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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1911.

THE DEMOCRATS AT WORK.

The Democratic harmony meeting in Baltimore today does not promise be a very grand affair after all the talk it has excited. Something may happen to brighten its fading luster a little, but it will have to happen pretty The prospects are now that scarcely anybody will attend the Baltimore gathering except the pro-nounced partisans of Mr. Harmon.

The Governor of Ohio is an eminent gentleman and his partisans have chosen their hero with sound discretion. Still he is not the Democratic party, and a meeting which represented nobody else would lack certain elements of complete harmony. It would be a sort of chord of the diminished seventh, very sweet and expressive, but after all sounding of lonesomeness and a trifle metancholy.

We have known to our sorrow for long time that Mr. Bryan would not be there. He says his presence might introduce a note of discord, which above all things he abhors. Some of the guests, he fears, have revolted from the platform of 1908. They are heretics of dreadful hue, and Mr. Bryan will have nothing to do with the Babylon of party irregularity.

Governor Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey, will not be there either. His reasons for abstaining are not quite so explicit as Mr. Bryan's, but one is at no loss to make a shrewd guess at them. Like the great Nebraskan, Mr. Wilson suspects that the Baltimore conclave will really represent "the interests" and not the plain people. A thing which some muckrakers have estates. emphatically as from the Republican to the Democratic hollow tree. The Baltimore llow and very rotten, as Dr. Wilson inside it when the squirrel jumps.

magnitude have also regretfully declined to present themselves at the conference of Democratic Congressmen called to meet at Washington on the without limit. But candidates good deal more of an event.

who make up the real strength of the party to take hold of the tasks before is rewarded by steady gains them with vigor. The old idea that the Democratic party runs to talk and shuns work will have to be abandoned according to present indications.

For the meeting on the 19th a pretty definite programme has aiready been mapped out and no doubt it will be followed fairly well. For one thing, the election of Mr. Clark to the Speakership to succeed Mr. Cannon will be determined upon formally, while the ways and means committee of the next House will be chosen and set to work upon the tariff. Nothing could please the country better than this. Mr. Champ Clark is liked by all sorts of people. Americans like to see politicians keep their promises. It is not certain that the Democrats will adopt Mr. Taft's cherished plan of a tariff commission to investigate the schedules and prepare the way for Congress to revise them one by one. In response to the eagerness of the public for some prompt relief from tariff taxation, they may fix upon a more direct method of revision.

It is said that many Democrats look with favor upon what is known as the 'compromise tariff" which was enacted about the year 1830. By this law the reduction of the duties was distributed over a series of nine years The exact time when each schedule fixed, and when the date arrived the duty went down by prearrangement, great merit of this plan lies in the warning it gives business men of com-A definite reduction of a ing change. certain duty being fixed for a known date, they can prepare themselves for it, and thus there ought to be no particular disturbance to any interest. Changes are dangerous only when men have no opportunity to prepare for

The objection to this method of revision is that it will not be any more scientific than the Aldrich and Ding-ley efforts. Nor will it exclude the strepulling and Pavoritism which have been the curse of all our tariff tinkering. It is therefore apparently far less | artificial price-regulations. desirable than the tariff commission proposed by the President which would investigate the schedules without blas and give the country a series of facts which would virtually compel Congress to do its work honestly.

Of course if there were the slightest prospect that the Democratic plan ould lead to a revenue tariff within few years, the country would hall it with unqualified commendation, for swindle of babying the industries and fattening the trusts. But we can hardly believe that there is any such prospect. When the mad turmoll of revision is on and the usual onslaught of the interests is made, can we exnect the Democrats to resist it any setter than the Republicans have? They did not resist when they had a is a trade term applied to the accu-They gave us the Wilson look for better results next year?

And now it is proposed to create a disinterested commission of five to sup-

ing voters. "It will be its duty to determine the true effect of each measis the command. This assumes that five men can be found in Oregon who can tell ten, twenty or thirty years in advance, with precedents as a guide, how new legislation will work out. Have we indeed men of greater political wisdom than Washington, Hamilton, Jefferson, Webster and Lincoin? Is prophecy infallible? these who remember the intellect of the United States Senate in the late '60s and early '70s and the states that oted for the fifteenth amendment. Ne one may predict what a sovereign people will do to a law after they ennet it.

SENATOR LODGE.

Senator Lodge, a useful and distinguished Senator, is in grave danger of The insurgent wave reached Massachusetts. It will engulf the Senator unless its progress can be stayed by such "progressives" as Theodore Roosevelt working in harmony with others of Lodge's friends.

