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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, SEPT 28, 1909.

#### A RIVAL OF ROBERT PULTON.

It is passing into a proverb that contests over discoveries and invenflons are inevitable. All have their rivals. Cook has his Peary and Peary has his Cook. Columbus had his Amerigo, who gets the name of a hemisphere on his monument. Hudson had his Verrazano, whose name now pops up with a claim that antedates idson's by eighty-five years. Verrazano gets a monument at the Battery, in New York. Now a movement in opposition to Fulton's claim as the inventor of the steamboat is started, to honor the name of James Rumsey, of Virginia, a Revolutionary soldier, millwright and boatman, who, It is asserted, employed steam to propel a boat on the Potomac River, December 3-11, 1787-antedating Fulton by twenty years.

The story is an interesting one. Rumsey was a native of Maryland, but went to Berkeley County, Virginia, now West Virginia, in 1772. People of that state are now putting forward the claim for him; and it is proposed to ask Congress to provide a statue of Rumsey in the Hall of Fame at the National Capitol. Senator Scott, of West Virginia, is named as one of those who will push the effort. The whole delegation in Congress from West Virginia, of course, will help. It is likely, therefore, that the question whether Rumsey or Fulton has the prior claim will become the subject of an interesting controversy in Congress. In a petition prepared by the West Virginia supporters of Rumsey it is said: "The great success and practically useful character of Rumsey's steamboat was established by sworn testimony of many notable witnesses, such men as General Horatio Gates, conqueror of Burgoyne, and many others, as well as by the multitude of astonished and delighted spectators.'

Rumsey's supporters say that full proofs of his work and its results exboth in the archives of Virginia and in the national archives at Washington. If so, it will devolve on them to bring the proofs to light. In support of Rumsey, a document has been sued from Berkeley Springs, W. Va. in which it is asserted that it was due the representations of Robert R. Livingston, Chancellor of New York, business partner of Fulton, that the idea was industriously propagated that Fulton was the inventor of the first

It would not be at all surprising, if the claim made for Rumsey should be proved. But it would not detract from Fulton's merit. No great discovery in mechanics, or in the use of natural forces, is made all at once. Often the first tentative efforts are taken up later by others, and carried forward by further steps towards final success. But the antecedent efforts, though actual success may be denied, are always necessary. Not a single great invention ever sprang in completeness from a single mind, as Minerva was fabled to have sprung fullarmed from the head of Jove. Steam ad been successfully used, for power a long time before Fulton conceived the idea of his steamboat. That others may have anticipated him in the experiment is most probable, but Fulton as gained the name and the fame, because his experiment was more successful than preceding ones, and was supported and proclaimed moreover in a time of greater industrial and commercial activity, by influential men, who were able to give it wide publicsignificance of the invention could not have been so well understood and less attention naturally would be paid to it.

Wall street is said to be very much concerned over the disposition that is to be made of the Harriman securities, and over the possible changes that may be made in the manner of handling them in the future. It is pretty generally understood that Judge Lovett has inherited all of the power that it was possible for Mr. Harriman to turn over to any living man. thing, however, could not be handed down to Judge Lovett, and that was the phenomenal genius and brain power of the departed magnate. From New York comes the story that there is to be a return to the old order which xisted prior to the assumption by Mr. Harriman of direct control of all of the great properties in his charge.

Before Mr. Harriman became president of the Union Pacific, the Southern Pacific, the Oregon Short Line, the O. R. & N. and numerous other lines which were afterwards destined to lose their identity under the general classification as portions of the Harriman system, each of these roads was managed by a president and a board of directors, separate and distinct from that which looked after the destinies of the adjoining link in the system. This plan certainly presented advan-tages over that which succeeded it, regardless of the remarkable showing that was made in the earnings and the improvements in the physical condition of the roads, the old policy was preferred by the people who paid the bills to its successor. In con-nection with the reversion to the old plan, it is reported that the presidency of the Union Pacific will fall to A. L. Mohler, whose administration road as first lieutenant for Mr. Harriman has proved so highly successful It is also reported that E. E. Calvin will become president of the Southern Pacific, and logicaly and naturally J. P. O'Brien will be president of the O.

