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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, FEB. 5, 1909.

THE CONTRARY EFFECT,

The state undertakes to educate all the young. It is called a democratic principle. The state takes up the child and teaches it the a-b-c-and then undertakes to carry it on, as it grows up, to highest achievements of learningthrough the graded schools, the high schools, the college and the university. Parents no longer are expected to do anything. They can't even teach the child the alphabet. The child must even learn decent behavior at school. No young person is expected any more to do anything for himself. The state must do it all; and increase of the sums of the appropriation bills tells the story of the growing burden on the industry and property of the state.

It will be, it always is, and it must ever be, the object of those whom the state coddles in this way, to escape labor-productive labor. Having been educated by the state, they expect to live upon the state. They will cut no cordwood, sow and reap no crops; get no logs out of the woods, milk nocows, cultivate no potatoes, care for no sheep. The girls, will cook no meals, mend no garments, sweep no They can't even button their floors. own shoes. The state has educated all, of both sexes, above this business or has tried to. Yet not all.

For this system does more than all other things to divide our people into classes, and to destroy the democratic principle. There are some who can take this forced learning, or who pretend to-though they may not have minds to assimilate it, or make it of real use or good. Others, not inferior to them, but often superior, do not find it practicable; they are shy, don't want to take it. detest the superficialities that the state promotes and cultivates, and prefer to rely on themselves and on their own powers. But the great majority can have nothing to do with it, except as their industry is subjected to merciless tax to support it. Their children may indeed taught by it to read-when they are too indolent to teach their children themselves; but their main use in the state is to perform the labor necessary to provide means for instruction and support of the "higher classes."

The system of public education, therefore-especially when carried be yond the common school-is not dem-On the contrary, it tends to ocratic. class division, or to division of the people into classes. Some, certainly, will have to work, but you never will find young men or young women, who have been taken up in their infancy, and carried through a system of free on for fifteen to twenty years. without cost to their parents or labor to themselves, undertaking the drudgery-that is, the humble duties-of They expect genteel, not laborilife: ous, employments. Why shouldn't the state, that has carried them thus far, be their reliance still? These people will join the crowd who want the state to create more offices and pay larger You may depend they will salaries. not hos the cabbages nor milk the cows!

gloomy pessimist pooh-pooh these shining hopes. The doctors have already transplanted legs from dog to dog and made them stick and grow. Why not, then, from man to man? We said in our haste at the outset that the Washington tale was fishy. It may be so, but, following the precepts if we only desire to believe it strenuously enough.

HERO WORSHIP.

A great man is great only because he fits into the conditions of his own time. At any other time, or in any other age, he would be only an insignificant figure. It is true of every great man, on the world's theater of ction

Caesar would have been nothing, in any time but his own. So of Bonnparte. True, to an extent, men like these give direction and fame to their own times, while they make fame for | It has not only been definitely settled themselves. Yet it remains that the time in which the man lives makes the man. The American Revolution made Washington. It gave him opportunity for exercise of his very great mental and moral power. In the same way the conflict over slavery, and the great Civil War, opened to Lincoln the way to fame. Great men are the accidents of opportunity.

It is true possibly, that no other man of Caesar's time, or in Caesar's place, could have accompliated what he did. So of Washington, So of Lincoln. In each and every case there is peculiar adaptability to a situation or opportunity

But the tendency always is to hero ize, and then to apotheosize, men who take the lead and keep the lead, in great things. What, however, would Grant have been but for the Civil War, a problem of cost, and because unr Bonaparte but for the French Revoution? Or Caesar, but for the state of parties and politics at Rome, which pushed him to the conquest of Gaul, as a means of obtaining for himself celebrity and power at home? Isn't there a bit of farce about it all?

We, of America, suppose nobody else could have done what Washington did or what Lincoln did. There is a shade of truth in the supposition. But had neither lived there would nevertheless be a great people here, not exactly under such conditions as now exist, but still a great people, in a situation affording pride in a great present, and looking to a great future. The human race still is greater than all its great

ONE DUTY NEGLECTED.

men.

In connection with the tedious and expensive process now going on of experting the county's books, the ques-Why are not these books kept tion up to date and balanced according to law every year?" will naturally arise It is full six years, we are told, since these books were gone over by the County Auditor, though the law makes his duty to perform this service, or have it performed, every year. Even now we are assured that the accounting is a mere matter of form, there being no doubt whatever about and no reason to doubt the integrity of the officials who have handled the county's money during this long period of years.

