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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, DEC. 1, 1908.

PUBLIC BENEFACTIONS.

Mr. John Cloudesley clips the following paragraph from The Oregonian of recent date, and asks us to print it again, with his comment and reply:

> It is mighty hard for a man to whom wealth has come through the movements of his day and time to arrange for the disposition of his wealth so that it may continue to exist, operate for efficient and worthy ends, and be a possession forever. Heirs most likely will dissipate it, and the process of dissipation will be a curse to them. How then to dispose of great property, so that it may continue to be a working force for the good of humanity, is the question for men and women of wealth, who are practical people of the world, yet still are philanthropists.

"I do not think it a difficult matter," Mr. Cloudesley writes, "to make suggestions whereby the disposition of great properties may be made a working force for the good of humanity and bring honor to the benefactors." He proceeds:

> The Humane Society has lately installed a number of drinking fountains for man and beast in different parts of the city and it is considered a beneficent act. Next to the air, I presume water is considered one of the most essential natural elements needed.
>
> As the growth of the city is expanding very rapidly the city finds it necessary to offer for sale many millions in bonds to supply the needs thereof for the present and future population. Why does not some rich man of Portland come forward and not only supply this amount but also pay off present bonded indebtedness of existing water plant, thereby conferring a blessing upon every living thing in the confines of the city limits?
>
> This philanthropy would act in two ways. First it would reduce the taxation of every resident. Second, it would enable the Water Board to reduce the cost of water to such an extent that every family could be allowed water for kitchen and toilet purposes nearly free.
>
> Another philanthropist might make the city a present of a lighting plant; another of a streetcar system, thereby supplying the absolute needs of a larger proportionate number of persons than any benefaction to libraries, schools and colleges, which beneficencies reach a much smaller number of persons.

Would this be philanthropy? The Oregonian doubts it very much. Gifts of public water fountains are proper and useful; but in this direction philanthropy cannot go very far. The limit is easily reached. But it would not be a wise exercise of philanthropy to pay a city's debts or to supply it with water, or with streetcar lines. That is, the city should supply itself with necessaries, and not be dandled into indolence and inefficiency. Payment of the debt of a city in this way would only cause it to run into debt again; to supply the chief needs of life to its people would pauperize them. The great fortunes that might be devoted to such purposes would soon be dissipated and the last state of the city would be worse than the first.

A sufficient further reason why "some rich man of Portland" does not come forward and do these great things, or some of them, is that there are no very rich individuals in Portland, and every person in such a city has need in his business for most of his resources. Such gifts would ruin the active business of the city on the one hand, and pauperize the people on the other.

Philanthropists desire to make their gifts helpful and lasting. It is a problem. Men and women of Portland have given much money for philanthropic purposes, and will give more. There have been some large benefactions; instance that of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Reed, and that of Miss Ella Smith, whose fortune went into the Portland Library—grounds and building. The old pioneers of Portland, who made money here, were all generous, and gave generously to public objects. But they couldn't give away their estates entire, because they had obligations to the community and to posterity. They knew that though they were passing away business must be continued, and they could not forget their duty to those who were to succeed them.

There are some who can give much, and yet have much remaining. Others, not so many, closing business and dying without posterity, must leave or give all. Yet whether the wealth of one description or of the other be small, moderate or great, it is a problem how to dispose of it so it shall not be consumed or wasted, may continue to operate for worthy and efficient ends, and remain a possession forever. We should think it not the best way to reach these results, to pay a city's debts or give it water works or streetcar lines. One might as well "blow it in" for a pyramidal monument like that of Cheops, and better; for the labor employed in building it would be paid for, and the monument would stand for ages, for the admiration of the world, after your water works and streetcar lines have been replaced by others, or are rust and dust. A school sufficiently endowed for instruction and for permanence, or a great public park, or memorials to historic characters seems wisest; for whatever is devoted to the interests and wants of today will surely be consumed, and in the consumption it will enfeeble effort in those that follow. Then even the memory of it will perish, and that right early. The problem therefore remains. Nothing can be perpetuated under the sun; but philanthropy's puzzle is to do the best it can.

Men and women do not so much desire and expect that their names shall live as that their bequests shall do good and be a continuous benefaction. Waste is so easy. A property bequeathed, to do good, should not be dissipated in current expense, but should be so arranged as to be permanent, and if possible productive. Only so can a legacy be good for anything. Used up, or wasted, it is nothing.

Names of but few of all of us will live. "The iniquity of oblivion," says Sir Thomas Browne, "blindly scattereth her poppy, and deals with the memory of men without distinction to merit of perpetuity. The greater part must be content to be as though they had not been, and to be found in the register of God, not in the record of man." Again, "The Egyptian mummies, which time or Cambyses hath spared, avarice now consumeth. Mummy is become merchandise, Mizraim cures wounds, and Pharaohs are sold for balsams."

