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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, JAN. 6, 1910.

POSTOFFICE AND PEOPLE.

A complaint against the Postoffice Department is that it costs more than it brings in. But who knows? In terms of money it shows a deficit, indeed; and last year a greater deficit than ever before. But the function of the postal service is essentially educational. How far is it to be measured in terms of money?

Business principles and economic methods should, undoubtedly, be employed, as far as possible or practicable, and kept constantly in view. The postal service must not be pushed regardless of cost or income. It is known universally that the postal business of the principal centers of population and activity produces a profit. But the result of the whole service is a heavy deficit. Last year the deficit was \$17,479,770 — the heaviest on record. The Postmaster-General says it arose from rural free delivery and second-class mail.
Rural free delivery is the one ac-

tivity of Government which touches the general mass of our country people. To support of the Government they, contribute immensely, by payment of duties and excises, and get little back. Postal service is their

only sure or apparent compensation. Rural free delivery therefore is due to the people in the country to do its work—as necessary also to city as to country life. It never will be reduced or shortened; it always will be main tained, and steadily increased as the demand shall warrant. Second-class mail consists of newspapers and magazines, mainly, and this class of matter goes fargely to the people through free rural delivery. It cannot be cut off. It carries advertisements, which burden the mails, but newspapers and magazines cannot be published without the help of advertisements; and the intellectual life of the country demands the newspaper and the general variety of the magazine—though both may be sneered at by a professed superior culture, not up, however, to the level of the object of its criticism. Rural free delivery, carrying not only letters; but newspapers and magazines that the people want, is but partial compensation to the country for the exactions made upon the country, the tariff and excise systems.

The educational literature carried

into the country by the free delivery system is immense. Much of it is light, undoubtedly; but it is entertain ing, or it would not be wanted. cause it is wanted the opportunity is selzed—great masses of advertisements with it, which increase the weight for the mails. But the publications could not exist without the advertisements as a source of income or revenue; nor would the subscriber newspaper or magazine so highly without its advertisements. they have something always of interest and value to them. Much of the increased activity of the life of the country, and of the city, too, since all forces are correlated, is due to the stimulation produced by the establishment of quicker and surer means of communication from the centers towards the circumferences and outposts. Of this activity the Postoffice has become the main agent. its present efficiency with that of the postal service in the days when the weekly mail, consisting only of letters -perhaps including a meager weekly newspaper-was carried by man on foot, sometimes on horseback, for distribution through the country post-offices. Truth is, the country never before obtained for an equal amount of money such benefits as it receives through rural free delivery of the mails. The parcel post, on a proper basis or system, will much inprove it.

It has been said that the object of the postal function is essentially edu-In other words, the idea is to acquaint the people with the affairs of their kindred, their friends and business associates, to disseminate publications of interest, to carry parcels in exchange between them; and, by maintenance of such interc munication, to make life worth living Use of free rural delivery and carriage of second-class matter consist-ing of publications which the people want for their information or entertainment, is the most important of the modern agencies that contribute to these results.

We shall spare many other things before we part with rural free mail delivery and the transmission of secend-class matter through the mails. The country will regard this an unthinkable method of economical re-

MR. ROCKEFELLER IN PUBLIC LIFE There is no reason to doubt the younger Mr. Rockefeller's sincerity in declaring against the white slave traffic. The infamous business is abhorcent to every person who is not atterly Humphrey's attention that the "for deprayed, and Mr. Rockefeller is far eign ships" whose owners are neither from depravity of any sort. That he is beset by an absurd moral complacency may be admitted, but humanly speaking he is a good man who truly prefers to serve God rather than the It is not fair to charge him with his father's sins. If he is disposed to serve the public, his labors ought to be accepted with thankful-

There is room in American public life for a large number of men who are rich enough to be above pecuia If they belong to the second generation of wealth and, like the younger Rockefeller, have lost the impulsion of competitive greed, so much the better. Their services will be all the more disinterested.

sadly need an infusion of public men who are too rich to steal and too proud to fawn. Perhaps, if a schol-arly observer were to be asked what quality is most desperately needed in American politics, he would answer "pride." A genuinely proud man may turn traitor sometimes, but he will not sell himself to whoever bids highest. Neither will be comply and servilely cringe to power. An influx of men like Mr. Rockefeller into our public life would necessarily be exceedingly wholesome both for them and for other politicians. It would be highly edifying to see a base, com-pliant rogue of current politics brought face to face in a Kampfum's Dasein with a scornful aristocrat whose multiplied millions made him independent and utterly fearless.

