# The Oregonian

(By Mail.)

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Daily, Sunday included, one month..... 75

How to Remit—Send postoface money order, express order or personal check en your local bank. Stamps, coin or currency are at the sender's risk. Give postoface address in full. including county and state.

Postage Rates—10 to 14 pages, 1 cent; 16 to 25 pages, 2 cents; 30 to 40 pages, 3 cents; 40 to 60 pages, 4 cents. Foreign postage double rate.

Eastern Business Office—The S. C. Beck-rith Special Agency—New York, rooms 48-0 Tribune building. Chicago, rooms 510-512 50 Tribune building.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, DEC. 6, 1909 EDUCATION AND SELF-DEPENDENCE.

There was a normal school at

Weston, and this school was one of three that the Legislature left without appropriations for their support. Great grievance is held by the Weston Leader against The Oregonian, because, as the Leader asserts, The Oregonian killed the normal schools. Now we believe The Oregonian is not the Legislature; and many persons, and some newspapers, when it suits their purposes, flout The Oregonian, affect scorn it, and say it has no influence, anyway. As matter of fact, The Oregonian is not "an enemy" of Weston er of Ashland, nor of Monmouth. There is no reason why it should be or could be. But it has opposed the colley of state maintenance of local high schools here and there, at the. ex-

education of teachers by the state. knows no reason why teachers should not educate themselves for their profession, as persons intending to enter other professions must do. Moreover, The Oregonian believes that this theory of expecting the state to educate everybody for the whole duties of life, or for the particular duties of life, is a mistake. Further, that the theory of taxing all the people to give special education, in any line, to few, is an abuse of a general prin-

pense of the state-their support on

the plea or pretense of necessity of

Our special institutions of learning, maintained by the state, are of no use to 95 per cent of the popula-5 per cent can avail tion; for not themselves of advantages that all are called on to pay for. Again, The Oregonian believes that young people should make some exertion for their own education, and that

their parents should realize their responsibility to help; moreover, that whole responsibility and charge should not be thrown on the state. "The Oregonian," says the Weston paper, "deliberately played into the hands of ten or more sectarian schools of Oregon that have normal depart-

ments and were jealous of the state Here is an admission that it is not necessary for the state to support normal schools. The word sectarian" is merely a bugbear. None of these schools teaches the special tenets of a sect or denomination. To The Oregonian it makes no difference whatever what this state or that state may do in this matter; how

many normal schools or special colleges this state or that state may Were The Oregonian published in another state, its position on this subject would be the same as its position here and now. The theory of state education, as it believes, is runterest of the Weston paper was not in the state school as such, but in having a state school, an advanced school in its town, supported by the state, for the benefit of the town. It ought to have put the argument frankly on this ground.

But we are told that Weston, now thrown on its own resources, has, and maintains, an excellent public school. This self-dependence is the way to efficiency and independence, in educational as in all other affairs.

No use to roar about "that man Scott." He knows from experience how one may obtain some little education for himself-if willing to put forth the exertion. Then such person will not lose the habit of selfdependence, which is more than all

ANTIQUITY OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE. Governor Shafroth, of Colorado, in a speech in New York a few days ago predicted that woman suffrage would become universal in this country. "It

was in the Mountain States, the birth-place of freedom," said he, "that suf-frage was first given to women, and it is as sure to extend to every state in the Union as every principle of right is bound ultimately to triumph." to the Initial starting point of the suffrage movement in this country, Colorado may be entitled to the credit for the early successes scored, but the woman suffrage question is almost as old as history. No one ever suspected ancient Rome of being much of a "birthplace of freedom," but woman auffrage secured quite a foothold there

more than 2000 years ago.

Indeed, there is now no startling de parture from the methods of the old Roman dames, in the tactics now used by Mrs. Pankhurst and her followers in England, although, fortunately for the good name of America, the horse-whipping of eminent statesmen has not yet been regarded as necessary for the good of the cause in this country. About the time that Julius Caesar was preparing to go over and straighten out the political situation in Britain, the question of "women's rights" took a strong hold on the Roman women. Led by one Hortensia, daughter of a famous orator, they formed a flying wedge, similar to that made by the London women who stormed the House of Parliament, and marched on the Forum. The history they made is strikingly similar to that which was repeated in London 2000 years later, for, under orders from the triumvers, they were driven into the street and the more obstreperous of their numbers were thrown into jail. The issue in that campaign was taxation without representation, and the earnestness of the women and the severity of the treatment given them awakened a sympathy for them that resulted in

Even that was not the first recognition of women's rights, for, more than one hundred years before the birth of Caesar the Roman women took offense at a matter of dress rog- for the week ending Saturday was

ulation and, in 195 B. C., marched to the Forum and started a regular twentieth century "rough house." This particular grievance, which brought on one of the first militant Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postorfice as suffragist movements, was, however, an exceptionally cruel one, as it was suffragist movements, was, however, subscription Rates-Invariably in Advance. directed against a law which prohibited women from wearing garments of more than one color. The law was passed while Hannibal and his Carthaginian friends were entertaining the Romans with numerous blood-letting contests, and was a military measure but, as some of the instincts of the female sex have not changed much since, it is easy to understand that something worse than a raid on the House of Parliament would follow attempted enforcement of such a law to-Solomon was slightly in error in day. his statement that there was nothing new under the sun, but the woman suffrage movement is not new.