Such things all observant and reflective persons know. But they want what they leave to the world to be a help to it and a force in it, as long as possible. Money left to the public may be a curse to it, as well as money left to the testator's posterity. Yet the rational person cannot forget his descendants. The problem is difficult and advice is ready. But since permanence for every benefaction is an object of desire, the study of what is best will always be a trouble to philanthropists.

MANY MURDERS; FEW HANGINGS.

Multnomah County has a dozen murderers in jail, but it has had no execution for many months or years. Ask any one when the last hanging occurred in Portland—or at Salem of a Portland murderer—and he cannot tell you. But murders are just as frequent as hangings are infrequent, and largely for that reason. Now we have a lawyer who murders another lawyer in cold blood because the victim had done his duty sternly and fearlessly. The murderer, being a lawyer and used to the ways of the law and of juries, of course thought he never would reach the gallows. Why should he have thought he would be hanged? No murderer with money, or friends, or influence, or family, ever has been hanged here.

It is useless to inquire now how much the law or the courts are to blame for this dreadful condition. There would be hangings enough if public sentiment demanded it; and we should hear less about "emotional insanity" and "temporary mental aberration" if the public should make up its mind to tolerate no longer that common fashion of legal buncombe. Any man may suffer from hallucinations or aberrations; but if he is sane enough or cunning enough to form a plot to kill another, and does it, he is sane enough to be hanged for it; and society makes a horrible mistake when it fails to require that he be hanged. If he is sane, he should pay the full penalty, because justice requires it; if he is insane—"temporarily"—he should be exterminated, because society must protect itself.

Let us hang a few of our murderers who are afflicted with "emotional insanity" or "temporary aberration" and then we shall have fewer murders and greater protection and safety for society. It will be well to begin with Finch.

MR. BRISTOW'S ERROR.

If Senator-elect Bristow, of Kansas, really said, as he is reported, that more than half the Federal Judges are controlled by the railroads, he spoke without warrant. The number is much larger than it ought to be, but it falls far short of half the whole body of the judiciary. When a judge is "controlled" by anybody or anything except a sense of justice and a knowlegde of the law, he is unfit for his position, and it is incredible that any large proportion of the Federal Judges are either timid or dishonest. Undoubtedly their appointment hitherto has depended too much upon influences indifferent to the public good. Senators virtually elected by corporations have named judges to decide corporation suits. This may not be evil, but it has that appearance of evil which the Scriptures warn us to shun. The people of the various districts ought to have a voice in the selection of Federal Judges, and they might have a powerful one if they would send in petitions to the President at the proper time. For the ills we have to endure in this particular Senatorial secrecy and our own neglect are greatly to blame.

POLITICAL COWARDICE.

Carl Schurz, in his memoirs, has many impressive passages; among them this one, viz:

> I have had an active part in a great many political campaigns and probably addressed as many popular meetings as any man now living; and I have always found that whenever any public question under public discussion had in it any moral element, an appeal to the moral sense of the people proved uniformly the most powerful argument. . . . With the majority of the people, notably the "plain people"—using the term in the sense in which Abraham Lincoln was wont to use it—I found the question, "Is this morally right?" to have ultimately more weight than the question, "Will this be profitable?"
>
> We have, indeed, sometimes witnessed so-called "crazes" in favor of financial policies that were essentially immoral, such as the "inflation craze" and the "silver craze," gaining an apparently almost irresistible momentum among the people. But that was not owing to a real and widespread demoralization of the popular conscience, but rather to an artful presentation of the question which covered up and disguised the moral element in it, and so deceived the unsophisticated understanding, and also to the cowardice of politicians of high as well as low rank, who, instead of courageously calling things by their right names, would, against their better convictions, yield to what they considered a strong current of opinion, for fear of jeopardizing their personal popularity. I have seen men of great ability and high standing in the official world do the most astonishing things in this respect when they might, as far as their voices could be heard, have easily arrested the vicious heresies by a bold utterance of their true opinions. The moral cowardice of the politicians is one of the most dangerous ailments of democracies.

One of our historians, writing of the convention that framed the Federal Constitution, says:

> At the very outset some of the delegates began to exhibit symptoms of that peculiar kind of moral cowardice which is wont to afflict free governments, and of which American history furnishes so many instructive examples. It was suggested that palliatives and half measures would be far more likely to find favor with the people than any thorough-going reform, when Washington suddenly interposed with a brief but immortal speech, which ought to be blazoned in letters of gold, and posted on the wall of every American assembly that shall meet to nominate a candidate, or declare a policy, or pass a law, so long as the weakness of human nature shall endure. Rising from his Presidential chair, his tall figure drawn up to its full height, he exclaimed in tones unwontedly solemn with suppressed emotion: "It is too probable that no plan we propose will be adopted. Perhaps another dreadful conflict is to be sustained. If, to please the people, we offer what we ourselves disapprove, how can we afterward defend our work? Let us raise a standard to which the wise and the honest can repair; the event is in the hand of God."

