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PORTLAND, FRIDAY, DEC. 10, 1909.

BRITAIN'S POLITICAL STRUGGLE.

Does anyone suppose the British electorate really wishes to suppress the House of Lords? If any think so, they have but to wait for the disillusionment. Even if the coming election should go against the House of Lords, neither its position nor its power will be seriously shaken. But about the suburbs. will the election go against the position now taken by the House of The parties probably will come out of the conflict on nearly even There is a balance of forces in the British electorate that is the wonder and admiration of the republican-democratic world.

The key is found in the adherence of all the people to representative government, with the House of Lords acting as a check-but only as a temporary check if the people are earnest on radical measures. Such check exists, in a degree, in our Senate. The misfortune is that our Senate hasn't the respect among our people that the House of Lords has in Britain, The reason is that few of its members have individual, family or historic charac-Too many of them are elected on their advocacy of cheap theories and buncombe issues.

Of course, we could have nothing in our country like the British House of Lords. It wouldn't be suited at all to us; yet it will do for illustrations and for contrasts, in our own

political action. Undeniably the programme of the Commons is in the direction of state socialism, resisted by the Lords. Neither party can triumph completely. Yet the contest is one of intense interest to all people, the world over, who watch the struggle in a country where opinion is free, between those who are advancing towards state socialism and those who resist it. In our country the problem is essentially the samethough presented in wholly different phases,

DR. COOK AND HIS PRETENSIONS.

"The darkness deepens" about Dr. Men having actual knowledge of Arctic conditions have believed in him but little. Few in New York or in London have had faith in him at all. It is the common opinion that his stories, both as to Mt. McKinley and the journey to the Pole, are fabrications. New incidents, seemingly confirming this judgment, are continually coming to light. Two men appear who confess they were principals in the fabrication of his astronomical and other observations for submission to the University of Copenhagen.

It must be admitted that these men are not, themselves, admirable charthe money promised them-exposed tell; and then they may be dropped out of the account.

It is all but incredible that any man should attempt a fabrication of this description. Even yet, it is well to increment," except among the comwait for the final judgment of those competent to express an opinion on the data and details furnished by Dr. Cook. If they are actually fraudulent, no ingenuity can disguise them, or protect him from the scorn of the world.

These statements by men who profess to have made up Cook's "calculations" for him, follow hard upon the remarks by Professor H. C. Parker. Columbia University, on Cook's alleged ascent of Mt. McKinley. Professor Parker accompanied Dr. Cook on the Mt. McKinley expedition, and declares it impossible to believe that Cook had reached the summit. Cook, he says, "knew nothing of mountain climbing, had no scientific training, and seemed to realize his total incompetence for such work." It appearing impossible to reach the top of the mountain that year, Professor Parker returned, and Cook remained behind. "hunt a little," as he said and to "look over some of the nearest gla-

Parker's analysis of Cook's statements leaves "the explorer in a pitiful position. By his barometers, Cook says, he found the height of the mountain to be 20,390 feet. But the highest barometer scale we had," says Parker, "was only 18,000 feet." Parker because he was, in fact, in charge of the expedition. As to Cook's qualifications, Parker says that he very much doubts whether, if placed in the streets of New York, with the best instruments made, Dr. Cook "could calculate his latitude and longitude with absolute accuracy.'

It is not merely that Cook is in a painful position. It is really a painful thing for the whole world. Truth is everything.

DAIRYING IN OREGON.

The inspiring story of success which Mr. J. D. Mickle related at the State Dairymen's convention, is not at all marvelous. It can be paralleled by the experience of many men who, like him, have escaped from a hard life and poor pay in the city to find health. liberty and fortune on a small farm. Dairying is as much of a scientific

strange that the people of this state have not found it more attractive. The returns are large, and yet Oregon is far from producing enough butter and cheese for home consumption. This fact becomes the more surprising the more one contemplates the dairying. The mild climate reduces

calling as fruitgrowing, and it is

very simple and comparatively cheap Clover grows almost everywhere west of the Cascades. Corn for ensilage is easily raised. Root crops thrive with moderate attention. But in spite of all these favorable conditions, dairying does not move forward in Oregon as it should. We ought to supply the home-demand and produce a large surplus for export. Perhaps the numerous blg estates in the Willamette Valley somewhat hinder men of small means from engaging in the dairy business. Certainly, they retard orchardry. Very likely the exaggerated fear of tuberculosis has also been a deterrent. Oregon cattle breeders ought to pay some attention to developing a cow which can endure the climate better than the Jersey There is no reason why we should not produce a native breed

THE WATER-PIPE QUESTION.