Senator Lotige has served in the United States Senate eighteen years. He is a scholar, a litterateur and a patrician. He is also a Senator of influence and character, a politician of energy and adroltness and a member of the reigning Senate machine But the machine is now smashed will be with the retirement of Hale, Aldrich and Kean and the approaching dominance of Cummins, La Follette and the rest.

It is to be noticed that the fight on Lodge is being led by Governor Foss, a Democrat. He doesn't like Lodge's stand on the tariff and Canadian reci-He has encouraged the Reublican revolt.

Yet the Senate will be distinctly the loser by Lodge's retirement. He measures up well with the historic Massachusetts ideal of a Senator. Lodge was President Rooseveli's cles est friend and one of his most trusted advisers. Yet he is to be beaten now ecause he is or was a "standpatter, What will Massachusetts or the country gain by supplanting him with a lesser distinction and smaller callber?

THE SCARCITY OF WORKING HANDS.

Many men in the cities of the Pacific Northwest are said to be out of employment at this time. Yet few who have applied themselves with diligence to the tasks in the country find themselves in distress on this account Those who are out of jobs and funds are nearly all in the cities. The only serious part of the situation is the dependence of wives and children on men who may not be earning steady wages.

The trouble is, too many men seek recent cartoon depicted the ominous living in the cities. Too many shun and shirk work in the country. In rural districts are plenty and the springing like a disturbed squirrel abundance—for men who apply ordinary foresight and diligence to their opportunities. The country is growing conference is this hollow tree, very fast. Its activities are multiplying in the general progress. But it is well thinks, and he does not want to be known that the chief difficulty is that of labor. Men are hard to find on Other Democrats of considerable whom employers can rely for faithful and honest service. Dairymen, orchardists and farmers of all kinds join Baltimore harmony meeting so that in the complaint. Tens of thousands one cannot look upon the affair with of raw acres of land need to be very hopeful prognostications. The cleared and plowed. The openings for employment in the country are 19th of this month promises to be a place will need to take lower pay than they like; they will have to We gather that the purpose of this longer hours than the barons of Wall conference will not be so much talk street; they will have to eschew the It indicates a definite in- ko-called pleasures of the city's paved tention on the part of the Democrats streets and nickel shows. Yet in such work there is honest purpose and it

It seems queer that just now when country is in such urgent need of hands to perform its tasks and has number of men should be out of em-

ployment.

THE ENGINE PROBLEM OF FLYING. The flying machine may be said to have reached a high state of perfec-But progress of the motor lags behind that of the sailing planes. Thus the problem of the aeroplane is that of the gas engine. Toward perfection of the mechanism that drives the propeller and thus supplies the lifting force, inventive brains are directing their energies.

The flying machine depends upon an engine that is driven by very rapid explosions. These explosions are fired by an electric spark. The "explosive mixture" of gasoline and air must be of just the right density and the mechansm that adjusts the mixture must ompensate for varying atmospheric pressures. Many valves and gears compose the engine. Then, too, the electrical mechanism is one of delicacy. When one considers the frequent difficulties of the gas engine under best conditions of terra-firma use, and then realizes the multiplica-tion of those difficulties that the operator is destined to meet in the air. he sees that the motive-power problem of the flying machine is a very serious and dangerous one.

Doubtless improvements, will be made in the gas engine so that dangers of flying will be greatly lessened. But it is not likely that flying will beme a popular sport, though in many ways it will be useful.

FOOD TRUST WATERLOO.

The big combination of produce dealers known as the "food trust" is reported to be facing a loss of millions, This trust has for the last five years set aside the natural laws of supply and demand, supplanting them with

The principle involved in the attempted corner of poultry and dairy products is not different from that which is found in corners of wheat, cotton or other prominent staples. the experiment now gives promise of being a failure. When Joseph Leiter was conducting his world-famous wheat deal, about a dozen years ago is tired of the sorry old and, in order to prevent a break in prices, was paying very high figures for everything offered him, an wheat king who had played with that kind of fire pertinently remarked: "Joe can put the price as high as he wants to, but what is he going to do

with the corpse?"

The "corpse," it might be explained, mulated stock of wheat or cotton tariff, that product of "perfidy and any other commodity which manipula-dishonor." What reason is there to tors generally find necessary to buy in abnormally large quantities when at-tempting to effect a "corner." The food trust, in its efforts to maintain

vast proportions which will prove more difficult to dispose of than those which have absorbed so many millions for others who attempted "corners in more pretentious staples. It is regrettable that at least a portion of these immense cold-storage stocks of poultry, butter and eggs, which have been accumulating for five years, will prove a total loss. The lesson, however, may be worth the money it will cost some of the manipulators who are responsible for this needless waste what at one time were good, palatable necessities of life.

