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#### AS SEEN BY AN ENGLISHMAN.

It is desirable not only to see our selves as others see us, but to see our political leaders as men of other nations see them. For this reason an article in the English Fortnightly Review is interesting. This writer, discussing Roosevelt,

The fallure of his New Tork State campaign broke ha influence over the greater part of the country. The West is still faithful, but elsewhere he is believed by most people to be politically dead. They do not realise what vital force there is in him. He diese not quite resilize it himself. He thinks iso he assured me last year; that he has passed over the crest of the wave and is now sinking in the trough. But he has effect thought this before. Unless the American skip of state should unexpectedly glide into calm waters. Theodore Rocsevelt will be found again at her bein. In the meantime Weedriew Wilson is probably the man he would most gladly see elected.

This leads him to contrast Rocsevelt with Wilson, whom he describes as

with Wilson, whom he describes as "analytical, sardonic, a keen knife-edge sort of a man," and to quote Wilson as making fun of Roosevelt's knack of rushing in with a big stick before he quite knows whose head he ought to break with it, and as saying that "as soon as Mr. Roesevelt thinks he talks, a simultaneous miracle that is not, according to our education, the customary way of forming an opinion. He says that neither Roosevelt nor Wilson is a man of ideas, but that they assimilate and give forth promptly other people's ideas. He continues:

The difference between them in this mat-ter is that Mr. Received takes up an idea upon his own indgment of its merits. The test for him is, Does it appeal to me? Mr. Wilson is more cautious. He asks, Does it seem to be going well? Has it been tried anywhere and proved a workship propo-This characterisation fits what we know of Wilson certainly. Before he had engaged in political strife and when he took a purely academic in-

terest in political questions, he con demned the initiative, referendum and recall. After he had been elected Governor and had conceived an ambition to be President, he found that these political ideas were going well, so far as their popularity went with the ele-ments he hoped to win. Wilson, the cautious, opportunist politician, then threw overboad the opinions of Wilson the college president, and became the of direct legislation.

That Mr. Roosevelt takes up an idea on his own judgment of its merits is true, but he could not have gained his reputation as a past master in politics had he not also considered whether the iden would go well. Yet he has repeatedly taken up ideas on their merits and vehemently forced them on oblic attention, though he must have known they would prove unpop-An example is his recommendation that railroad traffic pools be is-galised, a measure which, when taken Taft, aroused the insurgentsthose insurgents who are now fondly turning to Roosevelt as their leader-

to frenzy Nor is it true that Roosevelt talks as soon as he begins to think, when he once begins to talk on any subject, he talks so foreibly and continuously as to create that impression to the casual observer. There were several occasions during his presidency when the Washington corre mondents could not get a word from nim on certain momentous questi then pending, though he was certainly thinking deeply on them. At that time It was said that Roosevelt, far from being impulsive, deliberated long without uttering a word, but that his de cision once reached, he announced it clearly and with emphasis and proceeded to carry it out with that mendous driving force which led people to suppose that he was acting upon

The cruelest thrust of the Fortnightly writer is reserved for Governor Harmon. He says the Ohio candidate is "not an illuminating person," "rather puzzled by modern ideas," "anything ut a leader, "a thoroughly good sort, and completes the operation of damp ing with faint praise by saying.

He might be a British Colonal or square for his loose, easy movement and smile around the corners of his mouth.

LAWLESSNESS AT BOTH EXTREMES. The Commercial and Financial Chronicle is always ready with approval for any denunciation of the criminal poor, the labor dynamiter and slugger, but it grows virtuously indignant when Senator Borah extends his ondemnation to the criminal rich. Mr. erah truly said that law is defied in the highest walks of business. Lawseness in that quarter provokes it at the other extreme of the social scale. for the delusion that two blacks make a white still prevails. Only a minor ity of rich men may be lawless, and Mr. Borah did not charge that contempt for law was general among them, but it is practiced and voiced by

exough to furnish a plausible excuse for such men as the McNamaras. Chronicle also charges ex-President Roosevelt with exploiting crime "when he denounced wealth and great fortunes and large business com-Neither Mr. Borah nor Mr. Roosevelt denounced all wealth; ounced only ill-gotten wealth. Neither of them denounced all large combinations; they denounced only business combinations formed and continued in defiance of law. Mr. Roosevelt with equal vehence denounced crimes committed in the name of labor and he carefully dis criminated between the law-abiding and the lawless among rich and poor

The fault for prevalent lawlessness, says the Chronicle, is "not with the public, but with the lawmakers," them it accuses of being controlled by

erst. Then the public is responsible erty for public uses without giving for lawlessness. The remedy lies in a compensation.