It is perhaps a grand thing to have such unbounded trust in human nature as it sits at the receipt of customs, as | tribes of plants or animals and whole is expressed in this assurance of Judge Webster. Yet it is not the safest thing, either for financial servants or for the public's interests, to indulge this confidence to the extreme here shown The law which requires the annual auditing of the public accounts is sufficient proof of this. Unsupervised opportunity to juggle with public alter the course of history by altering funds has brought many a man of onest intent to grief and cost the pu lic millions of dollars in embezzled or otherwise dissipated funds. "Honest John Bardsley.' Treasurer of the mu nicipality of Philadelphia, for many successive, unsupervised years, was a conspicuous example of the folly and danger of this type of overconfidence, when finally the attempt to bring him to book resulted in the discovery of a shortage in the treasury of a very large sum and sent him, a broken-hearted man, to prison for a long term of years. The neglect of a plain, duly precribed duty that leads up to or may lead up to a denouement of this kind cannot be too severely condemned, No financial officer or agent is justified in neglecting to give fully and truly an account of his stewardship/ It is due to the public that has honored and that trusts him, and to himself as a man of probity and accountability to render this account promptly.

of the Navy-yards which are required home and is best founded on the prosby strategic considerations in time of war, and for maintaining the fleet in constant readiness for war in time of

The Bremerton Navy-yard is excellently located for strategic purposes in time of war, and Puget Sound and of the pragmatists, this story and a the Columbia River offer admirable dozen more just like it can be believed rendezvous for the fleet in time of rendezvous for the fleet in time of peace. If the present time-worn bureaucracy in the Navy is replaced by system in which business-like principies prevail ,it will not be long before one-half of the fighting strength of our Navy is stationed on the Pacific Coast.

REBUFF FOR CANAL KNOCKERS.

The small but noisy army of objec ors who have been so demonstrative in their predictions of failure for the tock system in the Panama Canal will find no comfort in the result of Mr. Taft's personal inspection of the work that the canal can be successfully pushed to completion under the lock system, but it is also a certainty that the work can be accomplished several years earlier than was originally estimated. There is, of course, a possibility that the project, as now being carried forward, might have been improved on, had the engineers been

perfectly familiar with the ground in which they were obliged to work. Ac-curate knowledge of this nature prior o comméncement of work was, of ourse, impossible. The most skillful engineer or

most careful contractor not infrequently encounters surprises such as vere presented at the Gatun dam obstacle, however, presented This nothing insurmountable in the way of engineering difficulties. It was simply avoidable trouble was encountered at this point, there was no excuse and no reason for the critics to condemn the lock system as a whole. The cost of construction and time necessary being equal, there would be no question about the advisability of preference being shown the sea-level canal. The latter could be operated much more

economically and the danger of accidents would be lessened. There was, however, a vast saving in original cost and in the time necessary to complet by selecting the lock canal in preference to the sea-level project. In making this selection due consideration was given the fact that at any time in future when it was deemed advisable the change to the sea-level canal could be made without interfering with the use of the lock canal

Now that it has been definitely settled by the President-elect that satisfactory progress is being made under the present plans and management, there should be cessation of the adverse criticism which has been showered on the canal since work was first begun. ____

MENELIK II.

The history of Abyssinia under Men elik II, like that of Japan in the latter part of the nineteenth century, illustrates a view of evolution somewhat different from that held by the older thinkers. To their minds the process of evolution was necessarily slow, proeeding by insensible gradations from stage to stage. The more recent opinion admits that the changes are often rapid and extensive, so that whole

nations may present entirely new aspects within a few years. Nor are the changes likely to be less lasting because of their celerity. Menelik II of Abyssinia, who is said to be about to go to his account, or to have gone. was one of those rulers who, by great force of character and untiring energy, the character of peoples. This they could not do unless the minds of their not do unless

perity of the common people, and put the government in a position to econo mize expenses and lighten the unen

THE MORNING OREGONIAN, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1909.