When the proposition was before the city to require water pipes or mains of the diameter of ten inches or less to be laid at the expense of the owners of property directly benefited. The Oregonian supported it; for it seemed reasonable and right to require property held in large or considerable tracts for rise in values to pay the cost of laying water mains that were expected to increase the land values two to five fold. Question was, why the whole city should be taxed for the benefit of landholders and speculators

It is found, however, we are told, that the plan is impracticable or un-The main reason given is this, namely, that it is impossible to distribute the benefits, on any calculable system; hence, the assessments will be resisted, and contractors re-fuse to offer bids on the work. It is explained-or asserted-that it is a sewer or paving a street; for the section or district served by improvements of this character is clearly ascertainable; but the water system of the city is a connected whole, and a main or large pipe laid in one locality may extend far into others; moreover, its laterals or branches penetrate very far beyond the original section paid for by those to whom the cost of the stem was charged.

The objection is that contractors, knowing that payment will be resisted, make no tenders for the work; and the present situation, therefore, is a complete impasse. The theory that the property benefited should pay is sound, but the difficulty of defining and allotting the benefits, on a continually extending and interlocked system, is said to be an insuperable bstacle. Hence the standstill, and hence the call for a vote to change the conditions.

Further, the existing situation is an obstruction to street improvement. The supply mains should be laid down the streets are paved; and it is sound economy to require this. But pavement of streets is blocked by the failure to get the water mains laid down.

Now, what is to be done about all this? The Oregonian exceedingly regrets that the purpose to make large and unoccupied tracts pay for the supply mains that will so vastly increase the value of the property, finds this difficulty in the execution. Whether further study will bring more light, or suggest a remedy, it can't now say. The present statement is merely a tentative one, and it will be two months till the vote is taken; so there is time to examine the subject further. Should the ten-inch clause be repealed, the whole subject will be in the hands of the Water Board, as aforetime, to be governed by their restrictions and regulations. a public institution. Mr. Ayer's sugare not, themselves, admirable char-acters, since they first helped forward these conditions, during their continu-ate attention. a fraud, and afterwards-not getting ance, never were satisfactory, and be-But the proofs they submit, when 1907. This is the most puzzling of examined by competent persons, will all questions now before the city. The main root of the objection to the change now proposed-the change back to former conditions-is that there is no liking for "the unearned paratively few who expect to be beneficiaries of it. And yet, improvement must not be arrested.

SECRETARY WILSON'S BLUNDER. Conclusive evidence is at hand showing that Secretary Wilson, on his recent investigation of Western forest reserves, visited but one comparatively insignificant reserve, in the extreme eastern part of Idaho. There were fifteen other reserves in Idaho, all of greater importance than the one to which the Secretary paid his hurried visit, and the trip was made for the purpose of enabling the Secretary to obtain accurate knowledge of the entire forest reserve policy. on the information thus gained that Mr. Wilson so glibly announced in his annual report that there would be no more withdrawals from the forest reserves, thus indicating that millions of

rot in these reserves. To the Western people, who for years have had perfect knowledge of the worthlessness of the information diffused by the Department of Agriculture, it will not be surprising to learn that the Secretary of Agriculture has been caught in the act of "faking." By no gentler term is it one insignificant forest reserve in an obscure part of Idaho and then announcing a nation-wide policy based for his use in running round his work on "personal investigation of the for-est reserves of the West." In view of as different from that of the old-time past performances of the Agricultural farmer as can well be imagined. Department, regarding the Pacific Northwest, "faking" of this character not an exceptional one. The Oregon might be expected. Far out in the Agricultural College, as well as the eastern part of Idaho resides the "special agent" of the Department of Agwheat districts of these states, and apparently imbued with the belief that | lar equipment to so many of the farms crop reporting is a branch of mathe- of the Pacific Northwest. The new matics, this "special agent" annually

ridiculous. It will be remembered that the wild the calling will excite the envy of less estimates of this special agent a year favored professional men. ago made the wheat crop of Oregon, Washington and Idaho fully 15,000,-000 bushels in excess of the actual output of the three states. This big "surplus" that never existed was an important factor in swelling the crop natural advantages of this state for of the Nation to extravagant figures, which enabled Mr. Patten and his tablished homes in the Rock Creek

to work one of the most profitable from 1847 to 1856. The "Needy wheat deals ever attempted in the

country The fearfully and wonderfully conthe 1909 Oregon and Washington crop Idaho crop at something over 12,000,-000 bushels, or about 5,000,000 bushbe located by the farmers, grain dealers or railroads. If the Oregon and Washington crop is similarly overestimated, the three states ought to show up on the Government report with about would be important if true. So far as the Pacific Northwest is concerned, it would be greatly to our advantage if Secretary Wilson would maintain a discreet silence on crops and forest reserves until he was in possession of

MR. AYER'S LIBRARY REPORT.

