The Oregonian

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(BY CARRIER)

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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, JAN. 19, 1911.

JARRING CHORDS.

The Democratic harmony meeting in Baltimore on Tuesday night was perhaps more remarkable for its absentees than for those who sat on the To be sure, the perentally verdant Henry Gassoway Davis WILE there, and so were Champ Clark, Governor Harmon and Mr. Bailey of Texas. But where were Governor codraw Wilson, Governor Dix and Governor Foss, to say nothing of Mr. Bryan? Their vacant seats must have cast a suspicion of gloom over the ecoluton, though the orators seem to have done their best to be cheerful.

Balley made one of speeches, and, as usual, managed to mix a good deal of real eloquence with bad judgment. Naturally the tariff was the principal theme of the occasion, and Mr. Balley took the ground that it ought to be revised globularly, so to speak. In other words, he would have an old-fashloned orgy with all the trusts at the trough and the porcine squeals resounding all over the Evidently the gentleman from Texas aspires to have his finger in another Wilson bill. The substanhim more than its "perfidy and dis-

Only in case the Republican Senate reject a wholesale revision would Mr. Bailey consent to attack the tariff schedule by schedule. Champ Clark is of a different mind, and, to our thinking, a great deal more sennible. Being desirous of genuine reductions, he favors the only practitacking all the enemy's fortresses on the same day, he wishes to lay siege to them one by one. If it is to be done, that is the way to do it.

As things develop, it becomes pretty sholesale revision simply takes that suphemistic way of saying that he wants no revision at all. The old method has been about as hadly discredited as a method can be. By its fruits it is known and has been indged. Fortunately for the Democratic party, the country is m lined to take Champ Clark for its spokesman than Mr. Bailey.

LEGISLATIVE REAFFORTIONMENT.

The Legislature will discharge its decennial duty of state reapportionment at this session. The Oregon constitution clearly provides and as cleary requires that the counties shall have representation in both House and Senate in exact proportion to But it has in the their population. last several apportionments happened nevitably that Multnomah County has falled to get its due allotment in either House. In the Legislature now there are six Senators and 12 Representatives from Multnomah, and there hould be at least 10 Senators in the total of 20 and 20 Representatives in the total of 60.

Multnomah will as usual be gerry mandered out of its constitutional nembership under the 1911 reappor-The members from the state at large will combine against Multnomah because they fedr its preonderating power and influence and ecause they want all they can get for hemselves, whether the constitution stands in the way or not. The constitution is no barrier to the prejudice er desire or purpose of the average egislator to look out for himself.

Yet The Oregonian is not disposed e Insist that the present constitu tional method of apportionment is wholly equitable. With the growth of the state and the heavy centralizaion of population in Multuomah, the salances between city and county re not so evenly adjusted as in the arly days and the remote and small ounties have practically no voice in ble to assert themselves in combinaion with others. In his message to he Legislature Governor Bowerman uggested that the scheme of apporonment be changed by constitutions nendment so that each county would e given a member of the Legislature te unit of population. The Oregoian approves the auggestion, so far as pertains to the membership of the ower House, or popular branch, but would have the Senate apportioned at present on the basis of popula A legislative apportionment of als kind would probably make scessary or advisable to enlarge the embership of the House, so that the rger counties would get nearly an quitable membership, but the fnrease would not necessarily be more

There are 24 counties in Oregon Vith a membership of 75 in ouse, the unit of apportionment in regon, with its population of 678,775 ild be about 3000. The countles Oregon having materially less than 50 inhabitants are Curry, Gilliam, ant, Harney, Lake, Lincoln w, Sherman, Tillamook and Wheel-These countles at present have gislature, and each of them ought have at Salem a member sent to resent one, and no other county ed River, Klamath, Malheur and sey are near enough the number to we a representative on the strict sis of proportional allotment, if the use membership be 75 or perhaps d the larger countles would not ffer by the practical working out of plan. Indeed, it is clear that county having in this manner ured a representative, the distributo the others would easily and

for Multnomah to get the 16 Senators to which it is fairly entitled and more than the 12 Representatives which it

now has. It will take a constitutional amendment to work out this just and equitable plan; but constitutional amendments nowadays are not difficult. The results will be, or ought to be, satisfactory to every locality.

SENATORIAL ELECTIONS.

