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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1910.

MR. U'REN'S "FREAKS."

In defense of a system of direct legislation that will confront Oregon voters next November with between and 30 measures, none of which the State really needs, many of which are freaks and most of which are upon the electorate forced fad agitators, Mr. U'Ren writes a letter, printed in another column, advocating his newest "re-Selection of party delegates to National conventions and of party candidates for Presidential elector in primaries, payment of expenses such delegates by taxpayers and with-drawal of the last duties of officially recognized conventions in this State. Mr. U'Ren says that no freak mess

ure can become a law unless approved by the people and the people have not yet made a freak law; also that it will be cheaper for taxpayers to pay the new expenses that he proposes than to allow special privilege to remain in power and misrepresent political partles in National conven-This and other claptrap.

Only by most strenuous endeavo has the sober element of the voters of Oregon been able to defeat the many crazy measures that have been thrust upon them. Now they must go through turmoil again this year. It is the business of government to make peace and security for its citi-zens and to ward off agitators of the many sorts that crave to make use of its authority.

Nor have all the freak bills been rejected in this State by the electorate. Special privilege has not been defeated by the initiative. Salmon bills have been enacted at the behest of special interests. The people enacted one of Mr. U'Ren's farcical bills forbidding railroad passes, They passed another bill of his instructing members of the Legislature to ignore the Constitution of the United States In election of United States Senator. They enacted a crazy, unworkable of his under the title of "Corrupt They accepted a di-Practices Act." rect primary law in which was the irrelevant and freak Statement One, that has brought Oregon's influence in the National Capital to the lowest ebb; also a bill authorizing proportional

representation. Now here is a list of laws that no deliberative legislative body would enact nor would the people enact them in existing form, if they could amend them according to right prin-ciples of lawmaking. Though the people may have intelligence for making laws, as well as their legislators have, yet their delegates in legislative assembly do not make statutes by mere votes; they are able to adjust and compromise between affected interests, eliminate what is wrong, and amend in accord with justice and This is not possible in direct legislation.

Mr. U'Ren complains that the delegates sent from Oregon to the last Republican National convention did not represent his populist wing of the represented the Roosevelt-Taft element of the National party, which was not deemed by the majority of the people of the United States to be in the service of special interests. Nor in truth did Oregon delegates misrepresent their State.

The National party organization will direct the method of choosing delegates and the convention will seat the delegates it wishes to recognize. National rules will govern rather than Mr. U'Ren's proposed "law" for that purpose. Taxpayers of Oregon do not need the U'Ren kind of delegates, if they must pay the expenses of such delegates.

Mr. U'Ren ought to withdraw this freak bill just as he has also done with the one which would make a despot of the governor.

THE FOREST FIRE EVIL.

It is something unusual so early in the season to read of extensive for est fires, but yesterday's news reports told of several big fires which were raging in Washington, Idaho and British Columbia. With destruction this kind in progress, before the Winter snows have hardly vanished from the foot hills, the outlook is certainly unpleasant for the dry months that are before us. Forest fires are annually increasing their powers for devastation and financial loss. This is due in part to the steady increase the price of stumpage, and even to a greater extent to the rapid development in irrigation and power projects which are to such a large extent dependent on the forests for regulation of the flow of the streams. Fall season, when we have come to regard the appearance of the forest fire as unavoidable, most of the trouble is caused by carelessness of hunters and fishermen, but in the Spring, a goodly proportion of the conflagra tions is due to the burning of slash-

The passing into control of large companies, of great areas of timber land, has resulted in a much more efficient guardianship of our forest wealth than ever before. The big syndicates which have such large sums of money invested in timber. have not only maintained in many districts, a private patrol system, but they have also been instrumental in securing the passage of stringent laws tending to minimise the danger of fire. In this work, the big timber owners have joined with and have been assisted by a number of forestry conservation associations which are doing very effective publicity work in the interest of the cause. The Western Forestry and Conservation Association has distributed considerable

literature calling attention to the forest fire evil, and has recently appealed to the railroad companies for assistance in spreading warnings.
In a circular, the association points

out that the sale of forest products brings into the Pacific States over \$125,000,000 per year, nearly all of which goes into general circulation. The recent development of the lumber industry in Oregon has been on such a big scale, that it has become one of the most important factors in our commercial life. For that reason, it is the duty of everyone to aid in any legislation or any plan by which the loss by forest fires can be reduced. Every dollar's worth of timber destroyed by fire, means a direct loss of many times the actual value of the timber. In no other line of industry is the money turned over more frequently, than in the progress of the timber from the forest to the hold of the ship, or the deck of the car on which, in its manufactured shape, it finally reaches the consumer.

