

# The Oregonian

Portland, Oregon.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

Subscription Tables:

Daily, Sunday included, one year	\$3.00
Daily, Sunday included, three months	1.00
Daily, Sunday included, six months	1.75
Daily, without Sunday, one year	2.00
Daily, without Sunday, three months	.67
Daily, without Sunday, six months	1.17
Weekly, one year	1.00
Weekly, six months	.50
Weekly, three months	.25
Single copies	.05

By Carrier.

Daily, Sunday included, one year, 3.00

How to Remit—Send postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your local bank.

Postage Rates—10 to 14 pages, 1 cent; 15 to 22 pages, 2 cents; 23 to 40 pages, 3 cents; 41 to 60 pages, 4 cents; 61 to 80 pages, 5 cents; 81 to 100 pages, 6 cents; double rate.

Eastern Business Office—The S. C. Beckwith Building, Chicago, rooms 310-312.

Portland, Monday, January 3, 1910.

## SADNESS AND SOLEBROW.

But, when Roosevelt shall come home, as he will, and when he shall express approval of the Taft Administration, as he will, and when he shall urge Taft for renomination and re-election, as he will—then what course will the country take about Roosevelt from those who are making themselves unhappy mates by deploring the failure of Taft to make good on Roosevelt's policies?—Is the slating of the white that in order to save anything of the country's future to the people Taft must be put aside and Roosevelt put in again? We note, with some interest, that Senator Chamberlain, "our George," a bed-rock Democrat—who always opposed Roosevelt, emits expressions of alarm and distress over the failure of Taft to follow what are known as the Roosevelt's policies. These Roosevelt's policies our George now finds were "progressive," just what the country wanted. The Roosevelt's policies are so desirable when Roosevelt was President, or a candidate for the Presidency, as to induce our George to support him. Ah, no!

Possibly Roosevelt will be a candidate for the Presidency again, some time or he will not. In an old man in 1916, nor even in 1920. But our George then will oppose him and his progressive policies just as he always has heretofore; for he is a bed-rock Democrat, a member of the party, and always will be; but talking unbecomingly now for his partisan objects—setting up Roosevelt against Taft, and expressing the fear that Taft's Administration will bring disappointment to the country, and so rack and distress it. The grief he is equalled only by the trustfulness and sorrow of the Democratic party's war-horses in Oregon, arising from their fear that the Republican party of the state will ruin itself by its persistence in the holding assemblies or conventions for suggestion of candidates for the primaries. Never before were our Democratic brethren so sad and anxious about the progressiveness and welfare of their opponents. It is truly touching; and the most plaintive note of all, perhaps, is that one which our George pipes up from Washington.

## ENGLISH CAMPAIGN BALLADRY.

The political campaign among English constitutions in the purpose of rhyming stage, famed of old—in the works of the corn-law rhymsters, and many more. The following are now obtaining considerable currency. It is worth reprinting on account of its flavor and savor of America. Thus:—

It's hard to put a tax on talking it would make us talker.

There's a tax upon your whisky, so you there's a tax upon your beer as big as Winston Churchill's cheek!

There's a tax upon your money when Lloyd George begins to speak.

As we go marching on!

Chorus:—

Oh! we're a happy, happy nation, Give to modern legislation! Give to modern legislation! Amen! Amen! Amen!

## RUSSIA'S CREDITORS ESTABLISHED.

Constitutional Government is not making the headway that money-lending nations were induced to believe was scheduled in the treaty of the Czar. By one act and another of the little Autocrat, the century-old constitution of Finland has been abrogated by the Imperial Government and practically annihilated, and against protests in Finland, showing no change from the old policy that abolished the constitution of Russian Poland and those of Baltic provinces. Now come startling evidences of duplicity of Premier Stolypin, who repeatedly has declared his belief in representative government and his desire to lead Russia in that direction, but who now is said to be revealed as a foe to the Duma and to limited Monarchy.