It is all very edifying to know how part of the individual voter. Let each citizen cast his vote for the man who will make a good public servant, not for the "good fellow," "one of our crowd," or one who "belongs to our lodge"; let him acrupulously observe the law himself and back up the pub-lic servant in enforcement of the law, even against his own crowd and his own lodge members. Then lawlessness will soon be reduced to a mini-mum. We repeat, the responsibility for lawlessness comes back to the individual citizen.

#### ROBLEY DUNGLISON EVANS.

Ruffle the drums and half-mast the ensign, for the Admiral has passed. Robley D. Evans has completed the tempestuous voyage of Life and sailed the Unknown Sea to malute the Great Admiral. Beloved of the people of this Nation for his fighting qualities in war and his counsels of wisdom in peace, the news of his death comes as the loss of a member of the family.

He was a typical American in that he loved his country and he showed it by entering Annapolis during the throes that preceded the Civil War, such action meant for him, native Virginian, complete severing of ome ties. Perhaps ostracism determined his career, fostering and develping the buildog tenacity that erupt-

ed at critical epochs and won. Robley D. Evans, looking into the years, saw his country involved and noped to be in and of the conflict. The essons of his career will strengthen he hands that bear the Flag to future victories.

#### TRADE WITH RUSSIA SMAIL.

Russia's proposed retaliatory tariff n American imports, in revenge for the abrogation of the trade treaty, will not make more than a dent in the great bulk of American foreign trade. According to the Bureau of Statistics, although American trade with Russia has practically doubled in the last ten years, our exports were only about \$25,000,000 and our imports about \$12,000,000.

The largest item of exports was agricultural implements, about \$5,000, 000; the next unmanufactured cotton, \$6,240,000; the third iron and steel manufactures, \$3,532,000; the remain. der being divided among twine, copper, leather, rosin, meat and dairy products, lubricating oil, cars and car-The two leading articles imported were hides and skins, \$5,409,-391;, and manufactured wool, \$2,097,-The rest was divided among furs 263. and fur skins, scrap rubber, licerice root, fibers and textile grasses, hair, ood pulp, wool manufactures, fron and steel manufactures, but no one of the latter items exceeded \$1,000,000.

If Russia should entirely stop this trade, we should feel it and she would be as much injured as should we be.

STOREY FOLLOWS WEST'S PRECEDENT. Ex-Sheriff Storey carries Governor West's theory about criminal law to its logical conclusion and proves to what disastrous results it leads. Why trouble to arrest a criminal, prosecute him and take him to the penitentiary if he is only to be released in a few nonths on parole or honor by a sympathetic Governor? Mr. Storey rea ons that, if the burglar is to be pardoned, he might as well pardon him first as last and save all this trouble and expense. In so dothg, he may be etting aside the law, but the Goveror-the chief representative of the aw, Its executive—has set the precedent, so why should Mr. Storey not

This would lead naturally to the exercise of the pardoning power by every citizen who suffers by the crime of another. Compounding of felony, which is already so dangerously prevalent that it is regarded as a venial offense, would then become universal. We should lose sight of that fundamental precept of law that a crime is committed not against its immediate the state, and that it is the duty of every citizen to aid the state in bring-ing a criminal to justice, no matter whether reparation has been made to him individually or not.

### EVOLUTION OF THE SYSTEM

Mr. Henry E. Reed's announcemen of candidacy for the Republican nemination for Assessor is an interesting example of the evolution of Oregon's political system. Instead of party representatives gathering in convenrention and declaring a set of principles, each aspirant for office now writes his own platform. The office of Assessor is an administrative one. The incumbent simply administers the laws in force. Yet Mr. Reed deems it collifically expedient to write a legislative platform. He advocates a reform in taxation which he has no nore power to put into effect than the awyer, the machinist, the barber or he laborer. He has one vote and no nore. So has every other citizen. the same order of procedure we have heretofore had candidates for justice of the peace declare themselvs in favor of Statement One and initiative nd referendum, with none of which their judicial powers would have the lightest thing to do.