HOW THE MUCKRAKER WORKS.

Just consider for a moment the mis erable character of this Ballinger "prosecution." It is throughout a concerted effort to ruin the Secretary's character by showing that he has had a mercenary motive behind his every action, however remote from any question at issue. No one familiar with Ballinger's record with the history of affairs in Washington can fall to be struck by the dishonesty and malignity of the attempt yesterday to trace back through the election of Senator Piles and the support given then to Piles by Charles Sweeny a disreputable association by Ballinger with that incident. Brandels, the attorney, tried to have it appear that Sweeny caused Piles to be elected Senator and later Senator Piles got Ballinger the appointment as Commissioner of the General Land Office, just to help out Sweeny in his ed attempt to grab coal lands suppos in Alaska.

The well-known truth is that Sweeny was a candidate for Senator and threw his strength finally to Piles as a result of a political combination. Piles and Ballinger were never political allies. But when Garfield, Secretary of the Interior, wanted a Land Commissioner, he warmly urged upon President Roosevelt his old college-mate Ballinger, and Senator Piles fell in with the design, Why doesn't this fellow Brandels accuse Garfield of a deep-down intrigue to get Alzaka coal lands, since (Garfield) wanted Ballinger for Land Commissioner, and got him only after repeated urging? Because Garfield, of course, is one of the conspirators, and to drag him into the mess is not a part of the plan. The game is to cover with dirt and scandal the name of every man who stands in the way of the Pinchot-Garfield-Newell cabal, whose schemes and ambitions Bal-linger blocked. That is the whole

story Ballinger has been foully wronged. He is known in the Northwest to be an honest and straightforward man with a fine personal and official rec-ord and with no taint or suspicion anywhere on his life here. He has suffered much from the muckrakers; but possibly his experience and certain vindication may serve to show the public what villainous business this muckraking is.

AN IDLE SUBJECT.

The subject of "Non-Partisan Judges," which the State Bar Association has selected to discuss, is one of those harmless topics around which wit may play endlessly without offending anybody. Oregon is not now troubled with an excess of partisanship on the bench and never has been. One would have imagined that the academic theme of partisanship might have waited a year or two while the lawyers of the state occupied themselves with the discussion of some live question such as "How to bring a lawsuit to trial ind all the witnesses are dead." or the equally burning one of "How to convict more than a half dozen out of every hundred persons who break the law." either of these subjects under discussion the proceedings of the associa-tion would not be quite so placid, perhaps, as they will with a question which nobody cares anything about and which is devoid of practical im portance; but they would be vastly more profitable.

one evil with which every judge and every practicing lawyer ought to concern himself until it is remedied is the delay of justice, whi frequently amounts to the denial of justice. It is rife in almost every court in the country. Matters have come to such a pass that it is impossible to bring a suit to trial if the lawyers on either side have any reason for delaying it. Cases are postponed from session to session on the most trivial pretexts. Excuses so silly that a child could see through their chicanery are complacently accepted by the judges for putting off a trial. Pleas and motions so plainly dilatory that the lawyers who make them ought to be fined for contempt are permitted to carry causes on from month to month and from year to year, to the ruin of litigants and the profit of nobody except the attorneys. The judge who ought to take an active hand in dealing out justice sits by as a semi-somnolent umpire and lets things drag along in wordy wanderings without end. The worst of wrongs which a civil-

ized man is likely to suffer is the denial of justice. We have given up our right to seek for justice with the strong hand on the promise of society to provide it peaceably and prompily. As the business is now conducted this promise is not fulfilled. Justice is a thing impossible for the average citizen to obtain. There are very few persons in active life who could not recount tales from their own experiof bitter wrongs suffered from the delay or denial of justice in the courts. Between delay and denial there is but little difference in numberless instances, and the lawyers know it. That is one of the principal reasons for the everlasting procrasti-When a cause is irretrievably bad, and there is no hope whatever of winning it in a fair trial, the lawyers secure what is exactly equivalent to winning it by holding it up in court forever and a day. When the guilt criminat is evident and a jury could not help but convict him, his attorreys obtain what is equivalent to an acquittal by postponing his trial indefinitely. The most irritating feature of this obnoxious trickery is the il.difference of the judge to what goes on. He knows the purpose of the delay as a usual thing, and he could

put a speedy end to the wearisomchose, but he does not To him an excuse is cuse, Whether good or bad, it is all the same. Everything goes. A spec-tator from another planet would inevitably conclude that the main purpose of our court proceedings is to string out every cause as long as pos-sible and never bring anything to an end if it can be prevented. The advantage to the lawyers is obvious. As for the litigants they were created by

