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AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY.

There are several reasons why American foreign policy can as yet be scarcely called a definable thing. One of them is the comparative newness of our relations with the world at large. Till recently we have had little to do with other nations, and could escape entanglements with them; but through the events of the past ten years we have been carried by the course of events into larger relations with the affairs of the world, and we cannot escape the responsibility in which this change has placed us. A further rea-son why we have no definite foreign policy is the divided nature of our sovereignty at home. The states claim sovereignty over many things that relate to or come in contact with foreign policy, and especially with the treatment of aliens in our midst; and foreign nations can scarcely see why, when they have made treaties with the United States there should be claims of local sovereignty by various states that ignore or nullify rights guaranteed by treaty with our National Government. Truth is, the situation is a "raw" one. A government of united or divided sovereignty is liable to trouble at home, as our Civil War attested; and to trouble with other nations, as we find from the present difficulties with Japan.

Whether our country, therefore, can ever have a definable foreign policy or not may be for the present a matter of opinion or dispute. Going on In our crude and clumsy way, we may avoid wars, but we certainly shall suffer in trade. We are constantly in hot water in our foreign relationsat one time with Germany and at this moment with Japan, over the Interpretation of the "most favored nation" clause; with Canada about fisheries and seals; with Cuba about her position under our protectorate; with the Japanese over their rights in Hawali and the Philippines. We make "a race question," as no other nation does, in the matter of intercourse with aliens; and our separate states-or some of them-push it to the limit. If all this stirs the prejudices of other nations against us and leads to rumors of wars, as our course is sure to do, then our trade suffers. But then we are very brave and very strong, or think we are; and we must not let considerations like these stop us from "asserting our rights." What an opportunity, moreover, f.r the patriotic crator!

But it is apparent that our country cannot have a safe and consistent foreign policy, worth the dignity and of a great nation in the world of affairs, so long as the states, in the of their physical and moral being. Man is a creature who cannot thrive exercise of their claims of sovereignty,

total of which the Nation may well be proud, but it is simple truth to say that the details which go to make up its aggregate are not alluring to the upon which he can retire and live in to lead man astray. affluence after a few years.

THEY VIOLATE THEIR OWN PRINCIPLE

No matter what The Oregonian's opinion, or any one's opinion, about the general policy of initiative and referendum may be. This system is now the law of the state, and The Oregonian has a right, and all others have a right, to insist that they who profess devotion to it as a principle shall obey it, and not turn it down or set it aside, to suit their own convenlence

Therefore objection to passage of bills with a clause to cut off the referendum is not answered by saying that The Oregonian is opposed to initiative and referendum policy, and therefore has no right to say anything.

It has a right and all others have a right, to hold those who profess ao much devotion to "the will of the people" to obedience of their own principle; and especially to insist that they should not pass such an act as that to increase the number of members of the Supreme Court, immediately after the people have rejected that very measure by a great majority;---and then, to cut off their opportunity to reject it again, add the emergency clause, which in all these cases not only is unnecessary, but in fact utterly Tals

Or, is not "the will of the people" to be obeyed in any matter, under this system, but in the election of the United States Senator? Does that chievement exhaust the whole duty of obedience on the part of the advoates of the system to the mandates of the people?

### SUNDAY OBSERVANCE.

Most people agree that it is a good thing all around to have one day of rest in seven. Just which day it rest on Monday. On Sunday their hardest work is done. It is then that they earn their salaries. Where a the dustry must be carried on every day in the week if employes have twentyfour hours of continuous rest it must be on some other day than Sunday for at least a part of them. Not all of

them can lie off at the same time. In advocating the cessation of all occu-pations called "secular," and in particular of all amusements, on the first day of the week, clergymen and others assume a position which is not justifiable from any point of view. Theologically they have not a leg to stand on, because the first day of the week is not the Sabbath. There is not an lota of justification in the Scriptures for making the first day of the week more sacred than any other day. Good morals require that persons who must toll throughout six days should be at liberty to devote the seventh to recreation. To sit in idle-ness is not sufficient for their moral welfare. Neither is it sufficient to go to church and listen to a sermon. What all persons need is some re cuperating influence, to breathe fresh air, to take part in a lively game of ball or at least witness one, to see an amusing play at the theater, to go off on an excursion. Those who wish to go to church on Sunday should of course be permitted to do so, but to compel those to go who wish to do something else is not only a grievous infringement of their liberty but it

to sanity and health of mind and body? The extravagance of Puritanism, the dire tyranny which the refentless Sabbatarlans would impose upon man who is looking for an easy job, us, are not inventions of the Deity but or for a mine that even by diligent, in- of poor foolish man himself, or of telligent working will yield returns | some worse character who is laboring