Public confidence and good will of the people who supply the traffic is an asset of steadily increasing value to the railreads. Mr. Harriman in his New York office, or Mr. Stubbs and Mr. Krustschnitt more than 2000 miles

away in Chicago, may have desired to win and hold this good will, but in the case of all the Western roads they were too far away from the originating point of the traffic to be in direct sympathy and touch with the local situaion on the several roads which made up the great system. Reproached for the miserably inadequate steamship service between Portland and San Francisco, and admitting that it ought be better, the late Mr. Harriman once testly said: "With all of the load that I am carrying, you can't expect me to be perfectly familiar with the alls of this one small branch of the

busiliess. Mr. Harriman's argument was sound, but it was his own fault that he had arrogated to himself such absolute ntrol of all rail and steamship lines in the system, that local managers were forced to shoulder the blame for the shortcomings and at the same time were powerless to remedy them. Oregon and the remainder of the ter-ritory served by the O. R. & N. would ike a return of the old regime, when differences between the railroad and its patrons could be adjusted at a point nearer home than Chicago or New

TO TEST CORPORATION TAX LAW. "Direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included in this Union, according to their respective numbers." Thus, the Constitution of the United States. not the corporation tax of 2 per cent a direct tax? If not, what description of tax is it? Certainly it is not apportioned among the states on the

basis of their population and numbers. The corporations, moreover, exist under state law. They are instruments or agencies authorized by the states for convenience of their citizens in doing business. They are artificial entitles, created by the states for their own purposes. The General Government can have no proper right to tax them. Most, not all the states-Oregon among the number-are already taxing them-taxing not only their property, but taxing them for their ex-

istence as corporations. President Taft makes special defense of the Government tax on corporations. His main plea is that the Government needs the money. He does not deny that it discriminates against corporations as such, or that it favors partnerships and individual proprietors, who are exempt. He thinks it is constitutional. Others think not. That oint is to be tested

Ex-Senator Foraker, counsel for the Cincinnati Traction Company, is pre-paring, in the name of that company, a test case. Foraker is an able lawyer and a good fighter. He will present the case against the tax for all it is worth There is in it that also which stir Mr. Foraker to peculiar activity and effort. For, as the Brooklyn Eagle says: "President Taft, who, in a sense, may be said to have driven Mr. Foraker out of public life, temporarily, at least, was the one force that put this tax on corporation profits on the Federal statute books. The President frankly acknowledged a strong purpose outside revenue-raising, viz. to subject all the artificial persons created by state law to United States esplonage and supervision."

The right to do this will be ques-tioned, since the corporations exist by virtue of state law. Again, it is a form of direct taxation that would appear to be more surely inhibited by the Constitution of the United States than even an income tax, which was probunced unconstitutional, and to authorize which an amendment to the Constitution is now pending. Foraker has the spur of motive to make it a lively contest.

### IGNORANCE OF MOTHERS.

deplorable ignorance of young mothers generally, in the care, and especially in the feeding, of infants. That there is good ground for the accusation that to this ignorance, much more even than to that scourge of infancy and childhood-impure milk-large proportion of the sickness and death of babies and young children is due, there is no reason to doubt. For the young mother, however, it may be said that she is genberally willing and even anxious, learn. She does not know how to bathe and dress a baby. Why should She has never been taught, and this is her first pitiful attempt. Very likely she spent the few years of her. perhaps all too brief, period of maidenhood, behind the stocking or notion or underwear or ribbon counter of a department store. Or, perhaps, she spent this period at a typewriter, rattling off business letters, which she had previously taken from dictation in shorthand. Or, mayhap, she passed it in a sewing room or in the back room of a fashionable millinery store, learning to make and trim hats; or at any other one of half a hundred vocations, to which the young woman of oday devotes her time, her strength and her energies.

Why should she be expected to learn, in the course of such activities, how to sterilize milk for the baby's food? To fashion its tiny garments in accordance with the laws of hygiene? To feed it proper food at proper intervals and to dress and wrap its little body warmly, yet lightly? There are some things, it is true, that any young mother, of common sense, or baby sense, for that matter, might be expected to know, as, for example, not to wheel the baby, in its go-cart. the sun shining broadly into its little blinking eyes—a sight that is almost as common on the streets as is that of the baby in the go-cart. And as for food, any mother with a modicum of common sense, not to mention maternal intuition, might well be expected to know better than give her yearling child raw corn, or a piece of fat meat, or a rubber nipple supon which to work the lips constantly. But beyond the relatively few things that any young woman of common sense ought to know, because naturally endowed human being. It is unreasonable to expect one of these, just because she has become a mother, to know how to care for an infant, with due regard to its com-

fort and health. What then? The quick response is She should be taught how to do this." Very true. But who is to come in at this stage of the game and teach her? Her mother has "old-fashioned ideas about bables"; clearly, she must not interfere. Her husband is as ignorant as herself in matters pertaining to the health and comfort of the babe so wisdom cannot be gained from that source. The children next door are subject to colds and have weak eyes and digestive disturbances. Clearly their mother is not a safe ad-The family physician too often knows as little about babies as the mother herself, so having reached the stage of responsible but ignorant Cloud established a record of 433 %

motherhood-what is there left for her to do but to experiment upon the And what wonder that it does not thrive under the treatment?