This charge is made by a daring Russian who already has suffered imprisonment for unbridled utterances, Vladimir Bourtoff. This publicist claims to have discovered a series of memoirs from Stolypin to the Czar, covering a period of many months and containing definite plans for gradually abolishing the Duma without alarming the nations and the money-lenders of the rest of Europe. Bourtoff also has disclosed what he calls the Czar's policy of preparing a series of regular reports from the Minister of the Interior, covering all manner of details of affairs and events in Russia and foreign countries, and bearing marks and annotations of the Czar. Thus far, Bourtoff has procured only three years' issues of this record—1897 to 1899, inclusive. This newspaper reveals that the Government has spies in every revolutionary movement, so that from the camp of every revolutionary body come reports to the Emperor.

Bourtoff is publishing a list of spies and agents in the Russian secret service. "We are already beginning to read daily in the papers," says an article in Van Norden magazine, by Rose Strunsky, "how these spies are found dead in their rooms."

Thus revolutionary vengeance is already beginning to work. Supposed revolutionary leaders are revealed as hirelings of the Czar and, of course, terror haunts the circles of these men. Already, we are told, the Chamber of Deputies in Paris has adopted a resolution to expel all secret agents of Russia from France, and indignation in Russia's other creditor nations is growing.

In all this is a picture of official duplicity in Russia, of Czar and nobles pretending to welcome representative Government, yet all the while tightening their grip on the people, meanwhile confounding the foes of their scheme by means of secret spies and then by persecution. Although the Czar took an oath, at the time of his coronation in 1896, to defend the constitution of Finland, "steadfastly and unimpaird," that constitution, like those of other provinces, counts for nothing in the scheme of absolute autocracy. This was what caused other nations to regard the Czar as a hypocrite and to Japan in the recent conflict. This influence may count again in Russia's next trouble.

## THE CANTING WAY.

The Lord's Prayer should be revised to suit the present state of affairs. The Oregonian, "delivered us from temptation," says this process only. The Oregonian can merit be determined and characterized by the general public. The Lord's Prayer is simple, yet one may not know how to interpret it. "Lead us not into temptation" can mean nothing more than a prayer to enable us to resist temptation; for the Lord's Prayer on every hand. Always will be.

Besides, the worth or value of the sayings of Jesus depends always on the method and spirit employed in their interpretation. The Christian church does not follow, nor can it accept, the general idea of Jesus in the social or socialistic doctrines of Jesus. Men must resist indignity and oppression; men must look to their own interests and take thought for the morrow; men must not sell all they have and give to the poor—for that would beggar even those who might receive the goods. If a robber take away your coat you are not to give him cloak to everyone who asks, or give to the poor—for that would beggar even those who might receive the goods. If a robber take away your coat you are not to give him cloak to everyone who asks, or give to the poor—for that would beggar even those who might receive the goods.

## A SUITABLE ANSWER.

One reason why the cost of living is high and why taxes are high is the rush of families from the country to the towns and cities, where they can have the benefit of free schools and higher education, at the expense of the rural districts. The rural districts are being neglected themselves. They call it "betterment of the human family." The industry of the country is diminished and taxes on the remaining industry increased. A man should be ashamed to say that he moved his family to Eugene or Walla Walla to get the benefit of schools, to the support of which he doesn't contribute.

These people all snap savagely at the Oregonian for its plain speech. "It's true," says one of them, "that the automobile and lives in a palace like modern home that is lighted, heated and elegantly furnished, and sit down to sumptuous meals every day, and that is why the Oregonian attacks them." The editor of the Oregonian, who works for the rights of the defenders, "Oh, it is easy."

Thus the argument ad hominem. But the editor doesn't ride in an automobile, never was able to own one; his house, humble enough, has a back porch fifty feet wide, a lawn, and his "elegant furnishings" might perhaps bring \$500;—perhaps not. His "sumptuous meals"—and he pays his butcher and grocer—consist of wheat mush, chops and potatoes.

## REFORMING FOOTBALL.

Wide diversity of opinion enters discussion of the reform of the Intercollegiate Athletic Association's finances on the subject each time bring out many ideas, many of them in conflict. On Tuesday of last week, the Intercollegiate Athletic Association discussed the matter in New York and at a subsequent meeting, and finally disposed of the task by referring it to the committee on rules, with instructions "to use every possible endeavor to bring about such a modification of the rules as in its judgment shall tend to reduce to a minimum the harm to the game of injury to players and at the same time retain as far as possible the most desirable and wholesome features of the game."

