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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, JAN. 22, 1910.

TANGLE OF BRITISH POLITICS. There is a growing probability that the Liberals will not have a majority in the House of Commons that they can call wholly their own. They will be forced to rely on combinations with the Labor party and the Irish party; and for support of such combinations it will be difficult for the Liberals to control the whole body of their own members. They will be plagued by "insurgents," who will balk at the demands of the allies of the Liberal party; and, moreover, some portions of the allies, not getting all they demand, are very likely to join in making trouble for the Liberal leaders. The Conservative forces without doubt will act as a solid body, and may have a disposition to grant to the Nationalists and Labor party better terms in some directions than the Liberals are willing to allow them. It is impossible to imagine what results may come out of such a hotch-potch of

The popular vote thus far for the Conservatives is much larger than that for the Liberals, and probably will be still larger by the time the voting is ended. It is clear that nothing can be done that will radically change the present constitutional balance of forces in the United Kingdom. The idea widely entertained that the existence of the House of Lords would be imperilled by this struggle will fade away, under contemplation of the enormously heavy vote which the Conservative party is able to command. Most Englishmen are averse to revolutionary proceedings.

The House of Peers usually is indolent. Its members do not like a contest with the Commons; and when they do take a positive stand against the Commons, there usually is some reason that goes down very deep into the history and customs of the country-not lightly to be set aside. It is this hold on the past, operating to a greater or less extent on the general mind of the country, that checks the progress of novel policies. In our country a similar force is in constant operation, but commonly in much less

In the new Parliament the debates probably will be even hotter than in The course of the present elections seems to be opening the way to unusual opportunities for party combinations, for or against leading measures. Improbable as it may seem Conservatives may make advances to the Irish party, and even consent to a local parliamentary assembly for Ireland. That would be a coup, indeed. First of all things in the minds of Irish members of Parliament is a local legislature for their country and home rule. They could not be blamed for entering into any alliance to get it.

RAILROAD FIGHT TO CONTINUE.

It will probably be disappointing to the "unco-guid" critics of President Taft to note that the suit against the railroad merger will be vigorously prosecuted. In view of the facts that have been presented in this connection, there seems but small likelihood af the Government being successful in the suit to dissolve what are known as the Harriman properties. It is a well-known fact that it is an impos sibility for a man to ride out of Washington City on a railroad train without traveling over lines from which all competition has been eliminated by mergers, pools and community of interest policies. It is equally wellknown that the New York Central system with its control of the West Shore, Lake Shore, the Eric and other paralleling lines, offers one of the most striking examples of noncompetition that can be found in the United States

With these bright and shining examples of merging of railroad properties right under the eye of the Government at Washington, it has always seemed strange that the Government should make its first sortie into the 'rallroad merger" field here in the Far West, where the Union Pacific and the Southern Pacific, for the greater part of their mileage, are hundreds of miles apart, and except at terminals are in no sense competing roads, and do not serve the same territory. But the prosecution of these merger suits is a heritage which the preceding Administration has passed on to President Taft. He must make the attempt to carry out this particular Roosevelt policy by as vigorous a prosection as will be possible in the existing

conditions. In ignoring the existence of merged lines nearer at hand, and in which the evidence was much stronger than it is in the Union Pacific-Southern Pacific case, the retiring Administration put over on the Taft Administration case in which conviction could hardly be other than extremely difficult. It has also left the President in a position where he will "be damned if he Ofdoes and damned if he doesn't." With only a forlorn hope of conviction, he must proceed with the suit or else be branded as a traitor to the cause of his meminent predecessor. If he proceeds with the suit and loses, as he probably will, we may expect the anti-Taft element to set up a howl of criticism over the manner in which the suit was con-

It is a very difficult position in which the President has been placed, but in the circumstances there is no other course to be pursued than that which he is now following. Despite the interference, unwarranted criticism and other handicaps to which he has been subjected. President Taft has been gradually working out the reform pollcles of his predecessor and will un-

complishments lack some of the spec tacular, brass-band methods to which but they are none the less effective.

NORMAL FEUD AGAIN?

The sequel to the Normal School business in Oregon is yet to be written. It may be almost as strenuous as were the chapters ending with the Legislature's refusal last year to grant lifegiving money to the four institu-tions that have taken active part in legislative matters for many years. For it is generally supposed that the lawmakers in their next session will pick up something out of the wreckage and endeavor to establish one institution, or perhaps two. Selection of site and final disposition of the old paraphernalia are likely to call for heroic treatment. Already Hood River has entered the competition as candidate for the apple of discord. Baker City, Pendleton, La Grande, The Dalles and towns in Western Oregon which have an eye for political "plums" are expected to regard normals as their kind of fruit. It will be remembered that supporters of the overdone normal business would not permit Monmouth in the last Legislature, nor Salem, nor my other town near the center of the state's activities, to obtain the consolidated school. .

