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(BY CARRIER) Business Offices Verre & Conk-lork, Brunswick, building. Chi-

#### PORTLAND, MONDAY, APRIL 2, 1911. BLOW TO COMPENSATION LAWS.

The movement for enactment of workmen's compensation laws in this country has received a serious set-back in the decision of the New York Court of Appeals that the New York liability law, which became effective on September 1, 1910, is unconstitu-The scope that such legislation may attain is now placed in doubt

The New York law defined dangerous occupations and provided that employes engaged therein and injured in the course of their employment should have the right to recover damages fixed by a schedule graded according to the severity of the in jury. The law abrogated the "contrisutory negligence" rule and greatly narrowed the scope of the "fellow ser-

While the elimination of these two doctrines apparently was not directly involved, the Court of Appeals indicated that the Legislature was within the bounds of its authority in abrogating or modifying them. The court, however, held that the change by which the employer was made liable for injuries resulting solely from the inherent risks of his business was in violation of the guarantee in the New York State constitution and also in the Federal constitution that no person shall be deprived of property

without due process of law. The decision will probably be couraging to the opponents in Washington of the new automatic compensation law of that state, but it is perhaps questionable whether the decision has any bearing on the new liability law in Oregon.

Like the New York law the Wash-ington act classifies dangerous occupations but whereas the New York law merely gave the injured employe the right to recover from his employer on the basis of a fixed schedule of compensation, the Washington law seeks to eliminate the courts altogether. The Washington law imposes a tax on the employer based on the amount of his This tax is to go into a fund ministered by a state commission from which compensation is to be pald to the injured workmen according to a fixed schedule. There are no reservations on the right of an injured employe to compensation from this fund except that of wilful self-injury. An injury resulting from a necessar; risk is to be compensated by money payment according to the fixed sched-The employers in each classificabe entitled to a proportionate distribution of the unexpended portion of the fund raised by this tax. It would seem to be obvious, therefore, that if the rule laid down by the New York Court of Appeals is sound, Washington has also overstepped the constitutional line of restriction. It can hardly be argued with reason that taxxtion to compensate workmen for injuries for which they are not entitled different in principle from an attempt to extend the right to recover at law workmen for like injuries.

In Oregon's new liability law there is no schedule of compensation, but the act abrogates the "contributory negligence" rule and restricts the apdoctrine. The Oregon statute avoids reference to "assumption of risk" and "inherent dangers of occupation." It may occur to the lay mind, however, that if neither the "fellow servant" nor the "contributory negligence" rule is a defense, the right to recover for injuries arising from the necessary dangers of certain occupations is given by strong inference.

Of course the opinions of the New York courts are not binding on the courts of other states, but state court decisions are invariably cited and generally accepted as guides in other states. In the New York case, too, a Federal question is involved, and a decision on the question involved will undoubtedly be given ultimately

by the highest tribunal in the land. It is notable that the New York has given its opinion with apparent reluctance. The purpose of the act is commended, but the court declares that "in a Government like ours theories of public good or necessity are often so plausible or sound as to command popular approval, but courts are not permitted to forget that the law is the only chart by which

this ship of state is to be guided." nmend in both the Washington and New York compensation laws. The end sought to be attained therein is one that is fair to employer and employe. Passion, prejudice and sympathy as controlling factors in jury verdicts, excessive costs of litigation, unfair division of money judgments tween client and lawyer, corrupt influence and public expense are among the things modified or eliminated by compulsory compensation laws. In the New York and Washington state statutes all these evils were at least modified and in that re-Oregon Hability law. It is unfortunate if our Constitution inhibits such legis-

Bennett, the first of which was published in The Oregonian yesterday, a conservative and comprehensive exesition of the resources and opportunities of Central Oregon will be told. Mr. Benneit, as publisher of The Dalles Optimist and in other work, has become widely known in the Northwest as an authorstock-raising and general farming

gonian staff and will travel over what is to him familiar ground but concerning which there is now strong public interest and little general knowledge. As stated in his first letter, Mr. Bennett will not deal primarily with the towns of Central Ore gon, but with the country. His articles will undoubtedly gain widespread interest.

farmer, our anti-reciprocity hightariff friends have made but slight reference to the pork market. Throughout the great corn belt of the Middle West the price of pork and pork products is of much more importance to a great many farmers than the price of wheat. Many of the farmers do not grow wheat enough for their own use, but depend

PORK PRICES AND RECIPROCITY.