> A POPO-SPIRITUALISTIC FABRICATION. PORTLAND, Feb. 9.- (To the Editor.)-We celebrate the birthday of our illustrious fellow citizen, the great commoner. Abraham Lincoln, who felt the hand of an assassin when his great work seemed alassussin when his great work seemed al-most accomplished, without living to reap the reward so richly due him. He had foressen coming events and acted wisely under most trying conditions. Why not emulate his example and heed his warn-ing? Here is what he had to say, but a short time before his untimely death, in a short time before his untimely death, in a letter written to his friend, a Mr. Taylor, of Illinois, after having been often called

of Illinois, after having been often called upon to favor some special interest: It has been a trying hour for the republic, but I see in the future a crists arising which unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of the war, corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and then the money power of the country will prolong its reign by working upon the projudices of the people, until all wealth is aspressive in a few hands and the upon the productes of the people and the republic is aggregated in a few hands and the republic is destroyed. I feel at this time more anxiety for the safety of my country than even in the midst of war. God grant that my fears may prove groundless. ILLINOISAN.

This statement never was made by Mr. Lincoln, nor any statement like it, "to a Mr. Taylor of Illinois," or to any Its own internal evidence one else. proves that it is just a plain fake; for the sentiment and language do not belong to Mr. Lincoln's time at all. but, as every one knows who has fol-lowed the course of discussion and events in our history, to a much later time. Nicolay and Hay, Mr. Lincoln's secretaries, who wrote and published the elaborate Life of Lincoln, in the preparation of which they consulted every speech, statement, letter or other utterance of Lincoln's which they

could obtain, and made such use as their subject demanded of all that were verifiable, expressly declared, when this statement began to obtain Illinois," now used as sponsor for it, is, moreover, a recent invention. When the story was started no name was used to bolster it up It is believed that the story was

Populist spiritualistic medium, many years after Mr. Lincoln's death, who pretended to have materialized the spirit of the great President and to have received this message from him. But does anybody suppose that "a Mr. Taylor of Illinois," having such a letter from Mr. Lincoln, would not have vindicated his own veracity by publishing in facsimile a document so generally declared fraudulent? It

yould have been the leading card in the Demo-Popo play, twenty years ago -the grandest weapon in their arsenal. It had been supposed that everybody long ago had ceased to credit this fake, or at least had become ashamed to use it.

## WHERE WILL IT END?

In a very interesting communication printed in yesterday's Oregonian, C. K. Henry sounds a warning which ought heeded by every one who has to be the interest of the city or his own private interests at stake. Nothing can be plainer, nor more certain of fulfillment, than Mr. Henry's prediction that "the demand for more free bridges, free ferries, a bridge across the Columbia, parks in every locality, boule-

from American farms-a glittering in religion that is necessarily opposed Many country dwellings are not even total of which the Nation may well be to sanity and health of mind and drained. When we pass into the broader domain of social life what do we find but the everlasting, dismal dance? The country schools have of late been trying to forward matters by encouraging debates, and the way pe ple flock to hear them proves that only leadership is needed to introduce better conditions; but the average County Superintendent of Schools frowns on debates because to his fancy they interfere with high marks in the year and examinations. Did insanity ever invent anything to surpass this in folly? Of course at the bottom of the rural social problem lies the problem of good roads. Shall we ever solve it? France has. So has England, Cannot America do as well as these

# F. P. Baumgartner, for nearly ten

countries?

years local agent of the Gray Steamship Company, has resigned. A great many other steamship agents have also resigned during the long period of service which Mr. Baumgartner has had in this city. But through all that decade, there has not appeared in Portland any other steamship man who has earned for himself the lasting gratitude which the business community of Portland owes Mr. Baumgartner for his discovery of the Coos Bay trade. San Francisco, with the prestige which decades of possession had given her was enjoying a monopoly of that valuable trade when Mr. Baumgartner began working it up for Portland. In season and out of season this steamship agent working on a salary, which was assured whether trade was good or bad, continued to urge the Portland merchants to cultivate the new and rich Southern Oregon trade field and by incessant labor at both ends of the line eventually succeeded in bringing a large amount of the business to Portland.

It might be a good plan to subsidize Mr. Baumgariner and turn him loose on the Alaska trade. The proposed law compelling steam. ship owners to equip all of their passenger-carrying ocean vessels with wireless telegraph apparatus, should pass without opposition. There is not an ocean route of any consequence in the known world which has not at some time since steamships began traversing the seas been the scene of a disaster attended with great loss of life. In a very large percentage of these fatallties most of the victims would have been saved had the vessels been equipped with "wireless. first given to the world through a The practical demonstration of the value of the service was so plain on the Republic that there should be little or no objection, even from the own-

ers, about installing this modern miracle-worker on every passenger ship that goes to sea.