The logical remedy for this state of affairs is, of course, to give young women, while yet in their girlhood, lementary instruction in the proper care of infants and young children And, since it has become the fashion or the fad to saddle all instruction of every sort upon the public schools not cut out instruction in music. which is little more than a guttura or squeaky utterance of disagreeable sounds; or the labored conjugation of Latin verbs or drill in higher mathematics, and substitute a brief and simple course in hygiene, with direct reference to the care of infants and oung children? Impractical? what's the use of growling and complaining and growing sarcastic on this theme? After all is said and the truth of what is said is granted, what of it? Who has a remedy to propose? Don't all speak at once.

THE AUROBA BOREALIS. Among the few natural phenomena which may still be properly called mysterious is the aurora borealls, the northern lights, as it is popularly designated. Science has reduced, under law and order, almost anything that we see or hear, but this spectacle of the Arctic heavens remains to be explained. The ancients looked upon it with superstitious awe, as they did, in fact, upon everything that happened, while our still less enlightened predecessors of the Middle Ages, of course, thought an auroral display was a manifestation of the wrath of the creator If the creator had been as busy as ose wretched people thought he was in displaying signs of his wrath, it is to see how he could have found time to attend to the ordinary routine of the universe. To their minds his temper must have been something frightful. One queer thing about the aurora is the fact that for a century or two before the voyages of the modern polar explorers began it was not nearly so commonly observed as it is now. At least there is little mention of it among the records of scientific men. One might imagine, if be seere fanciful enough, that nature had arranged the auroral displays compensate travelers in part for her shortcomings in other particulars round about the Pole.

All Arctic explorers make a great deal of the northern lights. They are visible in the extreme north with a frequency and brilliancy which are seldom rivaled in lower latitudes, still even in the temperate zone they sometimes present a marvelous display. Examples are recorded where the aurora has covered the whole expanse of the sky with rosy light which shifted about in the most amazing manner. Sometimes great waves of fire appear chase one another across the sky. Sometimes what looks like lake of radiant mist heaves and trembles as if it were disturbed by pent-up winds. When one of these splendid auroras is seen in our latitudes we ought to be thankful to Providence for providing such a glorious spectacle free of charge, but as a matter of fact there are always multitudes of people whom it frightens nearly to death. Their first thought is that the end of the world is at hand, and instead of rejoicing they begin to call on the rocks to cover them. Superstition makes an abject creature of poor man, but it is a comfort to reflect that he is rapidly outgrowing it.

There is nothing in the aurora to be scared at, even when it is most bril-The old theory that it is composed of meteoric dust which has been ignited by striking the earth's atmos-We hear much now and again of phere was plausible for a time, but savants no longer out much faith in it They are disposed to explain the aurora as some sort of electrical phenomenon. As soon as the action of an electrical discharge in a vacuum tube had been studied, scientists felt that they were on the track of the secret of the northern lights. These displays almost always occur in the upper regions of the atmosphere when it is exceedingly rare, perhaps not denser than at in a Crookes tube. Moreover, the light moves about much in the same mysterious manner as does the illumination in the tubes, now in a proces sion of strata, now in waves, now in long shooting streamers. In fact, it is pretty certain to the modern mind that the aurora is some sort of emanation which will ultimately take its among the varied types of radiant matter. It is probably composed of the same material as the tail of a comet, and it would surprise few men of science to find that the phenomenor is simply a display of electrons. Meanwhile, it makes the Arctic night just as beautiful as it would if we knew all about it. If it is composed of electrons its connection with the earth's magnetic pole, which is a well-known would be the most natural thing Quite likely the earth in the world. sends off emanations into space from its north magnetic pole just as a Crookes tube sends them from the

