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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1910.

EXTRAVAGANCE AND HIGH PRICES. We are burning the candle at both ids. We are indifferent or slack in the work of production; but, as to extravagance of consumption, there is no limit. From this condition prices high and going higher. What else

could be expected? We are to come down to a lower plane of living in this country—shocking as it may be to say it. It will en-force itself. Extravagant living on the one hand, and disinclination to work in the steady industries of production, on the other, will "fetch? us. What does it mean that consumption increases at a more rapid rate (by comparison) than production? High prices certainly. What else?
This country of ours is using its

credit and discounting its future, to excess. It has gone mad. Natural consequence is that every class and and industry are trying to get advantage over others. Higher wages, of course, with higher prices of commodities; and vice versa. And extravagance of living on all sides, more and more. On either side and all sides the effort but adds fuel to the flame. What, then, is the remedy? One remedy only. Cut off luxury, out out extravagance, work harder, and live on It is an economic reform that surely will enforce itself, anyhow .whether liked or not. They who work industriously, who take care of their resources and keep out of debt, will have no reason to fear the catastrophe. But only these.

What are our people doing? Pushing into every sort of extravagance and paying little attention to productive industry. Even high prices of the products of labor do not tempt them—except as to the few, who pos-sess forecast. Foreign exchange is running heavily against us. Exports 1907 fell nearly \$400,000,000 short of meeting our requirements. No less than six hundred million dollars was needed last year to pay our balance due to foreign nations. "Money spent by tourists abroad," says the New York World, "the dowrles of American wives of noblemen, remittances home by immigrants, the interest and dividends on our foreign-owned securities, must all be paid in an excess and automobiles and furs and lewels grows rapidly, exports must also grow or we fall behind. A princely hus-band in Paris costs so many million pounds of mess pork. A dog-collar of pearls imported calls for a cargo of cotton in return." And yet "we have grave warnings from economists that the food with which heretofore our lavish bills were met will soon be needed at home; that cotton, our great exchange crop, is menaced by corners which provoke foreign spinners to House, seek colonial cotton fields. But neither people nor governments take heed.

What does all this mean but that we shall be compelled to work harder. at least with more circu judgment, and drop to a less extravagant scale of living? The wise are hose who will husband their resources reginst that evil day,

Since so few take any kind of interest in private economy, what is to be expected in public business? What is wanted, in governmental affairs, is to be had, without thought of cost. Sell bonds. Never mind pay day. This mode of extravagance also is one of the sources of the high cost of living It is part of the general extravagance and ministers to it. Some time there will be a check of all this; then a col-Let nobody mistake it.

But, except through necessity, it is not probable there will be any return rational principles, in life and ac The wise, therefore, will look for the approach of the necessity, and be prepared for it. The double sin of much indolence and too much extravagance will take its toll with vengeance, when the time comes.

THE BIGGEST CITY.

The Emperor William's ambition to of inhabitants is perfectly natural but not necessarily wise. There is an attractiveness in big things which is sometimes out of proportion to their The largest horses are desirable for one who has heavy trucks to tures of the earlier geological ages were not able to hold their own in been compelled to yield the dominion of the earth to animals built on a scale much smaller. Man himself is of tetanus. Of course the giant not a very big animal, but he has shown himself to be wonderfully efficient. Perhaps it will turn out in the long run that the best city is the one where life is most efficient, and that may not be the largest one by any means. The cities of Greece, where upon the whole human beings were more intelligent and happy than they have ever been since, were not very Athens had not many mor people than Portland, but it managed to accomplish things which the world has not been willing to forget. How many people must we have here be-

.nons? very ardently at present to increase the size of cities. Their ambition is rather to attract people to the coun-One reason for the rising cost of dustries by which food is produced for an ordinance in every city in the the world. The concentration of mankind in cities must lead to the devel- with the gory celebrations which have

opment of new difficulties in govern-ment and new hardships for the majerity. The larger the town the harder to keep it clean and wholesome, the greater the chance for waste in taxagreater the chance for waste in taxa-tion, the more overwhelming the power of organized vice. Perhaps long before the Kaiser has gathered his ten million inhabitants at Berlin he will see cause to revise his ambition and begin to disperse them.

PATRIOT FEAR UNFOUNDED.

If political assemblies are planned by bosses in Oregon only to ride over the people, what grander vindication could there be of the direct primary law than the opportunity that law afdown the would-be mighty?