The season of Senatorial elections is here with some very striking and significant lessons. In no state where there was a previous party primary was there the slightest difficulty or contest in the Legislature. In two or of the states where the old method of Legislature barter, bargain and log roll was followed there was or is the usual tie-up and exasperating and costly interference legislation. with Iowa, where there is usually a popular primary election, there is a great scramble for the unexpired term of Senator Dolliver. No primary has been held this year, however, and the old game goes on.

In Washington, California, Michigan, Nebraska, Alabama and North Dakota, Senators have been elected without delay. There has been the same result, indeed, in other states. Massachusetts, Rhode Island. Ohlo, Maine and Connecticut, but in every one of these there has been a party caucus and an immediate acceptance of its determination. popular clamor for abandonment of methods has undoubtedly had its effect in those states.

But in New York Tammany has learned nothing. Boss Murphy cares nothing for public sentiment. His hide is thick enough to feel only the sting of outright defeat. He will take any chance to compass his ends. must know that the election of Sheehan greatly jeopards the chances of Democratic success in 1812; but he would as soon have a Republican as Shepard. Besides, he has proved repeatedly that no act, however outrageous, and no course, however offensive, can much injure Tammany in New York City. Why should be worry except to hold on to the bird in the hand?

No state has the Oregon plan of electing Senators except Nebraska, and Nebraska has a Democratic Legislature, so that Statement No. 1 was not put to the real test. But every state having a party primary through which the party's choice was ex-pressed found that its nominee was villingly and promptly accepted by the Legislature.

JUSTIFYING RATE ADVANCES.

Arguments submitted to the Interstate Commerce Commission in the case of rate advances in the West, like the testimony which preceded them, leave the public in the dark on many important features of the situation. swident that a man who advocates General counsel for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul in his argument pointed out that his company was making but little more than 5 per cent on the \$295,000,000 valuation of the line. Counsel for the Illinois Central stated that net returns on the property of his company for 1919 were but 4.48 per cent, a figure not at all satisfactory to the people who owned the road. In submitting these figures to show the necessity for advancing rates, the railroads intimate that unless they are permitted to advance rates, and thus increase the dividends, Government ownership will probably

Experience of other countries with been of a nature that makes such a everything of an industrial or financial nature that is undertaken by the government costs so much more than the same undertaking would cost when managed by private parties that the principle of government ownership has never appealed to Americans. The case of the railroads, however,

has not been proven to the satisfaction of the people. It will be remem-bered last year when the Illinois Central was earning that beggarly per cent, the road was being plundered to the extent of millions by dishonest employes. The man who is shipping freight over the line might be willing for the road to show larger net earnings, if it were economically managed and the cost of service kept down to a minimum. Unquestionably, however, if the Illinois Central had held fast to the millions which were so easily taken by the employes, it would have materially aided in improving the per

centage of net earnings. We are living in an age of inven tion and economies, and the standard of cost, per-ton-per-mile, should be determined by actual performance on modern roadbeds with modern equip-In both motive power, and ment. roadbed there have been tremendous improvements in the past few years; the public that pays the freight is entitled to some of the resultant

profits. It may be that higher wages, higher taxes and wholesale litigation, county, state and National, has absorbed so much of the saving effected by medern improvements that rate advances are a necessity. This, however, cannot be determined until the public is more fully informed regarding the possible earnings based on the actual value of a good modern road and equipment, well managed and operated. The Illinois Central, in view of its painful exposures, is not a good example, and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, on account of its elaborate extension programme of the past few years, is also not the best example that could be found to show the necessity for

INCREASING THE COST OF TRANSPORTATION.

advancing rates.

The Chamber of Commerce has in for the construction of 40 ships to be operated as an auxiliary naval fleet on completion of the Panama Canal. This project has some points of merit that were missing from the useless public dock bond issue which has been folsted on the Portland taxpayers, but, like the public docks, it will have little or no effect on Pacific

Coast commerce. The traffic through the Panama Canal will be carried, as the world's traffic is now carried, by the ships or trains giving the best service at the It costs the Government more to build a ship than it costs the private individual. It costs the private individual, if he is an American, about twice as much to build or buy

tion; and the way would be cleared absurd protective policy, thus enabled to carry freight cheaper than we can carry it ourselves, who will handle the siness after the canal is built,

Forty ships will handle only a small ortion of the business which will pass through the canal unless we bar out the cheap tonnage actually needed to handle our great Pacific Coast commerce. The extravagantly high-priced vessels can be supported only by an excessive freight rate or a Govern-ment subsidy, neither of which is conto commercial expansion on

the Pacific. After our various commercial organizations get tired of rainbow chasing after a ship subsidy, no matter what guise it may be masquerading in, they might try a few resolutions favoring a free ship bill, the only natural, legitimate method for securing the cheap tonnage which we will need as soon as the Panama Canal Is completed. Incidentally, it might be stated that the \$2,500,000 of taxpayers' money that is to be thrown away on public docks would have bought 10 of the finest modern freighters in Europe, and we shall need ships when the canal is built.