It ought to be possible, however, to put normal schools on rational basis and to build up a proper institution. The institutions that Oregon has been nursing along on short rations, in places distant from population centers served the purpose of their existence in sorry fashion. Concentration of funds and effort is needed to set up and keep up normal education in this state. Normal school partisans, intrenched in the House of Representatives in Salem last Winter, defeated every attempt for consolidation and new location,

A spirit of amity is needed, first of all, and if that is not possible, then extermination of all the forces that have been upholding the old system. Normal education should no longer be a local, but a state-wide matter, to be managed in accord with state-wide re-

SIMPLICITY IN A NEW PUMP.

The invention of a pumping process by the explosion of a gas, as we learn from The Literary Digest, affords new and probably a practical way of raising water in large quantities cheap-The gas to be exploded is compressed over the surface of the water which is free to escape upward through a tube. By the explosion pressure is generated and a quantity of water is driven out of the reservoir. A fresh supply of com-bustible material is then quickly introduced, which is compressed some of the water flowing back down the tube. The process is repeated indefinitely as long as there is any fluid in the reservoir. It is astonishingly simple. No apparatus is required in the escape tube, not even a check

Indeed, a check valve, no matter how light, would be dangerous, since the high explosive employed would burst the tube before the valve could acquire velocity enough to move out of the way. A layer of air and a layer of rock offer about the same instantaneous resistance to a charge of dyna-

Nothing is more fascinating than to observe the progressive industrial application of the energy of high ex-plosives. Suppose a genius should some time discover how to confine and of course, but then a good many things have seemed impossible which were accomplished all the same in due time.

THAT HOUSE OF GOVERNORS.

'The project of adding a "House of Governors" to our National governmental machinery does not wholly commend itself to a reflective mind. The motives of those who argue for it, as summarized by William George Jordan, of New York, in his little monograph, are excellent, but their wisdom is questionable. More could be said for their project if it included the abolishment of some of our present superfluous muchinery, but it does nothing of the kind. It merely adds another intricate set of eccentrics and gears to an engine which is already too complicated to run with efficiency or economy. But even if the proposes House of Governors were intended to replace some cumbrous and lethargic department of the Federal Government, instead of attaching a new con-

trivance, it would still be undesirable The Governors of the states are local officials elected for purely local purposes. They are the most conspicuous and valuable factors in the state government as distinguished from the Federal. The instinct of the people has been constantly increasing their power of late and centering new confidence in them. In magnifying the executive some states seem to have found a corrective for the in-efficiency of the legislative branch. No local official is more needed for strictly home uses than the Governor. Were he to be spirited away and converted into a Federal functionary the states would have to replace him with a sin ilar official under a new name, and

what would be gained? To be sure, the projectors do not intend to keep the Governors at Washington permanently. "An annual seasion of two or three weeks" is Mr. Jordan's moderate demand at present. But we know what comes from small beginnings. The attractiveness of the Federal side of their duties would inevitably prevail over the lo-The state would lose the most essential figure in its government, and the Nation would gain nothing, of onsequence. Mr. Jordan seems to think the House of Governors would check current centralizing tendencies at Washington. He is probably wrong. There are heavy adds that it would aid the very thing he is eager to counteract. Once make the state Governors a compact organization and give them a finger in the Federal pie, and their affection for state authority will wither like the flower. Every frog would be an ox if it could. The only way to preserve the Governor's whole some efficiency is to keep him precisely what he is, an official whose exclusive interest lies in his own state His provincialism and sectional narrowness are, in a way, his fundamental virtues. At any rate, he is useful only so long as his eye is fixed on

The notion that a House of Governdoubtedly continue to do so. His ac- the various states may or may not be subsidy-seekers would be that this

tocal affairs.

sound. It would depend on how much influence the Governor retained at home after his transformation into a Federal official. We suspect that his local influence would lose its practical virtue and degenerate into mere machine building intrigue. All that is desirable in the way of the promo tion of uniform laws by the state Gov-ernors can be attained by calling them together once in a while, more or less informally, as has been done already. The itch to put every good idea into a steel frame of hard and fast law is a perfect plague in the United States. Why not leave some concepts free to evolve in the wild

state? Moreover, complete uniformity of local laws is not necessarily a desirable consummation. If all the states had exactly the same laws, why have sepa-rate states? The distinctions between them would become illusory. They would differ only in name. A great advantage of state antonomy is the freedom it affords for legislative experiments. New ideas can be worked out in the more adventurous commu nities without involving the whole country in risk of disaster. Where uniform statutes seem decidedly worth while they are being attained through

wide discussion and cautious experiment. The process sometimes appears so slow that it makes one impatient. Still, deliberation is better than haste. Besides, there is nothing to hinder the Governors from promoting uniform legislation at their own capitals if the subject interests them.

