# The Oregonian

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NECESSITY AND USE OF PARTY. They whose political principles have been passing through all possible vicissitudes of bankruptcy, these many and many years, who can do business no further, and now haven't any stock Whatever they can call their own, have reached the stage of declaration that there are no political or party principles whatever, that parties are need-Cless, and that the only proper way to carry on government and affairs is for each and all to ignore party connections and all definite political organization, and contend either singly or in detached groups for the lead in direction of public affairs. It is quite natural, no doubt, for those who long since ran their own party, by their various egregious follies, into hopeless bankruptcy, to take this course. may be expected to offer advice, as to party action, to others who have pursued saner methods.

Experience in all democratic-republican and representative governments has demonstrated that a disorganized condition of parties is unfavorable to the public welfare. It results in casual and temporary union of discordant politicians, who seek their own interest rather than promotion of large general policies for the public weal. It is most likely to be promotive of corrupt methods, too; for it tends to dicker and bargain between men who have no common bond in unselfish principle and large purposes. Even party discipline—though like every thing else it may be carried too faris of high value; for it may secure steadiness and responsibility in the affairs of the state. "Responsibility to the people" is merely a catch-word, an idle phrase; for the people speak through masses, who form parties as soon as they associate; and there will be parties, therefore, whether theorists approve or not

'No party" is presched in our state In the interest of the minority party. Elsewhere it is usually the same. the minority party in Oregon doe obey its own precepts. It votes solidly always for its own principal candidates; by preaching "no party" hopes to draw away votes enough from other parties to elect them. Much success has crowned its efforts in this direction, it must be admittedits voters number less than two-fifths of those of the state.

To try to get on without party is to attempt to conduct public affairs with weak divided and dependent admin-It has often been tried in England, never with success. In our country such effort has not been made on any great scale; indeed not at all. except in municipal affairs. And even when it has been tried in municipal affairs there has invariably been quick return to government through party agency and action. Portland came back to it last June with a rush. Judge ye from the acts of the present administration, whether there is not increased efficiency through the change.

Passing from local particulars to high

principles, we quote the views, on of the greatest political thinker the English-speaking world has ever prodefinition of party, which is not likely, ever to be superseded or improved: "Party," he said, in a very striking passage, "is a body of men united for public interest upon some particular principle in which they are all agreed." It was Burke's contention that Chathis design and effort to break up parties; and so it proved. It was incon ceivable to Burke that anything could accomplished by such method. Chatham's incapacity of acting stead-By with any connection, his preference for co-operation with isolated pollticians, his method of "hovering in the air over all parties to souse down from Burke this statement: "For my part I find it impossible to conceive hat any one believes in his own politics, or thinks them of any weight, who refuses to adopt the means having them reduced into practice. Every honorable connection will avow it as their first purpose to pursue every mejust method to put the men who hold their opinions into such condition as will enable them to carry their com-

men plans into execution. Men thinking freely will, indeed, in particular instances, think differently; but still, as the greater part of the measures which arise in the course of public affairs are related to or dependent on some great leading principle of government, a man must be peculiarly unfortunate in the choice of his political company if he does not agree with them nine times in ten." Particularly he spoke with detestation of "ambitious men, of light principles or none, who in their turns make use of all parties and, therefore, avoid entering into what may be construed as an engagement with any." The state never would profit, he predicted, under such guid-

But a different doctrine is proclaimed by our no-party statesmen of Oregon. The Oregonian begs to ex-cuse fixelf, if the close of a serious article should be thought a chronicle of small beer. When Mr. U'Ren was speaking in the State of Washington the other day, he advised that state to pursue the course that Oregon has taken-not adding, however, that Oregon was fast turning back from it. "We pay no attention," he said, "to parties. We are in all parties and of all parties." True, indeed. The fruits all parties. "True, indeed. The fruits neer "dry farmer" his gift of 320 acres claims against his Metropolitan Steam-support it; voting for candidates of bie land. If he patiently and persistent one party in the primary and for the ly fulfills the terms of the donation he

defeat, if possible, of the concerted action that is necessary in all govern-ment, destruction of all rational and consistent policies, and resulting chaos, The Oregonian mistakes greatly if these sinuous courses are to be pursued further in our state.