'The "Merry Widow" hat is, we are told, to be superseded this Spring by the "peanut lid," the "Russian tonk" and the "frenzied finance"-each of them much smaller than their immediate predecessor in the realm of woman's headgear. If our Senator Farrell had had the proper tip he would have been saved the mighty mental effort from which the ten-inch hat-pin bill was evolved, the state the expense of printing the bill and the Legislature the valuable time spent in considering and passing upon it. Eagerness to serve the public at a vital point will doubtless be considered sufficient excuse for what proved to be premature introduction of this bill.

Just now is the time to suggest to Oregon dairymen the idea of writing to friends in a aimilar line in the East that this is a good country to visit the coming Summer. They will see the Portland Rose Show, the affair at Se-attle, get a view of the finest dairy vards, more official positions and increased salaries, is certain to check country on earth, with some of the finand stop the splendid growth that we d and learn ow it getting." It is, of course, within the range of possibilities that if this is that Oregon butterfat brings from 30 cents upward-mostly upward all wholesale extravagance in making the time, too. It is not necessary to "free" conveniences and necessities on press them to stay in this country. which even as badly governed cities as, That part of the invitation will regu-New York, St. Louis and Pittsburg are forced to charge tolls could be halted late itself.

A HUNTER IN HIS DEFENSE. Discusses From His Standpoint, Duck

Shooting in Willamette Valley. GASTON, Or., Feb. 8 .- (To the Editor.

GASTON, Or., Feb. S.-(To the Editor.) -Noticing a communication in today's Oregonian from W. L. Finley in which he asserts that a certain class of hunters are using every effort to pass an out-rageous bill allowing the shooting of ducks during February, I would state that I am one of those hunters and chould like to state our position on said that I am one of those hunters and should like to state our position on asid

It is a well-known fact that duck-shooting in the Willamette Valley is all done on overflowed lands and that these lands do not overflow until the Fall rains, which occur generally in Novemrains, which occur generally in Novin ber. In our locality, we never see any ducks before November 15 and as our shooting consists mostly of bluebill and canvashack, our best shooting comes in January and February. On the Co-lumbia, the shooting is earlier and is in accurate over the February 1

generally over by February 1. Mr. Finley is in error when he states that birds mate in February. Unlike the that birds mate in February. Units the teal, mallard and sprig, such birds never raise their young in our latitude. I have invited Mr. Finley several times to come out here, so that I could convince him of that fact, but for some reason he will never come. I have been a resident of Oregon for 39 years and have always here an active supersum and have had him of that fact, but for some reason he will never come. I have been a resident of Oregon for 20 years and have always been an active sportsman and have had at heart the preservation of fish and game. I think that all shooters will agree with me that ducks have been more plentful last year than they were for years also that if it were not for the sport of the proper limitation for the transplanting cautiously, with the German carp. But, cautiously as he began, yet long before his death in 1888, he would have gially undone all of it. These fish got away from all control in many sections, and more plentful last year than they were the proper limitation for the transplanting proper limitation for the transplanting cautiously with the German carp. But, cautiously as he began, yet long before his death in 1888, he would have gially from all control in many sections, and people who addressed complaining letters agree with me that ducks have been more plentiful last year than they were for years, also that if it were not for the for years, also that if it were not not the feed and care that the Columbia River shooters give their ducks, we would not have one bird where we now have 20. They would all go South early in the sca-son. With all due respect to Mr. Finley I would ask him if it destroys more birds to kill a hen bird in February than if it mea billed in Lemenv2 Laws a momber was killed in January? I am a member of the Oregon Fish & Game Association, the members of which are giving their time and money for the preservation of game in our state and I am positive that none of its members would be guilty of killing a nesting bird. All the valley shooters ask is an even break. J. H. WESCOTT.

## The Position of Senator Root.

Pittsburg Dispatch. Senator Root's argument before the agislature of New York was the familiar one of abiding by the entire theory of the Constitution in its intent of mak-ing Senators stand for the states, and his preferred remedy for any legislative corruption was the selection of better legislators.

thought it quite shallow to argue that functions are often taken from on official body and imposed upon another, for the duty of "choosing" Senators is a constitutional one and its change must a constitutional one and its change must be effected by regular amendment of that instrument. To permit any one state or several states by some device to elude a provision of the organic law, if upheld before the Civil War, might have vali-dated secession or at least provided all the results secession sought.

dated secession or at least the results secession sought. Possibly "coercion" is too strong an affirmative word for the influence that affirmative Gregon result. But the realized the Oregon result. But the pledge was given with no idea of the party misrepresentation it now involves, nd while one may smile at the partisan discomfiture, the constitutional question remains. Was there a real "choice" by the Legislature? Many who have come to acceptance of the scheme of popular elections still hesitate over beginning its until the Constitution be duly practice amended.