That is impressive, too. The cowardice of politicians is the bane of popular government. Speaking of the peculiar "pledge" as to election of Senator in Kansas, and the absurdly cross purposes it has brought about, the Kansas City Journal says:

> The legislator who has the courage to obey the Constitution and vote for that candidate who to him seems worthy of the office will be commended by the people. The legislator who votes for a candidate who to him seems unworthy will have nothing to plead in extenuation of his act but party tyranny acting upon "that peculiar kind of moral cowardice which is wont to afflict free governments."

WORLD'S GREATEST ENTERPRISE.

Next to Mr. Harriman's rehabilitation of the Pacific railroads, the Panama Canal is the greatest industrial undertaking of recent years. Some of the figures in the annual reports are almost bewildering in their immensity. With 300 locomotives, 4000 cars and 100 steam shovels, and men and other equipment in keeping with the main part of the plant, the project is certainly of sufficient magnitude to attract the attention of the world.

The cost, as shown by the annual report, just filed, has already reached a total of $84,572,998, exclusive of the $50,000,000 paid the French and Colombian governments, or a grand total of something more than $128,000,000, which is quite a tidy sum for even the greatest government on earth to be expending as a starter on an enterprise that promises to change the trade routes of the world. As the interest charges on this investment are now nearly $20,000 per day, the rapid progress being made is of exceptional value. The sum is great enough to warrant the paying of a bonus for still more rapid work.

THE IMPARTIAL GALES.

November gales are strictly impartial in their handling of ships, whether the latter are encountered off the Columbia River or off Cape Flattery. For that reason, whenever a poorly ballasted ship is caught off either port, she is liable to be buffeted around as long as the gales rage, or until a tugboat can get hold of her. These conditions are pretty well understood in old shipping communities like Portland, but in the past, whenever one of these economically ballasted craft was blown away from the Columbia and experienced difficulty in beating back into position, our loving friends on Puget Sound became needlessly horrified over the dangers of the Columbia Bar, and swung their hammers with great vigor. In this questionable proceeding, they have at times been joined by a number of shipowners whose partiality for the storm-haunted entrance to the straits of Fuca might in part be explained by the fact that the underwriters have paid them for many a fine ship, which during seasons of poor freights was worth more to the owners as a wreck on the west coast of Vancouver Island than sailing round the world at a loss.

As an illustration of the impartiality of these November gales the following special dispatch from Port Townsend to the Seattle Post-Intelligencer is interesting:

> The British ship Craigmore, which reached port this morning, reports an experience in attempting to gain an entrance to the Straits of Fuca that is unparalleled in the memory of local mariners. For 31 days the master tried ineffectually to make a position near or inside Cape Flattery, where a towboat could be sighted. Storms arose and the vessel has been buffeted off the Washington and Vancouver Island coasts.

Despite this alleged "unparalleled" experience, the memory of the local mariners on Puget Sound must be failing, for it is but little more than two years since a loaded French bark, the Bidart, was held off Flattery for more than a month, and seldom a season passes unless some of the ballast fleet are detained from a month to six weeks before they get into the straits, or pile up on the west coast of Vancouver Island, which is most appropriately termed the graveyard of the Pacific. The Craigmore reached port with food and water running low, and her master is probably duly thankful that he reached port at all.

The experience of the Craigmore is not unusual for the Winter season, either at Puget Sound or at Portland. It is an experience that in recent years of low freights, has become not infrequent. The responsibility lies in part with the wintry gales, but the owner who sends a poorly-ballasted ship to sea must also bear a portion of the blame when the ship is delayed, or when she piles up on that terrible north coast, sacrificing the lives of the crew to the greed for profits.

INVITING TRADE TROUBLE.

Speaking on the topic "Industrial Future of Canada" at the annual dinner of the New York Chamber of Commerce, President B. E. Walker, of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, last week presented some very interesting facts bearing on our trade relations with our Northern neighbor. The speaker showed that in ten years the United States had made purchases from Canada to the extent of $747,296,000, while for the same period the Canadians had bought from the United States to the amount of $1,430,852,000. These figures might not have seemed so unfair and out of proportion had not Mr. Walker supplemented them with a statement showing that for the same period Great Britain had bought from Canada to the amount of $1,174,385,000, and in turn Canada had purchased from Great Britain to the amount of only $599,047,000.