Advancing prices on any staple tend to curtail consumption, and if the advance is too great the price become prohibitive for a certain class. No more striking example of the workings of this economic law can be found than in the phenomenal slump in the Oriental flour trade. This trade out of North Pacific ports was built up in a few years from practi-4,000,000 barrels per year. Then came two or three short wheat crops throughout the world and prices soared skyward. The bread of the white man was no longer the "staff of for the Chiaman and the trade dwindled away until last year the shipments were more than 2,000,000 barreis less than they were a few years ago. The Chinaman could afford to use flour made from 60-cent wheat, but he could not afford to use it when wheat was \$1 per bushel. There are millions of consumers who can pay reasonable prices for butter, eggs and noultry, but who cease to be consumers of those commodities when prices are forced to unwarranted heights.

TAKEN FROM THE SCRAP-HEAP.

The Army Board found the West Umatilia irrigation project practicable and desirable, but recommended that the project be thrown to the scrap heap of neglected Government enterprises, because the irrigation fund was needed for the development of reclamation schemes elsewhere. That was the sole reason. Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and other states had the necessary "pull." Oregon had none.

But Secretary Ballinger interfered. He knew the unquestionable deserts of West Umatilla and he understood perfectly that it had been ignored because it could be, and for no other The Senatorial delegation reason. from Oregon had utterly failed to look after Oregon's interests and welfare, both in Congress and before the Army No wonder Oregon was left to contemplate longer the cold and barren waste of its unreclaimed West Umatilla desert.

Then Secretary Ballinger interfered. He ordered a final survey of the West Umatilla project. He announced his definite purpose to go ahead with the work if a way could be found. The was found. West Umatilla is saved from decay and probable aban-

donment by Secretary Ballinger. The Oregonian emphasizes the important and indispensable fact of the friendship and favor of Secretary Ballinger for a great Oregon enterprise because it is his due. It is proper that suitable recognition be given of his fair attitude toward Oregon and his vigilant and helpful efforts in the state's behalf. Yet he has been accused, here in Portland, of blocking the West Umatilla project. Such a charge is quite in keeping with the general campaign of slander, abuse and falsehood to which the Secretary has for months been subjected.

HOW THE POSTAL BANK WORKS.

The postal savings bank which has been opened at Klamath Falls does not seem to have brought about any of the dire calamities which were predicted when the new system was being been confronted so seriously with the | debated in Congress. Funds have not problem," any considerable been withdrawn from the local banks to any extent. In the course of its first week the new institution has received only some \$200, a sum which need not startle the most timid. does not foretell a serious financial disturbance.

No doubt the postal bank at Klamath Falls will run along quite inconspicuously for several years. We should not be surprised if its deposits were never very heavy until the next panic occurs. Then it will show its real merits. Frightened depositors will, as they always do, withdraw their money from the private banks, but instead of hoarding it they will deposit in the postoffice and thence it will go back into circulation without delay.

hTe amusing fallure of the predicted alamities to occur when the postal banks opened will tend to make the country distrustful of the prophets who foretell awful disasters from the parcels post, if we ever get one. The country merchants will go bankrupt, the postal deficit will swell to huge proportions. Everybody knows the talk.

But there is no more in it than there was in the frightful warnings about the postal savings banks. All these predictions are made by narrow and short-sighted people who dread some little injury to their particular interest and wish to keep back the whole country to benefit themselves. But they are mistaken. The parcels post will not harm them a particle more than the postal banks have harmed the bankers. These things are not experiments. They are old established Institutions in the progressive countries of the world, and they injure nobody while they benefit millions.

HELPING PORTLAND GROW.

Naturally, every Portland man is interested in and pleased by the steady increase in the number of skyscrapers shooting up along our principal business thoroughfares. They are ornaments to the city and they advertise Portland's growth. We like to read that some prominent Eastern capitalist Fortunately for the consumer, and to after a close scrutiny of the remain-the discomfiture of the manipulators, der of the big American cities has paid from \$3000 to \$4000 per front foot for a business lot in this city and will erect thereon a ten or twerve-story building. We have had considerable of this pleasing news in the past two years, and there is much more of the same kind coming along this year, and the next, and then some. Meanwhile there is another class of real estate news that means just as much, perhaps more, to Portland than the sale of a high-priced business lot or the building of a sky-scraper.