THIS MILK-AND-HONEY LAND.

One of Oregon's grandest objects of fast growth is the officialdom that stands guard over the public health. This fine body of office-holders knocks all preceding records of progress into a cocked hat. Just now the chairs of two new milk officials have been created in the City Hall, at salaries of \$125 each, and right away \$1990 is to be appropriated to defray 'necessary" expenses and to establish a laboratory for detection of germs in milk. Of course, in due time furniwill be added to the laboratory in the shape of chemists and bacteriologists.
All of which is certainly very fine,

and taxpayers who pay for all this grandeur in order to save consumers the bother of looking after the dairies and the markets that supply them food are rewarded with "figures" and "statistics" prepared by office-holders. who are convinced that the good health of the community is their own making. Nature, air, sunshine and pure water as guardians of health chanot compare with the officials who prepare the statistics and draw

Just to show what a thrifty bunch of "patronage" is fighting germs and making figures in Portland, gaze at this list:

United States Bureau Animal Industry. United States Pore Food Laboratory. State Board of Health. State Health Officer and Clerk. Veterinarian.
Basteriologist.
Dairy and Food Commissioner.
Deputy Commissioners.
ty Hoard of Health.
ty Physician.
Board of Health.
Health Officer.
ty Health Officer. outy Health Officer.
Physician.
Bacteriot. Bacteriologist ant Health Officer. Assistant Health Officer:
Market Inspector.
Sanitary Inspector.
Clork to City Health Board.
Four School Inspectors.
School Nurse.
Pest-House Nurse.
City Milk Inspector.
Two Deputy Milk Inspectors.
Plumbing Inspector.
Three Deputy Inspectors and one clerk.
Harbor Master.
Engineer to Harbor Master.
Crematory Superintendent. matory Superintendent, eman and eight laborers ilding Inspector. Deputy Building Inspectors,

Lest the list stretch out too long, we omit the several State Boards of Medical Examiners, Barber Examiners, Dental Examiners, Pharmacy, Optometry, Veterinary Commissioners, Sheep Commissioners and Domestic Animal Commissioners. We mention these latter only to keep them from feeling that their worth and value have been slighted.

This home industry of officialdom is one of the proud products of Oregon il. Members of it are so ambitious their quest for public health that they sell their service privately on the side, like State and City Bacteriologist Matson and City Physician Zieg-ler, but such acts are viewed as evidences of their unusual zeal. In advertising the resources of Oregon, mention should be made of the many tax-paid individuals who have found Oregon the land of milk and honey.

SAME WOLF, NEW SHEEPSKIN

Congressman Humphrey, of Washhas launched ington. his ship subsidy bill. Some of the most obnoxious features of former bills have been removed. ing wedge used by the subsidy seekers in previous attempts to break into the United States treasury proved too large and blunt, and the present smaller and thinner wedge in the shape of the Humphrey bill will probably be driven in to make an opening for a larger one next year. Mr. Humphrey is distressingly frank in his reasons for the admission, under certain restrictions, of free ships. In his opinion 'Free ships will not give us a single vessel in the trade to South America, Australia; to China or Japan-the places where we most desire them. Mr. Humphrey and his friends have also taken good care that the free ship bill will give us no ships for that vast traffic that is now handled the Atlantic and the Pacific. The "free ships" of the foreigners are carrying coal from the Atlantic seabeard to Puget Sound for \$3.83 per ton; they would carry merchandise to the Jobbers and consumers of Se-attle, Portland, San Francisco and the entire Coast region at the same rate. f Mr. Humphrey and his friends would stand aside and let us have free hips "where we most desire them. No railroad on earth could compete with these rates, but they are denied us. Mr. Humphrey's generosity in thus providing for free ships is acordingly on a par with that of the California Railroad Commission, whose policy was reviewed in the late Frank Norris' novel, "The Octopus. ommission reduced grain rates in the redwood lumber districts, where no grain was produced, and lumber rate

ing we should have them, under cer-The increase in the tonnage tax will about \$1,000,000. According to Mr. Humphrey, "every dollar of this amount will be paid by foreign ships." It has of course escaped Mr philanthropists nor fools will simply add that \$1,000,000 to the freight charges paid by the dear deluded pubtic. Mr. Humphrey drags in that old chestnut about the \$200,000,000 per year which we pay the foreigners for the comet's tall. The tall always point it is for them that "we maintain our its direction on that day will lighthouses, improve our rivers and straight toward the earth. Hence per year," etc. Mr. Humphrey esti-mates that in carrying 95 per cent of it and bathing in its balmy or bane-American labor for construction and six million miles farther