That a public library, with branches in different parts of the city, will be maintained in Portland there can be no doubt. It has come to be regarded as a legitimate public effort; and though the cost is considerable, it is not probable that any important and growing modern city will neglect the public fibrary, or, having begun, will abandon it.

At Portland there is a fortunate combination between the old Library Association, maintained more than forty years by private citizens, and the effort of the city to make provision to meet this public demand. As a conequence of the contract between the city and the Library Association good service has been had at very small cost to the city. Use of a large property and very excellent library has been secured to the public at moderate expense. If possible, this arrangement should be continued; but if continued, it will cost the city more money than heretofore. If discontinued, the cost to the city will be very very different matter from apportion-ments of the cost of constructing a cided that the public library is to be abandoned; and this is not a prob able alternative. The city, if it shall withdraw from the Library Association, will be compelled to expend at once a very large sum of money for real estate, buildings, books, furniture and general equipment, including provision for branches in various parts of the city. So large a sum as one million dollars would not provide much more than an effective beginning. On the other hand, by continuation of the contract with the Assoclation effective public service could be continued, with much less money. It is probable that the property of the Library Association could not be transferred to the city. Most of the value was derived from bequests whose conditions must be kept and complied with.

But if a public library is to be maintained it would seem that branches must be provided; and the suggestion of Mr. Ayer, president of the trustees of the Association, is that the city levy the tax authorized by the charter, buy suitable sites for branches and erect proper branch buildings. Further suggestion is that the association sell its present property-the onehalf block on Stark street-which would bring a large sum of money, and buy with the proceeds an entire block further removed from the business center-the money for building to be supplied by the city, or from other

sources This certainly would be a better business arrangement for the city than to permit the contract with the Assoclation to lapse, and then start in to establish a library and central branches, on the city's own account. For it may be supposed that Portland, having reached what may called "the public library stage," will not abandon the policy of maintaining a free library, with branches, as

THE MODERN FARMER.

The old order changeth and the farmer is coming into his own. the farmer of the funny papers, with his patched jeans held up by one "gallus," driving a spavined team with broken-down cart. This class of agriculturists is rapidly following the dodo, the great auk and other rare old birds into the dead and forgotten past. In his place has appeared a progressive, well-read, prosperous individual, who seldom gets beyond the reach of the telephone and the daily paper. The old system of haphazard farming has no attractions for this modern agriculturist, and he has reduced his calling to a science. The essons of adversity have aided in bringing about this change, but to the greatest extent it is due to the spread of good farming gospel, as taught in the agricultural colleges and demon-

strated on experimental farms. With the elevation of his calling, the farmer is bringing about a remarkable social, economic and moral change. The change that has been wroughtby the gospel of better farming is strikingly set forth in a Pullman dispatch, printed in yesterday's Orego-nian, announcing the resignation of acres of ripe timber, now rapidly nian, announcing the resignation of deteriorating, would remain uncut, to Professor George Severance, of the agricultural department of the Washington State College. Professor Severance was drawing the very satisfactory salary of \$2000 per year for his duties as instructor at the college, but has resigned to become a farmer. He is to take charge of three farms just beyond the boundary line in Canada. and is to receive a salary of \$3000 per possible to describe his act in visiting | year, with all of his expenses paid, and is also to have an interest in the profits. An automobile is provided as different from that of the old-time

The case of this college farmer is Washington institution, is turning off large numbers of these modern farmriculture, whose duty it is to keep in ers, and to their scientific knowledge touch with crop conditions, etc., in and modern methods is due much of Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Lo- the credit for the vastly increased cated several hundred miles from the profits that have lifted mortgages and added automobiles, planos and simifarmer is one of the greatest blessings sends forth crop reports that are that have come to the agricultural welrdly grotesque and extravagantly districts and as his success increases, as it surely will, the emoluments of