This disparity in relation between exports and imports naturally makes it very expensive for Canada to do business with us, for it means that that heavy balance of trade must stand the cost of double exchange. In other words, instead of our Canadian commerce being a natural interchange of commodities, we force the Canadians to sell so much of their product to England that they must pay exchange on the balance due them over and above the amount purchased from England. Then in turn they must pay additional exchange on another balance of trade against them in their dealings with the United States. The argument of our eminent standpatters of course is that the Canadians do not buy anything from us that they are not forced to have. This may be true, but they bought it with a poor grace, and the feeling that they have towards us and the possible result of this attempt to get all and give nothing is reflected in a serious prediction by Mr. Walker.

"Beyond a peradventure," said he, "if you do not open your doors a little more liberally to us, so that we can more nearly pay you in goods instead of always drawing on London for the purchase price of what she has bought from us, in order to pay you, you will leave us no alternative but to keep up our tariff walls, until we can create at home, almost every manufactured thing you sell us on the one hand, while on the other we will seek trade preferably with any nation which takes payment in goods so as to lessen our payment of actual money to you."

Another very interesting point on the barrier we have built against Canada was pointed out by Mr. Clifton Sifton, of Ottawa, who stated that the natural route for traffic for a great portion of the Dominion should have been southward through the seaports of the United States. He asserted that there were no natural obstacles in the way of this movement of commerce, but that the tariff barrier had effectually shut them out of the use of these American ports except at great expense and trouble, and had forced them to build east and west, to ports much less favorably situated. The force of these arguments will probably appeal to this country after the threatened reprisal becomes an actuality.

Washington dispatches, reporting progress of the tariff revision discussion now occupying the attention of the ways and means committee at Washington, say that the question of classification of beaded curtains has given rise to a great many disputes. This will be glad news to the average wage-earner who has suffered from the burden placed on him by an excessive tariff. So long as the "revisionists" are engaged in "disputes" over beaded curtains, we can rest assured that the interests of the common people are being closely guarded. It is, of course, matter of small concern to some of us whether beaded curtains are admitted free or with a Carnegie duty attached, but the ways and means committee is not supposed to be looking after the welfare of any particular branch of the people, and perhaps, if there are enough "disputes" started over beaded curtains, we may hope for at least a mild discussion over some of the necessities of life which are now available to the dwellers of other countries at less price than we are compelled to pay.

The record-breaking pace established by Portland and Puget Sound in September and October wheat shipments was too fast to be maintained, even with a large crop to draw on. As a result there is a marked decrease in November exports from both ports. Portland continues to make the best showing, wheat shipments for the month decreasing but 400,000 bushels as compared with November, 1907, while from the Puget Sound ports there was a decrease for the month of more than 1,000,000 bushels. In flour shipments Portland showed an increase over last year, the foreign flour shipments from this port being more than double the amount shipped from all Puget Sound ports. The rapidity with which the crop moved early this season is shown in aggregate shipments from Portland and Puget Sound (flour included) of more than 14,000,000 bushels, while last season, with a crop 16,000,000 bushels larger than that now going to market, the shipments to December 1 were less than 17,000,000 bushels.

The immediate interest of the public in the meeting of the Oregon State Horticultural Society and Northwest Fruitgrowers' Association, beginning in Portland today, is in the display of apples, pears and other fruits that have made Oregon famous. It is announced that a most wonderful collection of the state's pomological marvels has been made, showing that the fruitgrowers of Oregon improve somehow from year to year on their perfect product. Of course there will be much of profit and instruction in the meetings of the societies, where many valuable papers will be read and discussed; but the show feature is nevertheless for the world at large, which knows but little how the fruit is produced, and cares but little more; but it cares mightily about the result. The display begins at 2 P. M. today at Woodcraft Hall, on Eleventh street, and will continue for the three following days.

Studens of sociology, reformers, legislators and the general reader will find a mass of well compressed official information on the subject of marriage and divorce in the United States, furnished by the Census Bureau, in this issue of The Oregonian. Its accuracy need not be questioned. Our neighboring state of Washington heads the list of divorces in proportion to population, the percentage being almost double that of South Dakota, of unenviable notoriety. Oregon, too, outdoes Middle Western states, where divorce laws are abominably lax. However it is probably not true that there is more marital infelicity to the square inch in the Pacific Northwest states than east of the Rockies. Most of the marriages that terminated in divorce proceedings within Oregon and Washington were not contracted in these states.

Councilman Kellaher, talking on light for the streets and for the public buildings of the city says:

> The lighting of the city for the ensuing year will cost the taxpayers not less than $125,000, or 4 per cent on an investment of $3,000,000. It is a notorious fact that the city even at that expense is not lighted as it should be. For an investment of $3,000,000 on which the city is now paying practically 4 per cent interest, Portland could have a municipal plant and an improved lighting service.

