# The Oregonian

Sutered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as iption Rates-Invariably in Advance (BY MAIL.) 

Daffy. Sunday included, one year..... 2.00
Daily. Sunday included, one month...... 75
How to Remit—Send Postoffice money
order, express order or personal check on
your local bank. Stamps, coin or corrency
are at the sender's risk. Give postoffice address in full, including county and state.

Postage Rates—10 to 14 pages, 1 cent; 16
to 28 pages, 2 cents; 30 to 40 pages, 3 cents;
40 to 60 pages, 4 cents. Foreign postage
double rate. Eastern Business Office.—The S. C. Beck-ith Special Agency—New York, rooms 48-9 Tribune building. Chicago, rooms 510-512 ribune building.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, 1910.

DISPOSAL OF THE PUBLIC LANDS. From a recent official report we learn that up to June 30, 1909, a total of 115,124,295 acres of public lands had been entered under the homestead This would make one and onehalf millions of farms of 100 acres each. Under other land laws a large total of lands has been entered in velopment of the country has been immensely promoted by the policy, as well as by the donation of lands in large aggregate totals for educational policy was long opposed by the Democratic party of the country, under the domination of the slave-holding aristocracy; and the free homestead law, though constantly pressed and several times passed by the House of Representatives, was not finally enacted till the second year of the Civil War, when the absence from the Senate of proslavery men from the South and defeat of pro-slavery men in the North enabled the advocates of the homestead bill to carry it through Senate. It became a law in May.

The free homestead law was one of the most beneficent ever enacted. More than all other measures brought about the settlement of the great region known as the Far West. practically superseded the preemption act, by which lands during many years preceding had been sold at low prices. Under this law 25,696,-419 acres had been sold, mostly to actual settlers. To the wide distribution of the public lands under the pre emption and homestead laws may be attributed the rapid redemption of the Great West from the conditions of an uninhabited wilderness; and, to the special donation land law, for the Oregon country, was due the migration of Americans who soon outnumbered the British subjects here.

The policy of making grants of lands for railroads began as far back as 1850. In 1852 grants for railroads were made to Missouri, and in 1852 to Arkansas. In 1856 and 1857 further grants were made, in every case to the states themselves; and the states dealt with the corporations building the railroads. With the beginning of active effort to build rallroads across the ent Congress changed the policy, and thereafter the lands were granted directly to the corporations. The total grants since 1860 for railroads have reached the prodigious total of 158,-125,134 acres; of which up to June 30, 1909, 113,879,674 acres had passed to the rallroads by absolute title from the United States. Very large areas in addition had been granted for wagon roads, most of which merely were marked out, but have been of no use

whatever to the country. This policy now seems to have been all wrongs and it is almost natural to say that the lands granted to the corporations have been wasted. It one of the cases wherein men are wise after the event. Inaccessible lands were regarded as of no use and of lit-lie value. "Give half the lands away and double or quadruple the value of the remainder," was an easy and attractive argument. It was true, too, that large areas on the elevated and arid plains are of little or no value to this day. But there has been a terrible abuse, through the lieu-land system, by which high, rocky and pre-cipitous areas, included in reserves, have been exchanged for the best and most valuable timber and agricultural areas in other and distant localities This has been the worst of the land abuses. It grew out of greed of applicants and out of the stupidity of Congress, which proceeded on the assumption that all areas of public lands had

Another abuse almost equal in magnitude was the policy of allowing persons to make entry of timber lands, or the supposition that they would hold them for their own use and benefit Immense numbers made the entries for no other purpose than to sell the lands for what they could get; and in many, perhaps most instances, men were hired by speculators to make the entries, and as soon as possible the lands were conveyed to themselves, at prices but a fraction of their actual value. Here again the country is wise after the event. Ingenuity has found ways to evade the intent and purpose of most of the land laws. The intent of all of them was beneficent, and the evil consequences of their perversion should have been arrested promptly as soon as seen. But Congress is almost an immovable body, on any matter where the public interest only is concerned, and then perhaps in but a doubtful or abstract way. Our Congress is by nature the most indolent body in the world. What most moves its members is the appeal of those who have private interests to be served. These persons always are in-defatigable, and their influence with the Senators and Representatives from their states always has been very great. Yet this is not to say that the members of Congress were intentionally or consciously aiding the perpetration of fraud. They were anxious to serve constituents and make themselves strong at home.

