# The Oregonian

PORTLAND, OREGON.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as invariably in Advance. (BY MAIL)

v included, siz months, 4.25 included, siz months, 4.25 included, siz months, 2.25 included, three months, 2.25 included, the month, 4.5 included, the month, 4.5 included, the months, 4.25 included, siz manths, 4.25 included, three months, 5.5 included, and months, 5.5 included, 5.5 includ (BY CARRIERS

Daily, Sunday included, one year..... 5.00
Daily, Sunday included, one month..... 78
How is Remain—Sond Postsoffice money
eriar, sayless order or personal sheek one
your local bank Stamps, coin or correct
years at the weder's risk. Give postsoffide
address in full, including county and state.
Postsage Estee—10 to 14 pages, 1 cent; 15
to 25 pages, 2 cours; 10 to 40 pages, 2 cours;
60 to 60 pages, 4 cours. Foreign postage
double rate.
Estierts Bosiness Offices—Verre & Conk-Eastern Business Offices Verre at Conk the New York, Brunawick, building, Chi cago, Stege, building.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, MARCH 27, 1911.

THE BOSSES AND THE MACHINE. Mr. Frederick Jesup Stimson is professor of comparative legislation in Harvard University-a fact perhaps of greater interest to the professor than the public; yet we take the liberty introducing the Harvard savant to the people of the West because he has written a book on "Popular Lawmaking." That is something we in Oregon know all about. The professor's ideas are not exactly in accord with some of our own, for the reason, perhaps, that he has not the intimate view of the popular lawmaking machinery the genuine experts on the ground have:

re a little antiquated. For example, we find the New York Sun quoting Professor Stimson approvingly on direct nominations. The refessor thinks the method too cumrsome and difficult and all "a mis-"Aimed at destroying the machine," he says, "it entrenches the professional politician in power." This terrible misfortune induces the Sun to remark that while "the arguments against direct nominations have been many and destructive" the defect in the primary method here indicated "la the most unanswerable, namely, that direct nominations designed to abolish the boss and the professional politician

and for that reason, perhaps, his views

actually entrench him."

The testimony of the boss and the professional politician who have had real experience with the direct primary, would be valuable in this connection, if it were available. It ought to be available at first hand in Oregon, where there are many politicians but no bosses left, and every political mane is either in a mournful state of dilapidation or on the high road to desuctude and decay. The old order changeth; the new dispensation is There are no political parties or at least no political organizations in Oregon worth the name, and nobody

appears to care or worry. There is, to be sure, a reigning political clique in Oregon, which is striv-ing to run both parties or what passes for the old parties, but there are many mises that it is riding to its final The direct primary, which put the old-time machines out of business, will in turn do fine work in relegating to the rear the false friends of the primary, who have used it mainly, or solely, to do lip service for the people and personal service for themselves.

#### WHY RAILROAD SECURITIES ARE UN-SALABLE.

With an abundance of cheap money in nearly all of the European finan-cial centers, with call money in New York plentiful at one and one-half and two per cent, six months' loans at three and one-quarter per cent, and prime mercantile paper dull at four the leading stocks since the weak hold- | will serve to protect the pr ers were frightened out by the farreaching Interstate Commerce Comsion decision, but best stocks, like the Union Pacific, are still about \$40 per share lower than they were before the anti-railroad campaign began. is nothing sentimental in this suddenly displayed aversion of capital to rallroad investments. It is simply a case of cold, hard business in which the trail from cause to effect has been biased so pialniy that there is no mis-

Tabulations of the gross and net earnings for 1910 of 237,554 miles, embracing practically all of the rallroad mileage of the United States, have been completed and the figures tell the story of the investors' ahyness regarding railroad investments. There was a substantial increase in the gross earnings of the roads in 1910. amounted to \$230,000,000, or 9.1 per but the increased expense absorbed so much of this gain that the increase of net earnings was but \$5,000,000. This was an amount insufficient to pay the increase in taxes which were not included in the figures. Despite the increased expense of operation it was necessary for the railroads to extend their lines and make improvements, on which they should have earned some profit for the additional investment.

The full significance of the present disinclination of capital to invest in railroad securities, however, does not appear in a consideration of the year's dness as a whole. Very few of the wage advances, which figured so extensively in the increase in operating expenses, were in effect before July A few were operative in April but others went into effect much later in the year and some of them not until system wisely and judiciously.

The history of Liberia began with operating for the first half of 1910 the effort of American philanthrooperating for the first half of 1910 without the additional expense enother increases which accompanied it, the roads saved enough out of the \$173,044,812 increase in gross earnings to show an increase of \$32,432,885 in net earnings. While gross earnings for the last half of the year increased \$57,533,971 over those of the same period in 1909, nearly all of the satisfactory increase which net earnings showed in the first half of the year was swallowed in increased expenses. This left net earnings showing a crease of \$38,425,244 and pulled down the average of the preceding six months to such an extent that a gain than \$230,000,000 in earnings for the year shrank to a comparatively insignificant gain of \$5,goo, soo in the net.