As an example of this class of news which has such a direct bearing on the supply and demand of Portland skyscrapers, an item in The Oregonian Sunday relating to the sale of 20,000 acres of land in Lincoln and Benton ounties is interesting. This land is disinterested commission of five to supplement Oregon's initiative by advisa parently accumulated a "corpse" of on easy terms to small farmers who maybe 2200. to be cut up into small tracts and sold Americans until the year 2100, or

are looking for openings where they will not have to wait years for their holdings to reach a productive stage. 'What Oregon needs," says one of the owners of the tract, "is farmers who will raise vegetables and poultry and hogs and cattle; men who will milk cows and send the milk and butter to

market.' The 20,000-acre tract, if it is of the average quality found in the coast region, can easily support more than 1000 families, and it is from the additional thousands who are now pouring inte Oregon in search of new homes that Portland will draw support for | Holman, who managed a mill for the the new skyscrapers that are constantly being planned and built. No one ever questions the fact that the city can never sustain a growth in exces of that which is experienced in the country tributary to it. The country might get along without Portland, but Portland could not get along without the country.

For this reason every new settler who comes into Portland territory is contributing, in a degree, to the growth of this city. News of the transfer to newcomers of suburban acreage, orchards, farms or ranches is fully as important to Portland as that regarding the transfer of a city lot or the building of a business structure. New capital and new blood in the state and Northwest, outside of Portland, may properly be termed a "cause," and Portland's phenomenal growth the "effect."

The Department of Justice has decided that it has no jurisdiction over the, foreign steamship lines which were named in the trust suit filed a few The new subsidy bill of Representative Humphrey, however, will provide a way for getting even with these highwaymen of the seas who have been carrying the honest emigrant 4000 to 5000 miles, paying his rallroad fare from interior Europe and giving him meals and berth en all for \$30 to \$35. It this kind of combination in restraint of trade that is keeping back the milions of foreigners who are so sadly needed in the tenement districts of New York, Boston and other Atlantic Coast cities. To the other drastic features of the Humphrey bill should be added one that would require all foreign steamships entering American ports to carry steerage passengers at This "hydra-headed mon-\$1 each. opoly" which insists on charging the outrageous sum of \$35 must be punished, or New York's East Side will more populous than an anthill in July.

The coming of the railroad will not interfere with Tillamook County's liberality toward wagon roads. In the past three years that isolated count; nearly \$300,000 on road work. This year the County Court has made a levy which will provide \$125,-000 for road and bridge purposes. is a difficult matter to reach Tillamook over the present roads across the mountains, but once within the confines of that prosperous county, the traveler will find highways that would be a credit to much more pretentious communities. Clatsop County, lying north of Tillamook, is also making liberal provision for 1911 road work and has plans for meeting Tillamook County with a first-class road over Necarney Mountain. When that road is in shape for automobiles, people will cross the continent to use it

The Government engineers are preparing to improve the Coquille River channel between Coquille and Myrtle Point. An appropriation of \$56,000 is the Oregon House. Result, it available for the work, and the imprinted in headlines as large provement will greatly facilitate dequille and Coos Bay countries are growing more rapidly than ever before, a fact that has not escaped the attention of the Californians, who still have a strong hold on the trade of that region. This trade will naturally come Portland as soon as a railroad is built. Meanwhile Portland should remember that a large number of new settlers are going into that country where irrigation ditches and water rights are not troublesome and "grass grows green the year around."

Why did the first bank swindled by Thorp, allas several aliases, conceal the fact? Wanted to keep it out of the papers is perhaps the only reason. But if publicity had been given to the doings of this sharper, wouldn't every Pacific Coast bank have been on the watch for him? Didn't the first bank think it necessary to warn others? In the matter of smooth crooks' victims, publicity pays.

The National House of Representatives contnues to decide appeals just as it pleases, taking orders from nobody. If it keeps on it will regain the dignity which belongs to it and may again play a responsible part in governing the country. The people would prefer a free and responsible House to a collection of marionettes.

When Mr. Klernan is finally through with his bridge litigation, his remains should be carefully preserved for the aspiration of the young. Surely he is the most persevering man who ever lived and the badness of his cause should not be allowed to obscure the brilliancy of his virtue.

In order to perfect the experiment of dropping explosives from an aeroplane the military manager at San Francisco ought to have stationed some marksmen with Martini 30-30s to ascertain what the enemy could do in the way of defense.