PROHIBITION AS POLITICAL ISSUE. Recent developments in Maine indicate that earlier analyses of the factors that caused the state to lead a stampede to the Democratic column last year were correct. Insurgency tariff revision, dissatisfaction with conditions that brought about the extremely high cost of living and other National issues, perhaps played some part in bringing about the reversal in Maine of political conditions which had existed for more than a half century, but the main impetus to the movement seems now to be definitely

identified in the liquor question. While the Democrats, who have been making a determined fight for resubmission of the constitutional provision prohibiting the sale and manufacture of intexicating liquors, have control of both branches of the Maine Legislature, it is by no means certain that an amendment will be submitted by the newly-elected

That there is a fighting chance for the prohibitionists at least to postpone resubmission is indicated by the inauguration of a state-wide campaign of organization designed to keep check on and influence the legislators, and also by attempts of the press of the state to poll the members as to their views on the question. One may well infer from the news that drifts out of the old Pine Tree State that the liquor question is recognized as the paramount issue before the Legislature, and that it was principally on that issue that a Democratic Legisla-

ture was elected. The hope of the prohibitionists, it is conceded, rests in the prospective inability of the opposing element to poll two-thirds of each house on the resubmission resolution. In Maine, while an amendment to the constitution must be approved by two-thirds of each house, merely a majority of those voting on the question is required to approve it in the election.

Inasmuch as Maine went Democratic principally because the Democrats promised resubmission, it be realized that the Prohibitionists have more cause to fear a vote by the people than they have a vote by the Legislature when it is also known that in the Senate the Demo-crats have but a bare two-thirds of the members and in the House are fourteen votes short of two-thirds. There is an under-surface hope, too

among the Democrats that the Legisgovernment-owned railroads has not lature will fail to resubmit the amendment. It is reasoned that if this fallcharged to the Rep can people. It is so well known that cans the Democrats will be able to carry the state again in 1912.

This is after prohibition has been a constitutional provision for twentyeight years. All of which goes to show that prohibition is not removed as a political issue even when placed in the fundamental law.

THE BACKWARD LOOK

Memories of a pioneer family Yambill County, old-fashioned as to ize and of sturdy integrity, are recalled in the recent death in San Francisco of Mrs. Dwight G. Rogers a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Burton, who came over from Tasmania with Captain Couch's second expedition and settled on a donation land claim near North Yamhill in the early period of the Thurston donation land law, late in the '40s.

Of the large family born to Mr. and Mrs. Burton in the old Yambill farm, nine still survive. The pioneer history of Yamhill County, if it is ever writwould be incomplete without the simple annals of this family-a plain, unassuming English couple and their full dozen or more children, born and brought up on a farm in the beautiful Oregon wilderness.

A dream of the past is in this and many another old homestead set up by the over-generous bounty of the Government upon 640 acres of land in the middle years of the nineteenth century-a dream the shadowy outlines of which reappears in wavering lines every time death claims a member of one of the families whose names are associated with the early settle ment and later development of the Oregon Country.

These old homesteads, weather-

beaten and unsightly in the modern view, were synonyms of frontier hospitality-the hospitality that always found room at the family board and a "shake-down" in a cosy corner, if better sleeping accommodations were available, for the weary and perhaps homesick wayfarer. Crudely built of such material as was available from the woods and by long haul with oxen or farm horses from a saw mill perhaps fifty miles away, most of thee old farmhouses have disappeared from the landscape. Having served well their day and generation, dorsed the Newlands bill providing they, like their builders, have ceased to exist. The resting places of the latter are marked in rural cemeteries, sometimes in family burial piots, in a corner of the home meadow. The site of the former is revealed to the curious by a heap of rubbish, of tumbling bricks and sagging, half-decayed sills and walls and possibly by an old well covered and marked by a danger

signal. "Good old days" we are wont to term the days in which these primitive dwellings were builded and occupied; "good" indeed they were in their time and place, yet there are few among us who would care to return to them except wistfully and reverently, as in duty bound, when the mortal remains of one whose eyes opened to a ship as it would cost a foreigner to the light of life in one of these old build or buy the same craft. It is homesteads are returned for burial in drip be made on the basis of popula- the foreigners, who are by our own the family plot in the county grave-

repeat the adjuration of Whittier, Chasp, angel of the backward look and folded wings of ashen gray And voice of echoes far away. The branen covers of thy book.

since clearly nothing is to be gained by living in and brooding in a sort of hazy hero worship over the past.