It required the combined efforts of all the railroads of the United States to make this gain in net earnings, and yet it was insufficient to pay for one was insufficient to pay for one-of the new rallroad work that to some extent its rubber resources, under construction in Oregon and but under systematic development the was under construction in Oregon and but under systematic development the referendum would protect the public Washington alone. The new year has production of that great and increas-

brought no changes for the better Returns are now available for 225,000 miles of railroad and the figures are. if anything more discouraging to capital than those which preceded them. Gross earnings on these roads showed an increase in January of \$4,882,454, and for the same month there was a decrease of \$2,333,839 in net earnings. In the Pacific Northwest the Hill and Harriman roads alone have under way or in contemplation projects involv-ing the expenditure of nearly \$100,-600,000. For that reason the Jan-uary figures on some of the properties these two great systems are interesting.

The Southern Pacific showed a decrease in net earnings of \$682,608; the Union Pacific fared better, with a decrease of \$221,000; the Northern showed a decrease of \$598,-970; the Northern Pacific, by cutting down \$250,000 on way and mainten-ance expenses and \$150,000 on equipment, scratched through with an in-ment, scratched through with an in-crease of \$324,979. These figures, which are taken from the Interstate Commerce Commission reports, offer ample reason for the distrust which capital is showing toward railroad in-

It is needless to state that out here in the undeveloped Northwest where this capital is needed, there is a growing disposition to welcome a return of confidence in railroad investments and to give the railroads a chance to regain a financial standing that will enable them to borrow the immense sums that are needed to provide facilities for the rapidly growing country.

### PREJUDICE AGAINST AUTOMOBILES.

The Oregonian has received a communication from Dr. John C. Ross, munication from Dr. John C. Ross, protesting warmly against what he terms the classification by The Ore-gonian of his case under the heading "The Fool and the Automobile." Dr. Ross was the defendant in a damage suit brought by the widow of a struck and fatally injured by Dr. Ross' automobile. In this case a verdict against the automobile owner of \$4000 was rendered Saturday in the Circuit

Dr. Ross asserts that the great preponderance of testimony was that he was driving at a speed under four or five miles an hour, was sounding his horn, that the man killed could have avoided the collision had he exercises due diligence. He declares that the jury was prejudiced and that The Oregonian has lauded a disregard by the jury of its oath and the law and the

The case in question was mentioned with others by The Oregonian Sunday to point a moral. The jury was not lauded nor was the evidence discussed. If the incidents of the accident were exactly as Doctor Ross gives them the moral still remains.

If there is a prejudice against the automobile owner in Portland the fault lies with the reckless drivers | used by the railroads of the who speed their cars around corners and through the busy thoroughfares. As has heretofore been declared, the speed maniacs are few, but the public mind is approaching the state where it will see no distinction between the careful and the reckless driver. If this disdain by the few of the rights of others is permitted to continue it is practically certain that more than one automobile owner will be compelled to pay an undeserved penalty.

Conceding that prejudice against automobile owners exists, the lesson in the Ross case is further emphasized by the fact that it ended in a threefourths jury verdict. The day of jury disagreements in Oregon is past. Just as surely as the new law has made it impossible for one prejudiced juror to prevent a just verdict has it made it impossible for one man of fair, judicial mind to prevent a prejudiced expres-

sion by his fellows. If Doctor Ross was the victim of injustice and prejudice the reason why the Municipal Court should send conand four and one-half per cent. It is victed speeders to the rock pile re-still impossible to interest investors in mains as cogent as if the damages American railroad securities. There were justly awarded against him. has been a slight recovery in some of Proper punishment of speed criminals tomobile owners as well as the public.

## A CENTURY-OLD DREAM.

Now and again for the better part of a century the little African Republie of Liberia has come before the Government of the United States with a plea for protection, readjustment or aid of some material sort, in an emergency, that seemed to threaten its life. A late crisis of this kind has been relieved by judicious intervention at Washington and the tactful diplomacy of Mr. Roland P. Falkner, whereby negotiations for the reconof Liberian finances in the struction interest of European powers were successfully conducted. The task com-prised the equitable establishment of the frontier lines between the Liberian Hinterland and the adjoining settle-

ments under French control.
This problem, involving infinite tact and patience, has been solved; a loan is presently to be floated relieving the financial pressure and Liberia will be once more on its feet in the hope. thich the United States Government shares, of being able to take care of

