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PORTLAND, MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1911.

#### THE OREGON LEGISLATURE.

No question or problem or issue of first importance confronts the State Legislature, which opens its biennial session at Salem today. It should be peaceful forty days. There is no Senator to elect. There are no personal or factional controversies in which the welfare of the State is involved. There are no differences worth mentioning between the political parties. There are, to be sure, a Democratic Governor and a Republican Legislature, but we have distinguished Democratic authority for the statement that the political balance between the executive and legislative branches of the Government may best be preserved, and the general good best promoted. The State, it would appear, agrees entirely with this impartial and disinterested advice of x-Governor Chamberlain, for has consistently pursued the practice of selecting a Democratic Governor and a Republican Legislature for three successive quadrennial elections. present Legislature has only a handful of Democrats and a very great prependerance of Republicana, It is no doubt fortunate for the Republican party that there is to be no

The Supreme Court of Oregon has recently officially given out the assurance that the Legislature retains unimpaired its delegated constitutionat powers, and that the initiative and referendum is not a departure from representative government. The Legtelature, then, ought to be able to go ahead in the complete confidence that its historic authority has not been trammeled or its wide powers res

Yet it is to be assumed, in view of the obvious facts, that the Supreme Court had merely decided to make the best of an unavoidable situation, on the consoling theory that it is well for the doctor to tell his patient that he is just as well as he ever was. That he people through the initiative have withdrawn from the Legislature its exclusive law-making function is of ourse true; and that they have impaired its dignity, lowered its station and limited its freedom of action must be patent to all. This was, indeed, the undiscribed and openly avowed purone of the initiative and referendum and there can therefore be no disap-pointment of just dissatisfaction with

results in these important particulars. That the Legislatures of other days have needed both a spur and a curb a spur to enact gislation needed and demanded by a recognized public interest and a curb prevent legislation against the general welfare. But that the people to the o reme in undertaking and occasionally in enacting radical, extreme, ambiegislation is also equally clear. The ilstake has arisen entirely in regardng the initiative as a substitute for the Legislature, to be employed by any and all for any and all reasons, cuses or pretexts, and not as an irresistible weapon to be used only in cases of emergency or extreme urgency. The initiative should be used Legislature, and it is to the last derree hazardous and unwise, as Oregon finding out to enact in this way scellaneous and complicated laws, to permit the initiative to be emoyed for the exploitation of the fads, ncies and follies of any group of stless and discontented citizens. We not have representative governnt in Oregon, as was contemplated our revered forefathers. It is ab- that human quality. rd to say or assume that we have.

There is a satisfactory prospect now at the election of United . States nators will by constitutional amendent be taken from the Legislatures nd actually placed with the people method always advocated by The egonian. An occasion of bitter and otracted struggles in Legislatures d a source of corruption, log-rolling. rocrastination and chronic complican will thus be removed, and the ced or demand for the substitution of ich devices as Statement No. I will b viated and the demoralizing factional and personal conflicts and disputes rising over their adoption ended. peed the day, then, when the popular ection of United States Senators der the sanction of Federal law

There is much for the Legislature do of real value to the state. It s with the Governor over political appointments, or by any emergency hemes to deprive him of his legitiate and usual prerogatives. Nor does he State expect the Governor to play ities with the Legislature to build in an executive machine for the bene fit of himself and his alies. The publie will not justify the Legislature on the one hand or the Governor on the her for engaging in needless conflicts peanut politics.

OREGON'S GREATEST INDUSTRY.

Portland sawmills last year cut 180 000,000 feet of lumber. The outout of Oregon mills for the year was .750,000,000 feet, valued at \$25,000,-10. These figures, despite the imensity of their proportions, idly reflect the part that the lumber industry now plays in the general osperity of the city and state. an partly understand the importance this comparatively new industry hen we note that the wheat busine n its best days never in a single year errbuted \$25,000,000 to the wealth enomic advantages of a \$25,000,000 wheat crop do not compare with those of a lumber output of the same value. | tongue. Doctors as a rule do a large

Lumber, from the time the trees are felled in the forest until the finished product is placed aboard car or ship, pays a heavy tribute to labor.

The manufactured product to a greater extent than that of any other commodity produced in this state represents labor, and the money that is paid for labor in logging camps, sawmills, lumber yards and at the docks circulates more rapidly than that which is represented in the labor cost of wheat production or the labor cost in any other of our great wealth-pro-ducing industries. The opening of new mills and increase in the facilities of those already in operation added 1,000,000 feet to the daily production of the Columbia River district last year. New plants which will begin manufacturing this year will undoubtedly enable the 1911 increase

to exceed that of the year just closed. Oregon was somewhat slow in developing her timber resources, but within the past few years has been coming to the front with a rush. The amount of standing timber in the state is so great that it will be possible to break records for many years without approaching a point where the supply is in danger of exhaustion.

