# the Oregonian

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STLAND, SATURDAY, JAN. 28, 1911.

HE BALANCE OF POWER IN EUROPE Captain Mehan speaks with authorabout the naval affairs of the ild, but it is not conceded by everydy that he understands land armies its so thoroughly as he does ships. his article for the London Daily ill, which the Boston Evening erican public, his estimate of the ative strength and importance of European military forces appears newhat lacking in that sound judg-nt which one always expects when discusses navies. Since the article is written to rouse the British public a sense of its needs in the matter building warships, Captain Mahan ay have arranged his facts a little suit his immediate purpose. At

tary forces leaves a good deal to desired in accuracy. He assumes the basis of his reasoning that the ple Alliance of Germany, Austria I Italy is a permanent grouping of powers of Central Europe. Russia nd France are to act in harmony in e future, as they have for the last years, while England is to stand lated, ready to take a hand in afa wherever she sees her interest.

Under this arrangement of the wers the German army makes the ple Alliance predominant on the f. Captain Mahan believes that ssia was so much weakened by the sinese war that she does not count much at present, while he inclines depreciate the French army also stria, he thinks, is so closely united North Germany by race and interthat she will not think of breaking if the present alliance. Of Italy he ing specific, but the assuon is that the kingdom will hold at to the triple arrangement. he key to the European situation is the hands of England because of er predominant naval power. Gerreated seagoing commerce for sub-latence in time of war. England can tle up this commerce pretty effec-A victorious fleet stationed at unily. he Skagerack channel, whose parrow vaters separate Denmark from Scaninavia, would close the Baltic. Anther at Gibraltar would make the fediterranean impracticable even if he Triple Alliance had ports riests and elsewhere on the Adriatic. sich, as everybody knows, Austria seeking. Perhaps a few more veatheory is very attractive in nite of some little difficulties.

with new Dreadnoughts, since, un

apply, the Kalser has mastered the cret of building them with portenus speed. To many students of international ffuirs this reasoning will appear fanastic for several reasons. or one thing, is not nearly so negligie as Captain Mahan seems to think t is doubtful whether her essential litary strength was impaired at all by the Japanese War. In the Far etrieved, as America knows to her mmercial cost. In Persia, Russia ens up a friendly rivalry with Engnd which may at any time change something sharper. Captain Mathe only power which can operate ffectively in Persia looks extremely Russia is on the ground ith battallons whose number nobody sally knows much about, while he riresses, scattered through Central ds, give her a tremendous advange in any contest. Of course the nilitary power of France is prob-ematic. Her reorganized army has ot known a genuine trial of strength and efficiency since 1870, but no wise beerver will depreciate it. The French are at heart a more military ople than the Germans. For cer tries their armies have been the best ighters in Europe, and it is unsafbelieve that their inborn faculty has permanently declined. It is tencombination would outmatch the ere likely to continue unimpaired. antain Mahan probably errs in his pinion that the compact situation of he German nations and Italy in the eart of Europe gives them an adantage not to be overcome. The potion of Russia on one flank rence on the other would be highly sirable in many contingencies ederick the Great found it pretty arly fatal even with his supreme central European alliance far more empact than the present triple en nte was easily penetrated and eared in fragments by Gustavus

Adolphus entering from the north. But there is little likelihood that the Triple Alliance wiff endure much Now, as in the sixteenth cenury, the Northern powers are more of a menace than a help to Italy. Her erest clashes seriously with Ausrin's on the eastern shore of Adriatic. Germany can obtain a port n the south only at the expense of Italy and by the subjugation of two or three millions of determined Italians who have become denizens of the As these conditions it is extremely likely Italy will forsake the Triple Alliance ad resume her more natural connec with France and England. the German powers she is a hooty to be conquered and exploited in due ime. To England she is an ally whose orts and fleet can be useful while is no temptation to plunder Upon the whole it seems to be pretty

certain that Captain Mahan's argument for building British Dread-noughts will need some revision before long. The Dreadnoughts are desirable, we dare say, but some other reasoning will have to be invented to convince the taxpayers of it.

### MR. HANLEY, CONSERVATIONIST.

True conservation has won a victory in Harney County. Mr. William Han ley will not be prosecuted by alien theorists of false conservation for his progressive endeavors there.

Mr. Hanley undertook to dig a ditch that would make a large area of land productive. He needed fuel for his machinery. He cut from a neighboring mountain top acrub junipers, worthless for any other use. These "trees" were not timber; they served no good purpose where they grow. Stein's Mountain, their habitat, was not even beautified by them and carcely shaded.