To determine the extent to which the postal savings bank can draw on private hoards stowed away in stockings and teapots, it will be necessary to give one of the institutions an opportunity in a town like Seaside, which was recently deprived of its banking

The problem of cheap living at Eugene and Corvallis is one which the students ought to solve for themselves, If they wish they can form clubs and fix the cost of living to suit their means, while at the same time they learn valuable lessons in co-operation. Because several pedestrians whom

pen to have a lot of money, a murderous thug in New York asked the police to lock him up. He said the business didn't pay. It never does. Government has seized on valuable phosphate beds discovered in Montana. Under the Pinchot policy these should not be uncovered and put to use of

he held up with a revolver did not hap-

Valley Farmers Sold Seed to Pressing Mill at Salem

PORTLAND, Jan. 14 .- (To the Editor.)-I wish to add my personal plea for the culture of flax. The whole subject has been ably and enthusiasti-cally discussed in the columns of The Oregonian, nor am I qualified to speak upon its merits. But I remember that my father, who was a practical farmer, raised most satisfactory crops of flax in Polk County more than 35 years ago. The fiber was not utilized then, but the seed was sold in Salem to Joseph expressing of oil. The byproduct of oil cake was returned to the grower, and was most valuable for feeding young cattle.

As there seems no doubt of the ex-ceptional quality of the Oregon-grown flax, it is to be hoped the farmers will look with favor upon this profitable industry and that flourishing linen mills, twine manufactories, etc., reward those who have labored faithfully for their establishment. will

Some day the small farmer-if there is one-in Eastern Oregon and Wash-ington will consider the cultivation of flax, for that section is its habitat. few years ago I found some fine spe mens growing wild in the sagebrush, six miles from Walla Walla, and it certainly is not confined to that locality. When Lewis and Clark made their great journey more than 100 years ago, they found the Clatsop Indians using flax or hemp fishlines, and were told they obtained it by barter with their neighbors, east of the Cascades.

These simple, primitive people were wise in gaining secrets from Mother Earth and utilized for food and use the plants that grew within the confines of their nomadic lives. That they understood, in a crude way, the retting and hackling of flax and bemp is very clearly proven by examining bags made by the Wascos, Klickitats, Warm Springs, Cayuse, Umatillas and other Any good collection of baskets will have these. Being much on horse nothing could be better adapted to their use than these strong, durable, pliable and beautifully-woven bags, or pouches. Their love of color and beauty wove a decoration, on the flax foundation, of finely split corn busk, in its natural tone, or dyed with

alder bark or copper. Either cultivation of vast areas has destroyed much of the native plants, or the degeneracy of their handiwork has made it less arduous to use the Boston man's cheap twine. The delicate blue of the lovely flax "blushes unseen" in the gray waste of sagebrush, and the sturdy hemp by the creeks is ungar-nered. Lucky is the possessor of the finely wrought and enduring pouches. Some day it will grow again, mor vigorous and abundant, under intelli gent cultivation.

Farming methods are too advanced or enlightened men to waste time and thor with unsatisfactory crops—if other things make profitable returns, then let us consider them. HARRIET M'ARTHUR.

WHEN THE EDITOR IS IN A HURRY. Annoying Mistake in News Columns Explained by Contemporary.

Astorian.
The Astorian has a public apology to make. In the rush of telegraph matter of the office of Wednesday night a date line was overlooked by the telegraph editor, and it was re-ported that Clatsop County had no representation of the standing committees of the Oregon Legislature. The telegraph editor overlooked the fact that the dispatch was from Olympia, Wash., instead of Salem, Or., and being just at that moment filled with Oregon legislative telegraphic matter, naturally began to look for Clatsop County's awards on the legislative committee. Not being able to find a Clatsop name In Washington legislative committees he thought the county had been turned down rather hard by the president of the Oregon Senate and the Speaker of are at the top of this article that Clatvelopment of a very rich country on both sides of the river. Both the Cotake.

have not yet been appointed. The field is a new one to the telegraph man, and he has had his lesson and won't overlook a date line again.

The Real North Pole. February St. Nicholas.

The popular idea of the compass is that it is an instrument having a freely moving needle which points to the North Pole. But the needle points to the North Pole when the compass is situated on the meridian of longi-tude that runs through the north magnetic pole. The real (or geographic) north pole and the magnetic north pole are not in the same place. The magnetic north pole, toward

which the compass-needle really points, is situated in the northern part of Canada, in northern latitude 70 degrees 5 minutes and longitude 96 degrees 42 minutes west from Greenwich. It was first visited in 1821 by Sir James Ross. The southern magnetic pole is in a corresponding position in the Antarctic region. It was discovered by Sir The Ernest Shackleton's expedition to be latitude 72 degrees 25 minutes south and longitude 154 degrees east.