Democrats and sore Republicans hould not grieve over the possibility of boss-ridden conventions, but rather rejoice in their alleged expectations, because then the righteous will surely be exalted and the reprobate cast into outer darkness

Any unpopular nomination of a con vention or any boss-engineered ticket will go down before the wrathful hosts in the primaries. And it is right that this should be. The law was enacted for this very purpose. No convention scheme can override it. The drumbeat call of popular revolt will sound

Machine politicians are the ones to fear bad conventions. Democrats and their sore Republican allies are the ones to fear good conventions. good conventions will name fit and popular nominees, so that the anxiety of the latter bunch of patriots will not

be the people's.
The point of which is that conventions or assemblies cannot undo the primaries, but the primaries can upset the conventions.

CORPORATION TAX RETURNS.

It is believed by many that the Republican party will lose many votes throughout the country because of the corporation tax. The Financial Chronicle (New York) prints this statement:

We come that if the truth were known this carporation tax provision would be found to have been more potent in compassing the defeat of the Republican candidate than any other single cause. The Four-teenth Massachusetts Congressional District is a great bechive—an industrial region where, necessarily, the private corporation flourishes. The shareholders in these numerous corporations have special reasons for feeling dissatisfied with the policy of the dominant party. Nat only has the Federal Government undertaken to levy a tax on their incomes, but to commet a disclosure of many details of their affairs by acquiring an annual report which will be spread upon the public records (unless the law shall be charged) and be open to inspection by all. icle (New York) prints this statement

The New York Times presents this

further comment:

If the opinion of The Chronicle is correct, and there is an inherent probability that the corporation tax would be about as unpopular in that region of innumerable mills and factorios as anywhere in the country, then the Republicans may as well give up all hope of rotaining their majority in the next House. The corporation tax is not merely unpopular, it is instead universally, despited, and abhorred as a dishousest measure, and as a dangerous one. Among business men there is no difference of unition as to the infiguitous nature of a statute that compole private corporations to give up their financial statements to be posted as public records, it would be natural that the accumulated resentment of the country against the corporation tax should be visited upon the party responsible for its enactment. further comment:

But the obnoxious feature of the which threatens every one of the four hundred thousand private cor-porations with having its business of exports over imports. When the made known to every curious inquirer purchase of foreign silks and wines and every competitor—will be removed if an amendment that has adopted by the Senate should be added to the law. It was first proposed to require the returns to be kept from observation except on direct order from the President; but this has been amended further, to provide that, instead of an executive order, a resolution of the Senate or House shall be required for the disclosure. But we are not aware that this Senate amend. ment has yet been adopted by the

A SAFE AND SANE POURTH.

The National movement for a safe is becoming so powerful that we ought to see some effects from it this year. The abolishment of noise, rowlvism and slaughter on the great hall lay of the republic can only be accomplished by an awakened public opin The mere enactment of laws will not do much good unless they backed by a common agreement that they ought to be rigorously enforced. Thus far statutes against the Fourth of July horror have rested as dead let ers on the books in most cases, but there are indications that a better state of things is approaching. Mrs. Isaac L. Rice has collected in the March forum a large number of letters from the Governors of states, Chiefs of Poand other persons of light and leading who express themselves without reservation against the continuance of the Fourth of July nuisances reached the point where it will put ur which makes our National holiday an ccasion of distress to everybody but a few hoodlums and careless boys.

The tendency seems to be to demand the restriction of the use of fireworks to persons who can prove to the authorities that they understand how to use them without danger to others The firecracker in the fingers of the small boy is a peril to himself and to all who happen to come near him. He draw, but for the carriage and the flings it about regardless of eyes, clothsaddle they must give way to the ing or inflammable material, and looks lighter animal. The huge living creatupon whatever injury it may cause as upon whatever injury it may cause as part of the celebration. Big firecrackers and little ones are almost equally the struggle for existence. They have dangerous in this respect. Any firecracker is capable of making a wound which may be infected with the germs crackers sometimes inflict mortal in-Jury on those who are amusing them-selves by exploding them, but most of the Fourth of July mortality arises from tetanus which often infects comparatively slight wounds. Mrs. Rice quotes an ordinance introduced last Winter by a New York Alderman which covers the ground of Fourth of July dangers better than anything else

that has yet appeared This ordinance makes it unlawful to set off any fireworks, torpedoes or noisy contrivances whatever without The license can only be issued for one iay and to persons above the age of Thoughtful statesmen do not labor | 21 years, who must pay a license fee of \$5 and prove that they are familia: with "the nature and operation of fire works." Best of all, the licensee must give a bond for \$5000, with sufficient living is the desertion of the rural sureties, to make good any loss that districts, and the neglect of rural in-

become a National disgrace and clear the way for something more civilized There is no reason in the world why the National holiday should not be made a time of innocent enjoyment and intellectual profit if we can once get rid of the absurd nuisances which have taken possession of it

