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The Oregonian

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(BT CARRIER.)

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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14, 1912.

CHINA A REPUBLIC."

Let no man hereafter deny original. ity to the Chinese. They have di ered an eminently new and dignified manner of getting rid of a monarch. The English and French, who boast of more advanced civilization, disposed of their kings by decapitation; the Brazilians put their Emperor on board ship and deported him; King Manuel of Portugal only saved his royal skin by flight. The Chinese make a treaty with their Emperor, by which he is allowed to retain all the trappings of a power. overeign with none of the They then allow him to save his face by issuing edicts keeping up the pretense that the act is voluntary.

Considering the size, population and primitive means of communication the Chinese revolution has achieved success more rapidly than any other in modern history. Nearly seven years passed from the outbreak of civil war in little England until King Charles head dropped under the ax. Between the outbreak of the first French revoution and the execution of King Louis over four years passed. The Portuguess revolution was the work of a few days, but any province of China is as large as several Portugals. China is the second largest empire in the world in contiguous territory and 2710 largest in population, but only five months have passed since the first asault on the imperial government by the republicans.

The moderation shown in the terms made with the Emperor and the crderly manner in which these terms have been arranged augur well for the success of the new form of government. Self-restraint is the first essentia' to the success of a republic, and the Chinese republican leaders have shown this quality to a marked degree.

The democratizing of China is the fruit of increased intercourse with the Western world, particularly with the United States. The hundreds of thousands of Chinese who have resided for years in the United States and have been educated in this country and Euby Western nations with the archaic despotism which cursed their country. They set a leaven of discontent to work high has permeated the whole mass of the population and has caused a volcanic eruption by which the im-

into ruins. It is significant that Sun Yat Sen, president of the new republic, is an American citizen and was educated in this country, and Wu Ting Fang, its Minister of Justice, was educaan English school in Hongkong and in England, and also saw the workings of during stemocratic institutions sears of service as minister to this matry.

which again set such a republic on its feet when it was tottering and again withdrew without asking payment for our trouble

For these reasons Mexico had better set her house in order. She had better make up her mind that, if she cannot, will come from Intervention quarter and that it will be better for own interests that it come from the United States. If we should intervene, we should be more inclined to deal gently with her if no more such manifestoes as that of Gonzales were

ONE-MAN POWER OVER \$40,000,000

issued.

The Oregonian hopes that the people of Oregon are already famillar with West \$40,000,000 highway bills. the The subject has attracted wide and deserved attention, which is gratifying to The Oregonian, as it ought to be to the Governor's commission. There There are two provisions on which we desire now to lay special emphasis. Section 3, of the first bill, reads:

No read, highway, public way or bridge, puld far wholy or in part out of the manays of this state, however appropriated, shall he surveyed, planted, projected, constructed, maintained or erected until and only after approval by the State Highway Commis-dance.

The State Highway Commissioner is to be appointed by the Gevernor, without the advice and consent of the State Senate, or any state board or any organization, or anybody. He may be removed by the Governor "for cause" that is to say, for any cause satisfactory to the Governor. Section 7 has among other things this provision:

All contracts for the construction or im-provement of public highways must be made in the name of the state of Oregon, approved by the Governor, signed by the State High-way Commissioner and approved as to form or legality by the Attorney-General or his deputy.

The Governor of Oregon, by outright action, or through his highway commissioner, is thus vested with the power to direct and control the expendi-ture of the entire \$40,000,000 road money. But more. He alone designates the roads to be built and maintained through state aid and he alone approves the contracts for road-building with money furnished by the coun-

ties. How do the countles like that? The Governor builds roads when and where he pleases, and pays for them with the public moneys; and \$40,000. 000 is appropriated-\$20,000,000 outright, \$20,000,000 conditionally-for that purpose.

This is one-man power elevated to the highest and most dangerous extreme.

