

The Oregonian

Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as Second-Class Matter, authorized by Postoffice Department, March 10, 1879. Entered as Second-Class Matter, July 16, 1879. Postage paid at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as Second-Class Matter, authorized by Postoffice Department, March 10, 1879.

Subscription Rates—Invariably in Advance. (BY MAIL.) Daily, Sunday included, one year, \$8.00. Daily, Sunday included, six months, \$4.25. Daily, Sunday included, three months, \$2.25. Daily, Sunday included, one month, \$1.00. Daily, without Sunday, one year, \$6.00. Daily, without Sunday, six months, \$3.25. Daily, without Sunday, three months, \$1.75. Daily, without Sunday, one month, \$0.80. Weekly, one year, \$2.50. Sunday, one year, \$2.50. Sunday and Week-day, one year, \$3.50.

(BY CARRIER.) Daily, Sunday included, one year, \$9.00. Daily, Sunday included, one month, \$1.00. How to Remit—Send Postoffice money order, express order, personal check on your local bank, stamps, coin or currency coin at the sender's risk. Live postoffice address in full, including county and state. Postage Rates—10 to 14 pages, 2 cent; 15 to 20 pages, 3 cent; 21 to 24 pages, 4 cent; Foreign postage extra. Eastern Business Office—Vereen & Conkling—New York, Brunswick building. Chicago, Steger building.

PORTLAND, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.

THE BLESSED RAIN.

Ever since last March the earth has been thirsting for rain. There was a snack in June, but not nearly enough. July gave a meager shower or two, and in August there was a misty downfall for a little while, and that was the end of it. All Summer long the fields have been awed by drying winds. The roads have been ground into dust ever deeper and finer until at last it was a woeful experience to drive to the postoffice for the mail. One traveled like the Israelites accompanied by a pillar of cloud, but ours enveloped us. Instead of kindly going before to show the way, it completely obscured the way, and we were obliged to hide it, and when he got home and took his belated bath there was a noble deposit of fertile soil at the bottom of the tub. How things managed to live and grow during the long drought is a mystery, but they did. The abundant showers which are now falling bring to light marvels of perseverance in every field and garden. Where did those big yellow squashes come from on the misty hillsides? During the dry spell they kept themselves hidden under the leaves shunning the sun and wind as well as they could. But now in the wealth of gracious drops, they come out in broad daylight, with all their golden corpulence. The apples which were inclined to shrivel up inside their skins all through August now seem suddenly to swell and magnify themselves. If they do not drink in the rain and grow fat, they will shrivel and then their appearances are deceptive. As for the prunes, they have thriven in spite of the brazen sky and robber winds, and now when the rain descends upon them there are so many that the branches break from the trees. The good husbandman is now in the mood much whether it rained or not so far as his orchards were concerned. He has kept the soil stirred with the harrow bringing up stores of moisture from the depths of the earth, and his trees have prospered just as well as if the skies had been more generous. Upon the whole, the rain under the earth is more to be depended upon than that above it. He who has provided his fields with a soil much freer with little over than happens in the clouds. By digging down two or three inches with his spade he finds the soil personally moist and knows that the roots of his trees are not thirsty. But so to the farmer who neglects his soil much in a dry spell like the one we have just passed through. The sun and wind strike down ever deeper and bake the earth even to the end of the support of the hard oak. It is now a matter of difference a thin layer of dry dust on the surface will make in what goes on below.

But grateful as the apple and prune trees are for the September showers they are not half so joyous as the weeds and pigweeds. It is the wisest herb of the field. His seeds do not sprout until August. They linger dormant in the ground until the husbandman in his pride thinks he has killed every pest that grows. Then in a day when he thinks not behold a billion pigweeds spring up over night. All through August the dew nourishes them. They cling closely to the surface of the ground to escape the hot winds and keep themselves as inconspicuous as possible to avoid the farmer's notice. People who would not admit about brute and unintelligent nature" may do so, but their folly is amazing. Nothing can exceed the astuteness of the pigweed except that of the pig himself. Day after day under the blazing sun it lies in wait, biding its time. Then comes the rain, and in a night it rears its head and towers aloft. Why do not the seeds of the pigweed sprout in Spring like other plants? Who taught them to wait until August when the husbandman is too tired with his summer's toil to plow them under or pull them up?