The awakening has come too late to save the best part of the public lands. But the awakening of the pubconscience in one direction is use ful in all others; and the work of th federal government has had its effect on state and municipal administration. all its branches, throughout the United States.

great many others who take an interest in the weather and in news from the sea ought at least to pass

of the oil tank steamer Asuncion. there are a number of steamers with wireless equipment plying in and out of Portland, but among the fleet the Asuncion is the only one that keeps us thoroughly in touch with weather onditions up and down the Coast eyond the reach of the land-weather stations. Other steamers send occa ional reports, but the Asuncion makes full use of her wireless at all times Last week when shipping was tied up along the river by a thick fog, wirele messages from the Asuncion afforded the only possible means of locating the delayed craft, anchored along the river, as the oil tanker, flying light, picked her way through the fog.

### RECKLESS GIVING.

Dr. D. K. Pearsons' resolution to give away all his property before he dles is not without wisdom. Even those millionaires who do not care to endow colleges might imitate him with advantage. His plan saves the trouble of making a will and forestalls the pos sibility of an expensive contest among uarrelsome heirs. It also evades the inheritance tax, which in some states is rather heavy. Dr. Pearsons has the satisfaction of hearing himself lauded by the presidents of half a hundred grateful colleges, and, if he scatters another batch of gifts next Spring, as he now promises, more praise will ensue. Still there is something to be said on the other side.

Dr. Pearsons will be 90 years old in small bodies by individuals. The de- | the Spring and he probably thinks he will not need any money much longer. Hence he feels safe in giving away all he has. But he may be mistaken. He may live fifteen or twenty years yet, purposes in all the new states. The and, if he alienates his last dollar, he must pass that long stretch of his life in complete dependence on charity That will not be a pleasant experience for one who has been for many years a fountain of charity, but not a recipient. It would come hard to a man of Dr. Pearsons' character to beg his bread, and yet that is the fate to which he exposes himself by recklessly giving away all be has.

### ELECTING A BRITISH PARLIAMENT

In electing a new House of Commons the British voters perform a much more important function than Americans do in choosing the members of the lower house of Congress The British Parliament is both theo retically and practically the supreme authority of the empire. The Congress of the United States has powers which are narrowly limited. Its acts may be vetoed by the President and annulled by the courts. The King of England has an antiquated veto which he dares not use and the British courts must recognize acts of Parliament as the law of the land. In practice the British Empire does not know the veto

The parliamentary elections would be strange to us in some particulars. Candidates for the House of Commons need not reside in the districts they seek to represent. A man defeated by one constituency may often secure election from another. The vote is not all cast on the same day. One district after another elects, thus pro-This enables the land-holders weeks. to vote in several districts. The law gives them a vote wherever they own land. If the elections all came on the same day this privilege might not be worth much, but as things are they have plenty of time to travel about and make it count. Since there are 175,000 of these plural voters they form at important factor in a close election like the one now in progress.

# A NEWSPAPER CONTROVERSY.

We do not think that the San Fran cisco Chronicle is conspicuously suc cessful in defending the newspapers against the strictures of Byron C. Matthews. There is an easy and sufficient defense for them but it seems to have escaped the Chronicle's research. Mr. Matthews, who published his rather severe opinions of the newspapers in a late number of The Inde pendent, grounded them on some sta tistles which seem to be perfectly fair From one of the more respectable New York dailies he gathered all the news items for three months and classified them as "trivial," "unwhole "demoralizing," or "worth while." A very heavy preponderance of the items fell under the first three heads, 60.8 per cent, to be precise Only 39.2 per cent could be accepted as "worth while,"

What surprises us is that a granny ish critic like Mr. Matthews should have found so many items which he could conscientiously stamp "worth If he had found only one in a hundred, we should have smiled with complacent satisfaction had the case been ours, for what is food to one mind is poison to another, and Mr. Matthews' mind seems to be one of those which almost everything nauseates. To have furnished him for three months with an intellectual diet of

which he could digest \$9.2 per cent is a signal triumph of moral journalism In its argument for the defense the Chronicle makes two disastrous blunders. First, it admits that Mr. Matthews' figures "come very near to being a demonstration that the daily press" is an abomination. Second. I falls back on the feeble plea that ever if the papers are purveyors of idle gossip and vile scandal they are n worse than Motley, Gibbon and Grote who did the same thing in their his tories. Neither of these position shows much mastery of defensive tacties. To a sane mind the fact that 39.2 per cent of a newspaper's contents stands above all possible criticism can hardly be evidence of de-pravity. On the contrary, it is conclusive proof of shining integrity. It shows a strong predilection in the office of that newspaper for sapience and virtue. Its reporters must have stringent orders to select untarnished events for their stories and eschew tainted ones, for the actual proportion of wise and uplifting occurrences in the pell-mell of the world falls far below 39.2 per cent.