It seems to be assumed, in this statement, that the cost of operating the plant would be nothing, nor cost or loss through depreciation anything. It is believed, however, that acceptance of this reasoning would lead the city into error. Depreciation certainly would be something and cost of operation as surely would be something. We should guess a large share of another $125,000 per annum, if not indeed the whole of that additional sum or even more.

If the Garden of Eden had been more populous at the time, there is no doubt an attorney would have offered to defend the serpent in the case of the Government vs. Adam and Eve et al.

How can a member of the Legislature make a "choice" for United States Senator when he is required by an unconstitutional pledge to "choose" some one he doesn't want?

Why cannot the police, who are so helpless before a murder occurs, and generally after, go to the root of the evil by making war on the carrying of concealed weapons?

Mr. Root will be Senator from New York, largely because Roosevelt wishes it. That African trip hasn't begun yet.

Some persons can never appreciate this kind of fine weather until they see an imitation of it in some other country.

Finch "cannot remember" anything about that murder. Will the public so readily forget?

FATHER O'HARA'S SHARP REPLY

Why the Catholic Church Is Not Enemy of Freedom.

PORTLAND, Nov. 30.—(To the Editor.)—It appears from the report of Dr. Heppe's Sunday sermon in this morning's Oregonian that the doctor thought it well to break the monotony of a drowsy half-hour by a fling at the "Romish Church with its antiquated ritualism and ecclesiastical tyranny," which he thinks would have been fatal to the growth of freedom in Ameroca. The doctor is to be congratulated on reviving a hprase which had been consigned to oblivion with the bigotry by which it was engendered. "Antiquated ritualism and ecclesiastical tyranny." That sounds well. And "Romish"! That's immense. But les the phrase pass. I shall not dream of expostulating with a man who sees no impropriety in referring to the Catholic Church as the "Romish Church," and that before a cultured audience in the 20th century.

It is nothing short of presumption to question the historical accuracy of one who is so intimately acquainted with the designs of the Deity as to be able to declare that we have witnessed "God's last and supreme effort in behalf of the race." But I would caution the doctor to speak softly about "ecclesiastical tyranny" when he mentions the name of England. He may never heard of the "Catholic Disabilities" which disgraced that country for three centuries—almost to the time within the memory of men still living; but surely he has heard of Ireland with its "woes and its wrongs for 300 long years."

But the doctor's excursion into history has been particularly unfortunate. The fact is that it was not the Puritans who introduced the principles of religious toleration into the colonies. It remained for Lord Baltimore to exemplify in the Catholic colony of Maryland the principle of toleration for Protestant and Catholic alike. Cecil Calvert instructed his brother on setting sail "to be very careful to preserve unity and peace, and to suffer no scandal nor offense to be given to be given to any of the Protestants." Lord Baltimore invited the oppressed of all lands to join his colony, and in answer to his invitation, says Bancroft, "from France came Hugenots, from Germany, from Holland, from Sweden, from England, I believe from Piedmont, the children of misfortune sought protection under the tolerant scepter of the Roman Catholic."

More could be said on this subject. It may, however, suffice to suggest, by way of conclusion, that, in view of the record of Catholic loyalty to our great country, a minister of the gospel might be better engaged than in insinuating that the Catholic Church is un-American.

LIFE IN THE OREGON COUNTRY

Moses' Dark Habitat.
Hillsboro Independent.

"Now, Mr. Tambo, can you tell me, sah, where Moses was when the light went out?" "Why, Mr. Bones, dat's easy—in Hillsboro, of course." The entire company will now join in that good old song, "Get a Candle at the Corner Grocery Store."

His Thanksgiving "Turkey."
Philomath Review.

The editor and family were generously remembered Thanksgiving with about 20 pounds of fresh pork by our esteemed friend, A. M. Gray, of Pleasant Valley. Several of Mr. Gray's fat hogs had died the day previous and we readily accepted the invitation to help him eat them.

One Useful Dog.
Moro Observer.

Jack, the minister's dog, was put to use as a messenger Wednesday of last week to bring in the delinquents at the Dorcas Society. A note was pinned to his collar and he was told where to go and he didn't stand on the order of his going, and the note was effective.

Appendix Out, He Can Eat.
Drain Nonpareil.

Among the numerous blessings the editor of this paper had to be thankful for yesterday was a basketful of nearly everything that is good to eat, which was presented by Mrs. Merriam. It is needless to add that the good lady has our sincere thanks for this nice treat. It almost makes a fellow wish his neck was as long as a rake-handle while eating such good things, in order to enjoy the taste as long as possible.

Society Man Takes Trolley Line Job.
Philadelphia (Pa.) Dispatch.

In blue overalls and a jumper, E. W. Clark, son of Clarence M. Clark, banker, and himself prominent socially, has been making tests of electric current on the East Side electric system in St. Louis.