Apple trees that have been well tilled during the drought, and show tender green shoots at the end of their large boughs since the rain came. They will keep on growing until the hard frosts of November nip them if the apple do not suck too much of their sap. This little pest which has so sorely beset the orchardist all Summer becomes his friend in the late Fall, checking the formation of wood which is not ready for Winter. There ought to be an aphid for the walnut tree on this very account. That tree is as cautious as one could desire in Spring. It holds back its foliage until long after everything else is in full panoply. But in the Fall it seems never to think of getting ready for frost and snow. It keeps on forming tender wood until it is caught and sometimes fatally pinched by the falling mercury.

All living creatures rejoice in the rain. It washes the air. It lays the dust. It revivifies the verdure of the woods. It brings forth a new harvest of roses and greens the brown pastures for the hungry cattle. Dairy-men predict a profitable Fall because the rain has come so soon enough to make grass grow a month or two before the hard frosts kill it for the Winter. No matter if they lose a few tons of late wild hay, the fresh pasture will pay for it ten times over. Life begins anew with the Fall rains. Everybody draws a sigh of relief, bids good-by to heat, dust and languor, and greets his lotus for the work of another year.

Dry weather is all very well in vacation time, but when one has to go to work he wants rain. In particular he wants the Oregon kind of rain, which falls bewitchingly in slow, gracious drops that kiss the earth as they

bring down their blessings upon it. When the rains come we are all good. The September showers wash away our crankiness and tantrums. Nobody could be cantankerous as the drops play their soft music on the roof. It stills the heart's complaining. It hushes the voice of care and the heart that heeds its teaching, as all hearts do for a while at least, wears the grace of angels.

AMBASSADOR HILL AND POTASH.

Any criticism which the potash importers may make of Ambassador Hill will be of no effect when set against the emphatic expressions of confidence which come from President Taft and the tokens of esteem which have been sent from William. The latter has more than atoned for the wrong he did by objecting to Mr. Hill's appointment, for he has gone out of his way to do honor to the Ambassador. That the Emperor's attentions were not prompted by any after-the-fact desire to Americanize Mr. Hill's words.

It remains, then, to discover the intrigues and their motive. That they have some connection with the potash controversy Mr. Hill makes plain. The controversy grew out of an increase in the German tax on potash, the production of which in the empire is in the hands of a syndicate. Before the tax was imposed the syndicate had made contracts for the sale of potash to American firms at prices which would have been unobtainable if the tax had been imposed. They refused to carry out the contracts on the terms arranged, and the Americans called in the aid of the State Department to adjust the affair. It was placed in the hands of Mr. Hill, who has been negotiating for a year or more. The importers have expressed dissatisfaction with his course, for they have shown a disposition to insist on the letter of their contracts. They have even sent pamphlets to the newspapers of the United States setting forth their version of the controversy.

Mr. Hill's action may now have the effect of causing a thorough ventilation of the whole subject, which he evidently courted.

HELPING CLEAN THE CITY.

Dr. Hinson's sermon has aroused the ire of some of the friends of Mayor Rushlight. We are told that the public expects the pulpit to be fair. The pulpit did not ask for Simon's recall, therefore it should not hint at Rushlight's recall. Simon's administration was just as bad as, or worse than, that of his predecessor. The pulpit then kept silent. It should do so now. The recall should be governed by precedent. If one man is derelict in official duties and is not recalled, his successors are forever afterward to be immune from public wrath if derelict in the same way. The theory is not new. Most of us first heard it when we were in the primary grades of the public school. Willie Jones pleaded immunity from punishment because Johnny Smith had done the same thing and escaped. It is a companion of the plea that two wrongs make a right.

Yet we do not understand that Dr. Hinson is proposing the immediate application of the recall. He has spoken in behalf of good citizenship and has offered its best aid in cleaning up the city. He has demanded that the Mayor make some show of earnestness in his proffered effort to improve the city. He is willing and anxious to work with the Mayor to this end. He suggests the recall only as a final resort if it be found that the Mayor is making an empty show from some ulterior motive.

The pulpit has good cause to question the sincerity of Mayor Rushlight. He has heralded as the choice of the North End in the primary election, and he got the solid North End vote. He was again heralded as the choice of the North End when he ran against Simon—who as Mayor, we are now told, did nothing to clean up the city. Again he has not the solid North End vote. Odd, wasn't it, that the man who had tolerated vice for two years was turned down for the silent Mr. Rushlight. Yet the pulpit, as represented by Dr. Hinson, proposes to be fair. It offers a recall to Mayor Rushlight to make good. It will give him the benefit of the doubt and assist him to overthrow any prejudice that may have arisen from the manner of his election. Nothing could be fairer.