The truth is that even the mos sordidly sensational newspapers do not depict the world half as bad as it is They are all mendacious, but it is on virtue's side. They misrepresent by suppressing horrors, not by exagger ating them. A paper which printed nothing but accounts of what was profitable, instructive, edifying, would wickedly mislead its readers. If they trusted its account of the world, they would be helpless imbeciles in the truggle of life. Evil would get the setter of them at every turn because they would not know enough to be on their guard. Ignorant good intentions stand but a slim chance in the world. It is not always agreeable to learn the

men, but it is necessary if we expect to understand them. Hence a newspaper which records the events of the world day by day as they actually happen merely fulfills its plain duty to its It is wrong, of course, to make things out worse than they are: but it is no less wrong to make them out better than they are.

A sensible reader does not want to be deceived for his soul's good any more than for his soul's harm. He wants the unvarnished facts so that he can build a course of rational conduct upon them. The trivial, unwholesome and demoralizing items which Mr. Matthews found in his favorite daily were a part—a small part—of the life in which its readers had to mingle. The paper would have dealt more fairly by its patrons if it had not suppressed so much of the dark side and had exaggerated the bright less deceptively. There is no safety for the world in the oncealment of truth.

The plea that newspapers ought to present a false and misleading account of the world "for the sake of the young" has no merit. The young will learn the facts of current life from one source or another. If they do not obtain the knowledge in temperate and judicious form from the papers, they will obtain it distorted and defiled from their companions. To deprive the young of decent sources of information does not make it certain by any means that they will go unin-formed. Why not try to recognize the fact that young people have to live in the real world, not in an imaginary one, and that they will get along better if they know something about it?

### AMERICA CAN BUILD SHIPS.

In competition with 25 shipbuilders of England, France, Italy and Germany, American bullders have cured the contract for two Dreadnoughts for the Argentine Republic the contract price being \$22,000,000. This transaction is a notable one. 1 has a direct bearing on our economi conditions and policies, far and away greater than is shown by the mere distribution among American work men and manufacturers of the sun

The shipbuilding industry is at low ebb throughout the world. General stagnation in freights has left a great surplus of tonnage. Only abnormally low rates quoted by the builders will induce the placing of orders. Under such conditions, nothing but the keen est competition could be expected when such a prize as the building of the two big Dreadnoughts was stake. The contract came to this country because American builders with the cheapest raw material and the most skilled workmen in the world were in a position to underbid foreign

competitors. On the Great Lakes where we are actually compelled to build ships because we do not have the tonnage of the world to draw on for moving our freight, the mammoth carriers are turned out more rapidly and at less ost than anywhere else in the world. Not only that, but the cost per tor per mile of moving freight in these American lake-built craft averages the longing the agony for three or four lowest reported anywhere in the world. A Boston'dispatch in yesterday's Oregonian states that a semi-official estimate of the cost of the two Argentine Dreadnoughts places the amount that will be paid for labor at 90 per cent of the total cost of the ships.

In securing this contract in the face of such conditions, the American builders have dealt the sacred idol of protection the most staggering blow it has yet received. If American labor with its superior skill can wrest from the cheap labor of Europe a \$22,000,-000 contract in which 90 per cent of he total goes to labor, what become of that absurd theory that our infant industries and overgrown trusts must have an outrageously high tariff solely for the protection of American labor? It is particularly unfortunate for that hungry band of ship subsidy pirates, that a plain ordinary business fact should throw such a bright light through their transparent theory just at this time when unusual effort is being put forth to force the subsid bill through Congress in the interest

of American labor. Here is a plain question which th ubsidy seekers must answer: If American builders can secure contracts for building warships for which the whole world is competing, and in which 90 per cent of the cost is for labor, can any logical reason be advanced for their inability to build on equally advantageous terms vessels for the merchant marine?

# THE SLUMP IN STOCKS.

Union Pacific sold down below \$183 share yesterday. It may strange to mention any stock that is still selling \$83 a share above par as selling "down," but yesterday's quotation represented a decline of more than \$30 a share from the high point reached last September. A similar decline was noted throughout the stock list, Union Pacific being specially mentioned because it is one of the best railroad securities in the market and is thoroughly representative of the higher class of railroad stocks. As the stock market almost from its inception has been regarded as a very accurate business barometer, it pears paradoxical to find it suffering weakness in a period of widespread prosperity. And yet that is exactly what is happening, and the reason for it lies in the inability or failure the big Wall-street operators to take heed of the great underlying causes which produce values in stocks as well as all other commodities that are bought and sold.