## Miracle of Lincoln's Literary Style.

February Century. Lincoln's style in speech and writing is the same sort of miracle that gave is the consummate art of Shakespear The uncolleged actor; of Burns, the plowman, and of Keats, the apothe-cary's apprentics, son of a livery-stable man. It is not easy to analyze a mi-racle, but in discussing the leadership of Lincoln it is interesting to find cer-tain qualities in his literary style that are traits of his character, and thus elements of his leadership. Notwithstunding that the country has been ransacked for every second of his public speech, and every second of his public speech, and every scrap of paper to which he put pen, there has been found from him absolutely nothing dis-creditable, and little that can be criti-clised in the way of expression. Withthe uncolleged actor; of Burns, plowman, and of Keats, the apo

the high cost of printing in the Gov-ernment plant. Figures were presented in the House debate showing that the estimate of the Government printer for printing the census were hundreds of thousands of dollars in excess of the estimate of the director of the census, clased in the way of expression. Without the aid of any teacher, he early learned to be moderate and reasonable

COLUMBIA RIVER SALMON FOES. Another Protest Against the Transplanting of Black Bass.

LAKEWOOD, O., Feb. 5 .- (To the Ed-itor.)-I have just read in The Oregonian

of January 31 the communication of W Hampton Smith on the subject of the most dangerous and deadly enemies to the salmon in the Columbia. He tells the truth in so far as the grave fault of the United States Fish Commission rests. He recites its senseless and improper action by which it has stocked Gregon's great river with It has proceed oregon's great its such as black bass, for instance. The wonder of it all is that such action could have been taken without a word of protest from Oregon's own people until this late hour. It was my privilege and good fortune to be one of the young men who were closely this question of bringing alien food fishes into the home waters of our country was a topic always under discussion, pro and con. Professor Baird was big enough and sensible enough then to fully appreciate the proper limitation for the transplanting people who addressed complaining letters

to him every month. to him every month. Had Professor Baird lived, or had it been the good fortune of this United States Fish Commission to have had a chief like him as his successor, who even faintly equalled him, that black base planting of insatiate destroyers of mil-lions of young salmon in the Columbia

A WIRELESS BALLOON GUIDE.

trolled From Distance of Miles.

Kansas City Star.

pinations of dots and dashes, each com-

some particular movement. Sometimes the operator placed his in

Springfield (Mass.) Republican. It is an amazing fact that the Gov-ernment printery has been so far dis-credited that Congress has embodied in

the census bill a provision that the next census may be printed by private establishments, at the discretion of the director of the census, on account of

Hons of young sameon in the Oreanian River would never have been done. W. Hampton Smith tells Oreanian readers the truth in regard to the United States Fish Commission and its mischlev-ous and ruinous work. But that truth is only half told, unless the above is added to his narrative. HENRY W. ELLIOTT.

attended. All those who had occasion to have something to say on the subject of the great event prior to has evening's ban-quet were expected to constitute the audience, while the additional arrivals were expected to furnish the speech-making, incidentally the presiding officer, Chier Rabban Galvani, was called upou for songs, which, it is assorted, he ex-ecuted with much neatness and dispatch. Among the interesting speeches of the Aerial Craft Apparently Can Be Con-

to the members of Al kader Temple. He completely surrendered to the upbility of Oregon. Indeed be offered to help Ore-gon get anything it may want-from an Imperial sension to an imperial officer or the Imperial Divan of the Imperial Shrine, and amidat obsers reminded the Shrine, that musts could do no more. bination causing the balloon to perform

strument directly under the balloon and again would remove it 200 feet away. institution-absent or present-his grate-ful acknowledgement of receiving the im-Distance had no effect on the control, and the response of the mechanism, which was operated by propellers, was prompt "With this small apparatus," he said, "With this small apparatus," he said, "I could control the balloon at a distance of 12 or 15 miles, and with a more powerful apparatus the control could be ex-tended to almost any distance." which after veyed the party to the Union Depot. Bad National Business Management.

ADORN FORESTRY BUILDING

Arrangements Completed for Cele-

## brating "Rose-Planting Day."

Arrangements for Rose Planting Day on Washington's birthday, February 22, were practically completed hast night at s meeting of the committee appointed some time argo for this purpose. It is the plan of the committee to hold the ceremonies in the Foreatry building and an effort will be made to obtain the con-sent of the Park Board to have the 190 roses that are to be planted on that day. set out on the grounds surrounding the