ut of the San Joaquin grain district,

where timber was not produced. Ap-

no free ships, Mr. Humphrey is will-

parently believing that there will

peration \$1,000,000 per day." the producing and consuming public ability the same thing will happen as

heart of the millionaires who are behind the ship subsidy movement) could possibly receive from a ship subpractice. Unwittingly persidy in haps Mr. Humphrey offers a practical illustration of the advantages of this

than \$6.90 per ton." Diligent inquiry among all of the importers who handle ships at Seattle matter they know anything about. The has failed to reveal the name or any chances are that it is not matter at has failed to reveal the name or any knowledge of a ship that brought knowledge of a ship that brought all in the ordinary sense, but some cargo from Europe for \$1.25 per ton. form of emanation comparable to that Still admitting it were true, the American consumers profited to the extent of several dollars per ton by the extraordinary low rate. The out-000-mile voyage was also low, considering that American ship-owners hold the Government up for \$8.50 and \$9.00 per ton for carrying coal over a similar distance between the vested comets with a multitude of ter-Atlantic seaboard and Pacific stations. Would the consumers of Seattle and tributary territory, or the producers of the wheat which the ship carried away be any better off if American rates of \$18.00 per ton for the round trip were charged instead of the \$8.25 charged for the round trip by the

The Humphrey subsidy bill is the same old wolf with a slightly improved fit of the sheep's clothing in which it is masquerading.

DEALING IN FUTURES.

"Dealing in Futures" is a topic which bobs up with greater regularity than any other feature of our commercial policies and practices. This time the National Administration is reported to be considering the possibilty of making laws that will check the gambling features of the practice without interfering with the legitimate functions of the "future." The effect of any attempt of this nature will be the same as the surgical operation which was a "perfect success' was followed by the death of the patient. No one questions the great evils which arise from gambling in futures, but it should be remembered that the cards used in dealing a faro game are exactly the 'brace' rame as those used in playing casino or "old maid." No one has ever attempted to legislate the playing card out of existence simply because gam-

blers make use of it.

Dealing in futures is a legitimate and useful practice made necessary by the tremendous increase in the production, distribution and consumption of many commodities for which there is a universal demand. It has been drafted into general use in nearly all branches of business for the same rea-son that the storled farmer, by dividing the grist, supplanted the stone formerly used in one end of the sack to balance the grist in the other. The system enables the miller to purchase wheat for delivery over periods of many months and to make flour contracts accordingly. There is a great saving in thus being in a position to handle a large business without the necessity of keeping a large amount of capital fied up in stock that may not be required for many months. It also enables the producer to have a steady market for his products the round. He can determine to a nicety just what he can receive for his crop

delivered six months or a year hence.

The recent flurry in cotton was the immediate cause of this sudden outery against trading in futures, but the fact that a few gamblers made considerable money in buying and selling cotton on a margin has no bearing on the legitimate buying and selling for future delivery by men who will later be obliged to handle the real cotton. Goods manufactured from cotson of this wide distribution, it is absolutely necessary that the manufacturer quote prices to buyers in re-mote quarters of the earth many months before the goods will be ready for delivery. To hedge against these future sales the manufacturer must his raw material far enough ahead to enable him to meet his or-ders when they must be filled. Modern business cannot be satisfactorily handled without dealing in futures. is not easy to determine how gambling in futures can be suppressed without seriously damaging legitimate trading, which must make use of the "future" contract.

COMETARY PERILS.

The singular situation which astronomers predict for Halley's comet next May is one which may well inspire superstitious excitement and ignorant alarm. About the middle of that month the comet will plunge through the plane of the earth's orbit "downward," which means in the di-rection of the South pole. When this interesting episode comes to pass the earth will be but 14,000,000 miles away from the diving wanderer, and it is said, with more or less approach to truth, that for a few hours the earth, the comet and the sun will be in the same straight line. Conse quently the comet will appear to us to move directly across the face of the sun just as Venus does in its rare and interesting transits.