Along came sleuth "agents" of the Government. They "caught" Mr. Hanley in the act of "stealing timber" from the public domain. It did not matter to these agents that Mr. Hanley was performing valuable service for uplift of Harney County-far more They threatened him with

fine and even prison. Now, after a year's interval, the indictment is dismissed. Harney County has been deprived of this development project. Why? In order that over-busy factorums of conservation bureaus might make a showing to their on-resident superiors 2000 miles away. This is one sample of official tyranny, out of many. Is it any wonder that people of the West are demanding home-rule conservation and elimination of alien bureaucrats?

#### THE DEMOCRATIC PROBLEM.

If President Taft were more of a politician and less of a great executive, he might not be so obviously disover the probable failure of his legislative programme at the present short session of Congress. winning campaign is almost invariably conducted on a platform of promiss and not of achievement. The country is much more easily interested and aroused by the denunciatory philippies that "view with alarm" and always observes with undisturbed complacency the glowing resolutions

that "point with pride."
The Taft Administration was at it west ebb in popular favor last year following the adjournment of Congress with its remarkable record of arty pledges redeemed. The public is never so much interested in the things an Administration has done as the things it is going to do.

President Taft may get through at the short session his pet project of a tariff commission, and that is about the appropriation except and probably the Panama Canal legislation.

The President appears, in urging his nonpartisan investigation and de termination of tariff problems, to be inspired by an altruistic purpose to make it easy for all concerned. Republicans know from unhappy experience that any tariff bill is ruinous to the dominant party; and the Democrats ought to know it. Perhaps they do, though Joe Bailey, and Champ Clark, and Colonel Harvey and all the other tariff cooks are very busy concocting the legislative broth for the next Congress.

The shrewder Democrats, however. have joined with the Republicans in getting behind the tariff board projels would be needed to guard the ect. They would gladly shift the bur-anal the Germans have inconvenient- den. The Republicans are just now dug across the neck of Denmark. for any solution of the tariff discuswill relieve of the blame for the disastrous Payne omes to this, that England could Aldrich act. Some of them would like to see the Democratic party wreck turve Germany out. But in order to take sure of doing it she must hurry itself in fruitless wrangling over the subject, but for the invitable disturb-

ance to business. After Congress adjourns, it will be President Taft's turn to pursue a pol-loy of legislative rest, negation and silence. He will be left free to carry out his great plans of administrative reform and departmental economy. He need not worry about the future. It will do him ne good. It will soon be the Democracy's turn to walk the floor

# A COUNTY DIVISION BILL.

Oregon now has no definitely prescribed method by which new countles may be created. Able lawyers construe a provision of the constitution to mean that the Legislature shall not create new counties, and while it might be held by the courts that a means of setting up a new county overnment has been granted to the sople of the territory affected, the w is too indefinite to be relied upon

Considering Oregon's rapid growth in population, clearly it will be expedient in the near future to divide some countles new large in area and growing in population if the time is not already at hand.

The Eggleston bill submitted in the House at Salem is designed to provide a fair method for such division. procedure in general as given therein similar to that prescribed in the initiative bill defeated in the recent election, but some features of the de-feated bill have been made much less

In the initiative measure, for example. 30 per cent of the voters of a proposed new county could start a division movement by signing a petition. In the Eggieston bill 50 per cent is required. In the initiative measure majority of those voting in the pro nosed new county was sufficient to approve the division. In the Eggleston bill 75 per cent must vote in the

affirmative. The initiative bill, also, was made applicable to the incorporation of new cities, towns and other municipal divisions. The Eggleston bill applies only to formation of new counties.

These are practically the sole variances from the defeated measure. The plan of referring the petition for for mation of a new county to a disinterested commission is retained, as is also the method of dividing county property in the event the new county

An objection might be made to the bill because of omission of minimum limitations on area and population to be included in new counties. The constitution now forbids the creation of a new county of less than 400 square miles in area or having fewer than 1900 inhabitants. Unless this limitation can be and is raised by general stat-ute, the Eggleston bill would per-mit approximately 180 voters residing in a district twenty miles square to form a new county, figuring on one voter to every five inuhabitants and taking 75 per cent of the voters. Such a proposition, however, would have to

go before a disinterested commission with plenary power to reject it, so the omission is not really a serious one.