In their old game of fooling the

exclusively on corn and hogs for a iving. Just at present the politicians who are opposing Canadian reciprocity are industriously calling attention to the rather serious slump in wheat prices and are blaming reciprocity talk for the weakness in the market. May wheat in the Chicago market closed Saturday at 85% cents bushel. A year ago on the same day

it closed at \$1.15 per bushel.

Any individual not having a special mercenary interest in the high tariff system would willingly admit that the prospect for Canadian reciprocity had nothing to do with the world's pro-duction in 1910 of 250,000,000 bushels pending a ruling by the United States more wheat than in 1909. This was a big crop, and the present heavy surplus hanging over the market of course caused the prevailing weak-

Accepting, however, the fond theory that has proved so useful in fooling the farmer, and for the sake of argument placing the blame for the thirtycent decline in wheat at the door of Canadian reciprocity, how are we to reconcile the argument to the case of the pork producers in the corn belt? Last Saturday May pork in Chicago closed at \$15.15 per barrel. One year ago on the same date the close was \$25.85 per barrel. In other words, May pork showed a decline of 41 per cent in the year, while May wheat declined but 26 per cent.

These figures, based on actual sale of pork and wheat, show that one farm product against which no damage by Canadian competition was claimed has declined 41 per cent in price, while wheat, which the stand-patters are using as a "horrible example" of the effect of prospective Canadian reciprocity, has declined

but 16 per cent. We trust that the American Protective Tariff League, the American Economist, or some other friend of the farmers will hasten to explain the phenomena so that the pork men can rise in their wrath against the injustics with which they are threatened.

ITALIAN CONDITIONS: United Italy has not had a particularly pleasant road to travel during the first half century of its existence The celebrations of its semi-centennial have been sufficiently joyous, but be-neath the blitheness there must have been many feelings of apprehension. The relations between the monarchy and the Vatican are less embittered, perhaps, than they were when Victor Emmanuel first took possession Rome, but still they are far from har-The Pope continues to regard himself as a prisoner and many devout Catholics refuse to vote at the civic elections.

This is singularly unfortunate for e conservative element, since almost posed to the radical opinions which pervade the country. The government is willing to go even to the point of compelling them to vote by law. The immediate purpose of such an enactment would be to checkmate the radical movement for universal suffrage, but its true basis is the feeling that on inducing the entire conservative population in some way or other to take a hand in public affairs. Universal suffrage would add many voters to the radical ranks, and unless the recalcitrant churchmen were brought out to counteract them the consequences might be startling.

The difficult relations with the church constitute but one of the internal problems which perplex Italian statesmen. The question of carrying on the routine of the government is almost as embarrassing. Parties in Italy are not formed as they are in the United States. Here the voters divide into large bodies which com-prise millions of members and which are relatively stable. Politicians know that the number of Democrats or Re publicans is not likely to vary greatly from year to year in ordinary times, any they can therefore reckon confidently on continuous support. Moreover, it is difficult to establish a new party in the United States. Efforts to do so usually fail. In Italy, on the other hand, parties have no assured existence. The voters regroup them selves on the slightest provocation. A statesman cannot depend on his support from one month to another. The party groups are very numerous, more so than in France even, and the only way a minister can maintain a majority in the Parliament is to combine a number of factions which have no organic unity among themselves.

Ministries whose power depends on combinations of this kind must neces sarily be short-lived. The frequent changes of government in Italy therefore surprise nobody who understands the conditions confronting them. The King is not supposed to belong to any party, but he naturally prefers to see the conservatives in power since the radicals alm rather definitely at the

establishment of a republic. Italy is also embarrassed by criminal problems from which other countries are free. What the exact origin of the lawless bands which disturb the country may be need not be considered here. It is sufficient to remark that under one name or another they have been active ever since the middle Before the monarchy was es ages. Before the thread of the brig-tablished we used to read of the brigands who made travel dangerous at the very gates of Rome. Now it is as the "Camorra" that the criminal orture of the difficulty has not essential-

Some writers trace the origin of these lawbreakers back to the condot-tiere who formed the soldiery of the Italian republics in the middle ages In course of time they and later. were turned adrift and left to their own resources for subsistence. ty on agricultural, horticultural, quite naturally preferred plunder to country seems to have been obsessed with the notion that there is no real town allied himself with The Ore-

sympathy of the Italian populace to such an extent that it is possible to obtain legal evidence against them even when they are captured, which is not so often as might be desired. What with this latent popular approval and the terrorism which they maintain, it is a matter of extreme difficulty to bring one of them to justice, as the current ac counts of Matteo's trial show.