It becomes evident to devotees of the game that dangerous playing must be minimized, if the game is to stay in favor. More than forty deaths were recorded on the mortality list last year and bad injuries were numerous. In the face of this record it is not surprising that some improvement will be effected, though how much is doubtful. The amended rules will be the result of compromise between the contending interests.

One change which is widely favored is that of placing the main force behind the line. Some authorities would put all the backs that distance behind the line. Walter Camp is of opinion that increase of the minimum yardage rule would reduce heavy mass playing. The object of reforming the game is to substitute as much as possible individual playing for heavy mass aggregations. Too often is one player exposed alone to assaults of combined teams, and this is a situation which should be avoided, and this player is usually the one least able to withstand the hard treatment. Another reform as to which there is general agreement is vesting of authority in some official to compel withdrawal from the game of weakened or injured contestants. Still another is removal of restrictions as to the forward pass, although acceptance of this change is not so unanimous. One more precaution against injury on the line of defense would be requirement of at least seven players there, so as to afford more safety for individual line players against whom assaults are made. A proposed change that should have been considered is that of rest periods every ten minutes.

The rules committee of the Inter-

collegiate Athletic Association has a very necessary duty to perform, directly for defense of players against death and injury and indirectly for perpetuation of the American football game. It is the judgment of most well-informed persons that the game can be preserved and made more desirable and attractive for college athletes. The only present substitute for the present rules is a game, which does not, however, wholly fit American habits and ideas of athletics. The rules committee which is working on the reform, consists of the following:

President, H. H. Haskins, Dr. James A. Babbitt, Haverford, Pa.; E. K. Hall, Dartmouth College; Lieutenant H. B. Hackart, West Point; Professor C. W. Savage, Oberlin; Professor W. L. Dudley, Vanderbilt; and Dr. W. A. Lambeth, University of Pennsylvania.

## AMERICAN INTEREST IN NICARAGUA.

Recognition of Madrid as a successor of Zelaya is widely regarded as the cause of the rupture between this country and Nicaragua. Madrid is not regarded as a proper individual to guide the destinies of the nation over which he has been temporarily placed. There is no permanent peace in that unfortunate Central American nation until the making of presidents or dictators is taken out of the hands of a small faction, and turned over to a majority. In permitting so many such hasty actions of Secretary Knox undoubtedly aided in thickening the plot in Nicaragua, but had the country been under control of a popular ruler instead of an irresponsible and unscrupulous man, such a crisis would have appeared as now threatens American prestige in a very rich trade field.

Secretary Knox has "backed down" and withdrawn his threats of retaliation against the killing of American citizens by Zelaya's forces. America still has interests in Nicaragua which are in need of protection, and will have to be considered by the successor of Zelaya. These interests are of such importance to warrant this country in continuing its interference of such a man as the followers of Zelaya have chosen to succeed that rascally tyrant.

In mining interests alone American capitalists have several million dollars invested in Nicaragua, and they are also heavily interested in coffee, rubber and tobacco, and sugar industries. In 1908 this country imported from Nicaragua, products of the value of \$2,492,485, and shipped to this country, American goods valued at more than \$1,900,000. This trade is not large compared with that of some other countries with which we do business, but it is capable of great increase, which was practically destroyed under the dictatorship of Zelaya.

## OUR NEW RAILROAD SERVICE.

The inauguration of a regular passenger and freight service between Portland and Seattle by the Harriman lines is a matter of much importance to the railroads as well as to the territory they traverse. Judged from the railroads of the Northwest, the Northern Pacific, over whose rails the Harriman service will be handled, was affording the people ample facilities for moving freight and passengers. The Northern Pacific was at one time the only railroad that developed in that territory. Now comes the Union Pacific, and with no means available for increasing traffic, proceeds to double the service. This increased service will be duly appreciated by the public, but the fact and freight men must now be divided between two companies instead of one.

As the railroads themselves, with the most vital interest in the great change, are unable to determine just what the results will be, it is naturally much more difficult for the public to make an intelligent forecast as to what may happen under the new management. In the lumber traffic it would seem that the Puget Sound and Grays Harbor manufacturers have made a distinct gain as the "Portland gateway," which remained closed in spite of all legal attempts to open it, now swings open of its own accord. So long as Portland was the northern terminus of the Puget Sound system, the Pacific Northwest-Pacific interests declined to divide a freight rate with the Northern Pacific on lumber shipped into exclusively Harriman territory, when they could get the entire amount by hauling exclusively from their own lines. With their own road reaching into the Grays Harbor and Puget Sound countries, the situation is changed, and the field formerly in exclusive control of the Oregon manufacturers, is now open to the Puget Sound men.