It is not strange that the two months' delay in the administration has brought forth speculation and inquiries from press, pulpit and public. What mean these terrific shake-ups in the police department, the rattle of which cannot be heard across the street? What stunning blow to vice is to follow the raid of a Chinese den and the burning of a Oriental saloon? What portentous event is to attend the open order against maqueriaux other than the shaving of Parisian mustaches and the enjoyment of fishing trips by certain Frenchmen while the clouds hang low? Does some political or other move call for a big bluster, or are these the preliminary guns of a battle against prostitution, gambling and graft? The minister, we take it, thinks he knows what the answers ought to be, and no doubt a large part of the public agrees with him. If the Mayor is sincere, there is no cause for his supporters to resent the remarks of Dr. Hinson.

FINDING THINGS.

Mr. J. Clifford Austen may thank his stars that he found his wide rings in the Willamette after fishing for only two hours. If he had not been enviably lucky he might have fished two years and been no better off than when he began. Still there were circumstances in his favor. A ring, especially a diamond set in gold, is likely to fall vertically through the water while an object of the same weight will waver and wander about, going anywhere but to the place which seems natural for it. A twenty-dollar gold piece is liable to slide sideways like a leaf falling from a tree, and if the water is deep it may travel in this manner a long distance. Of course much depends on the way it strikes the surface.

Everybody has tried the experiment of throwing a flat stone aslant through water. The sinusities it describes and the winding path it follows are extremely interesting. A double the size may be made to slide along the surface of a pond, if a person has one which he wishes to use in that manner, but a ring cannot. It will sink in spite of your deftest manipulation.

As if that object falling into the water from a height is harder to find than one which slips in from a point near the surface, because the former strikes more violently and is more diverted by strong reactionary forces. Violent impact excites opposition, a fact which contains a useful lesson for reformers, though they will not heed it. Very likely dry sand is the most confusing substance to fall into sea on a slope will wander to the ends of the earth, seemingly, before it stops. Worse still the sand hastens down in a stream to cover and hide it so that finding becomes next to impossible. The best way to proceed is to move your finger very gently down the slope, taking the greatest precaution not to set the sand running, and if you are exceptionally fortunate you may find what you are looking for. But a needle in a haystack can be found much more readily than one in a heap of dry sand.

LABOR DAY.

The hosts of labor made merry yesterday in spite of the rain. While programs could not be carried out as planned, the change from work to play, from strenuousness to relaxation, from routine to diversity was greatly enjoyed. Briefly stated the time of men and women of labor belonged to themselves and they did or abused their freedom as they saw fit.

To some perhaps the day was not so profitable one, but whether so or not, it was of their own ordering. And whether good or bad the underlying principle upon which a grand, universal holiday is being observed is the same, establishing as it has and does the right of labor to a holiday distinctly its own, which the business interests of the community must recognize, and to which, as far as is possible, they must conform.

Some men and many women were compelled to work, of course. Other wise the hosts of labor would not have been able to get to their pleasure grounds, or be fed, even in their homes; children would have been neglected and the domestic machinery would have stood still; railroad trains would have stopped and the business of many tomorrows would have been delayed.

But labor day served its purpose if it gave thousands of hands surcease from toil and freedom to work the individual will—wisely or otherwise—for a single working day in the year.

JOKERS IN THE PUBLICITY LAW.

When Congress undertakes to provide a remedy for its own shortcomings it shines brightest. It undertook to put a stop to the spending of lavish sums upon the election of its members by the designing and unscrupulous of the Democratic party from the people, with laurels of victory on their brows and a new access of virtue in their hearts, took control of the House. As a preventive of the evil mentioned, the Democrats adopted simple publicity of the widest kind. They were not content to tell where they got their campaign cash or what they did with it. The machinery of the House was in good condition, so the bill went through without objection.