It is absurd to deny that respect for the courts diminishes every day in this country. It diminishes not because the people are inclined to be lawless or because they desire to lapse into barbarism, but because the courts fail to fulfill the purpose for which they were established. The machine remains in all its elaborate The ness and complexity, but it does not work. The millstone whirls round and round, but it grinds no flour. With these facts and more of the same species staring them in the face, is it not a little strange that the mem bers of the Bar Association have the heart to spend their time discussing an idle subject like non-partisanship?

PROHIBITION AGAIN REPULSED. Within six months, prohibition in Alabama has received two decisive set-backs. Last week the Prohibition -Anti-Saloon league candidate for governor was defeated by a majority of 20,000 in the Democratic primaries November, a constitutional Last amendment for prohibition was rejected by the electorate. Pretense of prohibition still exists under statutory enactments of the legislature, which went into effect January 1, 1909, but it would seem from these two defeats that prohibition is doomed in that state.

The Prohibition candidate was H. S. D. Mallory and the successful opposition candidate was O'Neal. The issue was sharply drawn and the result showed plainly that the electorate is tired of tur-moil and wrangle and hypocrisy that prohibition has thrust upon the

state. Prohibition was defended by the existing administration, headed by Governor Comer, and its candidate, Mr. Mallory, was committed to the prohibition laws now on the statute books by his previous support of those acts and of the defeated constitutional amendment. Mr. O'Neal nade his fight openly, both on prohibition and on the statutes and the amendment. In his speech of the campaign he first decried the amendment and the strife into which prohibition had plunged the State as follows:

the State as follows:

The result of the recent election mean more than the defeat of the amendment; was a protest against continual extra se sions of the Legislature, against encroaciment by the executive upon the legislature department, against extreme, intempera and radical legislation. It was a prote against waste and extravagance in publicate waste and extravagance in publications, against that political turns and agitation into which the slate has be plunged by the ambitions and schemes selfish politicians.

Alabama is disgusted with narrow minded sumptuary legislation., It is growing to be a cosmopolitan com-monwealth, where mining and manufacturing interests are taking the place of provincial activities that seek to regulate the personal habits of neighbors and fellow citizens.

Next November a test is to be made in Oregon to determine whether this State is broadminded enough to reject the cant and fakery of prohib-. Though 21 of its 34 counties "dry," they abound with liquor. are The only danger of prohibition enactment in this commonwealth is the knowledge of voters that such a law would be ineffective. That is true, but the law would fill the State with sham and hateful strife, and the liquor traffic would be freed from the rightful tribute it now pays to the State and local government.

BEWARE THE DOCKS SCHEME.

Why sell dock bonds and pay big interest before the city is ready to available. use the money? Even from the viewpoint that the city should go into the wharf or dock business would seem that the municipality would better make up its mind where it wishes to buy or build docks and how much it is willing to spend. The of \$500,000, which the bonds would bring in, would hardly make a beginning of this business; and, besides, there would be heavy charges on taxpayers to meet deficits in operation and expense of maintenance.

What then, do the dock advocates plan for the city to do other than to sell the bonds? What do they think will be the effect of a new bonded debt of millions of dollars in addition to the \$14,000,000 or \$15,000,000 debt which taxpayers will feel as a morta gage on all their property in this city?

These are serious questions, not to be made light of by platitudes of "the people's rule" or by harangues of persons who want money spent and care not who bear the burdens. These questions, soberly considered, will bring responsible citizenship realize that the city would better stay out of this dock business. loaded with taxation, debt and disappointment. Besides, this city's ship-ping is not afflicted with monopoly of wharfage nor with high charges with serious lack of facilities. are private owners of docks, many of them, who would like to unload on the city. Maybe they are behind this agitation for purchase of docks by the

PRICES AND TAXES

In current discussions of the cos of living, it seems quite the fashion to assume that taxes have nothing to do with it. The United States Goveernment spends a billion dollars a year, and this vast sum must be contributed by somebody. The New York World pertinently remarks that it is not picked up in the street. benevolent angel brings it from another world. It is abstracted from the products of industry in this great

and benighted land. Wealth spent in one way cannot at the same time be spent in another. If a cool billion is consumed annually by the Federal Government, amount is necessarily added to the cost of living for the people of the country. When we take into account the sums that are similarly disposed of by state, county and city govern-ments, the difficulty which most men have in making both ends meet becomes less mysterious than it In the State of Washington, the taxes on farms are fully four times as high as they were ten years ago. Has the government of the state become four times as useful to the farmers? What does it do for them with its extrav-

agant income that it did not do when oderate?