The magnetic poles are not stationary. The northern one is slowly moving westward along the 70th parallel, and in the course of 300 or years will probably have encircled the geographic north pole and returned to about its present location. Of course the southern magnetic pole follows a corresponding course about the geographic south pole.

In such cities in the United States as Omaha, Sloux City, Topeka, Gal-veston, etc., the compass needle would point about in the direction of the North Star and the North Pole that Commander Peary reached. This geo-graphic pole is about 1500 miles north of the magnetic pole, toward which the needles of all compasses point.

Douglas County Artist.

Roseburg News. Few of the people who see the name William Walker, signed to drawings in "Life" and "Judge," are aware that the artist is one of the Garden Valley planters. Before turning his attention to fruit growing Mr. Walker was cartoonist on the Philadelphia North-American.

Will Add It to Bis Collection Detroit Free Press. The report that Venus is inhabited will doubtless be investigated at once by J. Pierpont Morgan.

Terrible Flow of Ink.

New York World. The "Battle of London" has already taken a place in history, but more ink than blood has been shed over it.

But Maybe That Is Best Deep serrow's ours, 1910. To have to say "good-bye," But fate has willed that tim

A youngster will, at 12 o'clock Demand of you your place. An' with his new key he'll unlock An' call for an "account of stock." Then you'll soar into space.

Well, 1919, our Oregon Cannot complain of you. For eyes of railroad kings are on Resources to stretch rails upon Which you brought them to view.

Where you will go we do not know.

Nor where you will find rest—
Nor where go shifting winds that blow.
Nor we when called from here below—
But maybe that is best,—R. M. WADE.

FLAX CULTURE IN EARLY DAYS. INJUSTICE IN KLAMATH PROJECT. LAW-GIVERS AND NOTHING MORE Many Suffer for Acts of Few-Senators

Give No Help.

MERRILL, Or., Jan. 12-(To the Edior.)-As a further contribution to the indictment by The Oregonias of our dilatory or incompetent Senators at Washington, the condition of most of the settlers and land owners of the Klamath project may well be cited.

This was satisfactory to the people in-terested and, accordingly, under the su-pervision of the Interior Department, a water users' association was formed. The land in private ownership was signed up so that each acre of land rep-resented one share of stock at \$20 per

would have to pay \$20 per act.

would have to pay \$20 per act.

of the \$20, as had been estimated in the beginning. This caused a good deal of complaint from those living under the finished portion of the project, which finally culminated in the directors of the finally culminated in the directors of the been diverted to more favored states.

And during all this time we have maintained a stiff upper lip, relying on sections. vast majority of the stockholders, but only by those under the first or completed unit, some one-tenth or less of the whole number. But this doesn't seem to have had any influence on our Senators in the least, We are all to be punished for the dereliction of a few. A very small portion of the project will be finished with the appropriation to for with the appropriation so far

The expenses of the association have gradually increased from 2 to 8 cents per acre, and this year will in all proba-bility be still more. Thus we who have no water have to pay equally with those who have. No more funds are to be appropriated for at least five years, at the end of which time, in all probability, our lands will be confiscated to pay the expenses of the association from which we of the dry lands absolutely derive no benefit whatever.

The association is simply an organiza-tion relieving the Government of the necessity of collecting the delinquent payments. Now, it must be manifestly fair and equitable that if we have to share in the expenses we should be allowed to share in the emoluments, and this can only be done by the speedy completion of the project. Never in the history of Oregon has

Never in the mistry of there been a people so oppressed unjustly as are the great majority of settlers and land owners under the Klamath project. And our dejection and hopelessness are increased by the knowledge

lessness are increased by the knowledge of the supplineness and almost treasonable incapacity of our two Senators.

The stand of The Oregonian is surely to be commended in the position it takes on this matter, which, I feel certain, has the indorsement and thanks of every well-wishing citizen of Klamath County.

