## The Oregonian

ca-luvariably in Advance. 

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POSTAL BANKS IN SIGHT. The postal savings bank bill, whose passage is now virtually assured, will be an exceedingly popular measure almost without regard to its minor provisions. The need of such institutions is so deeply felt by the public and the demand for them is so wide and persistent that it would have been a fatal blunder for Congress to neglect to carry out the provision of the last Republican National platform in favor of them. There never has been any substantial opposition to postal savings banks except from some of the bank-ers, and on their part it was filinformed and extremely selfish. These bankers imagined that their interests would in some way, be injured by the postal banks; but they never have shown how this could possibly happen. and they have never refuted the arguments of those who have favored the nnovation. As a matter of fact, the dislike of the organized bankers to the postal bank bill was as shortsighted as it was groundless and it has now been largely withdrawn. The fact that they have at last perceived harmlessness of the postal banks to their own business is creditable to

the candor and intelligence of the

bankers even if it is a little belated. In Congress the main difficulties in arranging the details of the bill have arisen over the problem of disposing of the deposits. Where shall they be placed for safekeeping? Shall they be invested in Government bonds or other securities? Shall they be poured into the Insatiate maw of the Wall street Institutions to swell the vast bubble of speculation? Multitudes of questions of this sort have been asked during the pendency of the bill and now most of them have been answered and, upon the whole, answered in a manner that will please the country. It has been substantially agreed that the Federal Treasury shall hold 5 per cent of the deposits as a reserve, while of the remainder one-half shall be invested Government bonds and one-half shall remain on deposit in local banks. Perhaps this is the best possible disposition to make of the matter, but it is difficult to understand why so large a proportion of the funds should be invested in Government bonds. It is commonly known, however, that these securities are something of a white elephant on the hands of the National bankers at present, and perhaps this way of disposing of a large quantity has had something to do with appearing the opposition of the bankers' association to the postal measure. If such a trade has been made the country will gain by it, though clearly the proper place for the deposits of the postal savings banks is in the chan-

nels of local business. There is comfort, however, in the reflection that in all likelihood the local banks will find that their 47% per cent of the deposits in the postal banks will come to them as if it had been created out of nothing. Very little money that is now on deposit the ordinary banks will be transferred to the postoffice, while large sums which are in hoarding will haled forth and put into the processes of trade. These sums will be like an addition to the circulating medium of the country, and the bankers more than anybody else will get the benefit of them. They ought not to complain, therefore, even if their proporion of the savings deposits looks little meager. A scant half of the loaf is a good deal better than no bread, without postal banks, so far as these hoarded funds are concerned, there will be no bread. They will remain in hiding.

When all is said, however, it were wished that more of the postal bank deposits might be left in local Institutions. The Government does not need to take this method to keep up the credit of its bonds. There are plenty of people who would be glad to buy them if they were put on the market, no matter how small an inthey produce. On the other hand, the system of investing the postal deposits in Government securities will tend in the long run to interest multitudes of citizens directly in the stability of the Government. make thousands of humble people shareholders, so to speak. in the bonds of the Nation, and thus will very likely create something of that economic patriotism which both France and England have found so useful in times of stress.

In a large way the most striking utility of the postal banks will consist in their power to prevent panics. When people become suspicious of the stability of the ordinary banks, they will seek to withdraw their money and place it in the postoffice. Under the provisions of the bill the postoffice must forthwith replace at least 4714 per cent of it where it came from. If the proportion were larger, the fortifying effect would be still greater, but obviously even this arrangement must help appreciably to strengthen the local banks. As matters now stand, the funds which are withdrawn from the banks in time of distrust are immediately hoarded, and none of them go back into business until the panic has run its devastating course and all its mischief has been completed. The advantage of the new system is impressive. The only mystery connected with the matter is that any banker should ever have opposed what from every point of view must redound to the advantage of his business.

It is said that the farmers of California, in desperation for help to harvest their crops, are turning to Jananese labor as their only source of re-Yet all agree that the Chinese, against whom there was such a furi ous uprising a quarter of a century

anese in almost every class of farm labor. The truth is, farmers and orchardists must have help. The famine in the labor world does not apply to the farmers of California slone. It is general throughout the land. Men are needed everywhere to bear a hand in the harvest. Those who stand idly upon the street corners, disclaiming against Oriental labor, will not do the work that needs to be done-that must be done if the Nation is to be fed. Japanese or Chinese, which shall it be when our sorely pressed farmers and frultgrowers enter the labor market seeking?

