The Oregonian PORTLAND, OREGON.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice sa cond-Class Matter.
Description Rates-Invariably in Advance. (BY MAIL)

included, one year theladed, six months included, three months included, one month bunday, one year Sunday, six months Sunday, three mouths Sunday, one mouth

(BY CABRIER.) Dally, Senday included, one year...... 5.00
Dally, Sunday included, one year...... 75
How to Bemilt-mend Justoffice maney ordet, sayones order or personal check on your
local bank. Samps, colo or currency are
at the sander's risk. Give postoffice address
in full including county and state.
Passinge Raise-10 to 16 pages, 1 cents, 10
to 26 pages, 2 cents; 50 to 40 pages, 2 cents,
40 to 60 pages, 4 cents. Foreign postage. Conk-Hastern Business Offices-Verre & Conk-b-New York, Brunswick building Chica-Office-No. 3 Regent street, E.

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, DEC. 21, 1911.

THE WOOL TARIFF.

For the first time in many years, perhaps in the whole history of tariff-making. Congress is in possession of all the facts on which the wool tar-iff should be based. Those facts have been ascertained after a most thorough and painstaking inquiry in all weel-producing countries of any consequence. They are declared to be the facts by the unanimous vote of a board of three Republicans and two Democrats. The agreement of such a board deprives the standpatters and the tariff-for-revenue men alike of any excuse for asserting that the hoard sought and found facts which would fit any particular theory of tariff re-Any wool tariff which may be made in the immediate future by either party must be made to square with these facts.

The Tariff Board's report is a coplets vindication of President Taft's action in vetoing the hybrid La Pol-letts-Underwood hill of last session. It shows that 'the framers of that bill erred as far in one direction as the framers of the Payne-Aldrich bill erred in the other. It shows that the resent law unduly taxes the wearer clothes of cheap and medium quality and bears lightly on the rich, who wear the costlicst woolen fabrics. It shows, however, that those tariff regol schedule with a meat-ax would have done a grave injustice to an important industry. The present schedsmith work and the vetoed Under-wood-La Follette bill is exposed as the ork of an even clumster, more awkward team of blacksmiths.

A crushing blow is dealt by this revalorem duties. Not only does an ad valorem duty on raw wool foster fraud by undervaluation, but it causes the tariff to bear harder on the consumer the higher rises the price of wool and to decrease unduly when the price falls below a certain average. Such a duty, if imposed uniformly on all grades of wool, high and low, would exclude many low-grade wools needed by the poor and admit high-grade wools needed by the rich. Thus the Democrats, who profess to be the champions of the poor against the exactions of tariff-fed monopolies, would by their ignorant jumping at conclusions have injured those they professed to serve and increased the favors already excessively favored.

No more unscientific tariff-making could have been perpetrated than the entage of pure wool. This is pronounced to be prohibitory on the im-portation of low-priced wool. It is, herefore, a powerful factor in causing the rapid substitution of cotton for weolen clothing in this country. The But we have a Governor who so Tariff Board suggests a simple but misinterprets the law and misundersmeetic duty on the scoured contents of wool in the grease, which will meet criticism from all sides.

As usual when an impartial body investigates a subject of heated contro-versy, the Tariff Board finds that neither extreme is right. One rate of Hory, yet the board finds the cost of cool manufacture much higher in the Divited States than in foreign countries. These prohibitory duties, however, do not enhance prices in this country to the full amount of the duty. been contended by extreme tariff reformers. Thus, on certain samples of English cloth the duty is equivalent to 184 per cent, but the American prodnot costs only 67 per cent more than the foreign article in England.

Had the Underwood-La Follette bill become law, it would have dealt a severe blow to the whole wool industry. in the light of the board's findings. That bill proposed to cut the duty raw wool of the first class from 47.24 per cent to 29 per cent. This does not appear to be justified by the language if the President's message accompanying the report, for he says:

The average cost of production for the whole American clip is higher than the cost in the chief competing country by an amount somewhat less than the present duty.

It will hardly be contended that a duty of 29 per cent is "somewhat less" than one of 47.24 per cent.

The same bill cut the duty on wool-ens to an average of 49 per cent, though the board finds that it costs 100 per cent more to make cloth from arns in the United States than in England or France, and though the 60 per cent duty imposed by the Wilson bill proved disastrous to the industry.