## WOOLGROWERS AS SCAPEGOATS.

It is plain that the new-fangled tariff "revision" is the same old scramble for privilege at the other fellow's cost. Here, now, is demand for lowduty or free-trade wool, and revision centers in this demand.

Yet wool-growing is one of the most deserving of our agricultural indus-tries; perhaps the most deserving. It is widespread; it represents enormous investment of labor and capital; it supplies large number of citizens with employment; it is an industry that contributes greatly to the Nation's independence, and wool profits under the

present tariff law are but moderate. Yet this big industry is singled out for revision. Our uplift statesmen in the East make their constituents believe that wool is too high-priced and that the tariff law is to blame. The new Democratic chief of Massachusetts, Foss, and the Democratic accident in New York, Havens, represent-ing the new "sentiment," are leading the attack. Many interests that are favored by high tariff and wish to divert attention from their own spoils oin the hue and cry against wool. Meanwhile, wool is very much cheaper than two years ago, even without lower tariff; yet woolen goods are no

This singling-out practice has been esorted to each time tariff has been 'revised" these thirty years past. Wool has been the frequent victim. Proworthy industry. But that side of the matter gets little consideration. The chief issue in the strife for protective tariff privilege seems to be survival of the craftiest. The policy of "protection" is supposed to prevail; however, protection is to be taken away or reduced to a minimum on this vast investment of American brains, capital and labor, while other kinds of business are not to be molested. Were the protective policy abandoned, woolmen could not expect to receive its bounty. But protection is retained, or supposed to be, and woolmen are to be denied its benefits.

The National Woolgrowers' Convention, held in Portland last week, raised protest against wool revision in the

following resolutions: We reaffirm our belief in the Americ system of protection, and unequivocally dorse the application of its principles embodied in the present arrangement Schedule 'K,' as applicable to the we duties, and recognize that every time departure has been made from the principle therein contained, serious disaster has he failed the industry of woolgrowing. If growers of wool need and deserve protectifuties, equally with the manufacturers (wool.

wool.

Both classes feel the competition of the cheap labor of foreign countries, and both are dependent upon the tariff for their prosperity, and, indeed, for their existence.

We recognize that in the wool and woolen dities, the West, the East, the North and the South are united more closely than in any other portion of the tariff law, and we call upon our senators and Representatives in Congress to present a united front against foreign invasion of our markets and resist to the utmost all attacks of victous doctrinaires upon the protection that shields this National industry.

While protection shall remain the

While protection shall remain the policy of this Government, wool is one of the very first products that should no case except on appeal from the be "protected." Yet it is clear that a big onslaught will be made on the schedule of this product. Congress will be full of blckerings. It has been said that revision is to be conducted along "scientific" lines and that polities is to be abandoned in adjusting the new tariff. It is a vain promise Politics will figure to the utmost. Selfishness will effect all it can, because the cornerstone of protective tariff is

Wool is down in price without lov duty. Then why not try revision for cheaper salt, sugar, tobacco, iron, coal, tin plate, steel, glassware, clothing, liquors, leather goods and agricultural

Is wool to be made the scapegoat of tariff discontent?

WHEN A DOCTOR CHARGES TOO MUCH. A kind friend has sent The Oregonian a clipping from a Palo Alto paper which gives an account of a physician who charged \$782 for setting a broken hip for a woman 92 years old. The patient died a few days after the operation and then the affair came into the surrogate's court where the extortionate physician was bitterly upbraided for his avarice by the

The friend who sends the clipping wishes to know our opinion of this physician, whom she calls "a skunk." We should probably call him a skunk. or a viper, or a vampire, or some such beast, but after all that is not the point. She goes on to ask what we think would happen if there were a "medical trust" established which had full control of medical affairs all over the country. The intent is to cast odium upon the bill now before Congress to establish a National health The Palo Alto surgeon excused his overcharge by saying tha all fees were fixed by the State Medical Association. Suppose there were a National association with similar powers, would not the consequences

still more terrible? We can only reply that there is National medical association and that so far as we know it has never lent its aid to extortion. Very often it worth \$782 to set a broken hip. suspect that it was worth almost that sum in the case under consideration The fracture was evidently dangerous because death ensued in spite of the His responsibility was grea and, as the event shows, he had to expect a flood of vituperation after it was all over with the patient. Perhaps the Palo Alto judge might have meted out more exact justice had he held his

amount of work for which they re-ceive no pay. Unless they are to ceive no pay. Unless they are to starve to death they must make ends meet by charging liberal fees from the well-to-do. The question is by no means simple.

