# The Oregonian PORTLAND, OREGON.

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day and wenkly, one year. ..

### (BY CARRIER)

Exstern Business Offices-Verres & Conk-Hn-New Tork, Brunswick building, Chi-eage, Steper building,

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, ITB. 9, 1911.

### THE SITUATION IN JAPAN.

Recent writers on the affairs of Japan are inclined to deduct something from former accounts of the ancial distress which has been said time comes. We shall escape, after to prevail in that country. If we may a while, the odium of being the experitrust Mr. J. H. De Forest's article in ment station for the trial of fantastic the Independent for February 2, Japan's foreign debt is not nearly so large as many suppose it to be, and dogmas. the taxes imposed upon the population meet interest charges are multiplied several fold in the common ac-counts. The Evening Post has stated that Japan raises \$31.50 annually for every individual in the empire. This course is proposterous, since, as Mr. DeForest points out, a single levy of about the struggle between those who \$20 on each person would wipe out "believe in government for the human the entire domestic and foreign debt at one stroke.

We may safely conclude that the Japanese do not labor under any such fearful burden of taxation as has been imagined since the close of the war with Russia. It appears that their national finances are in able hands. Marquis Kaisura, who has been Prime nister for several years, has refund ed some \$250,000,000 of the domestic debt at 4 per cent interest and has ob tained the same rate on about \$150,-600,000 of the foreign debt in Paris and London. This looks pretty well. It is better than Russia can do. In the eyes of the world's bankers it is fairly evident that Japan appears solvent and honest.

Many persons who undertake to discuss Japanese affairs lose sight of the fact that a poor country may be able to bear great financial burdens without serious difficulty. Japan is poor ut industrious to the last possibility and thrifty beyond anything we ever dream of in this country. Though the standard of living seems low to Americans, still it is far above the level of actual want, and the people are able to retrench without suffering. Thus they can carry financial burdens which seem out of proportion to their apparent wealth. After all, it is the pro-ductive capacity of a country rather ng accumulations of property in the educt of industry. Japan has no rtunes as large as some of those in his country, but the chances are that juniper tree, growing on Government produces now wealth fully as rapman for man, so that the needs the government are supplied withut much distress. Heavy as her his undoubtedly are, the empire is osperous and able to push on great reign enterprises as well as impor-

uni works of internal improvement. Among the foreign enterpris

roading and colonizing in Manchuria, Autumn, is not yet under construction making over the civilization of Corea. vast engineering enterprises at home and a big national debt to take care of, Japan does not seem likely to cross 10,000 miles of ocean to look up a war for some time yet.

### BACK TO SAFE GROUND.

The Senate at Salem votes unanimously to submit to the electorate next year a constitutional amendment which anticipates and defeats single tax. It will be carried overwhelmingly by the people without doubt, for | Dairy Commissioner, and it has been the action of the Senate is but a re- | filled-occupied is the better termflection of the general temper and attitude on this subject.

ent inefficient incumbent. It would The people know that they were almost appear that Mr. Balley was pre-tricked and duped into adoption of cisely the kind and style of officer the the county option (single tax) amend- people wanted, for they have several ment last year, and they resent it. times re-elected him by enormous ma-They understand, too, better than ever jorities. He did nothing but draw his pay and take petty liberties with the now just how much credit to give to the loud professions of good faith public funds and quarrel with his depand fair play with the public that utles; but apparently it was expected have so long been a great part of the and desired that he should do just those things, or some of them, for nocapital of some of our most prominent body seemed to care. 'reformers."

Now, however, the public has been suddenly awakened to a realization There is no way back to solid ground now except through the referthat its investment in its Food and endum. The Legislature has respond-Dairy Commissioner is wasted, ed adequately and promptly to, an worse, and it wants to get rid of him. But how? He will not realgn, and emphatic public domand; the people will do their part completely when the apparently he cannot be discharged. The only recourse is the expensive and cumbersome recall, or impeachment. Both are undesirable and perhaps imand dangerous theories and the dump-The State Legislature created this ing ground for worn-out and cast-off office. Why cannot the Legislature

it be the Scattle spirit.

GETTING EID OF BAILEY.

The Legislature twelve years ago

created the office of State Food and

during all that long time by the pres-

abolish it? We hear it suggested, on

grave authority, that Balley will draw his salary in any event till the end of

the term for which he was elected;

doctrine that any office was created

and must be maintained for the benefit

of any man was long ago exploded.