durable burden of taxation. As for Menelik, with his territory safe and his power secure, he set about traveling the way Japan had gone before him. He was ambitious to introduce the modern arts and sciences among his ancient people. Individually he was of an inquiring mind, a student of foreign manners and knowledge, and interested in mechanical inventions. The striking difference between Asia and Europe is that the Orientals never invent anything. The older a utensil or custom is the better they like it. Nothing ever seems to them to need change. The Japanese are remarka-

ble exceptions to this rule, and Menelik sought to make his subjects exceptions also. They were not Asiatics, out they had many of the character istics of the unprogressive East. Precisely what effect his precepts and example will ultimately have on his peo ple it is impossible to say yet. But. knowing as we do that the entire Orient is pervaded with new ideas and a novel unrest, it is natural to expect revolutionary changes before long in Abyssinia.

The farmers' special that will be ent by the O. R. & N. Co. through the agricultural districts of Eastern Washington next month will duplicate in exhibits, as far as the season permits, and in lectures and demonstra tions, that which traversed the Willamette Valley a few months ago. competent corps of instructors from the Agricultural College at Pullman will accompany the train. Farmers dairymen and fruitgrowers will find in this effort an object-lesson that cannot fail to be helpful in their several vocations. As stated by R. B. Miller, head of the traffic department of the Harriman lines in the territory covered, "the results will become more apparent and far-reaching with the operation of each succeeding farmers' special, through the wider dissemination of practical knowledge conveyed by means of the lectures and demonstrations." Truly the day wherein main strength and persistence in the way of our fathers formed the farmers' stock in trade is rapidly passing.

Mr. Patton, the Chicago speculator, who is reported to have a line of about 20,000,000 bushels of May wheat, yesterday succeeded in working the price up to \$1.10% per bushel, and at the close of business the May option was 11% cents higher than the figure quoted for July delivery. As the cost of carrying wheat from May to July is about 3 cents bushel, it is apparent that the May price is about 15 cents per bushel above the regular value if artificial support were not given the May option. The Liverpool market is still far be

hind the American market in price, but Patton maintains that the American price is based solely on domes Meanwhile every tic requirements. farmer within a radius of hundreds of miles of Chicago can easily secure better than \$1 a bushel for wheat for May delivery. The agricultural com-munity will display the same fondness of Mr. Patton that it exhibited for Mr. Joseph Leiter, who sent prices up to dizzy heights about ten years ago.

The wonders of the knife never cease coming. Here is a tale of a man in a New York hospital whose leg must be amputated because the bones of the knee were diseased. So the doctors cut a leg from a man about to dle (cause not stated and leg not needed where he was going, wings being in common use), grafted it, bone and sinew, and the patient "is said to be rapidly recovering." There is hope who loses hi

Points.

of many important changes to be con-sideced. Now that it has been disposed

of, the Commission is devoting its time to

only work involved is correcting here

charter the amount for this purpose is \$1000. In the proposed charter the Mayor is to have \$1000 for private purposes,

whereas at present he has but \$600 a

Authority is given the Council to pre-

streets of the city, and also the provision is to be made that the Council can pro-

inserted at the suggestion of Rev. Mr.

Mass Meeting of Push Clubs.

Delegates from seven push clubs-

Brooklyn, Sellwood, Waverly-Richmond, Hawthorne, Woodstock and Midway, held a mass meeting last night, A. G.

be reopened, that proceedings to con-

pany should be undertaken at once and

the bridge rebuilt at the earliest pos-sible time. It was the sense of the

meeting that if the bridge be repaired

and reopened it will mean another long

delay before the new structue would

he built. Remarks along this line were

Congressmen Say President Had

Better Not Block Census Bill.

terest was shown among Congressin today over the report that the Pre-

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 .- General in-

dent intends to veto the census bill on

Arrives With Lumber.

er Cecilia Sudden has arrived from Wil-apa Harbor with lumber.

demn the franchise of the railway con

There is a section which provides that

year.

Montague.

In the present

inth In

the

with approval.

Sufferer, 64 Years Old, Unemployed, Says Employers Won't Hire Him. PORTLAND, Feb. 4 .- (To the Editor.)