TRUTH ABOUT ASSEMBLY.

Here is the demand for the so-called advisory assembly coming from the dis-gruntled and discredited elements of ma-chine politics. They do not represent the political party which has tolerated them almost to its ruin and now has done with them.—From a Correspondent's Letter in the Salem Statesman. This is the kind of stuff put forth

by the opponents of assembly throughout the state. The assertion not true. It is so far from truth that it is wholly false in statement and in implication. It is an exact reversal of facts known to every observer of political conditions in Oregon.

The inspiration for an assembly comes from the great body of the Re-publican party that recognizes the utterly helpless and demoralized condition of the party, and seeks to find an effective method of party harmony and party action. These Republicans have an interest in the Republican party for its own sake, for through the Republican party they believe that the public welfare generally may best be promoted. That is the reason they are Republicans.

Who opposes an assembly? It is the "disgruntled and discredited elements of machine politics." It is the Democratic party, which hopes for continued Democratic success through Republican dissension and impotence. It is the Bourne faction, which has allied itself with the Republican party solely for what there is in it for them-The Bourne faction cannot selves. control a Republican assembly any-Therefore they are against where.

The truth as to who are advocates and who are opponents of assembly may easily be ascertained by any one. The persistent effort to misrepresent ought not to succeed and will not suc-

PROTECTING HIS HOME.

The St. Paul man, E. J. Gibbon, who shot his wife and a priest "to protect his home," might have found methods of accomplishing his desire less spectacular and possibly more effective. He might, for example, have tried the results of keeping sober. For three days before he became so deeply impressed with the necessity of protecting his home that he felt obliged to commit a double murder he was recovering from a spree in a drink-cure sanitarium. Whom did he expect to look after the welfare of his family while he was drunk? Of course he expected his wife to do it, and evidently his romantic masculine pride could be satisfied with nothing else than for her to take in washing for a

It has often been noticed that degraded wretches like Gibbon who are themselves too besotted to earn a living for the family are never jealous as long as their wives are busy at the But let the poor woman who is tied to one of these vile creatures make the acquaintance of any man who is able and willing to lighten her toll and somewhat lessen the burden of her misery, and then there is

The husband's manly pride at once takes alarm. His sensitive soul rises he thought that any other man should presume to intrude on his preserves. It makes no difference how innocent the intrusion may be. The priest who was shot by Gibbon was. ccording to the accounts, one of the best men in the world, with no thought of doing wrong when he tried to assist Gibbon's wife. But the miserable sot chose to imagine that In some way the good priest had wronged him. The evidence of the wrong, we suppose, was the fact that Mrs. Gibbon was not obliged to go out scrubbing for her dally bread. As long as his wife is at the tub or kneeling over a scrub bing brush, the ordinary drunkard feels that his honor is perfectly safe. He can lie in jail or snooze at a sanhe knows that nothing can impair his honor as long as his wife is a brokendown drudge. It is the thought that she has found a way to live a decent life in spite of his swinishness that drives the set to desperation.

NEED OF STRENGTH AT SEA.

The United States is bound to keep up with the sea powers of the world, the thalassocrats who pit their energies against each other in displays of national defense and assert themselves first among the earth's governing The rulers of the sea have always been the strong and invulnerable nations; and ability of a people to supply the means of sea power has always been the test of defense against aggrandizing rivals and of offens against rival injustice.

This country will add to its Navy two super-Dreadnoughts each year. according to a programme of the President as approved by the two houses of Congress. Each of these immense fighting machines will cost between \$11,000,000 and \$15,000,000. amount of treasure and of National energy that will go into these battle ships will be enormous. The same effort turned toward improvement of rivers and harbors, construction roads, reclamation of arid land or amelioration of disease and poverty would accomplish great things. this country must assert its power at sea, and to this end must provide the

means of upholding that power. The nations would save themselves much waste of economic resource, of course, by disarming and quitting the business of building great fighting ships. But as nations now vie with each other and as they are likely to it is idle to talk of disarmament. The strongest nations will not cease upbuilding their sea power and weaker, that cannot keep up the strain, must fall back, as they always have done, to places where they are subservient to the international justice and square deal that more powerful neighbors wish to give. These ideas of justice and square deal are what the strongest nation chooses to make them and power at sea has always been the means of dictating them. The United States thought it right and proper to wage offensive war against Spain, but Spain and other nations of Europe took altogether different view

Heves that it should expel any aggrandizing nation of Europe from the two Americas, but the peoples of Europe look upon that question from an opposite point of view. This country regards Japan as somewhat of a selfish aggressor in Manchurla, but Japan looks upon its expansion in the Crient as necessary and therefore right.