NOW IF IT HAD HAPPENED HERE-The troop ship Prairie ran aground oon after leaving Philadelphia, and the gunboat Princeton had a similar experience at Willapa harbor. Both of the vessels had been dispatched to Nic aragua, and the delay at this time might have proved a serious matter.

The two disasters might have hap pened in any port in the world, for whenever ships get out of the proper channels it is tically certain that they will take The Navy Departthe ground. ment in the past, however, has exercised strong discrimination against some ports in favor of others, and has in effect blacklisted the Columbia River for no other reason than that ships would go aground here if they got out of the channel.

The new system proposed for the Navy will not prevent such disasters as have happened to the Princeton and the Prairie, but it will, regardless of the hampering influence of red tape and precedent, permit warships to enter ports where navigation is safe.

COLD WEATHER AND SUN SPOTS.

The hard-Winter prophet, who saw the squirrels last Fall laying in very large store of cold-weather provender and sounded a warning to the doubting world, sees his vindication in the record of gales and blizzards and floods and polar snow from East and West. So does the "sun-spot" man, who uttered direful forebodings several weeks ago, when electrical and magnetic 'storms" and beautiful auroras told of furious outbursts on our parent star. Now comes a writer asking The Oregonian whether the theory that upheavals on the sun induce sympathetic disturbances upon the earth is a credible one. He says:

PORTLAND. Dec. 5.—(To the Editor.)—Violent storms, tempests and cold weather seem to have come upon North America and the whole Northern Hemisphere, with unusual severity, and the Winter period has only just begun. In a discussion today, the remark was made, half jestingly, that sun spots may be the cause of this terrestrial trouble. The more I consider the matter, the more seriously am I inclined to view the sunspot theory. I know there are many "experts." some of them woethly hidebound against all new theories of solar chemistry and physics, who scoff at sunspots. But in all stages of knowledge there have been such persons, combatting new ideas by which knowledge has made progress. Is the sun-spot hypothesis a plausible explanation of our weather trouble here on earth? PORTLAND. Dec. 5 .- (To the Editor.)-INQUIRER.

This is a question that cannot be inswered with authority, because the "experts" disagree or aver that information is not sufficient to convince. The only acknowledged truth is that spots on the sun are accompanied by electrical and magnetic agitation on the earth. Whenever the earth shows these symptoms, eruptions are detected on the solar body. Recently the telegraph systems of America were crip-pled and in some localities put out of use by these "storms," But how far weather was affected is unknown, or whether those conditions were har-

The spots are supposed, by best authorities on astronomy, to mark the locations of violent eruptions from the sun's interior or from beneath the sun's envelope of luminous gas. These explosions of very hot matter, or gas, reach a height of many thousands of miles. They are followed by a downrush of colder matter, to take the place of that which has been ejected. The spots are manifest signs of violent activity, and the magnetic needle on the earth quivers and shifts under their sway. Each day shows a variation of the needle.

Astronomers have found that the spots have a lower temperature than the surrounding surface of the sun. Whether they diminish the quantity of heat which the sun sends out to the earth is a question not yet determined. Some scientists of standing have thought that sun spots have this effect on the earth's supply of heat nourishment, and have written plausible arguments in support of the theory. But scientific intelligence does not accept the theory, because observations have not been sufficiently wide to establish the fact, if it is a fact.

This is a highly interesting subject and will receive the fullest study sci-entists can give it. But observations of individual men are so short and such long time is required to follow out the contemporary facts of sun spots and terrestrial effects that knowledge will be slowly gained. Still, it is not an extravagant notion that solar energles influence weather on this globe and even crops, and through them the human race.

