The Oregonian

FORTLAND, OREGON.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.
Subscription Rates—Invariably in Advance.
(BY MAIL).

Daily, Sunday included, one year	$8.00
Daily, Sunday included, six months	4.25
Daily, Sunday included, three months	2.25
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75
Daily, without Sunday, one year	6.00
Daily, without Sunday, six months	3.25
Daily, without Sunday, three months	1.75
Daily, without Sunday, one month	.60
Weekly, one year	1.50
Sunday, one year	2.50
Sunday and weekly, one year	3.50

(By Carrier).

Daily, Sunday included, one year	9.00
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75

How to Remit—Send Postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your local bank. Stamps, coin or currency are at the sender's risk. Give postoffice address in full, including county and state.

Postage Rates—10 to 14 pages, 1 cent; 16 to 28 pages, 2 cents; 30 to 40 pages, 3 cents; 40 to 60 pages, 4 cents. Foreign postage double rate.

Eastern Business Office—The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency—New York, rooms 48-50 Tribune building. Chicago, rooms 510-512 Tribune building.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1910.

RATE ADVANCE ENJOINED.

At the request of the men who supply a large share of the traffic from which railway earnings are produced, the Government has enjoined the railroads from putting into effect a proposed higher schedule of freight rates. The petitioners declared that the increases are unwarranted and unjust, and the opinion was expressed that they were the result of a combination or agreement between the railroads in contravention of law. The railroads offer as excuse for this material advance in rates that the cost of construction, equipment and operation has increased out of proportion to the earnings, and that it is no longer possible to attract the capital needed for improvements and extensions. The shippers who are protesting against the advance which the injunction prevents from becoming effective today, do not think the railroads have supplied sufficient proof as to changed conditions to warrant the increase. It would now seem to be the duty of the railroads to submit in detail the reasons for their action.

Extreme difficulty will be experienced in proving that the new rates or any rates on the American railroads are the result of a combination between the lines. The Interstate Commerce Commission by its own rulings has practically eliminated all competition from the railroad business. Under the law all railroad companies are forced to file with the Commission for the information of the public complete schedules of rates. These rates must be placed with the Interstate Commerce Commission thirty days before they become effective. One railroad operating in competitive territory with another railroad could not publish a different schedule of rates from that filed by its competitor without inviting immediate and costly warfare. As a result, the only semblance of competition that is left is in service, and even in the regulation of service the Interstate Commerce Commission is assuming increased power.

The movement for higher rates bears the aspect of a monopoly because it is widespread and practically unanimous; but, as the railroads are fully aware that they cannot fix a rate which will not be liable to change on complaint, there is no reason why the movement for the advance should not be simultaneous and co-operative between the companies. The old method by which a rate schedule was established was by fierce competition of the railroads with each other, aided at times by the competition of shippers, volume of traffic, etc. As this influence of competition in determining rates weakened, there was a steady drift toward monopoly control. There was no need of maintaining two sets of officials or office employes or of operating two trains, where one would do, so long as the Interstate Commerce Commission and not competition was fixing the rates.

It is now well understood that the railroads are no longer to be permitted to regulate their charges according to their own ideas. They can fix their rates individually or as a monopoly; but, if these rates are unreasonable or discriminatory, they will, on complaint, be readjusted by the Commission. This, on the whole, is much better than the old shifting, unstable system, by which competition engendered all kinds of discrimination.

The public, which neither ships freight nor operates railroads, but which directly and indirectly pays the expenses of both parties to all railroad controversies, is willing that the roads should have a remunerative rate, and it also desires that the shippers pay no more than is just. For that reason, there should be a thorough investigation of the reasons for the proposed advance, and, if it is unwarranted, the restraining order should be made permanent.

PORTLAND FLEET LEADS.

The advantages of Portland's matchless fresh water harbor are at last pretty well understood throughout the world. The Liverpool Corn Trade News has for years printed at the head of its list of grain cargoes afloat the flattering statement that the average passage of ships from the Columbia River is 130 days, while the average passage from Puget Sound is 140 days. By taking the average passage of the sailing grain fleet arriving out from Portland and Puget Sound for the 1909-10 season to date, the accuracy of these figures is remarkable. Since the beginning of the season, eleven sailing ships have arrived out with cargoes from Puget Sound, their passages averaging 143 days. For the same period the arrivals out from Portland have included twenty-five ships with average passages of 131 days, the ships of both fleets thus verifying to a striking degree the estimates of the Corn Trade News.