While nothing in the nature of a protectorate has been established which would mean the assumption of what later might have embarrassing responsibilities, an American official will be appointed to take charge of se and supervise the expenditure of Liberian revenues. The ted States has neither asserted any special rights nor assumed any speobligation in the premises beyond the supervision indicated—a supervision mude necessary by the total inability of the blacks to order their financial

phists to open the door of political reedom and independent industry to African slaves, or more properly freedmen, who wished to return to their native land under conditions that were then wholly denied them in the United States. It was founded in 1822 by men better versed in the humanities than in politics and remained 25 years under the tutelage of the American Government. In 1847 it was de-clared an independent state and at intervals ever since it has been in financial straits and all the time, seemingly, without power to govern itself as a state. It is still hoped, however, that the great possibilities in Liberia may be realized. After nearly 90 years its rich and varied resources are still practically undeveloped. Its magnificent forests have not resounded to the blows of the woodsman's axe nor to the hum of the miliman's saw. Its rich mineral beds are still unexploited. It has utilized

ingly important staple might be indefinitely increased. Its sell and climate are admirably adapted to coffee culture, yet very little coffee is grown there for export. It is plain, there-fore that under intelligent and ener-gotic development and efficient, hon-est government, Liberia may become a substantial contributor to the world's needs. Indeed, it might yet, to some extent, realize the century-old dream of philanthropy in which it was founded and become the mecca of American negroes of intelligence and spirit who desire a chance to show what they can do in political and industrial life, untrammeled by race prejudice and subordination.

MARKET FOR DOUGLAS FIR The lumber manufacturers of Ore-gon and Washington are perfecting plans for extending the market for Douglas fir. At the meeting of the association held in Eugene, Or., recently, a start was made on a large fund which will be used in bringing the merits of this timber to the attention of consumers. In view of the fact that Oregon has more standing timber than any other state in the Union and that our famous Douglas fir ranks high with other timbers, it is somewhat surprising to note what a small percentage of the railroad ties of the country are made from this wood. The possibilities for an expansion in the market for this kind of product of the Douglas fir are encouraging. The current number of the Railway Age Gazette gives details of all railroad ties bought by the roads in 1909, and of the grand total only about 7 per cent were made of Douglas fir.

The total number of wooden ties purchased by the railroads in 1909 was 123.751.000, an increase of about 10 per cent over 1908, but a decrease of nearly 20 per cent over the 1907 purchases, when the railroad building boom was at its height. in classification of these ties, a census bulletin on forest products shows \$7,132,000, nearly one-half of the total, made of Southern pine comes next with oak. 21,385,000. There were 9,067,000
Douglas fir and 6,797,000 Western
pine. A feature of these statistics,
which will seem somewhat surprising in the West, is the large number of hewn ties, for of the grand total only 28,252,000 were sawed, and more than one-fourth of the sawed ties were of Douglas fir. From this timber there were marketed in 1909 1,952,000 hewn and 7,115,000 sawed tles, all woods showing a larger number of hewn than sawed ties.

Not only does the Douglas fir make a very poor showing in the number of ties sold in 1989, but it does not do much better in prices. While the Southern pine, with no better decay-resisting qualities, sold at an average price of 52 cents, the average price of the Douglas fir ties was but 41 cents. Among seventy-two species of timber United States, this choice Western timber, with the exception of hemlock and beech, was the cheapest tie bought by the railroads that year. The rapidity with which the manufacture of wooden ties is eating into the forests and the great possibilities of a future mar-ket are shown in the statement that but 13.3 per cent of the total pur-chases of 1909 were for new track and

in 1908 the purchases included but 6.6 per cent for new track. The total cost of all of the ties was more than \$60,000,000. With the exhaustion of the Eastern and Southern supplies of the timber, there will nat-urally be an improved demand for the famous Douglas fir, and this demand can be hastened by exploitation methods which will be undertaken by the Oregon and Washington Association The railroad tie is about the cheapest form of lumber into which we copvert our magnificent Douglas firs, but a trade which uses \$60,000,000 worth of ties per year is worth going after, even by the greatest lumber district in the world.

NEW IDEAS IN DIRECT LEGISLATION. amendment of the constitution which will be submitted in Washington at the next general election has recently been published. Some features of the Washington plan, particularly the high percentage of the total vote required to secure presentation of laws, have heretofore been discussed. The neasure, however, contains other no less important features not found in

the Oregon plan.

The Washington system seeks to impose a modified form of what is termed the imperative mandate. The people may propose a measure for en-actment by the Legislature by filing a petition in the usual form required for measures to be voted on at general elections. Such petitions must filed not less than ten days before the convening of the Legislature.

It is required that these measures given precedence over all before the Legislature, with the ex-ception of appropriation bills, and that the Legislature shall enact or reject the measure without amendment. If adopted, such a measure is subject, the same as any other act, to refer-

If the measure is rejected or if no action is taken on it, the bill goes b fore the people at the next succeeding The Legislature may reject the measure and propose a different one dealing with the same subject, but in that event both measures must go to vote of the people.