With this report before them, the Democrats cannot reduce the tariff to revenue basis without frankly aiming a destructive blow at a great American industry. The insurgents cannot join hands with the Democrate in such undertaking without abandoning the policy of protection, to which they are pledged. The standpatters can no longer defend duties which, after impartial inquiry, are pronounced prohibitory and trust-breeding. There is no excuse for the two Republican factions not to combine on a bill which will put in practice the protective principle as Taft-that duties should equal the difference in cost of production at home and abroad, with a fair profit added. If this be done, such a bill can surely pass the Senate and secure the President's approval. Should the Democratic lead-

sion and awalting the report of the Tariff Board, the President has not only shown wise statesmanship, but played good politics. He has the Democrats on the horns of a dilemma from which there is no escape except to carry out his policy. If they refuse, they will be on the defensive in the next campaign.

THE GALLOWAY DECISION.

The decision of Judge Galloway in the State University appropriation case is substantially that the entire referendum procedure is so tainted with fraud, spite and dishonest purpose as to invalidate the petitions. The court insists that the principals behind the referendum project are not in court with clean hands, and he thinks they should do equity if they ask equity.

The court's ruling is a blow to the reprehensible business of petition-misking and signature-chasing, and a sharp rebuke to the persons or classes the appeal to the referendum through motives of pique or prefudice or jealommodity, a thing of barter and sale.

omply with legal forms. Will our disturbed and excited friends at Eugene permit The Oregomian to say to them that it congratulates them on their escape—if they

It is a fact that cannot be questioned have escaped-from consequences of a referendum not invoked in good faith, though provoked by the arbi-trary and foolish methods of the uni-versity's champions in the Legisla-ture? The referendum has failed through the folly of the interests that proposed it.

BEFORE CONVICTION.

The law of Oregon provides for capital punishment. Death is the only penalty prescribed by law for murder in the first degree. Governor West says that there shall be no more hangings in Oregon. He repeals by his verbal fiat the law that has been in force in Oregon for more than half a century. For his arbitrary and extraordinary act he cites Article V. Section 14, of the Constitution of Oregon,

"He (the Governor) shall have power to

The Governor has the power to pardon or reprieve murderers after con-viction. He has now reprieved all murderers before conviction. It is the de-clared policy of the Governor, before the crime has been committed, before the charge is laid, before the trial is held, before conviction is secured, before sentence is passed, to alter the verdict of the jury and defeat the solemn judgment of the court, though strictly in accordance with law, unless judge and jury shall reach the mild conclu-sion the Governor in advance declares

they ought to reach. The Governor has made the law of Oregon as to punishment for murder. He has defined the policy of the state towards murder and murderers. That is the function and the duty of the Legislature. The power of reprieve or commutation was not lodged by the constitution with the Executive for to serve and increased the favors the purpose of abolishing the death shown those whom they sileged to be penalty. It was vested with the Governor because the people in their wissomewhere for exercise in emerlevying of the present specific duty on gencies as an act of sovereign clem-unscoured wool, regardless of the per- ency, or to prevent any possible ency, or to prevent any possible miscarriage of justice, or for modification of the rigorous and automatic operation of law where exceptional conditions might ariseafter conviction.

valuable improvement by proposing a stands his duty that he is greater than constitution or statute.

> THE PARTY REFORMS, DOES NOT DIE. That President Taft's confidence in the ability of the Republican party to satisfy its progressive elements and thus to deprive them of any excuse for breaking away or organizing a new party is well founded will be agreed by all Republicans who pass in mental review the recent history of their coun-A party deserves to live so long as it is responsive to the popular will in meeting the issues of the times as they arrive. It only deserves to die when it ceases to represent any vital principle or represents only an obdur-ate opposition to change of any kind.

The Republican party has proved its fidelity to its principles and its readiness to carry out the popular will by its whole course since it regained power in 1897. It has estiled the money question by the final establishment of the gold standard, at which even Bryan has ceased to carp. It met the emergencies arising from the Spanish War in a manner approved by the sober sense of the people. It has extended National control over the declined to bestow additional pension railroads and removed many abuses of their management. It has put life into the anti-trust law and stands for It has put life. a constructive policy in dealing with monopoly. It has forced the meat packers to put no more diseased meat on the market, and has put in operation measures which insure the purity of the people's food. It has realized the dream of centuries by building the Panama Canal. It has adopted a progressive policy for the use of the public domain consistent with the conservation of our resources. It has entered upon the execution of a policy of scigo far to end controversy. It is preparing to place our monetary system

on a sound footing.