The thalassocrats of the world will talk disarmament, but keep on building ships just the same. The United States has no choice but to continue adding to its naval strength, if it would command respect for its ideas of international square deal. That has been the text of many a Roosevelt sermon, and it will be the text of many a homily hereafter. This country cannot be a power for good in the world without a great Navy.

THE INDIAN HEATHEN.

The General Assembly of the Pres-byterian Church has decided that the American Indian is the greates heathen. In a Home Mission report read at the Assembly, it was stated "with only 300,545 Indians in United States exclusive of Alaska there is a larger per cent of heathen unenlightened by the gospel among this people than among any other element of American population." The report notes that there is really no Sabbath in Alaska, "with steamers large and small calling in port and the industries and mines running seven days in the week." Prior to the com ing of the white man, the Indian got along fairly well with a religion of his own. In his belief in a Spirit, the Indian with the untutored mind "sees God in storms and hears him in the wind."

It may be that the Indian remains a heathen because the white man fails to offer him as attractive a form of religion as that of which he is deprived. In his primitive state the "untutored" mind of the Indian was never taught to stray, far as the sola walks or Milky Way," but his morals and manners averaged up well with those of some of the followers of modern creeds. The difficulty in inducing an Indian to change from the belief of his fathers lies largely in the inability of modern religion to offer him any tangible benefits by the change. A very bright Vancouver Island Indian girl in an attempted excuse for the wayward life she wa

leading, said: leading, said:

They took me away from my parents and my tribe and practically forced me to learn the religion and the civilization of the whites. I was happy and care-free until this experience with the customs and religion of the whites showed me what an enormous guif lay between them and the customs and religion of the Indians. I saw enough of the whites to make me dissatished with the old life in the wigwam, but I also recognized the impossibility, in my short life, of ever changing the customs of my people. These well-meaning Christians awakened in me hopes that could never be fuifilled, and they transformed me from a happy Indian girl into a dissatished being who was neither Indian nor white.

There are human affections and

There are human affections and instincts in the wigwam as well as in the palace. When the family and friends of these artificially civilized and converted Indian girls realize the unhappiness the change has brought on those they love, they can hardly be blamed for falling to be enthusiastic over the religion of the white man. Commander Peary found among the Far Northern tribes an absolute lack of any knowledge of the religious beliefs of the whites. In this state of delightful ignorance he also found happy people with a code of morals as good as those of the whites, and much more universally observed Peary has been criticised for his failure to do a little missionary work, but it would have been cruelty to a happy peace-loving people to attempt the

IF OREGON GOES DRY. Vancouver, Wash., has high hope that Oregon, this coming Fall, vote in favor of prohibition. Vancou

ver looks for such a result to double and quadruple the value of real estate there and cause the city to build rap-The State of Washington will never declare for prohibition as a state issue. The activity of the people and the number of large cities and con-

siderable towns will prevent that result. The town of Vancouver itself only a short time ago threw a heavy majority against prohibition. State of Washington municipalities decide this question for themselves. So it ought to be in Oregon.

FIFTY-THOUSAND TON STEAMER. The fact that the Cunard Steamshir Company was obliged to report no dividend on last year's business has not prevented this oldest of the great trans-Atlantic lines from continuing the struggle for supremacy in the passenger traffic between the old world and the new. When the Lusttania and Mauretania won the speed pennant, which had been held by the marvelous Deutschland for nearly dozen years, the Germans apparently abandoned the contest for speed. Although three years have elapsed sinc t was known that the Deutschland's record would be beaten by the British scorchers, no attempt has been made to produce a challenger in the way of The Germans, however, had achieved such success with their monster eight-day boats of the "Amerika" type that they apparently decided to meet the British competition with larger and more comfortable boats than the express steamers which are built more for speed than comfort