For ten days young Mr. Clark was one of "the workmen" on the St. Louis system, of which his father is president, and during his stay there he ate in cheap eating-houses and slept in a modest-priced lodging-house. His fellow workers learned to know him as an affable, industrious young man, but at no time was there the least suspicion that he was other than one of thousands of young men who are just "making a living."

At home, in Philadelphia, young Mr. Clark is known in the younger Germantown set, and he is a member of the Germantown Cricket Club. He had left St. Louis before his fellow workers learned his identity.

Certainly in the Swim.
Irrigon Irrigator.

It is wonderful how Portland is growing. We were down there last week and could hardly believe the number of buildings under way, until we actually saw them. We remember the time, and not many years ago, when the Portland people made a great hurrah when a four or five-story building was begun. Now they do not think such buildings worth mentioning, for there are dozens of structures of from ten to thirteen stories under way. And yet one can hardly find an empty office room in the whole town. Surely the Rose City is in the swim of prosperity.

Costs Chanler $7305 to Be Defeated.
New York Dispatch.

Lieutenant-Governor Chanler's unsuccessful Gubernatorial campaign cost him $7305.27, according to his certificate of election expenses just filed with the Secretary of State. Of this $5000 was paid to Chairman William J. Conners as a contribution to the Democratic State Committee. Governor Hughes, who defeated Chanler, spent $369.65. Clarence J. Shearn, Independence League candidate for Governor, spent $935, of which $500 went to the Independence League campaign fund.

Warning to Anti-Bryanites.
Washington Star.

This much is certain: Anti-Bryan Democrats have full and fair warning. The peerless leader is still a-leading, and still hopeful of success. He will try to control the next Democratic National convention, and if for his policies why not also for another nomination for himself?

American Football Slaughter List.
Philadelphia Record.

The football season is over. Thus far the casualties foot up 13 dead, 129 seriously injured. Considering the number of combatants engaged, the game is proportionately more strenuous and deadly than actual war.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE FOR PAST 40 YEARS

Census Bureau Tabulates the Official Records; Divorce Two and a Half Times as Common as Forty Years Ago; One Marriage in Twelve Terminated by Divorce; Average Duration of Marriage Ten Years.

Last week the Census Bureau completed the compilation of statistics of marriage and divorce for the period of 1887 to 1906, inclusive. This work was done under the supervision of Carroll D. Wright, acting as expert special agent of the Bureau.

The total number of marriages recorded during the 20 years was 12,832,044. The number annually reported increased from 483,069 in the year 1887 to 853,290 in the year 1906. The increase year by year was by no means uniform. The marriage rate is quickly responsive to changes in economic conditions. A small increase shown for 1893 and an actual decrease in the succeeding year reflect the influence of the panic of 1892, and normal conditions do not appear to have been restored in the matrimonial market until the year 1899. It is computed that if the average annual increase in marriages during the five years ending with 1892 had continued for the next six years, the aggregate number of marriages contracted during the latter period would have been greater than it was by 259,813. It is to be presumed that a considerable number of persons in this large total never contracted marriage. This suggests a loss to the community heretofore little considered in connection with periods of financial depression.

Marriage Rate.

The marriage rate in the United States in the year 1900 was 93 per 10,000 population. Based upon the adult unmarried (single, widowed or divorced) population, the rate becomes 321 per 10,000, indicating that in each year something over 3 per cent of the unmarried adult population marry. The marriage rate based on the total population is higher in the United States than in any other country for which reliable statistics are available. But taking the marriageable population as the basis—that is, the population which is of marriageable age but not married—the rate in the United States is not as high as it is in Hungary, is about the same as it is in Saxony, but is still higher than in any of the other countries included in the comparison.

Nearly One Million Marital Failures.

The total number of divorces reported for the 20 years, 1887 to 1906, inclusive, was 945,625. For the earlier investigation, covering the 20 years, 1867 to 1886, inclusive, the number reported was 328,716, or hardly more than one-third of the number recorded in the second 20 years. At the beginning of the 40-year period, covered by the two investigations, divorces occurred at the rate of 10,000 a year; at the end of that period the annual number was about 66,000. This increase, however, must be considered in connection with increase in population.

An increase of 30 per cent in population between the years 1870 to 1880 was accompanied by an increase of 79 per cent in the number of divorces granted. In the next decade, 1880 to 1890, the population increased 25 per cent and divorces 70 per cent, and in the following decade, 1890 to 1900, an increase of 21 per cent in population was accompanied by an increase of 66 per cent in the number of divorces. In the six years from 1900 to 1906, population, as estimated, increased 10 and five-tenths per cent and divorces 29 and three-tenths per cent.