When that wave of depression and disaster swept over the country in 1907, there was an enormous shrinkage in stock values, and gilt-edge securities were a drug on the market at prices far below their intrinsic Stock gamblers, thoroughly frightened. neglected these securities, and the upward movement was started by con servative investors who bought the stocks outright with a view to holding them. This class of buying, not only in this country but in Europe, soon started prices on the up grade, the speculators trailed in. Within a short time we were again in the threes of a wild speculative orgy. vances of \$50 a share in railroad stocks and even more in some of the 'industrials, like Steel common, were

not unusual. Then the conservative element, which had rescued the market from the scrap heap and the bargain counter, again displayed its conservatism this time in a different manner. Ar advance of \$50 a share even on a securlty that had been purchased for an investment was too attractive to lose a vote of thanks for Captain Bridgett | wickedness and cruelty of our fellow- | The process of unloading began. It | ation.

has continued for several months on both sides of the ocean. Europe, owing large sums of money to Egypt for and to Russia and America for grain, stock, etc., shipped back our high-priced securities with a request that they be converted into gold, and the gold shipped away to the countries to which she was in-debted. This forced the high financlers who were responsible for the rise to abnormal levels to send out of the country gold which was actually needed at home, and at the same time spend more millions in an effort to maintain prices at the artificial level to which they had been forced. The was too great, especially when the small investor and speculator who in the past could be depended on to play the part of the lamb refused to come in, said lamb needing all of his funds to meet the increased cost

of living. This country is producing and creating new wealth so rapidly that there is but small prospect of an immediate repetition of the slump of 1907, but there is evidence that some of the Wall-street manipulators have "overplayed their hands," and pending a readjustment of prices on a somewhat lower level, pessimism will be more pronounced than the natural conditions really justify.

"The commerce of our country is likely to suffer severely if Germany's present attitude is maintained," said President Frank J. La Lanne, of the National Board of Trade now in convention at Washington. Surely there must be some mistake about this. Have we not received it straight from the most eminent stand-patters in the country that we are big enough and strong enough and independent enough to get along without asking any favors of the rest of the world? sible that we have built a trade-proof fence around our country, and declared that we would do as we pleased regardless of what Germany and other countries might see fit to do, only to find that there are vulnerable points at which we are liable to receive some severe wounds? We must reprove Germany for her actions, and if she declines to buy our surplus products, we will eat them ourselves, or else keep them to look at. The protective tariff policy is receiving some rude jolts just at this time and is slated for others.

The Portland Commercial Club has closed another successful year-the most successful from the standpoint of results in its history. During that period it had the good fortune to be under the direction of Dr. J. R. Wetherbee, who as president gave the club a singularly energetic and efficient administration. The club has increased in membership, despite a marked advance in monthly dues, has greatly decreased its indebtedness and otherwise improved its financial situation, has enlarged the scope of its activities and has altogether become an indispensable factor in the onward progress of Portland and Oregon. A large share of the credit for this remarkable record is due to Dr. Wetherbee, The new president, Mr. H. Beckwith, is a well-known business man of experience in large affairs, and it is not to be doubted that under him the Commercial Club will prosper exceedingly and take even a greater part in the promotion of the general welfare.

It is probable the Lords will yield on the budget, but will not yield on the proposal to grant a local legislature to Ireland. . This last question then would go to the people again. A local legislature for Ireland can hardly be "tacked" on a finance bill. And perhaps the Irish party will insist on rule bil first-before they will vote for the budget. This, with the Lords standing out against the Irish programme, would create a deadlock, and the whole subject would have to go to the electorate again. state of parties in the United Kingdom creates a tangle that the most astute politician cannot see a way to un-

Food buyers want too much, along with the food they purchase. That's one reason prices are high. They demand that shop-keepers have stores in high-rent districts and that they keep up delivery wagons and horses and delivery boys. They wish the stores brightly lighted and supplied with abundant clerks. Moreover, they think they are entitled to long credit. All this applies to the grocery stores and the meatshops. There ought to be a field for shopmen who will sell for cash directly to buyers across the counter, since this kind of tradesmencan make a living profit at lower

The fake cripple who has been soliciting alms with one arm bound close to his body, to give out the impression that he had lost it, has sentenced to 15 days on the rockpile. In order to make the punishment fit the crime, he should be com pelled to break rock with one of his arms pinioned in the same manner as he carried it while begging.