The Oregonian has advocated something on this order for Oregon as means of reducing the number of measures on the election ballot. It would seem, however, that the Washington plan places so great a restric tion in the matter of amending perative mandate" measures that the chief purpose of that phase of the law is likely to be subverted.

One of the chief criticisms of initiative laws pointed out by unbiased stuts is the lack of expert drafting. Indefinite phraseology of at least two of the measures adopted in Oregon last year has raised doubt as to their proper construction. Had there been some method of amending these measures, without destroying their main purpose and full intent, each would have gained a much larger degree of

popular approval. Obviously some safeguard should be thrown around the initiative measures proposed to the Legislature if amendments by that body were to be permitted. Why not permit amend ment of the phraseology of such bills and refer them to the Supreme Court for decision as to whether the sense or purpose of the original has been destroyed? A court opinion that the Legislature had not emasculated the bill ahould serve as well as submission of the matter to the people

perative mandate of laws it did not EXPLANATION IS UNCONVINCING

Another important phase of the Washington amendment deals with conflicting measures submitted to vote of the people. Under this provision the voter who is opposed to enact-ment of both measures is permitted to express that view, and also is given

opportunity to indicate which he con-ceives to be the lesser of two evils.

In the last election in Oregon the home rule bill and the state-wide prohibition measure were in direct convoters were opposed to both, but, fear-ing that both might carry, voted affirmatively for the one they believed the less objectionable. Had the Washington provision been in force in Oregon, such voters could have expressed both opinions. If a majority of the electors voting on the question had declared themselves against both measures, both would have failed, alboth though one or the other might have received an affirmative majority. a way it is an application of the first and second choice voting principle to direct legislation.

In theory, at least, there is merit in this phase of the Washington law, but the question will naturally arise as to whether its application will not confuse the voters. It certainly is not conductve to a short ballot.

The Washington Legislature, in drafting a direct legislation amendment, has plainly endeavored to avoid the features in the Oregon system that have subjected the latter to criticism. If the amendment is adopted, close observation of the workings of the initiative and referendum neighboring state may be highly prof-

Attorney Stephens, who is arguing the Spokane rate case before the In-terstate Commerce Commission, in insisting that Spokane is entitled to ter minal rates, continues to deny that water competition is a factor in establishing terminal rates at the Pacific Coast. The mere fact that for years the water carriers have been landing ocean freight in Portland and shipping it by rail to Spokane at a lower rate for the through haul from the East than could be met by the railroads has offered very good evidence as to the importance of water transportation as a "fixer" of terminal rates. The atti-tude of Spokane is such, however, that even when the Panama Canal is completed and present low rates are cut in half, Attorney Stephens or some other Spokane lawyer will still be arguing that water transportation is a Meanwhile the volume of trafmyth. coming to both Portland and Spokane by water, is steadily increasing.

The fatal railroad accident on the Atlantic Coast Line in Georgia, Saturday, offers more evidence that railroads must still contend with disasters that cannot well be classed as other than "unavoidable." Eight lives were lost and more than a dozen people were injured in this wreck. The cause was said to have been a defective axle, which snapped while the train was on a trestle, throwing the cars into the The making of iron and steel products has not yet reached a degree of perfection where it is possible detect "interior" weakness in a piece of iron or steel which outwardly seems perfect and will not infrequently stand shop tests more severe than those which afterwards cause death and de-struction. The block signal has, to a large extent, eliminated the danger of collision but we are apparently as far as ever from eliminating some of the dangers that beset travelers by rail.

"Insanity" of the type that leads to wife murderer usually spends itself in the act that it inspires and leaves its subject "so sorry" and pleading for his life, as if life to him was sweeter and better and more to be desired than was life to his victim. Pollock probably had insane people of this type in mind when he exclaimed in true orthodox rage: "Hell's mad-houses are full of such too fierce, too An official pamphlet which contains furiously insane and desperate; to rage the text of the direct legislation unbound 'mong evil spirits damned."

"When pa goes to a wedding he thinks he ought to have more atten-tion than the bride," is a sentiment credited to T. Roosevelt, Jr.; a funeral he insists on being the star attraction just the same." It will be interesting to hear the junior Roosevelt's testimony as to father's official relation to the event about to happen in the younger man's family.

The folly of traveling without money was illustrated in the case of the aged ouple who arrived on colonist tickets from Michigan, expecting to meet rel-atives, who falled them. In many minds a few thousand miles East, Portland probably means all Oregon. Bewilderment on arrival is but natural.

It is to be hoped the Municipal Court had its shoes blacked when sentencing a speeder to jail, for an appeal has been taken and technicalities are to be feared.