It is not alone in these average passages that the advantages of the fresh water harbor are shown, but London Fairplay, a paper which circulates wherever ships sail, in a recent issue printed a summary of the fastest and slowest passages made by the 1909 fleet from the Pacific Coast. In the list of ten slowest passages, Puget Sound has six ships with average passages of 177 2-3 days. San Francisco has two which averaged 180 days, while Portland's two slowest craft averaged 169 days. In the ten fastest passages made during the year, Portland is credited with six, in which the fastest was 109 days, and the slowest 123 days, the average being 117 days. Puget Sound had three in this class, the fastest passage being 119 days and the slowest 123 days, an average of 121 days. San Francisco had one vessel in this class with a 117-day passage to her credit.

The longest passage from the Columbia River to Europe was eighteen days less than the longest passage from Puget Sound, and fifteen days less than the longest passage from San Francisco. The shortest passage from the Columbia River was eight days less than the shortest passage from San Francisco, and ten days less than the shortest from Puget Sound. Most statistics offer rather dry reading, but to the owners of ships where the time is worth at least $100 per day, as in this case, these figures present some very interesting food for thought.

WHERE THE "MACHINE" STANDS.

The Indianapolis Star is a friend of the direct primary; but it admits that dissatisfaction with the direct primary in Indiana is "widespread and deep." It points out grave objections to the operation of the free-for-all primary as manifested in the state primary elections there a week ago, enumerating among other things the light vote, the long ballot, the low grade of candidates and the lavish use of money. These various defects, however, the Star says, might be corrected upon further trial and by devices such as a shorter ballot, an efficacious corrupt practices act, and so forth. The small vote, of course, is the fault of the voter, not of the system, and the Star feels quite helpless to suggest a remedy in the way of arousing public interest and conscience. "Yet," adds the Star:

> Perhaps the most weighty of all the primary's faults is the fact that it puts a premium on noisy self-seeking and discourages men of modest worth. Very desirable men will accept nomination by a convention, who recoil from the hurly-burly and self-exploitation of the direct primary. In the state of Oregon this difficulty has been met by a so-called assembly of representative citizens, whose names are selected for subsequent ratification at the primary, a plan substantially equivalent to that finally put before the New York Legislature by Governor Hughes, but defeated by the machine politicians.

Observe that the proposed assembly plan in New York has been defeated by the machine politicians. In Indiana and everywhere else an assembly or convention is looked upon as a proper and necessary adjunct of the direct primary system. It is recognized that a go-as-you-please primary without guidance or suggestion or advice invites and produces uneven results in the character of its candidates. In New York the great sponsor for the primary, Governor Hughes, wants an assembly, but he is opposed by the bosses. In Indiana there is evidently much the same sentiment towards the assembly by friends of the primary.

The objections and antagonisms to the assembly in Oregon are not from Republicans, nor from the mass of the people. They are from the gang or faction of the Republican party that seeks to make a machine of the direct primary, or from Democrats who are opposed to any plan likely to bring about party unity and harmony of action of Republicans. That is the whole story.

RETURN OF CHEAP WHEAT.

For the first time in nearly two years wheat in Chicago yesterday sold under 90 cents per bushel, the December option dropping for a brief period as low as 89 cents. The decline in Liverpool following last week's decline in this country was also very pronounced, and in all of the world's markets there was a weaker feeling. The American farmer with his 1909 crop seems to have followed a time-honored custom of holding his wheat when the price was high and rushing it to market when the market showed weakness. Shipments last week from the United States and Canada were the largest of the year, although with a normal crop movement they should have been among the smallest.

All wheat statistics were bearish yesterday. The American visible showed a decrease of 1,898,000 bushels. World's shipments were still in excess of 10,000,000 bushels, and quantities on passage were 6,000,000 bushels greater than for the same week last year. All of these bearish features combined, however, are insignificant in comparison with the shadow which the coming crop is casting on the world's markets. Two years of high prices have proved an incentive for increasing the world's yield wherever it is possible to do so.

The United States, with a heavy carry-over from last year, is again facing a harvest which promises to equal if it does not excel last year's. Russia and India and the Argentine are also showing good prospects, and the Argentine, despite the poor crop of last year, is not yet out of the ranks of the exporters for this season. We may not have extremely low prices for wheat, but it now seems highly probable that the day of dollar wheat is about over for the present.

BETTER ROADS.

It is cheering to perceive evidence that the farmers are recovering from the hallucination that good country roads chiefly benefit automobile riders. Those self-sacrificing individuals get more or less good out of decent roads, when they find specimens, but it is the farmers who more than all other classes together profit by the abatement of mudholes and the elimination of ruts.