## THE COUNTRY FAIR LOG-ROLL.

The country fairs held in many Oregon counties are fine things, no They exhibit resources and stimulate citizens to industry in agriculture and in animal husbandry. They are a sign of the new activity of our state.

But these fairs are becoming pro texts for raids upon the State Treas-ury; for trades in legislation at Salem; for the very log-rolling that the old constitution sought to prevent by ordaining that all state institutions for which public funds should be appropriated should be located at the capital.

A member of the Legislature who falls to win an appropriation for a local road or a normal school or a salmon hatchery or a state building of some sort is frequently appeared by a grant of money for an agricultural fair. These supplies of money have been growing in number in recent years. Clackamas and Multnomah and Linn counties are thus favored; likewise Baker, Malheur, Crook, Grant, Sherman, Gilliam, Wheeler. And there are others.

This log-roll has grown to resemble that of the normal schools, which for many years has set the state by the harried the Legislature and drawn wastefully from pockets of tax-

payers. "Self-help" should be the reliance of these many fairs. The Legislature will need to draw the public pursestrings, because demands are growing. A limit will have to be defined in this business. The appropriations, though small in each case, are opening wedges for "more." The Oregonian realizes that these remarks will make protest in some rural districts, but it deems the subject one that deserves thus to be handled in rational manner and in moderate spirit.

### PANAMA CANAL DISCRIMINATION.

Senator Flint, of California, as chair man of the Senate committee on interoceanic canals, has secured adoption of his amendment to the Mann bill. The most important feature of this amendment provides that American vessels engaged in the coastwise trade shall be permitted to make free use of the canal. The canal is an artificial highway, built at an enormous expense, to be operated under necessarily heavy fixed charges. The expense and fixed charges must all be paid by the people who directly and indirectly supply the traffic that will be handled by the vessels making use of the canal. Any concessions made in favor of a few wealthy shipowners must be made up by higher tolls or an increased deficit in the operating expenses. Viewed strictly from a business standpoint, it is unfair to the people who pay the bills that the shipowners' profits should thus be increased at the expense of the people.

There is another and, in some respects, still more important reason why no such discrimination as that contained in the Flint amendment should be attempted. Article 3 of the Hay-Pauncefote canal treaty, after reciting that "The United States adopts, as a basis of the neutralization of such ship canal, the following rules, substantially as embodied in the convention of Constantinople," continues;

(1) The canal shall be free and open to the vessels of commerce and of war, of all nations observing these rules, on terms of entire equality, so that there shall be no discrimination against any such nation, or its diffuses or subjects, in respect of the conditions or charges of traffic or other-

It requires a decidedly blased inroretation of the foregoing im- proved facilities for cre of shipowners by favoring of another wheiming financial, political and milltary interest in the Suez Canal, has never presumed to make the slightest discrimination in tolls on that highway, and it was the rules of the Suez Canal that were adopted in the treaty as the basis of the Panama Canal

rules. As to the Flint amendment regarding vessels owned directly or indirectly by railroad companies, there are so many ways by which its provisions may be avoided that if any American ships are exempt from canal dues it is highly probable that those which are working under railroad control would be included. A railroad might be barred from vessel ownership but a railroad stockholder could not be deprived of the right to own and operate ships.

# TRAGEDIES OF THE AIR.

A French engineer estimates that there are now about five hundred aviators in the world. A combination of the flights of all aggregates about 125,000. The number of the flyers" among the birdmen has been seriously decimated by the tragical occurrences of the past few weeks beginning with the death of Ralph Johnstone at Denver November, 17, and extending to that of Moissant at New Orleans and that of Hoxsey Los Angeles on the last day of the year. Each of these men was accomplished in the art of aviation as far as such accomplishment has progressed, and both were perfectly fearless in aerial navigation. Yet a slight disar-rangement of his machine when in midair precipitated Johnstone long to the ground while Moissant and Hoxsey each met his death by being hurled to earth through some caprice of the aeroplane of which he consid-

ered himself absolute master. How like mockery of human intelligence, hopes and expectations now reads the advice to amateur aviators John B. Moissant recently published: "Don't try to learn to be a pilot and a mechanic at the same time," said this apostle af aviation. "That is where many flyers come to grief." Neithe this advice nor the large experience of the daring acrial navigator in the upper currents of the air availed him when a treacherous cross current viclously engaged his aeroplane in mortal combat and sent it hurling down-