THE BREAKDOWN OF LA FOLLETTE La Follette's physical and nervous

breakdown and the collapse of his Presidential boom are made the occasion by the Eastern newspapers of an unsparing dissection of his character and explanation of his failure. He is discussed with the less mercy because of his furious outburst of abuse of the newspapers at the Philadelphia banquet, whereby he allenated some persons who had previously been his friends

The Brooklyn Eagle decides that the Senator's cause broke down just as he did, both being the victims of too much iteration. It says he undertook to say too much and said it; that he confounds the fact that he likes to rope, could not fall to contrast the hear himself with the impression that ings of self-government enjoyed people equally like to hear him. It denies that he is a reformer or revolutionist, as he thinks he is, but calls him a political barbarian. It further 80.31%

says: So far as the people of the United States are concerned. Mr. La Folieite is regarded as a man who knows we should have rec-iprocity with Canada and who knows that Fresident Taits present tariff reform padition is right, but who expanses both for his interests and against his convictions. This is making men the judges of others than themselves, and may he wrong, but it is hased on Mr. La Foliette's reversal on these subjects of the conclusions he advances on and on Mr. La policité prevent of these ubjects of the conclusions he advances on ognate subjects by which voice in Wiscon-in are not affected. The people of the initial States as far as can be determined the persuaded that the Senator believes one cay and voice and take the other. No man is to whom that is believed has ever been decied Fresident of the United States, whether Democrat or Republican, and none war ought to be or probably ever will be La Follette is given full credit by the Boston Transcript for his success-ful war on corporation domination in Wisconsin, but says it has made him the exponent of one idea and has inclined him to regard the United States as one great Wisconsin. He tried to apply Wisconsin remedies to New York and New England, but falled, and the descrition of many of his followers to Roosevelt, ensued. The East does not understand La Follette any better than he understands the East, it says, and nounces Cummins better fitted to build up a balance of power aggregation, but it says Cummins came into the race too late to command anything but a local following. It concludes: The halt of the La Follette movement is one of many events which, if not infal-lible indications, still point toward the drift of Republican opinion as favoring the re-nomination of President Taft. La Follette's failure to capture the East is likened by the New York Herald to that of Bryan and is contrasted with the success of Lincoln, whose Cooper Union speech electrified his hearers and brought thout his nomination for the Presidency. It commients: Lincoln's speech was short. The speeches of all three other Western wonders were long-winded, declamatory and denuclatory. What helped Lincoln was the obvious ele-ment of sincerity and the reasonable assump-tion of fixed purpose. The collapse of La Follette's movement is compared by the Herald to the "much more tremendous collapse" of the efforts of the muckraking magasines to away public opinion, and it concludes: "The monotony of denunciation appears to have run its course. Commenting on the Senator's denunciation of the newspapers, the New York Tribune condemns him more for its interminable length than for its invective and says:

the Senator became a candidate for President only as a spokesman and rallying point of the "progressives." It says of the display he made of himself at Philadelphia:

The detect of the La Pollette pr hilosophy was presented in a bail aked way, and men shrank from it. effect is the tendency to despair of to ubile and with sampleious and a sranolac fear to see compiracy agains bile average and the re-It charitably attributes his abuse of the newspapers to loss of the sense of proportion in consequence of his having been "set on and abused and pur-

sued with the most energetic malignancy. Landing La Follette as "a man of great force, of brilliant ability, of nervus intensity of temperament, and of very firm and patriotic purpose," the New York Mall pronounces his withdrawal definite and asks if it does not "put the Republican nomination for the Presidency very definitely into the

hands of Colonel Theodors Roosevelt." Saying that the Senator effectually killed his boom by his Philadelphia speech, the Indianapolis Star remarks: What he says about newspapers is of little prequence, but a man with no more sump-on than to make a two-hour speech at that me of night does not know how to keep boom alive. La Foliotte's withdrawal is taken by

the Baltimore Evening Sun as causing things to swing Roosevelt's way and comments that, if nominated, Roosevelt "must go before the people on a platform actually, if not verbally, condemning the four years of Republican

administration just closing." Desertion of La Follette for Rooseveit by the so-called "progressives" is condemned by the New York Evening Post, which says the Senator has done

nothing disgraceful, and adds: One would think that those who have een acclaiming him as their great leader nd the hope of the country might have lowed a decent interval to pass before bey dropped him as of no further se-unt.

Alone of the newspapers, the Chicago Tribune has unqualified praise for La Follette. It says his reputation will not suffer and of his career it says: Though it were ended here. Robert M. La Poliette would go down to posterity as one of the ablest and most enlightened public men of his time-one of America's construct-ive statesmon.

PROHIBITION PARTY OUT OF DATE.