It is the same in Oregon and every where else. Money wrung in the form of taxes from the industrious is lavished on wasteful officeholders of all sorts and varieties. It is spent in useless projects which bring benefit to nobody. The business of gov ernment is carried on with all conceivable parade and display. thinks of saving a dollar when it is ossible to spend one, and the in evitable consequence is hard times for the man who has to foot the bills. That man is the industrious producer of wealth. Upon his shoulders the burden of it all rests, and he experiences the weight of it in the prices he pays for meat, fruit, clothing and is. The delusion that wealth can wasted indefinitely and nobody be the worse for it is one that we shall seems to take a good many hard knocks to drive the lesson in.

The Government crop report which reputation of the Department of Agriculture. The condition of wheat was placed at 82.1, compared with 83.5 on May 1, 1909, and a ten years' average of 86.7. The area of Winter wheat is 714,000 acres more than that harvested in 1909, and 4,439,000 acres less than the area sown last Fall. Taken at their face value, these statistics were sufficiently builish to cause a strong market. The trade, however, has become so suspicious of Government reports that it seldom takes them seriously. Instead of an advance in prices, the Government report was "coppered," and the market slumped nearly two cents per bushel in the new-crop months. While some well-meaning but misguided peo. ple are making a strong protest against dealing in futures, as being letrimental to the grain trade, they might go a step farther and demand reform in Government crop reports. They are worse than trading in futures.

As a result of a recent agreement reached by the departments of the Interior and Agriculture, there have been restored to the public domain 177,246 acres from the National forests of Washington, Idaho and Colo This restoration was made in order that boundaries could be more accurately established. According to the estimate of the Forest service there will eventually be restored to the public domain more than 4,000,000 acres of land. This is very good for a starter but the time is approaching when a good many more millions of acres, now locked up in forest reserves where billions of feet of timber are ipening and becoming worthless, will also be available for use by man, There will, of course, never be such ruthless waste of our natural resources as followed the settlement and development of the East and Middle West, but it is unnecessaary that such vast tracts of land should be locked up in forest reserves to satisfy the whims of eastern faddists

A few weeks ago, when wheat in the local market was hovering around the dollar mark, receipts fell away to almost nothing, five and six cars per being not unusual. Recently. with the price tumbling from day to day, there has been a noticeable increase in the receipts, more than seventy cars arriving Monday and Tuesday. The farmers who listened to the "hold-your-wheat" doctrine, which was so liberally circulated by the American Society of Equity, have in some cases suffered a loss of 25 cents a bushel. With a new crop already throwing its shadow over the world's market, the chances for a return to higher prices are daily becoming less. It is not a bad plan for any farmer to sell his wheat when it is ready for market. Then if he wishes to gam-ble on higher prices at some future date, the option markets are always

Perhaps there is something in the conservation fad run riot that has a serious effect on the morals of its exponents. The reprehensible act of ex-premier Knudsen of Norway as do, I believe was in some respects strikingly in other taxpayers. keeping with the policy and acts of one Gifford Pinchot, also a crank and faddist on the conservation matter Pinchot used the conservation hobby as a cloak under which he worked his political schemes and plotted revenge against those who opposed him. Gunnar Knudsen of Norway, under the guise of a bona fide exponent of the principle of conservation, used the private views of President Roosevelt for political capital. Stock is sometimes driven crazy by feeding on the weed and the conservation idea. seems to have nearly as bad an effect on the Pinchots and Knudsens,

With a Bible for a weapon a Los Angeles man laid low half a dozen rioters who had assailed a woman vorker for the Volunteers of America was of course a strange weapon to be used in a physical conflict, but the result showed that it was in a degree fully as effective as the cele brated jaw bone of an ass which laid low the Philistines

The pesky little Japanese know If big white people had proportionate patriotism and sublime indifference to death there would be great wars in progress somewhat

President Taft attended a boyotted baseball game in St. Louis. There have been some games in Portland that needed boycotting, but not this year.

ture of Illinois and talk as if the peo-

ple cannot elect an honest Legisla-ture. How, then, can they elect honest men for other offices? storm in its tail when King Edward It perhaps sympathized with the budget-veto kink in the tall

persons point to the Legisla

Mr. Bryan's ex-son-in-law sent essage to Ruth on her wedding day asking her to remember the past fellows don't know they're better off forgotten.