It ought to be conceded, we think, that if 75 per cent of the voters in a populous area of properly defined proportions wish to form a new county they should be permitted to do so. By properly defined we mean one whose segregation would not work a hardship on the parent county or on the taxpayers or commercial conditions of

The proposed bill ought to produce such results, and it prescribes perhaps | ma as feasible a method for county di-vision as could be devised aside from | wi a constitutional amendment restoring to the Legislature the power to create new counties.

## A WRECK WITH FORTUNATE OUTCOME.

The wreck of the steamship Cottage City near Cape Mudge, on the "inside passage" to Alaska is another of those "fortunate disasters" which are fully as numerous as the kind that leave in their wake lifelong misery and suffering for the friends and relatives of the missing passengers. The Cottage City was old and tender. She was built of wood more than twentyvaluable than all the Pinchots and the five years ago, and, after outliving Garfields put together. They had him her usefulness on the Atlantic, was sent around to the Pacific to end her

days. Better seamanship or better weather enabled the Cottage City to get safely past Cape Hatteras, where the wooden steamship Kentucky was shaken to pieces while en route to the Pacific last year, and for nearly a dozen years she has been tempting fate on the Alaska route. There is, of course, a strong probability that a stanch steel ressel driven on the rocks as the Cottage City was driven on them might have met the same fate, but it is hardly probable that any modern-built vessel properly provided with collision bulkheads would have become a hope-less wreck in so short a time as elapsed between the striking of the

vessel and her abandonment.
This wreck was "fortunate" in more than one way. Not only were all of the passengers and crew safely landed, but there has been removed from the list of Pacific Coast craft another anclent vessel that might at any time have ended her career in a storm or on a rockbound coast where the pas sengers could not have reached shore. Periodically the Pacific Coasters are thrilled with horror and indignation when some ancient craft goes to the bottom with a number of passengers. but the good resolutions made at the Coroner's inquest or the official inquiry are soon forgotten and the tender tubs of a bygone age still churn their way over various routes between Panama and Alaska.

Let us hope that the elimination of the rest of these marine relics will be accomplished with no greater loss of life than that attending the Cottage City when she "laid her bones with Davy Jones."

### SHORT WEIGHT.

"Net weight" is to be revived in the Oregon Legislature. It means that food packages shall be truly labeled as to quality and weight of content. That would make sale of short-weight packages unlawful. Manufacturers and jobbers would be forbidden to "shave" 16 ounces and call it a pound.

Four years ago an attempt was made for such a law in the Oregon Legislature. Wholesalers and jobbers resisted, on the ground that outside goods would be free from such requirements and would drive home products out of the market.

There ought to be a way to protect buyers from short-weight fraud. Dishonest goods, it would seem, ought not to compete successfully, for the latter are full value in obedience

The Capitol will be swarmed with lobbyists bent on convincing the Legislature that Oregon manufacturers and jobbers must sell dishonest packages, in order to compete with wicked rivals in other states beyond the reach of Oregon law.

## PROPOSED CHANGES IN SCHOOL MAN-

AGEMENT. The Civic Council of this city has caused to be prepared and presented a bill providing for radical changes in the management of the affairs of ol District No. 1, both in an educational and financial sense. proposed changes do not appear to be irely in the interest of civic virtue and civic duty. While the intent of the bill may be good, it is likely to be mischlevous in operation. Clearly nothing can be gained by casting re-flections upon the honesty and competency of the reputable citizens who comprise the present Board of Edu-cation, and who have without exception given much valuable time and earnest, unselfish effort to the work of the schools.

The cost of our public schools is necessarily large. If it has outrun prudence, the taxpayers of the district and not the Board of Directors are to blame. Witness the pressure that has been brought to bear upon the Board for the construction of the Lincoln High School building, almost doubling the cost of that structure. Witness the indorsement of the deliberate and careful readjustment of the teachers' salary scale.

That the system whereby the Board of Education is chosen and endowed with authority is the "village system is freely acknowledged; that Portland has outgrown the village era and is entitled to a revision of its school management to meet the requirements of its growth is also conceded. But the spirit in which this subject has been approached by members of the Civic Council is not one of fairness and impersonality. It is, rather, of

revolutionary purpose.
While some of the changes proposed by the bill might be beneficial, as cited by Judge Northup in an opin-ion given upon the subject, a majority of them would be detrimental. certainly not wise to endow newly-created school officials with autocratic powers and high sounding titles as this bill proposes. The absolute will that scorns to give a reason for its dictates has no place in education-al affairs. The interests involved are too complicated, and depend too much upon conditions and circumstances to be subjected to the rule of absolutism One of the strongest points that has been made in the interest of justice and efficiency in criticism of school management in the past is that it works in the interest of favoritism and consequently of incompetency in the selection of teachers, architects, constructors and purveyors of school sup-

ment of the schools as proposed by the pending bill, since the bill would virtually lodge all power over the schools to the minutest details in the hands of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Commissioner of School Buildings.