The spectacle of Eugene W. Chafin, the Prohibitionist candidate for President, perambulating the country reminds us that there is a Prohibition party. The attenuated frame of that once formidable organization offers an instructive object for contemplation, but no longer plays much of a part in

the living world. Desirable as the promotion of temperance is, the American voter has pretty well convinced himself that prohibitory legal enactments do not help

a great deal to that end. The saloon may be closed in one form, but it reappears in some worse one before a great while, and the law stands poweress before its illicit doors.

Prohibitionism presents about the filmsiest imaginable foundation for a National political party. The idea which it seeks to exploit has no present standing in philanthropic circles. Modern sociologists do not believe in trying to promote morality by negalive methods. The "Thou shalt not" formula has been in vogue for a good many centuries, but it has not accomplished anything very startling. Now we have censed to depend upon "Thou shalt not" and have begun to try the efficacy of "Thou shalt." In other words, reformers have abandoned negative theories and are building on the positive. They no longer expect to make a man virtuous by depriving him of the opportunity to sin. The new way is to replace bad impulses by good

The saloon is to be closed by in-OD PB. venting an innocent resort to take its The craving for liquor is to be abala. neutralized by providing nutritious food and proper recreation in pure air. The social hunger which finds satisfaction in vicious dens is to be directed to places where mirth and companionship exist without depravity. Reform has become constructive.

there is nothing essentially depraving in the effort to depict them either in books, music or pictures. Some pas-sions may be disagreeable, others ter-

rible, while some are naturally pleasing to contemplate. But the Almighty created them all and gave them to us for some purpose of his own which as are obliged to assume was a good purpose. Such a novel as "Tom Jones," which describes a young man

of defective education in all his naked. news of mind and body, could not be called an immoral book by a person of good sense. While it describes scenes of vice, it does not make them

attractive. On the contrary by leading is on to their miserable consequences it teaches a noble lesson of virtue. Still there are a great many people who aver that Fielding's immortal novel is demoralizing.

There is danger in our times that some persons may confuse morality with the concealment of truth. Truth told is wicked. Truth concealed is the acme of plety even if the concealment issues by and by in a social ulcer. This is precisely what has happened with ald regard to our monstrous prudery on questions of sex. We cannot bear to see them gravely discussed in books or

plays, but some people are not disturbed at all by the prevalence of the "red plague," which is the direct consequence of this unpardonable bsourantism The unforgivable sin in literature or

art of any sort is mendacity. As long as a book or picture tells the whole truth and nothing but the truth, it is not dangerous. But when there is lllicit concealment of part of the truth then the reader or spectator is liable to be depraved. The danger arises not so much from what he reads or sees as from what is kept out of sight Ibsen's plays and those of Bernard Shaw have been denounced by shallow critics as demoralizing, but nothing The salient could be more foolish. folly. quality of these writers is their unsparing frankness. They are the enfants terribles of literature; but their minds are perfectly childlike. Though they describe sin with scientific accuracy they are without sin themselves and

they never make it fascinating to their readers. Who would be attracted to low indulgence by reading "Ghosts"? The trouble with those persons who shrick at the immorality of modern art is a confusion of ideas. When plays, pictures and books treat vice as a subject for wittleism and laughter these critics are not disturbed at all. It is only when sin is handled seriously and its consequences truthfully depleted that their consciences are aroused. What sort of consciences do

such persons possess? Once upon a time, when the beaute-

ous Countess of Salisbury was dancing with King Edward III, her blue garter slipped off and the King gallantly replaced it. The courtiers snickered and Edward exclaimed, in his vexation: "Hont soit qui mal y pense," adding that he would make them all eager to wear the blue garter. Thus arose the most famous order of chivalry in the world, to which Sir Edward Grey has just been admitted. At any rate, thus the story runs. Some dyspeptic his torians deny it, but such men would deny the reality of Mrs. Harris.

The transfer of ornamental plumage from the hats to the shoes of fashionable women is a move toward putting things in proper relations. The feet of such a "society dame" are of vastly more consequence than her head, since they are useful for dancing, while she has no possible occasion for brains. It. is seemly to indicate this pedal eminence by depriving the hat of those ornaments which have lent the head a deceptive appearance of importance and attaching them to the shoes.