The expense of hauling loads to market over the bumps and precipices of the ordinary country road has been computed so often and published so widely that very few farmers can be found at present who are not informed upon the subject, and the campaign of education which has been carried on seems likely at last to produce some results. Would that it might. Would that this generation might not perish before every man, woman and child has enjoyed the sight of a really good country road. The spectacle would be more entertaining than a minstrel show and more improving than many sermons.

The proposal to bond the several counties for the construction of roads need not frighten anybody, since the question whether it shall be done or not is to be left to the voters themselves. In this matter as in many others strict local option is the correct principle to follow. The roads when once constructed will be found to be a paying investment which will return in cold cash a great deal more than the interest on the bonds. Besides that the rise in the value of land which will immediately follow will probably account for the principal of the bonds twice over. At least this has been the experience everywhere else. A farm on a good road may be worth ten times as much as one of the same area on a bad road, even if the land is no more fertile.

We say "ten times as much" deliberately. There are farms in Oregon blessed with ideal soil which are practically valueless because what is raised on them can not be marketed over the wretched roads. These matters are under consideration among the people today, and there is no doubt that their studies of the subject will lead to beneficial action in good time.

PRAISE FROM SEATTLE.

Colonel Alden J. Blethen, editor of the Seattle Times, is home from a 9000-mile journey. On his return, he indulged in a friendly chat, a column long, with his readers. Among other things he said:

> Portland is having an old-fashioned boom that has so divided itself between the construction of new buildings and the platting of farm lands and rushing the same upon the market, that the appearance of unhealthfulness, or inflation, is not apparent.
>
> Indeed, Portland is now doing practically what Seattle had averaged to do for six years before the exposition—but not as much as Seattle is doing even this year, the first following the exposition.
>
> Portland is proud of her increased bank clearings, but she doesn't tell anybody how many new banks have been created during the past three years—while Seattle is suffering in bank clearings because she has consolidated her largest banks, and thereby cut down her clearings just in proportion to the banks that have been put into liquidation—the last being the Puget Sound National, with an average clearing of more than $1,000,000 a week.

To tell the whole truth, Colonel Blethen ought to have said that those "farm lands" are within the city limits; the largest tract, recently platted, having been surrounded by residences for more than twenty years. He might have added, also, that Portland's city limits embrace only a fraction of the area of Seattle's boundaries.

However, it is a distinct concession to admit that Portland is doing nearly as well as Seattle, and we are correspondingly grateful for this wide and free publicity.

MORE PENSIONS.

The largest sum which the United States Government has paid for pensions to veterans of the Civil War and their dependents in any year was $161,973,000 in 1909. This was disbursed to 946,194 recipients. The number of names on the rolls reached its maximum in 1902, when it was 999,446. Since then more than 50,000 names have been erased by death, but there has been no corresponding decline in the payments. In fact, they have risen steadily until last year, when there was a decrease of something like $5,000,000. This ominous circumstance has evidently aroused the opponents of pensions of the pension-broking Congressmen and pension attorneys. They see in the future, albeit a long distance, a time when their favorite occupation will be gone, and they have accordingly put their heads together to reap one final harvest of mammoth proportions ere the rich source of bounty dries up forever. Two proposals are now before Congress for more liberal pensions. One of them places surviving volunteer officers of the Civil War on the retired list at one-third pay. The other in substance admits all surviving veterans to a pension of $30 a month.

Taken together, these two measures would raise the Government's annual pension bill to some $200,000,000. When we remember that more than three and one-half billion dollars have already been paid to the survivors of the Civil War in the form of pensions, this new burden excites misgivings. If the pension expenditure is to go on increasing as the roll diminishes, evidently the time is very far away when the country can look for any relief. It seems reasonable to believe that the increasing death rate among the veterans must cause the pension total to diminish progressively, and so it would but for the ingenious diligence of the boomers in Congress and outside of it. They are always able to invent new expedients for taxing the public in the name of generosity to the old soldiers, and their appeals to false patriotism will probably carry their schemes through in the future as they have in the past. This becomes all the more exasperating when we remember that there is no worthy soldier of the Civil War in need of assistance who does not receive a pension already. The continued effort to multiply pensions is not wholly inspired by love for the veterans. It has two sources. One of them is found in the greed of pension agents. The other in the political ambition of a certain class of Congressmen.