It is essentially contrary to public pol-

better-have no Commissioner than Commissioner Balley. If there is no

other practicable way to get rid of him, the Legislature should abolish the of-

fice outright and devolve its duties

THE NEW PILORIMS.

It is pleasant to read of a thou-sand farmers with their wives and

children going to Corvallis. They do

not make the pllgrimage to see a foot-ball game or a prizefight or to attend

But now a new and different senti-

So they go to Corvallis to sit under

INJUSTICE TO TILLAMOOK.

Washington advices state that

Unless this great timber

Oregon believe it will.

The state might as well-it might

ky and wholly untenable

elsewhere.

PINCHOT IN THEORY AND PRACTICE. Gifford Pinchot has been describing his virtues and telling his troubles to the students of Yale University. Making some highly moral reflections welfare and men who believe in government for human profit," Mr. Pin-

cheot illustrated his point by showing how the wicked sheep men had driven their flucks "over the open country without respect to the rights of men of small means" and how the "advance in forestry was checked by political intervention."

But the chief achievement of "con servation" as it is practiced in the lexicon of the great Gifford in locking up the forests, driving the sheep from the ranges, sending to the lock-up the Bill Hanleys for altempting to re laim the bunch-grass desert from its native uselessness through the only practical conservation, and starving the real homesteaders out of the reserves, did not find place in the Pinchot oratory. But he gave this selemn advice to the

calling of running a farm. Old as this calling is, and noble as it is said to students: be at election time, very little is known Situation in the second state of the second st about it by those who are most con-cerned, that is, by the farmers themselves. Formerly they were satisfied with their ignorance. They were even proud of it. The fact that their forefathers had done things foolishly and

tions of the day. wastefully was taken to be the best reason in the world why they should Give them a practical training, we suppose, to evade the law and defy the Constitution. Let them find some go on forever doing likewise. way outside the statutes and the hisment prevails. The farmer is no longer proud of his father's ignorance. He is not content to follow the old toric practice of the departments to do what the Pinchot theorists want to than its accumulated weakh from do. Set the spies and sleuths and He is not content to follow the old which taxes are paid. The vast stand- bloodhounds of the Government after destructive and discouraging ways. He men who have gone out on to the is filled with seal for better things. Inited States pay very small taxes frontier and reclaimed the wilderness, He wants his labor to count for all it on pared with the visible annual so as to learn if they have not someof the help of modern science. Knowlwhere or at some time for some necedge has helped the miner, the elecessary purpose cut down a worthless trician, the railroads, why should it not help the farmer? The farmers of then railroad them to prison.

### SEATTLE SPIRIT AND PORTLAND STA-TISTICS.

That's the Pinchot practice.