The man who would pronounce moribund a party which has done in recent years and is now doing so many works of a constructive character must be blind to the teachings of history. Parties which are doing what the people want done do not dle. Recent internal disturbances in the Republican party are signs, not that mortification has set in, but that new life has given the party an impetus to go forward more rapidly with the great work it has been doing for fifty years for the American people

Unfortunately the dispatches do not tell us how little George Lindsay throve on the diet of grapes and beer ers in the House refuse to pass such a bill and insist on a purely revenue which the Sun Worshipers gave him tariff, they would stand convicted of denying the people a measure of relief from tariff exaction which could be obtained and would be placed on the obtained and would be pl the lad got along fairly well. At any short hours of rest. For it is fairly Where would there be le

fled. Perhaps there is a particle, very small one, of prejudice against the Sun Worshipers in Chicago.

A PRACTICAL QUESTION.

The Ainsworth School building, which serves the pupils of the public schools of Portland Heights, is from all accounts a structure long outdated by progress and scarcely fit for a sheepfold. Simply stated, the building is outdated in construction, in methods of ingress and egress and ventilation. Built of wood, dry as tin-der, with a wooden fire escape (of recent construction) that mocks at safety in case of a possible need, it is im-possible to remedy its defects by patching or rebuilding. It is manifest therefore that this building should be supplanted at as early a date a practicable by a properly-constructed building of steel and concrete.

The School Board, in a case of this

kind, is literally in a strait betwixt the two. Patrons of the public schools, or ousy. The occupation of setting up initiative or referendum petitions at so much per name ought to be made unlawful. The present method is a promium on perjury and blackmail. It is mischievous and indefensible. It makes the referendum a commercial grounds be provided for their exercise grounds be provided for their exercise. grounds be provided for their exercise during intermissions between study during intermissions between study during intermissions between study periods, and that such safeguards the price to hire name-procurers to fix up the papers, or he can hang up any bill if he is willing to round up the saloons, cigar stores and other lounging places for cheap names to lounging places for cheap names to he lowest limit consistent with keep-procured with legal forms. ing the schools open. Between these contending elements the School Board

> and should not be ignored that, if this community undertakes to support the public school system on its present basis it should vote a suitable equipment for that purpose. Certainly intelligent community can acquit itself of responsibility for conditions which have been disclosed by the recent in-vestigation of at least two public school buildings in widely-separated, high-class residence districts of the -Portland Heights on the West and Irvington on the East Side. ability or refusal to remedy the con-ditions thus disclosed will be a tack acknowledgment of weakness that would justify the assumption by patrons of private and parochial schools that our public school system is lacking in the vital essentials that lead to health and usefulness. Of course, as an intelligent, progressive community we are not ready to make this admission. It behooves us, then, to refute this assumption by meeting intelli--avoiding parsimony on the one hand and profligacy upon the otherthe obligations assumed under the

THE SHERWOOD PENSION BILL. The Sherwood pension bill, which has passed the National House of Representatives, contains provisions which every person who cares for the welfare of the country ought to study. It is analyzed rather minutely by General Charles Francis Adams in the December number of the World's Work, and since he was a Brevet Brigadier-General in the Union Army and saw more than three and a half years of active service in the field dur-ing the Civil War he cannot be suspeeted of unfriendliness to veterans. Hence his disapproval of the Sherwood bill comes with greater weight than would any strictures from a hostile source. General Adams condemns the Sherwood bill on the grounds of extravagance, evil moral influence and political debauchery. He shows, moreover, that it is loosely drawn and will cost the country a great deal more than it openly threatens. On its face the Sherwood bill will add some \$50,000,000 annually to our pension expenditures. How much it will actually cost year after year when its full power to dispose of the put funds has been developed it would be rash to try to estimate. One fact alone we have to guide us, namely, that every pension bill heretofore has cost a great deal more than was promised