building. It is the hope of the entire committee that the Park Board will consent to hav-ing the roses planted at the Forestry building, instead of in some one city's parkings. Thousands of person who come to Fortland during the year, who come to fortland during the building It was pointed out, visit the building inade out of Oregon's slant timber and it is no more than fitting that the rose, the flower that is helping make Portland famous, should be planted there in pro-While the programme of the day's events has not as yet been completed, it is the intention of the committee to have short speeches by the Governor, Mayor and other prominent people. It was hoped that Lather Burbank could be present, but he has written Dr. Emmet Drake, chairman of the committee, that if it is possible, he will come. In the same letter Mr. Burbank stated that he would send to the committee and of his would send to the committee one of his newest variaties of roses. This new rose will be called "The Rose of Oregon." It will come direct from Mr. Burbank's Santa Rosa farm. Joaquin Miller, the "post of the Eler-ras," after explaining his reason for not being able to accept the invitation to attend Rose Planing Day, adds, "The rose, like the beautiful woman, speaks for itself." The poet sends two postal cards showing a view of his home up in the hills back of Oakland, and requests the nins mack of Osahimi, and requests that one be given "to the prottlest little girl planting a rose, and one to the prottlest big girl." It is the intention of the committee to have 50 girls dressed in white and 50 boys to do the planting and if Joaquin Millor can be permaded each sittle and Miller can be persuaded, each girl and boy taking part in the exercises will be presented with a postal card bearing the poet's autograph as a souvenir. Mr. Drake will write to Mr. Miller at once and request him to send the cards. Bishop Charles Scadding has accepted the invitation of the committee to per-form the ceremony of "blessing the roses" and invitations have been sent to officials of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Ex-position to be special guests on the oc-casion. It was decided to hold the exension. It was devined to hout me ex-ercises at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Those who attended the menting word Mra. John Minto, Mr. and Mrs. Halph Hoyt, Mrs. Herbert Holman, Mr. and Mrs. George L. Hutchin and J. N. Davis. Proposes Scalp Bounty on Democrats. Proposes Scalp Bounty on Democrats. PORTLAND, Feb. 2.-(To the Editor.) -I should like to suggest through The Oregonian that while we have so much proposed freak legislation going on in the way of protection to various animals, such as scalp bounty on coyous, coo-gars, etc., and legislation to protect sal-mon, why not pass a Democratic scalp bounty act-to protect what few remain-tions Benublicans we have in Oregon from SPOKANE GETS IDAHO GAME ing Republicans we have in Oregon from going up the Democratic stream to spawn? There will soon be nothing left of the Republican party in Oregon but

# SHRINERS FEAST POTENTATE

## Al Kader Temple Royally Entertains

Edwin I. Alderman.

Yesterday was one of the most impor-tant days in the history of Al Kader Temple, of the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Myslic Shrine. Al Kador Temple has had prominent visitors as different times in its history, but never before did the Shriners of Portland re-ceived an Imperial Potentate.

Yesterday's programme consisted of an Yesterday's programme consists of an automobile ride through the city, a linch-eon at the Commercial Club, an after-noon ride in a special car ordered by President Josselyn and a banquet in the main parlor of the Portland Hotel, under the autoplees of Al Kader Temple, to be the new the art that Al Kader he one of the young men who were closely associated with that fine character and real naturalist, S. F. Baird, when he haid the first stone, so to speak, in the foun-dations of the present United States Fish Commission. As the work grew, and be-came of National importance and interest,

Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Whatever was do Whatever was done by Al Kader Temple was carried out strictly in an informal way-the telegram of the arrival of the Imperial Potentiate having been strangely delayed. The automobile ride, on both sides on the Willamette River, In spite of the anisty condition of the elements was enjoyed. The luncheon at the Commercial Club was superb and in keeping with the reputation of that in cieping with the replaced on rids to Coun-cil Crest, Willamette Heights and Lewis and Clark Fairgrounde, was most de-lightful. But the climax of this great event in the history of Shrinedom was the banquet last night in the main parlor of the Portland Hole.

of the Portland Hotel. The banquet was presided over by Chief Rabban Willam H. Galvani, of Al Kader Templa. Among these present were some who did not attend the ban-quet on Monday sight, nor the lunch-con at the Commercial Club. There is son at the connectal time, there is apparently a sort of autocrafic power conferred on the presiding officers in the dominions of Shrinedon and Toastmaster Galvani exercised those precognities with conductive bla care and which is the

considerable care and much to the sulls-faction of all members and visitors who attended.

Demonstration of one of the greatest locomotion was given when Mark O. An-thony, a New York electrical engineer. ecuted with much mathems and dispatch. Among the interesting speeches of the evening were those of Nobles J. E. Werlein, Dr. J. R. Weiherber, Henry Roe, Sig Sichel, Henry W. Friese, A. L. Tetu, W. R. Mackensle, Dr. J. K. Locks, William C. Bristol and others. The speech of the evening was, of course, the fare-well talk of the Imperial Poientaise to the members of Al Kader Temple. He completely surrendered to the upbility of sent a small, dirigible balloon scudding about through the air by means of trans-mitted power, making it perform all sorts of evolutions and having it perform all softs of evolutions and having the air craft at all times under perfect control. By actual performance he demonstrated for the first time that the long-sought-for secret of propelling airships by wireless electricity has been discovered. Sitting at a small electrical keyboard, such as is used in sending wireless mes-sages, the inventor ticked off various com-

Shriners that and at calculation remains the Shriners that angels could do no more. Chief Rabhan Galvani closed the pro-gramme by expressing in behalf of AI Kader Temple and every member of that

In acalous the second s Edwin I. Alderman. The hanquet broke up with singing "For He Is a Jolly Good

are disposed or permitted to inter-fere with it. The outcome cannot at present be foretold. But it is certain we have not yet developed a consistent constitutional system.