The Pacific Northwest Commerce, the official monthly publication of the there wers 30,000 students at the Uni-Seattle Chamber of Commerce, sends versity of Prague and the great Abe-The Oregonian a proof sheet of its lard, the pioneer of progress in February issue containing the "Record day, had perhaps 50,000 at Paris. of progress made by Pacific Coast They came from everywhere. Now we cities as told by their commercial stashut the doors of our colleges in the tistics." This record presents elabofaces of the people unless they can rate statistics of the Pacific Coast pass an examination in a vast colleccities and, we are assured by the pubtion of nonsense. We shut all the lication that stands sponsor for them. doors except those at Corvallis. There the showing "is favorable to each and they stand wide open and the spirit every one of them." The Oregonian and the bride say come and whosoever has no definite knowledge regarding will let him come and bring all the the accuracy of the figures for other family and take of the water of life Coast cities than Portland. The figfreely ures purporting to show the growth We are no prophets, but years from and condition of Portland are such now we foresee people flocking to Corgross and palpable misrepresentations vallis in the sunny February days and of actual facts that their presentation dwelling in tents. The farmers' short can by no possible means be excused. course will call so insistently that no-In the matter of bank clearings the body can resist it, and there will be New York Financial Chronicle, Dun's so many eager students that the hotels and Bradstreet's reviews and every cannot hold them. other authority on such matters early in January printed and sent broadcast throughout the country the statement The Board of Engineers at Washthat Portland's bank clearings for 1910 ington is not inclined to improve Tilwere \$517.171.867, compared with aix powers whom he honored with his \$391,028,890 for 1989. The organ of lamook har and harbor unless addithe Scattle Chamber of Commerce tional reasons can be supplied for such gives the correct total for 1909, but action. picton in Japan of our intentions places the total of the 1910 clearings in the opinion of the Board the amount of present and prospectiv at \$428,228,095, or about \$90,000,000 less than the actual figures. Equally tonnage does not justify the expenditure that would be necessary to proinexcusable are the figures regarding vide a channel of the depth desired. postoffice receipts. These statistics are issued only by the United States This news will be somewhat disheartening to the people who have labored Government, and any change from the was and the United States plays a less | actual figures must be the result of so earnestly and subscribed so hand-The somely in aid of the project. If the deliberate misrepresentation. splendid showing made by the Tilla-Government reported postal receipts mook people in support of their projat Portland for 1910 amounting oes steadily on. Here and there the \$925,164.52, compared with \$778,-ostile wiles of Japan are said to be \$53.73 for 1909. The official organ ect does not justify the moderate appropriation asked, it would be interesting to know what the Board of of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce changed these official statistics so that Engineers would regard as sufficient 'present and prospective tonnage." Directly tributary to Tillamook Bay oked about them shrewdly say that | Portland was credited with 1910 postal receipts of but \$315,353.75, or more a one of the largest and most valuable than \$100,000 less than the total reported by the Government and circutimber tracts in the known world. ontains 35,000,000,000 feet. Its minlated throughout the country weeks squired to meet trade conditions in before the appearance of the Seattle imum value, when manufactured into lumber, would be about \$200,000,000. publication. The assessed valuation of . Portland property is placed at The assessed valuation In the manufacture and marketing of this vast body of timber an immense \$274,396,520, although the 1910 as-sessment roll shows a total of \$301,volume of subsidiary traffic would be \$25,649, compared with \$205,262,448 created. The opening of a good channel to the sea would make possible a for 1989. Portland's bank deposits appea development of resources and the creation of new tangible wealth which the Seattle publication as \$42,521,465, although there is not a banker of any by comparison would make the appropriation asked seem small and incon importance in Seattle who is in ignorsequential. ance of the fact that the deposits in the Portland banks at the close of 1910 wealth is given an outlet to the sea through which the cheap grades of were more than \$65,000,000. In building permits Seattle is credited with a umber may be marketed, billions of feet of this fine timber will age and total nearly \$3,000,000 greater than decay, or else be placed on the marwas shown by the American Contracket at figures far below its value. It tor in its review of the year's busines Portland's total of more than \$20,000,cannot be manufactured to advantage under existing conditions. 000 of building permits is followed by The Tillamook and Bay City people an asterisk and an accompanying footwere so firmly impressed by the merit of their project and by the vital nenote informs the reader that "Port-land went under a stricter building ordinance January 1, 1911. The recessity for securing an outlet to the sea that they agreed to tax themselves to the extreme limit allowed by law sult was that something more than \$4,000,000 worth of projected buildings were 'permitted' during the clos-ing month of the year 1910 to swell the total, which really do not belong in the record, as no start was made on No asteriak calls the reader's attenes themselves or lose their land. story Smith building in Seattle, for more valuable testimonial to the merit

ceived. The necessity for the work is so apparent to all that it is difficult to and probably never will be. As for Portland's December permits, those understand why the Government is so for the Multnomah Hotel and two exacting in its requirements apartment-houses, all well under way

in December, exceeded in value of the January building statistics for the permits the total volume reported by East Side and the West Side contain more food for thought for the Frank Seattle for that month. Deliberate misrepresentation of this nature dis-Kiernans who are endeavoring to preplays a very small spirit, even though vent East Siders from coming to the West Side to do business. Last month permits were issued for 180 residences

on the East Side and for 6 on the West Side, the ratio being 30 to 1 in favor of the East Side. In January, 1910, and throughout the year, the ratio was 15 to 1, there being 3125 residence permits issued for the East Side and 203 for the West Side. In 1909 East Side permits were 2447 and West Side 212, or 12 to 1 in favor of the East Side. The Kiernan assumption that by preventing this increasing population from securing easy access to the West Side a new business district will be built up on the East Side may be sound, but the skulking methods of Kiernan and the refusal of his back-ers to disclose their identity are admissions of the unpopularity of their scheme of misrepresentation and delay.

### The joint ways and means committee of the Legislature, having inves-tigated carefully the needs of the State Agricultural College, makes a recommendation that it be given every cent It asks, and just a little more. sum for the blennial period is \$570,-000. It may seem a large amount, but the people of Oregon believe in the Agricultural College and the practical value of the work it is doing, and are willing to provide it with adequate funds. It has a large student body and it must have build-

-but we take the liberty of questioning ings and equipment and a comunanimous action of the legislative committee is an expression of confidence in the institution and a recognition of the general sentiment for the college. The Legislature should make the appropriation without hesitation. The Oregonian hopes, too, that suita-ble appropriations may be made for the State University. It would have the university properly supported.