However, we are not disposed to puarrel with Mr. Reed over his writng a platform. We simply call attention to an interesting development of o-called progressive government, Mr. Reed's platform, moreover, is interest-ing in other particulars. One might almost be justified in accusing him of stealing single-tax stage thunder, yet denouncing the sheet iron which re-verberates the sound. He likes the noise, but not the thing that produces He proposes to exclude improvements and personal property from primary taxation. This is the "big noise of the single taxers. It is the busis for practically all their arguments. Their ultimate purpose to have the state expropriate all land values is kept in the background. The single taxers' figures, prepared with the idea of that such exemptions would aid the farmer and small home-owner will, if of any value at all, be as useful in supporting Mr. Reed's plan as in boosting Mr. L"Ren's preliminary

At this point, however, Mr. U'Ren and Mr. Reed part. The former fol-lows Henry George into visionary realms where all "community-made" values are taken from the landowner and converted into utilities, improvenents and beautifications for the benefit of the community. would impose an income tax and perhaps a business tax, although as to

It is all very edifying to know how our candidates for county office stand on general policies which they have no power to put into effect, but perhaps no more edifying than when in the old days we learned through convention platforms that our candidates for Assessor favored the gold standard or free coinage of silver.

MONOPOLY OR COMPETITION? Mr. Akers, of Heppner, whose letter The Oregonian prints today, asks us a question which he evidently thinks we cannot answer for ourselves. So he benevolently supplies an answer

His question is, "If you will have neither monopoly nor competition what is your avenue of escape?" And his answer is, "public ownership of those articles on which life is de-

We appreciate Mr. Akers' kindness in trying to help us out of a difficult dilemma, but we flatter ourselves that we have a solution of the problem he proposes fully as good as his and may

be a little better.

In the first place, while we object to private monopoly, we agree with Mr. Brandels that monopoly properly reined and regulated by law may be a very good thing because it prevents vaste and lowers the cost of produc-This benefit may be obtained without government ownership. As ong as the law regulates a mo for the general good, what is the harm if its shares of stock are owned by ndividuals? Indeed, we think that is the better way.

In the second place, we want competition and we will doubtless have it whether we want it or not. We do not want the petty, malignant, wasteful kind, but in its proper field competition is a stimulus to genius and a help to economy. Our biggest trusts are wasters of time and material, as statistics show. There is no single for-mula which will settle these vexed and complicated questions at a stroke. They demand profound study, and, above all, a generous application of tolerant common sense.

#### THE COMMISSION MEN AND THE PUB-

The protest of Mr. R. S. Farrell gainst the meat-inspection ordinance which is now in preparation deserves careful consideration. Mr. Farrell represents the commission men. Dr. Calvin S. White and City Attorney Grant, who have given some attention to drawing the proposed ordinance, represent the public of Portland. Acrding to Mr. Farrell, there is a clash between the interests which he stands for and those of the public. So com plete is the clash that he says "the ordinance if passed will put the commission men out of business." This would be a calamity to the commission men, for we understand that their pusiness as carried on yields handsome profits. It might also be inconvenient to the public. An ordinance which threatens disaster so dire to a recogpired branch of trade ought to be examined with great care both by the Council and by the public and relieved of its dangerous provisions. What, then, does the new inspection ordinance propose to do? Nothing very terrible on its face, but of course hidden perile may lurk somewhere in its murky depths.

The ordinance provides in the first place for an inspector and an assistant. Their duty will be to visit the slaughter-houses and see that no diseased cattle are killed for the Portland trade. They will also look after sanitary conditions. Perhaps their duty in this particular may resemble that of the inspectors in German cities, who keep all slaughter-houses as clean as a farmer's kitchen. If they find filthy erroundings in any slaughter-house they are to order a clean-up. If they find any meat for sale which is diseased or dirty they are to condemn it. This seems to be about all of their duties under the proposed ordinance. Mr. Farrell tells us that if the ordinance is passed it will put the commission men out of business. In other words Mr. Farrell seems to say that unless foul and diseased meat is sent freely to the Portland market, the commission business cannot flourish.

Of course the commission business very important, but the public health is important too. Which is of the greater consequence may be a matter of opinion, but certainly the public

deserves a hearing. The thought that we must consume diseased beef in order to provide a mfortable income for some of our traders is not entirely agreeable. Could they not manage to obtain an income from some other source? We admit that there is more money in selling diseased than healthy meat because it can be bought cheaper on the hoof from farmers. Under state inspection laws a number of cows have recently been slaughtered for tuberculosis. These carcasses can be obtained from ndividual clerk, the merchant, the the farmers at very reasonable figures indeed, and they cut up just as well as any others for the simple-minded Portland housewife and her family. The proposed inspection ordinance might interfere disagreeably with this practice and of course the profits of the commission men would ouffer, but the housewife's delight in cooking steaks which she felt certain were free from disease might partially compensate for their woes.