MEN WHO SUCCEED. Given the man and the land, na-

ture will do the rest in the Rogue River Valley. Such is the lesson to be learned from the interesting story of Medford orchards, in yesterday's Ore-It is an amazing record of gonian. success; there are no failures. least we never hear of the men who do not get along in the raising of fruit in Oregon. It is natural that we should not, since where there are so many opportunities for success and so many sagacious men and women who have seized them, and done well, the small minority who, through indolence or ignorance or ill-luck, have not prospered are silent. We do not mean to say, mind, that there are such un-fortunate persons in Oregon, for we do not know of any and do not know any one who does know of any. We merely assume that there must be some who have not been able to keep up with the procession, since there are such men in every other pursuit and

The Medford story is little short of marvelous; yet, after all, there is nothing very wonderful about it. Here is a region singularly adapted to horticulture; with apples, pears, and peaches as specialties. The early ventures were not uniformly successful, however, since scientific methods of cultivation and production were not then far advanced, and, yet more important, there was no market. Now all is changed. The luscious fruit of the Rogue River Valley has a worldwide name; the battle with the fruit pest has been won; there is a systematic application of approved orchard methods; and the highest intelligence is employed in both packing and marketing. Luck and chance have played very small part in the fortunes of the Rogue River region. Soil and climate have been favorable; but hard work has wrought the miracle. The orchardist who plants his trees, and then sits down to watch them grow, and awaits the buyer to call around for his fruit, will not succeed there, nor anywhere.

PEROXIDE REPORTERS AND THE PRESS Some unspeakable female, who, for obvious reasons, does not give her name, is writing for Collier's Weekly a series of articles in which she professes to give her personal experiences as a yellow journalist. Her avowed purpose is to let in the light on the officus things a self-respecting woman reporter is required to do in news-paper work. She acknowledges at the outset that she is very good-looking, which makes her daily tasks all the harder-she doesn't say why, and we haven't the nerve to inquire-and also that she is a remarkably brilliant writer. Therefore, she was chosen for the most difficult tasks, which ranged from bold intrusion into private households to betrayal of the confidences of unsuspecting women. All

these things she did, so she says. Nice lady! She may tell the truth about her particular achievements and about the particular journal for which she worked. Yet such a woman could not find employment on a respectable paper anywhere, and there are many respectable papers. They have no place for the peroxide type of female reporter. When Mr. Harriman came from abroad he was met by representatives of the great journals of New York. He greeted them as friends and ments at Arden. His wishes were refables of writers like the Collier contributor there would have been porter in every closet at Arden and, if such enterprise failed, the doors would have been blown open with dynamite in the effort to get at Harri-

## WIDENED HOMESTEAD AREA.

Vast areas of land aggregating about 65,000,000 acres have been designated by the Interior Department as subject to homestead entry under the "dry farming" act. These lands are non-mineral, untimbered and not susceptible to irrigation. The homestead entry upon them has been extended to include 328 acres, because of the wider area necessary to yield a living-i. e., upon which to subsist stock and produce such forage and other agricultural crops as can be grown by the process known as dry farming. This process, simply interpreted, is thorough cultivation of the soil to the end that such moisture as it receives may be duly conserved and such crops as can be matured with the least moisture may be grown

While advocates of the extension of the homestead area made a showing in favor of the law which was convincing to the majority in Congress, it is diffi cult for the uninitiated to conceive of any great benefit that can be derived from doubling an individual holding of arid land. These lands are alleged and supposed to be wholly unproductive, except as they are subjected to most thorough and intelligent cultivation. Of course no man can bring 160 acres of dry land up to a productive basis, and to double his area would be only to double an already stupen

However, there is no reason why a man with energy and courage to face the agricultural and grazing problem in an arid, timberless region should not be given \$29 acres "to live on and cultivate" if he is willing to make the attempt and stand by his bargain until he can get title to the land. The effort implies persistence on the part of the man who files upon the land, much hard labor for himself and family, many privations and frequent failures. Furthermore, it means isolation in a most dreary sense, and a monotony that makes life simply a dead level of

succeeding days and nights. Such exultation as comes from look-ing abroad and feeling that the world is all his own is the lot of the man who files upon 320 acres of an arid waste upon which, but for his own lifeless-looking, wind-rocked shanty, there is not a human habitation in sight. he is thrifty and persistent and has been favored by instruction from the Government experiment station in regard to processes and crops suited to to rehabilitate his lost fortune. While his land, he may with some assurance look forward to the time when his holdings will be of some value and his for his part in the unsavory financial surroundings take on the appearance of home and civilization. In the meantime, let no one grudge the pio-

time he receives his patent, and his family will be fully entitled to the

ome that it represents. Of the area subject to this type of homested entry, 1,300,000 acres are in Oregon. Montana has the largest area, a total of 26.000,000 acres being her portion. Colorado comes next, with 20,250,000 acres. The climate of these districts is similar, being bracing, and under proper environment healthful. The soil is identical in all; the processor necessary to make it to some extent productive are significantly designated by the term "dry farming.