What a pity Robinson Crewso, the poster that survived the bombardment, was crippled! The fanciers lose the opportunity to develop a new and patriotic breed of fowl.

The gathering of hopmen broken up by the Chief of Police at 1 in the morning in a Salem saloon was simply an informal affair to discuss the quality of the brew.

Some department of graft-controlled New York is responsible for many of the deaths in Saturday's fire. There no outside fire escape on the building. The absurdity of the law is shown

in the release of Gaynor from a fine of \$175,000 upon his taking the pauper's oath. Just watch him resume business. \_\_\_\_ As the logging road is the pioneer

railroad, the extension of the lumber company's line in the Mohawk country may lead to something sometime. If it be treason, as Patrick Henry would say if he were throwing mail

for a living, to organize, let them make the most of it. No longer can dad appoint the whole family to office in California, for the Legislature has made a law

Pacific Coast climate scores again in a baseball season that begins earlier and ends later than that of any other

against nepotism.

Just for the sake of variety, why can't we have "reciprocity" or "tariff revision" candidates for city office. "Statement One" is overworked.

Writer Decries Referendum on College Appropriations.

ROSEBURG, Or., March 24 .- (To the Editor.)-In today's issue of The Oregonian I notice a communication from Mr. Timothy Brownhill in defense of the action of the people of Yamhill County in circulating a petition to invoke the referendum on the appropria tions granted the three institutions of tions granted the three institutions of higher education by the recent Legis-lature. Mr. Brownhill's explanation of the reason for invoking the referen-dum is anything but satisfactory to the friends of higher education. If he is sincere in his assertion that he and his associates in this movement are friends of higher education and desire only the consolidation of the three institutions, they should have three institutions, they should have made their "kick" when the appro-priation bills were pending before the Legislature. Certainly their waiting till after the bills have received the signature of the Governor is not evidence of such friendship. On the contrary, it has the sppearance of being nothing more than a scheme to retard the advancement of these institutions.

the advancement of these institutions.

During the past decade the population of Oregon has increased wonderfully. The attendance at the University and the Agricultural College has grown in proportion. To retard these institutions at the present time means a severe blow to the state at large. Colonists will not immigrate to a state that has little or no facilities for that has little or no facilities for higher education. The better the edu-cational system the greater the chance of increased population. Should this petition receive enough signatures to be filed with the Secretary of State and be voted upon in 1912 it will be defeated by a heavy majority. The people of this state are too progressive to allow their educational institutions to degenerate. Already various commercial bodies and other orous commercial bodies and other or-ganizations of business men through-out the state are going on record against this referendum. Mr. Brown-hill and his associates will save them-selves both time and money by withdrawing their petition,
DEAN T. GOODMAN.

City Gardens vs. City Hens PORTLAND, March 25 .- (To the Editor.)-Just a few items "Uncle Dennis" has overlooked in his defense of the crowing rooster and city hen. A good maxim is, "A place for everything, and everything in its place." The writer's iffe-long regret has been that he was not adapted to the life of a farmer, as it certainly is the most noble of all vocations-when pursued out on all vocations—when pursued out on a farm. But in the humble opinion of the writer, when the farmer comes to the city to reside, he should leave behind him all farm animals and fowls, as they belong to the farm and add to its beauty and profit. Surely the poor city man has some rights worthy of respect. Portland, the Rose City, is to gain renown as the city beautiful, or as an immense barnyard-which? or as air immense barnyard—which?

Now as to utility. Berries, small fruit, garden truck, etc., on back lots solve this problem, and also furnish employment to the city boy at home, and impress as well on his child mind the rights of his fellow man—the most valuable lesson any child can learn.

Long life to Portland the beautiful life of its unstable beloken vards.

CITY BRED

Oregon Divorce Procedure PORTLAND, March 24 .- (To the Edior.)-Please give me the information in your editorial columns just how one can secure a divorce on the post of desertion without the aid of torney. Also state if it would be pos-sible to serve the papers one day and secure the divorce the next. CLAUDIA.

Rid of its unsightly chicken yards.

The state law provides no certain Mays when divorce proceedings may be held, although the court may favor a certain day for that purpose if so desired. A suit for divorce may be brought one day and tried the next, if the defendant prepares his answer in time, and the court acts promptly. The law permits a person applying for divorce to appear either in per-son or by attorney. The Oregonian, however, cannot undertake to set out however, cannot undertake to set out the technicalities of service or form of complaint

Populations and Elevations. CULVER, Or., March 22-(To the Editor.)-Will you tell me the population of Portland, Seattle, Spokane and Tacoma according to the census of 1910? And will you also tell me the altitude of Leadville, Colorado, or of the Tennessee Pass on the Denver, Rio Grande & Pacific Railway?