Italy has its foreign troubles also Germany, ever hungry for colonial expansion, seems to be edging on the Turk to stir up perplexities in Tripoli, where Italy aspires to develop great sources of wealth. Of course if the Italians were to be expelled from Tripoli Germany would logically fall heir to their undertakings. This is all the more provoking because Italy and Germany are both members of the triple alliance. That agreement binds the two countries, with Austria, to sist one another in time of war, but apparently it permits all sorts of mutual aggressions in time of peace. Austria as well as Germany interprets

the agreement in this way.

The dual empire is building dreadnoughts on the Adriatic in the most menacing manner. They threaten Italian influence all along the eastern coast, if not even her existence. Austria clearly contemplates some future Italy, against which the monarchy is in no situation to make an adequate defense. The trouble between the countries arises partly from Austria's old ambition to rule down to the extremity of the peninsula, partfrom the fact that she has millions of Italian subjects who aspire to union with their own nation. The hostility is both political and racial. It finds its way everywhere. The universities are not exempt from it. Austria has agreed to establish an Italian faculty at the University of Vienna, but this is not likely to spread much balm over either party's wounds. A band of Italian students who went to Vienna last year to promote the measure were inmercifully mobbed by the Germans, while the university authorities looked

on with apparent approval. This does not portend harmonious sings over the dreams of sages together. Italy's natural affiliations are France and England. chances are that when the triple alliance expires she will renew it in a form so greatly modified that there will be little to hinder her from joining the entente which exists between those countries and which is likely to continue indefinitely.

### JOHN F. STEVENS.

The resignation of Mr, John F. Stevens, who has had charge of the Hill system in the Pacific Northwest, will be sincerely regretted by every one who is familiar with the tremendous work accomplished by him in the comparatively brief period in which he has been with us. Without in any degree discrediting the merits of those who will succeed him, it seems quite clear that in the magnitude of the operations and the rapidity and skill with which he handled them Mr. Stevens has established a mark that will not easily be reached. His appearance in Oregon at a time when the people had used every argument and exhausted every influence at their command in an effort to se cure rall connection with Central Oregon marked the beginning of a new era of prosperity and development.

In the twenty months following the arrival of Mr. Stevens in this state the changes that have been made or the railroad map have been greater and more important than any recorded in the previous twenty years. Mr. on the railroad records of the state so plainly that it will never be effaced. To Mr. Stevens, who has been handling big projects all of his life, his accomplishments since he came to Oregon appear of less importance than they do to others. With the modesty which is characteristic of the world's greatest industrial chieftains he sees in his wonderful work only the building of so many miles of railroad to open up new country and widen the traffic field of lines already built. It is a question of expending a certain amount of money for a certain number of miles of road from which a certain amount of traffic may be expected. All this has been attended to, but in fulfilling his mission as a railroad man he has brought about a situation which has provided an advantageous change in the economic and social conditions of thousands of

Throughout the West, the Government Indian land lotteries had years been drawing land-hungry set-tlers by thousands in an idle quest for cheap lands which were yearly becoming scarcer. The average expenditure of one of these "boomers" or "sooners," who attended the Government lottery drawings, was as great as or greater than would have been necessary to secure a home in Central Orebut Central Oregon, until the arrival of Mr. Stevens, was too remote and inaccessible to be reached by a landseeker. All this has been changed. Over the rails that have been laid down, thousands of new settlers are pouring into Central Oregon. Others are swelling the population of the rich lands along the Oregon Electric and the United Railways, and rich land embracing thousands of square miles which two years ag was producing nothing, is now avail-

able for wealth-producing crops. Mr. Stevens is a big man. enough for any proposition that the world has to offer. For that reason he may seek a wider field than Oregon for his future operations. His name, however, will always bear honored place in the annals of the state, was first through his recommendations and second through his actual work that transportation made ssible development in that great empire in Central Oregon.

## A STATUE TO BUTLER

The project of erecting a statue to General Benjamin F. Butler does not meet with much approval from the intellectual leaders of Massachusetts. The Boston newspapers do not find in him a man of sufficient moral or milltary caliber to deserve such recogni-tion. Thomas Wentworth Higginson goes so far in opposition as to declare that we have enough statues to sol diers; it is time to remember our poets and scientists, he says, and de-Certainly it would look odd for Massachusetts to spend \$25,000 of the public money for a statue to Butler while Emerson and Longfellow remain uncommemorated except in