## AWARENING PAST ECHOES.

The story of the record-breaking oyage of the sailing ship Heward D. Troop from Yokohama reads like i tale of the long-departed past. For nearly sixty years sailing vessels have covered that route, and among the thousands of vessels that have made the voyage were large numbers of those wonderful clippers which, long before the age of steam, made phenomenal speed on every sea. In view of these past performances, the record run of the Troop, one of the few survivors of a rapidly vanishing type of vessel, is all the more remarkable. Twenty days from Yokohama to the Columbia River is good time for the average tramp steamer, and there are not half a dozen tramp steamers afloat on the Pacific today that could cover as many miles in a single twenty-four nours as were sailed by the Howard D. Troop on some of her "best days"

during the voyage just completed. Now that the clow-moving, broadbeamed, snub-nosed tramp steamer :s gradually but surely elbowing the sailing ship off the ocean, the important sition which the sailing ship once held in the world's commerce is not so readily appreciated. The American lippers which raced round the world nfty years ago were not only the fastest sailing vessels ever built, but even this twentieth-century age of steam many steamships can travel but little faster than some of the old-time sailing craft. The famous Dread-nought made the run from Sandy Hook to Queenstown in 9 days and 1' hours, at a time when the ten-day steamer was the fastest on the route, and at a still earlier period the Flying

miles for a twenty-four-hour run. Very few of the tramp steamers of the present day can show better pas sages than the thirteen-day trip of the Pod Incket from New York to Liver pool, or the seventy-five-day voyage of the Trade Wind from San Francisco to New York, or the long-distance runs of the Flying Dutchman, the Young

America, the Comet or a number of

The old-time clippers that made these world's records have all vanand for the broader-beamed, heavier-sparred successors of Howard D. Troop type the end is already written. An occasional burst of speed like that shown by the Troop as she raced across the Pacific is only a "swan song," and fire and tempest and the ravages of time are sweeping these white-winged argosies of trade" of existence, with no new keels going down to replace them. As a factor in the carrying trade of the world the salling ship will soon be extinct, but the record run of the Troop is interesting, as it serves to keep alive the nemories of the former aristocrat of the sea, the American clipper.

COLOR LINE IN MARSHFIELD, The color line is being sharply drawn in Marshfield, this time between negroes and Chinese, on the school There is one lone Chinese gusetion. pupil in the town, a meek-mannered, inoffensive little lad, and the negro

mothers there are in revolt at the prospect of having to send their children, of whom there are several in town, to the separate school provided for colored children and to which the Chinese boy is sent. Negroes can only make themselves ridiculous and intensify the feeling against them by scoffing at and ostracizing other col-

ored folk. The Marshfield School Board, however, strained a point in at-tempting to set up a school for a separate handful of colored children. The first step in promoting race troubles in a community, where the race question is not an issue, is in recognizing racial disparity. The few children in Marshfield probably play on the streets and associate elsewhere in childish ways and sports with the white children. Why draw the color line in the public schools? Why not which are now such a magnificent let sleeping prejudices, like sleeping spectacle in the northern heavens to dogs, lie? Why strain at a gnat and swallow a camel?

> Canadian rallroad contractors are facing a labor famine, which promises to prevent the construction of a large amount of new road in the western provinces. An effort is being made to secure permission from the government to bring in several thousand Chinese to aid in the work. The scarcity of white labor is such that farmers are paying as high as \$4 per day for common labor, which, of course, makes it impossible for the railroad company to secure the forces needed. Natuthere will be a vigorous protest against admitting the Chinese, but the economic advantage to the country, and even the interests of white labor, is manifest. In the Pacific Northwest Chinese labor built many a mile of railroad and cleared many an acre of land in a territory that, had it been obliged to depend on the inadequate supply of white labor, would have remained undeveloped and unproductive for many years.

> Dr. Brougher uses a trotting race that he saw last week as a text for a ermon on life's struggle. Most men of middle age can recall a time when any minister of the gospel who would stoop to so sinful an act as going to a horse race, would have been regarded by his congregation and his governing body as on the straight road to a In many communities, his flock would have deserted him to the last sheep. No power could have pre vented his expulsion. Today, no protest will be heard. Verily, the world

Walla Walla County, as was kind, dignified and proper, celebrated its day at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition by unveiling a statue of Marcus Whitman-pioneer missionary and martyr of the early years. It would have been meet and generous had the scheme included the figure—tender, merciful and heroic—of Narcissa Whitman, who shared with her husband not only the labors, the privations, the zeal and the anxieties of the mission in the wilderness, but its martyrdom as well.

The Yamhill bridegroom who was to be the victim of a charivari party had his gun handy and killed one of them. The dead man leaves a widow and ten children. It is little comfort to those who suffer from the results of this kind of foolishness to know it was all meant in fun. Perhaps there were more killings of the kind, the charivari idea of jesting would

We've got to divide these honors Discovery could not have been made without the Eskimo; the natives were powerless without the dogs; under white leadership would, have failed except for the optician. Cook gives full credit to the ambercolored goggles.