In connection with the announce ment of what is probably the last illness of Mrs. Frances Killen, at Walla Walla, it is recalled that this aged pioneer woman is the sole survivor of the sturdy men and women who esthe process of wintering cows to a friends who had accurate information, settlement, in Clackamas County,

neighborhood," it was called, when a postoffice named Needy lished, about the year last named, at structed figures of this crop expert on the country store of James Vinson, a short distance from the Killen do are not yet at hand. 'He places the | nation land claim. "Hardscrabble" was another designation of the settlement, each name telling its own els in excess of the amount that can Fifty years was the life of this ploneer settlement, as far as the original settlers are concerned. The claims in perhaps every instance have passed out of the hands of the heirs of those to whom the title was made 100,000,000 bushels, which by the Government under the donation land law. The sites of the first settlers' homes are still marked in some instances by rotting logs and by lilac and rose bushes, run wild. The Killen log house, it is said, is still standing. The sons and daughters born in these which shall be at once profitable in accurate information regarding them. primitive homes have scattered out the dairy and adapted to local conidentified with its enterprises and its homes. Of the original settlers of the neighborhood thus designated, Mrs. Killen alone survives, carrying feebly but bravely the weight

> The O. R. & N. has appropriated \$600,000, to be used in straightening out 14.2 miles of road between Th Dalles and Deschutes. In the early days of railroad building, when the engineers located the line around stumps which were too big to be conveniently moved, \$40,000 per mile was regarded as a reasonable amount for constructing a new line, and a good many miles of road were built for about half that amount. The pressure of competition and the necessity for reducing the operating expenses is now so great, however, that enormous sums are spent in the elimina tion of curves and in reducing grades. The O. R. & N. has already expended large sums in straightening the and reducing grades between Portland and The Dalles, and for a number of miles west of Pendleton. With the completion of the work now planned, the South Bank Road will be in perfect condition for any kind of competition which might be inaugurated by its great rival on the opposite side of the river.

of ninety years.

zette-Times-signed "E. M."-takes issue with the editor of that paper, who expressed the opinion that "one reason why The Oregonian is so widely read is its strong editorial page." course, it doesn't become The Oregonian to quarrel with this dissenter. He doesn't understand The Oregonian he can't understand it; and we should thus:

thus:

Of course the real and normal apperception is that The Oregonian is the paragon of virtue and morality; and of course, almost without exception, our statesmen, bankers, merchants and even our professors and preachers (at which latter especially as our teachers of ethics the writer has often irreverently wondered) so adopt it; the most pleasing daily perusal and edification of which must consequently be among their chief comforts and solaces. How then can these wonderful hallucinations on the part of the present writer be accounted for?

Oh it's assyl As Horsee Greenley. Oh, it's easy! As Horace Greeley used to say, "The man simply is a

There is some accusation of Secretary Knox, on his lack of diplomacy in dealing with President Zelaya, of Nicaragua. We think the criticism unjust. Knox merely wrote a few sentences like this:

It is equally a matter of common knowledge that under the regime of President Zelaya republican institutions have ceased in Nicaragua to exist except in name; that public opinion and the press have been throttled, and that prison has been the reward of any tendency to real patriotism. If this isn't the language of true

diplomacy. what is it? however, that it was not addressed to Germany, to Great Britain, or even to Russia or Janan

In the discussion of "Evangelism" sociation at Vancouver last Wednesday, it was conceded that the "best time for conducting evangelical work is during the regular church service." Adherence to this principle would, of course, put "Gypsy" Smith, Billy Sunday et al. out of a lucrative job.

A highway, as perfect as possible, is wanted from Baker City to Haines. It is a most desirable thing. Yet the Baker Democrat is "given to understand that one of the objections raised to the Haines road is its expense." Now when you want a thing, that is a very shallow objection-whether you have means of getting it or not.

The two Senators of the United States, at Washington, from Portland. Oregon, could easily adjust at the War Department, Washington, the matter of the drawbridges at Portland, Oregon; only it is a small matter, and they, being statesmen, haven't time to It matters not whether it be Jer-

sey, Holstein, Ayrshire or Guernsey, or the Shorthorn dual anomaly, the object in view is to lift the Oregon dairy product from \$17,000,000 annually to an indefinite figure. While deposits in all the banks of the United States foot up the stupend-

ous total of \$14,000,000,000, they do not equal the value of the agricultural products of the country during the last" two years. Tillamook has elected a "wet" ticket. The open saloon cannot be

worse than the disreputable state of

affairs, moral and political, that has existed there in the year past. Merely as a reminder, it may be stated once more that the sale of Red Cross stamps will continue until Christmas. The money goes to fight

Gresham, little larger than the ordinary crossroads village, has voted bonds for water and sewers. This is an undertaking to eliminate the undertaker

That is an earnest-looking lot of men and women in session in Woodmen Hall these days. They are not milk-and-water combination, by any means.