The Senate committee on expositions has voted unanimously in favor of San Francisco as the site for the Panama Fair. In view of this recommendation and the sweeping victory in the House, it is a certainty that the elimination of New Orleans as a rival for the big show has practically been a horse race. What they go for, un-less we are misinformed, is simply to learn something about the noble old probably be made in a few days. There will then be nothing to prevent San Francisco making a start on the preliminaries of what will undoubtedly prove one of the greatest fairs ever held in the country. In due season Oregon, Washington and all the other states which stood resolutely with San Francisoc on this fight will begin preparations for the part which they are to take in the great event.

Senator Albee's bill canceling paving contracts which are not fulfilled within six months of their being awarded will have unanimous support in a great many districts in this city. In nearly, all parts of the city there are miles of muddy streets on which paving contracts were let many months ago. The contractors had no intention of improving these streets within a reasonable time after accepting the contracts. Portland last year built more miles of street than were built in any previous two years in the history of the city. If there had been more conthe drippings of the professors' pulpits tractors and a shorter limit for the and take the family along. It is all completion of the work, thousands of primitive, grand and good. In John people who need paved streets would Huss' time, as some historians tell us, not now be floundering through the

Thoroughness and Skill Shown.

anniversary by issuing a 128-page paper devoted to the progress of the Northwest during the last half century. The task was performed with the thor-oughness and skill which is character-istic of the great Portland paper.

### Usefulness Will Be Prized.

Lewiston Tribune. The work throughout possesses a dis-tinctiveness, a dignity and finish syn-onymous with The Oregonian's stand-ing in the profession. The anniversary number has many unusual qualities by those who take the trouble to pro

Medford Mail-Tribune. By far the most interesting section is that devoted to The Oregonian's own history, telling of the first issue of the daily, when Portland had but 2000 inhabitants, its early struggles and ac-complishments in the half century complishments in the half century since. Through all the long period, the paper has been under the management of H. L. Pittock, and the paper is the monument of his life work, and a fine monument indeed.

### Credit to the Publishers.

Grays Harbor, Wash, Hoquiam. One of the best editions of a news-paper ever issued in the Northwest and in fact in the country, has just been gotten out by The Portland Ore-gonian, as its 50th anniversary number. The edition is 125 pages, and is devoted to the story of the progress of the Northwest during the past half century. The paper is profusely illustrated with views of Portland and is altogether a credit to the publishing company and the men who did the work in getting it out.

Ashland Tidings.

### Success Deserved

Polk County Observer (Dallas). The readers of The Oregonian exthe social and business life of the state and Nation. The achievement is one of which all Oregon is proud.

### LA GRANDE HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING Circuit Judge Knowles Answers Assertions of H. J. Hockenberry.

LA GRANDE, Or., Feb. 6 .- (To the Editor.)-My attention having been called to a communication appearing in The Oregonian of yesterday over the signature of H. J. Hockenberry in which he unmercifully attacks M. C. Gaunt, the architect who planned and superintended the construction of the La Grande High School building as being a "grafter" of the worst kind and the La Grande school district as having been "grafted" by him, as acting chairman of the Board of Di-

rectors of the La Grande school district, I ask for space to answer the communi-The first place, in order to deter-mine the weight and credibility to be given to said communication, I consider the interest that the writer had in order

him to death. to ascertain whether he was prompted by selfish and improper motives. Mr. Hockenberry in his communication uses far-famed song, "Dixie's Land," is fall-ing into disrepute. At this time it is not to be heard in the streets more than half this language: "I am not an architect, the time. It has had a great run, howbut a simple school teacher, and there-fore  $\Gamma$  am not violating professional attempts of various whistiers and singers fore I am not violating p ethles by writing this letter. to sound its notes correctly were amus

The writer hereof will admit that the professor is a "simple school teacher," but he should have been frank enough to have stated that he has abandomed his profession as school teacher and is now engaged in the architectural busi-ness in Portiand He should also have ing. At first they got no farther than "Way down south in Dixle's Land," here but he should have been frank enough to have stated that he has abandoned his profession as school teacher and is now engaged in the architectural busi-ness in Portland. He should also have has been shown to this song it should been frank enough to the readers of The Oregonian to have stated that the firm with which he is connected at-tempted to secure the contract for drawnot be allowed to go down, just as we have got a copy to give to our readers in full.

all others, were accepted and the con-

. . .