PORTLAND'S GREATEST YEAR. Bullding permits, bank clearings postoffice receipts and real estate transfers for the month of March all show that the record-breaking pace with which 1910 was ushered in is still being maintained and even im-proved on. The increase noted in all

of these infallible trade barometers so evenly distributed through the different items that it shows quite plainly that such record-breaking figures have been reached without unnatural forcing. Over-speculation of artificial booming not infrequently results in great expansion in real estate sales, without corresponding increase in other branches of business. one, however, buys postage stamps for speculation, and there is very little home building for such purposes. both building permits and postoffice receipts, Portland has shown tre mendous growth since last year. Naturally this prosperity, in evidence on hand, is reflected in recordevery breaking bank clearings, there being a gain of \$10,000,000 over March,

1909 There might be some cause for misgiving lest this remarkable stride lessened were it not for the fact that the same satisfactory influences are working on an even greater scale throughout the state and through all the country tributary to this city. Real estate transfers of more than \$4,000,000 present imposing proportions, especially as they break all ex-isting records for the month; but during the month two timber transactions were completed on the lower Columbia in which the consideration was more than \$5,000,000. Smaller sales of timber land, farm land and orchards for the month in the aggregate brought into the country many times the amount represented by the Portland real estate figures. It is of course on these outside sales and the steadly increasing stream of money that pours in from the farms, orch-ards, dairies and lumber mills in the vast region tributary to Portland that this city is dependent for its prosperity. So long as there are no signs of slackening beyond the city limits there

FRUIT FROM ROSEBUSHES.

will be no pause in Portland.

The story that a Berkeley man has made a rosebush produce edible fruit is not necessarily incredible. Most of our fruit trees belong to the rose fam-lly, the Rosaceae. The rosebush itself bears a sort of berry which is not un-kindly in savor and might be eaten if one were seriously hungry. By careful selection, no doubt the rind could be thickened and the seeds diminished until we should have a new fruit and possibly a delicious one. The food reources of the world have not yet been fully exploited by any means.

As the pressure of population be-comes harder and ingenuity is driven to its task by necessity we may expect a great many new roots and berries to improved and added to our com Naturally we shall anticipate more from the rose than from other families because it has already done so much for us. Experiments with plant families which have yielded good results in the past ought to be more profitable than those which Luther Burbank has undertaken with the cactus, for example, which seems to be a forbidding species. It is armed at all points against human intervention, and yet patience may do wonders with it.

It would be a rash man who should attempt to say what could or could not be done in the way of evolving new edible fruits and grains. Nor is it wise to lay down the law about tude. the sources from which new food supplies may be expected. Nature is full of surprises and science is constantly gaining new power over her hidden treasures. For some time to come however, the most profitable labors of American scientists must lie in the direction of making the plants we already cultivate more productive. As long as we obtain only twelve bushels wheat to the acre we should strive not so much to invent new food plants to learn how to cultivate those we have possessed for ages. .

CANADIAN TARIFF AGREEMENT.

The United States appears to have made a very good bargain with Can-ada in the new tariff agreement. We have apparently granted the minimum of favors to our northern neighbor, and in exchange therefor have rethe maximum of concessions from the Canadians. According to Washington dispatches announcing the terms of the agreement all ar icles under the omnibus clause in the Canadian tariff will now pay but 171/2 per cent ad valorem instead of 20 per cent as heretofore, and there have been liberal reductions on a number of other articles of which Canada is a liberal importer from this country. In stating that the new tariff satisfactory, it is, of course, mean that it seems satisfactory to the slightly thinning ranks of the ultra-protectionists.