This will be a beautiful spectacle

no doubt, but there is small likelihood that it will resemble a display of fireworks in the heavens. The comet at that time can hardly be much brighter than the moon, since it will be at about the same distance from the sun, which is the source of all its light and heat. While traversing the sun's disc, therefore, it will look like Comets are not very substantial bodies and this one may be so thin and spectral that the sun's rays will slit through it without perceptible loss of intensity. In that case Halley's comet will be invisible during its transit. But considerations like these will seen but slightly interesting to the average citizen in competition with the prob ability that on or about May 18 Spring, the earth will pass through arrying the freight, and insists that away from the sun, and consequently harbors at an expense of \$59,000;000 It is long enough to reach us we shall our foreign commerce in 1910, the ful surges. According to the astrono-foreign ships will be "taking from mers it will reach us and extend some

What will happen to the earth dur-This would indeed be a calamity if lng those fateful hours? In all probwill were not receiving a greater benefit in on other occasions when we have When you greet a plumber, wish We cheap freights than labor (dear to the passed through comet's tails and that him a happy New Year

is simply nothing. The earth has repeated this dire adventure several times. Usually nobody knew anything about it until all was over. There was nothing extraordinary to see, hear, feel or smell. The truth is that a comet's plentiful supply of foreign tonnage, tall is a good deal of a false alarm, to when he asserts that "A few days ago borrow a phrase from the poetic proborrow a phrase from the poetic pro-letarians. In spite of the pompous spread it makes in the sky, it could be a vessel came into Seattle harbor from Europe. She brought a cargo for \$1.25 per ton. She refused to take imprisoned with Hamlet in a walnut a cargo over the same course for less shell, and have plenty of room to spare. Savants allege that a comet's tall is the most attenuated form of the | which comes from radium. Very the | likely gomets consist of highly radiant matter and the tail is comp emanations which are all driven bound rate of \$6.90 per ton for a 14,- the side remote from the sun. At any rate the appendage is so exceedingly thin, so tenuous and rare, that it can exercise no imaginable influence on exercise no imaginable influence on the earth. Superstition has always inrors, but never in a single instance have any of the dreadful things it predicted come to pass. If we were as safe from terrestrial monsters as we are from the heavenly bodies we might slumber and sleep in unbroken security.

> Daniel Willard, the new president of the Baltimore & Ohlo Railroad began his railroad career as a track laborer thirty years ago. He served for long time under Frederick D. Underwood, who is now president of the Eric Railroad and who began ratiroading as a brakeman about twenty-five years ago. Yesterday's dispatches state that Mr. Willard was landed in the presidency of the Baltimore & Ohio by Union Pacific interests. These "interests," it is now pretty well understood, are controlled by Judge Lovett, who was carrying water to the laborers on a railroad down in Texas about thirty years ago. Thirty years is not so very long ago, and a good many of us can recall that even then there were numerous disciples of discontent who lugubriously asserted that there was no longer any chance for a poor man in this country. Despite the rantings of the jawsmiths and the Indolent Workers of the World, there is at this very moment, plugging away among track laborers, brakemen and water boys on our American rallroads, another crop of Lovetts, Underwoods and Wil-They are wasting no time on the street corners, however.

> Postal authorities at Washington say that \$76,622,629 was sent out of the United States by foreign laborers during the year just closed and that the total sent abroad since 1890, is \$840,648,817. In a country of such wonderful resources and recuper-ative powers as the United States, this drain is felt less than it would be elsewhere, but the amount is of sufficient proportions to have some bearing on our own financial condition. Had that money remained in this county, the most of it would have been kept in use, and in being frequently turned over, it would have paid debts and financed undertakings many times greater than the actual sum shown by the postal authorities, We cannot stop all of this foreign flow of funds but some means should be devised for strengthening the faith of our foreign element in American financial institutions. Perhaps a Postal Savings Bank would serve this pur-

Real estate transfers suffered a very heavy slump in Seattle last According to the Seattle Bulyear. letin, there was a decline from \$72,-926,186 in 1998 to \$27,642,000 in the year just closed. On account of the numerous high-priced structures for cotton. Goods manufactured from cotation are distributed throughout the world, although the United States supplies the bulk of the raw material from which they are made. By reators, while less than half as statement that every saloon in Englarge as those for 1908, were still about \$1,000,000 in excess of those for Portland. This is easily under-stood when it is recalled that Portland, as usual, footed up a number of blg transactions with the stereotyped \$1 consideration, A single transfer, the Laurelhurst tract, involved more than \$1,300,000, an amount sufficient to bring the Portland figures shead of those for Seattle. Unfortunately, the consideration named in the deed was \$1,299,900 less than the amount paid for the tract.