The Sherwood bill does not repeal any former pension legislation the expenditures previously authorized whether by general or special acts of Congress will go on just as before. The sums which it grants from the Treasury, and takes from the taxpayers, are in addition to the already generous bounty of the Government. The served in the Civil War, no matter when, where or how, for the period of ninety days shall receive \$15 a month for the remainder of his life." lar service for six months brings \$20; nine months, \$25; and one year or more brings \$30. Thus all distinctions of merit are abolished. The brave man is confounded with the coward. The deserter takes his place side by side with the faithful soldler in Cor gressman Sherwood's hall of fame. The bill had one apparent merit, in spite of its glaring faults, when General Adams took it up for discussion. bounty upon any person who already has a net income of \$1000 a year. This might possibly have proved a check upon the extravagance of the new legislation, but the Democratic House

on its passage.

posing all the while as the champion of economy, has amended it out. In its eagerness to empty the Treas. ury the Sherwood bill removes two important restrictions upon pension frauds. It abolishes those boards of medical examiners which have to some extent checked the schemes of impostors and it dispenses with special pension agents. Of course these entific revision of the tariff which will officials are no longer necessary, since the new pensions are to be granted without distinction of merit and regardless of the recipient's character or deserts. Our annual pension expenditure now, fifty years after the close of the Civil War, runs up to about \$160,000,000 a year. On the rolls are the names of \$50,000 reciplents. The Sherwood bill will increase the annual expenditure to \$290,000,000 and add unknown thousands of names to the roll. Still more ominous are the bills which are to follow the Sher-wood measure. There is to be one providing for the widows and orphans of veterans, one for the soldiers of the Mexican War, and divers others. One cannot help asking what will become of the poor taxpayer when they are all in full operation. If only we could all be pensioned the prospect might present a little consolution, but, un-happily, somebody has to work and

sion legislation will be passed sooner WHAT WAS SAID IN TAX DEBATE TAFT RISES TO THE OCCASION or later.

The reasons for this opinion are manifold. For one thing, there is the pension trust to be reckoned with. This organization includes about 25,000 shrewd and active lawyers who understand precisely how, when and where to bring pressure to bear on Then in each timid Congressmen. Congressional district in the country there is an average of 2000 pensioners, some of whom are ready at all times particular piece of land as being in to act in concert with the lawyers to Clackamas County. This is not the bring members of Congress to terms. fact, as Mr. Dimick can find out by From all new pension legislation the consulting A. L. Veazie, my opponent. pickings which go to the 25,000 pen-sion lawyers at Washington and elsewhere are extraordinarily rich. It is from bills like the Sherwood measure that they reap their harvests. Again General Adams points out that the habit of receiving pensions is one which grows with what it feeds upon. It leads, he declares, to moral laxity and produces economic dependence. It destroys the good old American spirit of self-help and tends to reduce us to a sort of Roman mob always crying to the government for bread and games. If it could be proved that the stream of pensions is in truth a flood of economic poison which gradually corrupting the blood of the American people, would our Congress-

a Democratic chairman and a major-ity of its members are Democrats. The present House of Representatives is heavily Democratic. We thus perceive that the pension trust and its work are as bi-partisan as any of the other trusts. It has both parties un-der its thumb. The only possible obstacle to its aims is an aroused public opinion. The groans of the taxpayer will not be effective until he learns what he is groaning over. Then the reaction will come and in the overturn we fear that the good pensions may be swept away with the bad.

Marriages between colored people and white, the bridegrooms being Japnnese. Chinese or negroes, are frequently performed in Vancouver, Wash., usually by a justice of the peace, but now and then by a minis-These marriages are nine times out of ten as unhappy as incongru-They are, moreover, a disgrace to the community and an outrage upon the offspring that comes of them. They are utterly incomprehensible either from the standpoint of personal decency or public policy. The white woman who becomes the bride of a man of alien race and color removes herself thereby from the pale of common sympathy when, as surely happens, the mesalliance becomes abhorrent to her.

John T. Bell, late of Oakland, Cal. has purchased the Newberg Enter-prise. His predecessor, Mr. Shaver, made the Enterprise one of the best local papers in Oregon, and Mr. Bell, with forty years' experience in jour-nalism in the western half of the continent, will keep it at the high

In the death of Rose Eytinge stage folk in Portland lose a friend to whom they looked up affectionately as a mother during her residence in Port-land. Her lovable character shone through her stage make-up and endeared her also to those who knew her only across the footlights.