F. A. CONSTABLE

Census: Portland, 207.214; Seattle, 237,-194; Spokane, 194,492; Tacoma, 82,972 Elevations: Leadville 19,200 feet; Tennessee Pass, 10,240 feet.

Teachers in Philippines CHEHALIS, Wash, March D.-(To the Editor.)-Will you please tell me in The Oregonian the right person to whom application should be made for a position as teacher in the Philippine Islands? K. F. M.

Administrator of schools in the Philip oines devolves upon numerous depart-ments organized within the islands. Ins for information concerning op-nities for teachers should be sent the Secretary of Public Instruction, Manila

When "So" Is Preferred. PORTLAND, Or., March II.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly settle a dispute by stating in The Oregonian whether or not the following sentence is grammatically

correct:
"This flower is not as nice as the other."
KARL RIEDELSBERGER.

The sentence is not strictly ungrammatical. However, in emphasizing comparisons, particularly in negative assertions. "so" is preferred to "as," thus: "This flower is not so nice as the other."

Personnel of Supreme Cour PORTLAND, Or., March 23-(To the politor.)-Kindly publish how many judges here are at present in the United States Editor.)—Kinds, the United State and their names. Supreme Court and their names.

J. HAUSTEDT.

A chief justice and eight associate justices comprise the United States Supreme Court, as follows: Eliward D. White, chief justice: John M. Harign, Joseph McKenna, Oliver W. Holmes, William R. Day, Horace H. Lurton, Charles E. Hughes, Willis Van Devanter, Joseph Rucker Lamar.

The Comstock Lode. BLAKELYVILLE, Or., March 23.—
(To the Editor.)—Was the Comstock lode, Nevada, a sliver or a gold proposition, and what was the approximate production, gold and silver? E. J. HOWE.

The Comstock lode carried in recent The Commtons for cole that in feeler pears a ratio of gold to silver of two to one (value). Estimates of the total output during the period of greatest production run from \$325,000,000 to \$240,000,000.

Height of New York Buildings. CASTLE ROCK, Wash, March 24.— (To the Editor.)—How many stories high is the Singer building in New The Metropolitan Life? CONSTANT READER.

The Singer building is 41 stories; Metropolitan Life 50 stories.

PERHAPS TWO ANCESTOR APES. Authropologist Says There's a Split is

Anthropologist Says There's a Split in the Family Tree.
Literary Digest.
A somewhat remarkable theory, to prove that man is descended from apelike progenitors in two different lines, one related to the modern gorilla and the other to the orang-utan, has been propounded by Hermann Klaatsch, professor of anthropology in the University of Breslam Germany. Professor Klaatsch was closely concerned with the discovery and description of two of the four skeletons of prehistoric men that have been found in France during the past two years, and his new theory of man's origin arose from observations the past two years, and his new theory of man's origin arose from observations on these two skeletons. The first was of the same type as the Neanderthal man; the vault of the skull was low, the cycbrow ridges prominent, the face large; the limb hones short, stout, and massive. The second (the Aurignac) evidently belonged to a newer race much more like the modern European, the wault of the skull being high, the the vault of the skull being high, the supraorbital ridges not pronounced, and the bones of the limbs long and slend-er. A notice in the British Medical

er. A notice in the British Medical Journal says: "Professor Klaatsch was so impressed by the superficial resemblance of the Neanderthal man to the gorilla and of the Aurignac man to the orang, that he has formulated a theory of double origin for the human race. The gorilla and the Neanderthal race are, he suggests, co-descendants of one branch of a basal anthropoid stock, while the orang and the Aurignac race are co-descendants of another branch. We expect a great deal from evolution but pect a great deal from evolution, but we do not remember a theory which has peot a great deal from evolution, but we do not remember a theory which has made such a demand on the ingenuity of Nature, and on the ingenuousness of of the scientific public, as this theory now promulgated by Professor Klaatsch. That the orang and gerilla may have diverged and become the distinct genera which they now are can be understood, and that from the basal stock of the one or the other man may have arisen, can be accepted as a working hypothesis; but that from the basal stock of two such different genera Nature could produce two stocks of men which in the process of time converged, and at last fused in one species, seems somewhat incredible. The writer who introduced this theory to English readers in a recent issue of Nature described anthropoid apes as 'unsuccessful attempts and dashes forward toward the goal of the definite creation of the human race.' He had evidently in his wind avene of the later literatury of the human race.' He had evidently in his mind some of the later literature on Arctic exploration; the theory he in-troduces has some resemblance to the account given by a recent explorer who claimed to have reached the Pole."

AMERICAN FIRE COST IS HIGH. Wooden Buildings Invite Sprend Conflugrations.