But the Senate, having reason to remember the Lorimer \$100,000 "slush fund" and the St. Louis election of 1897, all over Wisconsin, thought the bill did not go far enough. At the instance of Reed of Missouri, a new, direct-primary Senator, who knows how much money a man is tempted to spend under "progressive" methods, a limit of \$5000 for Representatives of \$5000 and for Senators of \$10,000 was inserted. This amendment was adopted, with the aid of the Republicans, regulars included, and the country was impressed with the great wave of reform which had swept over Congress and with the surprising fact that the Senate outshone the House in its honesty.

first essential and gave rise to suspicion that they lack the other two. Madero will have to hold a tighter rein if he expects to risk the revolution to orderly liberty instead of to anarchy or a new despotism.

What! Canadian wheat grading low? Of twenty-four cars of new wheat that reached Winnipeg from Southern Manitoba a few days ago only four graded No. 1, the rest being No. 4 or poorer. This means that rust and smut and frost broke in upon the dreams of Canadian wheat-growers, as they have done now and then upon those of farmers of pre-sun-dry-facery localities. It also means that, taken by and large, one section of the great Pacific Northwest does not differ greatly from another in the grade of wheat produced. Boundary lines do not figure to any great extent in this matter.

Governor Hay, of Washington, shows a sense of justice, as well as of the fitness of things in his proposal to add a Just proportion of women, who are electors in his state, to the committees which will be appointed to welcome President Taft at various points in the State. The next meeting of that state will, or may vote for President Taft, or his rival, as the case may be, at the Presidential election in November, 1912, there is no reason why representatives of this voting class should be invited to any public political function or occasion in the state.

The sudden and unexplained ending of a young life of promise was recorded in the death of J. Lloyd Magness. Regarded from the standpoint of usefulness to the community, the death cannot be computed, and from the sudden blight of high hopes and fair promise in the individual it looks at the philosophy of existence. Such a loss is more than a personal one and may well be deplored by an entire community.

The sickening slaughter of miners in the cage of a Butte mine furnishes the key to many a mine disaster. Miners are so familiar with all kinds of danger—powder explosions, gas explosions, falling rock, breaking cables—that they become as indifferent as a veteran soldier is to artillery fire. These Butte miners broke a rule made for their own safety, even after they had been personally warned, and were chopped to mince-meat, purely through their own recklessness.

A man who marries his nurse is pretty certain to get a good wife. He has enjoyed the best of opportunities to test her temper and endurance, and knows a great deal more about her than the ordinary bachelor ever learns of his intended bride. On the other hand, a woman who can put up with a man when he is sick ought to find him a perfect angel when he is well. On these grounds we predict a blissful future for Mr. Keefer and Miss Stone, of Los Angeles.

The large increase in the number of corporation shares owned by small investors is coincident with a heavy falling off in Wall-street trading. There are not nearly so many "lambs" as formerly, and a great many more hard-headed investors. People are learning to buy securities on an installment plan, instead of rushing into "get-rich-quick" schemes. America has known for a long time how to make money. We are now learning how to save it.

A few years ago it was said that there was nothing in prunegrowing in Oregon. Now we are told that more than forty cars of green—i. e., un-dried—prunes will be shipped from Salem to Sacramento by the Salem Fruit Union this year under a guarantee of \$450 a car, with all the net balance that the prunes will bring—a pick-up of something like \$20,000 to prunegrowers who have learned how to handle the crop.

The disturbances made by aeroplanes in the vicinity of London and Paris have caused so many protests that a candidate for the Senate should simply file his statement with the secretary of the Senate, who carefully guards the secrecy of all documents which he is not specifically authorized to make public. Hence the Senators would be compelled to tell their campaign secrets only to each other. That kind of secrecy is not very effective, but it renders obtaining the information a somewhat roundabout process, like that of learning proceedings of executive sessions.

That was the first joker and may be compared to the handling of the later stage of the proceedings, probably in conference, another joker was slipped in, more far-reaching and of large dimensions. After the provision fixing the amount which a candidate for either House or Senate might spend was inserted, it was added exempting from its restrictions all a candidate's expenses except for employment of speakers and assistants, newspaper advertisements and entertainment of voters or legislators. He may spend any amount of money he pleases on state fees levied on candidates, personal expenses for travel and maintenance at stations, postage, printing, and distributing letters, circulars and posters, telegraph and telephone service. As well pass a law effective throughout the United States and then insert a proviso excepting all the states and territories except Rhode Island.