Perhaps the most direct tangible benefit which Portland will receive from the new arrangement is the improved service to Grays harbor and to Astoria harbor. As for many years there has been practically no service to the people of the localities mentioned by Portland, but under the new schedule, which became effective Saturday, Portland is on a slightly better basis with terms with the Puget Sound cities. The establishment of the new service will undoubtedly add a large area to Portland's trade territory. Increasing demand for lumber will naturally make up any loss which might be felt by the northern invasion through the Portland gateway, and Portland, the northern headquarters of the Harriman system, will derive material benefit in the handling of the trains which will be made up and dispatched over the two Harriman routes of the day. It will materially increase Portland's prestige as a railroad center without in any way lessening the volume of traffic handled through the Portland yards.

"He is a man of iron nerve," said the attorney for Charles W. Morse in discussing the "buoyancy of spirits" displayed by his client on what is probably the last New Year's day that he will spend outside of a Federal penitentiary. Hope or mercy has been practically abandoned, and Morse will be taken to Atlanta to begin serving his 15-year sentence. No one who has followed the sensational career of this master of high finance has ever questioned his possession of "nerve." Morse was not alone in laying the train up to the powder magazine which exploded with such appalling results in the Fall of 1907; but it was he who touched the lighted match to the train of powder, and brought on a catastrophe which shattered thousands of fortunes, caused

scores of suicides and widespread and terrible sorrow and suffering. It takes a man of "nerve" even to remain sane in contemplation of such a havoc as that for which Morse was largely responsible.

The State of Slavkovo is an enterprising and ambitious abstraction. Its capital is the palace that old literature is full of. Old literature knew Yreka, but not by its modern name. In old times Yreka was the town in the clouds—Nephelococcygia, or Cloud-Cuckoo-Town. We get the following from an esteemed contemporary, the Albany (Or.) Democrat:

The Democrat has received a copy of the Yreka Journal, with a long editorial headed "The Oregonian's Baneful Influence." It declares the Oregonian a harbinger of Oregon's ship of state, a knocker and a greaser.

Perhaps, but as a newspaper The Oregonian ranks among the best in the country, and is not a greaser.

You may depend, there's the rub. Not only as to the news, but something else and much else. The Albany Democrat, of course, will move to the State of Slavkovo or to Barrantaria and play Sancho.

In dividing the Pacific fleet into two squadrons, the Government will probably increase the efficiency of the service, if the vessels should happen to be needed. There are some excellent fighting machines among the craft reported for each of the squadrons, but the list does not measure up to the Atlantic squadron. Extreme difficulty has always been experienced in convincing the Navy Department that the next real fighting that our navy must engage in will take place on the Pacific, and that most of it will be over before any of the Atlantic squadron could get around where it might lend any assistance.

In permitting so many such hasty actions of Secretary Knox undoubtedly aided in thickening the plot in Nicaragua, but had the country been under control of a popular ruler instead of an irresponsible and unscrupulous man, such a crisis would have appeared as now threatens American prestige in a very rich trade field.

A somewhat and occasionally esteemed contemporary tells about its vast "year-end edition"—an immense number having been printed to supply the extraordinary demand. The number given was 40,000. But as regular edition claimed by the paper is 34,000. Now, subtracting the less from the greater number, what was the real magnitude of that enormous edition?

Fifty tons of paper were consumed in printing New Year's Oregonians; and this was followed by nearly thirty tons used in printing the Sunday paper next day. Yet this mass, thrown on the postoffice, was handled in a few minutes, and the papers committed to the mails—without delay. The postal service of the country is efficient.

## Ed Howe's Philosophy.

Ed Howe's philosophy is that there is nothing new now except rabbit stories, and most of them are based on the fact that a man at home unless he is otherwise disposed to stay there.

"I can't help admiring Ward Hart, even if he did once kill three quail out of season, and give them to us."

A really polite and capable man can go about his business and attract attention in six months.

The woman's idea of a mean man is one who gets sick just before Christmas, when she has to buy a new coat, and makes aprons to make good.