The School Board, consisting at that

The individual who sent the local poem this office two days ago He hooked that poem from Frank Leslie.

Military movements are still progress-ing at Washington for the protection of the Capitol.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian Feb. 9, 1861.

The Columbia River Indians ran off 15 horses on Butter Creek on Saturday last. They attempted to break into a house on the same day. There was no one there but children and their mother.

They were repulsed. They then went over on to Willow Creek and robbed a Mr. Reeder of \$60 and all his furniture.

We are pleased to observe the Council

we are pleased to observe the council moving in regard to the matter of re-pairing the City Jail. We have visited the institution mentioned and found its condition to be unfit for the retention of

my person unless the object is to put

We are sorry to note the fact that the

and escaped.

N. B .- No gentlemen of the Lane qual-ity are wanted in the Republican party until purged of the foul taint of disunionism

The girl who was lost from Captain Hoyt's house has been found. She was secreted under the house-insane.

St. Louis, Jan. 12-(By stage from Yreka.)-Senator Hunter made a speec declaring it was too lote to save the present Union, and said it was necessary for patriots to recommend a new and more enduring one out of the fragments of this.

St. Louis, Jan. 14-A Charleston dispatch says that the sloop of war Brook-lyn had arrived off the harbor; that dis-affection existed among the troops at Fort Sumpter, and that its evacuation is trict, feit very kindly towards Professor Hockenberry, he having been an able superintendent of our city schools for neveral years, and being, as he says, one of the taxpayers of the district, having paid the sum of \$4.16 taxes for the year 1566 as shown by the tax roll for that contemplated.

Adv.-In addition to our stock we re-ceived per steamer Pacific 50 dozen hoop skirts, which we will sell from 50 cents to \$1 each. Cohen & Lyon. 1909, as shown by the tax roll for that Mr. Hockenberry also states in his com-

### Justices of Supreme Court.

WARRENTON, Or., Feb. 1. - (To the Editor.)-Please answer the following questions

1. What are the names of the members of the United States Supreme Court, named in the order of their seniority? What are their political affiliations, and when and by what Presidents were they appointed?

2. Is the Chief Justice named as such by the President, or is he simply named as an Associate Justice, and at the death or retirement of a Chief Justice

succeeds to the position? 3. Did President Grant nominate the late George H. Williams, of Oregon, to be Chief Justice or to be an Associate Justice?

to the plans and specifications, it is make duty as a taxpayer of La Grande to make such knowledge known to the School Board. If he has any such information, he must have gained the same second-hand and at long range, for he has not been in La Grande since some time prior to the completion of the building. 4. It was stated recently in The Oregonian that silver is not extensively mined in Oregon. Is it mined in Oregon at all? If so, in what county? J. C.

L. Chief Justice, Edward D. White, appointed by Taft. Associate Justices: Join M. Harian, appointed by Hayes; Joseph McKenna, appointed by McKin-iey; Oliver W. Holmes, William R. tey; Oliver W. Hoimes, William R. Day, appointed by Boosevelt; Horace H. Lurión, Charles E. Hughes, W. Van Devanter, Joseph R. Lamar, all appoint-ed by Taft. Associate Justices are named in the order of their seniority. 2. The Chief Justice is appointed as which the Description.

such by the President. President Gran H. Williams for Chief Justice 4. Silver is mined in Oregon only incidentally where it occurs in small per-centages with other metals. It is found in the gold mining districts of Baker, Grant and Josephine countles.

# The Anniversary Number

Yakima Republic. The Oregonian celebrated its 50th

usefulness and value that will be prized cure one.

### Historical Section Interesting.

tempted to secure the contract for draw-ing the plans and specifications for the La Grande High School building, but that the contract was awarded by the board of directors to Mr. Gaunt. - As a matter of fact, Mr. Hockenberry endeavored to influence the board of directors not to advertise for bids for furnishing the plans and specifications, but the board did advertise for bids for furnishing the same, and bids were sub-mitted by numerous architects res'ding in the states of Oregon and Washing-ton. Mr. Gaunt's design and plans and

### Product of Two Men.

Ashland Tidings. For 50 years continuously the same hand, that of Henry L. Pittock, has guided the business destinies of The Oregonian and his success is attested by the spiendid property which The Oregonian of today is. Mr. Pittock is a modest gentleman but of keen busi-ness judgment and unstinted enter-prise, and to his energy as well as the ability of his co-worker for so many time of J. H. Watson, master mechanic of the railroad shops at this place; S. N. Bolton, president of the Bolton-Bod-mer Implement Company; W. L. Bren-holts, assistant eachier of the La Grande National Bank; Henry Henson, locomo-tive engineer, and the writer hereof, circuit judge of the Tenth Judicial, dfs-

prime, and to his co-worker for so many years, the late H. W. Scott, brilliant editor, is largely due the position of The Oregonian today as one of the lead-ing newspapers of not only the Pacific Coast, but the entire United States.