Democratic House leaders and Republican Senate leaders must have had their hand in the manufacture of this gold brick, for the bill went through conference, where they had the final shaping of it. Senators Kenyon and Kern, who drew the original Senate amendment, and the law really effective, were too busy digging for truth about Lorimer to watch proceedings closely, and their amendment was changed beyond recognition. Just who converted the law into a practical joke is not known, but no matter which party was primarily responsible, the other consented to it and was therefore equally guilty.

The stoning of Reyes in Mexico supports the plea of Diaz in favor of his despotism, that the people were not capable of self-government. The first essential of successful democratic rule is a willingness to let all parties make their plea to the voters unobscured. The second is a ballot free from bribery or intimidation. The third is a prompt acceptance of the result by the defeated party. By their conduct in Mexico City on Sunday the Mexicans showed themselves lacking in the

efforts are to be made by the Audubon Societies to save from destruction the flocks of wild doves which will fly from the North Atlantic to the Southern States this Fall. Almost every agricultural society is backing the greatest destroyer of weed seeds, the locust, for doves are harried by them, and other damaging growths in existence. Millions of doves are killed by Southern Hunters every year and the Audubon are after the hunters. That each wild dove can destroy more weeds in a day than the most vigorous farmland equipped with a hoe, has been demonstrated to farmers in various sections by investigations of the Government Biological Survey. In the stomachs of three doves, 25,100 seed of hawkweed, foxtail, wood-sorrel, paspalum and other damaging growths were discovered. They had been plucked from the fields as one dinner by each feathered weeder. Every day in the year the doves take 64 per cent of their food in weed seeds from farm land. Much of the \$500,000,000 that the farmers of America pay each year for labor might be saved by the natural increase of the dove-weeder.

It is very amusing to see the way in which some New York papers are frowning down upon the Presidential candidacy of Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey, says the Boston Transcript. They are placing him in the same category of disappointed hopes as Mr. Bryan for the reason that he is espousing some of the progressive principles for which they say Mr. Bryan has stood. Yet, as a matter of fact, Governor Wilson is coming out in favor of the initiative, referendum, recall and some of the other reforms that are in vogue, and successful operating in the Western States is not following Mr. Bryan at all. Mr. Bryan has never been active in urging these things. In fact, Mr. Bryan's agitation for reforms has always been in the direction of some tremendous cyclonic and National reform that is as unworkable as it is fantastic, such as free silver or imperialism. Governor Wilson is urging reforms that are practical, have worked, and he is conservative enough to go on record as opposed to the recall of judges if the New York papers wish to defeat Mr. Wilson in his candidacy for the Presidency they will have to find some other weapon to use, because it is just his advocacy of these progressive policies that are advancing his cause throughout the United States. No man can run successfully for President on the platform that is built by the New York press.

The Pekin-Kalgan Railway runs from the capital of the Empire to the chief city on the caravan route to Russia, says the Railway Age-Gazette. It is now 130 miles long and is being extended. It was built from the surplus earnings of the government-owned imperial railways of North China, and the first reconnaissance to the Imperial Railway of the New York foreigner driving of the line was made by a had anything to do with its construction. Today its operation is entirely in the hands of the Chinese. That it was built in spite of natural obstacles to construction which foreign experts declared were absolutely prohibitive to any Chinese engineer and possibly even to themselves, is a personal triumph of no mean magnitude for the chief engineer, Jeme-Tien-Yu. That it was built at a cost almost without parallel for similar construction—at a lower figure per mile even than some of the foreign-built roads on the level floor of the Yangtze Valley—is a striking object lesson for Europe and America, and will be a powerful weapon for the Chinese in their contention for fairer terms in borrowing foreign money. The road is now operating at a profit, so the directors of the Imperial Railway of North China have succeeded not only in providing their government with a line that is strategically valuable, but with one that earns a return on the money invested. From first to last, from what viewpoint it is regarded, the Pekin-Kalgan line is a great triumph for the Chinese. The name of Jeme-Tien-Yu stands out above all others in the record of the Pekin-Kalgan Railway, and his achievement in connection with that enterprise alone is sufficient to have won him the undisputed title of China's leading engineer. He was one of a number of Chinese students who were sent to America about 1880 to receive university educations. Jeme-Tien-Yu was the only one who undertook a course in engineering.