Before the Lusitania and Mauretania were clear of the builders' ways the Germans were at work on the plans for a 45,000-ton steamer. vessel, now under construction. 10,000 tons greater than the Cunard record-breakers, but the speed will be nearly eight knots an hour slower than the Lusitania and her sister ship. But the Cunard line with its eight-day posts, the Caronia and Carmania, has learned that a large proportion of the traveling public prefers the slower ships of great tonnage to the long, lean racers, which, driven at top speed are such admirable producers of "mal de mer." To meet this demand which prefers comfort to speed, and to en able it to retain its present prestige as owner of the largest ship in the world, the Cunard line is now arranging for 50-000-ton ship to cost approximately \$6,500,000 and to have a speed of 22 knots an hour. This is about fou knots slower than the Lusitania and Mauretania, and about four knots faster than the most popular steamers of the German lines.

Trans-Atlantic travel is increasir so rapidly that it is almost a foregone conclusion that the coming 50,000tonner will not long remain the sole representative of its type. Not only is there great rivalry between the British and the German lines, bu there is also keen competition between ago in California, are superior to Jap- of the matter. The United States be- the various lines operating under the

same flag. The Cunard's chief British rival, the White Star line, has apparently abandoned the speed contest, but is now actually building two 45,000ton steamers, the Olympia and Ti-tanic, which will be ready for service next year, and will bring to the line for a brief period the prestige of owning the largest ships in the world.

Just where the competition will end is difficult to predict. Twenty years ago, an Increase of 1000 tons in the size of a ship, or the fraction of a knot in speed, was regarded as marvelous. Now they are breaking speed records by two or three knots an hour. and the ships are increasing in size by 5000-ton leaps. The length of the White Star monsters is 840 feet. The new Cunarders will be nearly 900 feet long. These dimensions make the old Great Eastern seem so small by comparison that one cannot well doubt that the 1000-foot steamer is much nearer at hand than was thought possible a few years ago.

It is probably a good thing for Mr. Morgan that he has selected cotton instead of wheat as a commodity with which to wreak his vengeance on Mr. Patten. The world's cotton crop is produced in a comparatively limited area. Wheat is quite generally grown throughout the world; the harvest of one country trails into that of another almost without interruption. The average wheat yield of the world is about 3,250,000,000 bushels, and, as the world's prices for the past two years have not fallen much short of \$1 a bushel, it would somewhat strain even the resources of Mr. Morgan to corner the world's crop. While the bears have undoubtedly put a deep dent in the Patten bank roll, it is too early to assume that the most successful grain speculator the country has yet produced, is a candidate for the downand-out club. Mr. Morgan might do well to stick to his stock juggling, and keep his fingers out of cotton and wheat, with which he has had but little experience.

The Sellwood man who held out \$2 of his weekly wage, telling his wife he was held up by an officer for riding on the sidewalk, has the right kind of helpmeet. She went to police headquarters at once and learned of the man's duplicity. The incident, however, leads to a line of thought. What figure should a man's pay reach when he will be justified in keeping his wife in ignorance of the amount? Some women are so constituted that the habit of wanting all grows upon what it is fed and thrives apace. Such greed must be repressed, of course, but the wife will get the information in the end, for in matching wits mere man is an amateur. For the old ones there is little hope of relief, but the young husband can start right and keep her in blissful ignorance of her resource until in a moment of marital sublunacy he gives the whole thing away. Henceforth and forever he is a mestic trailer.

An empty fishing boat, washed up on the beach near Fort Canby with no trace of the men who manned it when it left the cannery, marks the first fishing fatality of the season. An improved class of fishermen, less whisky drinking, and better channels at the mouth of the river have materially cut down the annual toll that the sea has always levied on the Columbia River fishing fleet. Never a season comes owever, without some reckless or unlucky fisherman tempting fate a little too far and making his last drift through the breakers into another

Why should any one care where the Drexels go on their wedding journey? The two incidents in life which people of any and every station should be allowed to arrange in detail according to their own ideas are weddings and The prying multitude, goggle-eyed with curiosity, has no place at either.

Alfred Austin's robust health at the age of 75 years proves how much more conductve to longevity a prosaic, unimaginative temperament is poetic fire and fury. Keats, Shelley, Byron, all died young, and they were poets. The laureate of England, never wrote any poetry in his life and never will, is hale and hearty at 75.

Bribery confessions are quite the rage in Illinois. We welcome each new one with joy as long as they are all genuine, but what a terrible thing it would be if the lust for fame should tempt some Illinois Democrat to aver that he had received a share of Mr. Lorimer's money when in truth he wasn't thought worth buying.