## CAUTIOUS FINANCIEBING.

The influence of dollar wheat, 15cent cotton and similar gilt-edged col-lateral is much in evidence in the general financial situation throughout the country. Money is so much easier in the West than it is in the East that the lure of high interest rates is again drawing it toward New York. This movement has thus far quite effectively offset the drain made on the New Yorl banks for gold for shipment to Europe and South America. That New York has not forgotten the lesson of two years ago is quite apparent in the caution reflected in the weekly bank statement. Week after week there has been steady loss in cash through gold exports and Subtreasury operations, but the New York financiers are not taking chances on being caught with de-pleted reserves, and are steadily scaling down their loans in order to hold

the surplus reserve in safe proportions. For the week ending last Saturday the clearing-house banks of New York showed a total reserve of \$299,872,000, compared with \$376,204,000 on the same week in the previous year. The surplus reserve, over and above the legal requirements, was \$7,714,000, compared with \$20,174,000 a year ago, It is in the loan item that the extreme caution of the New York bankers is reflected. The decrease in this item

\$10,578,000, leaving total outstanding ans of the clearing-house banks \$1,-192,793,100, compared with \$1,347,-145,300 on the same date a year ago Other banks and trust companies outside of the clearing-house institutions report loans of \$1,226,227,000, the derease being about the same as in the clearing-house banks. These figures would indicate that the financial insti-cutions of New York alone had reduced their loans in a single year to the extent of \$300,000,000.

The effect of this retrenchment, at a time when business is reported good and crops large throughout the country, is reflected in unusually high money rates in New York, a city which in the past has enjoyed the lowest in terest rates that have prevalled anywhere in the country. Five per cent for sixty-day loans, with good mercantile paper seeking buyers at 5 and 51/2 per cent, and with call loans around 5 and 6 per cent, reveals a much firmer money market than is found in the West, where the raw material which produces money is found in abundance. There is naturally me uncertainty as to what may hap pen when Congress convenes this week, and the waiting attitude of the foreign markets, pending the outcome of the budget struggle, has some effect on the New York markets.

This uncertainty, however, is not as vet affecting the situation in the West and South, nor will it affect these portions of the country se long as they are turning off in record-breaking amounts commodities for which the whole world offers a market. Nothing that Congress can d., and nothing that the friends or enemies of the British budget can do, will to any great extent block the wheels of industry in this country. The land, the source of all wealth, is producing collateral that can be negotiated at all times, and, while dearer money may check speculation in stocks and perhaps temporarily interfere with some new legitimate schemes that need financing, the turn of the year will almost certainly bring with it an easier money market in the East as well as in the West.

#### USE AND CONSERVATION

The use, as well as the conservation of our natural resources appeals to Land Commissioner Dennett as it appealed to President Taft. Secretary Ballinger and a number of other practical men connected with the present administration.

Commissioner Dennett, in his annual eport, expresses the opinion "that it is the duty of the Government, either acting directly or by intrusting it to individuals, to use these vast forces." The Land Commissioner also expresses disinclination to go beyond the law in handling the business of his department. He does not assume, like Mr. Pinchot and his fellow faddists, in experimenting with a theory, that it is proper for a Government official

to do anything not expressly forbidden by law but, instead, asks for laws which will the more definitely limit and define the duties of his office. Mr. Dennett's report should be well onsidered by the muck-rakers. But it

## THE PARCELS POST

will not be.

Faw more important questions are likely to come before Congress this Winter than the parcels post. Will our Government provide the people of the United States with the same facil. itles for the delivery of goods and literature that the people of other civilized countries enjoy, or will it not? On its face, this question may appear a little dull. We readily admit that it appeals to the intelligence rather than to the tender emotions, but for all that it goes down pretty near to the root of our institutions. It raises a number of auxiliary inquiries, some of which Congressmen may find it embarrassing to answer, if the parcels post should be postponed again. For example, people will be prompted to ask for what purposes the Government exists. Is it to serve the interests of half a dozen express companies, or of the Ameri-

can people? The lack of a parcels post makes citizens everywhere dependent on the express for the delivery of all goods which are not carried by freight. The latter is slow and by no means safe for valuable articles. Existing conditions give the express companies a monopoly, and they do not scruple to take every possible advantage of it. Their charges are exorbitant. The effect of this grievous monopoly is exceedingly iepressing upon the internal trade of the country. People who would purchase largely if delivery by post were permitted, deprive themselves of needed goods rather than submit to the extortionate charges of the express companies. Worse still, these companies maintain no delivery service at places remote from the railroads where

it is most needed. With respect to the population not centered in towns, their attitude is precisely that of the dog in the manger. They will not deliver parcels themselves, and they use every means they can command to prevent the Government from doing it. Consequently citizens who do not dwell near railroad stations must make a long journey, often over bad roads, for every little article they purchase. Naturally they purchase few things which they can do without. The parcels post would immediately add a large percentage to the internal commerce of the country, just as postal savings banks would call half a billion dollars out of hiding within a week after they were opened The Government's remissness has the same effect as a direct grant of a monopoly of the delivery of parcels to the express companies in places within easy reach of the railroads. People living farther away it deprives of any

delivery system whatever. The remissness is all the more shameful when we see the rural mail wagons carrying nothing but small oundles of letters and papers. Were the carriers permitted to do errands for country people, as old-fashioned stagedrivers used, it would be a universal blessing. Even the right to bring a bottle of medicine from the drugstore would oftentimes save a human life. But it is not permitted. They have no such right, because this invaluable boon to the citizens would perhaps interfere with the sacred monopoly of the express companies. The happiness, the comfort, the very lives of citizens are of no consequence compared with the profits of these privileged favorites. Is it any wonder that taxpayers ask

what the Government is for? The complaint that the rural delivery service does not pay expenses is wholly irrational. In the first place there are a great many immensely beneficial public services which do not and ought not to be expected to pay expenses. The Army is one. courts are another. The public schools | Hood on the Fourth of July.