Washington advices indicate that will be willing to undertake the matter of providing a merchant marine by the same successful methods used in other countries. It will be slow work building up a merchant marine in this country so long as the opportunity for capital is so much better on land. As a beginning, however, we might repeal our present absurd navigation laws and permit American citizens to buy ships as cheap as foreigners can buy With this for a beginning, we them. would in due season reach the point where our shipbuilding trusts would build a ship for an American at as low a rate proportionately as they are now charging for battleships for foreigners.

Death has levied heavy toll in the ranks of the birdmen, but the improvements in their machines con-tinue. There is good reason for bethat eventually aerial navigation will become as safe as other means of traveling. A French aviator has succeeded in making a flight with six passengers accompanying him. Thursday at San Diego Glenn H. Curtiss demonstrated that it was possible to alight in the water and rise therefrom in an aeroplane, thus making the machine of great value to the navy. Flying is a new art, but rapid progress has been made, and as the novelty of witnessing the exhibitions of the men who are now running the game wears off, more attention will be given the practical side of the busi-The aeroplane is destined to become something more than a vehicle for amusement, and from this time forward improvements will be in the direction of utility.

"The time has come," declares State Supercintendent of Education Alderman, "when we must expend some-thing besides money in schools." Ref-erence is here made chiefly to the rural schools. Otherwise many faithful teachers in our city schools would, if asked for an expression of opinion. say as with one voice, "that time has long been here. We have given our time, our strength, our earnest, conscientious endeavor to the schools for lo these many years. There are few of us, indeed, whose efforts are not blossoming in intelligent, capable womanhood in myriads of homes and in earnest, competent manhood in the broad field of citizenship." This, it may be added, is practically all that a multitude of faithful teachers have to show for fifteen, twenty or thirty years of strenuous endeavor in their vocation. Naturally and properly they are jealous of this possession.

The announcement of the death Jacob Stitzel at his home in Colville Wash., will recall to relatively few of our citizens the time when his name was influential in the politics of Multnomah County. in the later days of the Civil War. It is recalled that he was Sheriff of Multnomah County when President Lincoln was assassinated, and prior to this lived on a homestead in Clackamas County a few miles from Needy, where the log cabin in which he settled when first married, was a lowly many years. That time is as remote from this as is any likeness in the pic-tured face of Jacob Stitzel that printed in conjunction with the notice of his passing to that reproduced by memory of the young man who was known in the early annals of Multomah and Clackamas Counties.

Dr. E. N. Hutchinson, of the Bureau of Animal Industry, has made a remarkable discovery. It is that of a dairy barn, the cleanest and bestkept of any he ever inspected, and a dairy herd, well kept and free from tuberculosis, while the ensilage being used was the finest he had ever seen. Strange to say, this perfection in dairy equipment was found in connection with a Government Institutionnamely, the Indian Industrial School at Chemawa. He found the herd of inferior breed, however, and will recommend that it be replaced by better stock. Let us hope that this recom-mendation will be favorably considered, since clearly these Indian farmers and dairymen are entitled to the encouragement that a better initial equipment will offer,

The signal "S. O. S." is reducing hazard of the sea so often of late that apparatus for sending it is now an essential equipment of ocean-going vessels. The steamer Cottage City flashed the word of its sinking last Thursday off Cape Mudge, B. C., and told of the lifeboat refuge for safety of passen-gers and crew. The steamer Queen, with fire in the hold, sent ashore word of its danger and was shortly rescued by a fire-fighting force from San Fran-These examples of rescue are quite frequent nowadays-in fact, it is getting to be a rarity when a pas-senger ship does not speak the shore or a neighboring vessel when in distress or danger.

The Weyerhaeuser Company pays nearly \$100,000 taxes in one Washington county. It pays early and gets the discount. That is one way a rich concern gets richer. "Poor Richard" said the dollars took care of themselves, just keep an eye on the pennies. Impecunious Dick probably adapted the saying from a remark of a pre-historic Greek. Its truth is mighty in all centuries and countries.

The Vancouver squad of vagrant woodcutters pile up cordwood at the rate of less than half a cord a day per man. This fully justifies the official complaint that "they just keep mov-Perhaps their motives might be accelerated by paying them a little something. Possibly they would cut so much more wood that the city would gain by it.