#### AGRICULTURAL MINING.

According to the last report of the Secretary of Agriculture nearly two billion dollars more than all the gold in circulation and in vaults in all the countries on earth will be paid to the American farmer the current year for the products of his land as wrought out by his endeavor.

Farmer Wilson, seer of agriculture, delights in painting the picture of rural prosperity, using the more glowing colors in bringing out its gracious outlines. He does not deal with the subject in detail, but presents it as a stupendous whole. The aggregate almost staggers comprehension. During are alles of the saloon are seriously the last ten years, he tells us, the wealth production on the farms of the country has exceeded the fabulous sum of \$66,000,000,000, while in 1908 the value of all farm products reached the most extraordinary total in the Nation's history, \$7,778,000,000.

This is, indeed, a tremendous show ing for agriculture, though it must be confessed that there are many farmers who regard them wistfully, wondering where their share of the profits came in. Without any desire to question the estimates of the Secretary of theater is similar. It is a foe to the Agriculture, or to dim by a breath the brightness of the picture of rural affluence that he holds up that all the world may see, the fact is borne in upon us that it is yet too soon to reckon the farmer as among the widely heralded class known as the In truth, for men who 'idle rich." have all the world at their feet as dependents upon their bounty, and with nearly \$8,000,000,000 back of them as the results of a single year's endeavor, farmers generally have not the appearmen of wealth-still less of men of leisure. According to the estimate of the New York World, in passing upon this report "The American farmer, collectively, is a mighty factor in world finance, while singly he is ill over-worked, grossly discriminated against in legislation and not is not worth considering. nearly so much in need of commissions

on social uplift as of simple justice." One has but to look about him to find justification of this estimate. "The gold mine on the farm," to yield color must be diligently worked and every saving device known to agricultural mining must be applied to the process of separating the gold from the soil. There is rugged independence in the process; there is rude plenty all along the way: there is modest competence at the end of the active period of en- lacks an audience to listen to it. deavor for every man who, enamored of growing things brings industry, inmining.

a sermon of reasonable length and for a game of baseball also. Persons who But there is no leisure class among tose engaged in this vocation; no idlers who lie in the shade while the have lived in rural districts where the elementary problems of light and waprocess of extracting the gold from Catholic Church is popular have often ter have not been solved on most the soil goes on. The stupendous seen the young men meet on the green farms, though there are good and proves her claim to great enlightenaggregate-the value of gold taken play ball. Why not? What is there and supplying them with pure water. ment.

without change of scene and occupation. The mono routine must be decidedly broken on one day out of seven or he will pine. Hence the immeasurable moral value of Sunday baseball games, the Sunday theater and excursions which take people away from the scene of their work into the healthful air of the country. Economically the advocates of "first day observance" are worse off than

sleep.

is deeply moral.

may result in a positive deterioration

Unfortunately, as stated by Mr. Henry, "If they have the right to inthey are ethically and theologically. The argument for closing saloons on crease the taxes from 30 to 50 per Sunday is sound because on that day cent for one year, what is to prevent working people have more opportunity them from increasing them in the next than at any other time to squander year in like manner? The present their earnings in drink. But if all uplift" of salaries and all forms of other recreations are cut off closing municipal expenditure has all been acthe saloons will not prevent them from complished so easily that it is perfectly drinking. They will simply buy the natural to expect an even stronger liquor in jugs and guzzle it at home. dose two years hence. There will be The ministers who say that the Sun-day baseball game and Sunday theater other Constables and other District Attorneys after more deputies, and all, of course, must have higher salaries. misinformed. The saloon has no worse There will be additional superintendfoe than the Sunday baseball game ents of superintendents for the Port of The man who has passed an afternoon Portland, and in a thousand directions in wholesome recreation in the open there will open up avenues for inair goes home tired and disposed to creased expenditure. And yet the worm His body is invigorated and

sometimes turns. his character elevated. He may pos-At present the burden is falling on sibly take a drink or two on the way cople who own a little property, home if the saloons are open, but he but it is too great a burden to rest does not sit down and systematically long with this class alone. The nonbefuddle himself as he will if he has taxpayer who enjoys free ferries, free no outdoor recreation or other hygienic bridges and innumerable parks, all amusement. The part of the Sunday "free" by the hard-earned made money of the taxpayers, will in the end saloon, not a friend. It induces men, be called on for his share of this exespecially young men, to spend their penditure, and as so much of the time in good company and under commoney has been wasted, it will fall paratively good influences instead of doubly heavy in the shape of increased definitely bad ones. The conventional cry that the theater is immoral is nonsense. The ministers who reiterate it forget that there is a hereafter. simply prove how little they know of the world they seek to reform. In the

up

THE COMMISSION ON COUNTRY LIFE. main the theater, even the melodrama, President Roosevelt never said a