The splendid new ship Delaware is the scene of the latest tragedy in the Navy. If this carnage continues it will take a long hard war to cause as many deaths as have resulted from carelessness or structural defects in our new war ships. Disasters of this kind are not unknown in the navies of other powers; their alarming frequency is confined exclusively to the American Navy. In most of these unfortunate affairs the blame has been delicately shifted to the shoulders of some of the unfortunate men whose lives were snuffed out. The value of the lesson was accordingly somewhat diminished and this, perhaps, is responsible for the frequency which we still read of these terrible disasters. There does not seem to be any good reason why the United States cannot build a battleship or cruiser which will be as safe as one built by another country. Perhaps a rigid investigation and the punishment of all parties blamable for the tragedies might make the disasters less frequent.

If Oregon, Washington and Idaho do not get ample, effective publicity throughout this year, fault will not lie with the 300 commercial organizations. In every direction the adver-Only approved methods tested by wide experience will be followed. will be no going it blind in looking for homeseekers. Every dollar will bring results, large or small, as the case may be. There never was such general inquiry for information concerning the Pacific Northwest as right now, and never so many reliable agencies to furnish it. In this connection The Oregonian, with becoming modesty, may say that its Anniversary edition to be issued February 4 will not be the least factor in effective pub-Helty.

Five full-rigged ships are fitting out at Portland and Astoria for the 1911 Alaska salmon season and a number of smaller craft will be added to the fleet before it starts north. The general trade of Alaska has never attracted much attention along the Columbia River, but some of the salmon canners who have made the fish in dustry famous on the river have always had a prominent part in the Alaska fisheries. Eventually, when there is less opportunity for capital near at hand, some of our business men will follow the example of the cannerymen and turn again to the Alaska trade field. It would be foolish to presume that at least a good portion of that trade cannot be brought back to Portland if the proper steps are taken to get it.

The extremes of heat and cold were felt at Winnipeg last Sunday night for a few hours. With the thermometer at 40 degrees below zero, a \$400,000 conflagration for a time drove the st line back with tropic heat and retreating when the costly fuel gave out, left the firemen moving leicles Such extremes of temperature try human endurance to the utmost, especially if habitations of men are within its rapidly-shifting zone, Mnterial losses are scarcely reckoned under such conditions.

Speaking of central villages for farmers, the objection is made that European peasants have them al-ready. Shall we demean ourselves to imitate these baseborn hinds? The rejoinder seems to be that people of sense take good ideas wherever they are to be found and make the most of them. We borrow inoculation from snakes. Why not farmers' villages from European peasants?

al world appear to the old-timers in the Senate at Washington. The good days when Aldrich and Hale hazed La Follette are far in the fleeing past and the sad-eyed veterans are themselves hazed-though only mildly we are glad to say. So the wheel of forrevenges.

There is a way to escape the "tired feeling" which May Yohe says is all there is left of life for her. The recipe includes a lump of conscience, half a cup of self-control and a large spoonful of common sense. With these ingredients one can mix up a life which will be savory to the end. People who live too fast naturally get tired too

Senator Aldrich's plan for currency reform, an outline of which was received in Tuesday's news, will probably never be fully understood until new statesmen of Oregon voice their interpretation of it.

Did not the people last November declare that there should be a branch insane asylum in Eastern Oregon? Dare the Legislature thwart their will? Let the people rule.

Perhaps the subject of irrigation in the Willamette Valley at this time may be regarded by some fastidious

Let us assume that the bottom has dropped out of Chicago's cold-storage products. Is not any price too high to pay for such food?

Unlike snow, rain does not inspire poets, but it is a deuced sight more omfortable, especially about this time of year. When he comes to spread himself

Murphy may flatten out. Those suffragettes in session at Taoma should have remembered there were ladles present

all over the State of New York, Boss

But reflect on the benefit the pres ent weather will have on next Summer's crops.