WASHINGTON'S BOURNE. Miles Poindexter, Representative in Congress from Washington, is insurging all alone. He doesn't agree with anybody about this Ballinger-Pinchot business. He thinks the Republican majority is wrong, and has no right to control the House; he thinks the insurgent Republicans are wrong in endeavoring to reach a harmonious understanding with the House organization; and he thinks the Democrats are wrong for reasons not clear; yet there must be reasons, since Poindexter has not yet announced his reaffiliation with the Democratic party. For Poindexter was once a Democrat; then he was a Populist (so we hear); then he became a Republican; then an insurgent; now he isn't anything.

Poludexter thinks the Republican majority outraged the rights of the Democratic minority by declining to accept the Democratic nomination of Rainey, a bitter partisan, a personal foe of the President, and a malignant enemy of his Administration, to be on Ballinger-Pinchot investigating committee. The privilege of naming members of this special committee was not extended to the minority as a right, but as a courtesy. The Democracy deliberately abused the courtesy by nominating a member known to be grossly unfair in all partisan matters and extremely offensive to the Republican majority and the Administration. The House, acting through lts responsible Republican majority, rejected him, as it should have done, and itself named a Democrat of unim peachable party standing. Nothing else could in reason have been asked or expected of the House.

But Poindexter, where, oh, where is he? All alone in the political chaos at Washington, without influence or party or future. For Poindexter is the Bourne of Washington State. He is another choice blossom of the direct primary. He jonathanbourned the Republican party into giving him a Congressional nomination in 1908 by gradually release as it was needed the energy of a dynamite cartridge. We might anap our fingers at the Water a small plurality over half a dozen

him the election Party loyalty! Now you see what Poindexter is doing for his party.

PORTLAND'S WHEAT EXPORTS.

A Seattle correspondent writes Th Oregonian questioning the statement that "Portland is, next to New York, the largest wheat center in the United "Is it not true He asks: that both Duluth and Minneapolis lead Portland in this respect?"

Bulletin No. 6, of the Department of Commerce and Labor, under date of January 12, gives the total wheat exports for 1909 as follows: New York, 12,587,537 bushels; Portland, 5,571,000 oushels; Duiuth, 4,614,277 bushels Puget Sound is fourth with 3,996,516 bushels.

Our correspondent bases his su picions of the Portland claim to econd place on the heavy car receipts at Duluth and Minneapolis. These recelpts are, of course, not reflected in Duluth's exports, and are probably heavier than those of Portland. That Portland's export trade is only a small portion of her actual wheat business is shown, however, by the figures for 1909 on coastwise wheat and flour traffic. Exclusive of the 5,571,000 bushels exported as wheat, Portland last year handled an additional 8,000, 000 bushels which was shipped either coastwise or as flour to the Orient.

OUR BEST CUSTOMERS.

In order to make clear the reaso for granting minimum tariff rates to some countries while higher rates are demanded from others, the State Department has made public a report of trade relations between the United States and foreign countries. By this report we find that the United Kingdom takes nearly one-half of all the exports sent by the United States to Europe, and one-third of all exported to the entire world. In 1908 we sold United Kingdom more than \$600,000,000 worth of goods. Russia, Spain, Switzerland and Turkey also showed a strong preference for American goods. While the volume of their purchases from the United States was small in comparison with that of Great Britain, they, nevertheless favored this country with their patron-

This preferential tariff, while making concessions in favor of the few countries that have displayed a preference for American exports, of co does not pull down the barriers far enough to offer any material advantage to the unfortunate American consumer who should be permitted to enjoy the advantages of the cheap products which our foreign customers would like to sell to us. There is probably no other phase of the shipsubsidy question that has been more frequently touched on than that stereotyped statement that paying the foreigners \$200,000,000 per year to carry our freight to mar-ket, and that all of this sum could be saved if we would pay a ship subsidy of big proportions. The natural in ference of the uninformed on reading ors would promote uniform laws in that ancient stock argument of the

\$200,000,000 was a dead loss to the country, and that we were receiving nothing in return for it.