are a third. It is as foolish to decry the postoffice for not yielding a profit as to decry the schools for the same Indeed, it is doubly foolish because, with commonsense manage ment, the postoffice would yield a Especially is this true of the profit. rural delivery department. To see the officials bewailing their deficit while they send their mail cart up and down the roads empty, reminds one of the conduct of a half-witted child.

There is not a rural route in the United States where the parcels delivery business would not pay the ex-penses if the carriers were permitted to take charge of it. But no, it must not be done. The express companies forbid. Incited by the express trust the country storekeepers also clamor against the parcels post, but their outcry is too insane to be taken seriously. Without rural delivery of parcels the doom of the country store keeper is sealed past recall. What has begun to happen to him in Kansas will happen everywhere. The electric car and the automobile will whirl the country purchasers past his door to the city and no how! that he can make to Congress will stop them. In the end, grass will grow before his steps and the roof will have in on his head. If he would help to obtain the parcels post, people would buy of him by mail and telephone, and he might keep out of the poorhouse. Since he forces them to make a journey for every spool of thread they need, they get even by going a little farther and buying their thread and other supplies in town. The country merchant may learn a useful lesson from the dead stores in the Kansas villages. Lack of the parcels post has killed them.

It appears from statements published by The Manufacturers' Record (Baltimore) that the United States Steel Corporation already has \$50,000, 000 invested in Alabama, and is pushing improvements upon its plants at enormous rate. It is shown that the corporation is now handling large part of its export trade in steel rails through its Alabama establishments, and is now filling an order for 110,000, tons of Birmingham rails through Southern ports to Brazil and Argentina. Developments like these are said to be building up protectionist sentiment rapidly in the South. It is probably true; and it accounts for the fact that so many Democratic members of Congress from that section "stand in" with Northern protectionists, when they feem it necessary for the interests of the steel, sugar, rice and cotton-manufacturing industries of their own districts. Such facts show further why that party can't stand up to its promise of tariff for revenue only.

The Duke of Abruzzi is reported to e contemplating another visit to this country. According to a Chicago dispatch, he will again offer his hand, neart, title, etc., to Miss Katherine Elkins. It will be remembered that a former engagement between Abruzz and Miss Elkins was broken off because the King of Italy objected to the rank, or rather lack of rank, of the lady. Shortly afterwards Pa Elkins, in rummaging around the old trunk in the attic, found documents : howing that the Elkins family was also of royal birth, and that there had been royal titles hanging on the Elkins family tree centuries ago while the Abruzzi family was accumulating wealth with a handorgan and a soreeyed monkey. This naturally makes difference, and the eligibility of Miss Elkins to an Italian title will no longer be questioned. Her money had proviously been considered well adapted to the use of royalty.

A time-honored example of the acme of boldness in petty crime was the alleged theft of a red-hot stove. The stove incident, however, whether acnal or other by a Portland thief who, on Saturday night, attempted to steal a gold tooth from the mouth of a sleeping man The incident happened in a North End saloon, and the explanation of the victim that "I had several drinks and fell asleep while sitting on a chair in the rear of the room," alone makes it possible to accept the story as an actual occurrence. A writer in the Spectator (London)

shows that, taking the electorate as it was in 1908, England and Wales return one member for every 12,240 electors. Scotland one for every 10,595; Ireland one for every 6725. "It is curious," he says, "to observe how Radicals who never tire of talking about the rights of the people avoid making any allusion to the over-representation of Ireland." Colorado takes the lead this year in

the production of sugar beets. The total value of this crop the present year was \$7,500,000, an increase of \$1,000,000 over the total of last year The sugar beet matures early, hence was probably out of the ground and safely housed before the early blizzard broke over the Rocky Mountain

Representative B. F. Jones will be amed Receiver at Roseburg by his patron, Senator Bourne. Thus, in spite of direct primaries, Statement One, corrupt practice laws and hypo-critical assumptions of political virtue, the old method of recompensing members of the Legislature for their vote for United States Senator continues.