Mr. King, Portland bridegroom, arrested for debt in San Francisco, has been "charivaried" with a vengeance. Having had two full days of it, can

any one point out faults in Oregon's normal Winter weather? Only two short weeks left. Go early and avoid the rush.

A cheap relief in over-crowded

streetcars would be more straps.

LET ARPPING PROPERTY PAY. Why Should City Put Up for Extending

Water Mains. PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 9 .- (To the Editor.)-I should like to express my opinion about the matter of the laying of water mains in this city, which is now being discussed by Mayor Simon and his Water Board. It is undoubtedly true that contractors are not anxious to bid on the work under present conditions. They are uncertain about their ability to collect from individual property-owners. Mr. Simon believes that the work should be paid for out of the water fund; and this is where I object. He and some members of the board evidently had this change in view at the time when they proposed to raise the minimum price of water (meter rate) from 25 cents to 75 cents a month. While I do not want anything below cost, and think the minimum 25-cent rate is too low, I can hardly see the justice or necessity of making the rate three times as high. I do not like to believe Mr. Simon possessed of any mercenary motives in this connection; at the same time there no doubt many who have unimlike to pay for laying the mains. Yet everyone knows that all improvements, such as water and sewers, enhance the value of vacant lots as much in proportion as they do to unoccupied land in a new subdivision, whenever a new resi-

Therefore, I am not in favor of paying the contractor out of the water fund, but, in justice to him, and to induce him bid on and do the work, can he not be paid for his work by the city, and the city collect from the property benefited by the improvement? That seems to me easy of accomplishment, when people get to understand that it is the state that abutting property shall pay.

PROTEST. to understand that it is the settled policy

THEORY THAT DR. COOK IS INSANE. No Other Interpretation of the Latest

Fraud Disclosures. PORTLAND, Dec. 9 .- (To the Editor.)—The disclosures against Dr. Cook published in today's Oregonian are not conclusive. While his case may be said to be weakening, he is far from convicted of fraud. Though the statement of alleged hired accomplices is published by so reputable a journal as the New York Times, it must not be accepted on its face as truth. It may be remembered that the Times was de ceived last year by a vagabond named Brandenburg, who peddled around other New York newspaper offices and then sold to the Times a forged article purporting to have been signed by Grover Cleveland. This article also cre-

ated a sensation.

Is it not possible that enemies of Dr. Cook, who are not inactive, may have engaged a man to impersonate Dr. Cook and then deal with Captain Loose and Mr. Dunkle? Is it reasonable to suppose that Dr. Cook, conscious of how his every movement is watched, would at this late day attempt such a fraud? If the story published this morning is half way true, the only conclusion is that Dr. Cook has become insane. has become insane. C. V. R.

"Split" Electoral Votes.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Dec. 5.—(To the Editor.)—The Saturday Evening Post, speaking of the editor of The Oregonian, said that in the Presidential election of 1896 California was split. How could this be possible under the present Electoral College system of electing Presidents? It does not seem probable that the state would select electors of opposing parties.

V. T. MOTSCHENBACHEL.

Evidently this correspondent has not lived seventeen years in Oregon, else he would remember that in 1893, this state chose two Republicans and one Populist as Presidential electors. Of course, in a state where the majority or plurality is large an electoral ticket could not be split, but where the vote is very close, carclessness or personal feeling for or against one candidate may cause a split. This has happened in eight states in the past thirty-two years. For example, Hancock carried California in 1890 by a few hundred votes, but Judge Terry, one of the Democratic candidates for elector, was defeated because enough Der remembered his duel with Br many years before and would not vote for him. In Maryland last year and in 1904, the electoral vote was split.

Ed Howe's Philosophy. Atchison Globe

Somehow, we always hate to see a woman handle a gun. You can't work and worry at the same time to good advantage. A man who worries throws rocks at his roubles and hits himself. It is as important to keep out of court

as it is to keep out of debt. There is an unusually large number of 10-cent heads this Winter wearing \$50 hats.

"Music uplifts me, but I drop back again as soon as the music is over."Parson Twine." "I don't know how it is with others, but when I begin telling my wrongs, I lie like a thief."—Ben Davis.