These recent statements of the showing made by the foreign trade of the country are interesting, when taken in connection with this freight space which we buy from the foreigner. The value of American exports for 1909 was \$1,727,383,128. This enormous amount of American products was sold to the people who have supplied the tonnage for carry-ing it to market. We paid them the \$200,000,000 freight for carrying away the \$1,727,383,128 worth of American exports which they bought, because we had found by actual experience that we could not deliver the goods in American ships except at a cost far in

excess of the \$200,000,000. Aside from this, when our best cusomers have no more remunerative field in which to invest their savings than shipping, they might not be financially situated so that they could purchase such large quantities of goods from us, unless we gave them in return some business for their ships. The arrangement is of mutual advantage to this country and to the foreigners and, until the American shipowners are in a position to sell us \$200,000,000 worth of ocean freight space for \$200,000,000 there will be no incentive to change

The Pacific Mall Steamship Company is said to be contemplating establishment of a line of steamers between Seattle and the Orient in connection with extension of the Union Pacific service to Puget Sound. There are two excellent reasons why the Oriental business of the Union Pacific system should be shifted north from the Bay City. One is the heavy offerings of flour for shipment to the Orient, and no longer obtainable in San Francisco. The other is the necessity of providing westbound tonnage for cars needed to handle the lumber traffic originating in the Puget Sound district recently entered by the Union Pacific. The Oriental flour trade, which had its inception in California, has long since departed from that state, and has probably reached its maximum volume out of the northern ports. For many years, however, it will continue to be a most important factor in supplying cargo for westbound Oriental liners.

That expected flood of wheat with which the Argentine was to deluge the markets of the Old World has apparently been delayed in transit. Shipments for the week ending yesterday were but 504,000 bushels, compared with 2,704,000 bushels for the same week last year. This is a very insignificant amount to come out of a country which for the next three months will be the principal source of supply for the importing countries of Eu-Australia, which has already begun shipping heavily, is also falling a little short of last year, this week's shipments amounting to 2,704,000 bushels, compared with 2,894,000 bushels the corresponding week last year. Fortunately for the European bread-eaters, the stocks on hand in Europe are materially larger than they were a year ago, and higher prices have undoubtedly resulted in some curtailment of the consumption,

A considerable number of recently invented airships which were intended to make their initial flight at Los Angeles were unable to get off the earth. and their inventors were very much downhearted over their failure. There is room for some consolation in the thought that, so long as they remained on terra firma, there was no liability of publican nominee, party loyalty gave the aviators losing their lives by a drop from the clouds

A Seattle attorney announces that he will deliver messages from John Wilkes Booth to the people of Seattle telling where he is and what his spirit is now doing. Having established communication with the spirit world, it would be a great stroke of enterprise for the Seattle man to get in communication with the late Darius Green and get his views on flying machines 'over yonder."

Charles Messener, of Chehalis, who contributed to the death of his invalid wife by brutally abusing her and was placed under arrest, whiningly attributes her death and his present plight to "drink." Drinking, he means.

News from the Orient is to the effect that Japan is discouraging emigration except into near-by Asia. In the Spring the Japs may go into Russian territory by corps and army Count Boni may feel he has lost

lot of money, now that Marjorie Gould is slated to marry young Drexel. can a man lose any money he never had? The boycott on meat in many East-

ern cities is good for the health of the

boycotters, but most of them will jump for a bone when the ordeal is over. It is said that after the trial jury finishes up, Binger Hermann will desire to refer the question to the people. But, of course, that depends.

Stensland, Chicago banker, who stole the savings of the poor, is paroled after three years. It is little wonder Morse and Walsh are hopeful.

vail all Winter before the advent of a lot of persons who thought they knew better. Operation of public dancing halls in this city on Sundays will continue, but

This is the weather that used to pre-

there will be no "all promenade to the A Portland Chinaman's wife ran away with a Jap. We didn't suppose

there was that much preference.

Elimination of the rear handrail will decrease streetesr accidents until all women become left-handed.

Who now will say that a Portland oliceman is never at the right place at the right time? Would-be hold-up men are learning that honest wages are safer than pis-

tol-point robbery. Colonist rates in effect March 1 will affect the census slightly.

A dead bandit is better than a live hold-up. Speed the work.