Mr. Hearst wants a million dollars or so damages? But if what he says is true, that jolt didn't really cost him anything.

the British lion.

Miss Mary Harriman will marry a culptor. Well, she can afford it.

NO-PARTY PAD IS FLEETING. overnment Can Be Run Successfully

Only Through Parties. La Grande Observer. A prominent citizen said to the edito t this paper yesterday, "Why be a Republican? I have quit party lines tirely, and I vote for the man." admit that this is the popular thing do at this time. We admit that the coun try has gone rampant over party oblite ation. But we wish to say that in ou judgment the country will not remain in that condition politically for long. There is only one successful way to a government like that of the United States. It is through political parties That irrepressible Roosevelt is largely responsible for party lines being broken. He is the greatest politician the try has ever seen, yet he will not admit it. By breaking down parties he has made himself very strong. But when probably recover from in time, but it he passed as a Republican leader, then the party suffers.

There are many good reasons for being a Republican, not but what we have the most respect for a Democrat's views. appeared Monday maintained the a Socialist's views or an old time Pop ulist's views. But the Republican party is right in more ways than it is wrong. Under its administration the country has prospered, while under Democratic the country has met with reverses. These might have been co-incidents and they might not. But the fact remains that Republican successes in the Nation have invariably been followed with a revival

lican party, and lots of it. But who would dare to say that a church is bad because it has a number of scalawag members? The same is true of a political party. Because a man used political prestige for graft is not the fault of the party as a whole. Neither is the party to be blamed because some crooked United States Senator worked a crooked

We know not what condition the Re We know not what condition the Republican party of Union County is in, but we favor a Republican revival—a camp meeting if necessary. The time will not return soon when flambeau clubs and long political processions will mark political campaigns, but there will come a time when people will study the political clusterior more return to the control of the control of

a time when people will study the political situation more seriously than they
are doing at the present time.

The danger in "voting for the man"
occurs when men are nominated of whom
you know nothing. In county matters
it is possible to know your candidates
personally. Not so in State affairs.
What does the man is Union County
know about the man from Klamath
Falls who wants to be State Treasurer,
if that man runs on an inderendent if that man runs on an indepe ticket?

Give us a political party every time, but make that party as clean and free from graft as human beings can do. If by some fluke a noted rascal receives a nomination, do not vote for him, but first see that no rascals are nominated. When the American people firmly de-cide that the place to lay the foundation of government is at the primary rather than at the election, then the problem is solved, and not until then.

CEMENT SEWER PIPE FAVORED

By Dropping Clay-Pipe-People Compe tition Will Be Established. PORTLAND, May 10 .- (To the Edior.)-As a taxpayer I have noted with onsiderable interest the controversy of the past few weeks in regard to the introduction of cement sewer pipe, and concur in The Oregonian's commen-editorially and otherwise on the sub-

I speak from a taxpayer's viewpoint "Competition is the life of trade," runs the old adage, and as we all know at present no competition exists in sewer pipe (call it "trust," or what you will) is it to be expected that the clay-pipe sellers will voluntarily reduce the price of their product to a fair figure? Most emphatically: "No." After a careful investigation by our City Engineer, Mayor Simon and numerous interested taxpayers, who in the end foot the bills, coupled with indorsements from 80 or more cities in the United States and foreign countries and numberless cement experts, it seems to be a fact beyond all possible recall that the ce-ment pipe is not only the equal but better than the clay pipe for sewer

In view of the further fact that the cement pipe can and will be furnished the taxpayers at a very much lower cost—why humiliate and hold up these people indefinitely who have come here people indefinitely who have come here in good faith and established their plant at the invitation of the Mayor and City Engineer, whose stand in this matter is also highly commendable. Tell me. I very much desire to know as do, I believe, 95 per cent of all

FRANK ROLLAM.

Musical Bed Induces Sleep.

Springfield Republican.
A furniture dealer in Paris is she
g a novelty in the form of a ing a novelty in the form of a bed which is an improvement on a similar one which attracted attention at the last Paris exposition. It is to all appearances an ordinary bed, but the weight of the body upon it sets clockwork in motion, thus operating a music box which gives forth soothing melo-dies. The lullables which it plays are supposed to induce sleep. By means of a dial at the head of the bed the person who occupies it fixes an alarm for the next morning. This produces, when the hour arrives, discordant sounds, to which the person in bed must pay heed, because failure to rise within five minutes after the . noise has begun ause the bottom of the bed to fall out.