It is still open to question whether or not the great army of consumers would not derive greater benefits the complete removal of the tariff barrier between the two countries. The fact that the somewhat protracted struggle over this tariff bill at times approached the danger mark where negotiations might cease and a trade war begin, makes it all the more gratifying to learn that the Canadians are willing to meet the demands of our protectionists at a point much neares than half way. For the calendar year 1909, our exports to Canada showed a valuation of \$188,000,000, and in the same period we imported from Canada to the extent of \$88,500,000. Canada and the United States are so close to gether that the cost of transportation s very light and there is every reason why there should be the freest possible interchange of both raw manufactured products between the two countries

Eventually a better understanding of the evils of over-protection by means of high tariffs will result in a tariff reform that will settle for al these trade-hampering restric tions such as have recently menaced the relations between this country and Canada. American emigration to Canada will also help to baing about the welcome change, and some day we will be permitted to trade with our blood brethren along the northern boundary with no greater restrictions than are

now placed in the way of trading between states and sections in this ountry.

"Every now and then it is announced with much satisfaction," says the Saturday Evening Post, "that a large issue of American railroad or other bonds has been sold abroad This gives us the use of that much foreign capital, at a low rate of terest, and is held to be a fine thing for the country. But when we get the use of a far greater amount of capital, invested in ocean transportation, at a low rate of interest, that trade being but moder-ately profitable—it is held to be a bad thing for the country." Com-menting on this paradoxical situation the Post questions the advisability of diverting our capital to the comparatively unprofitable field of ocean transportation at a time when eminent an authority as James J. Hill states that our railroads alone need about \$1,000,000,000 a year of fresh capital for proper maintenance and extension of their lines. To be consistent our ship subsidy patriots should now make an effort to place the same embargo on the foreign capital we use in our business that they now place on shipping. If foreigners are carrying our freight too cheap, they must also be loaning us money too cheap.

It is reported that the matter of grain futures has been eliminated from the Scott anti-option bill, the House sub-committee deciding that there was no sentiment in the West against the grain futures as was the case with the cotton exchanges. An attempt will be made to pass an amended bill dealing only with the cotton futures. Buying or selling for "future" delivery or acceptance would seem to be much the same whether cotton or wheat is involved. The only apparent difference is in the much greater supply of the one than the There is a possibility that the opposition shown the cotton other. futures than developed regarding wheat was due to abuses which were not permitted in the grain pits and which have been in evidence in the cotton exchanges. Legislating against one form of future trading and ignoring another might come under the head of class legislation.

Was Hamlet insane? No end of dispute on this question. But, if Hamet wasn't insane he was inane. He argued every incident and every situation to the extreme of irresolution and inaction. Power of reason the highest, sublest wit, was Hamlet's; yet he did nothing at all, and the final catastrophe was brought about by a series of incidents and course of events which he didn't in the least prepare or direct. No. Hamlet wasn't But he was inane; because with all his powers of reason and wit he only argued himself out of the power of action. At every point he halted and hesitated, debated with himself—and did nothing. Hamlet is described in the phrase of the same master by the saying, "The flighty purpose never is o'ertook unless the

In the State of Maryland total dis franchisement of the negro is pro-posed. The Democrats of the Legislature have decided in formal caucus to enact a law to prevent all negroes from registering and voting in state. This will bring an issue squarely against the fifteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which says: "The rights of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of color or previous condition of servitude. A state is free to impose educational qualifications, or any other qualifications not based on race, or color, or previous condition of servi-But this is the first time direct nullification has been attempted.

are on strike at Louisville, Ky. If this industrial disturbance should spread throughout the land we would soon have an opportunity to understand what real hardship a strike could cause. With no cigarettes or navy plug on which to draw for inspiration, a host of the industrial non workers of the world would be unable to carry on the work of solving our economic problems.

Spokane has another convert to the cause of "terminal rates." Henry O'Hara, a wandering sailor, was charged \$8.25 for a shave, shampoo and a few extras in a Spokane barber shop. The Spokane rate was so much higher than the terminal rates that Henry had paid where his ship, the Maryland, had anchored that he protested to the Mayor and secured a refund of \$3.50.

The Guggenheims and the Pinchots and the Cunninghams and the Garfields all are working for the same result—the locking up of the resources of this Western country from settlers and homescekers.

District Attorney Cameron appears to have satisfied everybody by that justly celebrated speech before the else thought It necessary to say anything.

Now if T. R. shall "butt into" th budget veto fight in Britain the Old World will learn something more about America's Big Stick Boss.

Since a New Jersey justice has ruled that "damn" is not profanity, it will fall to raise a laugh in light comedy. Mrs. Cudahy thinks of going on the stage, but really the person who would

draw largest houses is Jere Lillis. It is surer that the comet has a tall than that many alleged jokes about it have any sense to them.