This latest boycott may be the work

THE TAFT REFORM PROGRAMME. Legislation That the President Will Ask of Congress. From Washington Dispatch to New York

Evening Post. It becomes possible and permissible to outline the Winter's executive programme which President Taft will ask the two ouses of Congress to enact into law, and which the Republican leaders of both branches have promised the President shall be enacted into law. The items of the programme in the order of their importance are: Amendments to the interstate commercial

A law providing for the voluntary Federal incorporation of corporations. A law putting upon the statute books

he so-called Roosevelt policies on the conservation of natural resources, as recmmended in Secretary Ballinger's anual report. A law creating a postal savings bank

A law for the reorganization of the government of Alasku.

A statehood law for the territories of Arizona and New Mexico. Drastic reductions in appropriations and

conomy in Federal expenditure. That is the President's Winter programme of legislation. That is the programme which Aldrich, Hale, Cannon, Payne, Dalzell, Tawney and the other Republican managers of legislation have promised Mr. Taft they will take up and endeavor to put through for him. That ts the programme upon which the Republican members of Congress must go to the country next November for reelection. The radical "insurgents" the Middle West have been demanding "action" of the President. They will have their fill of it, if they enact into law all the proposals which the President

Mr. Taft will not, with blare of trumpets or sounding drums, seek to agitate the public mind in behalf of his recom mendations. He will not personally appeal to the country before applying to Congress to have his recommendations made into law. He will not start a "back fire" in the districts of members of Congress who show themselves luke-warm or antagonistic in acceding to his suggestions for legislation. In fine, he will not employ Roosevelt methods in seeking to make the so-called Roosevelt policies effective. Mr. Taft has let this much be known very clearly.

The President has conferred fully and feedly with the Roomlean for the president of the conferred fully and feedly with the Roomlean feedly win the Roomlean feedly with the Roomlean feedly with the Roomlean

freely with the Republican party man-agers in Congress who have come to him. He will continue to urge his plans by personal solicitation upon all Republican Senators and Representatives who come to the White House. He has told Republican Congressmen that he will not make any legislative recommendations that good Republicans cannot conscientiously advocate and support. Having made his recommendations it will rest upon Congress to enact them into law or not, as it sees fit. But Congress must take the responsibility. Mr. Taft feels that he will have done all that he may properly do when, through special mes-sages and by personal private solicita-tion, he has urged his views upon the two branches and the individual members.

BILLBOARDS A PUBLIC NUISANCE. Thus Declared a New York Supreme Justice in a Recent Decision.

Justice in a Recent Decision.

Philadelphia Inquirer.

Among recent decisions against billboards was that by Justice Seabury,
of the New York Supreme Court, in a
case in which the authorities of Manhattan Borough were the defendants,
with the C. J. Sullivan Advertising
Company as plaintiff. This decision upheld the contention that the advertising company had no right to erect
signs on a temporary shed across a
public highway. An important point in
Justice Seabury's decision was to this
effect:

ed their erection. The streets or highways are public property. The streets, including the sidewalks, belong 'from side to side and end to end' to the public. Abutting owners have no right to appropriate this public property to private uses. The erection of billboards or signs upon or over public property is an appropriation of public property to private uses, and is no more sanc-tioned by the law than is the public appropriation of private property." Further. In ruling against the signs, Justice Seabury declared that "it is a case where the public property been wrongfully invaded by private or individual interests in such a way as to impair the common rights of all in it." He held, too, that "the presence of the biliboards upon the public high-way is a mere nulsance, which the mu-nicinal authorities will do we'll to

nicipal authorities will do well' to abate." In Defense of Assembly. Hood River Glacier.

The assembly, as we understand it, to be a gathering of delegates from is to be a gathering of delegates from the various countles on the old con-vention style to recommend candidates to be voted on at the primaries. There seems to us to be no harm in this plan-it will not be in violation of the pri-mary law and it will only be able to recommend to the consideration of the party at the primary. The Recombiles. party at the primary. The Republican voters in Oregon, who form an over-whelming majority, are represented in the United States Senate by a Democrat and a what-you-may-call-him.
This state of affairs needs remedying.
When the majority of the voters believe
in the Republican principles they should in the Republican principles they should be represented by men who stand by these principles. If the assembly will help us to gain this point, we are for the assembly. Many of the leading men of the party believe that it will be the means of getting the party together. We do not feel sure that it will, but we are willing to try it, as there is little danger of making things any worse.

Whose Business?

There is no question but that much of the opposition to Republican assemblies originates amongst members of the opposite party. True Republicans should pay no attention to Democrats and Populists who may take so much interest in Republican success and decry any attempt of Republicans to meet and talk matters over. It's none of their business in the first place and there must be a strong motive behind their unsolicited interest and sympathy in the dominant party. It is surely for no good.