There are members of Congress who base their hopes of continuing in official life upon what is called the "soldier vote." Why there should be a soldier vote any more than a sailor vote or a bricklayers' vote nobody has ever explained very lucidly, and yet it is assumed by these office-seekers that there is such a thing and that it will be cast as a unit for every person who favors pension increases and against everybody who opposes them. The assumption involved is that the veterans set their financial interest above every other consideration, and will be guided by that alone in casting their votes. The assumption does not pay a very pretty compliment to the old soldiers. One likes to believe that they are still as unselfishly patriotic as they were in the days of the Civil War, and doubtless, if the truth were known, they are: The agonized clamor for more and more pensions does not come from the veterans themselves nearly so much as from petty politicians who try in that way to buy their votes.

What the effect of the continually swelling stream of pension payments has been upon the spirit of the American people might be a difficult question to decide. Had pensions been given only to disabled veterans who had no other means of livelihood, no doubt the consequences would have been most excellent in every way, but, as everybody knows, this has not been the case. Many persons draw pensions who do not need them. They have been bestowed even upon men of wealth in numerous instances, and the number of able-bodied individuals perfectly well able to earn a living who have shared in the Government's bounty is known to be very large. The inevitable consequence of such reckless largess can be nothing less than the encouragement of idleness, waste and loose living. To say that the country has been pauperized by our inconsiderate pension system would be perhaps a little too much, but who can doubt that it has played a part in destroying the spirit of self-help, deadening initiative and instilling the poison of dependence into the souls of the people?

Next to the protective tariff, the lavish pension system must be held responsible for the growing tendency of Americans to depend upon the Government for everything. Nor should the lesson be overlooked which is plainly taught by the power of the organized soldier vote to obtain pensions. This vote is not nearly so large as the organized labor vote. Suppose that were directed solely to the particular purpose of getting bounty from the Government, what would be the effect upon timorous Congressmen? Could we expect them to defy it? It is surprising that the clamor for pensions has not been heard before this time from a number of powerful organized groups of voters. Their forbearance is commendable, but we cannot hope that it will continue forever. It is easy to foresee the day when compliant Congressmen will be proposing service pensions to bricklayers, blacksmiths and brakemen, just as they now do to veterans of the Civil War. They will do it as soon as they believe they can buy votes by it.

Colonel Roosevelt was extended the freedom of the City of London, and he made the most of it. Having passed out a fine line of instruction to every assembly he addressed from the time he ceased shooting dingmauls and silver cats on the Umbigbee, it was not to be supposed that he would forego the pleasure of enlightening John Bull on the matters that most concern him. The Colonel is afraid that "timidity and sentimentality" will cause more harm than violence and injustice in Egypt, and advises England to remove the "velvet scabbard" from the "sword of steel" in order that the Egyptians may understand that old Stormalong John has not been incapacitated by his years of political gout. Perhaps the Colonel's terms were "bulled" in transmission by cable. If they were not, the British attitude toward the Egyptians must have changed. Timid Englishmen are sometimes heard of, but the sentimental individuals of that country are supposed to be a little scarce.

Mob violence, which spends its force in lynching any offender who has broken the law, is never justifiable in a civilized country. There are, however, at times, mitigating circumstances, when after some particularly atrocious crime the offender is caught red-handed and sent to enter eternity without the formality of a trial. Nothing of this kind relieves the disgrace which Missouri must suffer through the act of a mob at New Madrid. For the insignificant offense of striking a white man a negro was taken from the jail by a mob and hanged. No arrests followed the hanging, and the Coroner's jury returned a verdict of "death by unknown hands." Missionaries are more sadly needed in Darkest Missouri than in Darkest Africa.

Portland has had roses before for Memorial day, but never in such profusion and perfection as on this latest occasion. Roses, literally by the ton, were borne to the cemeteries, and in passing rose hedge, garden or trellis the observer would not know that a rose had been cut, so great is the abundance of bloom. This great exuberance of bloom has given rise to some apprehension lest there will be a scarcity of roses for the Festival, but this fear is dispelled by the large number of buds that promise to be out at just the right time.

There is indication that the good roads, so long on paper, will in systematic course be laid in some sections of the state where they have long been most needed. The good roads campaign so vigorously conducted by Maurice O. Eldridge, Government good roads expert, and Judge Webster, of Portland, has aroused intelligent and widespread interest. The campaign has been one of education and the lessons given have been so plain that the wayfaring man, whether farmer or automobilist, might read as he ran—or drove.

The youngest Gould in the limelight tires of the monotony of riches and envies the care-free barefoot boy. Come to think of it, there is a charm in acquiring a stonebruise, wearing one gallus and missing a meal or two when the fun is at its height that the Fauntleroys dream of but never experience. The poor boy has not the worst job in the world.