soldier or the misdeeds of the politician. So we have erected statues more or less artistic, to about every officer who rose to the rank of Brigadler-General, and every decease statesman, not omitting Quay, whose picture was printed in the papers during his mortal career. It men have gained as much in acuteness as they are supposed to have gained in happiness by their transiion to a better world, how they must

smile at our infatuation, to say noth-

ing of our taste in sculpture. annals of Massachusetts abound in names which are more worthy of commemoration from every point of view than Butler's. It seems half grotesque to select such a character for public honor. In some circumstances he was a pretty good soldier and he had certain qualities of decision which other commanders might well have imitated. His famous trick of calling escaped negro slaves "contraband of war" almost amounted to a stroke of genius. It solved instantly and unequivocably a problem which had perplexed everybody else in the North, including Lincoln himself. In such emergencies as this Butler shone, but critics do not

call him a great soldier. We need not believe that Butler was quite so vile an intriguer against Governor Andrew, the great war ruler of Massachusetts, as some writers try to make out, but the fact remains that he usually saw his own interest before anything else. In writing his huge autobiography he has evinced a disposition to gather up any little scraps of fame lying around loose no matter to whom they rightfully belong. Thus he calmly takes to himself the credit of getting overcoats for the volunteers, whereas everybody anows that it belongs entirely to Andrew. Butler certainly enjoyed Lincoln's confidence for a long time. No doubt the President liked his humorousness and the decision of character which was one of his redeeming traits. The coarseness and unscrupulousness which repelled those who knew him better would naturally not come to the surface in his meetings with Lincoln. The main reason assigned for erecting a statue to Butler is his sympathy with the common This he certainly felt and he showed it on many occasions, but it was a kind of sympathy which the common people are a great deal bet-ter off without.

Butler belonged to that class of "friends of the masses" who show their good will by encouraging bad tendencies. He exercised his undoubted shrewdness in extracting advantage for himself out of their blunders.

The State Forester has issued an appeal to the people asking aid in the protection of the forests from the anqual visitation of fire. The new law makes a closed season for outdoor fires from June 1 to October 1, except under stringent regulations, and peo ple are urged to do all possible burnslashings before the season It will be impossible, however, for the state or the Nation or for private timber companies to prevent some fires being started by careless campers or hunters. The appeal of the State Forester should have special interest for these citizens, they should go into the woods with firm resolution to be more careful. The annual fire loss of millions each year has an increasing effect on our conomic system and it is full time stringent measures be adopted for checking it.

The respectable Italians in Chicago are making an effort to get rid of some of the odium that the race is bliged to bear by reason of the acts of the Black Hand. printed in L'Italia, the leading Italian the Democrats. paper in Chicago, it is stated that "it is necessary that the Italians themselves, for their own self respect and for their own protection, organize themselves to liberate the colony here from the criminals staining its name." It is unquestionable that the number of respectable, law-abiding Italians in the country is far in excess of those who come to the country to engage in criminal practices. For that rea-son, organized effort on the part of the better element in the race is certain to be of great assistance in stamping out the infamous Black

An effort is being made to weed out the loan sharks from the Government Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Broadly speaking, this is a reform that hould extend to every department of Government service in Washington. Usury in these departments is well known to exist; in fact, it has existed so long that it has become a time-honored custom-an accepted abuse. The greatest obstacle to its abolishment is found in its victims themselves, who seemingly are as much without inclination as without power to shake it off. It is this habit of anticipating his salary, more than anything else, that brings the department clerk down to old age a pitiful pleader for a pension,

The statement sounds like humor that the Hood River Applegrowers' Union will place skilled salesmen in the field this year. As there is only one Hood River on earth, a few skilled advertisement writers ought to do the work.

"Sitting on the back seat (of her father's automobile) was the Coun-tess. Count de Beaufort and his wife looked into each other's eyes silently for a few minutes. Neither spoke. Then he walked away." Alas, the intangibility of the touch!

Packer Cudahy looks for slump in corn and hogs within the rear and gives plausible reasons. This should not deter the Oregon grower from keeping up the effort to raise mough for the Coast market.

Umatilla County expects million-bushel wheat crop this year. That will approximate one-third of the state crop and be close to one per cent of the product of the Nation.