Pilgrimage Made in a Motor Car, Cairo, Egypt, Cor. New York World. The Khedive of Egypt has gone on pligrimage to Mecca and is making the land part of the journey in an auto-mobile, accompanied by four chefs and ten cooks. One cannot help wondering what Mahomet would say if he could see a pilgrimage of this description The ordinary pilgrim tries to do the journey on foot, carrying nothing but a staff. He begs a handful of grain on the way and lives on this meager fare. Many take two years for the pilgrimage, but the Khedive hoped to complete his in 20 days.

No Default in This Policy.

Kansas City Times. Navigation of inland waterways is one Roosevelt policy, anyhow, that shows no tendency toward default. guages in the public schools.

WISHES TO BE ON TRUTH'S SIDE. Dr. Funk Gives His Views on the Ques

tion of Immertality. NEW YORK, Jan. 15 .- (To the Editor. -Kindly permit me to set myself right in The Oregonian. Within the past three weeks I have received many letters and a score of newspaper clippings touching matter in supposed interviews with my self, which seem to have been given un usual publicity-reaching me just now from the far South and from the West as far as San Francieso. One clipping gives a page colored picture in which I appear, as the editor graphically puts it, with my eyes "glued to a telescope studying the stars" as my future abode, urged thereto by some "Little bright spirit." Several others, one from a Pittsburg paper, another from Buffalo and still another from Chicago, say that I believe that "souls when they leave the body straightway forget their earthly ties and filt from star to star." Other clippings have it that I "spend much time in searching with microscope and telescope the nature of the spirit world"—this in the way of

All such talk might possibly be of some slight value to the world if it were true that I said it. The unfortunate thing

Is it a matter of surprise that I should Is it a matter of surprise that I should find it profitable to spend some rest moments in the study of the stars? It is a "brain-stretcher" to try to realize that huge worlds—tens of thousands of times larger than this one—are flying a score of miles a second, and that the earth is like a transpolars are to be supported by the star of the star of the second of the like a tremendous auto in which we are whirling about the sun—some 500,000,000 miles—once every 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, 46 seconds! That fact, if thought of until it gets into our consciousness means growth. Why should it surprise anyone to be told that there is more pleasure to the square inch in a telescope or microscope than in any \$5000 automobile? A real glimpse of the astro-nomical universe and a conception that we are part of it, and that the power behind it all is our Father, tends to give a self-respect that helps us to despise

mean things. As Tennyson would put it, we are too apt to miss being great for fear of being great.

Certainly, I believe that if we die we shall live again, possibly in other bodies, and it may be on other plateaus of this carth and it may be that other stars will earth, and it may be that other stars will be our home some time in that "one far-off divine event." In the Father's house there are many mansions, and there is plenty of time in eternity for many things to happen. But none of us know these things scientifically—not yet. It may be that spirit communication is a fact, but to my mind such communication has not as yet been demonstrated. Alfred Russell Wallace and Sir Oliver Lodge think that Wallace and Sir Oliver Lodge think that they have obtained on this point scientific facts satisfactory to themselves, and so thought Dr. Frederic Meyers and Dr. Richard Hodgson, and so thinks Dr. Hyslop. The proof, while not a demonstration to myself, is sufficient to make me sure that our American scientists will sorely blunder if they do not take advantage of the presence of such an one as Eusapia Palladino to prove or disprove what Lombroso and Richet thought prove what Lombreso and Richet thought that they proved through her. What are scientists for except to detect facts and

interpret their meaning to the rest of us poor mortals? Let us remember it is quite certain that the greatest of all truths are in the be-yond and are unseen, and that the great-est of all scientific achievements is to find out how to cultivate the acreage of intellect and spirit in each of us. It is easier and far less important to grow a signs on a temporary shed across a public highway. An important point in Justice Seabury's decision was to this effect:

"Such signs being outside the building line, it is doubtful if the municipal authorities could lawfully have authorized their erection. The streets are the signs to right to erect the signs being outside the building line, it is doubtful if the municipal authorities could lawfully have authorized their erection. The streets are the signs on a temporary shed across a billionaire than a well-developed soul, and soul growth is something far more worth while. Do not poke fun at it. Diogenes, when told that the people were deriding him, replied, "But I am not derided." And let us never forget that it is one thing to wish to have the truth on our side, and quite another to wieh to be on the side of truth.

Only truth is logical, and it alone can win in the end. L K. FUNK.

THE ELECTION IN BOSTON.

Fallure of the Effort to Eliminate Po litical or Party Considerations. New York World, January 12.