At the present rate the deficit in the season's rainfall will soon be

Carnegie's Address

CRESWELL, Or., Jan. 15.—(To, the Editor.)—Please answer through The Oregonian the home address in the States of Andrew Carnegie.

A. C. SMITH.

Andrew Carnegle's address is 2 East Ninety-first street, New York City.

Eskimo Mene Says Peary Got No Farther North Than Cook. Holland (Mich.) Dispatch to Phila-

delphia Inquirer. A curious letter from the Arctic cir one of the cle, written by "Mene," party of Eskimos which Peary took to the north 14 years ago, and who were used for scientific purposes in prepara tion for Peary's dash for the Pole, has been received by Royal A. Stanton, of Cobleskill, N. Y.

Mr. Stanton, now a student in the Western Theological Seminary here formed an acquaintance with Mene while the two were in New York, and they became intimate friends. Mene was the only one of the Peary party of Eskimos who escaped death 14 years ago, and accompanied Peary on his 1909

The letter was sent from Kiobenhoan and is dated September 2, 1910. In regard

to the Cook-Peary controversy says in part; "I know you will expect something about Cook. Well, Bob, I have gone to the bottom of the matter, and nobody up here believes that Peary got much farther than when he left his party. His name up here is hated for his cruelty. Cook made a great trip north. He has nothing in the way of proofs here that I can find. I believe that he went as far as any one, but the pole is yet to be found. Cook is loved by all, and every Eskimo speaks well of him and hopes that he had the honor over Peary. Has he? I will know all soon and will let you know. Come up here and I will show you how to find the North Pole. I will make you King. Then if you want me, I will go back to New York with you. I will wait for you here, but come before I am frozen in the igloo farther than when he left his party. Hi come before I am frozen in the igloc with the crow's head pointing west."

Franchise Is Exclusive. PORTLAND, Jan. 11 .- (To the Editor.) - With reference to the efforts of certain residents of Irvington to pre vent the Mount Hood electric road en-tering the city through that quarter it would seem to me that it would be an advantage to secure a competing service in that district, where the local streetcar service has been notoriously poor, and especially as the Mount Hood line is expected to afford rapid transit to the downtown district. The recommendation that it come down Sul livan's Guich does not seem to meet th case, as that would accommodate no city passengers west of East Thirty-third street. In this connection I remest to be informed whether the franise given the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company includes a comm user clause that would permit the new road to lay an additional rail to make the Broadway line of the present street railway both narrow and broad gauge, so that both lines might use the same tracks from Broadway and East Twenty-fourth streets. SUBSCRIBER.

There seems to be no law to compel the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company to allow the Mount Hood Railway to use its tracks on Broadway. There is a popular misconception to the effect that the charter provides that any street railway company can be forced to allow another company to use its tracks by being paid a share of the cost of the tracks. The only reference the charter makes to any thing of this kind is in section 103, but it is limited to commercial railroads, and not to street railways. On the other hand, the Mount Hood Rallway being within the meaning of a commercial railroad, could be compelled, it is believed, to allow any other road to use its tracks in the city, subject to the provisions of the charter.

The street rallway franchise or Broadway, from Union avenue to East Nineteenth street, was a part of a blanket franchise granted the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company November 25, 1902, and is effective until December 31, 1932. This blanket frana renewal of 30 old franchises owned by various former railway companies and which had been purchased by the Portland Railway Light & Power Company.

The franchise on Broadway from East Nineteenth to Twenty-fourth streets, was a part of another blanket franchise granted the Portland Rallway, Light & Power Company over the Mayor's veto in 1909. This franchise involves the right of the company to operate on 45 streets of the East Side until December 31, 1932. Neither of these franchises permits the city to allow another company to use the streets, with the exception of Burnside street, in common with the Portland Rallway, Light & Power Company

Reason for Building Restrictions. or.)-Will you tell me the reason for the ordinance passed by the city stricting the height of business bl to 12 stories, or 180 feet? Why may we not have tall buildings, like the Eastern cities? Are they not a sign of progress? INQUIRER. of progress?

Restricted height for business buildings in Portland was favored chiefly because of the narrow streets. It is argued that high buildings here would increase the fire hazard and shut off light from the lower floors. Extremely high buildings probably denote pride on the part of the builder as often as they do progress. Many architects maintain that because of the necessary use of large space for elevators very high buildings are not so profitable as buildings of medium height, even when constructed on very valuable sites in congested districts.

Familiar Sayings Newly Applied.