People who complain of the slow derelopment of aviation forget how many thousand years it took to trans form the floating log on which the primitive savage paddled around the bay into an Atlantic liner. While we are waiting for something better, Curtiss' flight from Albany to New York is a passable makeshift.

Iowa, speaking before the Iowa State Horticultural Society, says that the use of apples as an article of diet will diminish and ultimately abate the appetite for alcoholic stimulants. Another advertisement for the Oregon apple.

Mayor Fawcett, of Tacoma, saved the city \$18,000 a year by reducing salaries of city officials. Up to the hour of going to press, no news has been received of any of the affected officeholders resigning.

Our Jeff, not the Californian, may depend on all the Democratic votes in Still, if he wants to sit in the Governor's chair, he will have to run as a non-partisan. George did it.

Everybody should fly a flag next week. The happiest combination of color that ever was cannot hurt the bloom of the roses.

The deposed Shah of Persia is

studying surgery in Russia. If he ever gets back on the job, he will do some sleek beheading. If that comet does not soon

its diaphanous tail about itself and disappear it will be caught for a picture show. The railway postal clerk who stole

will make a good member of the zebra

Jealousy, fomented by liquor, often makes mistakes. The hangman never

oney to aid in

HARASSING OREGON SETTLERS. Let Government Turn Special Agents

Into Aids, Not Obstructionists. PORTLAND, May 30 .- (To the Editor.)-In view of some evidence in your columns recently from Washington indicating returning sanity on the part of the Land Department in dealing with actual settlers on the public domain. I feel encouraged to offer a few suggestions which, backed by the circulation and powerful support of The Oregonian, may result in a still closer study by the Washington officials of the rights of settiers and the extension of a helpful and encouraging hand to them instead of harassing, annoying and frightening

An earnest and all-embracing invita-

tion has been promulgated by the Government for years to the citizens of this country, native and foreign born, to go out and make homes upon the unoccupied lands. That invitation has had a more alluring influence during the past few years of high living in the cities than since the days following the Civil War. and the great areas of Central Oregon have been the Mecca to which the landhungry masses have come. But in the face of that insistent and persistent invitation, what has been the policy of land department administration? An army of detectives has been organized under the name of "special agents," supported by an immense appropriation, who have proceeded upon the apparent theory that as soon as the citizen accepts the invitation of the Government, enters a piece of land and pays the legal fees thereon, he at once becomes a liar, thief and perjurer, whose every movement must be watched by the hired sleuths of the department, lest he sleep a night away from his homestead and thus injure, destroy and upset Uncle Sam's entire structure!

Those new homesteaders—the blazers of the trail of American progress-are sometimes located miles from neighbors. distant from mail service, perhaps short of means, cut off from all the pleasurable associations of life, many of them not versed in practical agricultural pursuits or informed as to the real nature of the soil and climate surrounding them. Is their lot not a tough one? Is the Government injured if those men work a part of the year to obtain the means of subsistence and of improving their land? Does it make any difference to the Government whether they are employed one mile or 50 miles away from their claims provided that is the home upon which their earnings and energies are expendeda

I am reliably informed that the policy of the "special agent" brigade is to go into a homestead community and dig up contest cases on the merest pretense and by the aid of the worst characters in the community-fellows who are ever ready to make trouble and whose testimony in a home court would not convict a mangy dog. Or the "special" goes to some fellow whose own course leaves him liable to trouble and gives him to understand that the only way he can save himself from such trouble is to "com through" with evidence against the neighbor whom the agent wishes to cinch Such is the system under which great stacks of "contests" have been piled up in Washington, upon which to base a demand for big appropriations through which the gang can be supported and perpetuated.

Every man in the department knows this thing is true as outlined and yet it is allowed. How long will the Amerlcan people stand for it?

The suggestion I wish to offer is this: Let the department at Washington divert the appropriation for special agents to the employment of men versed in the study of practical agriculture and send them out to homesteading districts to boards but that the practice is a legiti-give needed information regarding soil mate subject for state control. and adaptable crops; to explain methods of irrigation and of conserving water; to encourage the homesteader and desert entryman in the ways leading to success to display the confidence and the interest of the Government in his welfare, and then you will have a class of settlers with some ambitioin to make homes, to stay with the soil and to have a pride this work. And there will be no frauds or attempted frauds that cannot be headed off by the local land office

There never was a greater curse development of the unsettled lands than the "special agent" system. There never was a greater departure from American principles than the adoption of this European esplonage system. It is keeping ousands from Oregon's unsettled valleys and it is breeding an unrest among good citizens and fostering a sentiment that will make parts of this state as unhealthy for the special agent as it is sald parts of Ireland were 25 years ago for the same class of fellows under landlord control. JAMES R. SHELDON.