It is an ethical and economic ca truer thing than this, which is to be found in his message transmitting to lamity of the first rank to close Congress the report of the Commislibraries, art museums, theaters or sion on Country Life, that farmers other places of information and proper amusement on Sunday. Every such might give their lives more desirability, place should be kept open on Sunday dignity and profit if they chose. City life improves faster than life on the even if on other days it were closed. The argument that places of secular farm, said the President, simply because people in town take more resort keep people away from church thought for their own welfare. We If the hear constantly of citles striving for churchs cannot compete with libraries, excursions and museums of art, there better charters, better streets, better social conditions. How much do we is something wrong with them and the sooner they find out what it is and rehear from the country of similar efforts? Not very much, though the form it the sooner they will cease to clamor for the law to help them good roads movement has now atwhere they ought to help themselves. tained a certain strength. What the John Wesley would not have feared farmers lack, as the commission truly the competition of a baseball game; sava, is co-operation. They have not neither would St. Patrick. The truth yet learned to do business as a united of the matter is that any minister who body, while those of whom they buy has a genuine message to deliver never and to whom they sell are closely organized. With the farmer it is al-He needs no laws to herd the multitude most always still the sad old story of the isolated individual trying to hold into his auditorium. They come of telligence and patience to agricultural themselves and they come gladly. his own against a great organization There is plenty of time on Sunday for | and failing. The directions along which rural life

admits of uplift are innumerable. The

now, we might in a few years catch President Jordan's remark that the with these runaway expense bills. anti-Jap agitators are making California ridiculous comes late in the day To save California from being ridiculous a great part of her political and social history for the last decade must be canceled.

> -Mrs. Lemp, Jr., suing for divorce from the St. Louis brewer, testifies he taught her to smoke cigarettes before marriage. The Inference is natural that he also taught her other things she should not have been taught.

> Representative McKinney appears to be on the right track. If it can be arranged that the Legislature be abolished by the initiative and the initiative by the Legislature, there ought to be left nothing to be desired. -

Over in Multnomah Addition the early bird got the ple instead of the worm, though after all it is not stated what the ples are made of and he may get the worm, too. Thus ancient truth holds its own.

It is rigidly insisted that the lucky persons who have been invited to that great New Orleans Taft banquet must wear a spiketail coat, a white tie and a rents, living expenses and lower sal-arles. On with the dance, but don't seeing.

> The Ministerial Association is pervaded by a fragrant spirit of charity, forbearance and brotherly love. Dr. Cline was not sat down upon, he was only chastened for his soul's good.

McFadden, McBirney, McIntosh and four more Idaho legislators of the right sort have a bill to make March 17 a legal holiday in that state. More power to them.

The Washington Legislature agrees that the anti-racetrack law shall not go into effect until June 11, 1909. Just think of the harvest of suckers meantime!

It might do no harm and much good if Dr. Brougher were to suggest to these "backcapping" and quarreling ministers to act as Jesus would.

The uplift report of the Commission on Country Life seems to have pretty much followed the plans of the Patrons of Husbandry.

Just as a suggestion: If the Mayor really desires a chief of police who can find gambling in the city, why not appoint Mr. Wills?

Japan is entirely indifferent to what Nevada does, and says so. Japan

in statement, so that on the part of spring, even the obscure young politician reached there is a complete absence of that kind of public speech which is described by the b reached when a printery maintained by the Government has to be avoided by the Government itself on account of the costliness of its work.

and of public speech which is described in a passage he loved to quote, where it is said of the orator that "he mount-ed the rostrum, threw back his head, shut his eyes and left the conse-quences to God."

"Mary Had a Little Lamb."

"Bary Han a Little Lamb." Revised Version, by Richard Carle. Mary (whose other name escapes me) was the owner of an undersized animal of exceeding devotion, whose fleece, I may say in passing, was as white as snow.

fleece, I may say in pairing, white as snow. It was fixed in the habit of follow-ing her, much to her confusion, in the most unaccountable times and places. Frankly, whatever mission Mary un-dertook, no matter how triffing, this lamb was sure to decla- itself one of

the party. The triumph of absurdity came when Mary, duilfully intent upon her stud-les, unconsciously led the lamb to the institution which had her educational future in hand. This, mark you, was against the rule. It quite upset the dignity of the in-stitution, causing unbounded merri-

It quite upset the dignity of the in-stitution, causing unbounded merri-ment among Mary's under graduate associates, because to the undeveloped mind it was an unconventional-yes, even incongruous-sight to see a lamb at school.