English Girls Compared With Ours. Washington Star. American girls are gayer and more independent in their "teens" than Eng-

lish girls are at the same age. An Eng-lish woman recently told the whole story in a nutshell when bewalling the fact that some of the best parties in England were being captured by Amer-ican women. Her advice was: "Why do not English parents, instead of cramming their girls with accom-plishments for which they very likely

have no aptitude, try to teach them the best of all qualities in a wife, adapta-bility. Then perhaps the plums of the matrimonial market might occasionally fall to English belles instead of almost invariably to their more 'cute' and de-cidedly 'quicker witted' American cou-

New Idea for Memorial Day. Springfield Republican.

Springfield Republican.
The Grand Army post in Brockton,
Mass, proposes this year to decorate
the soldiers' graves on Memorial day
with baskets of growing pansies rather
than with cut flowers—a sensible departure. As Ophelia said: "There's
rosemary, that's for remembrance; pray,
love, remember; and there is pansies,
that's for thoughts."

Where Both Agreed. Kansas City Star.

Norah had been guilty of what was considered an indiscretion, so the mistress of the house called her to "step the carpet." "If such a thing occurs again, Norah." said the mistress, "I shall have to get another servant!" And Norah said: "I wish yer would—there's easily enough work for two of us."

Louisville Courier-Journal.

A hero who is not his own horn-blower is a rare and inspiring figure

in the modern world.

ALABAMA AGAINST PROHIBITIONS Editor Watterson Says Recent Pri

maries Forecast Return to 'Sanity.' Louisville Courier-Journal.

The result of the Democratic primary in Alabama forecasts the end of the prohibition wave and the return of sane

The failure of prohibition as a pro-moter of temperance has been fully dem-onstrated. Its fraudulency as a propa-ganda serving the ends of the selfish and dishonest officeseeker has been tested in Alabama, as in other states in which the experiment has been tried. The begin-ning of the end of prohibitionism was the attempt to abolish vital provisions of the Constitution, to enforce the state-wide law at the cost of the sacrifice of rights held inalienable since the founding of

the Republic.

The people of Alabama compare well, in point of honesty and sanity, with those of any other state. Carried off their feet, for the moment, by reckless and corrupt agitators they elected law-makers who plastered the statute books with a number of measures vicious in their origin and injuried to the state's their origin and inimical to the state's their origin and inimical to the state's interests. Prominent among these was the state-wide prohibition law. It failed to produce promised results, just as it has falled whenever, and wherever, it has been put to the test. "Constitutional Prohibition," which meant the destruction of the state constitution, was advocated by the creators of the state-wide law when its steral fallows become not law when its signal failure became no torious. The movement met overwhelm-ing opposition. The voters had become sufficiently acquainted with the agitators to distrust their objects as well as to recognize the inefficiency of their remedy. The vote presaged the abandonment of state-wide prohibition as a quack cure tried and found wanting. The result of the primary election is a logical development.

Maine has preferred a half-century of dishonor to an admission of the failure of its prohibition law to vindicate its right to its label. Drunkenness and the debauchery of government have been everywhere in evidence. Alabama indicates an intention of pursuing a straighte cares an intention of pursuing a straighter course by declining to content herself with hypocrisy. Estimating fanaticism at its real value, recognizing the profes-sional prohibitionist of the office-seeking class as a cousin once removed of the carpetbagger, the state indicates its im-patience with the combination of cant, corruption and craziness, and expresses a preference for laws democratic in prin-ciple, and reasonably effective in practice as against laws undemocratic in principle and in operation a farce.

HAIRSPLITTING IN CONGRESS. Insurgent-Regular Difference Is Like Tweedledum-Tweedledee.

New York Globe. How microscopic are the issues over which Washington divides and as to which the country is asked to grow excited! Consider the latest roll-call in the Senate, whose announcement was awaited with bated breath, with the implication that humanity, with all its hopes and fears, trembled in the bal-

The section of the railroad bill au thorizing railroads, with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, to make traffic agreements was under debate. The bill as it stood pro-vided that when the railroads made an agreement they should file the same with the commission, which was au-thorized, if it did not approve, to in-validate it. Senator Cummins offered an amendment the effect of which was that the railroads should submit the agreement to the commission for ap-proval before filing. The two propositions are thus brothers—the only ference between them being the cise time when the commission should register its "kick."