The Islands of Naos, Flamenco, Culebra and Pterio in the Pacific Ocean, near the western end of the Panama Canal, have been acquired by the United States Government for the purpose of protecting the islands, by a series of connecting embankments, to form a great breakwater for the Pacific end of the "big ditch." The embankment from the mainland to Naos, begun three years ago, is nearly ready. But for the embankment it is asserted, the canal outlet would be menaced with great danger in case of storms, due to the heavy currents off shore. Canal engineers assert that these currents would have had the further drawback of filling in the canal mouth with the sediment they carry in large quantities. Culebra already is in use as a quarantine station. It is expected that the islands will serve an identical purpose, as the site for forts to protect the canal, but nothing has been given out upon this point. The destruction of the embankment by a hostile force, while it would prove a serious blow, could not well be accomplished hurriedly, and it would take several years, or longer, enough to rebuild it, for the canal mouth to fill up.

A new era has begun in the navigation of the Missouri River. Beacon lights have been placed by the Government at difficult points in the channel. These beacons are merely large lamps set on high poles and the Government employs farmers in the neighborhood to take care of the lights and keep them filled with oil.

Mr. Gotch thinks the champion is all right, and is proud of him. At last the motorcycle maniacs are to receive police attention. This is clearing weather for State Fair week.

Gleanings of the Day

Efforts are to be made by the Audubon Societies to save from destruction the flocks of wild doves which will fly from the North Atlantic to the Southern States this Fall. Almost every agricultural society is backing the greatest destroyer of weed seeds, the locust, for doves are harried by them, and other damaging growths in existence. Millions of doves are killed by Southern Hunters every year and the Audubon are after the hunters. That each wild dove can destroy more weeds in a day than the most vigorous farmland equipped with a hoe, has been demonstrated to farmers in various sections by investigations of the Government Biological Survey. In the stomachs of three doves, 25,100 seed of hawkweed, foxtail, wood-sorrel, paspalum and other damaging growths were discovered. They had been plucked from the fields as one dinner by each feathered weeder. Every day in the year the doves take 64 per cent of their food in weed seeds from farm land. Much of the \$500,000,000 that the farmers of America pay each year for labor might be saved by the natural increase of the dove-weeder.

It is very amusing to see the way in which some New York papers are frowning down upon the Presidential candidacy of Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey, says the Boston Transcript. They are placing him in the same category of disappointed hopes as Mr. Bryan for the reason that he is espousing some of the progressive principles for which they say Mr. Bryan has stood. Yet, as a matter of fact, Governor Wilson is coming out in favor of the initiative, referendum, recall and some of the other reforms that are in vogue, and successful operating in the Western States is not following Mr. Bryan at all. Mr. Bryan has never been active in urging these things. In fact, Mr. Bryan's agitation for reforms has always been in the direction of some tremendous cyclonic and National reform that is as unworkable as it is fantastic, such as free silver or imperialism. Governor Wilson is urging reforms that are practical, have worked, and he is conservative enough to go on record as opposed to the recall of judges if the New York papers wish to defeat Mr. Wilson in his candidacy for the Presidency they will have to find some other weapon to use, because it is just his advocacy of these progressive policies that are advancing his cause throughout the United States. No man can run successfully for President on the platform that is built by the New York press.

The Pekin-Kalgan Railway runs from the capital of the Empire to the chief city on the caravan route to Russia, says the Railway Age-Gazette. It is now 130 miles long and is being extended. It was built from the surplus earnings of the government-owned imperial railways of North China, and the first reconnaissance to the Imperial Railway of the New York foreigner driving of the line was made by a had anything to do with its construction. Today its operation is entirely in the hands of the Chinese. That it was built in spite of natural obstacles to construction which foreign experts declared were absolutely prohibitive to any Chinese engineer and possibly even to themselves, is a personal triumph of no mean magnitude for the chief engineer, Jeme-Tien-Yu. That it was built at a cost almost without parallel for similar construction—at a lower figure per mile even than some of the foreign-built roads on the level floor of the Yangtze Valley—is a striking object lesson for Europe and America, and will be a powerful weapon for the Chinese in their contention for fairer terms in borrowing foreign money. The road is now operating at a profit, so the directors of the Imperial Railway of North China have succeeded not only in providing their government with a line that is strategically valuable, but with one that earns a return on the money invested. From first to last, from what viewpoint it is regarded, the Pekin-Kalgan line is a great triumph for the Chinese. The name of Jeme-Tien-Yu stands out above all others in the record of the Pekin-Kalgan Railway, and his achievement in connection with that enterprise alone is sufficient to have won him the undisputed title of China's leading engineer. He was one of a number of Chinese students who were sent to America about 1880 to receive university educations. Jeme-Tien-Yu was the only one who undertook a course in engineering.