A deal of common sense was focalized in a communication from Mr. Shelden yesterday on the proper use to which the Government should put special agents of the land office. Because it is practical and promises to be genuinely beneficial, the proposed reform will not appeal to the bureaucrats at Washington.

It will be interesting to see whether in the course of events the new Union of British colonies in South Africa follows the example which the Union of British colonies in North America set a century and a half ago. Times have changed since then, but human nature, which makes history, remains about the same.

Some of the hangers-around who have watched the structural ironworkers at their hazardous calling in anticipation of a fatality were gratified at the accident on the Oswego bridge. These men court death with a carelessness born of familiarity, and the wonder is that so few are killed.

Mr. Roosevelt's distinction between sentimentality and righteousness is a valid one. England cannot rule Egypt by sentimentality, which is often pleasing for the moment but always fatal in the end. The only lasting National power is built on righteousness, which is another name for justice.

A young woman has come 5000 miles to be the bride of a Portland man. Some come far and some come high, but all get there. The state of matrimony is a commonwealth that has innumerable attractions and boosters galore.

The easiest solution of the teamsters' strike is to pay the raise and take it out of the consumer. The endless chain will get it from the teamster.

Seattle will send legions to the Rose Festival next week. She remembers the multitude from Portland who visited the A-Y-P fair last Summer.

The market price for votes in Illinois was not so high as has been quoted in Rocky Mountain states, notably Montana and Colorado.

The City Jail is no place for street speakers who revile the veteran of the Civil War or slur the flag. The hospitals yawn for such scum.

No doubt Senator Root furnished the Colonel with a topic to speak on when he gets ready to discuss American affairs.

Get ready to give the stranger the glad hand.

ASSEMBLY FRIGHTS DEMOCRATS.

Real Reason of Their Howl Against Republican "Get Together."

Astoria Astorian.

The Oregon Democracy is desperately ill with what may be termed "assemblyitis," a malady that finds its germinal source in the natural desire of the Oregon Republicans to get together, discuss their men and policies, and restore the normal interests and alignment of their party here. It is an infliction of serious sort, all right, for the sufferers, and casts its feverish influences so as to include the last member of the minority party of the state. Not one of them has escaped it. The inoculation is manifested by an overweening concern for the Republican party in general and gratuitous counselling, by word of mouth and trick of print, against holding any assemblies whatever. There is no cure for it, save the assembly itself. The disease is universal in this state, and even such scientists as Doctor U'Ren are stumped to qualify it, let alone cure it.

After the dispatch of the first general assembly of the Republicans in July we may look for a subsidence of the malady and the Democrat simultaneously; until then it must run its course and absorb "its medicine." Nor is it likely at all to recur.

The Oregon Democrat has flourished apace, during the long political "bad health" of the Republican party out here. "Our George" and the "Millionaire Reformer" Jonathan Bourne, attended and abetted always by their devoted "machinist" and prophet, U'Ren, have stalked the Republican preserves of Oregon religiously and gathered up the "spoils" that lay about unguarded until they have come to the pass of actually seeking to dominate the purposes and principles of the party-dominant by advising it, in and out of season, not to tamper with the edicts and barriers set up by their "friend, the enemy." Every man understands the policy. And every self-respecting Republican will see to it that the great, and lesser assembly, is pulled off in good time, with healthful and heartening results, and that the present Democratic distemper reaches the devoutly-desired end. Democratic dissolution, early in November of this blessed year.

HAS ECONOMY BEEN FORGOTTEN?

Republicans in Congress Playing Into the Hands of Democrats.

Christian Science Monitor.

From all appearances, the Republicans in Congress are bent, deliberately or unconsciously, upon furnishing the Democrats with more and better material than they have at present for carrying on the campaign of this Fall. There is scarcely a feature of the Presidential campaign which the public remembers more distinctly than the frequent promises of retrenchment in National expenditures made by Mr. Taft in behalf of his party. These promises were repeated by Republican candidates for Congress and by Republican orators in every part of the country. There is no question that the pledges of increased efficiency with greater economy made on the Republican side held many thousands who were wavering.

Yet, from all the data now at hand it seems that not only will the appropriations of the present Congress be as great as those of any previous one, but they will be greater, if the present rate of increase is not checked. The total expenses of the Government for 1909 were $627,516,246.83. It is computed that this will be increased by over $50,000,000 if the appropriation bills still pending and receiving favorable consideration shall be passed.

In short, we are still running along at high pressure, apparently regardless of consequences. Instead of cutting down expenses we are adding to them. We are even discovering new ways of increasing them. The Democrats will not find it difficult to interest the public on this subject in the coming campaign.

Pointed Paragraphs.