The public is aware, no doubt, of the limitations upon the efficiency of the Federal inspection law. This imperfect legislation was enacted after a furious struggle, and it applies only to meat designed for interstate Cattle and hogs intended for the Portland market only, and not for shipment to other states, need not be inspected under the Federal act. The packers and many other caterers of food products have used the Federal tion law as an advertisement. lometimes its advertising power been a little overworked, perhaps, and the purity which is guaranteed for interstate trade has been extended by virtue of the imagination to intra-state trade as well. We do not question the ingenuity of this process, but it is just as well for the innocent public to understand exactly what Federal inspection means and what it does not mean, The United States Government pays for it and the meat caterers profit by it, but it does not afford one jot of protection to the local public except when a carcass slaughtered for ship-ment is by chance offered in the home market. Obviously, on the other hand, meat rejected for interstate trade can be disposed of without in-

terference in Portland. The argument is advanced against inspection that it will make meat dearer. We do not see how the price "politics, pure and simple." But who the latter he says nothing. He does of meat can possibly rise much higher have do except the public makes the lawmak-not propose the taking of private prop- without stopping its sale altogether to cleaver. of meat can possibly rise much higher

everybody but millionaires. Still, as a general principle, it stands to reason that it costs something to be clean and to keep free from disease, and in our opinion the public are willing to pay whatever may be necessary to secure wholesome food, though sometimes wholesome food, though sometimes they may not have the means. We are told in the same way that we must be satisfied with contents because adequate dairy inspection is so expensive. Force the dairymen to provide a wholesome product and you will drive them out of business. Acording to those who use this ergument the antagonism between private interests and the public health is irreconcilable. There can be no comromiss, they tell us. Either the private interest must go out of busin or the welfare of the public must be sacrificed. No doubt they are mistaken. There is probably some way

open to the dealers to provide clean

meat and still make money. But if

choose between the commission men's

profits and the public health, which

is the more important?

The National Association of Manufacturers calls for a cessation of political agitation, naming tariff agitation in particular, but at the same time calls for amendment of the Sherman act, Federal incorporation and reguact, Federal incorporation improved sys-lation of trusts and an improved system of banking and currency. cannot have a cessation of political agitation as affecting business until these questions are settled permanently, for they concern the very foundations of business. The best means of stilling political agitation is to work for the scientific revision of the tariff, regulation of the trusts and the National reserve scheme. When these fundamental questions are settled on sound principles, political agitation need disturb business but little, for it can relate only to details of the superstructure to be built on these foundations.

Gold production in the Transvaal continues to increase month by month. In November, 1911, it was 719,729 ounces and for the eleven months of that year showed an increase of nearly 9 1/2 per cent over the same period of 1910. The 1911 output will nearly equal the output of the whole world 1894. These facts should not be overlooked by those who seek the cause of high prices. The value of all commodities being measured in gold, an increased supply of that metal reduces its purchasing power and causes prices to rise. While prices of other emmodities may be relatively higher, gold has become cheaper.

The National flag ought to be an object of reverence. Laws may do comething toward securing this desirable condition, but education can do much more. No law can prevent a person from desecrating the flag in private, but proper education will prevent all desire to do so. General Wood objects to seeing an Army chaplain spread the flag over the altar to lay the Bible on. This is silly. When fetishism is pushed beyond a certain point it provokes a reaction and defeats its own ends.

Democrats in Congress are probing into everything that ever happened in search of campaign material. As the Roosevelt and Taft Administrations have both been particularly busy, there is plenty of opportunity, but caution is necessary lest they bring to light something to their own discredit, like the Dick-to-Dick forgery, or to the credit of the Republicans, which would be equally disastrous to them. The pelitical prober needs to be particularly wary.

It would not seem necessary to hold Congressional investigation to learn ow Teddy took Panama." He has told all about it, confessing the details of the affair in all their monstrosity. The process was very simple. When he wanted the Isthmus he sent down and took it, leaving posterity to enjoy the benefits and shrink over the methin the same way. Statesmen who are finical over ways and means seldom achieve results.

Before mutual accusations of thievery become too virulent between plain-tiff and defendant in the Wilde case, the anxious public would like to know what, if anything, was stolen. defense alleges that it took nothing. The prosecution declares that it took nothing of any consequence. If a philosopher should set out to steal evidence he would select papers which signified something, but perhaps it is different with lawyers.

While the Goulds are marrying their laughters to lords, giving their wives \$500,000 necklaces and buying Scotch estates, investors in their railroads are trying to oust them from management. The Goulds' way of spending money does not tempt capital to investment in their enterprises. It seems impossible to combine in the same persons the follies of the second generation of a rich family with the business ability of the first generation.