ward t' rough the troubled air.
"If my motor works well as it has been working, and I can stand the temperature of so high an altitude I will come down with a record of 12,000 feet or more," were the parting words of Hoxsey as his machine rose from the ground. In a few minutes his lifeless body lay at the feet of those to whom this promise had been given—hurled downward from a

height of three hundred feet. All three of these men had dared

death in many sensational flights. Each thought he knew his machin a horseman knows his horse. Yet the treacherous devices that gave them wings, in the twinkling of an eye, as it were violated the confidence imposed in them, turned "cranky and plunged them to speedy, but let

us hope, painless death. These and similar tragedies of the air are sad chapters or incidents in the brief record of aviation. They are among the foregone conclusions of aerial navigation. They have not, and will not act as a deterrent to those who are possessed of the purpose to ride upon the wings of the morning. Scanning thoughtfully the account of Moissant's fatal flight and fall, a few minutes before he arose and fell to his own death Hoxsey said: "He must have become weary from too much driving," indicating by these words that he himself; being fresh and unweary, was in no danger of sharing his brother bird man's fate.

Daring-almost madness-is in this desire to "fly as a bird." This is an adjunct necessary to the development of aerial navigation. Personal fear has no part or lot in it. "Within four-teen years I confidently expect to see machines flying to Europe in fourteen hours," said John B. Moissant, after his successful circumnavigation of the Statue of Liberty, a month ago. The victor's meed as thus outlined was not for him. But who shall say, that the feat he prophesied will not be accomplished?

Senator Borah, of Idaho, is a repre sentative of whom Idaho may well feel While Oregon may feel wroth proud. over his success in getting away with about \$9,000,000 of Oregon's reclamation fund while our own Senators were asleep or circulating political buncombe, we cannot but admire the fearless, independent manner in which he stands up for the West. Senator Borah is not seeking to impress the East with any crazy political theories, but he is telling some pointed truths about the land which so many others have lied about and which finds no defenders in the Oregon Senatorial delegation. The Pinchot-Roosevelt Conservation Congress at St. Paul last Fall Senator Borah characterizes as a "cruel and brutal farce." In a speech before the Brooklyn Institute of Fine Arts and Sciences he attempted to disabuse the minds of his audi ence of the idea that "the people of the West should be either in the penitentiary or in the asylums." the West needs in Congress is more Rorahs and fewer Bournes and Chamberiains.

The failure of the Carnegie Trust Company's Bank in New York with heavy liabilities and insufficient assets, suggests that there should be some statute which would prevent the use of strong names by weak institutions. The fact that Andrew Carnegie, who is about the only Carnegie with whom the world is at all familiar, was not connected with the bank, and had repudiated the use of his name, was not generally known. It was generally known, however, that Mr. Carnegie could liquidate a dozen banks like the Carnegie Trust and still have enough money for a few new libraries. This, of course, attracted deposits and gave the institution a prestige to which it was not entitled. Fortunately for general financial situation, shaking out of weak concerns like the Carnegie Trust comes at a time when effect on responsible institutions will be inconsequential.

In 1910 were issued 3009 permits for East Side residences, and but 132 permits for West Side residences. These figures are sufficiently imposing to give the Frank Kiernans and of Portland, who is at the Raleigh, other obstructionists an idea why important clause in the treaty to are necessary. The East Side also maintain that this country has any made heavy gains over the West Side right to discriminate against one class in business building permits. Perhaps the most significant feature of Great Britain, with an over- the more than 3000 residence permits was the average value of \$2176. These figures disclose a high grade of build-ings and account for the preference that is being shown the East Side as a residential center. Portland never was very favorable to "shacks," but the 1910 records show a class of residences that are extremely creditable

to the city. Mene Wallace, the Eskimo whom Peary brought to New York many years ago, has reached Etah to resume his old life among the blubber hunters of the Far North. He is so unmindful of the efforts of Peary that he writes he does not believe either Peary or Cook reached the North Mene lived in this country long enough to learn the commercial advantages of any kind of sensation, so he may be paving the way for a return to this country for a lecturing tour. If he would bring down the men who found the pole with Peary, and those who did not find the pole with Cook, he might make a hit on the vaudeville circuit, which took so kindly to Matt Hensen when he told the story of the North Pole discovery.