Chicago News.

It takes a flea to make a dog toe the scratch.

Nobody ever has a word of sympathy for a dogcatcher.

It isn't difficult to love your neighbor's money as your own.

The singer who grates on your nerves is never a great success.

A bunko man says the beauty of an easy mark is but skin deep.

Too many cooks are apt to spoil the digestion of the policeman.

A woman would rather be a man's last romance than his first love.

Every man has a ready-made excuse when his yellow streak shows up.

And more married men would make fools of themselves if their wives would let them.

It's easy for a man to write a long love letter to a woman—if he isn't married to her.

What a man can't understand about his wife's relatives is why he lets them impose on him.

It may seem queer, but a woman always has suspicions of another woman who happens to hate the same man she does.

Censorship Not Necessary.

Milwaukee Sentinel.

Artemus Ward told a story of a spinster who requested a local magistrate to prohibit bathing at a cove in the beach near her home. "But, ma'am," expostulated the astonished Mayor, "that is really quite a distance from your home." "Well," said the complainant, "I can see 'em through my opera glass."

One is reminded of this artless plea by the agitation of certain persons in behalf of the bill in Congress to forbid the use of the mails to newspapers publishing accounts of boxing contests. They complain that their sensibilities are shocked by reading this particular brand of news matter. The obvious answer is, then don't read it.

Newspapers necessarily reflect the tastes and requirements of a great variety of readers. Each reader is at liberty to take his choice. The sober business man is not expected to bother much with the "society column," nor is the large contingent to whom that department is an abiding joy expected to revel in the market reports.

Disappointing Primaries.

Boston Herald.

The direct primaries in Indiana indicated no overwhelming purpose on the part of the people to overturn the politicians and manage the political affairs of the state. Neither of the parties polled 60 per cent of their normal vote. Tom Taggart won a clean sweep in the Democratic primaries, and Senator Beveridge carried the day on the Republican side. The machines appear to have won by default, which is the secret of machine control in nine out of every ten cases.

And He Wasn't Embarrassed.

Philadelphia Inquirer.

The newspapers are working off "old stuff" when they say that Roosevelt was the dominating feature at that luncheon where nine kings and any number of kinglets gathered around the board. Of course he was, and we venture to say that the position didn't embarrass him in the least.

No Choice.

Salt Lake Tribune.

Next time President Taft makes a tour of the country, he should at least be permitted by those Congressional tightwads to make choice between the brake beam and the blind baggage.

Rapid Progress.

Milwaukee Sentinel.

And the next thing we know there'll be June roses and young folks will be getting married. And it was only the other day that we were facing the big snow.

PUBLIC PRESSURE TOO STRONG.

President McKinley Was Personally Opposed to War With Spain.

Congressional Record.

Mr. Depew (N. Y.)—I knew very well the position of President McKinley on that subject. I knew how utterly opposed he was to that war. I knew the efforts which he made to prevent any declaration of war, and how he was finally forced to yield because of the pressure of public opinion.

I know still more that there was a time when it would have been possible to have settled every question involved between Spain and the United States upon terms just as favorable as were received at the conclusion of that war, with all its expenditure of treasure and life. In fact, there was a period when Spain, a very proud nation, would not submit terms unless she felt sure they would be accepted, but when she was willing to accept any terms if she could be informed beforehand that a proposition submitted would be accepted by the United States.

Mr. Heyburn (Idaho)—In the Senator's judgment, how would President McKinley have voted personally in the Australian ballot box on the question of war?

Mr. Depew—President McKinley personally would have voted against war.

Mr. Heyburn—A pretty good criterion.

Mr. Depew—He would have voted against the war, but I believe that if it had been submitted to a popular vote it would have been 99 out of 100 in favor of war.

Mr. Heyburn—I hope the Senator from New York does not confuse the popular vote with the newspaper vote.

Mr. Depew—No. I know what a newspaper vote is, but generally it reflects the popular will. In advocating war with Spain it expressed accurately the passionate desire of the people.

Mr. Hale (Maine)—Does not the Senator from New York believe, as I believe, that if the country had not been hurried and swept into war with Spain in that excitable Spring, and if the question had gone over, President McKinley before the opening of the next session of Congress would have negotiated Spain off the American continent?

Mr. Depew—I have already said that I knew, of my own knowledge, that Spain, if not humiliated by presenting terms which would be rejected, and if she could have found out beforehand that the United States would accept her abandonment of Cuba and Porto Rico, would have quit.

Mr. Hale—And war would have been saved.

Mr. Hale—And war would have been saved. And President McKinley knew that, too, but the pressure behind him was so great that he could not hold the country.