Americanization of Alaska and with material and social advancement ong all lines is now assured. tion that supports a four-club baseball eague can no longer be regarded as cizilization's frontier.

Grandest of all blessings, to turn the roadhouses dry will be Winter's cold This will take the pleasure and rain. out of riotous "joy riding" for part of the year, at least. Hurry the rain.

The President applies to the Ballinger-Pinchot squabble: "A soft answer turneth away wrath." So far so good, but the soft answer is neither Ballinger's nor Pinchet's.

Messrs. Ballinger and Pinchet could issue manifestoes assuring each other of their distinguished considera-That's the "soft answer" now tion.

Having called for estimates on next year's budget, Mayor Simon will soon have the opportunity to make good on the promise to keep taxes down. While loss of life is generally to be

deplored, there is small public regret when joy riders confine fatalities to Grave matters are under considera

Only four more days until Taft ar-Walt for the big show!

vention of undertakers.

AGITATION FOR A CENTRAL BANK. The Question Discussed for and Against

by Different Newspapers, President Taft's recent speech, in which e asked the American people to prepare themselves for a report from the Aldrich Currency Commission in favor of a central United States bank, is discussed as a leading public issue, and the predic tion is already made that the question will occupy an important place in the next National political campaign. Sena-tor Aldrich is viewed with suspicion by some observers and with praise by oth-

cago Inter Ocean, "that it would be desirable, when panic conditions arise, desirable, when panic conditions arise, to have the currency under some strong central control, capable of safely and promptly expanding the supply. The trouble with efforts to establish such a central banking system, with currency control, in this country lies in the well-founded aversion that the American people have to centralization of power, and to the confusion in the public mind beto the confusion in the public mind be-

a bank."
"Does Mr. Taff know of any method by which a central bank of issue could be kept free from Wall street influences or from political manipulation?" asks the New York World. "When the United States Treasury cannot be kept free from such before what home is there in a such influences, what hope is there in a central bank of issue with power to con-tract or expand the currency at will? If the currency system can be reformed only by substituting a greater evil for a cesser evil, it had better be left unre-

'Methods of improving the banking and currency system of the country should be worked out and championed by men in whom the people at large have a rea-sonable degree of confidence," hints the

sonable degree of confidence," finits the Chicago News.

The Philadelphia Press is against the experiment, and says: "Commercial and financial power has a tendency toward concentration, which it has been supposed the people ought to guard against, and yet this central bank would involve the controllering of commercial and

and yet this central bank would involve the centralization of commercial and financial power by law."
"More than 40 years" familiarity with the National banknotes has made the country look upon them as more than fulfilling all its requirements," is the opinion of the Boston Transcript. "The American of the financial stand-pat typ as almost sacred, as beyond the possibil-ity of improvement. To the holders of this belief, reformers must appeal, and they cannot work more effectively than monstrating that the modernization of our currency system is to establish conditions exactly the reverse of those which inspire so many Americans with the fear that they will be called upon to assume the risks that were in the old state bank bills."

"Under all the circumstances, it looks is if the central bank of issue had stormy days ahead, and as if the country were confronted with the prospect of a battle n Congress over the revision of the mone tary system compared to which the con-troversy over the emergency currency measure will be insignificant," says the

states the Philadelphia Inquirer, "but it such a bank can be established without disturbing existing banks, without uitidisturbing existing banks, without ulti-mately affecting the price of Governmen cent bonds, it is an end devoutly to be desired. We are harassed by ancient banking laws which in times of trouble make a bad situation worse.

"Bankers in the large cities seem as a rule to be drifting into a favorable at titude," says the Springfield (Muss.) Republican. The country bankers occupy generally a hostile position in fear of un-due encroachment upon their independnce and their powers of local accomm dation. The country must not be hurried into the adoption of any scheme. But it is also not to forget that fundamental reform has become urgently necessary."
The Washington (D. C.) Post thinks "there can be no suspicion that President Taft will favor other than the best sys em which those who have expert knowl-dge can devise and which may be for-mlated by the legislators who are mulated by the legislators charged with its enactment."

The issue is conducive to the formation of an opposition party, hints the Washington (D. C.) Herald. "The lines are "and fhe captains are in command. Soon we shall see the enemies of a central bank unlimber their guns. The fight is on. The advantages are with the Ad-ministration. And it is a matter for congratulation that it is so," "The people are a unit with the President in his idea of such a bank," says the Cincinnail Enquirer, "if he can have it securely Enquirer, "if he can have it securely bound by his two indispensable require-ments-free from Walk street influences and that it shall not be manipulated for political purposes.

