

The Oregonian

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Portland, Saturday, Dec. 31, 1910.

WHERE WE STAND. Americans have been in the habit of felicitating themselves upon their position in the world, which they enjoy over the rest of the world. For one thing we have more millionaires in proportion to our population than any other nation.

But the New York Independent varies the comparison a little in its current number. It asks how we stand in respect to those subjects which intelligent and cultivated people care for more than for petroleum, millionaires and big game. Is our science as highly esteemed by good judges as our steers? How about our literature? The Independent takes the awards of the Nobel prizes for the last ten years as a standard to go by.

The reappointment problem is not easy, but the Oregonian has seen it as a Tacoma dispatch in the Oregonian of Tuesday it was stated that a bill of lumber for a house that four years ago would have cost \$500 can now be purchased for \$375. This saving, of course, is sufficiently large to interest the home-builder and naturally he sees in the present stagnation in the lumber business the advantage which is usually the result of a rate of interest.

It is not well, however, to grieve too much over the sparsity of our first class literary and scientific men. It seems that they are becoming rarer in all parts of the world. Dr. J. McKen Cattell, the editor of Science, has written an article which conveys discouraging information on this subject. According to him not only in the United States likely to produce still fewer great scientists in the future.

merely raising a little in the next generation, the United States may be its chosen home. Perhaps some boy now on his way to school with tardy steps and shifting morning face may have the brain of a Shakespeare in his skull. Let us hope he will apply it to poetry and not to making money.

THE HOME OF THE MUGWUMP. The Indianapolis News preaches a little sermon on independence in politics, using as a text a recent remark by The Oregonian that Indiana is a "state where independence in politics is an idle dream or mugwump assumption, just as you look at it."

FORECASTERS WHO PREDICT ANYTHING about Indiana usually awakens the morning after election to learn that the returns tell a wholly different story, for there is nothing certain about Indiana politics except its picturesque and baffling uncertainty.

INDIANA was always a doubtful state, where party lines were drawn closer than in other states. Party spirit was higher, party discipline stronger, party corruption greater and party rewards more certain.

THE HARNEY COUNTY NEWS has the latest scheme of Congressional reapportionment. Here it is: This paper would suggest that for one district the counties of Clatsop, Clackamas and Multnomah, with 288,878 population, be named. For another district, Benton, Coos, Curry, Douglas and Lincoln, with 167,017 population, be named.

PORTLAND'S LUMBER EXPORTS FOR 1910 will break all previous records, and there has been a large business handled from other Coast ports. With the lumber output of the state and of the Pacific Northwest exceeding that of any prior year, it is somewhat surprising that lumber is selling at the lowest figure quoted since 1906.

THE SITUATION is not a new one. Periodically since the beginning of the industry, manufacturers and loggers have experienced similar troubles. There does not seem to be any known method by which the law of supply and demand can be administered so that these periodic "gluts" on the market can be avoided.

factured into lumber until there is a demand for it. Oregon was the last of the great lumber states of the Union to begin manufacturing on an extensive scale and, as a result, we have thus far received higher average prices for the lumber than those realized in other states.

WILL MRS. EDDY RETURN? The expectation that Mrs. Eddy will return to life sooner or later is in complete accordance with the histories of other religious founders. After their death there has usually been a more or less persistent belief that they would rise from the grave, and often this belief has been so strong that it led to the creation of a resurrection myth.

THE STEAMSHIP SERAK, one of the regular Kosmos liners plying between Puget Sound and European ports, is due at Portland today from Tacoma to load a full cargo of wheat for Europe.

THE EXPECTED does not always happen; in fact, some philosophers go so far as to state that it seldom or never happens. For that reason we find the old year drifting out with the Eastern money markets in excellent shape.

THE APPLICATION of civil service rules to teachers' positions in the public schools is open to the same general objection that applies to other employment in public service.

HERE IT IS the last day of the week and that cold wave for the Pacific Coast predicted from Washington on Monday last has failed to materialize.

SENATOR PLINT, of California, seems to have taken the view that the Panama Canal has been constructed for the purpose of increasing the profits of the shipowners without regard to the interests of the vast majority of people who will be called on to supply cargoes for the ships passing through the canal.

of the cargoes which this port will send through the canal to Europe. The ships that carry this lumber and grain will bring return cargoes of cement, fire brick, iron, steel, coke, etc., from Europe.

THE SHIPPER will pay the canal dues as a portion of that freight charge. The American shipowner, not being in the business for philanthropic purposes, would not refund the canal dues which would be rebated to him by the Flit bill.

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NEW CHIEF JUSTICE A "HAZER." Fond of "Tripping" Youthful Barristers Who "Know It All." From the New York World.

Among the favorite pastimes of the new Chief Justice is the hazing of the fledgling members of the bar at the Supreme Court. It is no gentle jollity in which the distinguished jurist indulges, but straight from the shoulder, pointed questions aimed at the head of the new members, in which the Justice delights.

PHILADELPHIA RECTOR LAUNCHES CRUSADE Against Unnecessary Noises. Philadelphia Ledger.

Blowing and other noises made by congregations which often prove to be exceedingly annoying to the preacher and choir in the church, has been inaugurated by the Rev. Dr. David M. Steele, rector of the Episcopal Church of St. Luke and the Epiphany.

RED CROSS PREDICTS SIX DISASTERS. Chicago Evening Post.

During the year 1911 this country will have six great disasters. This prophecy is not based on psychological or other matters in connection with the year.

BRIDGE RULES SET TO MUSIC. New York Sun.

COUNTY ROAD WORK EDUCATION. State Aid Should Be Confined to the One Purpose, Says Correspondent.

ESTACADA, Or., Dec. 28.—(To the Editor.)—In your editorial comment on my communication in opposition to the proposed new road laws, you say I "apparently assume that county bonding for road purposes will be obligatory on each county if the bonding law as proposed by the Good Roads Association is adopted by the Legislature."

BAN PUT ON COUGHING IN CHURCH. Philadelphia Rector Launches Crusade Against Unnecessary Noises.

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Life's Sunny Side. While a student at West Point U. S. Grant excelled in mathematics and horsemanship. He jumped his horse over a bar five feet five inches high, which made a record for the academy, and a close second to the highest jump ever recorded in America.

Half-stunned, Grant gathered himself up from the dust, only to hear the "strident, cynical voice" of Hershberger calling out: "Caution, Grant, six demerits for dismounting without leave!"

Augustus Thomas, the playwright, tells of a hunting trip he once took in the South. They were after "coons and possums" but the only trail the dog caught was one which made them put their tails between their legs and turn for home.

(A Woman's Bank is open in New Bridge street. A report of an alleged financial transaction is sent us by an unkind, but observant, correspondent. "Good morning," stretched weather, isn't it? I wanted to put something into the bank, if I could.

THROUGH COLLEGE BY A SHAVE. Student in Texas University Paid His Way With a Barber Shop. San Antonio Light.

THE UNIVERSITY of Texas Bulletin, issued by the extension department of the State University at Austin, contains some unusually interesting stories of college life in its December number.

A MAP OF MISSOURI MADE BY BEES. St. Louis News.