Some half dozen persons will strive or the Republican nomination in the State of Washington, for the successor ship to Senator Piles, who will not be a candidate for re-election. a hot contest, for a plurality nomination. Now if they had our holy statement over there, the Democratic candidate certainly would be elected.

Now that a second affinity has appeared in the Hamilton trial at Olympia, the prospects for getting more of the truth out of affinity No. 1 ought to mprove. Even affinities dislike to divide the cash of their victims, and jealousy loosens many a tongue that otherwise would remain silent.

Attorney-General Crawford is "no smart man." He can't see that one of the definitions of three is five or seven. You see some men's minds lack flexibillity.

There are those who think lightly of a polar exploit and yet regard a tled-up car service and a mile walk through the snow a terrible hardship.

not stalled by a little snow storm, but it costs more money. Snow appears at its best on Mount

A streetcar with sufficient power is

DIRECT PRIMARIES AGAIN. Comment on Some of Its Developments and Consequences.

New York Sun, November 30. . . experience of Indianapolis in the matter of direct primaries continues to illuminate the whole subject of this conemporary effort to achieve political reform. Months ago we reprinted from the leading journals of that town the frank confession that the municipal direct pri-mary had been a disappointment and a failure. Both the News and the Star as-serted that the direct primary had not enlisted candidates of a desirable character, had not materially changed the con-ditions of nomination and had entailed an enormous and indefensible expense upon both the taxpayers and the candi-dates, an expense which so far as the axpayers were concerned was without

material benefit. In another column we reprint the recent comment of the Indianapolis Star upon certain significant post-election re-sults flowing from the direct primary: The statement here made is that the expense of the primary for the successful candidate was so great that he was able meet it only by promises to appoint his financial backers if elected. The dis charge of these debts in this fashion at the present time, moreover, is a scandal in Indianapolis and practically impairs the possibility of a successful municipa

The whole experience of Indianapolis, as we have steadfastly insisted, is valuable in the extreme in its bearing upon our local problem. Not that the failure of direct primaries there was unique, but because they have had there the most favorable trial, and the causes of their breakdown may, in a sense, be regarded as constitutional rather than local. The source of gravest evil, the excessive expenditure of money, has already alarmer some of Governor Hughes' most uncom promising adherents. Thus the Evening Post has lately advised the Governor to amend his present bill to meet this evilan oblique admission that his original neasure was defective in this particular.

Following is the articles from the Indianapolts Star referred to above It is a serious question whether the adoption of direct primaries has benefited or injured the situation of municipal pol ities in the election of a Mayor. The City of Indianapolis now confronts a condition in which its Mayor-elect, a poor man, is trying to discharge the financial obliga-tions he incurred not so much in the final election as before the primaries-obligations he entered into so as to carry the

various wards for the nomination. The general public does not understand so well as do the men who do the prac-tical work in polities the conditions which confront the man seeking a nomination for Mayor. After he has consulted some central authority or authorities he is re-ferred to the so-called leaders in the various wards, and these inform him that it is possible he can carry their ward, but money will be required for expenses. From \$400 to \$2000 a ward is the required amount and the aspirant is made to believe that he must either raise this money or with-draw from the race. At one stage of his race Mr. Shank was scared out and with-

frew. At a later stage the money was supplied and he backed in. Of course this is all wrong and ought not to be. Somehow or other we ought to get the financial element out of our municipal campaigns. It is in the National and state campaigns, though growing less prominent under newspaper criticism, and t ought to be banished entirely from city elections. Yet it is a question whether the direct primary has not increased rather than diminished the facilities of ward bosses to hold up the prospective

## THE OFFICE-HOLDING ARMY.

#### Grand Progress Towards the Socialistic Millennfum. · New York world.

The number of Federal office-holders and employes now exceeds by many thousands the total population of the State of Vermont. According to the new Government blue book the total is \$70,065, an increase of 64,000 in two years. Since 1907 the new recruits to the great army of Federal office-hold ers engaged in uplifting the general welfare outnumber the Regular Army. Secretary Ballinger's report shows that there were 946,194 names on the pension roll at the end of the fiscal year. Adding the number of pensioners to the number of office-holders and we find a grand army of 1,316,259 drawing its support in whole or in part from the United States Treasury.

And how many city, county and state imployes are there in all? The coming census should take note of the great progress that is made in the business of serving the people. In New York City alone there are about 60,000 on the payroll, or one office-holder to every ten voters that do not hold office. Pos sibly this percentage will not hold good for the entire country; but politicians are pretty much alike every-where and provide all the jobs that the traffic will bear. Counties and states vie with cities in making sure that a sufficient number of patriots are engaged in the public service to keep the work from being burdensome to anybody except the taxpayer.

We are surely making fair progress toward the socialistic mulcinnium when everybody is to work for the Government and the Government is to support everybody.