ONE - MAN CONTROL IS OPPOSED Half a Century Ago ormer County Officer Sees Several

From The Oregonian of Feb. 14, 1862. SALEM, Or., Feb. 12 .--- (To the Editor.) Having served four years as a memler of the County Court of one of the coast counties, I feel a keen interest in the discussion on the West road bills. I cannot support the bills for various

account of the operations of the stone fleet before Charleston: Frasons. First-I would oppose them because they would put \$20,000,000 in the hands of one man to be spent in road work as he thought best, regardless of the wishes of the people who furnished the

fleet before Charleston: "At half past 4 this afternoon, the tide being nearly full, we crossed the bar and ran a hawser to the bark Theodosia, of New London, which was to be the first victim and towed her across the bar to the upper boat, on the left band side of the channel. The ond-They would create a large the left hand side of the channel.

Second—They would create a large company of fat-salaried officials to be appointed by him, whose salaries would greatly reduce the working capital. Third—They would make him abso-lute exar over all read work in the state, and no read could be construct-ed or repaired, and no bridge built or rebuilt without the consent of the Highway Commissioner or his deputy. Fourth—Each county would have to pay its proportion of taxes, and then be harred from any state ald until hi had spent out of its proportion of state ald. trembling old bark, heing under some hendway, moved slowly on to the exact spot we wished her and then struck the bottom. The plug had been knocked out as the anchor dropped and the water rushed madly and wild-ly in. In a moment the whaleboats were lowered and alongside, and the dunnage of the officers and crew rap-idly passed over the bulwarks and into them. We hurried out to tow in an-

them. We hurried out to tow in other before dark. The first touched bottom and the plug We hurried out to tow in an shit

The county funds also must be spent under the direction of this Commission-er. This arangement forces the counties to spend a sum equal to the state fund, or, in other words, \$40,000,000 is to be spent under the absolute dictatorship of one man, and not a yard of road can be built or repaired without his

This law would not be practical for This law would not be practical for the reason that constant emergencies demand attention. In the coast coun-ties, especially, where the long rainy season softens the mountain sides they are continually silding into the roads

Dangers in Road Bills

DODRY.

Sa

are continually shound with dirt, rock and blockading them with dirt, rock and timber, and to keep traffle and mail routes open the Supervisor must be on hand with his men at once. To wait and make his request to the Comprobably missioner at Salem, or probably in some distant part of the state, and have him come or send a man to inspect the trouble and give direction would be

Some one may say this is an exceptional case. It is not exceptional, but so common that in places all the avail-able road funds have been used to keep the roads open, and then the settiers would donate weeks of work to

help out. The best feature of the bills is op That is the division plan. Their atti-tude is selfish and one-sided. If Portland is to be supported by the pro-ducers of the country and grow rich from the supplies she furnishes, she hould help to build roads over which these things are to be hauled. C. M. BROWN.

G. M. BROWN. Mr. Brown probably misinterprets the view of the Multnomah County Court. Multnomah may very properly help build roads in other counties, but-it should not be made the goat. Multno-mah, under the distribution, would spend about \$6,500,000 in other coun-ties and less than \$500,000 for its own roads, not taking account of interest on the bonds. How about Marion County? Does Mr. Brown believe Marion should enter into a bonding scheme which would give it \$500,000 worth of roads for \$900,000? In other words, should Marion tax itself for words, should Marion tax itself for roads and give nearly half the money it raises to other counties? These injustices are proposed under the division plan of the bills. t raises to other counties?

HEAD TAX ON FOREIGN LABORERS. Writer Would Protect Home Workers

From Chenp Competition.

EUGENE, Or., Feb. 12 .- (To the Ed-itor.)-In the New York World of Feb-Itor, ---In the New York which, to say ruary 5, is an editorial which, to say the least, contains food for thought. In this article, Chairman Gary, of the Steel Trust, is quoted as saying "Employes prefer 12 hours per day work in order to receive a larger compensa-

in order to receive a inquestion further tion." The article in question further states that the wages varying from 1216 conts to 17 cents an hour, which 12% cents to 17 cents an hour, at 13 hours per day would produce a maximum wage of \$2.16, with the great majority working for much less. It is further stated that steel rails are produced at a labor cost of \$1.16 per ton, and the fact is cited that after