If many more men of Morse's type should go to prison and the wardens should be "easy," tickers may be installed and convicts may relieve the tedium of prison life by watching the Wall street and taking an occasional flyer. Why not? Wall-street game, persistently played, naturally leads its votaries to prison

What are we coming to when a man like Edward Hines cannot use his club put through a little political deal without being called to account? The wave of political purification has swept into the favorite resorts of the wealthy and bribery is no longer respectablecondemnation of it no longer is dema-

The sock-darning craze is growing mong actresses, but the relapse of Margaret Illington into stage life will cause the interested to watch for a like relapse on the part of Dorothy Marlowe. The call of the stage seems irresistible to women who have once responded.

In view of ex-King Manuel's poverty-stricken condition, the Ma Princes are not likely to give their millions to prop up a lost cause.

General Wood is needlessly alarmed over desecration of the flag. Nobody repeats the offense after he leaves the hospital

The Gresham butcher who used a shotgun on his business rival would have done more effective work with a

## Stars and Star-Makers

By Leone Coas Bner.

Max Figman, who played a season of Max Figman, who played a season of that the proposed issue of school bonds stock in Portland last Summer, and was voted down at the annual taxpaywent later to Los Angeles to head a ers' meeting Friday night. Being a stock organization, has left the latter laborer myself, and only a small city for New York, where he intends to gather together a company of players—headed jointly by Mr. Figman and his wife, Lolita Robertson. They are to furnish to transcript to the taxpayers to furnish to transcript and the his wife, Lolita Robertson. They are already rehearsing the play, entitled "The Little Jokes," and which is going to have an early production in the East somewhere under Cort-Morosco as soon as my children grow up to be

taken from the Seattle Times.

Self-explanatory is the following bit taken from the Seattle Times.

The failure of the Myrtle Vane company to attract paying patronage to the Alhambra Theater lends emphasis to the peculiar and oft-demonstrated fact that Seattle does not want, and will not support a single stock organization of any kind.

During the past II seasons stock has been tried at the Grand, the Seattle, the Lois and the Alhambra, during many different seasons and in widely different locations, proving that external conditions have nothing to do with the case. There have been companies playing everything from "Monte Cristo" and "Bast Lynne" to the very latest royalty plays for which as high as \$150 a week has been paid. There have been fair, good and splendid companies, such high-class organizations as the Frawley, Baker, James O'Neill and Ralph Stuart troupes, and while there have, or course, been many winning weeks, there have been more losing ones, and not one organization has been able to year in and year out demonstrate such a consistent profit and patronage as San Francisco accords the Alcazar, or Los Angeles her Burbank or Belasco, or Portland its Baker.

It should be an object lesson to other stock managers who look hopefully toward a field which is not here, for its desirable neither for themselves, for their players nor for the town to start to build something which, as the little girl at the Empress says this week after next at the Baker, is this week in Spokane. "The Barrier," with Eleanor there is no such way, if we must

after next at the Baker, is this week in Spokane. "The Barrier," with Eleanor Haber, the Sa. Francisco star, featured in the production, and which opens at the Baker next Sunday, is now playing Eastern Oregon towns.

Montgomery and Stone are heading back East, via Scattle, where they are playing this week at the Moore; then next week they go to Spokane for Sunday and Monday performances.

That tuneful musical comedy, "Madame Sherry," of every-little-movement fame. is coming to Portland soon, by way of the north.

Forbes Robertson is finishing up a fortnight's engagement in San Francis-co at the Cort Theater, then he plays Sacramento, and jumps into Portland to open at the Heilig in the mystery play. "The Passing of the Third Floor Back."

In Spokane the natives are feeling themselves very much aggrieved beprising press agent has hung one of his very best stories on that city. Here's the way the Spokesman - Review un-

very best stories on that city. Here's the way the Spokesman-Beview unburdens itself:

Each day it becomes more apparent that there are some managers of traveling theatrical companies who have no scrupios in presenting any class of information to the eager public that enjoys the interesting facts pertaining to stage people. At hand there has come a clipping from New York concerning Minzi Hajos, who appeared in this city in "The Spring Maid"

When Miss Hajos first came to America she was no doubt the center of great interest because of her attractive accent and her bewitching mistakes in grammar and choice of words. But now the accent is fast being lost in her ability to master the English tongue. And a few minutes' conversation convinces one that she makes few mistakes in grammar or choice of words. But the wise manager does not want her to become "wised" too rapidly, and for this reason she is kept in the primer of English grammar as long as possible. That is, the public is led to believe such.