The Salem Statesman began

sixty-first year last Tuesday. Statesman is like old wine, but not at all cobwebby. There is something suspicious in the

The

explosion of a baking potato on April It takes a mighty honest man to

andle other people's money in a real estate deal. Caruso's conscience is working

overtime. The House caucus looked ahead a

HEALTH INSPECTOR IN SCHOOLS DIFFICULTIES OF ARBITRATION Writer Protests Against Methods of Writer Believes Racial Prejudice by

Search for Ailments. PORTLAND, March 3L-(To the Editor.)-The school children of this city are suffering indignities at the hands of of The Oregonian on the question of armedical inspectors, on the plea of "pro-tecting the public health," which are so some points worthy of general notice outrageous that no possible measure of and consideration as to the attitude health secured thereby could compensate which the United States should take on health secured thereby could compensate the same. But few would question in for the mischief done. And it remains to the same. But few would question in the shown by the testimony of other general the propriety of arbitration, yet be shown, by the testimony of other than interested parties, that the general health of the children is one whit better for medical inspection.

the schools and search for vermin or dis-and other international questions. Some sass on or in the persons of the children. Beginning, a while back, with an examination of arms for vaccination scars, nouths and throats for defective and enlarged tonsils, and heads and hair for vermin, the inspectors have now gone a step further. At the Woodstock school last Thursday the children were required to strip to the waist for examination. The older girls and part of the boys bared only their shoulders and arms, bu in some of the rooms all the upper gar ments were removed. Some of the chil ments were removed. Some of the chil-dren-be it recorded to the credit of their courage-protested and strove to resist; but what could they do in the face of the authority they have been

taught to respect?

The examination was said by the inspectors to be necessary, in order to check the spread of scarlet fever and measles. The sophistry of the excuse is apparent the moment one reflects. A child free from sign of infection one day. may the next day be coming down with an eruptive fever, and at least by the following day may be covered with the uption. There is not only no reason believe that the children select the day of the fortnightly visit of the in-spector to show signs of fever, but if spector is anything in suggestion and the psychological phenomena observed by physicians and others, there would seem to be ground to expect more disease than usual on the few days next succeeding the visit of the inspector. Daily inspection is as yet in the future—one thing for which taxpayers this year may be

Even on grounds of health, we are far from the right track, as may be seen by comparing the school children of today with those of 30 or 40 years ago. But there are weightier considerations than health. The Southern negroes before the var were a healthy lot.

Curious it is to observe the various and sundry baits put forth by would-be tyrants to entice us into slavery. The Socialist offers us food and shelter and leisure. The medical hierarchy offers us health. Neither can be expected to destinate the species of the supposing they liver the goods. But, supposing they could, who would knowingly pay the

The methods used to bring the African under the yoke will not serve with us. The medical way is: Catch your Yankee oung. Quiet his parents' fears by inoung. youngster from, say, scarlet fever, nge the argument, however, often enough to impress upon them the multi-plicity of dangers that beset the child. The rest is easy. There grows up under the medical hand a tame, common, de-pendent creature, with no conception of individual liberty or individual charac-

Contrast this future American citizen with the spirit, fire and independence of Patrick Henry, of Adams and of Wash-ington, and say whither medical inspec-LORA C. LITTLE, 1130 Francis avenue.

Advice for Democrats.

PORTLAND, April 1 .- (To the Editor.)—An ancient Roman, post by calling, by the name of Terence, evidently an Irishman, has set down: "I am a an irishman, has set down: "I am a man, and nothing that is human is alien to me," which has caused the writer to sit up. Politics is human, sometimes punk and nothingness, but

always human. Our Neighbors, the Democrats, are much perturbed at the incorrigibility of our neighbors the Republicans, and our neighbors the Republicans are calm, quiet, tranquil and unconcerned the Democrats. And for why? You may call a Republican any deflowered vitiation within the richest vocabulary, but don't call him a Democrat, unless you're looking for a fight, a fit, or a run for your life; but you may call a Democrat any mongrel idiom that would cause an insurgent to assault a regular, but don't call him a Democrat just before the primaries. That is treason!

To recover the equilibrium of our honored and historic party the under-signed has a plan. Over in Britain both Saxon and Celt have a nominat-ling compilities of the control of the compilities. signed has a plan. Over in Britain both Saxon and Celt have a nominating committee of three whose say goes. I respectfully nominate our distinguished Governor, his individuality, and his eminent hat, as such a committee for the sake of the party. Let the drawings be in the open from the stage of the armory, none but Democrats to be admitted within doors. To overcome the obvious, I also respectfully nominate Dr. Williamson, of Portland, and Drs. Steiner and Tamiesie, of Salem, expert nuttists, to guard the entrance and designate, either lucidity or lunafically. What is a Democrat? Shall the people rule, ye skipjacks, mushrooms, parvenus, oscilant oscillators? Its "Os" for you, let "Os" do it. JAY HINNESSY.