Monument people helding conven-tion here say the high cost of living has not affected their business. Like the undertakers, the tombstone man is a joker. It is the high cost of dying that bothers his patrons

If the Legislature thinks there ought to be more holldays, why not Mc-Loughlin Day?

SINGLE TAX ADVOCATE REPLIES. Questions Asked by G. B. Tucker Taken

Up by Mr. Himes, PORTLAND, Jan. 26.—(To the Editor) .- May I reply in The Oregonian to some of the questions Mr. G. B. Tucker has put up to me in the issue of Jan-

uary 16. He asks: Does Mr. Himes mean that washington advices indicate that the nefarious ship subsidy bill has met the fate of its predecessors. This is the fate of its predecessors. This is stands a skyscraper should be taxed encouraging for an American merachant marine. After the men who are no persistently seeking a subsidy are made, by repeated drubbings, to understand that the American people will not stand for a subsidy bill, they willing to undertake the matwhose owners by legitimate and hones whose owners by legitimate and nonest enterprise improved their land and are performing useful service to society, and thereby are creating double value in those vacant sites held out of use by their owners for speculation, who now collect those values, created by their more industrious neighbors, in higher prices when sale is made. Why higher prices when sale is made. Why should we fine men for performing use-ful service and tax them higher the more they add to their improvements or employ more labor. If owners would use their land instead of holding it for speculation they would be more use-ful citizens and could well afford to pay the natural tax upon the natural opportunities they absorb to the exclu-

sion of useful industry.

Mr. Tucker asks further: Would an employe fry to save enough to pay for a couple of lots on which to build a a couple of lots on which to build a home, pay the same as his employer who has a fine home near by pays for the same number of lots under his improvements? When a question of freedem and justice is to be settled the employer and employed should stand equal before the bar of social justice. They should each have the same right in the natural creation. Mr. Tucker no doubt intends to picture in this question a wealthy employer having a fine home in a select district of the city and a very poor employe, whom he no doubt has induced to buy of him a couple of fine lots in the same district, on which, some time in the future, he hopes to build a home, when the mortgage on the lot is paid. This picture is true to life in only a few cases. Such trans-actions are based more on speculation than on expectations of building a home in such a district by men of this class; as poor men, as a rule, do not act so feelishly. The vacant lots may or may not offer the same inducements for a home site, but they have a relative value to the site improved. Therefore they should pay taxes according to that

Again, Mr. Tucker asks: Would we try to force the building of improvements to make land pay regardless of the financial condition of owners or whether the improvements could be made to pay in competition with property already built? The single tax would not force men to do anything. It is a step toward freedom of opportunity and would encourage building tunity and would encourage building of all kinds of business and improve-ments because it paid to do so. The de-mands of a really free people are prac-tically unlimited ,and well directed industry would always pay. There practically no idlers under such con tions as has been proven. Opportuni-ties are opened in all lines of useful endeavor and those who have lived un-der conditions of forced idleness, or worse, either unchecked profligacy or abject poverty, as the result of former social conditions, are inspired with a desire to become useful citizens. The result is, real progress, healthy activity, greater demand for the better things and comforts of life. Capital is freely invested in the useful industries, repression ceases to be the order and a natural order ensues full of hope and encouragement to the weakest, as well as to the strong. Again, he asks: Would we force heavy

Again, he asks: Would we force heavy tell from owners of franchises before the use of such franchises could be made to pay in competition with prop-erties already built? Not at all. The erties already built? Not at all. The value of a franchise is a land value and is measured by the social demand or inducement for its use. Those who use it can afford to pay toll according to its use value, which may be very little at first, but increase as demand increases. Those who obtain a franchise and hold it without using may become a menace to social progress therediscourage monopoly for speculative

purposes only.

Again: Would capitalists loan money on improvements and enterprises thus situated? Capital would not in my estimation wish to loan money for the purpose of helping anyone to monopolise natural opportunities; neither would any wish to borrow for this purpose, or invest what they might have for or invest what they might have for such purposes, and this is one of the very best results for such a system, for capital would be left free to invest in useful industrial enterprises for which there would be a very attractive demand.

Again: Who owns these worthless ands that should not be taxed because they are in private hands? Speculators? There are many thousand acres of land in private hands in Oregon too poor to yield a fair return for labor expended, or too remote from population at present to be put to profitable use, only a small portion of this is being worked because the city offers better wages. Much of this land is held by foreign land speculators who have paid very little for the title, and are he ing it for large returns when industry shall have opened up its opportunities. I could furnish a long list of foreign land owners who hold many millons acres of land in our country to the detri-ment of our people, but time and space will not permit. These men may find it more profitable to use their money for development than to hold it idle under the single tax.