Wise physicians say that no man ever broke down from overwork merely. Lack of change and variety in life is more deadly than toil. We may believe, therefore, that if Astronomer Larkin, of the Mount Lowe Observatory, had varied his ocupations more his usefulness would have been prolonged. Man is a machine made for work, but not for work of the same kind year after year in unbroken rou-

In pardoning a Wallowa man who had killed two claim jumpers, Acting Governor Bowerman did not offend the sensibilities. In Western opinion that offense is but one degree worse than stealing a horse.

The State Board shows its good faith in taking away the license of a physician within its jurisdiction. This | once when the doctors are ahead of the lawyers.

The poor little chap who was run lown and killed by an automobile died in the line of duty, just as much as the engineer in a wreck or the officer in battle.

Even if Oregon's Senators are asleep at the switch, no other state can purloin the new postoffice site months ago.

Merely to fix the figures in the public mind, be it stated Multnomah County this year will pay 36 per cent of the entire state tax.

Mr. Hill may be the corkscrew to open California as well as Oregon,

WHAT'S DOING IN OREGON. Fossil Is Model Town.

Mitchell Sentinel.

We spent several days last week in Fossil, the county seat town, and we never while there saw a boy with a pipe or cigarette in his mouth or one in a pastime or on the streets late at night, yet the schools had adjourned holidays. Fossil is, indeed, a for the model school town, and a town that the people of Wheeler County should be proud of.

Manzanita in Bloom

Rogue River Courier. John McCallister brought to the Courier office this morning a branch of manzanita which was in full bloom, several months ahead of time. Mr. McCallister has lived in this section for 35 years or more and has never before seen the shrub in bloom at this time of the year. In the yards about the city there can be seen many roses and carnations in bloom at this time, but it is quite unusual for wild shrubs to flower out of season.

Wild Flowers Abloom in Fields.

Hermiston Herald. We have all heard of the flowers that bloom in the Spring, May flowers and all sorts of flowers, but it is not everywhere that wild posies can be picked on the 28th of December and out-of-doors at that. Such is the case here, however.

Wednesday J. M. Griffin brought a dozen or so little yellow blossoms to the Herald office and said north of town they were thick. Whether fruit or flowers out of season there is not Not so in much taste or fragrance. this case, however, as there is a distinct odor.

#### Thieves Routed With Shovel.

Joseph Herald. Friday night Grandpa and Grandma Endicott "mixed it" with a brace of chicken thieves in a most vigorous manner. The thugs were in the act of looting their hen house when the old people appeared on 'the scene, Uncle Bill armed to the teeth with a garden spade. The way this old war veteran backed off and tore into those thieves was worth coming miles to see. When the hair, teeth, hats, coats shovel settled and the smoke the battle cleared away it was found that both of the thieves had escaped -but they will carry the marks of that shovel on their heads for many a day. In the mix-up one of the thugs lost his hat, and fearing arrest he left town that night-a good riddance of bad

## A Good Loser.

Union Scout. Let's be good loads and not get mad at the friends who did all for us they could in our last fight. The Scout will never criticise Jay

Bowerman for his decision in locating the asylum, as he may have done his best and his judgment may be better

than ours.

If you haven't heard a man swear, with his right hand raised to heaven that before he would knowingly do a wrong that that hand should cleave to the roof of his mouth till he bit it off, then sell to the highest cash bidder; you haven't been where we have been and you may

be the better for it. It is time to congratulate the lucky city across the mountains upon its se-curing the Eastern Oregon insane asylum. In our present mood we prefer to leave the matter to some of our able citizens who realize that an asylum is a detriment to a town. They will be in a better mood for it. An insane asylum is not a desirable in-

stitution to be annexed to a town except as a place of confinement for undesirable subjects.

#### "GO AWAY TO LEARN THE NEWS" Pertland Man Tells Fish Story to Washington City Reporter.

Washington Herald. In Portland, Or., the familiar catfish figures as a hardy pioneer and a valued adjunct to the street cleaning depart-ment, according to James P. Anderson, ment, according to James P.

"This is because the terra cotta sewlower part of the city, frequently be-come choked. "If the sewer is not broken," con-

tinued Mr. Anderson, "it can be cleaned by passing a rope through it, to be pulled backward and forward until the obstruction is loosened and removed. The street officials have a great deal of such work to attend to, and the worry connected with getting the rope through for a long time had them at their wits' ends. At last, however, they discovered a quick, sure and easy

"The workman goes to the river, catches a catfish, ties a string to its the sewer. It at once starts for the river and forces its way through any obstruction not as solid as brick, dragging the string after it. Then the workman goes as far down the sower as he deems necessary and picks up the string, which he uses to draw a wire through the pipes, and with this a rope is pulled through and the sewer is soon cleared."