## Lincoln's Tribute to Women.

I am not accustomed to use the lan guage of eulogy. I have never studied the art of paying compliments to women; but I must say that, if all that has been said by orators and poets since the creation of the world in praise of women were applied to the women of America, it, would not them justice for their conduct during the war.

#### Going a Trifle Too Far. Chicago News

Dick-Dearest, I will follow you to be end of the earth. Drusilla-No, you won't either. That is the North Pole, and you are not go-ing to get me mixed up in any of these foolish explorer's controversies.

## Not Advance Information,

Cleveland Plain Dealer. "The trouble is," said the old philosopher, "that you can't tell much about the toughness of a boy's backbone un-til a mass play tries it out. And then the information may come too late.

Believes He Should Be Conserved. St. Paul Pioneer Press. Speaker Cannon acts as though he thought he was one of the National resources that should be conserved.

Harvard Lampoon.

if all the world's a stage Then all these Freshmen are but super In it,
Thrust from the wings upon a brilliant scene
In seven divers costumes. First, the Infant, Mewling and puking at an Adviser's word; Then the dumb, timid Cub that sips his mug At melancholy beer nights. Then the Sport, Friend of the chorus girl, whose idea of Heaven
Is the Touraine. And then the football hero, Full of strange oaths and armored like a knight.

Seeking the bubble Reputation Even on the gridinon. Then the sober grind, With eyes severe and water wagon mien, Slave to Probation. The sixth age shifts Into a pale and qualmy Pantaloon.
New pipe in hand, tobacco pouch on side, The privilege he coveted, too strong For his unshaven lip; his breath comes quick

And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all, Shern of his soul, a would-be Sophomore In second childishness and mere oblivion—Sans wisdom, taste, sans thirst, sans—everything. Thrust from the wings upon a brillian

TRUTH AS TO CURRENCY REFORM Something Yet to Be Done in Battle for Sound Money.

Pacific Banker (Cortland).

For 40 years The Oregonian newspaper has been sound on finance. Looking back at the economic questions that have been before the people in that time it has little to regret in the course it took. On the question of the re-sumption of specie payments we may be sure it stood firm where John Sherman faltered. If the greenback ragbaby ever got a harder lambasting than The Oregonian gave it, it was somewhere else than on this Coast. Populism and Sockless Jerry, with his demand for "flat," or printing-press, money were laughed to effective scorn on its pages. and for that scarcely less seductive and infinitely more dangerous, because more powerful error, the free colnage of siler. The Oregonian has a record that is National in its sweep. The fact that it kept Oregon from going 20,000 for Bryan is the smallest part of it. It kept down the majorities on this Coast for that matchless vote-getting fallacy, which here had the apparently resistless argument or encouragement to home industries and putting a million men to work in the four great states of the Pacific Northwest. But the effect of The Oregonian's influence in the battle' for sound money was not confined to any state or to any section. Its argument, made day after day and day after day, in language so clear, terse and powerful that even the wayfaring

odds. Now the country has before it another great monetary question—that of currency reform. And again The Oregonian is astonishingly clear and satisfactor. factory. Not being a banker, its editor still sees the trouble with our finan-cial system in its practical operation. call system in its practical operation. And being a general newspaper man, he also sees the troublous days ahead before the people will settle the difficulties of that system, if they ever do. The Oregonian realizes—and no one can gainsay it—the well-nigh hopeless task it is to get "democracy in the raw" interested in banking or the problems which confront it. A recent editorial from that namer probably exditorial from that paper probably ex presses the exact truth concerning the central bank and the people. The out-look is not cheerful. Nevertheless the editorial may be good for all of us who are interested in currency reform. What The Oregonian says about sys-

man, though a fool, could not but feel the force of it, was welcomed all over

for the gold standard against heavy

the country where men were struggling

tems which are good for one country not being necessarily good for another is undoubtedly true. What it says about the people not understanding the prin-ciples of credit currency - "certainly of credit currency not yet, nor for a long time to come"—
is also most likely true. But notwithstanding all this, we believe that when
the bankers—the experts—settle upon the kind of a system they want and can make an argument in support of it which an intelligent business man can understand—just as happened in the free silver days—the time of currency reform is close at hand.

#### PROFITS OF EXPRESS COMPANIES. Their Rates Now Under Inquiry Befor the Interstate Commission.

Just now the Interstate Commerce Commission is engaged on an inquiry into the rates levied by the great express companies. The business is controlled by five big concerns, and the status of the combination is thus de-scribed in a Washington dispatch:

These five concerns have made exclusive contracts over 167,000 miles of rallway, aimost three-fourths of the entire railway, lines of the United States. Their rates between the competitive points, as disclosed by evidence obtained by the Interstate Commerce Commission and as laid before the Department of Justice, are fixed by a tack if not express agreement, and there is a complete understanding as to the conditions under which the business shall be received and handled.