Again he quotes: The agricultural

class will have nothing to fear, under the single tax the farmer will be re-lieved, etc. He says, if the values are lieved, etc. He says, it the values are not high in the country, how about land selling from one hundred to one thousand dellars an acre? Land improved by clearing the stumps, building houses, barns and fences, planting fine orchards of prunes, apples, berries, etc., and brought to a high state of development by the industry of the farmer is ment by the industry of the farmer is bringing high prices because of these facts, and unimproved land near by held by speculators is sharing in these benefits, while the owner may live in New York or London and does nothing towards this development, but holds on for his price while the working farmer pays the taxes now levied mostly on his improvements. Under the single tax all these improvements will be exempt, only wild land values will be considered. We will then have the idle acres improved. Oregon will then attract workers and capital instead of idlers and speculators: We are now developand speculators: We are now dev

and speculators: We are now develop-ing thugs and joy-riders, we will then develop useful citizens.

I deny that nearly every one is busy and contented, and even Mr. Tucker must know that he was in error when he made this statement. ALANSON M. HIMES.

## Rights of Creditors

PORTLAND, Jan. 27.—(To the Editor.)—Can the creditors of a man who has failed in business put a lien on or attach property that is in his wife's name and which also has a mortgage against it?

A READER.

No, unless the indebtedness of the ties.

Enough to Give 'Em Sore Eyes.

Omaha Bee.
Those Democrats up in Maine are not through rubbing their eyes yet. Sixty-three years is a long time to stand on the outside looking in.

TREATMENT OF INSANE PATIENTS. Elimination of Madhouse Semblance at

Hospital Commended.

SALEM, Or., Jan 26 .- (To the Editor.)-So much criticism and censure of Dr. Steiner's management of the state insane asylum is being published it would seem but fair and somewhat inumbent upon some one in touch with the real condition of affairs to explain some of the ideals and necessities of an institution of this character. It will be admitted by all that buildings for the insane should be fireproof; that they should be constructed wih a view of permanency, economy of upkeep, and adaptability to the carrying out of modern lines of treatment of the inmodern lines of treatment of the in-sane. Now, what is essential in the proper care and treatment of the in-sane? Briefly stated, the situation is this: Every large state asylum has within its walls the accumulation of years, a host of more or less demented persons for whom custodial care, the creature comforts, employment and amusement is the best that can be proand

vided or accomplished.
In addition to this class of patients there are the recent patients, the scute insane—there were 1068 new patients received in the asylum during the past two years; these require special treatment, 35 to 40 per cent can be cured if properly managed, and, if one will consider for a moment the conditions under which most insane persons are adjudged insane and enter the asylum, he cannot but realize the infinite advantage of a modern receiving local. vantage of a modern receiving hospi-tal like the one built by Dr. Steiner that has been the subject of so much of

the censure that he has received. Take, for instance, the ordinary case of insanity—the father or mother, the brother or sister, the son or daughter of some family of this state—filled with morbid suspicions, complaint and commitment carried through largely without the insene person's knowledge, the patient is, from his or her view-point, spirited away from her home and deprived of liberty. Now, under these unfavorable conditions the institutional treatment begins. Nothing can be of more importance than a favor-able first impression. If an individual finds himself in a well-equipped hos-pital, where every semblance of a jail or madhouse is eliminated he will be helped to realize that he is sick and in need of treatment and have his morbid suspicions allayed by kindly at-tention. Is Dr. Steiner to be con-demned for attempting to build such a hospital, or, is he not rather to be commended for having the courage of his convictions in attempting to up to his ideals in the care of these unfortunate individuals? L. F. GRIFFITH.

## NEUTRALITY OF THE SUEZ CANAL.

Analogy Between the Situation There and at Panama. Philadelphia Inquirer.

The statement of reasons why the Panama Canal should be neutralized and not fortified, which has just been promulgated under the signatures of Richard Olney, Henry Wade Rogers and other more or less distinguished persons, contains the assertion that "though the Suez Canal was built with English money England agreed to its neutralization."