# Billboards in the Berkshire

Providence Journal One of the most picturesque regions of New England, the Berkshires, is comparatively free from offensive bill-board advertising, and this is due in great measure to the Massachusetts law prohibiting the defacing of nat-ural scenery. This law, of course, is offensive to some proprietors of hotels and garages, and a movement for its repeal was recently begun. At a hear-ing before the Massachusetts highway commission such action was approach commission such action was opposed by representative men. Since only the selfish interests of a few are interfered with by the present law, the state has no legitimate reason for interference. The hotels and garages can do busi-ness without billboards at all turns of the roads. So far as that goes this outrageous defacement of the scenery might do more to injure their business than to help it. No retreat should be sounded in this fight against an in-tolerable nuisance.

# London Chroniele.

The shillelagh, which showed at Louth that it has not entirely lost its old im-portance as a factor in deciding elections. is no raw limb of a tree. It is aimost as much a work of art as a well-bal-anced cricket bat. The old shillelaghs were as carefully looked after by their loving owners as is a rifle in the wilds. Cut from the sturdiest of young black-thorns, and showing as little taper as an ebony ruler, it was weighted with lead or from at the end nearest the grip, so that its center of gravity was about fourfifths of the way from the hitting end. When properly seasoned by being kept in the neighborhood of the farm oven for a few months, it became a thing of supple steel. And the proper pronuncia-tion of the name of this fearsome weapon is the melodious one of "shill-ally," with the accent on the "all."

# A Missouri Patriarch.

Tuscumbla Autogram.

W. H. Scott, of Tavern, Maries County, Missourt, celebrated his 33d birthday a few days ago and claims a record of endurance not excelled by any one of his age. During last Spring and Summer he cut the timber and split 500 rails, making as many as 50 of them in a single day. He is the father of 14 children, 44 grand-children, 69 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren children, 65 great-grandch great-great-grandchildren

PRESIDENT TAFT MAKING GOOD

Political Barometer Shows Administration Is Growing Upon Country, Louis Ludlow, in Indianapolis Star.

Congress has been in session two weeks. During that fortnight President Taft has ione more to win public esteem for his Administration than during all of the previous period of his service as the Chief Magistrate. The fairness and the catho-licity of spirit he has manifested in deal-and tried not to blush. ing with many diverse and important situations have met with quite general approbation at the seat of Government, and probation at the seat of Government, and and deny it, but you can never fool me thousands of persons who formerly men- again. I overheard my brother saying, tioned him only to criticise, are now in his slangy way, that you were a agreeing with the general verdict that 'President Taft is making good."

The impress of the President's judicial

dent. He sees things from every angle, and, with calm and sober polse, works out conclusions that are sound and in conformity with the best public policy. He never goes off on a tangent. He is making the White House a place where peace abides and where every individual and every interest has a day in court.

Washington is the Nation's political barometer, and the readings of the ba-rometter indicate that the Taft Adminrometter indicate that the Taft Admin-istration is growing upon the country as a wise and just Administration. seems good to get back to this Jefferson-ian simplicity and restfulness is the opinion of the people, as reflected here. Nothing that a President of the United States has said in recent years has made a greater hit than the hope which he expressed in his recent message that the country might now have a rest from

It can be said truthfully that now, for the first time, Mr. Taft has a free field and a fair show to carry out his own ideas as President, and he is launching out along lines which prove that he has a broad, patriotic view of the duties of the Chief Magistracy. Heretofore the shadow of Theodore Rossevelt and the big stick has been over the White House. The recent cataclysmal election removed that shadow, clarified the political atmosphere, drove the feverishness out of the body politic, and left Mr. Taft free to carry out his own ideas of administrative government.

The success he is making has disillusioned the Democratic leaders of Con-grees who had picked him out as a sort of political pudding to be devoured in the campaign of 1912. Now these same lead-ers are beginning to see that he has mapped out an administration and a policy of fealing with public questions that will impress the country with such favor as to making him a hard man to beat in the next Presidential election.