DICTATION BY THE DEAD.

The manner in which the late Robert Crawford Smith's will was composed may appear uncanny to some people. It was dictated, in large part at least according to reports from California, where he lived, by spirits. His discarnate friends and relations took a kindly interest in the disposal of his property, and gave him directions on the subject through two or three accommodating mediums, It-is satisfactory to learn that the mediums were bountifully remembered in the The laborer is worthy of will. All this strikes one at first glance as something ghostly. To see the conduct of the living dictated by the dead seems unnatural until we have thought it over. Then it looks

commonplace and proper. It is the ordinary procedure. Most of our affairs are managed by the The living are nothing but dend. tools automatically obedient to the be-hests of the departed. Dead preachers and pedagogues prescribe what our children shall study. Dead lawyers regulate our trade and lay down rules for our conduct. Dead theolo gians say what we shall believe. world is completely controlled by the shades of the departed, and most of them are a great deal more thoroughdead than those relatives and friends of Mr. Smith who wrote his Upon reflection his method apwilli pears to be quite a long step toward emancipation from the tyranny of the King of Terrors. If each generation of men should conclude henceforth to manage its own affairs without reference to the wishes of those gone before, would the world wag more comfortably than it does? Probably not. The superstition that the dead are wiser than we is a salutary check upon the love of change. It only be-comes a serious syll when it forbids all change except decay.

## WASTE OF USEFUL WEEDS.

A valuable article in a late number of the New York Independent treats of weeds and their uses in soilmaking, hence their use in agriculture. It is written by E. P. Powell, whose close walk with Nature, "in her visible forms," during long, observant years qualifies him to speak upon this topic, to the edification of all who love growing things and the enlightenment of the farmer concerning the various intruders of his fields against which he wages ceaseless warfare during the growing months of the year.

"I had the idea in my boyhood," says Mr. Powell, "that weeds only grew to keep me busy in the onion bed just when I wanted to go fishing; there are some weeds just mean enough for that, I still believe; but in general I have found out that Nature knows very well what she is about in sowing and growing these things, which we

we have no use for." He then proceeds to catalogue some of the common weeds that have been fought relentlessly with hoe and plow talked freely. Then he asked that no and fire for generations, as uncemsurveillance be placed on his move- promising enemies of agriculture. which if properly recognized and spected. But if we are to believe the dealt with, are friends in disguise, Among his discoveries is that pigweet makes splendid greens; that pokeweed is a fine substitute, when properly grown, for spinach; that the despised is a fine substitute, dandellon is a capital food for fowlsa yard of twenty hens devouring three oushels in a day if thrown to them and that the bull thistle furnishes rations in this season for birds that in their turn keep the dreaded pest

down by cracking and eating the seeds.

This he calls one of "the nice balances of Nature." And there are others all along the weedy fence-row and roadside; in the cornfields and gardens and among the wheat. The philosophy of farming, asserts Mr. Powell, is to make soil, and "the only thoroughgoing farmer is Nature herself." She works to this end all the time, and in her purpose every weed counts. Weeds are property-wealth acording to this estimate, and should therefore not be burned or thrown into the road. They stand for so much carbon, s much phosphorus, so much potash and some nitrogen, and should be used as food for corn and beans and potatoes; after that, for the cow and the family. Exhorting the farmer to the conser-vation of Nature's forces in this line,

Mr. Powell says:

You will be amazed when you legin this compest business, to find what an enormous mass you can accumulate in the course of a year from common weeds Gather them from your sarden and from the readside, nut with them your barnyard manure, and then all the loads of Asitumn leaves that you can collect, and my word for it you will have something a deal better than you can buy.

When a winds that grow during the whole year, they are simply stupiel; and when, after that, they puy, at a big cost, a let of commercial fertilizer to do a fraction of what the weeds would have done if composted, they are criminally ignorant.

What are the farmers of our state Mr. Powell says:

What are the farmers of our state doing in the matter of helping Nature make soils? Are they in the catalogue of the stupid, who burn all the weeds that fall before hoe and plow and scythe throughout the season, and let it go at that? Or are they of those who follow up this stupidity by buying at a big cost commercial fertilizer to fraction of what the weeds would have done if composted, and thus reach the stage of the criminally

It may be feared-that there is still another and larger class among our farming population—they who ruthlessly destroy weeds, ignoring, or unknowing of, their value in the compost heap, and who return nothing to impoverished soil to supply the waste of the weeds.