> A correspondent wishes to have the opinion of The Oregonian on the point whether "the fallacies of the new system in our state" have not nearly run their course. Don't know. All possible methods of going wrong may not have been exhausted yet; and it is a fashion of democracy not to go right till it has exhausted all possible ways and expedients of going wrong.

A sensible man who has a sensible wife would not exchange her opinion about the goodness of the milk supplied to the family for that of all the official experts in the employ of state city, county, and General Government

A Chicago woman wants divorce cause the courts won't let her plant her cold feet against her hust If women had votes, no judge would be so bold as that.

clety is going to examine Cook's records. Mere curiosity to see what an explorer who never explored has to say, no doubt.

Now the National Geographic So

Idaho woolgrowers, like those of Oregon, have "resolved" in defense of the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill. There Who says the tariff bill is without friends?

Zelaya and Diaz are having a fine time together. They seem to understand one another's methods of gov-

Heney says Binger Hermann never was in a hurry for trial. But we'll wager Binger wishes it had been over ong ago. Now they are blaming the Pacific Northwest for the cold wave that is

sweeping East. No way to prove an This weather was a fine thing to ok forward to during the het days of last Summer.

Mayor Gaynor's tribute to Bos Murphy was touching but unconvinc-

THREE IN THE FAMILY MARRY. It Took All Night for the Charlyart,

but the Boys Succeeded. Bunker Hill Cor. to Stayton Mail.
Great excitement was caused in this
neighborhood Wednesday, when the report came from Albany that six local young people were married there. Miss Vera Overholts and Will Dart, Miss Nel-lle Dart and George Sandher, Miss Free-da Dart and Will Hirans, were the fes-

tive sextet.

The boys immediately got busy sending vireless messages, and by \$ o'clock there were at least 150 men and boys hiding in were at least 150 men and boys hiding in the bushes and fence corners, and behind rock piles, and some even got under the house of C. W. Dart, preparing for an old-time charivart, but, lol and behold! only one couple, George Sandner and wife, returned from Albany that night. George accidentally met the crowd in the road before he got to Mr. Dart's house, where he intended staying over night, so he changed his mind and concluded to give the boys the slip. Just stopping long the boys the slip. Just stopping long enough to notify the folks where they intended to go, he proceeded to drive like the wind.

One of the local boys was dispatched on

One of the local boys was dispatched on George's trail on horseback, but the aforesald young man proved to be too slow. He soon lost the trail, so Mr. Sandser and wife arrived safely at Howard Montgomery's and stayed through the night, unknown to any of the chartvari crowd. After the crowd had run down every available clew, they returned home at 3 A. M. But lo! and behold! the boys luck changed by the next evening. We placed competent men in the field early and they searched the country thoroughly. By night all three couples were located—Will Hirans and wife at their home near Shelburn, George Sandner and wife at C. W. Dart's, where George's gray pony gave him away.

gray pony gave him away.

Will Dart returned home and, seeing the boys hidden in the fence corner, became alarmed and concluded to eat a hearty supper. Then he and his wife skipped out as Sandner had done the evening before. As he proceeded to leave home,
Robert Darby appeared on the scene
riding little Cheyenne. Louis Geisler, our
famous detective, was on the Chicago
police force three years, and was never
known to lose a trail, lit out afoot and
soon came by his own home; decided to
saddle Old Prince (his favorite steed),
who has been across the continent and
once around the world; started out again
and was soon in sight, so, after the boys
chased Mr. Dart and wife up hill and
down, through brush and around curves,
circling the largest part of Lina County
(for about 23½ miles, finally chased him
to the home of A. Overholts, where one of out as Sandner had done the evening be to the home of A. Overholts, where one of the boys watched while the other re-urned to the home of C. W. Dart and cotified the crowd, whereupon they pro-ceeded to charivari. George Sandare and ceeded to charivari. George Sandare and
wife then went from there to Mr. Overholts' and charivaried Bill Dart and
wife, and from there all went to Shelburn
and charivaried Bill Hirans and wife;
and after wishing them all a long and
happy life the boys returned home at 5
o'clock in the morning, a little footsore
and tired, but feeling well paid for their
methics work

"BUNG" IN BRITISH POLITICS The Liquor Question One of the Leading Issues. Washington Post.