PORTLAND, March 31.—(To the Editor.)—The writer has been very much interested in the letters published in The Oregonian for and against maintaining chicken yards in such a heautiful city as Portland, and cannot possibly see what reasonable argument Restricted District for Hens. sibly see what reasonable argument possibly see what reasonable argument can be advanced in favor of that nuisance, the crowing rooster in a city of Portland's size. The city could solve this problem by districting, and thereby do away with all the ugly features, bad oders, and barnyard noises within conodors, and barnyard noises within certain limits. In this case justice would be meted out to all, and the chicken raiser could have his district, and those opposed to chickens in the city their districts. All, no doubt, would be satisfied.

Colonel Bryan's Latest Gestur From the Boston Post. During the eloquent address of Carry in Ford Hall Tuesday ni

Cincinnati (Ohio) Times-Star. A common house fly crawled into the feed pipe of a Baltimorean's automobile, stopped the flow of gasoline, stopped the engine and caused a conflagration that destroyed the car. Reflectless war must now be waged upon the house fly. He has ruined our tempers and assailed our health, yet little has been said. But when he attacks our pleasures it is high time to suppress him. A common house fly crawled into the

Separate Wards Approved.

PORTLAND, April 1.—(To the Editor.)—I desire to express my approval of the effort now being made to provide for the election of our 15 Councilmen from 15 separate wards, for if the half that has been said about several of them by several others of them during the past week is true, a situation which permits even one Councilman-at-large should not be tolcrated a day longer than it can be effectually suppressed.

ROSE CITY PARKER.

## Beebe in Jail.

CASTLE ROCK, Wash, March 31.— (To the Editor.)—What has been done with the aged man Beebs, accused of murdering his brother on Clackamas murdering his brother on Clackamas Heights about Christmas time?

Beebe is in jail at Oregon City await-ing action of the grand jury, which meets in April. The grand jury was discharged just previous to the com-mission of the crime.

Arbiters Would be Felt. ROSEBURG, Or., April L-(To the Edi-

tor.)-An article in one of the late issues it seems to show that it is a quest largely as to whether mankind has yet acquired sufficient mental and moral development to make arbitration practical Periodically, these body-inspectors visit as a means of settling political disputes teriorating; some say it is not. Others admit the intellectual quality is improving, while the moral is deteriorating, etc. International disputes as well as vital matters concerning mankind require, it would seem, high moral as well as mental qualities for their settlement on a permanent basis. Hence arbitra-tion courts may fail and it is possible the larger nations may run risks in se-curing justice through them, though the

general results of their trial may be beneficial in the end. The United States has now got the prejudice of all Europe and many South American as well as Eastern nations to overcome-and race prejudices are hard overcome in those who would chosen from particular nations or races as arbitrators, honest though they might be as individuals. Environment and heredity count for much in mental processes, and this is a matter worth sidering in controversies of great importance submitted for decision to courts composed in the main or almost entirely from individuals of other nations. Hence, while submitting all questions might arise to such courts (those of or concerning National honor as others), it might be well to allow any such nation at court the right to object to any or all the arbitrators selected in any casesomewhat on the principle followed in private courts.

While deprecating war as an evil, there are worse things. JAMES LEBROUX.

DISARMAMENT AND ITS EFFECT Argument Made That Anglo-American

Pact Would Insure Peace. PORTLAND, April 1-(To the Editor.)-Permit me to take square issue with The Oregonian's editorial remarks that our country would be at the mercy of ravening wolves if we consented with other war nations to disarmament. I used The Oregonian's columns years ago in support of such a proposi-tion which H. W. Scott discussed edi-torially and disapproved of, but we are much nearer this desideratum now than in that incipient season. Of course there will be no disarmament

until at least three war powers com in a pact and say: "By the eternal there shall be no war," and invite all the other nations to join that pact. How soon would it be before every weak nation would scuttle to get under the panoply afforded, so that the fierce lord" of Germany anointed of Jehovah would have to take notice?

It is only the want of such a combine It is only the want of such a combina-tion that compels us all to build more warships. Its accomplishment would en-able us to forego our fiction of the Mon-roe doctrine, which we substantially abandoned by our foolish lodgment in the Philippines. When we made foot-hold in Asia, the Monroe doctrine be-come an evanagement chimera. Its old came an evanescent chimera. Its old potentiality has faded out, and is no longer vital. I believe if England and the United States unite, it will induce France; their united influence will contrain Japan and thus it will grow.

To say that those stalwart policements on the world's beat cannot compel peace, would be like denying the efficacy of the police in the city of Portland who are doing the same efficient work. There are elements as inimical to law and order in Portland Portland as there are in the National family.