Attorney Citron talked for five hours in opposition to the Broadway bridge. That's about the amount of time the average East-sider loses if he attempts to make two round trips a day across the river with the present facilities.

Hugh Cannon, who wrote "Goo-goo Eyes" and other songs, says whisky has sent him to the poorhouse and ruined his life. That will happen to anybody who ruins a fluid that minds its own business when let alone.

Walla Walla would solve the meat problem by eating chicken. But all cannot stay out so late and many have a fear of bulldogs, traps and shotguns. The Irish members of Commons will

hold the balance of power. That will be better even than if the members The meat trust, like the undertaker,

can smile at a boycott against high prices. Either of them can wait. Millionaire Pearsons says he will die penniless. Only Andrew Carnegie

Any investigation of increased cos of living should include show tickets

ranging from 5 cents to \$3. If many reports of loss of cattle and sheep be true, the "eat-no-meat'

may doubt that he means it.

pact will be a necessity.

Comets, like some other things, greatly stimulate the ocular imagin-

ERA OF SUPREME HYPOCRISY. The Day of Blatant Irresponsibility a Washington. Washington Telegram to Chicago Tri-

President Taft has thrown aside the role of politician which has been so dis tasteful to him, and hereafter will devote himself exclusively to the perform ance of the duties devolving upon him as chief executive. The executive has made this clear to

bune.

men with whom he has talked during the last week. All he can do, he said, is to do the best he can to make the Government as good as he can, to secure as much legislation as he can in the right direction, and, in doing so, to use those instruments which are indispen suble to the passage of laws.

The truth is, the President has said, the country is passing through a period of supreme hypocrisy, in which the men who make the loudest protestations of hatred of monopoly, political corruption and bossism have the great advantage The only person who is at a disadvantage is the one upon whom falls the necessity for affirmative action and the enactment of beneficial legislation.

Those who are responsible and who are unable to formulate an ideal, and then make mouths before the public in favor of it, while blaming others for not coming up to that ideal in practice, have an advantage.

The President presumes this frequently has been so in politics, and that his fate

is no different from that of others. What Mr. Taft is laboring to do is t do something, and the idea that he is to stoop to make an enemy of Cannon, and make an enemy of Aldrich, and make enemies of those who in the present Congress have power to bring about the reforms he is advocating, does not strike him with favor. He can afford to get along with one term, which he does not expect to add to, if he can point to things done and not to a record of only hypocritical demagogue.

The difficulty of being President, he has said in commenting thereon, is that the public asks and expects him to do some thing which he cannot do unless he has the hearty support of the Republican party in Congress. The general feeling, which his correspondents seek to interpret, is that he enact laws without any party. The absurdity of this proposition will

be ultimately understood by the people, perhaps not until the Republican party has been defeated two or three times. Then the real meaning of the mouthings of the demagogues who are now talking of what they call Cannonism and Aldrichism will be shown.

It is possible the commotion which has been created by such persons may lead to party defeat; but, as stated, President is determined to do the best he can in making the Government effective in its enforcement of the laws and better for the reforms which he hopes to obtain.

The trouble with the correspondents, in the view of the President, is that they are on the outside and do not take into consideration the troubles they would have if they had to do something they were charged to do and were to look about to see if they could do it and how they could do it. In other words, if they were to get

down to brass tacks and see how things were to be accomplished they might pull back their half pleasant method of demanding everything and, putting aside the clamor that prevails over political conditions, find problems that would reconcile them more or less to such con-

The President resents the idea that he is being used by Senator Aldrich or anybody else. In the case of Mr. Aldric what he has been told by that lawmaker always has turned out to be true. The Rhode Islander never has misled him. He has said what Congress could do. and he has worked energetically to bring

The President differs with the Senator on the question of the tariff, he being a low tariff advocate, while Aldrich represents the high tariff theory.

With respect to the condition in the House, the President has nothing to do. He is not concerning himself over the fight on the Speakr or with the change in the rules, although undoubtedly he sympathizes with those who want the rules changed. He realizes the party in the House is disintegrating and he is anxious only to maintain sufficient discipline to insure the passage of the legis lation he desires.

In this connection it is asserted tonight that Senator Aldrich has assured President Taft the Senate will pass his con servation bills and a bill establishing a postal savings bank system.