#### GROWTH OF ENGLISH WORDS. Latest Statistics Show There Are Over 400,000 in Modern Dictionary.

New York Evening Post. who habitually can not find words to express their feelings will be chappined to learn from latest statistics that there are over 400,000 at their dis-posal, exclusive of foreign languages. While the returns of the census during the last months have been causing various excitements, it has escaped general notice that the little denizers of the dictionary have been multiplying, too. P. W. Long, of Cambridge, has collected figures that tell a startling

The first English dictionary in any real sense was not published until 1604. It contains three thousand "hard usual English words . . . gathered for the benefit and help of ladles, gentlewomen, or any other unskilful persons." Then came, to stop only at significant works. popular in the eighteenth century as was Webster's in the ninoteenth; and a little later that by Dr. Johnson, which in Todd's famous edition in 1818 had only 58,000 words. Webster, in 1828, printed 70,000: Worcester, in 1846, 85,000. Webster's International, issued th's year, has more than 400,000 and what year, has more than 400,000, and what will be the total of the Oxford dictionary when completed one can only gid-dily infer from the recent statements by Sir James Murray that he has five mil-lion illustrative quotations stored in an

iron room in his garden. Like the great influx into the from the country, the new words that have rushed into the dictionary start an impulsive cheer, but in a thoughtful mind also the lagging doubt that they nay have deserted a more desirable abode. Back three centuries Shakespeare carried about in his head five times as carried about in his head five times as many words as the dictionary then contained; today it has a hundred words for every one which a good writer will use. Clearly, there's a moral here, even though not quite so obvious as it has been made to seem. The great gains in the number of words recorded within the last fifty years have, of course, come from a minute raking over of all come from a minute raking over of all accessible English documents, and from special branches of human labor, par-ticularly the sciences in which changing have made necessary hosts of new terms.

# Robbing Law of Its Terror.

The folly of permitting criminal cases to lag as they do in America has been demonstrated in a rather striking fashion in Pittsburg, where 60 of the so-called "graft cases" have to it?

Euclid car. "Sure you do. Now let me tell you something. See that big apartment-house over there on the right? And that little business block right next to it? 60 of the so-called "graft cases" have fallen through because of the death

The death of the last of these witmonia, was attended by circumstances such as to arouse a suspicion of foul play, and this phase of the subject is market for exactly \$15,000. The block was then on the play, and this phase of the subject is market for exactly \$15,000. The old genbeing investigated. However, the rebeing investigated. However, the result can have no bearing upon the case

"Lone Tree on Oregon Trail."

Omaha World-Herald.

In the early days of Merrick County, during the "los, there stood on the north bank of the Platte River south of what is now Central City a giant cottonwood tree. This tree was close to the old Oregon trail, and for miles up and down the river there was not another tree to be found. Under its spreading branches emigrant trains halted for rest to escape the heat of the day under its beneficent to be known to the early the beneficent to be known to the early the property and to be a new set of wise. shade. It came to be known to the early travelers of the plain as the Lone Tree.

Finally its branches withered and its trunk rotted and the old tree fell down. and the spot where it stood was almost forgotten. A short time ago a move was set on foot by the old settlers to set up some suitable mark on the spot where the Lone Tree stood, and the matter has taken before the county board supervisors. A marble shaft will be set up. On the shaft will be the simple words, "Here stood the old Lone Tree on the Oregon trail.'

# Women Voters Help Women.

Indianapolis News. Mrs. Helen M. Wiscson, who has elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction in Colorado, is said to owe her election to the nonpartisan vote of the women. Though the Democrats swept the state Mrs. Wixson, who was nominated by the Republicans, re-ceived a large majority, women with-out regard for party lines voting for

# Life's Sunny Side

A young woman rushed up to a young man on Superior avenue the other day and shook hands with him cordially. "I have a confession to make to you," she gurgled. "You won't believe R, but I always thought you drank."

"And now," she pursued, "I find that you are actually a temperance worker, Now I see you are trying to be modest great boosefighter! Oh, he was in earnest. Why, he said that you had punished more of the stuff than any other mind is becoming more and more etamped upon his Administration. He is an old-fashioned President. He is an economical President. He is an economical Choking.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Senator Depew, at a dinner in Washing ton, recounted a number of senatorial

"It was a Southern Senator," he said 'who once met an interruption with the stern and lofty rebuke:
"The gentleman, like a mousing owl, is always putting in his ear where it

isn't wanted.

"I think it was a Senator from Chicago who once declared: who once declared:
"The 'ron heel of stern necessity
darkens every hearthstone.'
"And I'll never forget a Texas crator's

pathetio cry:
"Will you stamp out the last flickering embers of a life that is fast ebbing away?"-Pittsburg Gazette-Times.