> Men Without a Party. Philadelphia Inquirer.

Of course, it is entirely within the personal rights of any Representative to refuse to go into the Republican caucus, called to consider the postal savings bank bill. But the "Insurgents" who are holding aloof still claim to be Republicans, we believe. They are not taking the right steps to prove their claim. The Republican party, through its National convention, promised postal savings banks. The Republican Presi-

dent urges them. They have become a the Democrats, with whom they are flirting and usually acting, and if they refuse to march with the Republican

band, what position do they occupy! Plainly, they are men without a par'y

New York Press. Anyhow, engagements aren't as ex-

pensive as automobiles.

Some men are not to be believed when they tell the truth any more than when they don't.

If a woman can't find anything else to brag about her husband, she'll do It bout how he hates to have her do it. One good thing about a man's having a lot of children is he never has any worry to spare on how the Government is run.

Her Game. "Your father despises that young man

u are engaged to."
'I know it, and so do L." Then why in the world are you going nerry him?"
wouldn't marry him if he was the last man on earth.

'Dad will buy me off with an electric runabout in a few days."

Relieving the Dullness. Houston Post. Roosevelt has been bitterly attacked

fectly corking time, after all. were getting awfully dull for him on account of that funeral. HERE IS CEMENT PIPE PROOF Clay Tube Falls in Competition With It

In Irrigation Service.

PORTLAND, May 30.—(To the Editor.)—I read your editorial "Fighting the Clay-Pipe Trust," in The Oregonian Saturday with a good deal of interest, for I know a liftle something about the relative merits of clay and cement pipe, as I think most people do who have ever lived in an irrigated district where water is conveyed by pipe lines.

Before the Mayor signs the ordinance giving the clay-pipe people the exclusion. In Irrigation Service.

giving the clay-pipe people the exclu-sive right to lay sewer pipe, I would suggest that he confer with engineers from some of the reclamation projects, Government or private, and find out what success they have had with variwhat success they have had with various kinds of pipe. Let him go still deeper and inquire why it is that the Government uses cement pipe exclusively, even in sizes up as high as \$4 inches in diameter, as it has done at Hermiston. Let him inquire of Irving Worthington, late of Irrigon but now of Medford, what success he had in conveying water to the former place through 14-inch pipe made by this same clay-pipe trust. Mr. Worthington will say that he had to discard the clay pipe, and use cement pipe in its place, and that there are now in use in the and that there are now in use in the Irrigon district many miles of cement pipe, and with perfect satisfaction, while most of the clay pipe shipped there by the clay-pipe trust was either shipped away after being tested and rejected, or is still lying there unused and unfit for use.

There is a pipe line of some 3000 feet just to the east of Irrigon, leading from the main ditch down to the river. I think this pipe is 24 inches in diamthink this pipe is 24 inches in diameter. It was supplied by the clay-pipe trust, and was to stand a pressure of 20 pounds, but it broke so often under a much lower pressure that the company putting it in never paid for it, and never will. It was absolutely unfit for the purpose for which it was sold.

I note that the Council was led astray by tests made where unseasoned ceby tests made where unseasoned co-ment pipe was used, which must have been the case, for any person who has ever had any experience well knows that cement pipe is superior in every way to clay pipe, and also that it is cheaper.

I maintain that if the Mayor or any member of the Council had a mile of sewer pipe to lay at his own expense on his own land he would not for a moment think of using clay pipe, for he would investigate the matter, and even the slightest investigation would show the cement pipe to be far the bet-ter and the the cheaper.