The election in Boston yesterday af-forded little evidence as to the working of the short ballot and little as to the expediency of direct nominations. It an election timed and designed to introduce non-partisanship into the govern-ment of the city, political considerations and political prejudices seem to have availed with a very large pro-portion of the voters.

Each candidate for Mayor was nom inated by petition of 5000 or more voters, yet Hibbard (Republican) got only one-third that number of votes Taylor (Democrat) scarcely an eighth. Either their followers deserted them or else—which is quite as likely — Demo cratic voters in some cases helped nom nate Hibbard to weaken Storrow, and Republican voters helped nominate Taylor to weaken Fitzgerald.

Boston is a Democratic city. Storrow an independent Democrat, but running solely on local, non-partisan issues, got some Democratic votes and practically the whole Republican strength. Fitzgerald, an avowedlly partisan candi-date, wins by a reduced party plurality in the greatest total of votes ever cas

The appeal to non-partisanship thus falled of success. But it falled because the voters preferred Fitzgerald for Mayor. With both Hibbard and Taylor eliminated the result would very prob ably have been the same. Under Mr. Fitzgerald, then, Boston, a

city of 650,000 people, is to make with-in the next four years the first experi-ment in this country on a large scale in city government practically by It will be an experiment worth

> Thirty Years of Sen Life. Boston Dispatch.

It was as a cabin boy on a coasting schooner that Captain John Pritchard, commodore of the Cunarder Mauretania, the world's greatest and fastest liner. began life. He was not much more than 10 when he went to sea and learned to peel potatoes for the master of a little Welsh ship. From a good of a little Weish ship. From a good cook he made himself into a good sea-man, and obtained a mate's certificate when he was 21 years old. Captain Pritchard has been with the Cunard line—which he joined as a junior officer—for 30 years. He has now announced his intention of retiring into private life.

Chicago News The head of the Smithsonian stood at the wireless long-distance telephone. "Hello! Is this Colonel Roosevelt? Well, say, Colonel, if you keep on sending in specimens of extraordingry animals, we will have to enlarge the in-stitute and move Washington." Back came the flash from the jun-Back came the flash from the jungles, "Move Washington."

For even then the huge express vans were delivering an oribi, a bohor, a singing topi and a kob.

Show-fer (accent on first syllable).

Kansas City Journal, The Germans are laying the founda-

GREAT RECORD OF SINGLE YEAR. Review of 1909 From the Angles of Finance and Industry.

Literary Digest. The various reviews of the pust year n the United States reveal many angles from which its events may be sur-Of greatest importance to the general public, perhaps, is the fact that It was a year of financial and industrial recovery. Thus we find such authorities as Bradstreets (New York), The Iron Trade Review (Cleveland), The Manufacturers' Record (Baltimore), The Railway World (Philadelphia), Dun's Review (New York) and The American Banker (New York) emphasizing the speed and thoroughness with which the country has shaken off the lethargy which followed the panic of two years ago. The story of 1992, says The Amer-ican Banker, "demonstrates most clearly the enormous vigor which impels the nation to the front." It is a record of recovery and readjustment, asserts the New York Globe, "which in many respects has no parallel."

spects has no parallel."

The year witnessed the re-employment of much idle capital as well as much idle labor. "Although it will probably not be classed as a boom year," remarks Bradstreet's, "it saw many records of Bradstreet's, "it saw that I said it. The unfortunate thing about it—the one thing that makes me care—is that many bereaved persons, with tender hearts and more or less weak minds, are needlessly distressed and look to wrong sources for comfort.

That telescope picture is a fake. It is puerile nonsense to talk about seeing heaven or a spirit by any physical magnifying glass of whatever power; as well talk about seeing a noise or hearing a color.

Is it a matter of surprise that I should many records of financial and industrial achievements exceeded. The foreign commerce of the United States during 1909, according to the New York Pinannever before reached. The Government balance-sheet also made a much more satisfactory showing at the close of 1909 than it made a year ago. The stream of immigration has resumed its normal flow, and the New Year's esti-mates of the Census Bureau places the country's total continental population at 87,684,000.

The year's new securities, according to the New York Journal of Commerce, amount to \$1,681,620,680, an increase of amount to \$1,681,620,680, an increase of more than \$258,000,080 over 1908. Of the grand total railronds were responsible for \$1,015,207,280. The year's commercial failures, as compiled by Dun's Review, numbered 12,807-3203 less than 1908, and involving more than \$69,000,000 less in liabilities.