"Opposition to the proposed reform hankers, unless the recommendation of the Monetary Commission should con-tain some compensating advantage for the individual National banks," thinks the New York Tribune.
"Withdrawal of Government deposits

ess of note-issuing power, centralization of reserves, depreciation of Federal bond values, all have been mentioned as dis-turbances of the existing situation, which, if necessary, must be accomplished by careful readjustment and full recog-nition of existing rights," says the Bos-ton Herald. "These are indications that the conservative financial interests of the country are looking carefully before they approve an important leap."
"Senator Aldrich, the head of the finance committee in his chamber, is

Globe-Democrat. "A bill will be reported y the commission, it is believed, some lime during the session which begins in December. It will be introduced in both chambers simultaneously. All the influ-ence which can be exerted by these com-mittees to secure its enactment will be

employed."

The Indianapolis Star is anti-Aldrich:
"When Mr. Aldrich says that a central bank, if one is to be established, should serve the public welfare and not the furposes of Wall street, he does nothing to ciarify or improve the situation, but does much to obscure it with uncertainty and essential. and suspicion. . . But the Star has always favored the principle of a central

### A Lesson in Geography.

SHERWOOD, Or., Sept. 25 .- (To the Editor.)—Dr. Cook and Commander Peary are demanding too much in re-taining their North Pole records until private experts correct every blunder and before the public sees the records. These papers are not worth one cent as a test, after two or three days at most rom the time the explorers touched at elvilization.

I notice that The Oregonian is in the

I notice that The Oregonian is in the habit of saying that every way a man looks at the North Pole is south. This is not so. To the contrary, one cannot see south because his feet are in the way. His head is north and his feet south, and the horizon in every direction is at right angles to south.

IRIAL GROAT. URIAL GROAT.

### Looking for Roosevelt,

Looking for Roosevelt.

Des Moines (Ia.) Register and Leader.

It is idle, even in the face of the President's coming journey to cover up the fact that there is a growing disposition to look to Roosevelt's return as the signal for a break to progressive leader-ship, a restoration at Washington of aggressive and coursessive. ship, a restoration at washington of aggressive and courageous "come on" policies. The country took the President as a Reosevelt man. If there is a growing conviction that, he is not of the Rocevelt metal it is only natural that, as the real Rocevelt is barely 50 and full of fight, there should be a looking to the blown-in-the-bottle article. tion this week-at the Portland con-

THE RUSH TO THE FARM.

Here Are Good Satire and Pleasantry and Some Sense.

New York Evening Sun.
One of the many versatile farmers a Washington, W. J. Spillman by name and "Agriculturist in Charge of Office of Farm Management, Bureau of Plan Industry, Department of Agriculture, by title, seized his pen not long ago and made the following pleasing discovery: At no previous period in the history of America have city people evinced so much interest in farming as at the present time. Large numbers of city tollers are looking longingly to the country as an avenue of escape from the uncertainties of city em-

This picture of tired men, women and children, worn out in the treadmill of the typewriter and other city abominations, casting eyes of envy upon the cappy farmer and sighing for his blissful lot, so worked upon the sensiti nature of Expert Spillman that he once set to work to write a sort of "First Aid to the City Farmer." The results we find in the Yearbook of the Department of Agriculture for 1908, reently issued. In the first paragraph h

At the present time there is practically no literature that will give these people (i.e., the city tollers), unacquainted with even the rudiments of farming, a general view of the possibilities of farm life.

Of course, there are those delightful periodicale of the farm which every commuter who has so much as one bencoop or a row of string beans reads faithful ly. But this branch of agricultural literature is too discursive and casual to fill the niche whose emptiness Mr. Spillman perceives. Such lore ha "Now is the time to set the hens," "Look out for potato bugs next month," and "Common table salt mixed with bootblacking is an excellent compound to cure your horse of ringbone," is the principal subject matter of the farmers' journals, and, of course, the thing for which the Wash-ington expert is alming is a far loftle light of imagination and intellectual en deavor. An entiring birdseye view of the farm, scientific yet alluring, is his con-

From what we are able to judge, Mr Spillman has well succeeded in his effort "Types of Farming in the United States" is the title of his essay, and therein of Aronstook County, Maine, to the on trich industry of California. The bank clerk or the telephone girl is enabled to make a ready choice and no New Yorket longing for a farm need now lack infor-mation as to the range of possibilities open before him.