The man who shouts most for good

government is the one figuring on becoming an active, salaried part of it.

There are three things women should not do—spit in public, yawn in public or blow their noses in public

No woman who uses ten words, when two would do, should be allowed in a business house until after working hours.

When a guest at a dinner party, it is a misfortune to sit in such a position that everything is passed to you first, as you will not always know "what to do." It is often said every man should have a

fad as a recreation. But most men have too many; we have noticed that the suc-cessful man makes his business his fad.

"This Newspaper." Morning Astorian, Dec. 5.

Yesterday was the 59th anniversary of the founding of The Portland Oregonian, and the Morning Astorian tenders its felicitations to the men who have made it what it is, the lead-ing member of the quintette of great-est of American newspapers. We are proud of The Oregonian as one of the real institutions of the state and of the Northwest, in the development of both of which it has had commanding and successful part. With every other newspaper in the country we join in the hope that The Oregonian may go on its splendid way interminably, rais-ing its own high standards and building nobly with the great influence it possesses.

Bargains in Used Wedding Rice.

New York Sun. In a grocery of many signs the most conspicuous sign of all reads, "Wedding rice, 3 cents a pound." When questioned as to the particular quality of wedding rice, the grocer replied: "It's speckly."
Then he uncovered a box half filled with
rice that showed a multitude of little
black specks mixed with the white grains. "It would be too big a job to clean that for cooking," he said, "but it's all right for weddings, and it goes cheap. This is a parish of marriages. That church across the street is the scene of more weddings than any other two churches in town, and two-thirds of the bridal rice is

Cleaning the Augean Stables. Nehalem Enterprise

After walting seven years to get the water high enough to scrub the floor without carrying the water, L. T. Othler took advantage of the recent freshet, which went over the floor, and went through the performance of house-clean-ing. He was determined to have his way whether the floor needed it or not.

LITTLE NICARAGUA IN A NUTSHELL NEW SKYSCRAPER OF 31 STORIES. Facts Worth Knowing About the Country Uncle Sam Is Watching Now.

(Condensed from a report issued by the International Bureau of the American Re-publics, Washington, D. C.) Everybody seems to be asking, in view of present developments, what, exactly, is Nicaragua, how large is it, what are its resources, commerce and climate? There is only four square miles dif-

ference between the area of Nicaragua and the State of New York. Take Con-necticut out of New England, and Nicaragua would cover the rest of it. oximately half the size of the State Washington. To be exact, it covers 49,200 square miles, which is larger than l, Belgium and Denmark com-It has a remarkable extent of coast line on two oceans.

It has the smallest population of any Central American equntry, but is cor-respondingly capable of great material development. There are only about 600,-000 people within its limits. Of these. five-sixths are upon the western or Fu-cific side. The eastern or Caribean shore lies low and is drained by many rivers. The only industry of this section is the growing of bananas which were shipped in 1908 to the number of 1,500,-000 bunches, valued at 50 cents a bunch. The principal town here is Bluefields, a little south of the center, having 5000 inhabitants.

which starts at Corinto and runs Managua and thente across to Granada on Lake Nicaragua, which is the largest inland body of water in all Latin America. If one wishes to go to Nicaragua, he can take steamers on the Atlantic side from New York, New Orleans or Mobile. Going by Pacific, he will take steamers from San Francisco or from coast points of other countries.

The total value of the foreign trade of Nicaragua in 1998 amounted to \$7,500,-900, of which experts were \$4,500,000 and imports \$2,000,000. Nicaragua bought from the United States textiles, clothing, Nicaragua machinery, etc., valued at \$1,300,000. She sold to the United States, bananas, coffee, rubber, mahogany, cattle, hides, etc., valued at \$1,050,000.

Nicaragua has a President, a Cabinet with five Ministers or Secretaries, 13 departments or states, andi five divisions like our territories. Its National As-sembly consists of only one chamber, which is now in session.

REPUBLIC FOR GREAT BRITAINT First Hints of the Opening of a Cam-

paign Against Monarchy. London Dispatch to New York Herald. There is no denying that society is more han a little concerned at the great freedom which certain leaders of the labor party and others have recently been allowing themselves in speaking of King Edward's place in the constitution.

I understand that these speeches are not sporadic or accidental, but must be reckoned as the first hints of the opening of a more definite campaign against monarchy in this country.

Informal exchanges of opinion have already, I believe, been made between certain labor and Irish members, and the speeches to which I have referred and the

speeches to which I have referred and the questions which have been put in the House about the Frince of Wales' posi-tion in the navy are the first results. tion in the navy are the first results.