Charles W. Morse, the high financler, who is credited with most of the responsibility for the panic of 1907 and who spent several months in jail in consequence, is out on bail, seeking the public generally believes that Morse is entitled to severe punishment deals that precipitated the panic, his determination to regain his financial footing is highly creditable. The candidates of another in the election; will have fully earned his land by the of Morse's age to tackle a wreck of trust?

that nature se soon after receiving the hody blow which landed him behind the bars, a bankrupt.

There is danger that capitalists will control the water powers of the country, says Mr. Gifford Pinchot, and consumers then will be at the mercy of manufacturers. Well, how are of limited means to develop the water powers of the country? Laws like those of Oregon, intended for "conservation of natural resources." Will force the private owners to sell out, because they can't make the improvements. It takes combinations of capital, known now as trusts, to do things on any important scale. Mr. Pinchot's contribution to practical knowledge in this matter is not of great value.

Milk never is clean enough; never will be. Officialdom never has done much to better it, never will. what a roar to be raised because a man had bought a few cows, which he had mortgaged to secure part payment and didn't want to complete the transac Official life will settle flown again soon to its customary placidity; but every family should be on guard every day about the milk.

When it was proposed to lower the duty on lumber, there was a vast outcry from the lumbermen, who said the industry would be ruined. The way it is being ruined is shown in the proposal to raise the price of logs. means more for lumber to the consumer. It is the consumer who must pay in the end for everything. When he quits buying, the producer has trouble.

In the United Kingdom, if the Lords give their consent, there will be a special annual tax on the increased or increasing value of land, from year to year. It is entirely safe to say there not be much increasing value, after this system shall go into effect or operation. It would be a good way to stop increase of land values in America-if that's what's wanted.

The old Oregon Trust Bank, it will be recalled, built up a great business on the basis of its widely-advertised "We pay 4 per cent." remaining 96 per cent it évidently expected to let the depositors whistle They are whistling indeed; yet is no one to be held accountable for the wretched condition of that bank?

Secretary Ballinger's answer to the question, "What are we to do with newly discovered lands at the North Pole?"-namely, "Turn them into a forest reserve"-was an epigram that touches the heart of the controversy between himself and Forester Pinchot.

The death of Clyde Fitch is to be regretted. Most of his plays were writ ten hurriedly to meet insistent demands of theatrical caterers, but he had the dramatic instinct and fair literary skill. He was young enough and good enough workman to create something that might have lived.

The Duchess of Marlborough (Consuelo Vanderbilt) refuses to be reconciled with the Duke. Well, she bought and paid for him and she ought to be able to do as she likes with her dam aged goods. But it wasn't much of a

Newcomers in Portland should not believe the deadly tales about Port-land's milk supply. This city has one of the very lowest mortality records in the United States. Even the milk knocker can't stap the growth of Portland.

Now that the North Pole is about to be annexed, applicatio der for the office of United States Marshal. Jack Matthews and Tom Mcwhich should not be overlooked.

Most San Franciscans appear think Heney will not be elected. That would raise a strong presumption that San Francisco, though doubtless honest, has unfathomable crosswise motives.

There seems to be no way out of it but for Dr. Cook to take all those skeptics up there and show them the North Pole. Yet some people would not know a pole if they saw it.

Scientists and professors set themselves up to judge Dr. Cook's exploit They deem themselves, in their cosy home chairs, ultimate authorities on Our latest annexation must be clas-

ified under arid lands. We look to Mr. Pinchot to see that the North Pole doesn't fall into the hands of the Cold Storage Trust. It is, or was yesterday, just a little hot—it was. But nothing compared

with the sultry, humid and sticky heat in states too remote from the Pacific Northwest. Officially the Summer was over

when the grand opera season and "Sa-lomy Jane" opened. But unofficially, you'll have to fall back on the thermometer. How would it do to refer the bees

vax-ozocerite controversy of Nehalem Beach to the people for decision. the people's wisdom rule. They know. Marion County will make no exhibit at the State Fair, and there are signs that Columbia County is going after

the blue ribbon this year That Hoquiam woman who is suing a merchant for \$5000 for slapping her face may be establishing a market rate in family broils.

In the chronology of polar expe ditions, Oregon's explorer, Lieutenant Frederick Schwatka, has been lost sight of. If there are so many deadly germs

in Portland's milk supply, how is it that the city's population grows so If you spent the Summer among

the cooling breezes at the beach, you got back to Portland just in time. In this kind of weather a great many persons evidently think Dr.