What are "old" workingmen to do. so far as future is concerned? am one of them, 64 years old, and I am one of them, 64 years did, and 1 have been out of work now two months. When I read The Oregonian's adver-when I read The Oregonian's adver-sessions of the Charter Commission were young men. Always they tell me: "I am afraid you are too old." But I am in good health and strength tisements for male help wanted, and good health and strength, and am as lively on my feet as many who are only 30 years old. However, I have the misfortune to be aged. We have not all been able, even with the most economical living, to accumulate wealth, although we have helped others to be-Would it not be a good plan for the

City Council to pass an ordinance that all workingmen in this city, when they come to the age of 55 or 60 years, should be collected, placed aboard a steamer, sent by steamer out to sea and dumped overboard? The steamer should be sent far enough so that Portland's old men couldn't come back. Thoy are only in the way. I see that the City Council is going

to open a free employment office, but the trouble is that the city can't afford to pay a man to attend to it. Of course there is plenty of money to

year terms, except the first election fol-lowing the adoption of the charter. Six will be elected at the first election, three oregonian on Port of portune bear omy," a large sum of money is about to be spent in purchasing "har and river tugs" and other equipment necessary for the towing of ships from the sea to Portland and return. of whom receiving the highest number of votes will serve the four-year term and the others will serve two-year terms There is to be a provision whereby the Council may expend annually \$5000 for items not included in the authorized lists of the charter. In the present

cessary, now that "compulsory pilot-e" is about to be abolished, and there will be in the future no limiting the num-ber of pilots licensed. Computery pilot-age, together with the law that allowed the Pilotage Commission to restrict the age" the Pilotage Commission to restrict the number of licenses issued, enabled such towing company as they (the pilots) co-operated with, to have an absolute mo-nopoly. There are any number of suitable new towboats here, whose owners no doubt are desirous of business and com-petitive rates will be obtainable.

hibit the carrying of "fraudulent" aver tising matter in the columns of th newspapers or anywhere else. This wa On the bar it might be wise to lease tugs until tugowners understand the altuation.

the Mayor and members of the Council shall not be held responsible for libel or slander uttered in debate during any embarking in the towing business. Break down the monopolies surrounding it, and

Chamberlain.

orse, and the Democrat sized it up jus

of it yesterolay, when the holds, the bill by its Speaker, passed the salary grab bill over the Governor's veto. Providing for an increase of salaries during the term for which the men had been elected, the Governor did a splendid thing in vetoing the bills and decent people everywhere of the bills and section; but this house of will indorse his action; but this house of chumps, men paying no taxes themselves, as a rule, seem to care nothing for the rights of the people, and ride rough shod over everything that is respectable. The

made by A. G. Rushlight, supplemented by W. L. Boise, L. E. Rice, Arthur GLENDALE, Or., Feb. 2-(To the Edi-Brock and O. N. Ford. A committee was appointed to take tor.)-Please answer briefly the following:

LIFE TRAGEDY OF AN "OLD" MAN. CHARTER IS NEARLY READY WIRES ARE PROPERLY LAID

President of P. ., L. & P. Co. Says Board Has Passed on All Important

Law Is Complied With.

That electric wires being strung by the The labors of the commission that for Portland Rallway, Light & Power Com-pany are being put up entirely in ac-cordance with the ordinance regulating months past has been hard at work comsuch matters is the contention of B. S. Josselyn, president of the company Since the ordinance was passed, he says. his company has acted in accordance with it, despite the fact that the measure is alleged to be invalid. It was tentatively understood between the city and the company that the ordinance would not apply in the business district, where the wires have been The question of providing for the city water supply and extension of mains was one of the most difficult the Commission where the wires have been ordered un-derground, and therefore nothing has been done to make the desired changes had to deal with. It was also the last

Good progress is being made on the underground conduit system. Approxi-mately 50 out of the 300 blocks affected by this system have either been supplied cleaning up odds and ends and from now on the members will devote their at-tention to passing on the work of the codification committee. This work was or work on them is now in progres The first underground work installed by the company was commenced about Sep-tember 1, 1907, after the proposed mubegun at the meeting held yesterday aft-ernoon ad also consumed a greater part of the evening meeting. All told, there are over 400 sections of the proposed new charter. The work of submitting this report is in the hands of nicipal conduit agitation was disposed of. At this time the improvement of Front street from Madison to Burnside street with stone blocks was in progress and it was the desire of the traction company to install this underground sub-Richard W. Montague. Because of the care with which the work of the codification committee was performed, the Commission as a body is finding little to do but accept the report. Practically the way ahead of this improvement. The cost of this section of underground work was approximately \$10,000.