Boston Transcript.
"I don't like your weigh," remarked the customer to the dishonest grocer.
"I hope I make myself clear," said the water as it passed throught the filter.

"Reading makes the full man, but writing doesn't," complained the half-starved poet. "My resources are all tied up." said the tramp as he placed his bundle on a stick.

"The rest is silence," quoted the musician, explaining the meaning of that term to his pupil. "I call that treating a friend in a rather distant manner," said the doc-tor, as he hung up the receiver after prescribing over the telephone.

Knew His Limitation

Chicago Evening Post.

"Old man," we say to our friend, "it's none of our business, of course, but why did you drink so much wine and cat nothing at all at the dinner?"

"I know where I git off," replies our friend, whose lack of refinement is off-set by his possession of riches. "I can't figger out where an' when to use all them knives an' forks, but I'm there all them knives an' forks, but I'm there

Sherwood Man Is First.

SELLWOOD, Or., Jan. 17.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian of January 15 Postmaster T. L. Ambler is mentioned as being perhaps the oldest post-master in the state in point of serv-ice, having been appointed in April. 1898. The postmaster of Sherwood, Or., L. S. McConnell, was appointed in July, 1897. S. M. KELSO. Kentucky Bad Man's Death Not Fall of

Popular Hero. Louisville Courier-Journel. "It is said that Bailey's body re nained where it fell for 24 hours. Sailey, it is said, was decidedly unopular in the community in which he ived."—From a dispatch from Jackson. How ignominious! Every "bad man" s, in his own opinion, a hero, envied weaker spirits, admired by the wd. Such a man, it seems, was ill" Bailey, of Breathitt County. "BIII" Jackson correspondent in a manner that lightens with a touch of grim hu-

to the pride of Mr. Balley, a fatuous person, who won neighborhood noto-riety by being free with his vocabulary. his cutlery and his shooting irons. He paid for it in the end all that could be collected from him by a neighbor acting, as it seems, for the interest of his neighbors, indirectly attended. his neighbors, indirectly, although more immediately in his own behalf and representing, unconsciously, the spirit of retributive justice, the shadowy protagonist in the drama of catastrophe through which the vain and unreflectng swashbuckler moves toward the inevitable climax.
"Bad Bill" went out upon a bluff. A

poker term is permissible in discussing the taking-off of one who made life a game of chance, not wholly unlike the game in which aces and razors sometimes win where the company is not polite, and in which deuces and savoir faire compel favorable results where the player is a student of human nature rather than of military tactics. The man whose heart he had once tickled with the point of a knife, in an effort to transfix it, called the bluff when Mr. Balley, "fortified," no doubt, with an inferior brand of whisky, as well as armed with deadly weapons, announced, with his accustomed fatuity, that he was the bitterest pill that ever trod shoe leather. His mixed metaphor, which was somewhat worse than his manners, had hardly escaped his lips when the man to whom the information was addressed—a peaceful citizen, by all accounts, who store" six days a week and attended divine services upon the seventh-recognized the exigencles of the moment ognized the exigencies of the moment and began to play a stream of lead upon "Bad Bill" with intent to deter. With accuracy of alm becoming the dignity of a sober man of business, accustomed to giving methodical atter tion to matters of detail, the man with the pastoral patronymic—Mr. Shepherd—dispatched Mr. Bailey as a man sitting upon his own front porch smashes the intruding mosquito with one of the works of Lord Byron and calmly resumes his reading.

And the body of "Bad Bill," who slept well after the passing of life's fitful fever, cooled in the chaste embraces of the virgin snow for a day and a night. "Bad Bill" was unpop-ular in the community in which he had lived. Men of the vicinage were careless of his passing, despite their geo-graphical proximity to the deceased, and the neighborly relations they ind sustained at some cost to patience— as careless as the remotest stars that illuminated the stillness of the 'night after the red sunset that marked the closing of "Bad Bill's" last day on earth. No one felt that a hero had fallen. The opinion of the majority was that a nuisance had been abated. The "bad man" is a sorry figure in contemporary life. As an example of the ill effect of petty vanity and a consuming love of strutting a little hour or two, the llon of a piece played be-fore a small audience, he is without a peer. The list of the deluded individuals who have followed the Ignis fatuus of baillwick fame for badness in Breathlit is long. The lives of the majority have been short. Their exploits have been uninspiring. Their end has been ignominious, but history has not recorded the finish of one who died more ingloriously than "Bill Bailey," who was extremely unpopular in the community in which he lived.

