No," replied the plain person, "but I fell out of a third-story window once."—Philadelphia Press.

Officer (to new recruit doing "sentry go" for the first time)—"Now, mind you, let no one go by without challenging them." Recruit—"That's all right, guv'nor. Don't you worry. The slightest noise wakes me up!"—Punch.

"You know," said the man who stores his mind with quaint and curious facts, "that the savages have a way of getting fire by rubbing two sticks together." "What a very tiresome method!" "Yes. And, yet, it must be a heap quicker and handier than fooling with a box of safety matches on a damp day."—Washington Star.

GROWING FAITH IN OTHER WORLD

Spirit Communication Will Yet Prove Itself to Skeptics.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—(To the Editor.)—I have received a number of letters expressing surprise that Dr. Hyslop, or other psychic investigators, has not accepted the $3500 anti-spiritualistic challenge urged recently in the press. I am surprised rather that any intelligent reader should have expected otherwise. Iron and gold are good to buy gold and iron, but why should we expect them to pass current on the heights where true science dwells? Such a challenge, while not so intended, is offensive, as it assumes that these men "could if they would."

A scientist cares more for the discovery of one new fact, though it tells against him, than for much money or applause or blame. To him, every fact is an integral part of the universe, and its discovery carries its own sufficient reward. Woe to him who uncovers a truth and does not tell it. Crookes, Lodge, Wallace, Lombroso, would each give his right hand could he so present a fact of spirit communion that it would carry scientific conviction to the world that a man who dies lives again.

A money prize to Hyslop! He is giving thousands of dollars of his own money to tell just what psychic facts he finds. He tells them freely, let them prove what they may, and pays for the privilege.

Then, are there no facts that prove spirit communication? These trained scientists believe that there are. Then why do they not accept a challenge of this sort? If you will permit me, I will tell the reasons as they seem to me.

These facts come through observation, not by experiment; they are not on tap; they do not come at call. In no other investigation is the personal equation so in evidence. We have to do with many facts and laws of the human mind that are little known. Then, if the hypothesis of outside intelligence is true, there may be scores of forces and scores of laws, with which we have to deal, which are altogether new to us. In solving problems of this kind we should sit down quietly and observe; dogmatism and presupposition hinder. We cannot proceed as does the physical scientist, who proves the existence and nature of radium, or that the blood circulates, or the earth turns on its axis, or H_2O equals water. French scientists 75 years ago said if stones fall from the sky, why do they not fall in our sight? They, with powerful glasses, scanned the heavens, but saw no stones fall. The skeptic observers of that day so reported to the French Academy, and it was decided that the reports of the peasants that they had seen stones fall were the result of deception or mal-observation. The predisposing scientific conviction was that there were no stones in the sky, and so none could fall. So long as this conviction remained, how prove a shower of stones?—it is always easier to believe that men lie or are deceived than to believe the impossible to happen.

Dr. Hodgson was an exceedingly critical and skeptical man; so, almost beyond bounds. He discovered scores upon scores of frauds along spiritualistic lines, but after 10 years of constant investigation, he came to the conclusion that there were genuine spirit communications; but before the conviction was possible he had to think himself into the possibility of a spirit world. Yet he would have been the last man to have accepted this press challenge.

Frederick W. H. Myers for many years investigated the phenomena before he became convinced of the presence of outside intelligences—at first an utter agnostic, he was finally led to say: "I predict that, in consequence of the new evidence, all reasonable men, a century hence, will believe in the resurrection of Christ; whereas, in default of the new evidence, no reasonable man, a century hence, would have believed it"—and so Sir Oliver Lodge and not a few other leading scientists. Suppose Professor Hyslop had accepted this challenge, where would have been found a committee who would have been willing to investigate ten years, or five years, or three, before making a report? No one fact, nor a score of facts, convinced these scientists; but it was the cumulative evidence of a hundred facts. Such a committee would be apt to make a few trials, then come to a conclusion and so report, and a shout would go up: "Ha! Didn't we tell you?" Why does it not occur to the press to prevail upon a committee of, say ten trained scientists, who will agree to sit and observe with some competent medium once a week or so from three to five years, as Dr. Hodgson, Dr. Hyslop and others have done?

If scientists cannot afford the time will not some wealthy man or men so endow the Hyslop movement or some other competent movement that this may be made financially possible?

In trials before a test committee, we must not forget the preventive power of suggestion. Every professional hypnotist knows how difficult it is to hypnotize a subject against a strong contrary assertion. Why is this? I may guess, but I don't know. Who can say why Christ could do no great works in Galilee, because of the unbelief, or why he put out of the death-chamber of the little maid all doubting ones before he raised her from the dead? There seems to be a tremendous dynamic force in belief, and also in unbelief—perhaps the greatest of all created forces. Why should not these psychic investigations be of stupendous interest to us mortals? They are sincere attempts by well-equipped men to get at a solution of the mysteries of death and the world beyond which should profoundly concern us.

We are moving away from materialism. A few years ago Darwin, Huxley, Tyndall, Spencer, were agnostic as to the spirit world, but now many of the leading scientists have gone as far as belief in "foreign" intelligences not only existing but communicating.

"Where the vanguard rests today,
The rear shall camp tomorrow."

At the door of the scientific workshop, psychic research stands at the head of the waiting list.

Here we may witness a science in the making. We forget that the whirligig of time often changes from little to great, and from great to little, in science, and more than once in history the stone the builders rejected became the head of the corner. To a scientific demonstration that personality survives death, all scientific achievements heretofore made will be trivial in comparison.

The starry heavens reflected in the ocean—with eyes fixed on the ocean you can prove that these heavens do not exist. They don't down there.

Scientific faith in the other world is an egg that will yet hatch on this mundane sphere. I. K. FUNK.

Places Poker-Dice on Jerome's Bed.

New York Despatch.

Some man who has his nerve right with him went a-burglaring the other night and selected, of all places, District Attorney Jerome's flat at 3 Rutgers street. He didn't, so far as known, take anything out of the flat with him, although he did rifle carefully a packed traveling bag belonging to Mr. Jerome and took from it a pair of nice new poker-dice, which he left on Jerome's bed for subsequent investigation. Police opinion is divided as to whether some man did the trick on a bet, whether someone really went to the flat to rob it or whether the sole intention was to find out what Mr. Jerome had in his grip.