We are becoming old, but we still give three cheers every morning because we are not so old that we have forgotten how we hated it.

The old-fashioned woman, whose door has been closed to the world, is to use a monkey wrench to undo it at night, has a firm, unmovable conviction that no woman who runs to puffs and comes around to much.

No one but a girl can do some things; for instance, a girl can wear an auto veil with the air of just having stepped from a motor machine, when her present possessions and future prospects couldn't be cashed for ten dollars.

## Nobody Expressed a Doubt.

Once again the conversation had veered round to thrilling adventures. "That reminds me of an experience I had on the coast," remarked a member. "I was riding a brackish bicycle down a steep hill when all of a sudden the front wheel and I came down the rest of the hill quicker than greased lightning."

"I went straight for the plank, over the roof and down the other side. Luckily, the cottager's wife and daughter were shaking carpets, and, alighted, they caught me and carried me to the rest of the hill when that greased lightning."

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## Boy Blind by Day; Sees by Night.

Washington (D. C.) Despatch. Richmond, Va., has a 19-year-old boy, Audrey Wilson, who is totally blind by day, but can see like a cat at night. He can speed a bicycle where ordinary persons have to walk with caution, and in the dark he gropes about, able only vaguely to distinguish any object and with no discrimination as to color. He is quite a possum hunter. He can easily distinguish the signals of the trees without the aid of a lantern. Needless to say, young Wilson is in great demand by possum hunters.

## A Tailor's Shop in Inches.

New York Press. A building only 2 feet 3 inches wide stands in the northwest corner of 36th Street, between Broadway and East One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Street, the Bronx. It is occupied by a tailor shop by its owner, Henry Richman. It is 12 feet long and 2 feet 3 inches high. Its upper story contained in a French roof.

## Bible Is Still the Best Seller.

Baltimore News. It will astonish some persons, it will do the hearts of multitudes good to learn that each year there are printed and sold 1,000,000 Bibles, giving that book an indisputable lead over all its possible competitors. There is still hope for our literature.

## Bricks of 1620 and 1650.

Springfield (Mass.) Dispatch. Joseph N. Perkins, of Woodbridge, Conn., in tearing down one of the chimneys of his old house, found a brick bearing the date 1650. He found another with the date 1620 in the cellar.

## WATER BOARD IS CRITICISED.

Private Corporations Would Get Rich at 10 Cents per Gallon, Says Writer.

PORTLAND, Jan. 2. (By the Editor.)—There is an old saying, "Figures won't lie." Evidently this saying is not believed by the City Water Board, judging from its action in changing the water rate.

The Water Board is distributing daily 30,000,000 gallons of water to the consumers in the city, and for this water the Board has been collecting about \$600,000 a year. If every consumer of water should have been compelled to pay 12 1/2 cents per thousand gallons, the old rate of last year, such rate would have produced a revenue of \$1,116,666.40. Yet the Water Board says that the meter rate is too low. Shades of Archimedes! what fighting!

The rates established by the Water Board for this year are over 100 per cent more than last year, and almost 300 per cent more than other cities which have not so arbitrarily increased their charges to their consumers. In other words, we are saying to the world that the City of Portland, with an unlimited water supply and with no charge for charging through pipes, pump muddy water and run it through numerous settling basins.

The Board should not forget that the water belongs to the people, and not to a few office-holders, who are only partially paid.

By charging a minimum rate of 76 cents on meters and 50 cents where no meters are used, the Water Board has made it so unfair and unjust, that illegally the people are now being charged 50 per cent more to one consumer than to another than the city of Chicago, which charges a rate of 10 cents on 20 mills and another a tax of 30 mills.

The Water Board has no right whatever arbitrarily to fix a rate for the use of water, which is a public utility, and to charge a rate of 10 cents per 100 gallons and declare a dividend of 10 per cent to 20 per cent per year.

What we need in Portland is less politics and more business.