H. ELRY.

NO 1912 RIVAL AGAINST TAFT. Probability of Renomination Empha-

sized by Political Talk. Ernest G. Walker, in Boston Herald. It seems to the Republican President makers at Washington as though the holiday discussions have quite effectively forcast the verdict of the next National convention. There has been a luil in popular interest with reference affairs, which has been im

proved to emphasize the tendency to-ward President Taft. While his re-nomination was taken for granted some weeks ago, the political talk brought here from the states and the views which have been disseminated from Washington go far to confirm such a The holiday emphasis upon the Presidential situation is gratifying to Mr. Taft's friends for several reasons. One of them is that it has developed no rival booms or boomers. There is

disposition, apparently, to bring any other candidates to the fore. The Cum-mins Presidential boom which was vigorously heraided out of the West in November, has not materialized among the politicians sojourning in ington.
It was promised that Senator Cummins would virtually maintain head-quarters by the Potomac during the Congressional months. Nothing like this has been done, and, in a Presidential way, the Senstor has been quiescent.

The stanch lowa stalwarts ridicule the Senator's aspirations. His Insurgent brethren from adjacent states have assumed an attitude of diffidence. If they are to support a Western candidate, it is decidedly a matter of the future, and has not been determined upon yet. In-surgent indersement of the President is, indeed, among the probabilities. It may not be an enthusiastic ment, but sufficiently cordial to make for campaign harmony.

Americans in English Society.

Philadelphia Times.

A witty Frenchwoman declared the other day that London was no longer an English city, but an American re-sort, and she feared that Paris, too, would soon surrender to the American invaders, who came armed with beauty, charm, wit and gold.

charm, wit and gold.

Every year the center of the social stage is occupied by American hostesses and brides, and every year some lovely American receives the homage of the season as the most beautiful woman. This Winter this adulation has been paid to Mrs. Gifford Alexander Cochran of New York, who before her marriage was Miss Mabel Heywood Taylor of

Philadelphia. Two other American women who are in the limelight of public interest in English circles are the Duchess of Rox-burghe, who was Miss May Goelet, and ister-in-law, Mrs. Robert Goelet, of

They are salmon fishing on the Tweed River and their provess with rod and line has astounded the men who have been on the fishing expeditions which start from Floors Castle, where the duchess is keeping open house.

Explosion on Steamer Faxon.

TURNER, Or., Jan. 12.—(To the Editor.)—Can you tell me where the river boat Anna Faxon, O. R. N., was blown up about 12 years ago, on the Snake River? Two men lost their lives on it at the time, John and Tom McIntosh. If you can, please give me the nearest landing and also how far from Ripar E. L. MARTIN.

The steamer Anna Faxon blew up at a point known on Wade's Bar, about half way between Riparia and Lewis-

Wild Flowers of the Const.
FALLS CITY, Or., Jan. 13.—(To the Editor.)—Where can I find a complete description of the wild flowers of the Const? I am particularly desirous of information regarding the "Orego Grape." A. D. DAVISON.

Buy Howell's "Flora of Northwest America," price \$5 and sold by the

leading book dealers. Explanation Is Easy. Atlanta Journal.

A London editor finds our sailors "thin-faced and sad." The ones he saw must have stumbled upon a copy of Punch by mistake.

Sure They Overlooked Hir

Chicago News.
Senator LaFoliette thinks that Wall street has already selected the Presidential candidates of the two parties

Ontario Citizen Scores Senntors for Loss of Reclamation Funds.

ONTARIO, Or., Jan. 13 .- (To the Editor.)-I have read with a great deal of interest much that has been written of interest much that has been written in the past several years concerning irrigation, and especially irrigation in Oregon. I was here when the irriga-tion haw of 1902 was passed. I was n delegate to our first state irrigation After exhaustive surveys a report was meeting in Portland, where our own made to the people that the cost of the Malheur project was presented with project would not exceed \$29 per acre. others of Eastern Oregon. I was here when the reclamation engineers first invaded Malheur County, and after something like 18 months and the expenditure of more than \$100,000, we were told that our project was practicable and feasible.

Chief Newell himself told as righ-

share, which was subsequently raised here under our own vine and fig tree, to DR.

On completion of the first unit of the seductive climate, our ample and abunproject, which covered some 30,000 acres, the land owners were informed they would have to pay \$20 per acre instead Mr. Newell's own ianguage, "the Maiof the \$20, as had been estimated in the heur project is unique from the stand-

against the Reclamation service to the visiting Senate committee, and also, I believe, to the Secretary of the Interior. Now, this was not sanctioned by the vast majority of the stockholders, but only by those under the first or completed unit, some one-tenth or less of the whole number. But this doesn't seem to But alas! though the wisdom of our representatives at Washington is sane. ing throughout all the country as to the wise, modern and beneficent they have promulgated and enacted, and while wise men of the East are urging the adoption of their so-called advanced ideas, I would like to inquire which is better, a bad method, if you please, that brings good results, or a so-called good method that brings bad results or, in this case, no results?