Tacoma has more than a million city money in the local banks. Tacoms may be quite a place yet.

It was just a joke of the weather man to forecast "fair" weather for resterday. So far in Africa and Europe the politicians generally approve T. R.'s

The real fool is not necessarily the erson who "bit" at the April fool

methods.

SOUTH POLE SURE TO BE WON Shackleton Says Staming, Food and Equipment Will Decide.

New York Times. Sir Ernest Shackleton, who went within 111 miles of the South Pole and las come to the United States to dehas come to the United States to de-liver a series of lectures, is very de-cided on four points: He believes Peary reached the North Pole; refuses to dis-cuss Dr. Cook; will not take command of any expedition to the South Pole until Captain Scott has made his at-tempt to reach the goal and is confi-dent the latter will get there if his expedition is proper's emigned.

dent the latter will get there if his expedition is proper'y equipped.

"The success of an expedition to the South Pole," said Sir Ernest Shackleton, "depends on the stamina of the men, their equipment, and, most important of all, the food. If we had had 50 pounds more solid food we should have reached our goal, as the conditions for traveling were good, and the lil miles that separated us from it were over practically flat ice. As far as were over practically flat ice. As far as were over practically flat lee. As far as we could see with the Zeiss giasses there was no obstruction shead. Our range was only four or five miles on the horizon, but a barrier of ice of any considerable height would have been visible between our restrict and the isible between our position and the outh Pole. There might have been a ise of 100 feet or so, but nothing that ould not have been surmounted." "What do you mean by solid food?"

he was asked.

"By that," replied the explorer, "I mean cheese, penmican and plasmon biscuits. Those do not contain moisture. The penmican we carried was different from the American kind, as it was composed of 60 per cent of lard and the best parts of beef. It is called Bovery pemmican and comes from Copenhagen, where they understand the preparation of foods for expeditions into the frozen regions of the earth.

From November 14, 1908, to February 25, 1999, our party was always hungry, except on Christmas day, when we divided a four-ounce plum pudding into four parts and licked the spoons. We had another luxury that day in a tin of frozen sardines, which contain 17 fish. After taking four each we tossed our knives on the ice for the odd one. We started to take a tin of jam with us, but as it weighed two pounds we left it 121 miles from base, which was 750 miles from the pole. Our breakfast consisted of pony steaks.

"To reduce our weight as much as possible, we cut 20 inches from the legs of our trousers, which may seem strange, but every ource tells on a trip like that. At first we had 32 ounces for a man a day, which gradually got smaller until our rations were reduced to 16 ounces a man when we reached the top of the plateau, but after a few days I saw that it was not sufficient to keep up our strength and it was inreased to 20 ounces." Sir Ernest went on to explain that

seir clothing was made of Jacger wool ith boots made of reindeer skin pre-ared in a peculiar way by the Lap-inders, who soak the hide in brine and then chew it to make it soft and wolfskin gloves.

"I realize that I have lost caste with thousands of small hoys because I was not picturesquely garbed in furs," said the explorer with a smile, but we had to study weight and the garments were windproof and equally as warm as

In answer to a question as to the difference in the difficulties encountered in expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctic, the explorer said that the Antarctic, the explorer said that the base of supplies was much nearer to the North Pole than to the south, there was more animal and plant life and the-climate was not so windy nor so cold as it was going south.

On the other hand the disadvantages of going to the North Pole were that the traveling was much rougher over great hummocks of ice and it was impossible to make any depot or pitch a tent on the ice, as it would float away.

"On our expedition." Sir Ernest went on to say, "we lost all signs of animal

on to say, "we lost ell signs of animal or plant life five miles after leaving the coast line. We were entirely out off from the world, and if our ship had been wrecked we should have never got back, as no vessels penetrate those

"The wind was a drawback, as it blew with great force in our face carrying the fine ice drift with it. For three days we had a wind of from 50 to miles velocity an hour and in gusts it attained a speed of 130 miles. All we could do was to lay covered up in our sleeping bags until the gale had mod-erated. To have exposed ourselves to the wind would have meant certain

More than 3000 tobacco workers re on strike at Louisville, Ky. If his industrial disturbance should pread throughout the land we would con have an apparaturally and we would really covered 1755 miles. Sometimes we death. marched six miles to make three for ward and even more to avoid bad places, as it was hard work hauling our equipment. The Manchurian ponies were of great service to us, as we used were of great service to us, as we used them until they were worn out and then shot the animals and dired on the steaks. The rest of the meat was frozen and carried on. The mean tem-perature taken at the base of supplies perature taken at the base of supplies was below zero. Summer and Winter, but with a wind blowing it was much colder. We had the sun night and day, as it was mid-Summer in the Antarctic, but there was no warmth in its rays. Our party was very fortunate in having Our party was very fortunate in naving 14 days continuous fine weather, which was purely luck. Weather conditions enter largely into the success of an expedition to the South Pole. I intend to make another trip to the south probably in 1911, on a larger scale, but

twill be entirely for scientific pur-poses and not to get to the pole."