The Christmas edition of the Salem Statesman, issued December 17, was typical of the annual effort of the ploneer paper. Printed in the of the holly and mistletoe and filled with well-chosen and appropriate reading matter and illustrations, it was an excellent number.

Rose Eytinge's death at 72 illus trates the longevity of actresses. They outlive the men of their profession by many years on the average. Booth, Barrett, Irving, Mansfield died com-Booth. paratively young. The women who were their contemporaries are for the most part still alive.

There need be no surprise at the dilatory motion made by the meat packers to escape trial. Men who have, by every technical device the law allows, avoided facing a jury for eight years may be expected to pursue the same policy to the end of the chapter.

Mr. Beals' understudy, Mr. Drake, who is well fitted to fill a star part, makes the "likely" forecast of rain on Christmas day. That will be typical Oregon weather for a day when everybody should be at home.

The Russians of Los Angeles need to

learn that the Oriental custom of sell-

ing girls into marriage cannot be trans-

planted to this country-certainly no o a woman suffrage state like California. The Western Governors' tour was so successful that it may be made an an-

nual event. Eastern people were eager to see the exhibit of Western products, including the Governors. The boy who can introduce a con-tagious disease and start a holiday closing of his school a few days ear-

lier is a here in the eyes of the rest. Discovery of adulterated paper in use for Government documents suggests that Dr. Wiley take a look

around the house occasionally. Commission government means economy and efficiency in cities. der it Baker will cut her tax levy from 14.7 to 6.4 mills.

ernor Deneen seems to exploit the Western idea. A man whose zeal for his church will lead him to steal that he may give

to its good work is a study in psychol-Burglars made a profitable clean-up in Station A, but the trail of the stamps will be their undoing.

The turkey is not cutting much of a figure, for Sir Loin is his time-honored rival at this sesson.

The best holiday gift in some sections is resumption of work in the big sawmills.

____ Where would there be leakages, if

H. W. Stone Declares No Misrepresentations Made in Illustrations.

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(To the Editor.)—I notice in The Oregonian today quite a lengthy statement from Mayor

Grant B. Dimick, of Oregon City. In this article Mr. Dimick insists that in my debate with A. L. Veazie at the Congregational Church I gave a certain illustration of taxes on a Clackamas County. This is not the consulting A. L. Vearie, my opponent, I did give quite a number of illustrations and figures in regard to Clacka-mas County, and in this way I suppose the misunderstanding occurred If eel that the position of the so-called single tax is so strong that there is absolutely no need for any mis-statements or overstatements. In the same article I see that Mr.

Dimick makes the following statement:

"I notice also on page 31 of said pamphlet Mr. U'Ren received out of that millionaire manufacturers' fund, known as the 'Fels fund,' the magnificent sum of \$16,775. In addition there-to he is now receiving out of that fund a salary equal to that paid to the average Circuit Judge in the State of Oregon."

Oregon."
Mr. Dimick is mistaken in this, He American people, would our Congressmen pause in their wild career of
extravagance?

We doubt it. Broad statesmanship
is rare among them. Courage is rarer
still. The pressure upon them is
something terrible and both parties
have visited to it. The committee have yielded to it. The committee and showed just what the expenditures which reported the Sherwood bill has a Democratic chairman and a majority of its members are Democrats. It was largely spent for printing paming and the control of the committee and showed just what the expenditures where for printing paming and showed just what the expenditures and showed just what the expenditures where for just what the expenditures are for just when the expension of the control of phlets, postage, stenographic work and regular campaign expenses. I am still the treasurer of that fund, and none of the money that passes through my hand is paid to Mr. U'Ren, personally, and as far as I know he is not receiv-ing any money from the Fels fund. H. W. STONE.

> Judging from Mr. Stone's statement there is more than one Fels fund devoted to the single tax cause in Oregon. It has been stated on the authority of Mr. Fels that Mr. URen receives or did receive a salary from the Fels fund. The amount has even been given at \$2500 a year. 'Mr. U'Ren has never denied that he has been devoting all or large part of his time to "paving the way" for single tax at a yearly stipend from men interested in the movement. We doubt if anybody construed Judge Dimick's statements to mean that the \$16,775 ex-pended from the Fels fund in Oregon went to Mr. U'Ren personally. The fact that this sum has been expended in the single tax campaign in Oregon has been so prominently published that Judge Dimick would hardly expect to misrepresent the case and get away with it.