"Bung" is the comprehensive slang title for the whole of the liquor trade, from the multimillionaire brewer down to the humblest proprietor of side inn. The liquor trade is portant in Great Britain that it is known simply as "the trade." It is wealthy and highly organized, and eye now has made and marred ministries. now has made and marred ministries. In recent years one party, that stood up for the curlous combination of the church and "the trade," was successful at the polls, and was wittly and alliteratively, if somewhat irreverently, described by its opponents as floating into power on beer and the Bible. There are elements in the liberal party that have forced it into an attitude of uncompromising hostility to the liquor interest. From the liberals that interinterest. From the liberals that interest thinks it has nothing to expect but onerous taxastion in the immediate, and, in the end, absolute confiscation for any portion that may perchance sur-

vive.

The liquor organization is, therefore fighting for the tories with its back to land has been turned into a school fo the propagation of tory doctrines. And the saloonkeeper in England, be it reembered is a man of mark in the mmunity. He is often a highly-re-ected citizen, and elected to honorable public positions. To many of his numerous customers he is guide, phi-losopher and friend. The influence of such a class on the doubtful voter cannot be easily overestimated

Mr. Edison Learns What Not

The Book-Keeper.
Thomas A. Edison is also still busy with his new storage battery, which he asserts, will solve the traction ques-tion. This too, has been scoffed at from the beginning; it is a long time since Mr. Edison began investigation in this direction, but when a successful port-able method of storing electricity is dereloned another industrial revolution

will be accomplished.

This leads up to the point to which special attention is directed. In his experiments with these batteries, Mr. Edison has had men at work for years with son has man men at work of years with a patience unparalleled. More than a half ton of reports on experiments with batteries have been made. Two of his best men had to give up the work because of its unending monotony

down. The work was continued night and day for more than three years, and more than 900° experiments were made without obtaining the results which Mr. Edison wanted. A visitor to whom this was told, exclaimed:
"Then all those experiments were prac-

tleally wasted? "Not at all," said Mr. Edison; "I nov know 9000 things not to do"—all of which indicates that it is as important to know what not to do as what to do.

> Closed Up in the Rear. Mitchell Sentinel.

Billy Meyer, with a broad smile and a military gait left for Shanks with his team Monday morning.

T. T. G. I have listened to the knockings of the knocker,
And have marveled at the man with
frigid feet;
have heard the oratorical flapdoodle
Of the socialistic howlers on the
street

street.
have doffed my hat with wonder to
the skate
Who could laugh and cry and curse

with single breath, While the ordinary man will thank his stars That he's won the fight so far with prowling Death.

But the man has reached the limit who goes yelping
Round the country 'cause it rains
and rains and rains.
Loudly shouting that the Eastern Winters suit him.

Where the mercury the lowest point attains. Yet this noisy and contrary old galoot, When it freezes up and coal is awful

dear, e first to raise an everlasting clamor—
Says he hoped to find a milder climate here!

Practical Necessity of Political Parties

Organization Indispensable in Government by Democracy -- Conscientions Man Is Justified in Adhering to His Party, Though He may Disagree on

From a recent book, "The Hindrances to Good Citizenship," by Hon. James Bryce, British Ambassador to the United States and author of "The American Common-wealth."

weath."

Party has been a practical necessity—and I am not now speaking of the natural human tendencies that develop and shape it, but of the political circumstances that call it into being—because in a large, free community, where each man has his own affairs to occupy him, there must be some means of bringing current questions to the knowledge of the citizens, of explaining their meaning and purport, of presenting and advocating particular proposals for handling current issues. The larger the community grows, the greater need for this. Accordingly, those who think together and wish to act together must organize; and their organization be-

together and wish to act together must organize; and their organization becomes a party.

Furthermore, in a large community the great bulk of the citizens do not and hardly can know who are their best men, the fittest to think, to lead, to be selected for office. When persons have to be chosen by vote to hold office, there must be some means of recommending them and getting the electors, some of whom will be remlas, or heedless, or ignorant, to come and vote for them. Where the community is a very them. Where the community is a very large one, or where the structure of soliety does not indicate particular persomery does not indicate particular persons as prima facie fit men for office, there must be some means of selecting particular persons to be candidates, else voting will be fill at random. A party organization supplies the obvious means. This function of nominating candidates in the case. nating candidates increases not only the range of its action, but its power, because ambitious men become forth-with eager to control it and to develop it for their own purposes.

There are endless instances to show that the spirit of party may be so di-verted from its original character of an attachment to certain principles as to

attachment to certain principles as to become a mere instinct of loyalty to a leader, or to a name, or to a set of catchwords.

Recognizing this liability to perversion which inheres in Party Spirit, let us see how it may become a hindrance to good citizenship.