CHARLES P. CHURCH.

Early Christians in New York City.

Survey.

The Methodiets of New York City over a hundred years ago started their first organized charity. The record of this early venture is preserved in a volume in the library of the Methodist Historical Society. On November 12, 1808, at a meeting held in the school at Worth and Hudson streets, the Assist-ance Society for Relieving and Advis-ing Sick and Poor Persons in the City of New York was organized. The city was divided into districts. At first there were four, then five and six, till was divided into districts. At first there were four, then five and six till finally the number became seven. These were called walks. In 1809 the distribution of food, clothing and fuel began. Catharine Graham, of \$1 Church street, to whom \$1 was given, was the first to be aided. During the way of 1812 the anglety purchased. war of 1812 the society purchased soup tickets from the Humane Society at \$3 a hundred, and distributed 80 loads of wood. In December, 1812, 3499 "suf-fering individuals" were helped, and ing individuals" were helped and total for the first four years was

New York Tribune.

If a little German boy can go all alone from Los Angelos to Saldwald. Saxony, to see an aunt when he is 8 years old, how far may he not travel another day in Spring if his thoughts should turn toward a younger woman not related to him in the least?

Julius Herman 8 years old applied

Julius Herman, 8 years old, applied at the booking desk of the Hamburgat the booking case of the state of Hamburg on the next ship out. He explained that he was on his way to visit his aunt. Mrs. M. Herman, at Saldwald, Saxony. About four years ago, when his father was an electrical engineer in the City of Markey he sant Julius to Los Anof Mexico, he sent Julius to Los Angeles to school, and as his father was unable to accompany him, he made the trip in the care of the conductor. He

Colonel Bryan's Latest Gestures From the Boston Post.

During the eloquent address of Colone Bryan in Ford Hall Tuesday night it was interesting to watch the gestures he was interesting to watch the gestures he used in giving additional emphasis to the strong points. He frequently struck the palm of his left hand forcibly with his right hand, and also struck the reading desk with his right hand. At other times he would stride from one side of the desk to the other or raise his right sam in the air. For a large part of the

Vanished Dangers

Chicago Record-Herald. He used to hate the idle rich, And often speke with dread About the fearful dangers which Were looming up shead:
He saw a time when blood would flow.
And anarchy be rife;
But that was when his funds were low.
He had the luck a year ago
To get a wealthy wife.

He used to say the millionaires
Were blinded by their greed;
He thought the world and its affairs
Were managed wrong, indeed;
He saw the time when class and mass
would wage a bloody strife,
When chaos would prevait. Alas!
Since then a change has come to pass—
He has a wealthy wife.

He cannot understand today He cannot understand today
Why those who toll complain;
The ills he feared are cleared away,
No signs of strife remain.
Content to let things drift along,
He lives an easy life,
Forgetting, if sometimes the strong
Oppress the weak, that it is wrong—
He has a wealthy wife.

### Timely Tales of the Day

Sig Sichel, ex-State Senator, Portland Executive Board, is a potent factor in the affairs of the city's official life, being a member of several of the important committees of the board.

It is Mr. Sichel who invariably makes a motion to adjourn at the close of the meetings of the Executive Board, when he is present. His absence recently came near proving decidedly embarrassing to "That is all the business on the table,"

read Clerk Grutze, in routine fashion when he had finished the long grist of official papers.

Mayor Simon, out of sheer force of habit, glanced over at Mr. Sichel's chair, which was vacant. He then looked appealingly at some of the other members of the board, who, too were waiting to hear the usual motion from Mr. Sichel. "Mr. Sichel is not here today." gested the Mayor. "If he were, we might adjourn."
"Excuse me," spoke up L. G. Clarke.

who is on the police committee with Mr. Sichel, "but Mr. Sichel authorized me to make his motion for him today; I nearly

Whereat, the board adjourned,

A Third-street car was passing the scene of the building of the new Mult-nomah Hotel when the man who looked noman Hotel when the spoke: like a construction engineer spoke: What

"These are progressive times. What is up to the minute now soon becomes old-fushioned. That building there will some day be out-dated, as others in Port. land have been before it. What are they going to do with it then?" "Tear it down and put up another one,"

volunteered one of the passengers on the rear platform, though the remark had been addressed to no one in particular. "How?" demanded the first man, with the air of having thought it all out beforehand. "Why-er-" the second man paused to

think and the first went on:
"That's just it. This concrete construction makes a building that is just a solid rock-that's what it is, a solid rock. Have you ever thought that it may cost more to tear down those walls than to put them up there? When they were remov-ing those old concrete piers from the river, they were able to use explosives, and even then it was no small job. Here in the heart of the city, where dynamits is out of the question, there will be no way but to use drill and pick and chip the stuff off a shovelful at a time. The reinforcement will prevent the workmen from tring a cable to it and pulling it down in blocks. They will just have to chip, chip at it until it is down, and it is going to take time and time means

"You may have heard the good old bromide that 'It is easier to tear down than to build up.' But that saying was current before the days of reinforced It is diffeernt now.