Cook's achievement overlauded. Seven children too many for one family? It isn't always the neighbors only who think so.

Did any one suppose, Mayor Simon hadn't the grit to tackle the sand

THE STATE AND WATER POWER Federal Government Can Have Very Little to Say.

CORVALLIS, Or., Sept. 4 .- (To the Edi tor.)-Mr. Houston's criticism of Oregon's new water law, in its application to fu ture acquisition of water rights, is inter-Last Wednesday's Oregonian, in which Mr. Houston's communication ap pears, also contains an interview with Senator Carter, objecting to Mr. Pin-chot's theory of Federal control of chot's theory of Federal control of streams and water power sites within the boundaries of the state. Mr. Houston objects to either state or Federal control. In the Oregon law. H. B. 192, it is asserted that "all water within the state from all sources of water supply belong the state assumes. S. trom all sources of water supply belong to the public"; and the state assumes, S. B. 77, complete jurisdiction and control over all waters not previously appropriated for beneficial use. If this position can be maintained, there are no waters in Oregon, at least, over which the Federal Government can exactly control exeral Government can exercise control ex-cept interstate navigable waters. Mr. Pinchot evidently approves the Oregon aw, and is inconstatent in urging his pro posed Federal measure. Few people who have any real imderstanding of the sub-ject will dis gree with Senator Carter.

Mr. Houston is undoubtedly correct in asserting that, under Oregon's present law, the poor man is unable to acquire an extensive water right. The poor man is a hardly-used individual. It is ex-tremely difficult for him to acquire anything of large monetary value. The only remedy that suggests itself is that the poor man get righ. It is also true that under this law the larger water power propositions will be controlled by only rich individuals or corporations. That would be true under any law. But under our new code, the state does not part with its title to the water. The state leases the right to its use for a limited

Mr. Houston cites the case of a pool man who wished to file a claim for sufficient water to develop 20,000 horse-power, and could not do so because of the high filing fee and the annual tax of \$600. This man has friends in the East who would advance the money for de-veloping the power "when the proper time should arrive." meaning, doubtless, when there should be a market for the power. Under the old method, Mr. Houston's poor man could file his claim and by a pretense of development hold it for a number of years. His rich Eastern friends—and, by the way, even Mr. Houston's ample case resolves itself into a ton's sample case resolves itself into a wealthy backing-might fall him, but he could prevent others, ready to develop the power for beneficial purposes, making use of the water until he be paid his price. Mr. Housten's criticism cannot appeal

to the public. He cites simply an indi-vidual grievance. The law simply pre-vents him getting something, which the state claims belongs to the public, for nothing. Mr. Housten apparently regards the fees and tax as excessively high. But his client was after a very valuable privi-lege. If he wished to develop 50 horse-power, the fees would be nominal and the power, the fees would be nominal and the annual tax only \$12.50, but this poor man

desired to the up 20,000 horse-power and found to his amazement that he would have to pay accordingly.

One can sympathize with the pathetic grief of the average lawyer over the modern tendency to ignore the mandates of that legal god, the English common law. Existing conditions rather than law. Existing conditions, rather than Blackstone, are dominating our Legislature and our courts. The sacred doctrine of riparian rights is going to the demni-tion bow-wows. The individual loses un-earned privileges and the public regains its own; and since the public seems to be the more powerful factor in present-day affairs, let us console ourselves with an-other ancient rule, "The King can do no wrong."

L. S. WARD.

## LIFE IN THE OREGON COUNTRY,

Keep Your Jag to Yourself.

Condon Times.

Don't come into this office with a comfortable jag on and worry us with silly habblings. In the first place we are generally busy and in the next it us to speculating where you got the whisky,

#### Measuring an Editor's Worth. St. John Review.

We saw a team of mules on the streets of Portland the other day for which the owner asked \$450, and we decided that the next time a dissatisfied subscriber called us a Jackass we would reflect a little before taking it

#### Record Lond of Hay. Condon Globe

John Underwood brought a load of wheat hay to Condon on Thursday which is, according to reports, the heaviest load ever weighed on the scales at the Condon Livery Barn. The gross weight was 7929, and the wagon and rack weighed 2320, leaving 5570 pounds of hay.

## A Fickle Well,

Milton Washbuun is having trouble with his well, which at first was giv-ng a big supply of water. It began to blow a regular hurricane of wind up the hole at first, then it changed and blew down, after which the water gave out. Mr. Washburn will go down an-other hundred feet, if necessary, to get a sufficient supply of water.