Mr. Hale—The Senator from Connecticut says to me that if that had happened war would have been saved. Spain would have left the American continent by peaceful processes, and, as the Senator says, we would not have been negotiated into taking possession, with all their burdens, of the Philippine Islands.

Mr. Depew—Undoubtedly, but the President of the United States did not happen to have a strong enough personality—

Mr. Hale—No; that is right.

Mr. Depew—To resist the popular demand.

SPIRITED ATTACK ON INSURGENTS

Republican From Insurgent Kansas Speaks His Mind.

From a Speech by Representative Reeder.

Under the cry of Cannonism the progressive Republicans have uttered what in the aggregate would make volumes of statements, utterly false, against the record and proceedings of their party. They have even in certain cases sunk so low in their personal honor as to make professional lying a financial scheme that has brought them rich returns, not feeling any compunctions of conscience from the fact that they have turned the great Chautauqua platform that was one of the greatest agencies for disseminating knowledge among the people into a scandal factory where the characters of our public men as well as that of the Republican party are assassinated and the minds of the body politic poisoned that the political fortunes of a few demagogues may be crowned with success no matter how infamously it may have been attained. How much longer will the people of this great Nation be prejudiced by this Cannon bugaboo wherein less than 15 per cent of the Representatives of the people have been able under this unholy alliance with Democracy to thwart the will of the Nation?

It is time that the average citizen, who in the last analysis will have the vote that decides this matter, should wake up and bring his sober and serious judgment to bear on the case. On one side he has the statements of less than 15 per cent of the Republican membership of the present Congress and a hostile, yellow, metropolitan press that are assailing the party from all quarters, the former seeking to build up a Democratic annex by discrediting the party which they profess to believe in, and the latter seeking revenge on a Republican Congress that refused to give them free print paper. Let every Republican remember that all this talk about Cannonism and Aldrichism that is made by Democrats, demagogues, insurgent Republicans and an insurgent press is a fake, and is only made to prejudice and mislead the people; but, above all things, every Republican should remember that Cannonism and Aldrichism are Republicanism, and this tirade is being made about these isms by an aggregation of malcontents who no longer believe in the policies and principles of the Republican party.

Ed Howe's Philosophy.

Atchison Globe.

A slouchy girl looks as tough a year after marriage as an automobile looks after it has been used for a year.

What has become of the old-fashioned woman whose idea of meeting any emergency was to light the fire and put the kettle on?

Another thing we hate: to shake hands with a woman and have her jerk her hand away, as though we are holding it too long.

After a woman has been married a few years, she doesn't have any more respect for the men than a good cook has for a hotel dinner.

When mother thinks she is being pretty strict with her children, the neighbors are saying it is a shame the way she is spoiling them.

Occasionally you see a girl whose golden hair looks like taffy candy when it has been pulled by a boy whose hands needed washing.

"This," a married woman says, with a good deal of indignation, "is positively the last straw." Then she goes on accumulating more as long as her husband lives until she has quite a good-sized haystack.

Looking for Trouble.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

William H. Wright, author of "The Grizzly Bear," who is also something of a faunal naturalist, says:

"If you want to find out how an animal lives, you must watch it live and not watch it die."

If Mr. Wright is looking for trouble, he is getting warm.

A Real Hero.

Ohio State Journal.

Our idea of a real hero is a man who is willing to go out and empty the garbage for his wife when he knows the neighbors are where they can see him.

LIFE'S SUNNY SIDE

They are telling a story here of a conversation said to have taken place not long ago between Representative Burleson, of Texas, and ex-Representative J. Adam Bede, of Minnesota. Judge Burleson is a member of the committee on appropriations, and is, therefore, closely associated with Chairman James A. Tawney, of that committee.

The Texan is exceptionally fond of Mr. Tawney, and he was asking Mr. Bede's opinion as to the effect of President Taft's Winona speech upon the prospects of Tawney's re-election. Bede was somewhat in doubt, and Burleson explained.

"I like Jim Tawney; he is all right. He is for the reduction of the tariff in the interest of the people; he is for economy in public expenditures and he is an honest man."

"Gee!" remarked Mr. Bede. "He is almost a Democrat."—Washington Times.

* * *

One morning a popular young minister was presenting his view upon an important subject under discussion, and insisting that he held certain things to be true, the commentators notwithstanding. He contended "I hold this to be true even though the commentators disagree with me—and again—I say even though the commentators disagree with me." At this point an old lady was seen to leave the church. On his way home from the service the minister was met by this old lady bearing a basket. She stopped and handed it to him, saying, "Dear Brother, I heerd you say the common-taters disagree with you, so I've brought you a basket of Virginia yams."—National Monthly.