America a Surprise to Humperdinck.

New York Evening Sun It was at the public rehearsal of the "Koenigskinder." He was a small man with a gray goatee-Humperdinck, the celebrated composer. He sat alone and apart and gazed at the stage through a yellow silk on a black background. The length of the strap was injudiclously such that the case was suspend ed just below the waistline, augment-ing the prevailing rotundity. Between the acts a rush of Teutonic greeting

wept about him.
"Ach Himmel! How good to se here." "Have you been long in Ameri-ca" "Why did you not let us know!" "How goes it with your good wife?" "Will you stay long with us?" und so

The little man with the gray goates seamed and answered "Ja wohl eben so" to nearly every question. But o "How do you like America?" he shook is head. "What a surprise!" said he Twenty years ago I wrote a book on

"And this is your first trip here?" .
"Ja woh! Eben so. What a sur-prise! Never did I suppose I could endure the place."

Plain English in One Home, Youth's Companion

The knowledge of strange languages a valuable accomplishment

Mrs. Banks was getting ready to go out. Her patient husband waited in the doorway, watching her complete her tellet. By the extraordinary contortions of her neck he concluded that she was trying to get a glimpse of the back of her new blouse, and by the tense lines about her lips he concluded her mouth was full of pins.

"Umph — goof — suff — wuff — sh-ffspdg?" she asked. "Yer, dear," he agreed. "It looks all

Ouff - wun - so - gs - mf - ugh ight?" was her next remark. "Perhaps it would look better if you did that," he nodded, "but it fits very nicely as it is."

She gasped and emptied the pins into "I've asked you twice to raise the blinds so that I can get more light, James!" she exclaimed. "Can't you understand plain English?"

Nation's Fighting Strength.

WARREN, Or., Jan. 15 .- (To the Editor.)—Would you please inform me through The Oregonian if it would be possible for the United States, in case of war, to organize an army of a m'llion men within 30 days and put them in the field? O. V. DUNDELL.

It depends on what is meant by the word "organize." The United States could probably recruit and put a force of 1,000,000 men in the field in 30 days, but it would be poorly drilled and about two-thirds would not have standard equipment of arms

Portland's Population SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 13 -- (To the Editor.)-Please let me know what the population of Portland is at present and

what the Jewish population is. G. W. BRUNNER. The 1916 Census gave Portland's population at 207,214. The Jewish population in Portland is estimated at 7500 by the Jewish Tribune.

yard. It is well even then to turn and RECENT "FINDERS" OF NORTH POLE HOME COMING OF "BILL" BAILEY OPEN TRADE IN GAMBLING GOODS Annual Expenditure for Dishonest Tools Said to Be \$500,000.

Chicago Inter Ocean If a manufacturer of dishonest gambling tools advertises them and sells them, and withal does a thriving trade in them, one who knows nothing of the subtleties and technicalities of law would imagine that somewhere in the American legal code there is a statute under which such a dealer can e punished.

Dishonest gambling is merely a form of thievery. It is as much stealing as ourgiary. The burgiar enters your mor the pitiful tragedy of a causeless home with a "jimmy" and taps you on the head with the butt of a revolver. If necessary, to relieve you of your the community in playful recognition of the trait dominant in the character of their fellow citizen, had ministered to the pride of Mr. Balley a fatuous citary, to relieve you of your wealth. The dishonest gambler entertains you, buys you drinks, gives you citary, the pride of Mr. Balley a fatuous citary, to relieve you of your wealth. The dishonest gambler entertains you have you drinks, gives you citary, the pride of Mr. Balley a fatuous citary to the pride of cigars, tells you funny stories, and be-tween a joke and an anecdote takes your money. The difference between burglar and a dishonest gambler is the difference between a mechanic an artist. The law punishes them as thieves, but it punishes the burglas nore severely. The law, you see, is something of a connoisseur. It appreciates art.

But since the law recognizes dis-honest gambling as a felony, it would seem logical that the law should hold in the same esteem the manufacture nd sale of tools that make the felony

facile if not possible.

For years there have been firms engaged in the business of manufacturing and selling dishonest gambling goods. These firms have not been timorous little fly-by-night concerns hiding their plants in out-of-the-way corners and byways of the city. They have large plants in the heart of the city. The amount at which they are capitalized ranges from \$20,000 to \$50,000. The volume of business done by all of them is estimated at \$500,000 annually. The business of one firm alone is said to reach close to \$200,000 a year.