In November, 1908, the subway con-struction on First street, between Pine and Burnside, was started, this work also going in ahead of new improvement. Other sections of subway that have been

put down are: Washington, between First and Front. Stark, between First and Front.

Yamhili, between First and Front. High-tension conduit from the com-pany's transmission line at Water and

Harrison to First and Clay. Eleventh street, between Yambili and Burnside, to get ahead of pavement. Front street, from Burnside north to Steeel bridge. Front and Flanders to Third and Oak.

Work is now being carried forward on the subway leading down Seventh from Alder to Oak.

Total cost to date, \$41,200. The above covers the work already ompleted or in the course of construccompleted of in the course of underground subway system for which permits have been issued and on which construction will proceed in the near future are as

Morrison, between Front and First. Subway vault construction in the im-nediate vicinity of sub "a," Seventh and Alder

Twelfth, from Washington to Burnside. From Seventh and Alder to Twelfth

and Washington. Washington, from First to Park. Alder, from Seventh to Front. Oak, Pine and Stark, between Front

and Park. Subway construction in the neighbor-

hood of new sub-station, First and Jefferson

Fifth, from Oak to Yamhill. Morrison, First to Park. Second. Oak to Yamhill. First, Oak to Yamhill. Total cost, \$62,350.

The above figures cover the subway construction only. Cable for these por-tions of the subway has been ordered and will cost when delivered and put In

place approximately \$300,000. In the first underground subway con-struction Orangeberg fiber was used for conduit. We now are using a clay tile entirely and some 14 carloads of this have arrived or are now in transit. Or-ders have been placed to date covering approximately \$450,000 worth of material Rushlight presiding, in the Seventh Ward, and declared that under no cir-cumstances should the Madison bridge for the continuation of this underground work and additional orders will be placed from time to time as required.

During the recent severe weather it was necessary to stop all work. The was necessary to stop all work. The next two months, however, will be active next two monins, nowever, will be made ones and great progress will be made toward the completion of subway instal-lation. The first lot of cable will arrive before March 1 and will be pulled into the ducts and spliced up immediately

upon its receipt. New generating apparatus for the Alder-street substation to feed the under-

and there the construction and the language used. Over half of the sec-tions have been approved. increase the salary of those big ones on the top shelf. I am a foreigner, but a citizen. EX NANTA. At the afternoon session the members present did not consitute a quorum, and they worked as a committee, recommend-Ing to the full Board several changes. Dr. Chapman presided. Councilmen, under the new charter, will be elected every two years for four-

TOWING MONOPOLY CRITICISED. Port of Portland Advised to Open to Competition, Tug Boat Business. PORTLAND, Or., Feb. 4.- (To the Edi-tor.)-Referring to an editorial in today's Dregonian on "Port of Portland Econ-

The writer believes this expenditure un-

There is no necessity for the public

competition will do the rest. E. T. WILLIAMS.

"A LOT OF CHUMPS."

This What the Albany Democrat Calls "Our Legislature," but It Elected

Albany Democrat. This Legislature is getting worse an OPPOSE OPENING OF BRIDGE right in the start. It is a disgrace to the state. There was another daily sample of it yesterday, when the house, headed East Siders Declare Themselves at

election of Pat McArthur Speaker in the first place was a signal of what was bound to follow, and it is coming thick and fast. The joke is the people put in the very class of men who are disgracing the state

Silver Coin Equal to Gold.

slander uttered in debate durin Council session. Mr. Rynerson Mr. Montague what this meant, and Mr. Montague replied that it is thought the Mayor and Councilmen should feel free to speak, without fear of prosecution. "I don't know as the provision is neces-sary, however, as no one is ever punished for slander or libel here," said Mr.

Absolutely, then, this system of free education is not a democratic principle, but the reverse. It creates and will constantly widen class distinctions among our people, and at the same time will multiply the parasitic classes and a bogus aristocracy.

But what is The Oregonian's purpose in saying these things? Does it expect to destroy our cherished educational system? By no means. Its one object is to say a word of truth. where such word may be needed or may fit in. Our system of public education, beyond the common school, is not democratic, but the reverse. Herein, as in so many other ways, the truth or fact is contrary to the expectation; and the effect of the conception is beyond apprehension or calculation. No more complete system than this could ever he devised to make one portion of the people work for the behoof or benefit of others. But it is the modern way -under profession or pretense of democratic equality; which in fact, more than any other single force, it tends to destroy.