It thus appears that at the end of the 40-year period divorces were increasing about three times as fast as population, while in the first decade (1870 to 1880) they increased only about two and two-thirds as fast.

The divorce rate per 100,000 population increased from 29 in 1870 to 82 in 1905. In the former year there was one divorce for every 3441 persons and in the latter year one for every 1218. Since it is only married people who can become divorced, a more significant divorce rate is that which is based, not upon total population, but upon the total married population. The rate per 100,000 married population was 81 in the year 1870 and 200 in the year 1900. This comparison indicates that divorce is at present two and one-half times as common, compared with married population, as it was 40 years ago.

The available data indicate that not less than one marriage in twelve is ultimately terminated by divorce.

Divorce rates appear to be much higher in the United States than in any of the foreign countries for which statistics relating to this subject have been obtained.

The number of divorces reported for each state in each 20-year period and the divorce rate in 1880 and 1900, based on a five-year average, were as follows:

STATE OR TERRITORY.	Total divorces granted, 1887 to 1906	Total divorces granted, 1867 to 1886	*Divorce rate per 100,000 population, 1900	Divorce rate per 100,000 population, 1880
Continental U. S.	945,625	328,716	73	38
N. Atl. division	142,920	73,563	88	28
Maine	14,104	8,412	117	78
N. Hampshire	8,617	4,979	112	85
Vermont	4,740	3,238	75	47
Massachusetts	22,940	9,853	47	30
R. Island	6,953	4,462	105	93
Connecticut	9,224	8,542	50	61
New York	29,125	15,336	23	16
New Jersey	7,441	2,642	23	13
Pennsylvania	39,686	16,020	35	21
S. Atl. division	58,603	16,357	33	13
Delaware	887	289	16	10
Maryland	7,920	2,185	40	12
Dist. of Col.	2,325	1,165	58	31
Virginia	12,129	2,635	38	11
W. Virginia	10,308	2,535	64	25
N. Carolina	7,047	1,338	24	6
**S. Carolina		162	......	1
Georgia	10,401	3,959	26	14
Florida	7,586	2,128	79	53
N. Cent. division	434,476	162,830	96	55
Ohio	63,982	26,367	91	48
Indiana	60,721	25,193	142	70
Illinois	82,209	36,072	100	68
Michigan	42,371	18,433	104	72
Wisconsin	22,867	9,988	65	41
Minnesota	15,646	3,623	55	27
Iowa	34,874	16,564	93	60
Missouri	54,766	15,278	103	50
***N. Dakota	4,317	297	88	46
***S. Dakota	7,108	790	95	48
Nebraska	16,711	3,034	82	43
Kansas	28,904	7,191	100	44
S. Cent. division	220,289	49,327	95	35
Kentucky	30,641	10,248	84	55
Tennessee	30,447	9,625	89	38
Alabama	22,837	5,204	69	27
Mississippi	19,993	5,040	74	30
Louisiana	9,785	1,697	41	10
Arkansas	29,541	6,041	136	53
Indian Ty.	6,751	....	113	......
Oklahoma	7,669	....	129	......
Texas	62,655	11,472	131	49
Western division	89,337	26,699	129	89
Montana	6,454	822	167	125
Idaho	3,206	368	120	58
Wyoming	1,772	401	118	111
Colorado	15,844	3,687	158	138
New Mexico	2,437	255	73	12
Arizona	2,380	237	120	47
Utah	4,670	4,078	92	114
Nevada	1,045	1,128	111	108
Washington	16,215	996	184	75
Oregon	10,145	2,609	134	92
California	25,170	12,118	108	84

*Based on the annual average of divorce for the five-year period of which the census year is the median year.

**All laws permitting divorce were repealed in 1878.

***Organized from part of Dakota Territory November 2, 1889. Divorces granted in the counties then comprising Dakota Territory are distributed between North Dakota and South Dakota according as the counties are now located in one or the other of these states.

Wives Obtain Twice as Many Divorces as Husbands.

Two-thirds of the total number of divorces granted in the 20-year period covered by this investigation were granted to the wife.

Without any reference to the question of which party is the more frequently responsible for the marital unhappiness that leads to divorce, it may be said that the wife has a legal ground for divorce more frequently than the husband; that is to say, there are certain well-recognized and comparatively common grounds that are more readily applicable as against the husband than as against the wife. Notably there is "neglect to provide" or non-support, which, for the husband seeking divorce, is hardly an available ground, although the present investigation found six cases in the State of Utah, in which the husband obtained a divorce upon that ground. Cruelty, although not infrequently the ground for divorces granted to husbands, is more generally existent as a cause for the wife's seeking a divorce. Five divorces for cruelty are granted to the wife for every one granted to the husband.

Causes of Divorce.