Edwin Markham, the famous author of "The Man With the Hoe," is a bitter opponent of child labor. Discussing the effort that he is making toward the reform of child-labor laws. Mr. Markham said recently:
"I would abolish, too, the contemptibly

unjust system of fines. What right has an employer to fine a hand an hour's pay for five minutes' lateness? What right has he, because the hand has damaged some goods 2 cents worth, to fine hin

Mr. Markham, after a moment's pausa, smiled "I wish to goodness," he said, "that every victim of the desploable fine sys-tem had the same story to tell as an

actor I heard of yesterday.
"This actor worked under a who was a great finer. For a bad make up, for lateness, for noise in the wings, for a hundred things the players were bilked from a quarter to \$2. The worst of all the fines was one of 10 cents for fallure to return 'properties'; for this was a duty that every one continually

"In a financial drama one night the supply of stage money ran out and the manager loaned an actor \$8 or \$9 in real bills to use in the next scene. "The manager said sternly to the actor

the following Saturday:
"'By the way, Booth, you haven't returned that \$9 I gave you in act three Monday night."
"'Never mind," said the actor. 'Just fine me a dime." "—Philadelphia Ledger.

H. C. Thayer, "Pop" Thayer, of Pennsylvania football fame, was talking at the Rittenhouse Club in Philadelphia about the new football rules. "They proved less fitted to tactics and generalship than the old rules," he said.

"They made the play so open that any attempt at strategy was like-well, like the Swiss walter. "Once, on a walking tour in the Berness Oberland, I reproached the walter at a little ins for bringing me the wrong wine. "'Here, you've brought me Chatcau Mouton Rethschild.' I said, 'when I or-dered Pontet Canet.'

"Big Bill" Edwards, New York's popu lar and efficient street commissioner, said on a day of sleet and snow: "This is the kind of weather that made

Tommy Green late for school. "Tommy, said his teacher, 'you're nearly 20 minutes late. Why is it?" 'It's the walkin', ma'am,' said Tomms Green. 'The walkin' is that bad down where I live that for every step forward on the way to school this mornin' I took

two steps backward.'
The teacher smiled scornfully.
"'At that rate, Tommy,' she said, 'you'd never have reached the school at all:
"'No more I would, ma'am, said
Tommy Green, 'so I turned round to go
home again, and in a little while here
I was at the schoolhouse.'"—New York

#### NEW SET OF WISE SAWS NEEDED Old-Fushioned Ones Do Not Fit Into Modern Situations.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. "You know all the copybook, McGuffey's reader line of talk about taking the advice of one's elders?" began the sad-eyed, undersized little man on the

"Well, there weren't any apartment When the crimes which shocked all Pittsburg were first exposed these witnesses were alive and their testimony was of such a character that conviction in a great majority of instances seemed inevitable. Delays Tollowed, however, after the manner of such cases, and now the chances of the guilty being punished are practically nil.

| houses or business blocks on it when I first ciapped eyes on it. It was a howling wildernes, in fact, and you could almot chase rabbits up here. That was about 18 years ago. I had a hunch then—and I was only 18 years old at that time—that this land would some day jump in value by leaps and bounds. When I was guardian, an old man, presty prominent in estate man houses or business blocks on it when I first clapped eyes on it. It was a howiman, pretty prominent in estate man-agement and wisdom at that time, and

play, and this phase of the subject is being investigated. However, the result can have no bearing upon the case of the three-score men who have escaped or upon the fate of as many more who are yet to be tried.

"Lone Tree on Oregon Trail."

market for exactly slocked the subject is subject in subject is market for exactly slocked the subject is subject in subject is subject in subject is subject in subje on that point 50 years from now. G'way.
"I argued it with him, and he sat
down on me. Then he went and invested

my \$15,000 at 3 per cent.

Three years ago the man who bought that same block of ground for \$18,000 sold

wondering where my \$15,000 went.
"There's got to be a new set of wise saws invented for 20th century consumption. The McGuffey's reader kind are moth eaten.

#### Gladstone and the Heckler. Westminster Gazette.

Mr. Gladstone was altogether into Mr. Gladstone was atogether inter-erant of the heckier. During his last Midlothian campaign he was ques-tioned by Sir, then Mr., John Usher of Norton, who had once been Glad-stone's chairman of committee, on the subject of the Irish proposals. To one or two inquiries a curt reply was given. "Am I to understant"—Mr. Usher was beginning. "Understand!" The bold statesman leaped to his feet. "I am responsible for the understanding that the Almighty has put in this skull of mine," tapping his forehead. "I am not responsible," pointing his finger at the questioner, "for the understanding that he has put in that skull of yours." The effect of this rebuke was yours." The effect of this rebuke was overwhelming. Mr. Usher sank speech? less into his seat,