TRANSPLANTING LIMBS.

From Washington City comes a fishy tale that the leg of a man who had just died was successfully transplanted to the knee of one whose leg had just in which our naval force is likely to been amputated. Surgery has done wonders of late, but probably nothing guite so wonderful as this. Still the that will increase the efficiency and at feat is not necessarily impossible. If the same time reduce the expense of limbs can be transplanted from one the service. body to another, it is a pity that there a not some way to preserve the remains of robust young criminals whose executions have hitherto entailed what seems to be a useless waste of excellent material. If legs can be transplanted, so can arms. Stomachs come well within the limits of possibility, and hearts are by no means out of the question. A healthy murderer with a sound heart may before a great while be utilized to supply an organ does not signify that it cannot be sucto some millionaire who has fatty degeneration. Who shall say how long it will be before Mr. Rockefeller permanently relieves his dyspepsia by importing a stomach from the corpse of some healthy pirate whose misdeeds are beyond legal forgiveness?

Heads present a more difficult but also a more alluring problem. The time may not be distant when a poet with a feeble physical frame can go to the doctor and have his head, with the all its precious brain, set upon the shoulders of a staiwart athlete. The latter, for a consideration, of course, will agree that his empty pate shall henceforth top the poet's body. Thus, make the world go right. Let no number, location and general facilities the lesson that national glory begins at what woman is? in spite of fate, we shall ultimately

NAVAL REORGANIZATION.

The Naval Reorganization Board recently appointed by President Roose-velt has plenty of work cut out for It. If it succeeds in abolishing one-half of the abuses which have grown up in the department, it will win the plaudits of the people. The charge recently made by a magazine writer that our Navy Department as now conducted was annually wasting \$40,000,000 per year may be slightly overdrawn, that there is an enormous waste under the present system is unquestioned The reorganization scheme was proposed so late in the term of the present chief executive that but little, if anything, can be accomplished under the present Administration. Mr. Taft, however, is a man who has personally visited nearly every part of the globe be found, and he can be depended on to aid in any reorganization plan

The recommendations of the President as to the grouping of the many semi-independent bureaus under a fewer number of heads, thereby bringing the entire workings of the department more directly under the con-trol of the Secretary, are not new, for many Secretaries of the Navy have asked for such a reform and have always been turned down by Congress The failure of the scheme in the past cessfully carried out this time, for the Navy is a far greater and more important part of the Government than ever before and there is increasing need for the maximum of efficiency at

all times

By reason of Mr. Taft's intimate knowledge of the political situation on the shores of the Pacific, there is an excellent prospect that the new regime may insist that at least a portion of Italian hosts ingloriously to flight and fighting strength of the Navy be nipped the colonial ambition of the stationed in Pacific Coast waters, where it is more likely to be needed than at any other station. The Pres-ident, in his letter of appointment of turned the attention of the youngest the reorganization board, expressed a of European nations to internal affairs, desire for "recommendations as to which sadly needed tinkering, enforced

subjects were ripe for innovations, but head. It happened in Menelik's case, as it

does occasionally in history, but not often, that the time and the man co incided. Consequently he was able to achieve results which look almost like miracles. Abyssinia has always played a part in the world's affairs in a modest way.

Some think that it was the home of the Queen of Sheba, who journeyed to hask in the wisdom of Solomon. Its inhabitants were among the earliest converts to Christianity, and they still adhere to their faith in its ancient

form, knowing nothing of the new theclogy and probably living under the bellef that they are following Jesus, although the latest light on that important subject has not beamed upon them. The Abyssinians are not ne groes as a rule. They belong to another physical type, being tall and handsome, with only moderately thick lips, and not much darker than the natives of Southern Italy. Their country is only some five degrees from the equator at its most southerly point, and one would naturally expect it to have a climate like the Isthmus of Panama. This is prevented by its ele-

vation of a mile or more above the sea level, and in consequence it is the one Central African country which Europeans find salubrious and where an in digenous civilization has developed and persisted.