The explorer explained that the ice in the south was land ice and that it had been shown that there was a con-tinent of some 4,000,000 miles of land

Housekeeping Experiment Station. A housekeeping experiment station is the unique institution conducted by Mr. Charles Barnard and his wife in Darien, Conn. Every labor-saving device for household use put upon the market is tested in their home, for, Mr. Barnard argues, the small home rather than the large laboratory is the practical test of all such devices, from a pineapple clip to a washing machine. A close record of time and cost is kept, and the results of the experiments are set forth in bul-letins and in lectures which Mr. Barnard gives at domestic science colleges all over the country. Denatured sichol, he believes, will make cooking lessons possible in country schools where the absence of gas has prohibited individual The Barnard family dinner is cooked in the same dishes in which it is to be served, for the experiment station has made a study of saving dish-washing. Mrs. Barnard was condemned by her neighbors as a neglectful house-teeper until it was discovered that she left her supper in the freless cooker while she spent the afternoon in calling, and returned to take the meal out, ready for serving.

Protection for Automobile

Brooklyn Eagle.

The joyrider will not be a permanent feature of automobiling risk. The inventor will find a way to lock some vital part of the machine in the safety deposit vault of the garage office subject to the owner's call only. An automobile ought to he as safe from trespass as a private mug in a barber shop.

Too Busy Raking in Coin.

Houston Post.
The title of Jim Jeffries' second chap-"I Made a Good Start," Strangers in the city who keep out of the dancehalls avoid much trouble. begins by stating, "I was born in Ohio." Now, will be kindly tell us why it is be has not become President?

LEGISLATURE NOT TO BLAME. This Amuzing Measure Was Passed Under the Initiative.

Eugene Register. Attorney General Crawford says that under the net of the 1st fool Legislature a newspaper cannot publish matter favorable to a candidate or massure, without it is marked as an advertisement containing the name and address of the person responsible for it. Great Statute of Libertyl—Athany Democra

Either the Democrat or Mr. Crawford s mistaken about the above law being know the different denominations. You the work of the last tfool Legislature." The corrupt practices act, under which the shows are act, under which the shows are act, under which the got a Reformed Presbyterian, an we the above named ratrictions of the press come, was initiated at instigation of the politically anointed U'Ren and supported in the last election by such papers as the Democrat, with the result that the people voted it into a law. Of course, with this information at hand, it would not be the proper thing for the Democrat to charge that it was the "fool people" the "fool Legislature" that that did it. Bet-

the "fool Legislature" that did it. Better let it go by just lanbasting URen. He don't mind it. He knows that any kind of fool law he seeks to initiate will find plenty of Organ papers to support it, no matter low hard they may kick at it when it becomes a law and its full force and efects is known. URen now has a lay up for consideration at the next election making the Governor the supreme dictator of the State, with appointing powers beyond that enjoyed by the ruling monarchs of the Old World. This law, because URen framed it, will find plenty of supporters in spite of the fact that such a law is in direct opposition to the rule of the people as ardently advocated in other URenic measures, under which we are governed. ler which we are-governed

PROPERTY AND HIGH PRICES. Sovernment Regulation Cannot Change

Government Regulation Cannot Change Natural Tendendes.

PORTLAND, April 1.—(To the Editor.)—In the talk against high prices, people seem to lose sight of the fact that advancing prices are prosperity and that we can't have prosperity without steady or improving prices.

When a man's wages are going up, when a business' profits are increasing, when a business' profits are increasing, when the farm yields more and mean when the farm yields more and more a dollars and cents—that improsperit But it would not be prosperity if to-night all prices, including wages, were simply to be doublet; such a hange would do no more than main-ain the relativity of one price to each

and all other prices.