CITY WITH THE DOWN-HILL PULL Montaua Citizens Make Discovery as to Advantages of Portland's Location.

MILES CITY, Mont., Dec. 16 .- (To the Editor.)-Yesterday, engaged in an argument as to the respective merits of the North Pacific cities, and supporting the claims made by Portland, a new (at least to me) slogan for your city curred to me.

Those of us in the argument finally had recourse to examining the map, and I showed the others that from Summit on the Great Northern in Montana; Garrison, on the Northern Pacific, in Montana, Stites and Grangeville, in Idaho, and Saltese, in Montana ville, in Idaho, and Saltese, in Montana, on the Chleago, Milwankee & Puget Sound, not faking into consideration the same conditions to the south of you, in your own vast empire, you have a down-hill pull to Portland, the slogan that occurred to me was "The city with a down-hill pull."

I do not know whether this slogan is the convention with the convention with

has ever been used in connection with your city, because, as I state, it is entirely new to me, and if it is worth while, use it.

VIN FORTUNE, Secretary Chamber of Commerce.

PORTLAND, Dec. 26 .- (To the Edi-PORTLAND, Dec. 20.—(10 the Editor).—Will you kindly give the school law concerning the attendance required at an institute in order to keep a teacher's certificate valid? Are the high school teachers of this city exempt? Are they or the district subjected to a fine for non-attendance?

A HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER.

The Oregon Legislature of 1911 passed a law requiring all County Superintendents of the state to hold annual teachers' institutes for not less than three days, for the instruction of teachers and those desiring to teach. 'All teachers in the public schools of his county," reads the law, "shall be required to attend. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may, at his discretion, upon the written complaint of the County Superintendent, revoke the certificate, or refuse to grant a certificate, to any teacher who refuses to attend a county institute without cause." County Superintendents are required to give certificates to teachers attending the institute, showing the times when they were present. law says teachers shall not forfeit their wages for closing school for three days to attend the institute. We have been unable to find any exemption for high school teachers. No fine is provided for non-attendance.

Information on Alaska PORTLAND, Dec. 20,—(To the Edi-tor.)—Will you kindly inform me where I can get general information on Alaska, regarding work, wages, etc., at the present time? A READER,

Alaska is about six times as large as Oregon. One would probably have to seek several sources of information to gain an idea of opportunities for employment. R. L. Polk's Alaska-Yukon Gazeteer and Business Directory gives late and accurate information concerning the industries in each town, and from it could be obtained the names of persons who would prob-By reprieving four murderers due ably reply to inquiries. The publishers to be hanged at Chicago today, Gov- have offices in the Beck building.

Flood Outlet Greater.

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(To the Editor.)—In regard to a possible repetition of the 1894 flood and discussions of high water annually, one very impor of high water annually, one very impor-tant consideration appears to be over-looked, namely, that there is now a channel of some 300 feet in width and from six to eight feet in depth through each bar between Portland and the sea, making an additional conduit of great capacity which runs full con-tinuously. tinuously.

No. the Editor.)—Does a child born in this country of foreign parents, who were unnaturalised at the time of his birth and pover did secure citizenship papers, require naturalisation before becoming a citizen?

E. S. A.

Typical a phrase to mother once, and then he promptly said:

"I guess it's time now, Maw, for me to go upstairs to bed.

An' I suppose that you an' Paw will talk out when I'm gone!"

I'd make an affidavit that the little rescat's on

Frank Statement by a Critic of the Administration.

Rural New Yorke The Rural New-Yorker cannot be accused of being a personal organ for President Taft, or of advocating his renomination. It seems to us that whenever he has taken occasion to discuss public questions in their relation to farming he has shown a strange, almost childish, misconception of the almost childish, misconception of the needs and the thought of real farmers. needs and the thought of feat tar pre-lin other smaller matters of administra-tion he has made what seem to be remarkable blunders. It must be said, however, that now and then when the conditions arise to call out his real talents the President rises to the oc-casion and shows himself a great and strong man. Such an occasion was strong man. Such an occasion was found at the recent great dinner given at Pittsburgh. This place is the nursery and hotbed of monopoly and political and hotbed of monopoly and political graft. Arrangements were evidently made to "put President Taft in a hole." An eloquent speaker was engaged to precede him and make an argument for the repeal of the Sherman anti-trust law which, if enforced, will send some of the very gentlemen who organized this nice little dinner trap to jail. They are sent and the president of the trap of the president of the sentences that the President evidently expected that the President would filmch before those rich and in-fluential members of his party. It was a hard situation but President Taft met it like a great man.

met it like a greet man.