This is an astonishing misrepresentation of the facts. So far from its being true that the Suez Canal was built with English money, it was built in spite of the most strenuous English opposition. In London the great financiers were so firmly convinced of the ciers were so firmly convinced ciers were so firmly convinced of the impracticability of the project that they contemptuously refused to have anything to do with it, while the British government of that day pursued a policy of passive but troublesome obstruction. Palmerston was premier at the time when De Lesseps was struggling to leave the present and ortal and

to launch his great undertaking, and to launch his great undertaking, and he took no pains to conceal his dishe-lief in the possibility of its success. It is to France that the credit for the construction of the canal belongs. De Lesseps managed to interest the Em-press Eugenie, with whom he was a personal favorite, in his plans and she consented to bring them to the atten-tion of the Emperor. She did so, with come a menace to social progress there-by, and could be forced to use it or let to there do so by taxing the franchise at its full value. This, of course, would government, and the necessary concesthe political support of the French government, and the necessary conces-sion from Said Pasha, the Khedive of Egypt, was obtained. When the canal company was organized, by far the company was organized, by far the larger part of its stock was subscribed for by French investors, and it was not until years after, not until 1875, when Disraell, acting on the advice of Frederick Greenwood, the well-known journalist, who died not long ago, bought for some \$20,000,000 the big block of stock which had been allotted to Kha tock which had been allotted to Khestock which had been allotted to kne-dive Ismail Pasha that England ac-quired any interest in the Sucz water-way. It is believed that even now the French holdings are substantially pre-

dominant. There is no analogy whatever be-There is no analogy whatever be-tween the Suez situation and the situ-ation presented at Panama, and the cir-cumstance that the Suez Canal was neutralized constitutes no reason at all why, a like policy should be pursued in the latter case. It is obvious that as regards Suez there was really nothing else to be done. As the canal there traverses territory which is under the suzerainty of the Sultan of Turkey, it would logically be subject to Turkish would logically be subject to Turkish control, but that, of course, was quite out of the question. That it should be out of the question. That it should be administered by Egypt was even more impracticable, and neither France nor England could be expected to agree that the other should be supreme in its management. On the other hand, the Panama Canal lies wholly within the jurisdiction of the United States, and was built exclusively with American money, so that the Suez precedent has no application.

#### Changing English Nursery Boston Globe.

Those American girls who become the wives of British nobility are beginning to have an influence on British customs. The first of these international marriages occurred about 30 years ago, and since that time the exodus has continued, and shows no sign of stopping. It is noted by keen British observers that the children born in these international unions are reared in these international unions are reared differently from the children of ordi-nary English nobles.

The American-born wives find that

The American-born wives find that English children are brought up almost exclusively in a stern nursery regime. The parents went their way and communication between them and the children was of the narowest kind. The American wives have flatly declined to bring up their children in that way. They have refused to let nurses supplant them in the affection of the children. They are breaking down the nursery barrier and in short are bringing up the children as a part are bringing up the children as a part of the home circle, and in the way most parents in this country think they should be brought up. The change has been noticed by other British parents, who do not like it, but their children manding to be made more a part

# Inventive Women.

New York Sun. Miss Sophie Hellbrun has invented a machine which will open 400 letters a minute. She is at the head of a small order concern, and realizing the time it required to open letters, she set about to find somethin, that would hasten the process. Her invention is the re-

Ernesta di Luisi is another feminine inventor. She is only 15, and she has just invented a turntable which, fixed a great deal for me, but never exto a vehicle, will enable it to reverse at once

# SCRAPS AND JINGLES

BY LEONE CASS BAFR. Cash is comfort in the concrete,

We do not speak as we pass by.
Our once warm love remains untold
Alack! Tears drip from our four eyes.
We both have caught a thundring cold.

An athletic young gent
The Egypt once went.
The land of the corn, not in cans, sir,
To Cairo he walked,
And hack again stalked,
Was he a Calropedist—answer?

To err is woman, to forgive feminine.

May Yohe says her family can trace an uninterrupted descent for a period of six centuries. What an awful come down.

("Not even bread and butter, nor the apparently harmices breakfast foods are free from the death-dealing microbe," reads an editorial in a scientific publication.)

Myriylla, setting breakfast food.

These warning lines in horror viewed, And well assisted by the mald Continued munching straw frapped.

Nature says, with apology
To old Bacteriology.

Spite of threatening bactell.

We must all eat, wills-milly.

Where, oh, where, shall we find folson if all breakfast foods are poison?

Once 'twas teld to swains and misses Death lurked in their loving kines.

But that did not guard a nation From sweet joys of osculation.