Suppose an ordinary honest citizen to be considering how he shall vote on some public issue. Presumably he belongs to one party, and prefers to continue to support that party. If he finds his own opinion on the question, be the question that of a Logislative proposal or that of a Logislative proposal or that party, what is simple. If, however, the differs in opinion from his party's, what is his action likely to be and what ought it to be?

In four cases out of five (perhaps more), the Average Man will simply

ever, he differs in opinion from his party, what is his action likely to be and what ought it to be?

In four cases out of five (perhaps more) the Average Man will simply follow his party, not troubling himself to examine the matter. The party has done the thinking and made the decision; that is enough for him.

If, however, being a somewhat more active or conscientious citizen than is the Average Man, he examines the insue for himself, and concludes that is the long run, a wisactive or conscientious citizen than is the Average Man, he examines the issue for bimself, and concludes that his party is wrong, the question foi-lows whether he shall be ruled by his own opinion or subordinate it to that

of the party. conscientious citizen who is only a continue to maintain a high level private in the party army, having public spirit and practical good sense.

NO AMERICAN CARDINALS, NOW. Ten of Them Likely to Be Appointed, New York Seeks Relief in Tunnels;

hut None in This Country.

New York Post,
In the College of Cardinals there is an unusual number of vacancies, and several American archbishops have been candidates for a red hat. But they are likely to be disappointed, if we may believe the well-informed Vatican correspondent of the Corriere della Sora. He gives it as the semi-official opinion that, of the nine or ten new cardinals to be created about the middle of January, not one will be American. ne will be American.

Bound by the concerdat with Portugal, Pins X will bestow the purple on Mona. Bello, Patriarch of Lisbon. At least three Italians will be chosen—Granito di Bel-Sello, Patriarch of Lispon. At least three Italians will be chosen—Granito di Belmonte, Papal Nuncio at Vienna, almost surely, and two workers, like Mons. Lugari, assessor of the holy office, and Mons. Ghistini, Secretary of the Congregation of the Sacrament. France, whose sormal supply of cardinals is seven, has now only three. Mons. Amette, archbishop of Paris, is slated for one of the honors, although his opinions have not been sufficiently ultramontane to satisfy the Jesuits. To offset him, Mons. Cabrieres, Archbishop of Montpellier aristocratic and a thorough-going reactionary, may be selected. Mons. Jabillard, Archbishop of Chambery, is the third possibility among French prelates. One red hat is to go to a Spaniard and another to an Austrian, Finally, Mons. Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, is to receive the honor which is long overdue. which is long overdue.

The death of Father George Tyrrell, ex-

The death of Father George Tyrreil, exJesuit and ablest of all the modernists,
has brought a lull in Dr. Bourne's jurisdiction, so that the Vatican can promote
him without misgivings. Yet, as the
Italian motto runs, "a cardinal is only
a caprice of the Pope," the Cisatlantio
Monsignori may continue to hope until
Pius X speaks in the consistory.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. "A hundred years ago we were satisfled to travel ten miles an hour.

"Fifty years ago we thought 15 miles "Ten years ago 80 miles an hour was neldered the limit of speed."

Now we are hitting up nearly a hundred miles an hour.' "And it won't be long before 120 miles an hour is slow."
"Well, what are you trying to get

'I'm going to prove to you the neces-sity of accident insurance, as I repre-But the other man was walking away at the rate of six miles an hour.

When 20-Cent Pleces Were Coined. ILWACO, Wash, Jan 3.—(To the Editor).—Please let us know what years the United States made 20-cent silver pleces. We found one tenight, the first we ever

Twenty-cent sliver pieces were coined y the United States mints from 1874 to 1878, both dates inclusive.

"Jack Sheppard's" House Comes Down "Jack Sheppard" House Comes Down.
Indianspolis News.
The historic old "Six Bells," out Willesden way, England, the inn referred to by Harrison Ainsworth as the haunt of Jack Sheppard, is to be pulled down.
Thus another ancient landmark is swept into oblivion by the unsentimental modern builder.

The Mayor's Touch.