In modern times at least there is no account of any army conquering the Abyssinians. The British temporarily defeated them in 1868, but the fight was not in any sense a fair one The disparity between the arms of the combatants was almost as great as it was when Cortez attacked the Mexi-The British troops had guns cans. and artillery of the latest manufacture: the Abyssinians were armed with antique flintlocks. Some of them even fought with swords and lances in medieval style. Of course they were easily beaten, but Menelik, taking counsel of adversity, as a great man always does and a small one never, obtained modern weapons and ammunition of the Russians, who were not unwilling to furnish forth an enemy for Great Britain, and when the Italtans sought to capture a slice of his territory in 1896 he was ready for them. Italy at that time was a younger nation than she is now, and presumably had less sense. At any rate, she became possessed with the European rage for colonies, which she had neither the capacity nor the re-sources to maintain. Menelik's kingdom appeared to be about the only piece of the world within Italy's reach

which had not been parceled out, and therefore by the right of the strongest she undertook to grab it. The undertaking did not prosper. At Adowa, on March 1, 1896, Menelik put the

youthful monarchy in the bud. Of course the defeat was just in surgery for the m

You see how one thing leads to another. In Washington the state has undertaken to make grain bags for the farmer at cost. Now the oyster men want the state to make sacks for them, and the fruitgrowers think they are entitled to boxes at cost, from the state, for their apples and prunes. It opens a vista long and wide

Dr. Blackburn spoke last Sunday on the topic "If Jesus Should Come to Baker," but did not quote the refrain of a song popular some months ago: "He'd walk right in and turn around and walk right out again," as Baker probably has improved of late.

The racehorse need not retire entirely from all kinds of activity. There will be no objection, for example, to handicapping him with a plow and a stout farmhand and then placing bets on how many times he can get across a forty-acre field in a day.

Ex-President Roosevelt will speak in the capitals of Germany, France and England, in the language of each country, but should a gun miss fire in Afhe will just fall back into plain old Arizona chin-chin.

The advance in rates will allow only the best Oregon prunes to be shipped, leaving poorer grades for home consumption. Oregonians have become accustomed to that course with the apple.

When a bald-headed, 50-year-old affinity has to pay the husband \$5000 for alienating the wife's affections, one has to wonder how a long-haired poet would be assessed.

Uncle like Stephenson, back in Wisconsin, is losing votes daily with reg-ularity, neatness and dispatch. Can it e true that the once well-filled bar'l is empty?

The Oklahoma Legislature by reso lution rushes to the defense of Haskell. Haskell is willing some day to do as much for the Oklahoma Legislature.

The Brooke-Bean bill having been defeated, all Statement One members of the Legislature are free to take the Statement again. But they won't.

By the time this "statement" and 'pledged" Legislature gets through the result will be interesting to all owners of property in Oregon.

It was just a bit of official humor to throw a scare into the delegation by threatening to withhold Butler's mileage.

The new 50-cent coin bearing Linoin's head will be popular. Everybody will want all he can get.

If a woman with seven children is not entitled to her little romance,

Broadly speaking (not in a technical sense) our silver coin is buttressed by Steps were taken for forming a fed-eration of Seventh Ward Push Clubs, gold. Subsidiary silver coins are not legal tender except in limited sums, but silver is exchangeable for greenbacks, and the following committee being ap-greenbacks are exchangeable for gold. In pointed to prepare rules: J. F. Kertchem, Sellwood: Arthur Brock, effect, every dollar in circulation in the Midway; E. F. Mouldenhauer, Kenil-worth; Charles Stout, Mount Scott United States is equal to a gold dollar. Yet it must be understood that equality L. E. Rice, Waverly-Richmond; S. E. is maintained only by limitation of issues of silver and of paper. To maintain this Fremont, Hawthorne avenue; A. G. Rushlight, Brooklyn; C. Ben Riesland

Committee will submit a limitation was the struggle of 1896. Woodstock. report within two weeks. Mare Saves Her Drowning Colt. VETO RUMOR RAISES STORM

Chester (Pa.) Dispatch to the Philadel-phia Record.