The Islands of Naos, Flamenco, Culebra and Pterio in the Pacific Ocean, near the western end of the Panama Canal, have been acquired by the United States Government for the purpose of protecting the islands, by a series of connecting embankments, to form a great breakwater for the Pacific end of the "big ditch." The embankment from the mainland to Naos, begun three years ago, is nearly ready. But for the embankment it is asserted, the canal outlet would be menaced with great danger in case of storms, due to the heavy currents off shore. Canal engineers assert that these currents would have had the further drawback of filling in the canal mouth with the sediment they carry in large quantities. Culebra already is in use as a quarantine station. It is expected that the islands will serve an identical purpose, as the site for forts to protect the canal, but nothing has been given out upon this point. The destruction of the embankment by a hostile force, while it would prove a serious blow, could not well be accomplished hurriedly, and it would take several years, or longer, enough to rebuild it, for the canal mouth to fill up.

A new era has begun in the navigation of the Missouri River. Beacon lights have been placed by the Government at difficult points in the channel. These beacons are merely large lamps set on high poles and the Government employs farmers in the neighborhood to take care of the lights and keep them filled with oil.

Mr. Gotch thinks the champion is all right, and is proud of him. At last the motorcycle maniacs are to receive police attention. This is clearing weather for State Fair week.

LOVEGROVE RULING DENOUNCED

Washington Writer—Condemns Law-Twisting for Benefit of Criminals. SOUTH BEND, Wash., Sept. 3.—(To the Editor)—Should you not be the tables with the commandments to the winds, lead a life of unblushing shame, degenerate the white race and lower our standard of morals beneath that which led the Roman Empire to destruction? Which is best: vice or virtue? The latter beyond a doubt. In all civilized nations adultery is a crime—it has been so since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary." Mr. Hume wants some fitting enquiries made in this case regarding the Tarwell court decision and the writer thinks it commends it to the hands of the grand jury. The Oregon law on this point is absurd.

The case involved a clear violation of the seventh commandment, but a clever lawyer assured the judges that the Oregon law on adultery was tied up, so the poor, deluded judge conceded the point and did not punish the offender. Yet in present and future a new code of morals. He should have punished them because public prudence teaches us so, and because the welfare of the people is the supreme law.

Speaking in a general way of judges, they should not be misguided in their understanding by twisters of law, but should establish for themselves examples of the best principles and they up to the best precepts that are in them, maintain virtue and what is right. This should also apply to lawyers.

Virtue is a necessity in every successful life; to acquire it our morals must be pure and receive the support of the law. Society should not suffer from a lot of flagitious criminals, or a disreputable class of depraved animals turned loose on us by weakness in wording the law. There is a large number of unscrupulous lawyers who try to win by intrigue with the tainted and espouse lawlessness by acquitting them. That class of lawyers violate every known moral law and would murder their clients if it were not for the fact that they are in the hands of the law. N. K. I.

ADIRONS FOR AGED AND INFIRM

Patton Home Inmate Asks Antidote to Show Generosity. PATTON HOME, Sept. 4.—(To the Editor)—Some weeks ago a gentleman called on the home for the purpose of consulting the authorities with reference to the making of a request to the home. In the absence of anyone else, one of the inmates seated on the porch entered into conversation with him and in behalf of the many excellent women—and men, too—in the institution who, by reason of bodily infirmities are utterly unable to get about, he suggested that it would be a very Christian act if some of these citizens who possess automobiles or carriages would, once in a while, offer their less fortunate brothers and sisters a ride and a breath of God's fresh air.

"That's a good idea," answered the well-groomed stranger. "My auto is in need of extensive repairs and as soon as it comes home I will put your suggestion into effect."

From the fact that the automobile has not yet shown up here I infer that it is still in the shop.

Now are there not in this city many good people who, having automobiles and carriages, need only this suggestion to cause them to turn them loose in this direction? If you wish to please, phone Woodlawn 1700, naming the hour of their arrival and the number of persons they can accommodate, so there will be no delay?

A scholarly gentleman at my elbow reminds me that the automobile dealers of Portland have given the children of some of our orphan homes an outing in the city, and that they have done so generously by the inmates of the Patton Home. AN OLD ONE.