Pendleton Live Wire. The issue deserves the widest cirrulation. The Oregonian has become so much a part of Oregon life that there are many who believe it indisensable. At that it serves as an adpensable. At that it serves as an au-minable advertisement of the state or of a county and it is to be hoped com-mercial organizations everywhere will realines the anniversary edition is worthy of the widest circulation and

Northwest, The Oregonian deserves the success which has crowned the "tall tower" after 50 years' of struggle and endeavor.

### All Oregon Proud

pected a great Semi-Centennial Num-ber and they were not disappointed. Whatever The Oregonian does, it does well. The splendid 128-page paper, with its wealth of descriptive and historical matter and handsome illustrations, would seem the very nome of twentieth century newspaper achieve-ment. The thousands of friends of Publisher H. L. Pittock congratulate him that he has lived to see the newspaper to which he came as a barefooted boy, nearly 50 years ago, now recog-nized as one of the powerful forces in

ton. Mr. Gaunt's design and plans and specifications being, in the opinion of the board, superior in many respects to

tract awarded to him.

munication that "three bids were received, for \$42,000, \$98,000 and \$115,000, re specifically. The difference in the amount of the bids will tell its own tale to archi-tects and contractors." Thereby intimating, no doubt, that the contractors who made the lowest bid had an under-

accord it that circulation. By all odds the greatest paper in the struction of the building was let have not yet been paid in full by the School Board, and if Mr. Hockenberry has any knowledge or information that the build-ing has not been constructed according to the plans and specifications. It is his

may Include the annexation of Corea. and the steady advance in Manchuria. Corea was finally absorbed without iny particular opposition from its inhabitants. The truth seems to be that Japan is growing popular in its new The liberal policy of the province. empire has at last won recognition from the indolent Coreans and they are waking up to the opportunities of We do not mean to a better future. imply that Corea has become actually. progressive, but it is far from being contentedly somnolent as it was before it fell into the hands of the Japanese. It would not be difficult in deed to show that the example of the island empire has been an inspiration

all the Oriental countries from the Pacific to the Mediterranean. In Manchuria, Japan and Russia have comused their old enmities and present united front to the rest of the world. Mr. Knox's effort to disturb their joint plans by a concerted interference did not succeed very well. His note to the confidence led to no action of the kind he desired, while it fomented some and cemented the understanding with Russia a little more firmly. It seems to be conceded by observers that American diplomacy in the East has lost in astuteness of late. Mr. Knox's hand is not so cunning as Mr. Hay's enviable part in Oriental affairs than it did formerly.

The decline of our Eastern trade goes steadily on. Here and there the \$925,164.52, the cause of it, but intelligent men who have lived long in the East and we do less and less business in China and Manchuria simply because we do not care for it. Other markets are so much more attractive that the effort the Orient does not seem worth while If this is true, the likelihood of war with Japan for the commercial empire the Pacific looks remote, 125.0 United States will hardly begin a fight for an advantage which it does not really want. Although there is a Jingo party in Japan, as there is in the United States, the trend of public

opinion is strongly in favor of the traditional friendship which began more than half a century ago. Nothing has happened which ought to make Amerteans enemies of the island empire, while the Mikado's subjects know very well that they have nothing of any consequence to gain by fighting us. Japan has her Hobsons, but they do not weigh very heavily.

Meanwhile the work of internal imment goes on with enviable Japan is spending \$250,000,000 provement goes on with for new railroads, rectification of river banks and industrial enterprises in The works, which are planned to cover a long series of years, will no doubt require a great deal more money before they are finished. The rivers particularly need attention beof the destructive floods which them during the year." have occurred recently. Japan does not leave it to the farmers to build tion to the fact that the forty-twolikes themselves or lose their land.

1

The Los Angeles man who had him self cut open in order to convict a doctor of malpractice had the courage of his hate. If his inexorable spiri had been moved by love instead of malice he might have been one of the world's benefactors, for great success depends, we are told, more upon an inflexible will than upon any other quality. It cannot be pleasant to remember in eternity that one has died in a bad cause. It is more agreeable, as well as safer, to live for a good one.