Skamania County Pioneer,
J. A. Cowan, the honorable Mayor of
the city of Camas, Wash, presented
the editor of this paper with a box of
cigars on Christmas, for which he has
our most sincere thanks. His Mayorahip, knows how to touch the right
spot of the average newspaper man.

nothing to do but east his vote, from the case of the prominent conscientions citizen, who is an officer, perhaps a colonel, or even a general in that army. The conscientions citizen, who is what I call a private, will usually hesitate to desert his party. He is bound to it by habit and by a preference for its leaders over those of the other side. It is unpleasant to support by his vote those whom he has hitherto opposed, and he hates to be ragarded by his party associates as a deserter. Nevertheless, the voice of duty seems to require him to obey his convictions. He may, and if the issue is an important one, he probably will, being exone, he probably will, being ex-hypothesi conscientions, and in this instance convinced, ultimately follow it. But he has not been, and cannot be, a detached and impartial judge in the matter.

matter.

Other considerations come in to confuse the issue. A man prominent in his party may think that the good he can do by remaining in it and trying to back it up, so that it may fight effectively in other then pending questions, outweighs the barm he will do by youing on this particular instance against his own conviction. Or he may value so highly the influence of his party on the welfare of the Nation, and may so so highly the influence of his party on the welfare of the Nation, and may so much fear to weaken it by helping to expose it to defeat on this particular issue, that it will in the particular case seem right to do what would otherwise be wrong for the kake of the greater good to follow from keep-ing the party in power.

Though a politician may of course use such arguments as these to deceive himself and justify any line of action his interest prompts, still they are arguments which have their weight and worth, and deserve to be considered by men who seek to do right. Much depends on the gravity of the particular issue. If it is one profoundly affecting the National welfare, the statesman must at all hazards follow his conscience. If it is of passing and secondary consequence, he may feel

Still there is, in the long run, a wisdom in the whole people greater than the wisdom of any man or group. No leader, no party, no legislature, can ever ruin a state while the great body of Average Citizens, the better educated Let us distinguish the case of the and the less educated taken together,

CONGESTION IN AMERICAN CITIES,

Chicago in a "Loop" District. Washington (D. C.) Herald. With the completion of the tunnels to New Jersey and Long Island, Manhattan has both spread out and become more restricted. Better means of communication denotes greater concentra-tion at the foct. When a busines man can have his home miles away, as is now possible in New York, the tion of his place of business gravitates toward the most favorable location.

When New York was forced to go by trolley or by ferry there was a limit to the number who could crowd lower Manhattan, but with better means of ingress and egress the skysgrapers will not be sufficient to take care of those seeking advantageous locations. Hence the acquisition of suburban homes tends to centralize business.

Chicago is rapidly learning the disadvantages of concentrating business activities. That section known as the "loop district," about one-half mile wide and three-quarters of a mile long has worked a hardship on those located both within and without the fam. ous "loop." A merchant whose place obusiness is within the loop pays much righ rentals as to practic him of profits. The merchant witho the loop, whose rent is less than on fifth that within the loop, has customers, and consequently are no profits, owing to of trade. Chicago has for years been planning to demolish the loop system, and thereby increase the size of its business district. By run-ning through cars many of the unfor-tunate features of the present situation will be avoided. New York and will be avoided. New York and Ch cago must solve these problems as best they can:

Queen of Italy as a Reader.

New York World. Queen Margherita of Italy has a weakness for the books of American and English novelists. She also reads Eng-lish and American magnaines, and it is her opinion that the American school of short-story writers at present is the g

Nicaragua

Springfield (Mass.) Republican.
"What are the cables flashing for?" the
correspondent oried;
"Diplomacy," iplomacy," Philander K. repiled. "What makes you send the ships to sen?"

what makes you send the ships to sen?"
the correspondent cried;
"I'm merely going to call their bluff," Philander K. replied.
For they're stirring up the devit just north of Paramas,
When they start to getting haughty they go a bit too fur;
It's time these kid republics received a gentle jar,
so we're going to spank Zelaya in the more-ing.

"What makes the jingoes smile with gles?"
the correspondent cried;
"They hope there'll be a bloody war," Philander K. replied.
"But do you really mean to fight?" the correspondent cried.
"Some one has got to fight or crawl." Philander K. replied.
The Buffalo is beaded south from Pinche-linque Hay,
The Bennington's at Greytown, a Ship's near Menagua.
The Prairie's left League Island—there'll be the deuce to pay
When we start to spank Zelaya in the morning.

"What makes the nations smile?" the correspondent cried;
"They see new crops of heroes," Philander K. ronlled.
Then there'll be some more Rough Riders?" the correspondent cried;
"Not on your Hiel Not an your life!" Philander K. replied.
In seven years of Roosevelt we adrely got our fill.
We're living in the heritage he handed down to Bill;
So, it we've got to have a war there'll be no San Juan Hill
When we start to spank Zelaya in the morning.