Baltimore Sun. America is taxed \$3 annually to pay for the country's fires."
This statement was made by Frank-lin H. Wentworth, of Boston, in an address before the Credit Men's Assoclation of Baltimore. Mr. Wentworth is secretary of the National Fire Pro-tective Association, the only organiza-tion of its kind in the United States, and his address consisted of an elaborate consideration of "The Significance

of the Fire Waste." The average per capita loss in Europe, based upon statistics gathered in six countries, he said, was 33 cents. This vast difference between this and any other nation as regards the preva-lence of fires he blamed solely upon the carelessness of the American people and the fact that they assume no personal responsibility for the loss occa-

sioned by conflagrations.
"If we Americans wake up in the middle of the night and can't find a match." he exclaimed. "we feel personally abused. In Europe, if one wants a match he must go to the places where matches are kept."

To this fact he traces much of the

loss of life and property by means of fire to which this Nation is perennially subjected. But the chief cause of the alarming fire tax in America, he said, which averages \$250,000 a year, was on account of the many wooden buildings which are found in towns and cities and which constitute vital invitations for the spread of conflagrations.

Wire Screens Across Rotundas. Chicago Post.

Plans to stretch wire screens across the rotundas in downtown office build-ings for the protection of the public against persons who commit suicide by leaping over the railings of upper floors have been made for four structures.

Drawings of a plan for the Union

Bank building have been submitted to Building Commissioner Campbell. Plans for nets for the Chamber of Commerce. the United States Express and the Portland buildings are now being prepared.
The screen for the Union Bank building will be made of wire mesh and supported by one-inch steel cables, four feet apart. The screen will be stretched across the rotunds on the second-flo level, and is strong enough to resist weight of 400 pounds falling from the top floor of the building, which is seven stories in height.

The Why of a Lawyer's Busy Monday. New York Sun

"A lawyer gets more callers on Mon-day than on any other day of the week," remarked an attorney. "If he lives in the country his front doorbell will begin to ring before he is out of bed, and

if he has a city office there is likely to be a line of clients waiting.

'The reason is that on Sunday fam-ilies get together and talk over their intimate affairs, and one of these is sometimes a suit they are thinking of beginning and so one of their number is appointed to see the lawyer, and he comes down Monday morning. Of course, this is more noticeable in the country than in town, but I have found that human nature works the same way metropolitan or rural circles.

Danes and Scandinavians. SHELTON, Wash., March 23 .- (To the Editor.)—To settle a controversy, will you please advise me whether or not Danes are properly classed as Scandinavians? ANNA CHRISTENSEN. navians?

It is proper to speak of a Dane as candinavian. The three kingdoms o Sorway, Sweden and Denmark are all Included by standard authorities under the name Scandinavia, although com-mon use of the term is often restricted to Norway and Sweden.

Blue and the Gray. Appleton's,

(An English admirer of "Alies Paige" has sent the following poem to Robert W. C bers, author of that Civil War novel):

Only the tale of a Nation's pride,
Asserting a Nation's claim;
Only the tale of a cause that died—
Emshrouded in blood and flame.
Oh hearts so noble, and hearts so true,
To perish in deathly fray!
And I hear the tramp of the boys in blue
And the march of the men in gray.

Which was the right and which was the Let other times strive to tell; Each felt in himself that his cause

ge feeling, he fought and fell.

A great cause wan, and a great cause threw
The hope of its life away.
And we give our cheers to the boys in blue,
And our tears to the men in gray.

Was it prouder to march with the victor Grant,
Or sink in defeat with Lee?
To whom is the laurel, the afterchant,
Is it triumph or threnoft?
The soil is sacred—the bloody dew
That ripens the fields today.
Has poured from the hearts of the men in bloo.

And the hearts of the men in gray.

EXTRAORDINARY VIEW OF TRUTH Denn of St. Paul's Cathedral Has Til

With London Newspaper.
Chicago Evening Post.
Most newspaper editors acquire in time the profound conviction that their business is hedged about with some extraordinary difficulties. The matter of getting the truth, for example, is hard enough for ordinary reasons, but it is nough for ordinary reasons, but it is nade considerably harder by that trait in the popular conscience which makes it easy to deny as untrue statements which are merely inconvenient and not at all untrue. The London Daily News has just been treated to a case in point by no less scrupulous a gentleman than by no less scrupulous a gentleman than Dean Gregory of St. Paul's Cathedral

That gentleman reached not long age his ninety-second birthday. Februi 20 the London Daily News announ on good authority that he was about resign. This promptly brought fr the Cathedral the following denial: "The dean is not retiring and would

The dean is not retiring and would like to find out who is circulating the untrue report."