It is a well-known fact that the repeal of section 9 of the reclamation act was directed solely at Oregon; that other states which it would have affected had no practical projects. Hence Oregon is the sufferer. It is also known that it was entirely needless in passing upon the \$29,000,000 loan to stipulate that it must be expended to complete projects already under way, for the reason that nearly all the projects are built by units, each uplete in itself. This is true of ernment is now being repaid for the meney so far expended. Consequently it is mere bosh that there was, or is, any good reason why Oregon's money should be stolen upon such a pretext. But grant for argument's sake that under the law the Malheur project under could not avail itself of a portion of the \$20,000,000 loan. There is now and has been several million on hand from the regular source, and this sum is be-ing augmented daily. Again I am in-formed that two or three of the proj-cets recommended by the Army Board are entirely new ones. But they are not ir Oregon.

It appears to your humble servant that our Sonators in Washington are chasing the shadow, and are losing sight of the substance. They are con cerning themselves as to who shall be appointed Postmaster in some onehorse town, or who shall be made Speaker of the Oregon Legislature, in-stead of attending to the larger and more important duties of their office and station. We, the while, of Mal-heur County, with 200,000 acres of splendid land with water, productive in the highest degree, much of it as rich as the flats of Helland, where we can produce the sweet corn of Maine the field or fodder corn of Iowa, the peaches of Southern Michigan, seeds in great varieties of the most favored region, ten tons of hay from a single acre, the apples of a Medford or a Wenatchee-yea, we challenge Hood River to surpass them in either beauty or flavor-I say, here we stand, feet in the burning sand, view across the Snake our neighbor in the State of Idaho, expending \$5,000,000 our state's money, yea, our money, if you please, by every right, human and divine, building homes and highways, cities and citizenship west we behold again the broad acres of old Malheur, in all their primitive beauty and grandeur, as yet unfouched by the advancing hosts of civilization. awaiting, thirsting, pleading for the water which gives it life, to the end that it may bloom, blossom and bless

Language cannot express our indignation, our humiliation, our feeling. So far as I am concerned, I can only say, to h with men and measures whe have brought us thus. In the meantime Oregon's friend, Secretary Pallinger, has condescended to leave a few straggling surveyors on the sands of Umatilia, presumably to alleviate our suffering and appease our wrath. God speed the day, I pray, when we shall have done with petty politicians, and when Oregon's representatives in Washington will again be the peer of Borah, of Carter, or of Hale, regardless of what system or what laws elevated

of what system of what laws clevated them to leadership.

In the interim I fear the present generation in Malneur County will have passed at least beyond the age of their greatest activities and be content that Oregon is the home of the

Fellow citizens of Oregon, I await your pleasure. Have we not sufficient blood in our veins to rise at so great a call? C. E. BELDING.

Miner May He Ohio's Governor. Lieutenant-Governor-elect Atlee Pomerone, progressive Democrat, who will be the next United States Senator from Ohio, succeeding Charles Dick, is a self-made man. He was born in Berlin, O., 47 years ago, a poor boy. He worked his way through school and through Princeton. He practiced law in Can-Princeton. He practiced law in Can-ton. In 1998 he was a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Gov-ernor and was defeated by Harmon. In November he was Harmon's running

Through Pomerene's selection a coal miner may become Governor of Chic-William Green, President pro tem. of the Senate, will succeed to the office of Lieutenant-Governor. Should Governor Harmon become Democratic candidate for President he probably would resign as Governor and Senator Green would succeed him. Green is an expresident of the Ohio miners.

A Lincoln Tintype.

Mrs. Freeland Young, of Norway, has Mrs. Freeigna 100ag, of Norway, has a stickpin which is a keepgake. It has a small, rounded gold-plated frame containing a tintype of Abraham Lincoln. On the frame are the words, "For President, 1864." Mrs. Young's father gave her the stickpin when she was a girl and before Lincoln was chosen President the second time. Not many of these the second time. Not many of these small tintypes of Lincoln are now in ex-istence, but the picture is a very fine

Proved. Washington Evening Star. "You have heard that great wits are oft to madness close allied," said one

alienist. "Yes," replied the other, "and it is proved nearly every time one of these mart get-rich-quickers looks for a de-

Are Sorry It Inu't True. Louisville Courier-Journal.

Abe Hummel is said to have arrived at San Francisco and sworn he was a British subject. His countrymen swear

because he is an American.