What will the farmers of the Inland Empire do for seed wheat? They have sold it down to the last kernel almost, and now there is none to plant. The hope of the world is not half so much in the thousands of carlonds tion.

that go to market as in the few bushels that stay in the bin waiting for the sower. Child jabor sells the seed of the human race, and if it is not stopped the whole world will some as hadly off for men as the Inland farmers are for wheat.

Recent experiences in the Northwest prove that some suffragettes do not are to vote when they have a chance. They just don't like the idea of the man telling them they can't, don't you

The cutting of telephone and telegraph wires by Mexican revolutionists has caused great damage and suffer-It is now time to put another ing. block of wireless stock on the market.

The commission form of government is a success in Tacoma with the single exception that the citizens are so disgusted they are seeking to recall the Mayor and the entire commission.

Uncle Sam has not only raised the duty on English beverages arriving in Portland, but has also increased the custom on glass. Will some of us be forced to return to the jug?

The entertainment committee should not full to show ex-President Rooseveit the very biggest stick in our forests on the occasion of his visit to Oregon next month.

Senator Calkins must think that it much better to climb from the nation for the product of their com-stahouse elevator to the roof than to bined efforts tells the story. Statehouse elevator to the roof than to be carried from the basement on a

There may be some satisfaction for the Portland small boy when he is informed that the Pittsburg boy gets his face dirty when he plays in the snow.

Whether Cook really reached the North Pole or not will now depend exclusively on the prolific efforts of the vaudeville circuit press agent.

While the water wagon does not seem to be burdened with the white man, it is making few stops during the Chinese New Year festivities.

1

Lady Decles should carry danger signals on a train twenty feet long.

### Progress Scarcely Matched. Seattle Times.

There is sounded a note of pardon-able pride when The Oregonian, after having braved the storms of a temus past, celebrates its jublico publishing a superb edition of pages, incorporating within it all the elements of the finished journal of elements of the finished journal of modern times. It gives the record of half a century, and therein is written a story of progress scarcely to be matched by the history of any like

way to public favor at home and abroad by its editorial opinions and by its by masterly presentation of the latest news drawn from the world.

### Record Is Marvel.

La Grande Observer. As we looked at the pictures por traying the first home of the the old hand press, the drum cy achine added a little later, and then the magnificent equipment possessed today, we could not help but marvel at the progress. H. L. Pittock has lived through it all. His hand has been on the cash drawer and his signature has been on the notes, whichever was neca great concern like The Oregonian is

Bright of the greatest importance. writers frequently are unable to man-age the business end, and good busi-Mr. Pitness men seldom can write. took is the business end and for years had with him Mr. Scott, now deceased, as editor, which made an ideal combi-

### Typical of Oregon Country. Astorian

With the whole state, and the great Northwest, the Morning Astorian has pleasure in expressing its gratification with the semi-centennial number of The Portland Daily Oregonian. It is typi-cal of the spiendid development of the "Oregon country," for which it has stood so stoutly and successfully all these years, and a fit memorial of the brain and character and courage of the great editor who built it to the highest standard known in the newspaper world and of the financier who stood world and of the financier who stood squarely at his back through all the viclesitudes of its career. Oregon is immensely proud of The Oregonian as a National institution, as its highest home-medium of clean, dependable, and influential public expression upon all the issues of possible human concern. the Bible says ha had 500 porcupines."

indicating clearly that the writer of the communication either deliberately misrepresented the facts or was inex-cusably ignorant of the facts. The orig-inal contract price was \$62,000, but certain changes were made in the original plans and specifications, such as changing the store foundation called for in the archiadation called for in the archisome foundation chied for in the archi-tect's plans and specifications to brick, and many other changes, and the con-tract was finally awarded to Bartlett & Roth, of Pullman, Wash., for \$2,800. The School Board substituted brick foun-

. . .

Further, the communication states that the contract was let for \$52,400 and that the building alone would cost about \$100,-600 before it is completed. Nothing can be more misleading than such a statement. indicating clearly that the writer of

Further, the communication states that

dations for stone foundations. would make quite a saving in the cost of the building, and being advised by contractors that brick foundations were just as durable and substantial as stone foundations and were being used in the largest modern buildings. The building argest moorn summings. The building complete, including power-house, steam heating and ventilating plant, plumbing, lighting and furnishing of High School building and also heating, ventiliaring d Oregonian is Oregon, in as full and complete a sense as a newspaper can embody the composite thought of the thousands of readers it has influenced and molded to its thought from year to year and from generation to generation.
History of the Commonwealth. Rogue River Courier (Grants Pass) The literary work on this issue of oregon's great daily is in keeping with the wonderful facts gathered to make up the story. It is fairly a history of the commonwealth.