This drew a prompt apology from the London Daily News, which had no interest in the matter beyond a desire to print the facts. But on the following Wednesday, just four days later, the London Times printed the official no-

The dean of St. Paul's is forwarding to the Prime Minister a formal intimation that he desires to resign his office when a representative of the London Daily News called at the deanery to in-quire what all this meant, a member of the dean's family handed him the fol-

lowing statement:
"The dean of St. Paul's yesterday tendered his resignation to the Prime Min-ister. Neither he nor his family gave interviews on Friday or Saturday to any representative of the press. The assertion that he had not resigned was assertion that he had not resigned was made with perfect truth, as also the statement that it would annoy him extremely did he know it had been made. It is not within the rights of anyone to ask for further information than it has been decided to give them."

In view of the fact that the Daily News merely said that the dean was about to resign which—on the basis of subsequent developments—was perfectly true even at that time, the deanery took an extraordinary view of the took an extraordinary view of the truth. But there are few editors who have not encountered the same aptitude for protective dissimulation.

CORSETS GOING OUT OF STYLET Washington Society Girls Have Dis-

pensed With Stays. Kansas City Star. Dealers in corsets are not pleased with the latest fad of the Washington smart set On excellent authority it is said to be strictly swagger nowadays woman must discard the engirdling

stays-a thing not possible with the present style of empire girdled frock. The younger set promoted the "back to nature" idea. There have been many smart dances this Winter, and one after another the young women have cast aside the artificial form.

The first girl to appear at a dance uncorseted created a mild sensation. But so materially did her innovation affect her career as a belle that the subsequent dances were remarkable for the number of girls who had suddenly taken up the

dress reform.

The older folks didn't like it so well, being of the opinion that the girls were going back to nature with a vengeance, and the criticism stirred up drowned even the commotion caused by Justice Harlan's overhauling of the swagger set for its disregard of proper Sabbath ob-

But it is different clsewhere, and not to be outdone by the younger circle a number of the smart matrons introduced some novelties into their costumes. Mrs. Hultington Wilson attracted much Mrs. Hultington Wilson attracted much attention by adopting the heeliess slipper. Mrs. Wilson, who is one of the most picturesque members of Washington society, "dresses to her own style." Her gowns, which follow the lines of her supple figure, are unlined and weighted by a fall of crystal embroideries. Her hair she dresses with Grecian simplicity—the whole ensemble agreeing perfectly with the satin-shed feet, guiltless of the erstwhile popular Cuban heel.

Another Foe of the City Ren. PORTLAND, Or., March 22.—(To the Editor.)—The undersigned agrees fully with the "esthetic citizen" regarding the nuisance of chicken yards in such a beautiful city as Portland.

I have resided here several months, and agreetly desire purchaging a home here.

here several months, and urchasing a home here, I have resided her but everywhere I have gone to look at one the chicken yard with its unwhole-some odor and noisy roosters have been in evidence, and each time I've returned to rented quarter discouraged. to rented quarters discouraged.

Why not restrict the city and have the

most undesirable portion set aside for the chicken and dog raisers? MRS. MARGARET BYERS. Tillman Says He Can't Recover.

Augusta, Gs., Dispatch.
Senator Ben Tillman, of South Carona, says he is doomed, and that he is nly waiting for the end. The Senator was in Augusta and made the admission that he could never recover.

"My appearance misleads every one." said Senator Tillman. "I look well and I tell people I am well, but I find when I try to do the things that I formerly dld and wish to now that I am weak and not able to do much.
"I never can recover from the stroke which caused my collapse at Washingwhich caused my collapse at Washing-ton, D. C."

Horse Show and Other Dates. Woodburn Horse Show, March 31. Mount Angel Horse Show, April 1. Stayton Horse Show, April 1. Salem Horse Show, April 7 and 8. Oregon City Horse Show, April 22 Mining Congress at Portland, May

Umatilla Pioneer Reunion at Weston, May 26 and 27.
Portland Rose Festival, June 5-10.
Oregon Development League, Astoria, August 14-16.

Galveston News.

They stood in silence sad about the mussedup little spet;
They have the man was loaded, but they
thought the gun was not.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian, March 27, 1881.
The Governor has recently received four brass field places from the Government. One goes to Salem, one to Jacksonville, one to Corvallis and one to Eugene.

A project is on foot to carry water from Mill Creek into Salem for the use of the inhabitants.

Lady Franklin arrived from Victoria In the Panama. While at Vancouver's Island, in British Columbia, she was treated with every demonstration of respect and sympathy. While the Panama is detained here she will avail herself. is detained here she will avail herself of the time offered by visiting the Falls of the Willamette and the Cascades of the Columbia. Yesterday she went up to Oregon City and today she will go by the Oregon Steam Navigation Company's steamer to the Cascades.

A miserable ruffian drew a line across A miserable ruffian drew a line screes a saloon in Sacramento and calling it Mason and Dixon's line threatened to kill the first man who crossed it. A gentleman, named Emmett Doyle, areas and in leaving the room crossed the line. The ruffian struck him with a tumbler, destroying one of his eyes.