The Textile World Record (Boston) reports that the revival of business in 1909 is reflected in the increased number of new textile mills, "which number of the record of the revival of the record of ber 289 for this year, as compared with 222 for 1908." "Every branch of the textile industry, cotton, woolen knit-ting and silk," the same publication adds, "shows an increase." Of the sit-uation in cotton the Manufacturers' Becord tells us. Record tells us:

Record tells us:

There has been depression in the cottongoods trade, but on the other hand, there
has been great prosperity to the cotton-growers, for they have been gettling for this
year's crop a higher price than they have
received in the last 25 years. During the
great boom a few years ago, when cotton
went to even higher figures than have prevalled this Fall, it was tate in the seasonwhen the farmer had but little cotton on
hand. The grower got but little benefit out
of the advance. This time the farmer has
reaped the profit.

Willing of the iron and steel trade.

Writing of the iron and steel trade, which as a basic industry is regarded as the barometer of business in gen-eral. B. S. Stephenson says in the Iron Trade Review:

Iron Trade Review:

How complete has been the recovery is evidenced by the heavy production of October, when corporation piants established 141 new records, including pig Iron, ingots, and other varied lines of finished products, and the output of many independent iron, ore and steel plants was similarly large. Barnings of the corporation, siways an important gage to conditions in the trade, declined during the first quarter only to show enormous increases for the second and third. The industry enters the new year with the expectation that it will have a place among the relatively few years of record activity. the relatively few years of record activity and prosperity, and all indications point that

Another index to the general well-Another index to the general well-being of the country is found in the condition of the railroads, which re-port gross earnings for the last half of 1909 surpassing the receipts for any other six months in railroad history. Says the Railway World (Philadel-phia):

Says the Railway World (Philadelphia):

The gross carnings for this period reached the large sum of \$1,420,994,000. The net earnings however, did not show such a gratifying increase owing to the uniformity and continued high cost of operation and of material. Taxes during the year increased materially, the railroads of the country paying into the treasuries of the states a total of \$92,000,000.

Bailway construction, which in round numbers amounted to 3700 miles, was the smallest in a decade, with the single exception of the preceding year. As apportioned by states, Texas led with over 650 miles; Novada came second, with 300, and California third, with nearly 220.

The actual number of cars supplied the railroads during the year did not greatly exceed 96,000, while the number of locomotives was under 3000. Although these deliveries exceeded those for the preceding year, they were far below those for any other recent year. Orders, however, that have so far been placed for 1910 delivery indicate that the present year should prove one of great activity in the railway supply business, as the cars aiready ordered number nearly 200,000 and the total number of locomotives are nearly 500 in excess of the entire 1969 deliveries.

The year's special favor seems to have been bestowed upon the cars to have been bestowed upon the cars aiready ordered the entire 1969 deliveries.

the entire 1909 deliveries.

The year's special favor seems to have been bestowed upon the farmers and stockraisers. According to the Farmers' and Drovers' Journal (Chicago), 1909 was a year of short production and high price in livestock. The value of livestock handled in the Union Stockyards of Chicago, we are told, amounted to \$316,754,000, a sum more than \$2,000,000 in excess of the 1908 valuation. Yet the actual number more than \$5,000,000 in excess of the 1908 valuation. Yet the actual number of animals received at the stockyards showed a decrease of 1,544,957. Dur-ing the year "the highest average prices on record were established for native beef cattle. Western range cat-

The year's vast grain speculations, according to the Chicago Tribune, indicate that the country is on a homeconsumption basis:

Speculative deals of vast proportions: with gradual changing market conditions, marked the year 1909 as one of the most memorable in the history of the grain trade. Multiplying evidences that in many respects this country is on a home-consumption basis were home out by the course of prices, which averaged high for all commedities, and, in several instances, touched the highest levels reached in a quarter of a century

Three Biographies Worth Reading.

J. F. Rhodes in "Historical Essays."
There occur to me three interesting biographies, the "Life of Darwin," the "Life of Huxley" and the "Life of Pasteur," which give the important part of the story of scientific development during the last half of the Nineteenth Century. Now, I believe that a thorough mastery of these three books will be worth more to the historical student than any driblets of science that he may pick up in an unsystematic col-

Pronunciation of Three Words. ORETOWN, Or., Jan. 21.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly give the proper pronunciation of the words, "massage," "aviator," "chauffeur." R, H. S.

Mah-sahj (soft "j," accent on last syllable), or, rather, mah-sahzh.

A-vee-a-ter (long "a" in both cases, accent on first syllable).

Fair Exchange.

Life. "Do you have social relations with the family?"
"No; purely business — we exchange Christmas presents."