Believing as he does in Mr. Aldrich the President is confident this legislation will get through the Senate at an early His problem then will be to have the House take favorable action

By dealing both with Republicans and insurgents he is hopeful that the party in the House will stand by him, and that when Congress adjourns he will be able to show the country that he has obtained all the legislative results for which he reasonably could hope.

### Wise Bird, This Woodpecker. Cleveland Leader. In California the woodpecker stores

In California the woodpecker stores acorns away, although he never eats them. He bores several holes, differing slightly in size, at the Fall of the year, invariably in a pine tree. Then he finds an acorn, which he adjusts to one of the holes prepared for its reception.

But he does not eat the acorn, for, as a rule, he is not a vegetarian. His object in storing away the acorns exhibits foresight and a knowledge of hibits foresight and a knowledge of results more akin to reason than to instinct. The succeeding Winter the accorns remain intact, but, becoming saturated, are predisposed to decay, when they are attacked by maggots, which seem to delight in this special which seem to delight in this special

It is then that the woodpecker reaps the harvest his wisdom has provided, at a time when, the ground being covered with snow, he would experience difficulty otherwise in obtaining sultable or palatable food.

# Two Ronds to Henven.

London Telegraph.
"Many a man," we find a speaker sayg, "has got to heaven because his wife was a good cook." And no doubt the men in the audience thoughtlessly applauded. But let us not forget the case of those who have gone to heaven from exactly the opposite cause. These grave matters have to be considered from all points of view. from all points of view.

### Wasting Energy. Philadelphia Inquirer.

A Cornell professor says that any one can hypnotize himself. What's the use when there are any number of corporations that stand ready at any moment to do the job for us?

Ben Jonson's Tribute to the Transcend

ent Talents of His Brother Dramatist. John Munro has this to say in "The spere Allusion Book":

Ben Jonson stands alone. He is the founder of Shakespearlan criticism. As the friend of Shakespeare, one who talked and laughed with him, as the most solid, most learned, and the strongest of the Elizabethan playweights, his utterances concerning his superior in drama decorrections. superior in drama deserve our pro-foundest respect. Ben was too honest —perhaps I may be forgiven if I say too arrogant also—to give unstinted praise to the man he says he loved; but when we consider what he dis-praised we shall see that it does not subtract from the honor of Shake-speare; and when we consider what he praised we shall see it adds to the honor of Jonson. He was a man of different caliber from Shakespeare; he loved learning in a way that Shake-speare did not; but as he loved learning more, he knew men less. More learned as he certainly was, he respected classical precedent and symmetry in a way that Shakespeare could not; and there where he thought his strength lay, to us lies his inferiority; for the free and happy genius of Shakespeare, which to him "wanted art," carried drama to a height where all his art could not reach it.

his art could not reach it.

The art of Shakespeare, like the art of all great geniuses, seldom shows evidences of effort or difficulty; it is direct and spontaneous. His characters win us always with their human appeal, and pu'se with the warm blood of life. And the whole of his work is imbued with the happiness and pathos which come of keen sympathy with the joys and woes of others; is full of pity and tenderness. Considering the work and ideals of Jonson, therefore, and the work and position of Shakespeare, we see that the criticism that we have is only such as we should expect; only such as we should expect; and this, at all events, is certain, that Shakespeare's works are not so remark-able for the absence of that quality which Jonson called "art," as Jonson's are conspicuous for the excess of it. Where Jonson was original—and be it

said to his everiasting honor—was in his praise of the great dead poet. And his praise of Shakespeare, the man, is all the more valuable when we remember how difficult Jonson was to get on with; how arrogant and quarrelsome to was; how he was received gracious ly by the King; afterward thrown into prison; afterward was made poet prison; afterward was made poet laureate; how he was masquemaker with Index Jones with Inigo Jones, with whom he quar-reled so; was finally expelled from court and subjected to many misfortunes, but to the last he was invested by the younger men with an authority that must have greatly gratified him. Ben Jonson's lines in the Folio are the first adequate recognition of Shake-speare's greatness, and though, like all his praise, they are rather magisterial, they seem to be based on a proper comprehension of those particular ers which made Shakespeare's im-