There is no doubt that an attempt is

about to be made to raise again the ban-ner of republicanism, which has been furled and hidden away in England since the early days of the reign of Queen Vic-toria. There is an extreme section in the radical party which would give its sup-port to this propagands and the idea to port to this propaganda, and the idea that it has the sympathy of Lloyd George may have given rise to the rumor that here are strained relations between him and the King.

Underworked Acres in America.

Boston Traveler. Boston Traveler.

The United States has the most fertile soil and the most favorable climate in the world, but by careless methods produces an annual yield of less than 14 bushels of wheat an acre, while England produces more than 22, Germany about 28, the Netherlands 34 and France 20.

Of oats, the United States produces an average yield an acre of 23 bushels, England 42, Germany 46 and Holland In potatoes the United States produces 85 bushels an acre. Germany, Belgium and Great Britain over 250

Germany, with an arable area not reater than some of our large produces approximately 2,000,000,000 bushels of potatoes annually, while the annual crop of the United States averages 275,000,000 bushels per annun In the year ended June 39 we imported 8,384,000 bushels.

In the 10 years since 1898 the acreage in the United States increased 22 per cent, while our exports decreased 67 per cent, showing that in a few years we shall be obliged to import the necessaries of life. The annual average yield of wheat an acre is less in the United States today than it was 30 years ago.

Modern Damon and Pythias, Tramps. Kansas City Star.

St. Joseph has a pair of tramps who ose as the modern Damon and Pythias. One was sent to the workhouse for 50 days and the other for 100 days. days and the other for 100 days.
Damen got out first and was told to
leave town. He couldn't bear to go
without his friend, so he was sent
back to the workhouse for 100 days. Pythias got out next and he couldn't leave town without Damon, so he wrote a councilman this note: "Dear Friend Morrison:—There is a man in the workhouse by the name of Jack Knowlton who is serving out 100 days that ought to be pardoned out he has served 50 days of the 100 days & had served 50 days before he got the 100. His pardner served 100 days & his time is out today he would like to go home in Texas so I believe it would save the city money to let them go together for one work so without the gether for one won't go without the other that was the reason he got back in the workhouse. Your fr. Hick." Damon was pardoned.

Deer in Streets of New Haven.

New Haven, Conn., Dispatch to New York Times. Deer are so numerous that State Game Warden Clark has warned boys and men not to throw sticks or stones at the animals when they are seen in the city streets. Monday night the Warden killed a buck which had sought refuge in a downtown stable. It had been chased and one of its legs A few days ago a deer caught down-

was taken in an express wagon and liberated in the suburbs

Dinner of a Skamania Dyspeptic. Stevenson Pioneer. R. C. Sly-What little I eat is hardly

worth mentioning. My appetite has gone entirely back on me. Now they had a very nice dinner, but I only ate four helpings of chicken, three of spuds, five of gravy, two dishes of tomatoes, three of corn, nine warm biscults, six stocks of celery, four cups of coffee and two rounds of desert. I tried to do justice to the meal, but I have indigestion so bad I was compelled to quit at that.

Self-Nomination. Yakima Republic.

The futility of trying to accomplish the things by legal enactment which the people ought to do themselves is well ilustrated by the new direct primary law. It has been claimed for this law that better nominations would be made if the people had a chance to make them. But individuals nominate themselves, as this system works in practice, and the people have mighty little to say, in the long run, about their candidates

Will Adorn New York City: Rentable Area of 550,000 Square Feet.

New York World. New York's largest skyscraper will cast

its shadow over the Battery. Towering 31 stories above the ground, it will contain 11,000,000 cubic feet, with a rentable area of 550,000 square feet. In it will be 10 miles of plumbing, 20 miles

f steam pipe, 65 miles of conduits and viring, and 3000 electric fixtures. From curb to roof, it will measure 416 feet. In building it will be used 14,000 tons of structural steel, 7,500,000 common bricks, 900,000 face bricks, 45,000 barrels of cement, 535,000 square feet of floor arches, 266,000 cubic feet of cinder fill, 125,000 square feet of girder covering, 456,000 square feet of partition file, 120,000 square feet of column covering, 230,000 square feet of wall furring, 5500 cubic yards of calssons, 17,000 cubic yards of earth excavation, 2150 cubic feet of granite, 20,000 cubic feet of Indiana limestone, 2000 tons of ornamental terra cetta, 65,000 square feet of wire lath, \$5,000 square yards of plaster, 400,000 lineal fee spruce sleepers, 800,000 feet of comb yellow pine flooring, 2300 windows, square feet of glass, 2000 doors, 280,000 pounds of window weights, 30,000 feet of copper chain, 450,000 feet of ground, 80,000 feet of picture mold, and 30,000 feet of