These firms make no pretense at con cealment. They are frankly in the busi-ness of manufacturing and selling loaded dice, marked cards, poker holduts, cold-deck machines, fixed roulette wheels, crooked faro boxes, electrically and mechanically controlled games of all kinds. They advertise their goods like any other business concerns. There are set forth in glowing detail the excellencies of their wares in circulars, which are sent through the malls broadcast over the country to prospec-

ive customers. The circulars issued by these firms are curiosities to the uninitiated. They dethem. If they advertised burglars' tools and gave careful instructions how to "jimmy" a front door and dynamite a safe they could hardly be more Interestingly revealing. With one device you are told you may rob a card player by merely taking a deep breath or crooking your knee. With another er crooking your knee. With another ou are informed you may steal poker checks artistically with the open hand. One nicely controlled machine, recommended for home use, conjures up charming evenings devoted to Welsh rabbit and the jovial robbery of one's

friends.

A circular which may be taken as a fair sample of the literature of these unique businesses is full of delicious malations. In a foreword, "To Our friends. Patrons," this interesting information is imparted:

"We wish particularly to call your "We wish particularly to can year attention to our transparent work. We load these goods in the bird's-eye spotwork, which is an iniaid spot coming flush with the surface of the dice. We also load the common, ordinary concave spot dice. This work is so concave spot dice. This work is so celeverly executed that they defy com-petition. We also manufacture a trans-parent dice for Klondike or bar dice which are neither loads nor shapes, yet are much stronger than either of the others. These goods have an advantage over loaded work for this reason: They do not favor your opponent when shaken on the square. If you have never used this work you should not be without it for a single day. We also manufacture a shaped or buffed transparent dice that will go for square goods 99 times out of a hunsquare goods 32 tilles of our most dred. Our latest and one of our most clever productions in the transparent line is our adhesive dice. They are shout the same strength as shaped work, but have this advantage—they size up perfectly all around. Wise ones will stand for them just the same as the novice. We guarantee every dice sold by us to be perfect in every re-spect. All this work is made by pracpair of binoculars of the variety known as "days and nights." The empty case dangled and hung by the strap above a waistcoat hand-embroidered in work about filling your order. All our dice are guaranteed to stand any rough usage you may wish to subject them to. No mercury or cheap amalgams used in their construction.

cording to numbers, are then described Apple Tree One of Nature's Wonders

Los Angeles Express.
"There ain't goin' to be no core."
That far-famed expression of one of Mark Twain's oddest characters, "Huck" Finn, is remarkably fitting as applied to that strangest of horticultural freaks —the apple tree of S. W. Alexander. The latest of its several extraordinary achievements is the production of a

crop of sendless, coreless apples.

To say that this tree is stepping lively in the way out of the ordinary feats is putting it mildly. Within the year it has produced two crops, each one greatly different from the other and the general characteristics—in Itself a

one greatly different from the other an to general characteristics—in Itself a wonderful achievement — and, equally strange, the apples of the second crop grow in clusters like grapes.

Now as a citmax, it turns out that the second crop is composed, in a large part, of seedless, corcless apples. While one or two other trees may have achieved one of these things, not one, so far as known, has accomplished them all.

them all.

And the tree is only 3 years old. As all its achievements are those of a mere youngster, what may it not do by the time that it has attained maturity?

No especial pains have been taken with the tree. It simply is one of Nature 1 and 1 ture's wonders.

Cornhill Magazine. Pitt, at Kidderminster, gave a toast compliment to the carpet manufacturers. "May the trade of Kidderminster."

said Pitt, "be trampled under foot by A more audacious toast, freighted with double meaning, has been vari-ously attributed to Smeaton, Erskine and to some others. This after-dinner trade sentiment was delivered in this

form: "Dam the canals, sink the coal pits, blast the minerals, consume the manu-factures, disperse the commerce of Great Britain and Ircland!

Appreciation From Hoquiam

HOQUIAM, Wash., Jan. 16 .- (To the Editor.)—Allow me to express my en-joyment in reading and my apprecia-tion of The Oregonian's Sunday editorial page, especially of the two arti-cles on "A Sonse of Humor" and on "How to Live Long." Full of delicious facetiousness and of sound sense, they compel me to tell you of the pleasure they gave at least one reader of your exceptionally well-edited paper

FREDERIC K. HOWARD. Rector Trinity Church

Wall Street Journal. A stronger argument for peace than Carnegle's \$10,000,000 is our annual