## Passing of a Landmark.

Brownsville Times.
The magnificent oak tree which has The magnificent oak tree which has stood for ages on the side hill just west of the Times office, was cut down this week and made into stove wood. It had become retten and in danger of falling and doing damage. This tree had a nistory. It was a "witness tree," first used in pioneer days, and nearly the entire survey of the country surrounding is attached to the monument near by for which the tree stood as a near by for which the tree stood as a

## Chaos and Calamity in Maiheur.

Vale Plaindealer.

Through the diligence of the City Attorney and City Marshal arrests have been made thick and fast during the last two or three days. Boys have been "pulled" for entering a clearatore and lunch counter and the proprietor fined; gentlemen have been arrested for go-ing to a hotel and entertaining and have been put under heavy bonds for so doing; other parties have been ar-rested and heavily fined for selling near beer," and we wonder where the 'moral wave" will end.

### Big Grizzly Killed. Heppner Gazette.

Heppner Gazette.

The first genuine grizzly that, has been seen in the western spur of the Blue Monntains for several years was killed by Charley Cox one day last week. Mr. Cox was hunting deer on the headwaters of Butter Creek, about 35 miles east of Heppner, when he ran onto "Old Ephraim" and brought him down with a well-directed chot. The bear was brownish gray in color and weighed about 800 pounds. Mr. Cox was careful in saving the skin, head and claws, which he will keep as a coveted trophy.

#### Doing It Proper in Sherman. Moro Observer.

Moro Observer.

L. L. Peetz finished threshing on the 27th, hired the Opera-house, employed music and invited all the lovers of Terpsichore to a social and dancing party. It was a pleasant gathering, highly enjoyed by all in attendance, who, thanking their host, wished him many returns of a successful harvest. Mr. and Mrs. Peetz will now move into their new farm house, just finished, where they will be at home to their many friends. many friends.

HOW "WE" DO IT.

in the State of Washington, Aberdeen (Wash.) World.
"We pay no attention to parties; we are in all parties and of all parties. We act only when the time is opportune. When we found that the people were not favorable to the recall and proportional representation, we dropped those issues until the voters had been edu-

issues until the voters had been enu-cated up to them."

Thus W. S. U'Ren, the "law-giver"
of Oregon to the Washington Direct
Lagislation League, in describing the
political condition of Oregon. And he
wants this state to follow Oregon. Excuse us. "We"—by the way, who are
"we":—must be a pretty bad lot in
Oregon. "We" register as of parties,
as Republicans or Democrats, under the as Republicans or Democrats, under the Oregon law. Yet "ye" go and vote with which ever party "we" desire. "We" lie then when "we" register our party allegiance. Isn't there some other way to throw out the hove the control of inordinate selfshores and on the ground of inordinate selfshores. adopting his methods? And "we" are in exactly his position. He lies and cheats and breaks his word. He is "in all parties and of all parlies." "We" simply beat the devil around the stump, and, like the Ruets, "we" certainly keep "qur" left hands in ignorance of the acts of "our" right. The road to reform is a tollsome one, but it ought not

r can U'Ren work without par-He confesses their need and their Nor existence existence when he talks of "we." Though all parties work under the direct primary in Gregon, yet that state knows but two parties. The line of cleavage runs between those who want the whole URen programme, direct primary, Statement No. 1, recall, pro-portional representation, initiative and referendum, and what-not, and those who do not. Without his party U'Ren could do nothing at all. Concerted could do nothing at all. Concerted action is necessary in this Government and men who think alike will act tygether—must, indeed, if they would gain their ends. The U'Rens are mererearing another party, but it is a rty that breeds secession. After it s broken into its little component bits in Oregon, and break it will since it cannot be welded, we may look for the restoration of sense in our sister

### BILLBOARDS' DOOM IS IN SIGHT. Offend Taste in Every Village and Advertisers Tire of Them.

New York Commercial. The Commissioners for the District of Columbia have recently taken action in the matter of biliboard advertising that will put before the District courts the question as to how far biliboards constitute a public nuisance; and it is possible that in the end there may be an abolition of them in the District. Com-missioner Macfarland says that the dereliamment of cathetic ideas in recent years here in America, particularly in connection with the beautification of ities, has made the billboard an anach ronism-"while nearly everything else has felt the uplift, the billboard keeps fast to its pristine hideousness." They are hideous enough in every nock and corner of the country, as everybody knows. Still, they may serve a useful purpose, but the trend of advertising judgment is away from them, not to them. "Not only is the day of the billboard passing in the cities," says the Washington Post, "but there is also vidence that the smaller towns and the countryside are awaking to the necessity of action in the way of either abolition or strict regulation. Railroads are refusing permission for the erection of the regulation of way. of bilthoards upon their rights of way; and when the thrifty Jersey farmers are better educated perhaps a trip from Philadelphia to New York will less re-semble a journey through a tunnel of