Science now tells the youn, person, (Whom Eddie Rok vents his carse on) Grandmas, grandpas, bables even. In their porridge find death's leaven, Can't quite see how tells in made out. Science, like the stork, is played out, Spite its warnings, or its bluffins.

There was a young lady named Why,

There was a young lady named Why, Who handed out riddles so fly, "What's tamer." asked she. "Than a very tame dea?" "A flea-tamer." was the reply.

Being virtuous solely for the sake of virtue with no hope of reward, is to be good for nothing.

Someone writes to know an "effec-tual way of exterminating dry rot and preventing its reappearance in a church." Why doesn't the inquirer try somebody else's sermons, or have no sermons at all?

The first lesson in bookkeeping is never to lend one.

Miss Calamity Stepandfetchit, the clever and talented home-grown author of Kalama, has just completed her new book, "The Domestic Lyre," a companion to her former publications, "Father, Dear Pather," and "The Family er, Deal Story-Teller."

Rest is unperceived activity.

The only real rejected addresses are apparently, those that go to the dead letter office.

It has just come to light that the Romans had a telephone system, and that Lydia was an operator on a switch-board. Witness Horace. Ode XIII, "Quem tu, Lydia Telephi." which being properly translated, reads, "Whom you, Lydia of the telephone." can probably tell me all about, or whatever the rest of the line may be. Or mayhap, "Whom you, Lydia of the exchange board have cut me off from, and I've been waiting," etc., etc. It has just come to light that the been waiting," etc., etc.

Whatever his virtues may be, the average phrenologist is a bumptious per-

son. The Missing Link: Few things are more annoying, especially if you've only one set, and are already half an hour Inte.

Definition of a joint offense: When he cook-lady brings in an overdone leg of lamb.

Happy Wife writes to say she would be ever so much obliged if some one would furnish her the remainder of the coup-let, of which she encloses two lines:

All the art I know. To keep him happy is to make him sew.

Echoes of the Yuletide: For exchange Sixteen assorted ties, four hand-painted calendars, one pair of lavender satinshirred suspenders, eight boxes of Rotto cigars and a burnt wood motto. Will exchange for anything. Write what

A journalist may oft write with sense.

Be neither alily, and nor shoppy.

He may run to comicality,
But can't claim originality

Because his contribution is recognized

by the office boy, the foreman, the
printer and the proofreader as "copy."

"I love these here cradle songs," said a fashionable Mrs. Malaprop. "I always sing my children a good-night alibi."

And she also observed, apropos of the recent spell of weather, that she expected "equally obnoxious gales."

Motto for the proposed Portland Dress Reform League: "All hobbles abandon, Motto los Reform League: "All he ye who enter here."

It lay in a book shop for sale.

But no one seemed keen to barter.

"Real Jokes." I read on the placard.

"One dollar—reduced to a quarter."

But the joke was lost upon me.

Its humor uncommonly flat.

Could the child of my brain then be

So fallen in value as that?

## What Constitutes Good Dressing?

Boston Herald. We are often told that women dress for men's approval, but that is no onger a general truth. How many men longer a general truth. How many most like the hobble skirt? But how many women bought and made and loved hebble skirts? Just for what, then, do women dress? Not one in 10 could give you a logical answer.

Women spend a great deal of time on their clothes, but the trouble is that they spend more time than they do intelligence. Women should try to expense their individuality in their clothes

telligence. Women should try to ex-press their individuality in their clothes rather than to express the latest mode.
We all remember the story of the
husband who went shopping with his
wife. As they stopped before a dress
goods counter he rashly recommended
a certain silk. "Why, nobody is weara certain silk. "Why, nobody is wearing that," retorted his wife scornfully. The husband subsided, but a little later again plucked up courage and timidly suggested another fabric. His wife looked at him as only a contemptuous woman can look at a man. "Why, everybody's wearing that," she replied.

A little loss aftention to what avery A little less attention to what every-body is wearing, and a little more real study of our own good and bad points would do wonders for the most of us. In this as in all things women need to

London Tit-Bits. Mr. Kube has a remarkable collection of autograph letters from notable people, and among them is one from Mme. Patti which relates to a visit paid by burglars to Craig-y-Nos. It contains the following: "I suppose the wretches heard that I had jewels and diamonds and imagined that I left them about loose in the house, always hanging up a few diamond necklaces in the hall with my hat and coat! However, it was an inspiration on my part, going upstairs in the corridor I began singing, which made them believe I was going into the room they were in, and consequently frightened Mme. Patti which relates to a visit paid were in, and consequently frightened

think for themselves.