There is only one obstacle that we see

in the way of this great movement. make no question of the longing which Mr. Spillman has perceived in the tired offy eyes. We ourselves have often seen just that expression and indeed heard earnest words of desire uttered. But, to state the trouble briefly, we have never known any of these aching hearts to land anywhere near a farm. They long and long for the smell of tilled earth, the spudge, spudge of the milk in the pall, and the cheery can or the angle. Bu Their hearts thirst for such things. Bu nothing in this city life," they say. "A man makes a few dollars, but what good does it do him? We've-only one life to live and I'm for a farm soon. Why, I was reading only the other day about a man out in Oregon," etc. We have been ob-serving these would-be farmers for years, understood, and we never knew any that ever came nearer the great, wild bosom of nature than East Orange r Mount Vernon.

It is an unfortunate situation, we adnit. There is no question but that many thousands of our city dwellers would be many times better off in the country; we sincerely hope that Mr. Spillman's efwill start the procession farm-But it has not started yet, so far as our observation goes; and as an ir lication of the future we distrust com-pletely the longing of the city heart for the furrow. The one consolation of the Washington expert must be the sclousness that he has created a master plece of agricultural literature, the pro-fuction of which is, after all, the end and

### CAMPAIGNING IN VIRGINIA.

The Smoothness With Which the Ma chine Is Worked in That State.

Newport News Letter to the Washing-ton Star.
Political contests in the Old Dominion are carried on in a very courtly way, which is refreshing as well as amazing to the outsider. Out in the rude and unpolished West and in the hustling North you call your political opponent "bottle-browed scoundrel," and branch out from that; tell him his party is the party of imbeclies, thieves and

rapscallions intent upon wrecking the country, and hand him a few hot ones In Virginia it is different. You say:
"Sir, I am constrained to remark that
your character lacks that elevated
strain which should mark the leader of a free peopley" and "Your party's course, sir, in this community has not been characterized by true devotion to the best interests of the people." or something on that order. Go to calling your opponent a thief or a thug down here and the meeting would break up in

a row, with somebody a candidate for a hospital.
I am told that even when sequester I am toid that even when sequestoring a ballot box in a negro precinct a
certain degree of formality is observed.
They don't do as Tammany does, hit
you over the head with a blackjack and
tell your to "get to h—I out of here," but
say, "By your leave, sir," or more likely,
with a smile of pained surprise, remark: "Surely you are mistaken, there is no such ballot box here." Ah, well, these little amenities add to the pleasure of

The campaign for Governor and state The campaign for Governor and state officers is proceeding in a very dignified way. Thus far it is not marked by as much asperity as characterized the Democrate primaries for the selection of candidates. The Républicans are not calling the Democratic candidates names; they merely quote what was not allowed the by Democratic before said about him by Democrats before the primaries. The Democrats cannot attack the Republican candidate personally, for his record, while brief, is clean. Anyhow they think it sufficient to hint at the affiliation of his party with the Republican party of Mahone's days, and the adherence to it today of a certain element which votes the Repub-

In Virginia the dominant party conrols every branch of the public service Sipartisan boards, even of elections and education are unknown. The Republitimes, to any practical purpose. The entire school system is absolutely under the control of the politicians, and their power was exerted in such a way in the

their own side. their own side.

The way the game is framed up the political machine in power finds a valuable auxiliary in the educational branch of the state service. That power exof the state service. That power ex-tends down the line, even to the ap-pointment of teachers. Under the state constitution of 1992 the State Board of Education consists of eight members, three-sof whom—the Governor, the At-torney-General and the Superintendent of Public Instruction—are elected by the people; three professors from state institutions of higher education are elected by the Senate, and two division Superintendents, one from a county and Superintendents, one from a county and one from a city, are chosen by the re-mainder of the board.

# Life's Sunny Side

Did the Major ever get that office he was running for?"
"Don't want it. You see, the Major is a born orator, and if he should get the office he'd have to quit speechifyin. Only thing that saves him is to keep -runnin'."-Atlanta Constitution.

Knicker-When do you expect confirmadon of the discovery of the Pole?" Bocker-When Mr. S. Claus comes to own.-New York Sun.

Farmer-Ever milk a cow! parder-No, sir, but I'd like to try. Farmer-Think you can make 'er giva Boarder-I guess so. I've served two years as a personal-property assessor -Chicago Tribune.

Foxy Papa.—Have you vanishing lak? Tradesman.—Yes. Going to make surs of no breach of promise suits? Foxy Papa.—Oh. no; going to give my laughter a check for \$5000 as a wedding laughter a character a charact

Reporter-Senator, to what do you chiefy attribute your successful career? Eminent Statesman-Entirely to heredity, young man. I deserve no credit for it whatever. My father had ambition and my mother had talent, and I hap-pened to inherit both those qualifications. Exchange.