Cinders required for floor arches and cinters required for moor arches and between sleepers of the floors will fill 500,000 cubic feet—approximately 25,000,000 pounds. It represents the consumption of 125,000 tons of coal, sufficient to develop There will be 2100-horsepower boilers, 2000 horsepower in engines, 1200 kilowatts in generator capacity, 65,000 square feet of radiator surface, 190,000 candlepower electric lights.

olectric lights.
Old buildings on the site are being torn down. The structure will be an addition to the 25-story Whitehall building. The completed skysoraper will front 207.2½ feet on Washington street and 189,8 on Battery place, covering 51,515 square feet, or 21 city lots. It will cost \$8,000,000.

RATING FOR DIPLOMATS' LETTERS Autograph Missives of All U. S. Presi-

dents to Roosevelt Bring \$930. New York Cor. North American. At the afternoon and evening session of the sale of the library of Louis J. Ha-

ber \$6051 was realized.

The collection consisted of many remarkable books by authors from the 16th century to the present day. Charles Scribner's Sons paid \$230 for a full set of signed autograph letters of the Presider of the United States from Washington to Roosevelt. One of the most interesting of the political letters contained in the set was penned by Theodore Roosevelt de-nouncing Tammany Hall when he was a nember of the New York State Legisla-

For two volumes of "Religio Medici" by Sir Thomas Browne and Sir Kenel Digby, printed in London in 1812, \$150 was eccived: \$301 was given for a first edi tion of Robert Burton's "Anatomy of Melancholy": \$156 obtained Robert Hel-mont's "Diary of a Recluse," translated by L. Ensor, London, 1888. It was beau tifully illustrated A decree of the Star Chamber concerning printing, made in 1637 by Stikeman, brought \$100. This was a very fine copy of the rare and celebrated original

pamphlet. Mark Twain's original manuscript of e "Invalid Story" was bid up to \$150.
was signed in full by Mark Twain. Mrs. Browning's original manuscript "Only a Curl," consisting of 14 stanz signed in full, was knocked down at \$100

The Same in Washington.

Yakima (Wash.) Republic. Oregonian believes that the theory of expecting the state to educate everybody for the whole duties o life, or the particular duties, is a mistake. It believes that the theory of taxing the people to give special education, in any line, to a few, is a mistake. It says the special institutions of Oregon, maintained by the state are of no use to 95 per cent of the population, for not 5 per cent of the population can take advantage of them. These remarks are made by The Oregonian in an editorial on the Oregon normal schools. They apply with equal force to those of this state. The people of Washington are paying hundreds of thousands of dollars in taxes every year to support which are virtually local high schools and which the people generally have no interest in or use for.

Britain's Wind-Swift Navy. New York Tribune

Much the swiftest vessels in the world built for heavy fighting are Britain's "battleship cruisers." The Indomitable, the Invincible and the Inflexible have developed a speed of from 25 to 27 knots and are faster by several knots than the Dreadnought. The Indefatigable, launched the other day, will undoubtedly equal the best of them, and it is now announced that the Orion, the keel of which is about to be laid, is designed to show a speed of 28 knots. If this thing keeps on, King Edward's "superdreadnoughts" will be trayeling at the present rate of his finest

Crop of 1910 Cantaloupes Sold Ahead, New York Cor. Denver News.

A big New York wholesale fruit concern has bought practically the entire cern has bought practically the entire cantaloupe crop to be grown in Colorado next season. The Colorado cantaloupe was so well received in the East the past

decided to get a big portion of the 1919

IN THE MAGAZINE SECTION OF THE SUNDAY

HOW THE TAFT CHILDREN WILL SPEND CHRISTMAS

OREGONIAN

In former years they have had "movable" home, but now they are safe for four holidays.

CENTENARIES OF

THE COMING YEAR Among those to be remembered are Chopin and Schumann, the great composers, and that prince of humbugs, P. T. Barnum.

MEN WHO "SAW" THEIR WAY TO RICHES

Great fortunes made by a few who could look a little distance into the future.

INTERVIEW WITH

KING ED OF LONDON Which is one of the most nervy stunts of Hashimura Togo (Wallace Irwin).

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