### Gets What It Calls For.

Baltimore American. When the United States Government makes a call for money it always gets what it calls for. And that is just the difference between the United States Government and the average bill col-Government and the average bill col-

A Hit, a Palpable Hit.

A min, a range Louisville Courier-Journal. And now they are making a great to-do in the Nevada Legislature about barring out the Japanese. But do Japanese, or anybody elso, have a desire to migrate to Nevada?

#### A Sufe Forecast.

Ohio State Journal. Our forecast for the year is that there will be a marked falling off in Presidential messages early in March.

#### In Oregon.

They are so far ahead of Maryland They are so far ahead of margin frequency. Such purity here we can't understand, As Oragon's: Their primaries are such perfect things. So free from politics, boss and rings. That the Governor here the praises sings Of Oregon.

The Governor wants that blissful state Of Oregon

And to his party to dictate This Oregon: He wants (Don't smile, my cynic fried). The days of rule machine to end (?) He wants his with a purity blend He wants his with a purity blend From Oregon.

The Constitution cuts no ice In Oregon, But the primary plan is there so nice. Why heed a little thing like that? Why need we know where we are at? Not on our own feet we stand pat. But Oregon's? -Josh Wink in Baltimore American.

#### Pastry and Poetry.

Because you love a poem do not try To write one; this assumption do not take. For many have an appentite for ple. Who can not bake. —Alonso Rice in Judge.

derived, no doubt, from private estab-lishments. Usually Congress "stands" for this sort of thing, and the fact is interesting that in this case it revolted against the exactions of its own off-spring. A remarkable situation is

The Immortals Life.

Two women were standing recently before some original torsos of gods in an art museum not far from Boston. After gaining at the marbles for some moments one of the women was heard to remark to her companion: "To think that they were once alive!"

MISSION WORK IS REVIEWED

Methodist Women's Society Elects

Mrs. A. B. Clark President.

A largely attended and interesting meeting of the women of Portland dis-trict of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church was held in the parlors of Grace Church was held in the partors of state Church yesterday. During the forenoon reports were received from the auxill-aries and young people's sociaties throughout the district and the annual election of officers held resulting as throughout the district and the annual election of officers held, resulting as follows: President, Mrs. A. B. Clark; vice-presidents, wives of ministers of Portland district; corresponding secre-tary, Mrs. H. A. Dearborn; recording secretary, Mrs. J. B. Candlish; treasurer, Mrs. J. P. Newall; secretary of young people's work, Mrs. W4 H. Beharrell. In the afternoon the branch day of

In the afternoon the branch day of prayer was observed, when an unusually holce programme was presented. Mrs J. W. Hamilton spoke with great ear-nestness and heauty on "The Presence and Leading of the Holy Spirit"; Mrs. and Leading of the Holy Spirit"; Mrs. Benjamin Young read a valuable paper on "Christian Giving," and Mrs. M. C. Wire, the branch president, presented the thank-offering for the Laura Cran-ston Hall, at Foochow, China. Miss Wooley, of Sunnyside, spoke on "Young People's Work," while special music was rendered by Harold Coffin. of the Moody Institute, Chicago; Mrs. E. S. Miller, the Misses Tibbetts and Allen and Rev. and Mrs. J. W. MacDougall. Mrs. J. J. Abbett, the Oregon confer-ence secretary, presided over both ses-

ence secretary, presided over both ses-sions, and Mrs. L. C. Dickey, secretary of supplies, supplemented the announce-

ment of her literature by a touching pre-sentation of some phases of foreign missionary work, made more interesting to the workers, from the fact that the speaker's brother, Marlon Keys, leaves onight for China, where he goes as a representative of the Y. M. C. A.

State Universities to Meet on Mutual the label on the can. WILLIAM FROST.

### Football Grounds.

SPOKANE, Wush., Feb. 9.-(Special.)-Idaho and Washington State Universities will play their 1909 football game in Spokane. The date is not finally agreed Idaho and Washington State Universities will play their 1966 football game in Spokane. The date is not finally agreed upon, but will be October 30, November 6 or 13. Victor H. Zednick, graduate man-ager of athletics of the University of Washington, went to Moscow, Idaho, to-day for a three-cornered conference with Managers Herk Smith, of Idaho, and Laoyd Hawley, of Whitman, and it is tentatively understood that Whitman will be the stronger because Roosevelt at-tacked it; the Legislature will be the more independent because he sought to subordinate it, and the executive will be the stronger because he sought to subordinate it, and the executive will be the be the weaker because day for a three-cornered conference with Managers Herk Smith, of Idaho, and Lloyd Hawley, of Whitman, and it is tentatively understood that Whitman will play Washington in Seattle this Fall.

#### Constitution Will Be Stronger. Florida Times-Union.

play Washington in Scattle this Fall. Zednick expects to land a game with Washington State College.