The sole justification the express competence of the conditions of the conditions of the sole justification the express competence.

under which the outsides shall be recovered and handled.

The sole justification the express companies have for their policy of making exclusive contracts with the railroads is found in a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States. Members of the Interstate Commerce Commission say there is no justification for the agreements which the comparies apparently have made between each other and which it is asserted, are in violation of the anti-trust law.

In view of the distribution of a 300 per cent dividend by the Wells-Fargo Company it seems laughable to recall that this concern, in company with other express

concern, in company with other express companies named, claimed that the net re-sults of the express business are not as favorable today as they were some years ago. They alleged that their operating ex-penses have increased heavily, owing to the increased cost of transportation, the ad-tance in wages to employee and the addi-

## Longest Tropical Service in Philippines,

Manila Times. The Eighteenth Infantry, which ar rived on the Logan from Camp Keithly, Mindanao, is the first regiment in the United States Army to complete a third tour of duty in the Philippines. The egiment came first to the islands with he famous second expedition, which sailed from San Francisco June 14, 1898. salled from San Francisco June 14, 1898, and reached Manila Bay July 17, disembarking immediately and going into tents at Camp Dewey. The regiment took a very active part with other troops in the occupation of Manila on August 13, 1898. Of the officers who marched into Manila, only two are now with the regiment with the regiment,

#### Bunyan's Pulpit on Exhibition,-Westminster Gazette, London.

Westminster Gazette, London.
At the present time, when so much interest is being taken in the proposed Bunyan memorial window in Westminister Abbey, the library committee of the Sunday School Union thinks that many Sunday school teachers will welcome the opportunity of seeing so income the opportunity of seeing so in-teresting a relic as the Bunyan pulpit, which for many years has been in the possession of the union. It has possession of the union. It therefore decided to have the pupil on the library, at 56 Old

## Proverbs of a Neighborhood.

Alice van Leer Carrick, in Smart Set. One touch of envy makes a whole It takes all kinds of people to make suburb.

Knowledge comes, but culture lingers Affluence isn't having more than your needs; It's having more than your neighbors.

#### Passing Him Along. Roseburg Review.

Simon Sanors, the feeble-minded Russian, who was brought here from Riddle last Wednesday, was sent north this morning at the expense of the county, Judge Wonacott buying him transportation.

Footballwocky. Denver Republican. , "Twas killing, and the muddled con Did jah and jibber on the grid; All gory were the football groves, And that halfback, the Kid.

"Beware the Sluggawock, my son, The forward pass, the off-jarred spine Beware the tacklebob, and run For good old Umptywine,"

He took the football in his hand, Long time another's life he sought; And then he rested (couldn't stand) Till ambulance was brought. And bandaged up in hed he rocks, And Sluggawock right from the game Came lumbering in with fresher knocks. And left him still more lame.

"Hooroo, hoeroo," the whistle blew, The rooters still kept up their clack, But March hare, danced his system through And dealt him back on back.

"And hast thou slain the Sluggawock? Come to my arms, my squeamish boy." (Kazoo, kaza)," the rooters bray In seasonable 10%.

### LAND POLICY OF NEW ZEALAND "Borrowed Millions" the Main Source

of Apparent Prosperity. etter in the Spectator, Landon, Nov. 13. WELLINGTON, New Zealand.—(To the

Editor.)-As a New Zealander of lover 40 years' standing, I cannot resist the temptation to express an opinion concerning the allusions made in the House of Commons to the land laws and taxation operations of our Dominion Legislature. I am neither a landowner nor a capitalist, but, having been born in this far-off country, of English parents, and being blessed with a family of six children, I may be permitted to express an unblased opinion upon the two subjects under review. In the first place, let me say that the prosperity enjoyed by New Zealand during the last two decades is due in a small measure indeed to the bursting up" land policy which a government arrogating to itself the name "Liberal" was pleased to introduce. is true that certain large estates were "resumed" by the government with the assistance of borrowed money, and that in most cases the increased number of settlers placed upon this resumed land has meant the increased productivity of the soil. By the same process of reason-ing, had the government borrowed money and invested it in developing mineral or other industries, the output would have been considerably increased. It must be pointed out, however, that whilst, on the one hand, borrowed money has developed our land settlement, on the other, mil-lions of acres of virgin sell have been allowed to remain untouched, and much of the capital borrowed, and upon which future, generations will be required to pay interest, has been taken out of the country for reinvestment. Politicians may regard this as a sound business proposition. What would be thought, proposition. What would be thought however, of a London landlord who, with a view to increasing his turnover, were to expend millions of money in developing an already profitably occupied are: whilst in the immediate neighborhood he held an area which was unoccupied? The cases, I take it, are parallel. The chief objective in New Zealand appears to have been to nationalize the land at any ost, and thereby create an army o state serfs who shall be at the beck and state seris who shall be at the beck and call of the party in power. That this objective has been partially reached is evidenced by the fact that many state tenants have felt compelled to record their votes from time to time against their own convictions, and are now clamoring, from one end of the dominion to the from one end of the dominion to the other, for the fee simple of their lands, that they may be relieved of political control and enabled to utwize their alloiments to the best advantage and as they may deem fit. To aver that the resump-tion of large estates has made for the permanent prosperity of the dominion is to offer an insult to the intelligence of every born New Zealander, for at no time during the past 20 years has there been so much unemployment, so much destitu so much unemployment, so much destitu-tion, as at present. As a matter of fact, the prosperity of the Dominion of Ista years has been due almost entirely to abnormal markets for primary products and to the expenditure of borrowed mil-