To the ordinary mind it would seem as if "regular" could have supported the Cummins amendment or 'Insurgent' supported the original bill without sur render of view. But the Senatorial mind is not the ordinary mind. By some mystery of psychology the matter has become vital—if you voted one way you were virtuous, and if the other way you were wicked. So the roll was called, and in a most solemn way a distant line drawn between the become vision line drawn between the sheep and the goats. Aldrich preferred ap proval by the commission should comafter rather than before filing, and

Aldrich is a suspect.

Query has been made as to why the country takes so little interest in the railroad bill debate. It is because the public is convinced that the argument is over the distinction there is between tweedledum and tweedledee.

Lesson for the Negro.
Portland Advocate (colored).
The craze for automobile and taxi-

cab riding, fine clothing and a host of other useless extravagances is keep-ing the colored man back. Why not imitate the foreigner who before he learns to speak the English language learns to speak the English language launches out in some kind of business, bootblack stands, push carts, fruit stands or something equality as humble, and, in a few years becomes independently rich and in this manner they make a place in the world of affairs for their result. for their people.

There is no denying the fact that the colored man has the ability, but he lacks ambition and confidence. But the majority of those who have started out in business are succeeding admir ably well and there is still room and opportunity for many others. Until we have something to sell, something to trade or something to

yield an income, we can never hope to measure arms with other races. For the man or woman who is content to be the hired help will forever remain

Most Popular Joke Ever Published. Westminster Gazette. The most popular joke which has een published in any language in the

history of the world is stated to be that which appeared in an obscure cor-ner of the Punch Almanac for 1845. It read: "Advice to persons about to marry-Don't!" It would be interesting to know who was its author. other, founded on a similar subject was the "Advice to persons who have 'fallen in love'—Fall out!" One of the most brilliant things that ever appeared in our contemporary was the brief dialogue between an inquiring child and his impatient parent: "What is mind?" "No matter." "What is matter?" "Never mind." peared in our contemporary was the

CURRENT NEWSPAPER JESTS.

A rooster would be entitled to more credit for rising early if he didn't crow about it.— Puck. Puck.

Mrs. Hoyle—Don' you think my boy is growing? Mrs. Doyle—Fes; he is pretty large for his mother's age.—Judge.

Caller—Is Mrs. Browne at home? Artiess parlor maid (smiling confidentially)—No, ma'am—she really is out this afternoon.—Punch.

"Mrs. Neurich has no idea as to ho treat her interiors." "Well, you must member that it's only been a few mo that she's had any."—Cleveland Leader. Mistress—I never allow more than tw nights out a week. Isn't that enough Colored Maid—No'm. Fae afraid it ain' You see. I'se a debutante this year—Idfe.

You see. I'se a debutante this year-life.

"What do you sell lard for, young man?"
asked the old lady of a new clerk in the corner grocery. "Cause I can't get any thing else to do, ma'sm," replied the young man, who was not allogether satisfied with his job.—Chicago Daily News.

"Do you," he asked, "believe in early marriages?" "Well." she replied, "I used to, but I am willing to say that at presen I believe Detter late than never may be applied to marriage as well as to some other things."—Chicago Record-Heraid.

"Oh Mand," said the other will "did you "Oh, Maud," said the other girl, "did y notice that this seaside hotel advertises furnish young men escorts?" "I know t kind," said Maud, bitterly. "They are su silly rissies that a girl feels like a chaper every time she walks out with them." Cleveland Plain Dealer.

LIFE'S SUNNY SIDE

The wife of the clergyman of a certain suburban parish was mending clothes the other day when a visitor was announced. The hosiess went on with her sewing, for the caller was a well known parishioner. After a while the visitor glanced toward the sewing table and explained.

and exclaimed: "Why, there are some buttons exactly like some my husband had on his last winter suit. They are an odd kind of button, too. Where did you get them? The clergyman's wife smiled reguishly. "In the collection basket," she answered, quietly. "I found a good many of the guietly. I found a good many of the same kind. I am saving them up for possible use."

The caller changed the subject as hastily as she could, and somehow or other she did not stay very long.—Boston

Traveler.

Having recounted her 17 parcels for the 17th time and reassured herself for the 22d time that she had her ticket all safe in her reticule, the old lady in the black-braded bonnet thrust her head out of the carriage window and ejaculated: "Porter!"

The passing trunk-tugger paused politely on his way to the goods van.
"Porter!" repeated the old lady, "Does
this train stop at Waterloo?"
The official drew a corduroy sleeve across his nasal appendage.
"Well, mum," he mused, "if it don't you fest look out for the biggest bump ye ever 'ad in all yer bloomin' life!"— Answers.