The most common single ground for divorce is desertion. This accounts for 38 and nine-tenths per cent of all divorces (period 1887 to 1906); 49 and four-tenths per cent, or almost one-half of those granted to the husband, and 33 and five-tenths per cent, or one-third of those granted to the wife.

The next most important ground for divorce is, for husbands, adultery, and for wives, cruelty. Of the divorces granted to husbands (1887 to 1906) 28 and eight-tenths per cent were for adultery; and of those granted to wives 27 and five-tenths per cent were for cruelty. Only 10 per cent of the divorces granted to wives were for adultery of the husband, and 10 and five-tenths per cent of divorces granted to husbands were for cruelty on the part of the wife.

Drunkenness was the ground for divorce in 5 and three-tenths per cent of the cases in which the wife brought suit, and in 1 and one-tenth per cent of the cases in which the suit was brought by the husband.

The above percentage represents those cases in which the specified cause was the sole ground on which the divorce was granted. Very frequently, however, divorces are granted, not upon one ground only, but upon two or more in combination.

In many cases in which drunkenness or intemperance was not recognized in the decree of the court as a ground for the divorce it appears to have been present as a contributory influence. Intemperance was, in fact, reported as an indirect or contributory cause of divorce in 5 per cent of the divorces granted to the husband and in 18 per cent of the divorces granted to the wife, and appeared as a direct or indirect cause in 19 and five-tenths per cent of all divorces, and 26 and three-tenths per cent of those granted to wives and 6 and one-tenth per cent of those granted to husbands.

Few Divorce Cases Contested.

Only 15 per cent of the divorces were returned as contested, and probably in many of these cases the contesting was hardly more than a formality. Of those divorces in which notice upon the defendant was served personally 20 per cent were contested, while in those cases in which notice was served by publication in newspapers only 3 per cent were contested. The latter form of notice is commonly employed where the residence of the defendant is outside the state in which the suit is brought, or is unknown. In about one divorce case out of three the residence of the defendant is either outside the state or is unknown, the percentage residing outside the state being 20 and six-tenths per cent, and the percentage for which the residence is unknown being 12 and six-tenths per cent.

Duration of Divorced Marriages.

The average duration of marriages terminated by divorce is about ten years. Sixty per cent, or three-fifths, last less than ten years and 40 per cent last longer.

The number of divorces occurring in the first year of married life during the entire period, 1887 to 1906, was 18,876; the number increases to 27,764 in the second year of married life, and reaches its maximum in the fifth year, when it becomes 68,770. From that point on the number diminishes year by year, but does not fall below the number granted in the first year of married life until the 18th year is reached.

The rapidity with which matters come to a crisis in the married careers of divorce couples is more clearly indicated by the number of years which elapse between marriage and separation. Usually separation precedes divorce by a considerable length of time; and a certain period must necessarily elapse before a divorce can be obtained after the occasion for it arises. The number of years from marriage to separation was ascertained in case of 770,929 divorced couples. Of these 98,460, or 12 and eight-tenths per cent, separated in the first year of married life, and 109,689, or 14 and two-tenths per cent, in the second year; in the third year the number falls off to 76,102; at the end of the fifth one-half of the total number of separations have taken place. But it is a somewhat surprising fact that 24,143 married couples, or 3 and one-tenth per cent of the total number, separated and became divorced after the completion of 25 years of married life.

Children in Divorce Cases.

Children were reported in 39 and eight-tenths per cent of the total number of divorced cases. The proportion is much larger for divorces granted to the wife than for divorces granted to the husband; children being present in 46 and eight-tenths per cent of the former class of divorces and 26 per cent of the latter. A reason suggested for this is that the children are usually assigned by the court to the mother, and to her, therefore, divorce does not imply separation from her children, while to the husband it involves a severance of the parental as well as the marital relation.

1500 Blossoms on One Plant.
New York Herald.

Twelve feet in diameter, with 1500 fully expanded blossoms, a chrysanthemum plant, owned by Samuel Untermyer and now being exhibited in the show in the Museum of Natural History, is said to be the finest of its kind in the world. The plant was grown at Mr. Untermyer's country place at Greystone, in Yonkers, where he has the largest private greenhouses in this country.

The plant is only three feet in height, and thousands of buds had to be taken off recently to allow the other flowers to expand. Each of the blossoms is more than eight inches in diameter.

Ribs Fractured, He Continues Game.
Winsted (Conn.) Dispatch to the New York World.

Burton Miller, right guard on the Norfolk football team, is the pluckiest man playing the game in the state this season.

One week ago Miller suffered the fracture of four ribs, but played the game out before seeing a doctor. Several days later, when Norfolk met Torrington, Miller surprised the players and rooters of the Norfolk eleven by appearing in togs for the fray. He played right guard in both halves. Norfolk lost by a score of 5 to 0, but it was not Miller's fault.