Here is the vital point in this whole price matter. Some prices advance more rapidly than others; wages of trade unionists, for example, or the price of wheat as brought about by foreign demand; what is the result: Simply that those who work for the wages and those who raise wheat are ahead in the price race. As long as they continue ahead, they are prosper-ous. But, at length, the high prices which they are resulting are life. ous. But, at length, the high prices which they are receiving are diffused and the prices of the articles which these same classes require to live on reach the same scale or, possibly, go beyond the wage and the wheat prices. When that condition arrives. who have been prosperous are unwill ing to accept the prices fixed by the natural ratio of that which they have to sell with the commodities they re-

nterfere with trade by means of dras tic government regulation will not change natural tendencies but will set up new and more baffling conditions. E. E. WELBY.

East and West.

Tacoma Tribune. While New England is taking the lead in attempting to fasten upon the West the horde of Pinchot concrva-tionists to harass and keep off set-tlers from our public lands, the State of Massachusetts is proposing to spend \$100,000 to get settlers on her unused lands, of which there are to be 150,000 acres of undeveloped tiliable land and 1,500,000 acres of pas-ture land, which could be made homes for the people of the crowded cutes

The "abandoned farm" is one of the features of New England, yet those same New Englanders are sitting up nights to devise ways and means of obstructing and delaying the settlement of the vacant lands of the West, unless the New England bondholder has a mortgage on everything or New England corporation can co

First Automblie Railrond.

Lesslie's: Texas used to claim the distinction of having the first automobile railroad. Five cars used to make regular trips on a hree-hour schedule over the 45 miles between Lubbock and Plainview, the county seats of Lubbock and Hale counties. The line had a private right of way lenced off as for a rallway and its roaded was worked by section hands to this extent-it was kept scooped free of sand. The drivers (this in the sense in which the English use the word) were cowbo n blue overalls and Inrge They were required to make the 45 m tract to keep a schedule. Often the cars would clip an hour off that for good measure. The round trip fare for 90 miles was \$10.

A Record Inconsistent.

Newberg Graphic.

A prominent Portland preacher who was a warm supporter of a noted candidate for office in the last election, whom he knew to be one of the worst boozefighters in Oregon politics, is said to be arranging to come to be well as the surranging to the support of the worst boozefighters. to be arranging to come to Newbers to be arranging to come to Newberg at an early date to talk temperance to our people. The Graphic entertains very grave doubts as to the brother's orthodoxy on the question of statewide prohibition, and he will pardon us for suggesting for his text the well-known passage, "Physician, heal thysolf." self.

Editors Don't Ride Autos.

Newberg Graphic.

The editor of the Graphic spent day in McMinnville last week an found Mr. Martin, of the Telephone-Register, and Mr. Hammerly, of the News Reporter, grinding away in their respec tive dens and not sporting automobiles as we had anticipated, after reading of the many investments made in machines lately by the bon-tons of the county seat. The season is not far spent, how-ever, and there is plenty of time for the fever to get in its work on those who have been exposed.

Tattooed for Identification

Popular Mechanics.
A novel means of identification has been adopted by one of the large institutions for deaf mute children of New York. The children sometimes wander away or become lost while traveling, and, as many of them cannot read and write, it is often a difficult thing to return them to the institution. By tattooin the name and address on the skin it an easy matter for the deaf mutes to identified. The tattooing is done in that is not indelible, but which stand for a year or two.

Harper's Weekly.

"I felt so morry when I beard your house was burned down, Mrs. Jones." said Mrs. Hawkins.
"It was too bad," said Mrs. Jones, "but it had its bright side. John and I were both afraid to discharge our cook, but now that the house is gone, of course we don't have to."

LIFE'S SUNNY SIDE

A young man who travels in the West or a local manufacturing firm, was telling his friends of his trip.

"Last Sunday I was in a little town that boasted one small hotel," he said, "and I asked the landlord where I could "Well," he said, "I guess you want to

got a United Presbyterian, an' we got another Presbyterian that ain't neither reformed or united."-Philadelphia Telegraph.

Senator Murphy Foster, at a dinner in Washington, said of a certain retrac-

tion:
"It was a retraction without value.
It recalls the Nois Chucky syandal.
Deacon Washington, in the heat of a
revival, shouted from the pulpit of the
Nois Chucky chapel:
"If see here me ten chicken thieves,

She was a charming debutante, and he was a somewhat serious chap. (versation was rather fitful, so he cided to guide it into literary chan-

'Are you fond of literature?" he anked "Passionately," she replied. "I love books dearly."

books dearly."