up the story. It is fairly a history of the commonwealth and the blography of the remarkable men whose lives were devoted to the founding of the interests of Mr. Gaunt, the archiof the remarkable men whose lives were devoted to the founding of the State of Oregon. The story of the pa-per itself is filled with incidents of to all others who appreciate what a newspaper can do in the upbuilding of states and communities. This leading journal of the Pacific Coast won its

English Origin of "Hobson's Choice." Chronicle and Comment in the February

Bookman. The latest addition to the Highways and Byways Series deals with Cambridge and Ely, and is written by Rev. Edward Conybears, and illustrated by Frederick L. Griggs. Among the aneciotes is one which recalls the origin of the familiar phrase, "Hobson's Choice." Hobson, who lived in Cambridge when the Tudors held the English throne,

was a "carrier," a profession which at that date included not merely the transport of goods but the provision of locomotion for passengers - the almost wholly equestrian. Thus Hob son not only himself traveled regular! to and from London with his stage, bu kept a large stable of horses for hireeven supplying his customers boots and whips for their journey. with he was very autocratic in the matter and would never allow any steed to be chosen except in accordance with his will. "This or none," he would say to any hirer who dared to remonstrate, and his business was so prosperous that

## he could afford to be independent.

# Solomon and His Wives.

New York Tribune. Laura Jean Libbey, discussing in Brooklyn, N. Y., her appearance on the stage, said: "I talk in my monologue about love

marriage and the other interests of the heart. On these subjects women, especially young women, are strangely ig-

norant "They really make me think, know, of a little girl who was asked by her teacher: "What can you tell us of Solomon?"

### From Missouri-Has to Be Shown. Judge,

A book agent once got the Hon. Champ Clark, of Missouri, into a corner and, though his victim was helpiess,

"I beg your pardon," he said solic-itously. "I have a volume here which itously. "I have a volume here which I don't want to trouble you with, but I hope you will permit me to show "Don't apologize, don't apologize,"

Mr. Clark broke in impulsively. "I know you've got to do it. I'm from Missourl."

### Prophecy of Cromwell's Greatness.

"An Arcedotal History of Parliament." One day, when Cromwell had spoken warmly in the House, Lord Digby asked Hampden who he was, and Hampden is said to have replied. "That sloven whom said to mave replied. "That sloven whom you see before you hath no ornament in his speech; that sloven, I say, if we should ever come to a breach with the King — which God forbid; — in such a case, I say, that sloven will be the great-est man in England."

ESTRAYS FROM THE DAY'S DOINGS

Senator Abraham says the State House full of spice, and yet the single tax ide didn't get a look in.

It would seem that if anybody could suc cessfully resist an adverse popular wave and remain in the swim it would have been Mayor Gill,

A New York dispatch says Decies is of ancient lineage. No doubt. It was a very old story that was told in that Madison-avenue church Tuesday afternoon.

It is now proposed at Salem to make groundhog day a public holiday, thus again illustrating how coming ovents cast their shadows before.

No doubt Mayor Gill is convinced that th strongest woman's club in Washington at present is the recall.

It will soon be associated that the single tax on land in Oregon will have no ground to stand on-the proposition being specially harrowing to the Grangers.

Shaw's short-weight till has been re-referred to the judiciary committee, the members of the House deciding that in its present form it has a scaly appearance.

The Salem story that the State House elevator "shot to the root" with Senator Calkins as a prisoner is the limit as an attempted imposition upon the public cred-ulity.

As to whether the man really walked around the squirrel. It should be a -however, thereby hangs a tale,

The Decles-Gould wedding cake weight 250 pounds and was taken to the Gould home in sections in an automobile. Being a joy ride the method of transportation was very appropriate.

It is said the Roosevelt dam is ready, but it seemed to have been in good working order in New York state last November.

Marshal Colwell was not confirmed, but it is dollars to doughnuts that President Taft is, in his feeling that a certain United States Senator, is personally obnoxious to States Senutor, is his Administration.

A Portiand woman has sued a man for damages, alleging that he is responsible for her making a bad investment. If this is to become a common proceeding most married men would as well capitulate at one.

for the purpose of aiding the Government in the work. This limit, which is based on the assessed valuation of the district immediately adjoining the bay, permitted them to raise \$650,000 or more than \$100 for every man, woman and child in the county. No more valuable testimonial to the merit

stretcher.