Mr. Raymond appeared at his neigh-bor's door one November evening at dusk in a towering rage and uttering fierce threats against his neighbor's dog. Nero. Vainly the neighbor tried to ex-plain that Nero was only a puppy. "He belongs to Johnny." he went on. "and it would break Johnny's heart if anything happened to him. I think," hopefully, "that his manners will improve," "Manners!" repeated Raymond. "I'm not complaining of his manners, but his nature. After he had jumped all over me he bit at the back of my leg."
"That's as far as he can reach," broke
in Johnny, in a wounded tone. "You
don't expect a little pup like him to bite a big man like you on the neck, do you, Mr. Raymond!"—Youth's Companion.

A gaunt and kilted Scotsman made his appearance in a country village, and was endeavoring to charm the locals to charity with selections on his bagpipe. A shaggy-haired man opened the front door of a house and beckened to the minstrel.

"Gle us a wee bit lilt just oot here." he said, in an accent which told that he also was from the land of the haggis. "My auld mither's in a crestical condection oppstaor. The doctor's wi' her the noo, and says the pipes may save her

Up and down in front of the house marched the braw Hielander, discoursing music that might well have been in-cidental to a cat and dog fight. Presently the shaggy-haired man came out again.
"Gie us the 'Dead March' noo," he said.
"Is the puir auld lady gone?" ques-

tioned the piper.
"Na, na, mon; ye've saved mither."
came the reply: "but ye've killed the pulr
doctor."—Boston Transcript.

A young English suffragette tells the A young English suffragette tells the following incident that recently happened at a meeting in the Scotch Highlands.

Speeches had been made to a large crowd. Questions had been replied to, smid applause. Imbecile young men making remarks about minding bables and mending socks had been silenced. Then, just as there was a temporary full before the putting of a resolution, a great bucolic Scotch voice from the back of the crowd rasped slowly in with the inquiry, obviously the result of prothe inquiry, obviously the result of pro-longed rumination:
"Wha made a mess of Adam?"—Har-

per's Monthly.

Mark Twain and Shakespeare. Saturday Review

The word to fit Mark Twain is not easily found. To say of him that he was a humorist is to pervert language. Comic-st times irresistibly so-perhaps; but not humorous. The comood is nowhere near to humor. His best work is a mere overflow of men-tal good spirits; and, unless the reader be equally full-bodied, he may find himself depressed from sheer reaction. He was first among the funny men of America—a country which can never become seriously minded or reflective enough to produce a humorist. Lis spirit and tone were very near to those of our own comic press. This is not the time for humor. People want to be amused boisterously, and pay

to be amused boisterously, and pay their funny men to that end, just as the medieval baron paid his fool.

Mark Twain was the best of them all. The secret of his success was this: to please his fellows, he had simply to be himself—to give himself the rein. His vein was the vein of Ellizabethan farce. However crude the absurdity it went down with his readers, because it was forced down. Literally he made his readers laugh. That is why he bored so many of them. With his faults he had the supreme excuse that bored so many of them. With his faults he had the supreme excuse that condones many of the artistic blemishes in Shakespeare's early farces-he

Saying It in Fifty Words. New York Sun.

New York Sun.

The night letter telegrams have proved a boon to many, but there are patrons that find them somewhat baffling.

"Look at that man biling the end of "Look at that man string the end of a broadway office said. "He is trying to think what in the world to say to use up the 50 words he is entitled to. I like to watch 'em in here at nights. Most of them have more trouble trying to think up 50 words than they ever did in keeping their messages down to ten. There ing their messages down to ten. There is only one man who comes in here, sits right down, and writes out his 50 words without hesitating. But he's in business down South, and has been in the habit of sending long messages for years."

The Exchange of Funds. Washington Star. "Is your foreign son-in-law going to

"It depends," said Mr. Cumrox, "on the outcome of an argument we're hav-ing now. He wants to teach me to play baccarat and I want to teach him to play poker."

"Mr. Roosevelt was in his vesterday," says a Paris sevelt was in his element says a Paris cable in New York Herald. Of Thursday's New course! And the day before, and the day before that; and he will be tomor-row. That's the Colone! And the day before, and the

Welcome Now

Louisville Courier-Journal. "Better dodge dat town, " Tramps sin't popular in towns." "We ain't tramps now; we're popula-on. Don't youse know do census it being took?"

Woman's Portion.

Atchison Globe.

When a woman has the worst of it, but she has very much the worst of it; but when she has the best of it, she has very much the best of it.

Chicago Record-Heraid. Hardly any man ever envies a biga-nist after seeing the hisemist's serves.