To this end a letter has just been published in the New York papers from the fair Missi, that, besides being a model of managled English, has drawn upon an imagination for an occurrence which did not take place in Spokane. The letter is quoted for a paragraph:

One thing is they do jokes with me spokane he has big time for Apple festa. The man comes down in the size and I say it is flowers—come flowers—and he pour sgreat horn of gold full with apples over on the stage and they roll and roll everywhere on my feet. I must hungh and be one small lady pig on these apples.

So far as Can be learned no one throw apples at the young lady's feet in this city, although the Apple Show was in progress. In truth, the young Hungarlan miss complained while in this city that she was not given the reception that was tendered her in other cities in the West, but, no doubt, Mizzi

garlan miss complained while in this city that she was not given the recoption that was tendered her in other cities in the West, but, no doubt, Missi read the Jetter the first time when we did, so the fault is not to her.

According to Leon Friedman, who is in Portland this week, shead of Anna. Held, who plays the Heilig in "Miss Innocence" on January 14-15, that French comedienne is one of the largest ceivers of royalty in the world. For famous tions, furs, coats, hats, boots and other tollette accessories she receives annually a royalty of \$6000. Besides this, she is allowed a royalty of \$31-3 per cent discount on all purchases made by herself (or ethers) of the firm she represents. One of the gorgeousity creations she will bedazzle us with is a "dress of diamonds" which is said (get the "is said") to have cost \$30,000, and has over 2000 small sparkiers sewed on the gown. tollette accessories she receives annuon the gown.

Dillon and King, comedians, who were favorites with the Lyric Musical Comedy Company last year, have recently opened at the Columbia Theater in Oakland, which has been closed for some time. The two comedians have gathered about them a bunch of "talent" in the way of pretty chorus girls and hear-principals—for Dillon and King do most of the comeding and are presenting musical - comedy shows "at popular prices," so the bills

New Road Law.

YAMHILL, Or., Jan. 3.—(To the Ed-itor.)—Kindly publish the gist of the Oregon law, recently enacted, covering the matter of private thoroughfare in case of an occupant of land isolated from the public highway. The infor-mation sought is also desired by neighbors similarly similarly situated. HENRY G. GRANVILLE.

timber is not reached by public road and that it is necessary for the publie and himself to have ingress to and egress therefrom, the County Court is required therefor to appoint the Board of County Road Viewers, who shall, of County Road viewers, who shall, within ten days, view out and locate a county road not exceeding 60 feet wide, a gateway not less than 10 nor more than 30 feet wide from the residence, land, timber land or timber of such person to some other public road, steamboat landing or railway station steamboat landing or railway station according to the application, and to assess damages to be sustained thereby. A copy of this order must be served upon the owners of the land through which the road or gateway is to pass within 30 days after the making of the order.

Selection of the contented to pay our annual increased tribute to our captains of industrial democracy in the name of the great co-operative commonwealth, and substitute the term "production for use," in place of "production for profit."

A. S. AKERS.

FREE SCHOOLS AND TAXATION. Writer Believes Bonds Result in Chil-

dren Paying for Education. PORTLAND, Jan. 3 .- (To the Edior.)-It should be particularly gratifying to the laboring men of Portland

management. Hayden Taibot is the author of the comedy.

Self-expianatory is the following bit taken from the Seattle Times.

Strictly speaking, we do not have free education if any bonds at all are issued for school purposes, to be paid by the next generation. It is natural that the public sample conventions that the public service corporations, whose franchises would expire about when the bonds would mature, should favor the issuance of bonds, and a ower levy.

It is a sinful waste of money to build expensive grammar school buildings in

districts upon which business is rap-idly encroaching. High valuations, rents and taxes drive out the families and expensive school buildings remain an encumbrance on the property, an illustration of which is found in the Library building at Seventh and Stark streets.

The 1911 budget of New York City is an example of a bond-ridden city which now has a Board of Commissioners of Accounts, whose chief duty it is to look after the indebtedness of the city. The entire 1911 budget amounted \$172.967.825.16, of which about per cent, or \$50,661,821,99, is required for debt service, divided as follows: \$ 7,788,789,51

Installments payable to sinking funds this year for future re-demption.

Redemption of that part of the city debt which matures this year.

Interest on city bonds.

est on city bonds. These figures fairly stagger the imagination. The circulating medium of the entire country is only about \$35 per capita, but New York City must raise over \$10 per capita for debt service alone annually, and the amount increases every year. Is it any wonder that the most estentations wealth and that the most ostentatious wealth that the most ostentatious wealth and the most degraded poverty are found in New York City? Laboring men are beginning to learn that in its last analysis they, themselves, in increased cost of living, must bear the bulk of this burden, and they are not so keen to yoth layrs hand laying as they once to vote large bond issues as they one E. BROWNE. were.