### DEVELOPMENT OF CHESS. In Its Present Form It Is a Modern Game.

Strand Magazine. Chess is but a game, a pastime, a re-laxation; but it has at times absorbed laxation; but it has at times absorbed the faculties of the intellectual in every clime. It numbers among its amateurs the greatest names of battle-fields and thrones; it tells of warriors, poets, painters, sculptors, statesmen and divines; it possesses a literature and language of its own; it makes enemies friends and finds a temple on the mies friends, and finds a temple on the ocean, in the fortress and by the peace-ful fireside. Perhaps the greatest eulogy on the game was the remark of Sir Walter Raleigh: "I do not wish to live longer than I can play chess." It is certain that those who do not play the game are quite unable to form any conception of the high intellectual delights experienced by the chess en-The origin of chess has been sough

in vain. The fact is, the game has so changed, developed and improved down the course of centuries that in its present form it would not be recog-nized by its inventor-if there ever was one. The oldest chess problem on record is thought to be that contained in an accient Persian manuscript, attributed to Callph Kallfen Mutasin Billah, who reigned in Bagdad, A. D. 833 to 842. But the reader would have to learn the old rules before it was in-telligible. For example, the queen could make a move of only one square at a time, and that on a diagonal; but a queen promoted from a pawn was allowed to make a move of two squares diagonally. The bishop had no power over any square except the third from which it stood on its own diagonal line but it was allowed to vault over any space that happened to be between. In short it was a totally different game. Chess in the precise form in which we know it and play it today is a comparatively modern game.

# Only a Painted Devil,

New York Sun. Why then make such a pother about Cannon and his irredeemable wickedness? Simply because—and this is the meat and marrow of insurgency—a number of gentlemen from districts once full of Populism and still smitten with Rooseveltism tremble for their fences. By using poor old Uncle Josephus as a bugaboo they hope to make their nomination and election sure. Cannon is but a painted devil. The majority of the insurgents are simply fighting to save their bacon, fighting because they don't dare to fight Taft and run the chance of losing their postmasterships.

# Foolish Food Boycotts.

Springfield Republican.
Boycotts against the high food prices
are becoming quite the fashion of the
moment. Several Ohio cities report large groupings of citizens in pledge to stop eating meat, or to boycott the butcher shops, and some people are trying to organize similar movements on a National scale. This is all quite foolish. If each family cannot of its own motion be brought to live within its means by such economies as will overcome the high prices, what is likely to come of these group efforts? They

BUXTON. Or., Jan. 24.—(To the Editor.)—How much does the United States spend a year upon all the Indians of the country?

In 1908 the expenditures were \$14,-50,758. The average for the past 20 years was about \$12,500,000.

### Nothing on Bryan. Denver Republican.

Norman E. Mack says his Democratic magazine is a success. But it doesn't seem to have built as many fine residences de luxe and barns as the Com Two American Birds.

# Chicago News

The hen is a meek and lowly bird out she has done more for this country than the eagle ever will do,

America's Tender Spot. Washington Post.

The wound made by the 1907 panic has healed, but it won't do to swat the scar too hard.

# Why Hesitate?

Louisville Courier-Journal.

The New York Press says that it's "Cannon or Chaos." All right. Why hesitate?

SHAKESPEARE WAS SHAKESPEARE WHO SHALL MANIFEST THE TRUTH! Christian Scientist Defines Ideal Fol-

lowers of the Nazarene.

PORTLAND, Jan. 25.—(To the Editor.)—The brief extracts referring to Christian Science in The Oregonian today quoted from Dr. Rader's paper on 'Modern Substitutes for the Religion of Jesus Christ,' before the whitetrial of Jesus Christ," before the ministerial conference yesterday, indicate the ex-tent that one may go in drawing con-clusions from a doubtful understanding

of any teaching. To characterize any teachings as a substitute for the religion of Jesus Christ is serious business. Were one able accurately to determine that any would be declared by Jesus Christ to be exactly what he would have it, in case he were on earth, they would then be able to say, after understanding thoroughly various teachings and methods of salvation differing therefrom, wherein they were wrong. I do not know of any individual on earth today who possesses the degree of knowledge calculated to enable him to do this or who with reason may so claim. All anyone can do in the way of profession, is to endeavor from a deep desire to know and manifest the truth; to gain through spiritual understanding such a knowledge of God as will afford them a basis for a satisfied existence the purpose of which is to manifest God as the Nazarene did, Anyone able to do this would be a follower of Jesus Christ and believer the method of salvation he taught and

As to what Mrs. Eddy has given to the world, and which is responsible in numberles instances for the healing of sin and disease, and an increase in the hope of complete salvation, she says on page 9 of the preface of Science and Health: "Today, though rejoicing in some progress, she still finds herself a willing disciple at the heavenly gate, waiting for the mind of Christ."