"Well," Interposed a third man whose cheerful countenance bespoke optimism maybe by the time the Multnemah Hotel is out-dated a new and easy method of tearing down concrete have been invented. Progress is not all along one line."

W. E. Carpenter, of Scattle, superintendent of the Alaska division the Wells Fargo Express Company, was a guest of Harvey Beckwith, president of the Portland Commercial Club, recently. In the Green Room one evening he told this story:

"When I was auditor of the com-pany and had to examine the agents' books in the state of Oregon I exbooks in the state of occasion perienced one of the worst scares of my life. I have been in Alaska and during my career out here on the coast have been in many tight places but the day I kas at Scio, in Linn countries of the coast have been in many tight places but the day I kas at Scio, in Linn countries of the coast have been in many tight places. ty, is as firmly embedded in my mem-ory as if it was yesterday. And that was ten years ago. I was called to Selo to audit the books of the agent there. I worked during the afternoon

"The agent had occasion to go up town. The depot was a sort of dry ods box affair. There was only goods box affair. There was only one door and one window in the express of-fice. Any person who came in could block up the entire space by standing over a numered years ago the technique of first organized charity. The record of the door slam and looking up saw a this early venture is preserved in a the door slam and looking up saw a volume in the library of the Methodist man '6-foot-two' in size in front of me walker' beard upon his man '6-foot-two' in size in front of me. He had a two weeks' beard upon his face; wore a slouch hat and had a breadth of shoulders that made him appear like a giant to me. The dim light given by the kerosene lamp and the fact that there was no way to escape except through the door in front of which stood the stranger, caused me to wonder what was going to happen. I finally mustered up courage enough I finally mustered up courage enough

"What can I do for you "Til let you know in time, said the stranger in a deep cavernous voice and with this statement he reached down in his pocket and pulled out a danger-ous-looking knife. Taking the knife he proceeded to make motions as if to sharpen it on his tongue. He ran the knife down and up his tongue, then rolled his eyes as if he was seeking the proper place to run the blade into my

body.

"I thought of my whole life and of what I had done, the wrongs I had committed and of my family. I even went so far as to try to repeat a short prayer. Just when the sweat was pouring down my face the most the agent came rushing through the door and, grabbing the big fellow, who was two feet taller and weighed a 100 pounds more than the agent, kicked him out the door.

"Who was that?" I asked breathlessly.

"Oh, that's harmless Jim, he is dippy

"'Oh, that's harmless Jim, he is dippy and he wouldn't hurt anyone."

## Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian April 3, 1861.

We have information from Bitter Root Valley and neighborhood to the 2d of March. The settlers there have already commenced to send in sheep and deer skins to Walla Walla. The pastoral interests of the country are rapidly growing up. There are 150 men in Bitter Root Valley and over 60 in Film Creak Valley. Flint Creek Valley.

The attempt of W. W. DeLacey and party to find a pass in the Cascade Range on the headwaters of the Nis-qually River south of Mount Rainier has failed. The party returned to Olym-pia on the 26th of March.

The Astoria silver mine is closed for

the present. An assay of santiam ore in San Fran-cisco falls to pan.

It is said that the bills for the organ-ization of the territories of Colorado, Nevada and Dakota have been passed and approved.

The Pioneer Boat Club of Portland has sent to Victoria for a race boat and some other young men in town have de-termined to invest their spare cash in building a boat of Oregon materials to compete with it.

# One Conservative Groundhog.

Lee (Mass.) Dispatch to the New York
World.

A woodchuck which went into its hole
near Quigley's Corner in the heart of
the town on August 26, 1910, and has
not reappeared, is responsible for the
nosting of several times the amount of posting of several times the amount of Berkshire County money wagered on the Jeffries-Johnson fight. Even money is offered that the wood-

chuck will come out in due time; money has been placed at 10 to 8 that it is not in the hole, and there is a brisk business in 10 to 6 bets that the animal is