S. M. VENARD.

This is inconsiderate and unjust. The Water Board simply carries out the policy of the city and the will of the people. A higher rate than would suffice for maintenance of the plant as it exists is charged for the purpose of getting income to support extensions. This always has been the policy of the city. The socialistic feature of the water system. Members of the Water Board have no salaries and get nothing but criticism and curses for their service. Strange that any citizen of Portland doesn't know that the water-users of the inner parts of the city would be taxed at least 50 per cent to supply water for a Greater Portland. A private corporation could indeed take the water system of Portland, reduce the rate and make money out of it; but the outskirts of the city would get little supply, at the expense of the inner parts of the city, and the public would have a harder bargain with its employees than the city can give.

If that's what is wanted—and save money that way. There is no politics whatever in the business, except the socialistic tendency of all public utility undertakings.

## LAWYER ON LAW SCHOOLS.

They Turn Out Half-Baked Graduates in Large Numbers.

PORTLAND, Jan. 2. (By the Editor.)—The Oregonian's editorial on "Service on Juries" is timely and well put—like-wise its reference to the fomentation added by "laymen" so-called to the law profession. As a general proposition, lawyers are creatures of necessity; were it not for the necessity, I doubt if there would be any lawyers in the world. The law profession is a bar who are free from the knowledge of the law of the written law. The legitimate law school performs worthy functions, but we have many whose success is not in the quality of graduates they turn out, but the quantity at "so much per cent." It has been my experience within the past year, to have quite a few law graduates come to me for employment, who, when asked to answer my inquiry how they happened to choose the legal profession, I was informed that solicitors of law schools had been advertising for them as having received good emoluments. So strong and rosy were these arguments that the young men gave up their steady and well-paying employment for the legal profession, and entered the arena without clients and by doing so, proceeded to make a living out of questionable means and practices, thus bringing a once noble profession into disrepute. Instead of the legal profession being the easiest means of getting ahead, the really conscientious lawyer finds it to be the most exacting in both time, study and morals.

It is too long a list of needless and petty litigation in most of our law schools and their pretenses in "rustling" for business. CHARLES J. SCHNABEL.

## A "Cook Book" or a "Peary-oidal."

Chicago Inter-Ocean. Professor Willis L. Moore, chief of the United States Weather Bureau and president of the National Geographic Society, has not been asked to verify the story, but it is told on excellent authority.

Professor Moore was doing his shopping in Washington, D. C., one evening last week. He stopped at a book stall in one of the big department stores.

"Have you any books about the North Pole?" he asked of the sweet young thing who had just stepped from under an altitudinous pompadour.

"Which do you wish?" she queried, "a 'Cook Book' or a 'Peary-oidal'?"

## New Microbe Noted in Paris.

New York Press. Professor Metchnikoff, of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, has discovered a microbe called the prous, which he says kills at least 10,000 French children every year. The microbe is that of gas-trout, which lives in the surface of apples and other fruits, salads and the rind of cheese. It is dangerous not only to children, but to grown-up people also.

## \$40,000 for Two Soup Tureens.

Washington (D. C.) Post. Including commissions and other incidentals, the Government has recently paid \$40,000 for two soup tureens which were obtained in Paris. The tureens are the work of a noted artist, D. M. Mesnollard, and engraved by Huquet.

## A True Philosophy.

Louisville Courier-Journal. "Don't overeat," says a physician. "It superinduces pneumonia." It also superinduces plutocracy and paresia in the ranks of the poor, and the pauperization of the ultimate consumer.

## Excelsiours Around U. S. Senate.

Washington (D. C.) Post. In reaching the Senate side of the Capitol, one sees emblazoned here, there, and everywhere, "exclusive" and "privilege." Turn to the right, then to the left, to the right, to the right, and still those signs meet your gaze. Visitors are nonplussed. They come to the capital of the Nation expecting to see everything around the Senate side, but are disappointed when they land anywhere near the House of Lords' side of the big white building. A recent visitor got lost in the maze of "exclusive's" and "privates," and on turning to leave by a door that, as he supposed, led to the free air, found himself up against the massive door which he supposed he had put that sign on the exit to freedom! There is, however, one elevator marked public, and during a session of the Senate the only car is worked overtime by the dear public.

## Uncle Sam's Highest Paid Woman.

Philadelphia Dispatch. At present the highest salaried woman doing departmental work in Washington, D. C., is Miss A. H. Shortridge, of the U. S. Graduate Department, recently recognized her services by promotion to a salary of \$500 per annum, the highest pay ever given to any woman in the United States. Miss Shortridge began with a position of \$360 a year and has worked her way up by efficient service.