I believe the Mayor and the Council-men are honest, and that they are act-ing from the best motives, but they have failed to investigate the matter have falled to investigate the matter for themselves and have the words of interested parties at too high a value. I honestly believe—I am sure—that if the members of the Council would make an investigation themselves, fair and impartial, they would utterly reject clay pipe for all time to come. As you well say in your editorial, Mr. Editor, the Council acted too hastily. They did not, I believe, undertake to favor anybody, but they did commit a great wrong unintentionally, and the Mayor should 'ring the matter back to them by a veto. If he does this

back to them by a veto. If he does this I feel sure there will never be any clay pipe used hereafter in the sewer buildng of this city. Such action will not only save the

Such action will not only save the present generation a good deal of money by a reduction in the original cost of sewers, but it will save future generations still larger sums, for I do not think any person claims that the clay pipe will last anywhere near as long as coment pipe. clay pipe will long as cement pipe.
ADDISON BENNETT.

CITY MAY REGULATE BILLBOARDS

Missouri Supreme Court Renders De cision of Interest to Portland.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.

The Supreme Court of the State of Missouri has rendered a decision in a billboard case that is of much interest in every city where more or less successful attempts have been made to regulate the use of such advertising displays. The Supreme Court held not only that a city has a right to regulate the use of bill

Louis has suffered more than most cities from abuses by the billboard ators. was made to regulate either the size of location of the boards. The billboard business of the city amounted to \$500,000 a year on which the company owning privilege paid a nominal tax of \$250 billboard company questioned the right of the city to restrict its operation and flaunted its garish offenses in the face of the public. The case just decided arose over the refusal of the company to comply with the terms of a recently enacted ordinance regulating the bush ness of the company

Under the new ordinance, sustained by the courts, the billboards are not allowed to stand more than 14 feet above the ground, nor closer than 15 feet to the sidewalk; they must provide two feet of clear space at the bottom, must not run more than 50 feet in length and must not rest on the top of roofs or cover the front of bulldings. . These restrictions do not seem un

able, and the decision of the Missouri court should encourage the officials other cities who are making an effort keep the billboard displays within limits that will not ruin the beauty of the city and country with their hideous handi-

Girls Make Own Graduation Dresser

Indianapolis Star. The closing exercises of the year for he Girls' Industrial School will be held There are four girls who have completed the seven years' sewing course of the school and an elaborate programme has been arranged for the graduation. For diplomas they will be presented with uttling patterns.
Prizes are to be awarded for the various

grades of work. In the school there are 165 girls who have never missed a Satur-day afternoon class and they will be given books in recognition of their faithful at-tendance. Pupils 6 years of age, wearing garments made by themselves, will appear on the platform, as will girls who have attended five years, the latter wearing garments made by themselves on sew. machines. The four graduates also wear dresses which are their own handiwork.

Insurance Payments on the King. New York Press.

Coming to insurance companies to policyholders on the life of King Ed-ward is \$1,500,000. Most of these policies were taken out by business peo-ple who have copyhold leases granted for the term of King Edwards nat-ural life. Such leases are many years old, having been entered into when the King was a young man, so the insur-ance companies have had plenty of time o get theirs. Even some years ago copie began to take out insurance the lives of King George's children, owing to their names appearing in the leases. Last year the insurance com-panies raised the rate on the King's life from 10 to 15 per cent.

Mocking a Dead Scientist. New York Evening Sun. I'm dreaming now of Hall Old Halley-Fake Halley. I'm dreaming now of Halley, And the mocking bird is roosting on his grave.

> In Brief. Chicago Tribune.
> The comet's report,
> Or all verblage stripped,
> Is. "I came, I saw,
> And immejitly skipped."

## LIFE'S SUNNY SIDE

"If you want an answer to any quesion under the sun," said Robert Edison, 'ask the small boy. Did you ever hear about the mother of a had boy who asked James Russell Lowell to write in her autograph album? The poet, complying, wrote the line:

'What is so rare as a day in June?' "Calling at this woman's house a few days later, Lowell idly turned the pages of the album till he came to his own autograph and saw this answer:

"A Chinaman with whiskers."—
Young's Magazine.

One evening, as the mother of a little niece of Phillips Brooks was tucking her snugly in bed, a caller was announced. The mother told the child to say her prayers and promised to be back in a few When she returned she asked the child

if she had done as she was bidder "Well, you see, mamma. I was awfully sleepy, so I just asked God if he wouldn't excuse me tonight, and He said, 'Oh, cer tainly; don't mention it, Miss Brooks.' "-Success Magazine.