The two decisions hast Spring, in my judgment, give the law definite meaning that any combination in restraint of trade with the purpose of controlling prices and stiffling competition. It is a violation of the statute. Men know whether they intend to stiffe competition and control prices, and all that is necessary in a court of law is to prove the combination and the intent.

Only one rourse is open. Either we will have individualism or we will have combinations in restraint of trade going to that point where the people will demand that the power of men angaged in such corporations be transferred to the Government. And then we will have state Socialism.

This incident reveals the President at his best—calm, clear, strong and convincing. When you come to realize the character of that audience and the whole situation you can readily see that no ordinary man could have met it in this way. Another strong factor

Now this is a serious matter to me, and there are others like me. I am a newcomer and think I can make just as good a living here as I did in the East. I helieve I can do better because the climate is suitable. But from what I have seen of the available land a person cannot go on to the land and immediately make a living. I can't because I haven't money. I will have to go out and work at times of the year see I will want to know that my home

what I have seen of the available land a person cannot go on to the land and immediately make a living. I can't because I haven't money. I will have to go out and work at times of the year and I will want to know that my home yill not be broken into by Government then when I am away.

I have been anxious to settle near Eugene, but I am told that you can't file on the Government land down there, because it has been decided that it is no good for raising of crops. Why should the Government decide the land is not fit for farms when there are scores of good farms all sround raising finest kind of crops? There are no trees on the forest reserve, so why is it not allowed to be taken as homesteads? I have seen the crops raised there and know as well as I am writing this that, if I could make a good living in New England, I can make I here, where there is no snow or frost to speak of in Winter. There is a fine country here and we who are coming in know. in Winter. There is a fine country here and we who are coming in know, but if we are coming here we want to know if we are going to set the land.

Very respectfully yours, ALEX WARWICK.

Civilization and Savagery. Civilization and Savagery.

Chicago Journal.

We are shocked every now and then at some fearful outburst of savagery, forgetting that but yesterday our ancestors were cannibals, taking each others' lives. The origin of the two buttons on the backs of our coats recalls the days of chivalry when every gentleman wore his sword. But how about the buttons on the coat sleeves at the wrist? They were first worn about the buttons on the coar access
at the wrist? They were first worn
in front of the sleeves, and were
placed on uniforms to prevent soldlers
from wiping their noses on their
wrists. Civilization has scarcely taken

two steps from savagery.

Limitations of a Statesman. London Standard

A reply very characteristic of the statesman and diplomat who made it is given in the "Autobiography of Afred Austin," Lord and Lady Salisbury were among the guests at Hewell Grange. Lord Salisbury had come to speak at a public meeting. On the morning of the day when the speech was to be delivered, seeing Lord Salisbury passing teach the strict I said to him: "I sun-London Standard. into the study, I said to him: "I suppose you are going to think over what you will say tonight?" "No," he said, in his ironical way, "rather to think over what I must not say."

Poetry in Skyserapers.

Springfield (Mass.) Union.

It is a mistake to think we must go back 1000 years or more for genuine poetic inspiration, or that the poet of today must necessarily confine himself to the veins that the Greeks worked to create their lasting vogue. There is poetry in the big modern institutions where 20th century life pulsates, if only there be the imagination that can treat it in a masterly way.

Before Christmas,

Detroit Free Press.

Last night when we were at tea the little fellow said: "Paw, what are all those packages hid beneath your bed?" I almost choked upon my food, and mother simply smiled, As though to say we're bringing up a very knowing child.

He's waiting for me at the door when

I get home at night,
I try to sneak into the house and not
turn on the light
And get upstairs before I doff my overcoat and hat, But he is Johnny on the spot, with "Paw, oh, what is that?"

He's eyeing me suspiciously, I really

think he tries
With all his youthful artfulness to take
me by surprise;
He hasn't intimated yet that he has found us out. But eyes and ears are open wide whenever we're about

I spelled a phrase to mother once, and

Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

A man will usually do more for his stubborness than for his religion or his country.

Nature is the supreme court that reverses any law opposed to human ex-perience.