A blooded racing mare, owned by George Leiper, exhibited the strong mother instinct when she rescued from a

quarry hole her 4-week-old colt. The mars and colt were being taken to water from the stable to Leiper's farm, near Eddystone, when the younger animal dashed off in the direction of the quarry and before it could be headed off had

and before it could be headed out had failen down the embankment. Breaking away from the man who held her by a haltor, the mare dashed after tho colt, and after peering down into the abyss and seeing her filly struggling in the water, trotted down to the edge of the pool, and taking the colt's many between her teeth, pulled her offspring out upon the embankment. The colt would have drowned had it remained in the water a few minutes longer.

Oversleeps on His Wedding Day.

was in tears.

was in tears. Buzzell produced the refractory alarm clock in self-justification, and the core-mony was performed by Rev. C. O. Eames, paster of the Congregational Church

The wife of Sidney C. Love, of Chicago, a man who.declared recently that, having made \$2,000,000, he would retire from business, possesses \$5,000,000. She was Miss Marjorie Burns, of Chicago, said by an artist to be the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. Love is 35 years old, and started in business 15 years old, and started in business 15

years ago as a broker's clerk. New York's Total Vote, 1,637,034.

ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 2.-(To the Editor.) -Please state total number of votes cast for President of the United States in the State of New York, all candidates. WILL MADISON.

SOME COMMENTS.

BY A. GROUCH. Patriots must pawn their honor before serving their country. The average horse I meet on the strest has better manners than the average auto-

mobilisi Some Christians are better posted on what the Master would do than what he did. Governor-General Smith of the Philip-pines make more of our little brown broth-ers than we do of our statesmen.

Any suggestions coming from the State of New York should be received with respect-ful consideration. They are charged with the seal of an 11th-hour penitent.

tor.)-Please answer briefly the following. Is not all silver coin in circulation backed up by a gold reserve in the United States Treasury, or, in other words, redeemable in gold? W. G. BERNSTEIN. A committee was appointed to take the matter in hand and push forward all steps looking to the immediate erec-tion of the new Madison bridge. The committee is composed of A. N. Wills, The states and Jeffer-

begin to connect customers some time during June. The new substation at First and Jeffer-M. Darling, R. D. Merchant, L. E. Rice, O. N. Ford, Dr. Wood, Ben Riesland, A. L. Barbur and W. L. Boise. son streets is under way and will completed about May 1.

12.

CHARGE WILL BE RESISTED

East Side Business Men's Club Op-

poses Maintenance of Arcs.

After consideration of the extra charge made by the Portland Gas Company for maintenance of gas arcs, the East Side Business Men's Club last night declared Rusiness Men's club last man't ochared that it would resist and refuse to pay the charge, and that the members would eliminate the arcs rather than pay. This motion was made by G. L. Atchiey and seconded by George Dilworth. By unani-mous motion, the club declared the charge

unjust.

A proposition was received from theatrical man to the effect that if I Elast theatrical man to the effect that it has Side property owners will creet a large convention hall that will seat at least 5000 people, he will lease the hall. M. B. McFaul, George T. Atchley, J. M. Wood-worth and H. H. Newhall were appointed to investigate the offer.

dent intends to velo the census oil on account of its provision excluding the 3000 employes of the Census Bureau in this city from the classified civil service. If this bill is veloed it will be the most A long-distance telephone message was received from Senator Kellaher saying he had been informed that one property-owner had held up the improvement of owner had been do the protocological strength of the second strengt The sentiment in Congress favoring the census bill in its present form is so ex-tensive that it is generally believed that two-thirds, vote can be obtained for ft.

mittee and conce. The same committee was instructed to ascertain if East Water street cannot be improved. It was considered that only stone blocks should be used in paving East Water street.

When Portland Read of Lincoln's Death

Among other features in the Lincoln supplement of The Sunday Oregonian will be a facsimile reproduction of the page in The Daily Oregonian containing the telegraphic account of the assassination.

Despite meager facilities and very high cost, the news report is full. This page is well worth preserving as a connecting link with the dim past.

important measure he has antagonized In that way and if Congress should pasa it over his veto, it will be the first time such action has been taken.

SAN PEDRO, Cal., Feb. 4 .- The school

Athol (Mass.) Dispatch to the New York World. The failure of an alarm to ring result

and in Roy E. Buzzell sleeping soundly Sunday morning at the hour set for his marriage to Miss Ella Leone Trask. When Buzzell appeared, pale and breathless and four hours late, his bride

Church.

They've Got Both Love and Money. Indianapolis News. -The wife of Sidney C. Love, of Chicago,