On the question of the reality or un-reality of sin, the confusion of the gon-tieman is due to failure to recognize the standpoint taken by Christian Science. It may be suggested that any evidence of sin of any kind indicates a lack of obedience to God who is good and whose design could never be anything other than good-since cre-ation is for the purpose of manifesting him-it may properly appear that the motive for sinning does not emanate from the mind that is God and is thereby not deserving of the recognition as real that right ideas are; in other words, ideas expressive of the nature of God, life, truth and love. From this standpoint, the attitude of the indi-vidual toward sin is to recognize its claims of bringing him any good or as being in accord with law, as false, untrue, and so unreal.

# HOWARD C. VAN METER, Committee on Publication for Orego

Garfield Pinchoted. Columbus Letter to Cincinnati Com-

mercial Tribune. James R. Garfield's defense of Gif-ford Pinchot and his declaration that Pinchot was one of the strongest sup-porters of the Roosevelt policies is taken generally as a criticism of Pres-ident Taft and serves to eliminate him as a possibility in the securing of the Presidential Indorsement for Governor Perhaps Mr. Garfield is not looking for President Tatt's indorsement and may want to run on his own account withwant to run on his own account. Out regard to whether the President wants him to run. At all events, his numerous printed interviews upholding Pinchot, in the face of President Taft's disapproval of Pinchot's course, have not popularized him among the President's friends in Ohio. Many be-President's friends in Ohio. Many be-leve Mr. Garfield has given up all idea of being a candidate and feels free to speak his mind without fear of the

### result. Dr. Bell's New Word "Drome."

Chicago Post. There is much to commend Professor Alexander Graham Bell's advocacy of the word "drome" as the verb to signify flight in an airship. It is not bad, too, as the noun meaning the ship itself. But it has an unpleasant tings of barbaric abbreviation—it sounds ton much like phone. Also, however Professor Bell's Canadian friends may use it, it has on this side of the line a static, rather than a dynamic sug-gestion. To us an aerodrome is a race course devoted to aerial contests, just as a hippodrome is a course for as a hippodrome is a course for horses. The international Aeronautical Federation is to discuss the phrase-ology of flight in Paris this month. Professor Bell ought to take his new for a starter, rememword over there for a starter, remem-bering all the while that usage, not scientific approval, must finally determine its fate.

# Airship Trips at the Passion Play.

Baltimore News.

One of the interesting features connected with the Passion Play, which will be held at Oberammergau. Germany, will be the proposed airship passenger line which is to run between Munich and Oberammergau from May 1 to October 1. When weather is fa-vorable it is proposed to make two trips daily between the two cities. The which is will take to figured an being about three hours.

# Euphemized Advice.

Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph. President Taft's advice that the factions in Congress cultivate harmoni-ous relations should be fully as ef-fective as the famous admonition to Kansas to "raise more corn and less hell."

# The Decision Stands.

Boston Globe. No protest having been made by Col-onel Henry Watterson, President Taft's decision that whisky is whisky may be allowed to stand.

# What! In Utah?

Salt Lake City Descret News.

The operation for divorce is becoming even more common than the operation for appendicitis.

### Cyclone in the Mint Bed Cleveland Plain Dealer The Washington Post has said, "Oh, fudge!" to Col. Watterson. Watch out.

BOHEMIA. The following poem was written by John Boyle O'Reilly, the Irish patriot, and was published in an edition of his poems. The book is not at present in

print: Oh, I long for the glow of a Rindly heart and the clasp of a friendly hand! And I'd rather live in Bohemia Than in any other land!

There are no titles inherited there: No hoard nor hope for the brainless heir; No gilded dullard, nobly horn. To stare at his fellow with leaden scorn.

Bohemia has none but adopted sons; Its limits—where Fancy's bright stream runs— Its honors—not garnered for thrift or trade. But for Beauty and Truth men's souls have

To the empty heart in a jeweled breast There is value, maybe, in a purchased crest; But the thirsty of soul soon learned to know The moistureless froth of the social flow; The yulgar sham of the pumpous feast When the heaviest purse is the highest

The organized charity, scrimped and iced In the name of a cautious, statistical Christ; The smile restrained, the respectable cant—Where a friend in need is a friend in want! Where the only aim is to keep affoat And a brother might drown, with a cry in his throat!

Oh, I long for the glow of a kindly heart And the clasp of a friendly hand. And I'd rather live in Bohemia. Than in any other land!