Plutocrat (engaging new chauffeur)-And have you any references from your last employer?
Applicant for the Job-No; but I can get some in about a month Plutecrat-Why the delay? Applicant-He's in the hospital.-Cas-

sella' London Journal. Him-You're the only girl I ever loved! Her-That's interesting, but immaterial, What I want to know is, am I the only girl you're ever going to love?-Chicago

In the air one minute-"Another fool In the air three minutes-"Hasn't he cilled himself yet?"
In the air five minutes—"All the fools

ain't dead yet."
In the air 80 minutes-"Mr. Ayrider the well-known aviator."
In the air one hour—"Our distinguished ellow-countryman." In the air one hour and a quarter—"The wigard of the air.

In the air one hour and a half—'The Legion of Honor could have been be-stowed on no worthier man."—Life, Zeke Weatherby-Josh, while I was up in town I saw the churn drummer that ran away with yeour old woman. He's not a bad fellow, Josh. He's just full of

losh Henpeck (grimly)-He ought to be full of it, by heck. He's got mine,-Chi-Kind Old Lady (talking to a tramp) Have you ever made an effort to get work? Tramp-Yes, ma'am. Last month I got

work for two members of my family, but neither of them would take it.-Human "You're a bum driver," says one chauf-

"Say," says the other, "what I know about automobiles would fill a library." "Yes, and what you don't know about m would fill a morgue."-Cloveland

#### HARRIMAN'S METHOD.

But Who Would Have Dared This and Succeeded but Harriman?

B. J. Hendrick in McClure's Massazine The history of the Harriman coads is simply that of a small group of men who, without spending much money of their own, have concentrated in their own hands one-third the railway mileage of the United States. Once getting .. possession of the Union Pacific-evidently without going deeply down into their own peckets-they have simply saued new securities and with the oney derived from this sale have pur chased large stock interests in other roads. In 1898 Harriman began the management of the Union Pacific, and in 1899 he issued its preferred and common stock to the amount of \$32,000,000, purchasing with the money thus obtained the Oregon Railroad & Naviga-tion Company and the Oregon Short Line, which extended his system to the Pacific Coast. In 1901 the great ex-pansion of the Harriman system really began, when the Union Pacific and the Oregon Short Line raised \$145,000,000 by the sale of bonds. The directors placed the large sum at Harriman's dis-posal to expend for the benefit of the road. Briefly stated, Harriman used the money inabuying a controlling in-terest in two imperial railroad sys-tems—the Southern Pacific and the Northern Pacific. Many factors con-tributed to the success of this, probably the most colosial performance in the history of American railway finance. Harriman unquestionably used, not his own mency, but the credit of the Union Pacific in extending his railroad power. Had he not first rebuilt and remade the Union Pacific, however, rescued it from nsolvency and transformed it into a richly paying system, it would mani-festly not have had the credit with which he accomplished the task.

### SHORT POLITICAL COMMENT.

Mr. Bryan speaks of the two wings of the Republican party. That's as many as the angels have.—Springfield

That New York plan to "reunite all

Democrats" will give new life to that exciting question: "What is a Demorat" -Detroit News. Judging by the number of Important

recommendations President Taft says he will make to Congress next Winter, that body will have no chance to "loaf on the job."—Philadelphia Press. It is our belief that the worthlessness of Legislatures is a direct result of the muckraker campaigns which have

been carried on by some magazines and some newspapers. — Charleston and some newspapers. — Charleston News and Courier. President Taft switched from conserv-

ation to the corporation tax at Den-ver. In casting about for subjects the President will never find one that will prove more interesting than the tariff as viewed by its friends,-Louisville Courier-Journal.

If our state takes down one bottle from the patent medicine shelf, the demand for others will quickly be heard.
While we are yet writhing in the
throes of direct primary gastraigia, a
shout will arise for a dose of referendum pills or perchance a recall tablet. And so it will go.—New York Evening

#### U'Ren's Boss Plan. Tilinmook Headlight.

Tillamook Headlight.

The URen style of political bossism is advocating a constitutional amendment to take the election of Sheriffs, District Attorneys and state officers out of the people's hands and give the Governor the power to appoint them. Those who so blindly followed the U'Ren fallacies will readily see that this would create such accurate political machine that it would readily see that the world a monster political machine that it would eclipse all other bear rule ever attempted in Oregon. Surely H is libout time for the Republicans, who went daft over the URen fallacies, to regain their senses and adhere strictly to representative gov-