Senator Overman sald the other day of a defeated bill;

"It deserves to be defeated. If was as irregular as a Tin Can poker game.
"A man, describing the game, said:
"One-eyed Bones, on my right, held four kings and an ace. Two-fingered Schermerhorn, on my left, held four aces and a king! and a king,"
"'And you-what did you hold?' some one asked excitedly.
"I, being the Coroner, held the inquest," was the reply."—Kansas City Star.

Senator Bolse Penrose, at a dinner at the Philadelphia Club, said of a movement that he opposed:
"It promises incredible things. In fact, it makes me think of Jack Travers,

of Pike County. "Jack is an old man now. He remem-bers the time when bears were as plentiful on the barren mountains as rattlers still are. Once, when I was fishing at Portland Lake, I asked him it be had ever had any remarkable adventures with

as he filled his pipe with cut plug; 'I can't say as I ever had much to do with the bears hereabouts. Wunst in my sparkn' days, me and a bear got together-

"twan't nothin', though.

"It all come about over old Sukey, our cow. She had a had habit of stayin' out late at night. Then I'd have to go to the woods and fetch her home to the 'Well, one dark night when I wanted

to go sparkin', Suke was late ag'in, and it certainly riz my dander. I started out

it certainly riz my dander. I started out after her, cussin' a blue streak, and in about an hour I heerd her snortin' and puffin' in the thicket.

"'Td missed my girl by that time, and I was riled clear through. I cut a saplin' and went for old Sukey. It was too dark to see, but I knew her snuffle, and I grabbed her by the ear and began to lay on with my stick just about proper.

"The old cow showed fight. She wrestled me around considerable. But I wrestled me around considerable. But 1 was mad-mad all over-and I half pushed and half drug and half carried her to the

barn, and there I tied her up tight and fast, and I milked her in the dark. Afterwards I went to bed. 'I certainly did have to laugh, though, when I come down the next mornin'. Gosh durned if I hadn't fotched and milked a big she bear.' "-Washington

In Little Old New York.

Chicago Record-Herald. statistician who thinks world ought to know about it has de-vised a table which is intended to show the activity of New York. Here are certain extracts from it

Every hour a fatal accident. Every eight hours a divorce. Every ten hours a suicide. Every second two telephone calls. Every second 3750 gallons of water are consumed.

Every two seconds an arrest. Every 30 seconds an immigrant lands. Every minute 40 tons of coal are

Every five minutes a child is born. Every six minutes a death. Every 13 minutes a marriage 'Wonderfull" We might add a few tems, as, for instance. Every tenth of a second a champagna

eork pops.

Every 20 minutes the son of a Pittsourg millionaire does something fool-Every 45 seconds a joyrlder passes a given point.

Every three seconds 'tipped" at the Waldorf-Astoria. Every 20 minutes somebody arrives o spend money he has secured else-Every 50 minutes some man from the West steps into a leading position.

Every three minutes a new play is

offered to some theatrical manager, Pointed Paragraphs.

Chicago News. Bigamy is as foolish as it is crim-It's difficult for a landlord and tenant to trot in double harness. You never hear a minister singing "No Wedding Bells for Me."

Trying to get back at backbiters is worth the effort. The average married man has a horror of the word "entertain. Farmers don't believe in race sui-Children are so useful on the

It's surprising what long letters some women can write without telling any-

If you are thinking of going to law to spite somebody, take a year off and think it over. No man ever loves the way he thought he would. He loves the way he has to or is allowed to.

Some automobiles are such excellent hill climbers that they take their own-ers over the hill to the poorhouse. And it is almost as easy to find friends when you have the money as it is to lose them when you go broke. Every woman knows that if a photograph flatters her it is a better like-ness than the reflection she sees in

In the Treating Mood.

the mirror.

Everybody's. A man in a mellow condition went into a barber shop and seated himself in one of the chairs. "What's your pleasure, sir?" asked e polite barber. the polite barber.
"Oh, er-give me a haircut-and have

Boston Transcript.
As an instance of the embarrassment of riches, it is reported that the Carnegie "hero fund" is so heavily endowed that great difficulty is found in dispos-ing of the income. Evidently there is not so much herolam as was

His Plea Doesn't Go

Los Angeles Times. The New York man who pleaded that he was stupefied when he stood at the marriage altar will have to try it again. We were all feeling that way,

## Hot Biscuits and Long Life.

Chicago Record-Herald.

There is in Alabama a man 97 years of age who alleges that he has eaten hot biscuits all his life. What vice do you recommend as a life-prolonger?