Myriads of practical, common-sense ousiness men who travel back and forth between New York and Philadelphia either regularly or intermittently are increasingly impressed with the fact that a vast amount of money must be absolutely thrown away in billboard advertising. There are some things that obviously catch public attention through billboard "art"-whether or not they actually bring business to the advertiser is an open question; but there are others that billboard "art" billboard is bound, sooner or later, to become a matter for legislation in all the states—for it is something to be nably "regulated," If not abol-

The Colored Point of View.

Portland Advocate (Afre-American).

The report that H. R. Kincaid, exSecretary of the State of Oregon, having been robbed of 100 big dollars by
an 18-year-old colored girl whom he
was talking to in the stairway of a
vacant house at Seventh and Davis
streets on last Saturday night, sounds
ridiculously funny and smells fishy.
However, the story may be true, but
we doubt that the other half has been
told. Now the question is, what was
the ex-Secretary doing in the stairway
of a vacant house at night talking to
an 18-year-old colored damsel. It looks
to us suspiciously like a case of social
spooning, and in the mixup the Secretary lost his wad. The Colored Point of View.

# Another Sensation Spoiled.

Another Sensation Spoiled.

Norwalk (Ia.) Free Press.

We thought maybe we could come at you this week with something somewhat sensational in the line of an elopement, when we saw Harry and Lulu going towards the station last Friday, but we suppose we are doomed to disappointment, we have heard nothing more about it.

## COLUMBIA ORIENTALIS.

(Read at a banquet to Baron Kanda, head of the educational section of the Jap-anese visitors, in Seattle, by Professor E. S. Meany, of the University of Washington.)

Thou stately, robust Nation.
Thou heir of blood and time.
Behold how brink of ocean Would eheck thy vigor's prime

By valiant sons was borne, from sea to sea triumphant. No glorious shred was torn. "Why pause," cried hopeful sallor,

Why lock your power to land, Why quali before the billows. Why stop at sea-spaked sand?" On, on the banner fluttered, Till West became the East, Till creeds and laws were jumbled, Till judge became the priest.

There jeweled doors were battered, Diplomacy of guns. And commerce hoarsely beliewed For ships and measured tons.

The lords of ancient Nippon, Argused from cycled lore, Seized Neptune's fabled trident, New beacons set on shore.

Columbia joined the nations In wonder and in doubt: "These cherry-blossom lovers, Have they a fiber stout?"

In pausing, worlds awakened To Asia's modern light. To people freshly wielding Dynamic force and might.

The Orient saw its Caesar, When Nippen faced the sea; Columbia found a neighbor; The East, its magic key.

Swing Western gates, Columbia Swing wide your ocean gates; to meet those men of valor As men in new born states.

THE CONSERVATIVE IN BRYAN But the Method Doesn't Commend Itself | Real Nature of the Statesman Shown In Discussing Social Question.

Chicago Inter Ocea Those who doubt that underneath Mr. B yan's radicalism there is a deeply conservative strain have only to read the article "Stereotyped News" on the first page of the last issue of the Com-

moner. It begins:

After this calm and unexceptionable statement Mr. Bryan proceeds to men-tion the particular case which inspired

How true and how conservatively

stated! A young man who kills a young woman who refuses to marry him unquestionably has falled to get "the proper conception of life." There may be a few people who hold otherwise. But they are wrong, wholly wrong. When you hear of a man murdering his aweetheart the impression that his coneption of life is not proper is almost resistible. We quote further:

The man who denies to a woman the right to freely choose her life componion puts his own happiness, supposed happiness, above the happiness of the one whom he would marry, but it must be rather supposed happiness than real, for no man can hope to be happy with a wife who does not love him or loves him so little that she does not desire to marry him.

Here early Mr. Deney is

Here again Mr. Bryan is at once so true and yet so circumspect in his state-ment as to disarm criticism and leave only admiration for his conservatism. Who doubts that marrying a woman who would almost rather die is a step Hable to lead to discord and unhappi ness? Where find grounds to impeach the statement that such a man puts his own happiness above that of the he would marry? They don't exist. But there is still more:

This refusal to consider the woman's wishes convicts the man of being an until suitor. By his act he confesses that the lady whom he loved had measured him at his true value, for he proves himself until when he refuses to admit her right to decide upon her own future.