* * *

Senator Theodore Burton, of Ohio, is a bachelor and he does not care who knows it. At the most recent of big "functions" in Washington the society editor of a Washington paper determined to describe the gowns of all the Senators' wives present.

"Mr. Senator," she asked, as she accosted the Ohio statesman, "will you be kind enough to tell me what sort of a gown Mrs. Burton will wear?"

Taking his eyeglasses from his pocket and putting them carefully on his nose, the Senator fixed the girl with a glance that nailed her to the mast and frigidly replied:

"Madam, there is no Mrs. Burton, and if I have anything to say about it there never will be."—Philadelphia Record.

* * *

A. J. Drexel Biddle, at a musicale at his Philadelphia residence, praised the marriage of A. J. Drexel, Jr., and Marjorie Gould.

"A more ideal marriage couldn't be imagined," said the young millionaire author. "In wealth, position, youth, everything, they are perfectly matched. There will never be in their case any doubts or misgivings—and that reminds me of Elisha Chew.

"Elisha Chew took me aside one evening at a dance.

"'I have,' he said, '$6000 laid by, and I can't decide whether to buy an aeroplane or to get married and take a honeymoon trip.'

"'Do you love the girl?' said I

"'Oh, yes, very much,' said he.

"'Then,' I advised, 'marry, by all means, and let the aeroplane go to the deuce.'

"A few months later I met Chew again. He had just returned from a honeymoon tour of California.

"'Well, Chew,' said I, 'aren't you glad you took my advice? A good wife is much better than an aeroplane, eh?'

"'No doubt that is true,' said Chew. 'At the same time, if my wife happened to be an aeroplane, ten to one I'd be thinking about this time that they'd worked off a third-rate machine on me.'"—Detroit Free Press.

Radio-Activity of Snow.

Harper's Weekly.

There has recently been published in Paris a resume of the results obtained by French scientists from their study of the radio-activity of the snow that fell at Boulogne during the past Winter. It has been known since 1904 that newly-fallen snow is radio-active, but the subject has not before been so fully examined.

The investigators announce that snow quickly gathered after its descent to the earth is highly radio-active. Radio-activity disappears almost entirely after the lapse of two hours, however. Snow which has fallen on the soil appears to retain its radio-activity a little longer than that which has come to rest upon the roofs of buildings.

We Have No National Anthem.

PORTLAND, May 31.—(To the Editor.)—Will you please decide a controversy? What is our National hymn? Is it "America" or "The Star Spangled Banner?"

CHARLES JONES.

The United States has no National anthem or hymn. The two you mention are the most popular, but popularity does not nationalize either or both of them. Congress has not legislated on this matter.

In this connection it may be added that we have no National holiday, not even the Fourth of July. The several states declare holidays by statute, and occasionally by proclamation; Congress doesn't, except for the District of Columbia and the Territories.

Saw Halley's Comet 75 Years Ago.

ALBANY, Or., May 31.—(To the Editor.)—I see that there are several aged people who, like myself, remember having seen Halley's comet 75 years ago. I was at that time 7 years old and I am now nearly 82, but to me the comet was different, as I saw it last Monday night, from its appearance at its former visit, when it was as bright as a star and its tail was long and luminous. I should like to know what astronomers think about the great change, and if comets are supposed to be bodies which are passing through constant changes.

MRS. C. SNELLING.

Civic Pride.

New York World.

The town went wild over Heinz's acquittal.—Telegram from Butte.

Have you heard the news from Butte?
Every mining camp galoot
Has gone out upon a toot;
They are shelling out the loot,
They are opening sec and brut
And they've got it up their snoot
Hear them root!
Hear them hoot!
No one gnute
Out in Butte.
Now they pull their guns and shoot;
See the tenderfet all scoot
O Butte!
You are a beaut!

Not Far Wrong.

Lippincott's.

"Say, paw," queried little Sylvester Snodgrass, "what's a test case?"

"A test case, my son," replied Snodgrass, Sr., is a case brought in court to decide whether there's enough in it to justify the lawyers in working up similar cases."

What 1000 Ounces of Gold Contain.

Harper's Weekly.

In 1000 ounces of gold there are 900 ounces of pure gold, 10 ounces of silver, 90 of copper, and about three tons of joy, a large farm, two automobiles, six fashionable bonnets and plans for a country home.

Timely Warning.

Memphis Commercial-Appeal.

Better keep on being good and keep on going to church. The comet might change its mind and come back.