## A Beggar's and Street-Singers' Trust.

Baltimore News. A meeting was held recently at Market street, Baltimore, Md., at which street singers got together and formed an organization for the protection of their interests and to resist the encroachment of vendors. A regular organization was effected, with constitution and bylaws, and limitations were placed upon membership.

## Christmas Cheer.

Atlanta Constitution. If it came twice a year, father might never get out of the receiver's hands.

## WHAT PROOF OF POLAR JOURNEY?

Query: When Doubting Scientists Write of Hottel's Claims of Discovering the North Pole.

PORTLAND, Or., Jan. 1. (By the Editor.)—Concerning the North Pole controversy, there are some matters the common herd doesn't understand—as well, evidently, as other herds. For instance, the Copenhagen scientists say that the assertions of the Cook and Peary records are entirely unsatisfactory because they "contain the results of his observations instead of the observations themselves." This lucid statement appears twice in their report, and the ordinary mind is somewhat staggered when trying to "negotiate" the real difference between an observation and the results of its observation, when both are of necessity reduced to paper.

What possible proof can a man who has actually been to the North Pole bring back, except his written statement of what he saw and where he went? In addition, and lastly, what can he furnish any other proof? The affidavit of some man, Eskimo, negro or otherwise?

One scientist living at Copenhagen or New York, who had never been nearer the Arctic regions than the limits of his own city, knows what observations will answer the requirements of "constancy"; if all these things can be known, this information would be the means of a book, what manner Peary reducing such observations to writing, while sitting under a safe and a comfortable bank of the historic Hudson?

It seems clear that no man can transcribe an astronomical observation in the shape of a book, and get it out in some way including the results of that observation—but the magical word is "written." The magical word has sent Dr. Cook "to the edge of doubt" he is a colossal fraud, but the question is: if a scientist can remain so long in a "writing" what proofs are satisfactory, why can't a man sit in his library and write such evidence as the scientist himself has found, as a settable indisputable proof? What more has Peary supplied, the scientific world than his written proofs or observations? Couldn't he have taken them to the edge of the world as a New York scientist or "explorer," who never has explored anything, can supply any proofs should be supplied that will answer every technical requirement?

In other words, ordinary people would not be satisfied with a statement as to the difference between the proofs of observations furnished by Dr. Cook, which have been shown to be a "writing" and those supplied by Peary, which seem not to be seriously questioned. Indeed, the Cook controversy, boiled down, seems to suggest to them that a scientist, anyway, and why?

T. T. G.

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It is too long a list of needless and petty litigation in most of our law schools and their pretenses in "rustling" for business. CHARLES J. SCHNABEL.

## Excelsiours Around U. S. Senate.

Washington (D. C.) Post. In reaching the Senate side of the Capitol, one sees emblazoned here, there, and everywhere, "exclusive" and "privilege." Turn to the right, then to the left, to the right, to the right, and still those signs meet your gaze. Visitors are nonplussed. They come to the capital of the Nation expecting to see everything around the Senate side, but are disappointed when they land anywhere near the House of Lords' side of the big white building. A recent visitor got lost in the maze of "exclusive's" and "privates," and on turning to leave by a door that, as he supposed, led to the free air, found himself up against the massive door which he supposed he had put that sign on the exit to freedom! There is, however, one elevator marked public, and during a session of the Senate the only car is worked overtime by the dear public.

## Uncle Sam's Highest Paid Woman.

Philadelphia Dispatch. At present the highest salaried woman doing departmental work in Washington, D. C., is Miss A. H. Shortridge, of the U. S. Graduate Department, recently recognized her services by promotion to a salary of \$500 per annum, the highest pay ever given to any woman in the United States. Miss Shortridge began with a position of \$360 a year and has worked her way up by efficient service.

## A Beggar's and Street-Singers' Trust.

Baltimore News. A meeting was held recently at Market street, Baltimore, Md., at which street singers got together and formed an organization for the protection of their interests and to resist the encroachment of vendors. A regular organization was effected, with constitution and bylaws, and limitations were placed upon membership.

## Christmas Cheer.

Atlanta Constitution. If it came twice a year, father might never get out of the receiver's hands.

## OLD MAN OUT OF A JOB.

Portland, Or., Dec. 31, 1909.