Yet again we believe that Mr. Bryan says nothing which can be construed into a frenzied giving way to the radi-cal spirit. At the risk of contradiction from a few extremists, we do not besi-tute to say that a man who would commit murder and then suicide raises an almost overwhelming presumption of

unfitness as a suitor.

Let the man disposed to disagree with Mr. Bryan on this particular conclu imagine a man who had simply killed his sweethdart, without committing suicide, presenting himself as a suitor for his daughter's hand. Would be regard him as an unfit suitor? lieve that as a rule he would-that he would adopt Mr. Bryan's opinion almost instinctively.

The article which so delights us as a revelation of Mr. Bryan's long hidden conservatism and restraint of statement is not lengthy. We have quoted at least half of it already. Those who wish to read the concluding half must buy a Commoner. Those who do not may rest assured that there is as little ground for argument in what follows

as in what we have quoted.

It is regretiable that Mr. Bryan's conservative strain apparently only shows itself in settling these nice questions of social propriety. However, we should be glad that even occasionally and in dealing with matters of small public interest the distinguished leader shows that his radicalism is not without hopeful rifts.

## THIS MAN WAS INDEED A "FAN." Deprived of Seeing Games, He Played

Baseball Solitaire. New York Evening Post. The greatest baseball "fan" in all the world was buried at a little town in Ohio the other day. He had never taken part in a real game in all his life. Not once had he seen a major league team actually makes offensive and must tend in action. But he knew by heart the to kill rather than create business. The history of every player in the National League, American League, and American Association. And in his imagination, at least, he had seen them play

many a game. He was a cripple. Deprived of seeing the game in the open, he devised a substitute. It was a game of cards which he styled "baseball." The secret of his novel game of solltaire died with him. But his friends tell how he used to sit shuffling and dealing d regular batting order that, as the game progressed, rielded base hits, runs, put-outs, assists and errors. The resulting

box scores had the form of those print-ed every day.

For the good of the average Ameri-can it is as well that this recluse did not make known his method of playing his indoor game. For the good of the his indoor game. For the good of the Nation is the outdoor game popular and Nation is the outdoor game popular and growing in its popularity. The typical American is energetic. He is alert, quick to think, and quick to act. He does things, and in a rugged way he is artistic. His ideal is achievement; success his goal.

That is why baseball is the typical

success his goal.

That is why baseball is the typical American sport. That is why it appeals to young and old alike; why the man of means whose time is money will forof means whose time is money will for-sake his desk, why the small boy will forego all other allurements to see a baseball game. There is also an ele-ment of chance. The combination is just what the American wants in his work and in his pluy. He covets skill, idolizes strength, and delights in the catlike quickness of the finished play-er on the diamond.

The Pinck to Come.

Springfield Republican.

That dispassionate authority, Bradstreet's Index, says that commodity prices, already at the top notch, are going higher yet. It's all very well for the people who haven't yet embraced the low diet fad—they can scale down the day's rations as the price of necessaries goes up. Feeple who are already practicing the simple life are not so fortunate, and may have to cut down on gaschine consumption and new tires. on gasoline consumption and new tires.

## These Are Worth a Glance.

"What haushty, freezing manners that girl has!" "Yes. She's the lesman's daughter."—Baltimore American.

Caller—Snip & Co. have employed me to collect the bill you one them. Greens—You are to be congratulated, sir, on securing a permanent position—Beaton Transcript.

Well, Mann.

Well Meant French.—The British inter-viewer who wanted by way of compliment, to call M. Bierlot "a regular fiyer," was ill-advised I say "Monsieur, vous etcs un volcun regulier. —Funch.

"The boss called me in consultation to day," declared the office biy. "G want" "Fact He had a dispute with the justice partner as to who was leadin the league just now in battin".—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Mother—Is it possible. Harry that you have eaten all that cake without giving a thought to your states? Harry—On, not I thought of her every second. I was arraid all the time that she would come before I had eaten it up.—Life.

She—Only think, Mrs. Jhones threw a Gat-iron at her husband's head because he accidentally sat down on her new hat. I couldn't do a thing like that. He—No, you love me too much, don't you? She—Yes, and hesides, I haven't any new hat—Philladelphia Inquirer.

delphia Inquitor.

Lady N. (whose husband has the worst shooting in Yorkshire)—Well, can't you squeeze in a Friday to Tuesday? Just a couple of days on the moor? Oasr D'Arry—Sorry, can't possibly leave London. Big scheme on at the War Office. We're crossing carrier pigeous with parrots—hoping to get verbal messages through.—Punch.