"Then you must admire Sir Walter Scott," he exclaimed with sudden animation. "Is not his 'Lady of the Lake' exquisite in its flowing grace and poetic imagery? Is it not..."

"It is perfectly lovely," she assented, clasping her hands in cestasy. "I suppose I have read it a dozen times."

"And Scott's 'Marmion.' "he continued, with its rugged simplicity and marvelous description."

us description."
"It is perfectly grand," she murmured. "And Scott's 'Peveril of the Peak' and

"And Scott's 'Peverli of the Peak' and his noble 'Bride of Lammermoor'—where in the English language will you find anything more herote? You like them, I am sure?"

"I just dote upon them," she repiled. "And Scott's Emulsion?" he continued hastily, for a faint suspicion was beginning to dawn upon him.

"I think," she interrupted rashly, "that it's the best thing he ever wrote."

. . . At Salsomaggiore there was a laundress who had always enjoyed the patronage of the Duke of the Abruzzi whenever he came there to take the cure on his return from one of his expeditions. The Duke, of course, knew nothing about this matter, which was attended to by his chauffeur-valet. Now, for some reason, of which I am ignorant, the servant had taken a notion to change laundresses; hence great humiliation on the part of the good little woman who, naturally, prized her celebrated patron. What was she to do? She wanted to get an explanation of the matter, at any rate, so one day she placed herself on the road where the Duke was to pass. When he came up, she said to him: "Your Highness is no longer satisfied with your former laundress?" At Salsomaggiore there was a laund

former laundress? "Who said so?" "Why, your Highness no longer sends me his linen, and I am very unhappy

"My poor child," exclaimed the Prince.
"I knew nothing about it! Come with me, and we will settle the matter out of hand."

No sooner said than done. The Duke ordered his chauffeur to send his linen to his usual laundress in the future, and when she narrated the Incident to me (for I was one of her patrons), she added enthusiastically:

"And he lan't a bit proud, is our Duke, for he is the first man who ever lifted his hat to me."-McClure's.

An English and an Irishman were having an argument on the subject of Shakespeare. "I defy you," said the former, "to find a single Irish charac-ter in the whole of his works." "Well, I can give you two, at all events, I can give you two, at an events, re-plied the Irishman—"Miss O'Phelia and Corry O'Lanus." He-forgot Hamlet's intimate friend, who stood beside him while he was contemplating his uncle in devotion, and observed, "Now could I do it, Pat, while he is praying."—

An Oversight.

Harper's.

A good story is told about a certain regiment of militia which was in camp for the first time last Summer. On the first night, when they "turned in." they were instructed how to lie down and roll themselves in their blankets and generative. ally make themselves comfortable. An officer having seen his company, "tucked in" was reminded by a civilian that he had forgotten something. 'What's that?' was the query

"You haven't kissed them good night." The silence was oppressive. Chance for a Triumphant Test.

Cleveland Plain Dealer,
A professor announces that he has
finally found the germ of fatigue.
If he can successfully prove the merit of his discovery on the person of the farmer's hired man, we are prepared to hand him the Nobel prize and all the other honors that are coming to

Too Expensive.

Judge.
"This cigar tastes like it was made of cabbage." growls the customer.
"Huh!" replies the cierk. "If you knew the wholesale price of cabbage this year, you wouldn't insinuate that it could be put into a 5-cent cigar."

Hitchcock Need Not Apply.

Washington Star.

Postmaster-General filtcheock need never look for any literary encouragement from the magazines should be ever decide to forsake a political career

The Miracle.

She's but a little colleen gay, Scarce thicker than me thumb But oh, the word she spoke the day!

'The blind I am, and dumb.

Her small mouth had a pleasure twist.

As though 'twas wishful to be kinsed;

I thought it gave the true word whist, And hope lept in the heart of me

But when I tried it—oh, the blow
The little hand laid on me cheek!
Twas but a feather's weight, I know,
But sure, it left me faint and weak.
And oh, the look that changed her cyest
Twas like the change of Eyin's skles
From shine to storm—the black surprise
And sorrow burst the heart o' me.

She stood there lashin' me bold ways-So weak the gentle tongue of her. Compared with some I've got twas praise-

Then somethin, sudden, seemed to stir Within me breast. The truth it lepf Straight out, belike as if t had alept; Then-right into me arms she crept. Sure, joy's near crazed the heart of me.—Charles T. Rogers, in Harper's Weekly.