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Portland, Saturday, July 10, 1909.

WORK FOR THE VETO PEN.

President Taft, it may be assumed, is doing all he thinks he can do to carry out the pledges of the Republican party and the purposes of the platform on which he was elected; yet if such be his purpose, thus far he has been signally unsuccessful.

Nobody misunderstood the platform of 1908 on the tariff, or the utterances of Mr. Taft thereon. There was general demand for tariff revision, because it was held that many of the schedules were too high.

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NEWS AND NEWSPAPERS.

In La Follette's Weekly, of recent date, a long article is published in the Associated Press, to criticism of its management and methods.

In his erratic way Elbert Hubbard says some very good things about the Chautauqua idea.

How many of them are interested in this hard to come by thing in the way of song ascends through the trees while the unmelodious lecturer does his best to interest the multitudes in science and art.

The weakest nations are the ones that will fall behind in the present race for armaments.

The big Cunarder Mauretania has clipped 17 minutes off the trans-Atlantic record by arriving at Sandy Hook in 110 hours and 36 minutes.

The Mauretania's flight across the ocean liner, once clear of the land, has a clear track all the time.

ing 1,800,000 pounds, was drawn by an engine weighing 266,000 pounds, a night after night this tremendous weight of steel and iron was hustled nearly one-third of the distance across the American continent at a speed of more than a mile a minute.

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THE WEAKEST NATIONS. The weakest nations are the ones that will fall behind in the present race for armaments.

TRIUMPH OF STEAM. The big Cunarder Mauretania has clipped 17 minutes off the trans-Atlantic record by arriving at Sandy Hook in 110 hours and 36 minutes.

THE COMING PROSPERITY. Not even veracious and unnecessary delays over tariff revision can check the rising wave of prosperity so long as the harvest is good.

Corn for the December option, which is the basis on which the new crop will be figured, is 5 cents per bushel lower than it was a year ago.

SPEECH WANTED FROM PRESIDENT Several Difficulties and Incongruities That Ought to be Cleared Up.

It is two years and ten months since Mr. Taft, speaking on September 5, 1906, in Bath, Me., opened the tariff question by declaring a "mission of the Dingley schedules, and opened at the same time his campaign for the opening of the tariff, to which he had good right to aspire.

There is no doubt that the present minimum charge—50 cents a month—is too low.

There is no puzzle here. The chief trouble is that Mr. Roosevelt had in view during his term of office were, first, the regulation by Congress of state corporations, which he endeavored to obtain under the interstate clause of the Constitution; next, absorption into the National Treasury by death taxes of the bulk of great individual possessions.

Some of the cities that cannot have a rose carnival or a cherry fair might get up an annual land drawing.

Under the Meter System Every Householder Gets a Square Deal.

PORTLAND, Ore., July 9.—(To the Editor.)—A few days ago The Oregonian chronicled the fact that Mayor Simon, at a meeting of the Water Board, had declared himself unfavorably impressed with the proposition for delivering city water to all Portland consumers through meters and charging each consumer for the water actually consumed.

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Smilingly Paid Heavy Fine After Encounter With Customs Officers.

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