There is no such thing as free schools or a free education. Somebody must pay. The taxpayer does, whether he sends his children to the public schools or not. Does this correspondent expect his children to be educated at somebody else's expense, and then, when they grow up, to contribute nothing to the support of the public schools? It would appear so. The only way they can avoid paying anything is to have nothing with which to pay; and, if that cause pretty little Mizzi Hajos' enter- is the result of their education, it has not paid them, and has been a poor investment for the public, which has educated them.

New York is heavily in debt; but its redit is the best in the United States and its tax rate is low-lower than in Portland. Figures as to taxes mean little when the burden rests lightly on the individual.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP HIS PLAN Mr. Akers Thinks It Only Escape From Monopoly or Competition.

HEPPNER, Or., Jan. 3,-(To the Edtor.)-in commenting on the high cost of living in The Oregonian Decomber 28, you said that in a per-fectly organized society it would be just as easy to earn a living when gold was scarce as when it was plengold was scarce as when it was plentiful, but you falled to tell us what in your estimation constituted a perfect organization of society. There can never be a perfectly organized society as long as human energy is robbed of its God-given heritage as a standard of all values. I agree with you when you say that under the perfectly organized society labor sacrifice would not flutuate when the supply of gold diminishes or increases. Right there did minishes or increases. Right there did you stop to think that gold would lose its prestige as a standard of values? Gold would right there surrender its power to labor and the high cost of living would be solved. It seems to be very poor judgment on the part of a civilized community to adopt an article as a medium of exchange that can be cornered by a few and make it obligatory that human energy be tradbe cornered by a few obligatory that human energy be traded for that article before it will be accepted in payment for a debt. Such an act is placing gold on a pedestal high above labor and compelling labor to bow in submission before it. The ule of gold not only greatly obstruc the path of the "Golden Rule," taught by the Great Pacificator, but it is the author of crime. Christ recognized the evil attributive to gold is out of harmony with its relation to labor. relation to labor, hence the deciara-tion that "the love of money is the root of all evil."

The fact that "labor sacrifice" must

pass through the hands of the gold idel before it is made capable of pay-ing a debt lays the foundation of sigantic monopolies and, aided by forces, such as watering of stoo tective tariffs and other special priv lieges, the money power has reached that stage where the people's will is as easily thwarted as a mouse's when in the paws of pussy.

After 29 years on the statute book the people have just begun to awaken to the fact that the Sherman act is only a loke. No trust will ever be busted" by its hands. Even if the

"busted" by its hands. Even Shorman law was enforced, how better would the country be? It just be turning the leaves of progress backward and forcing on the people an industrial competitive warfare with its millions annually of wasted energy. You mention monopoly and waste as two agents responsible for the high cost of living. Realizing the effect that waste has in enhancing prices to the consumer, I am sure you do not want to return to competition. Then, if you will have neither monopoly or competition, will you please tell us your avenue of escape from either? Why not be frank and acknowledge first as last that the only feasible escape from both is by way of public ownership of those articles on which life is dependent?

ownership of those articles on which life is dependent?

All the great labor-saving devices introduced in the last 50 years have had the effect of fortifying more strongly the money power and widening the gulf between capital and labor. Man's ingenuity, which, under natural conditions, would solve the problem of human drudgery, through private ownership of its product, has further enslaved him. Since the various industries have reached a stage where Upon sworn petition of any person that his residence, land, timber land or industries have reached a stage where it defies competition, it naturally has little further use for the genius, and, unless the trusts are "busted" and the industrial race begun over again, as the Description of the light of industrial race begun over again, the Democrats would have it, we meither be contented to pay our annu-

#### Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of Jan. 4, 1862. of the greatest triumphs of the over secessionism has been gained a farmers of Illinois, in the sucyear over secessionism has been gained by the farmers of illinois, in the suc-cessful culture of a wide growth of Chinese sugar cane. It is estimated that in La Salle County there is enough that in La Salie County there is enough raised to make syrup for home consumption and have some to spare. There are eight or ten cane milis in full blast in Ottawa and immediate vicinity, and how many are running in other parts of the county we can only guess from accounts of the amount of sorghum raised. The number must be over 50 and perhaps 100.

The steamer Coults arrived last evening. We have Eastern telegraphic dates, including 24th December. The despatches we copy from the San Francisco Bulletin, Alta, Call and Sacramento Union.