There are so many patent medicines now that unless a man breaks a leg he loctors himself.

In the old days of barbarism, the people fought with hatchets. Civiliza-tion buried the hatchet, and now men

"Til tell you the worst thing I ever did," I heard a man say, in company. And I'll bet the thing he told wasn't the worst thing he ever did.

At first, a woman only wants a hus-band: but after she gets him, she wants everything else in the world.

Ask any book agent who sent him to you, and you will find it was one of your friends.

Every man is a coward if confronted by the proper terror.

A man never knows the price of s Christmas present given him; a woman can tell within a few cents, no matter what the present is, or where it came from.

There is a popular saying to the effect that Opportunity knocks once at a man's door, and, receiving no response, departs and returns no more, As a matter of fact, Opportunity ham-mers at a man's door as persistently as a woodpecker hammers a telegraph pole.

Law-Abiding Will Rule

the character of that audience and the whole situation you can readily see that no ordinary man could have met it in this way. Another strong factor of the Taft Administration, not generally recognized is the powerful crusade against the fraudulent use of the mails. Nothing like it was ever done before. As stated show, it, seems to us that President Taft has failed to comprehend the spirit and desires of our farmers, yet we are frank to say that he is a clean man and a great man when conditions demand it.

SETTLERS MAY SHUN STATE.

Law-Abiding Will Rule.

BEAVERTON, On. Dec. 20,—(To the Editor)—I would beg the privilege of saying a few words in regly to the letter of "A Union Man," printed in The Gregonian of December 12. He says, among other things, that "organized labor realized that behind the prosecution in the Los Angeles case was a money power almost unlimited." I fully agree with him there. Every respectable, patriotic and law-abiding citizen in the whole country would have willingly contributed (if need be) to bring such dastardly murderers to justice. The sooner all individuals who uphold such savagery can get this idea into their craniums the better it will be for Burglary by Forest Ranger Alarms
Newcomer from East.

PORTLAND, Dec. 17.—(To the Editor.)—I have seen your editorial about the forest ranger that used a skeleton key to help him break into settlers' cabins on the reserves. Now, if it is a pertinent question. I would like to ask: What have the forestry officials done about it? Do they countenance such conduct or have they bounced the offending ranger? If it is the methods they follow, I warrant me they have not.

Now this is a serious matter to me, and there are others like me. I am a newcomer and think I can make just as good a living here as I did in the helr craniums the better it will be for to an aroused public opinion and the grim determination of the home-loving, fair-dealing and law-abiding citizens of the country, such bandlts will be hounded down hereafter and brought to sum-

Weighing Husband's Salaries.

Chicago Tribunë.

Women of Chicago are to be taught
how to spend their husbands' salaries.
An organization whose principal object is the study of the spending of incomes was formed several days ago in the clubrooms of the Woman's City Club. It is the Chicago branch of the American Home Economics Association.

The Oregonian's Stand Right. PORTIAND, Dec. 20.—(To the Editor.)—May I commend most heartly the editorial, "Fruits of a Prison Policy?" The whole course of The Oregonian on capital punishment is sane and the only way. C. E. CLINE.

Christmas Features -- of -The Sunday Oregonian

Santa's First Stop-Full page, in color, of the new Santa Claus and his first stop in Portland.

The Shrub of Thorns-An account of the wonderful Glastonbury thorn, which made the agonizing crown that Jesus wore. It blooms unseasonably in America this year.

Christmas Under Fire-C. B. Lewis tells of a trying day in the great Civil War on Christmas day.

A Beggar Maid — A gripping Christmas story by Lily A. Long. Quaint Christmas Customs-A glimpse into the cheery practices of Yuletide in olden times and

today. Nineteen-Eleven - A page on the year just closing-a year to be wondered at.

"They're Sure to Get Me". So says Burns, fatalist and detective in McNamara case, in a remarkable interview, which is given a full half page.

An Argentine Cinch-Another erisp short story of the business world.

Fables in Slang-George Ade writes two fables for Christmas, both of them in his richest vein. The Jockey Who Slept-A cork-

ing short tale about a newspaper reporter and his "feature story." Dorothy Deere, Slim Jim, Hairbreadth Harry, Mrs. Time-Killer and Mr. Bozs get into fresh difficulty. Anna Belle's cut-out clothes and a puzzle will give the little ones a joyous hour.

Many Other Features