llons. Concerning the system of taxation ob-taining here, the best that can be said of it is that it has removed the burden of taxation from the shoulders of the merchant and the middleman and placed upon those of the man upon the land In the cities and larger towns In the cities and larger towns we find huge mercantile structures and wealthy citizens cheek by jowl with the laboring classes in an impoverished condition; while in the rural districts, landowners, fearful of land, mortgage and bither forms of "Liberal" taxation, are curtailing expenses or endeavoring to quit their estates that they may leave the country. This is no word-picture, sir; it is fact if the land and other taxation of the mother country is to be based upon the laws which have obtained in New Zea-land for the past 20 years, then all I can say is: "God help the motherland" ARTHUR H. VILE.

#### Wise Old Gonts. Brownsville Time:

Charles Weber tells a peculiar goat story. He owns five goats. During the coned and to keep from being drowned limbed a tree, where they remained climbed a tree, where the water receded enough to allow them to land on solid ground again. The tree, however, did not stand erest. It was a large tree that had and in falling ledged in another tree the top being several feet higher than the water raised. Mr. Weber thought his goats would not stand it out, but they did and are now as fristy as ever.

## Building a House.

John Burroughs. One of the greatest pleasures of life is to build a house for one's self. There is a peculiar satisfaction even in planting a tree from which you hope to eat fruit, or in the shade of which you hope to repose. But how much greater the pleasure in planting the roof-tree, the tree that bears the golden apples of home and hospitality, and under the protection of which you hope to pass the remainder of your days.

### New Book Pictures of McKinley. John W. Foster in "Diplomatic Mem-oirs."

In one of my visits to the White In one of my visits to the White House, in referring to the clamor for war. President McKinley said to me: "These people will have a different view of the question when their sons are dying in Cuba of yellow fever." Although a gallant soldier during the Civil War, his kindliness, of heart led him to look upon the horrors of war with great aversion. with great aversion.

Stanfield Standard.

The Port of Portland has a commission composed of incorruptible and able business men. Recently this commission has taken steps to lease the drydock to a close corporation, and it will probably go through. The result will be high prices for ship repairing and low wages for doing it. Some of Portland's business men are as near-sighted as are village farmers. as are village farmers.

## Alabama.

Alabama.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

The farmer vote of Alabama fell like a ton of brick upon the amendment designed to smash the bill of rights for the benefit of the fanatic prohibitionists. The farmhouses of Alabama, like the feudal castles of the middle ages, remain the strongholds of their owners; not the stamping ground of owners; not the stamping ground of prying police and deputy sheriffs and detectives.

## CURRENT SMALL CHANGE.

"She is furiously angry at me." "Why?"
"I took her to a football game." "But why is she angry?" "I watched the same."—
Houston Poet.

"How much does it cost to get married?" asked the eager youth. "That depends entirely on how long yeu live." replied the sad-looking man.—Philadelphia Record. "Oh, Guy, you mustn't allow yourself to be scared by papa's piercing eye." 'Tm not so much atraid of that, bifeed, as I am of his cutting 'no' "—Chicago Tribune. "Why should we all save our money" saked the teacher. "So's when we get old we'll have something to pay alimony with, replied the small boy.—Detroit Free Frem. "De reasun," said Uncke Eben, "dat some men walks de floor because of deir debts is because it's warmer an' mo' comf'able dan gettin' out an' buildin' fences or shovelin' snow."—Washington Star.

Rector—"So your son in London is to be married, ch?" Mrs. Carter—"Yersir, he is, and to a lady on the stage, too—but not to a horrid, sinful play actress. He says she's a serio—which sounds quite all right, don't

"Why so downcast?" "Oh, I sat up with a sick friend tast night, but my wife refuser to believe me. What would you do?" "Refer to the matter to the University of Copenhagen. You'll get peace for a while, any-how."—Louisville Courier-Journal.