The Mason and Slidell affair is likely to be settled without difficulty; the tone of the British Minister was moderate; the rebel lines are said to be awaiting an attack from General Clellan: the rebels are flying in Mis souri; General Pope captured another rebel force with a large amount of baggage, horses, etc.; 1300 rebels have been captured at Warrensburg, Mo.; cotton has been shipped from Beaufort; cotton has been shipped from Beaufort; General Burnside's expedition is ready to start for the South; smart and suc-ceasful action with the rebels on the Potomae; Fort Pickens bombarding Fort McRae; great guns distributed to English warships; great slave insur-rection in Mississippi with immense destruction of property General Haidestruction of property; General Hai-leck proclaims death to men who cut telegraph lines and compels secession-ists on the route of railroads to re-pair them; destruction of a railroad; General Pope determined to clear Missouri of the rebels.

According to previous notice, the two rival boatmen made their appearance in their respective boats at the an pointed hour in front of Commercial wharf; both men were confident of success, but Seaman had great odds, he having the swiftest and lightest-built boat. When the signal for start-ing was given, Frenchy put in some of his "best licks," which brought him about a moat's length ahead of his rival, which he retained until nearing the home stretch. When about at the foot of Salmon street, Lyman put in a little more muscle, which brought him home about two boat lengths ahead of his opponent. Time by our chronometer, \$715 minutes. Distance, two miles. There must have been some 700 or \$00 persons present, who seemed highly interested in the race.

Immediately after the termination of the bost race yesterday, Seaman and Frenchy again matched to pull a race the same distance this afternoon at 2 o'clock, for \$200 a side.

We have The Mountaineer of the 1st-inst. The Colonel Wright was laid up for the season. A good deal of ice running in the Columbia River. Captain Currey's company of 44 men had been mustered into the service. A company of miners are about to pro-ceed to Salmon River overland. The snow was 12 inches deep in the neighborhood of The Dalles on the 1st. Mountaineer supposes 20,000 persons will travel over the Mullan road next

Quincy, Dec. 24 .- The House yesterday passed Wilson's resolutions pro-hibiting the United States officers using any of their forces for the pur-pose of returning fugitive slaves. Fenton introduced a bill granting lands for a railroad from Missouri River to San Francisco.

PORTLAND, Jan. 8 .- (To the Editor.) "Captain Gray's Party," a book written by Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway many years ago, of her and others' experiaces in crossing the plains before the advent of the railroads, has, understand, run through two editions. Can you advise me as to where a copy could be obtained? Several of your readers would highly appreciate it. CHAS. F. FORD.

Mrs. Duniway's book, "From the West to the West," contains the account of Captain Gray's party. J. K. Gill & Co., Portland, have a limited number of copies in stock.

Winter Roads in California.

HILLSDALE, Or., Jan., 2.—(To the Editor.)—Is the road from San Francisco to Los Angeles in good condition for automobile traveling of January? A SUBSCRIBER

Rains, when they occur in January in Southern California, are often torren-tial, and render roads unsatisfactory for auto touring. The soil dries out An auto tourist quickly, however. would have to take his chances.

PORTLAND, Jan. 3 .- (To the Editor.) -Can you tell me where the list of neirs can be obtained in the Bank of

Chancery, and in what city is the Bank of Chancery situated in England? STEADY SUBSCRIBER. We know of no bank of chancery in England. There is a Court of Chan-cery, but the story that the settlement of many estates in chancery awaits the

claims of American heirs is fiction. Unlawful Use of Mails.

WOODLAND, Wash., Jan. 8 .- (To the Editor.)-Who is the proper postal of ficial to appeal to when you suspect one of trying to cheat through fraudu-ent advertising? CONSTANT READER.

Chief Postoffice Inspector, Washing ton, D. C.

## Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

Man's interest in hig things is so great that he will discuss radium and neglect that well-known but little fact, his liver.

Business is hard work; every time a clothing merchant sells a suit of clothes he works as hard as a man who organizes and su launches a fiew oil company.

The next time an agent calls on you let this thought run through your mind: "How much honest business does this fellow represent, and how

Nothing makes a man feel so little as to discover that someone is trying to "shake" him, or get rid of him. A thing like that will keep a man awake after he goes to bed.

Many a man who hears a whispered call can't hear the recall when it is as loud as thunder.

Don't let an orator sway you or J book agent sell you. Some girls in poor families have

mighty little to do. No matter how good looking voman is, when she gets a jealous look in her eyes, she's ugiy.

Too many men decide that they can't do anything without a "pull;" without "influence." As a matter of fact, good work and good character will beat any other pull on earth.