Work and Holidays.

BAKER, Or., Sept. 2.—(To the Editor)—A merchant dealing in general dry goods and furnishing business in this state, says that there is a law that compels him to close his place of business on a legal holiday—i. e., Labor day.

B, an employe, says that A can keep his store open 24 hours every day in the week, Sundays included, providing he is willing to work a ten-hour day for women is in no way defied, and women are not worked more than six days in any one week. SUBSCRIBER.

The statute imposes no penalties for working on legal holidays, such as Labor day. The keeping open on Sunday for the purpose of labor or traffic of any store, shop, grocery, bowling alley, billiard room, tipping house or barber shop is prohibited by law, but this provision does not apply to undertakers, drugstores, doctor shops, dealers, livery stables, butchers or bakers.

The American Way.

Pittsburg Post. "Father, the Duke has proposed and we want to be married immediately!" "All right. Here's a check for your million. Tell the Duke to get married. I'll give him a dollar to get the license."

J. B.—PUZZLEMAKER.

Oh, rarer than exotic flowers From India, or Orinoco, The weird ideas that bloom forth In J. B.'s subtle concoction. Strange blooms of varied thought Anent Toggas and plans for President.

"Though from the camp Republican," Saith he, "I am, indeed, no quitter. The thought of its upholding Taft In my tender palate, bitter as I'll give him a dollar to get the license."

How will the same constituents Continue the statement he has made, or How can they figure out to cross At once the zenith and the nadir. Allow to be made to see each man A typical Republican?

Soth, he hath sprung some paradox, If both should land upon the ticket. To cause the simple voting man To scratch a bit his hirsute thicket. When in the booth he comes to vote Both—asking the same party's vote.

Methinks 'twill take some magic charm To reconcile these paradoxes, If he wold exercise away the pen. His Jonah from the voting boxes, And make the voters see aright The semblance 'twixt black and white. Soon then he must, I have no doubt, Begin the voting people cramming With abracadabra argument. And hyper-fancy gibbering. To show how he can wack the fort Of Taft—yet claim the same support.

Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

Copyright, 1911, by George Matthew Adams. Nothing makes a man feel more uncomfortable than to be unjust to a friend. You can make up a quarrel, but it will always show where it was patched. Do a creditable thing and nobody cares much if there is a "joke" on you, everybody will be interested at once. It is about as much trouble to get a girl ready to go away to school as it is to get her ready to be married. Every favorite should remember that a rival is liable to appear at any time. Is there a tradition that a barn must be painted red? Ever see a barn painted any other color? Nothing makes me so mad as for a man I believe to be badly mistaken, to say to me, "O, well, it's too bad to be wrong, and I cannot recognize the truth but I can't help it."

There are a number of disagreeable things to step in. But did you ever have experience with chewing gum? I also hate to step on a cat. Occasionally a man finds his wife looking in a certain queer way, and when he asks: "What is the matter?" she bursts into tears, and replies: "Nothing."

Feel ashamed of all your misdeeds; not only of these the people have found out. Brad's Bit o' Verse

(Copyright, 1911, by W. D. Meng.) We live in an age of hurry, of bustle and toll and sweat, but what is the use to worry, and why should we fuss and fret? For never since primal ages emerged from their fields of ice has the world in its upward stages been filled with so much advice. You see it in all the papers, you hear it upon the street, you get it with curious ciphers from every friend you meet, you find it in the latest fashions, the noblest things to wear, the size of the baby's rations, the cut of old Rover's hair, the right way to raise a garden, the food that is best to eat, and (begging your humble pardon) how to care for your hands and feet. Oh, we live in an age of lectures, where they force us to hear and learn; they hand us first aid confections no matter which way we turn; they sit in the sweet sedition, afar from the madding crowd, and drive the world to confusion by the noise of their warnings loud. So why should we fret and worry, and why should we feel so blue, when everyone's in a flurry from telling us what to do? But I wonder how people flourished, and were able to exist, before they were fed and nourished on a daily free guide list.

Half a Century Ago

(From The Oregonian, September 5, 1861.) Messrs. E. D. Buchanan and M. Peddler, of this city, returned night before last from the Oro-Fine gold mines by way of the new route of navigation by them at Starr & Co.'s sawmill, recently erected in the New-Fore country. The distance from Oro-Fine to this city is some 450 miles and they occupied the route in making the trip, including portages