Sumter Avenged-Scaling of Charles-ton Harbor by the Stone Fleet-The New York Heraid of January 1 con-tains correspondence from Port Royal to December 31. The following is an

deck in the twinkling of an eye. The trembling old bark, being under some

drawn as the sun went down. The Rebecca Simms was towed in and anchored at the other side of the channel and the water soon filled her hold Captain Davis requested the Pocahon-tas and Ottawa to tow in and sink all

the ships they could, after the moon had risen high enough to afford us light to see. We towed in and sunk light to see. We towed in and sunk four more before the low water made it impossible for the loaded ships to be placed in position. The Pocahontas

towed in two during the evening." Extracts from European papers in dicate that England and France are inclined to meddle in our affairs. It is said that remonstrance is to be It made against the sealing of the harbor of Charleston. That work is done and no remonstrance will affect it. As an

independent power, we have a right to open and close our ports to foreign trade at pleasure. The division of Washington Terri-

tory is under discussion in the papers of that territory. Colonel Thornton Grumley, a se sionist of St. Louis, was assessed \$200 for the support of Union exiles. He

was so excited as to the matter that he went into a fit and died. A band of 33 fine mules were brought

to this city yesterday by Mr. Heyward who has been traveling in the Wil-lamette Valley for several weeks for the purpose of purchasing good ones. the purpose of purchasing good ones, and he has succeeded. They are the property of the Oregon Steam Naviga-tion Company, and will be used to pack freight on the portage between The Dalles and Deschutes.

We learn that the ice in the Colum bin River above the mouth of the Willamette is just as firm as it was

month ago. We learn that after the first of March we shall have a line of weekly

steamers from San Francisco to this port. We also learn that the steamer Moses Taylor will run between the two ports.

We understand that the proprietors of the insane asylum, which is to be spected on the east bank of the Willamette, opposite this city, have made contracts with Messrs. St. Johns and Williamson to do the work, which is to be completed by the first of May. The Legislature of Washington Terri-

tory have made provision by law for the support of insame and idiotic per-sons in asylums provided for such pationts.

Word-Portrait of Jefferson Davis. Mary Johnson in "The Long Roll," Mary Johnson in The Long Very straight and tall, thin, with a clear-cut, clean-shaven, distinguished face, with a look half military man, half student, with a demeanor to all of perfect if somewhat chilling courtesy. By temperament a theorist, able with the ability of the field marshal or the

man's talk of a Christmas present after he has had it two or three years. If a man is more practical than a because people talk voman, it

plainer to him. There is at least enough in love to keep everybody hopeful about it.

Newspapers at San Diego, Cal.

TAFT. Or., Feb. 12 .- (To the Editor.)

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

-What Republican newspapers are printed or published in San Diego, Cal.?

The American Newspaper Annual and

The Favorite Valentine

By Dean Collins.

This is the season of the year beating hearts declare their When passion, In tender missives, full of warmth,

Dished up in fine poetic fashion; it Valentine, wise saint, presides O'er the emotions that excite us, And lead to sundry antic stunts More seemly to the good St. Vitus.

Or, if our feelings turn to scorn, "

Resounds

Sooth.

Inc

whistle.

To those whose ways we cannot stomach. We pass the vitriol-pointed blade

Exemplified within the "comic." a every side, in every place, Resounds the burdened postman's

And poisoned shafts, or Cupid's darts Spring thick as thorns upon a thistle.

Were carried to its full conclusion?

Woodrow from Bryan might receive A comic tip to rise and beat it;

A cocked hat marked "Return with care."

"Accept this Valentine and eat it."

Or Roosevelt, aroused to speech. Might cry aloud, full frank and

If it will save you, Grand Old Party."

And might receive again, these words: "Much on! For I am not empowered To be your loving Valentine— My heart is pledged to William Howard."

How zealous would he be in quoting The sugared phrases, couched to win The hearts of those who do the vot-

ing. , the Composite Voting Man

Would rank up foremost in the bet

The Valentines that he'd be getting.

What dainty miss, with witching grace, Counts half the suitors who are bow-

Their picture cards, with deep kow-

towing? From Senator to Constable, A thousand candidates are pining,

First in the season's valentining

-Dean Collins, Portland, Feb. 13.

Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

We are all appreciated at our true worth, finally; I suppose we must ad-

mit that. But how slow and deliberate

Scattered over the world are a few

Rivalry between undertakers seems

little more objectionable than any

Don't you know several people you would like to "call down?" And don't

you hate to do it? Do you hate to talk plainly to people because you dislike to hurt their feelings, or because you

What we need in this country is

everybody to behave better; reform in

If a boy is as good as I was when a child, I don't believe in hurting his feelings by saying: "You are a bad

Old people have a mean way of snearing about love that reminds me of

a few spots won't help much.

people who admire your ways. It is up to you to find them, if you hope to

appreciation usually is.

ome famous.

other.

are afraid?

boy.'

And the Composite Voter reigns

And here at home, the Candidate-

ting, If one should judge importance by

Before the People, shoving out

Ah, what might be the list of things

Containing holiday effusion If the mad spirit of the day

hearty, Tll gladly be your Valentine

Democratic ideas thus spread with resistiess force until they will in time rule the world, and all the powers of autocracy can only delay, but cannot prevent, their triumph.

A WARNING TO MEXICO.

Governor Gonzales' grandlloquent appeal to Mexicans to take up arms against the United States is prohably a shrewd political move to divert atten tion from internal dissension by arousing the dermant hostility to the United States. The oppressor whose hand is "pressing on the brow" of Mexico is of the United States, but the incapacity of the Mexicans to carry on a republican government. Every battle fought by the factions is a vindication of the policy of Diaz in holding down the country with a strong hand. The only danger of enslavement by this country or any other foreign power rises from their own inability to settle their internal disputes at the ballot box instead of by arms.

The United States has no desire to undertake the forcible pacification of Mexico. If we should send an army into the revolution-ridden republic, we shall do so most unwillingly as the only alternative to intervention by some European power. We have become responsible to the world for the good conduct of other American nations, in order that Europe may make no excuse to interfere in their affairs or invade their territory. Foreign investments in Mexico attained such magnitude under the rule of Dian and foreign residents in that country have become so numerous that foreign nations will not sit idly by and see these investments destroyed or their value impaired, or the lives of these residents taken or imperiled, by the promiscuous shooting scrapes which Mexicans dignify with the title "revolution." aside from our international obligation under the Monroe doctrine, we shall endure this condition with the less patience because our investments are larger and our cltizens resident in Mexico are more numerous than those of any other nation.

Mexico may as well make up her mind that, unless she very soon restores of ill-health and overwork, calls his order within her borders, some other, boom "a sickly thing" and says: rder within her borders, some other, nation will. If the United States should neglect to do so, the task will be undertaken by some European nation. History tells us that the nations of always exact payment, in the Europe hape of territory, trade concessions or indemnity or all combined, as compenation for the work of pacification. If Mexico is unable to restore order unaided and even if the United States were unwilling to undertake the work. would be to the interest of Mexico to invite, indeed to urge, us to undertake it. rove the oppressor out of a rebellious by gives him this finishing blow: country, stood guard while that country founded a republic, then departed hout asking a dollar of indomnity and sent the young nation on its way rejoicing. We are the only nation

Mr La Follette didn't terrify anybody; he didn't anger anybody; but he bared every-body nearly to death. ody nearly to death. Discreditable is the term applied

the Baltimore American to the Philadelphia speech and it says:

Pearish guernique, defiant and finally offensive. Mr. La Follette san the gamut of ungrachumques and even his friends and patrons left the room humiliated and in-dignant.

It refuses to accept his friends' plea

poom "a sickly thing" and says: Rather it is true that Mr La Follette recognizes that his ambitions are fulle, and that the tide has turned so strongly in forever of the renomination of President Taft that all other little becomiets like that of Mr. La Follette have swept hopelessiy and forever out of sight. His address was not the twan song of a gallant warrior yield-tag im sightly to an adverse fait, but the raneous dronk of the raves, ill-omened bird of deepair. of deep

La Follette's bronkdown is attributed by the Louisville Courier-Journal to the rebuke which Dan C. Seltz gave him at Philadelphia, and it says "about the only effect of his break will be his We are the only nation which , own personal humiliation." It unkind-

DEMORALIZING LITERATURE.

What is demoralizing literature? The question is pertinent just now because a formidable movement has started in England to have the censor-ship on books and plays tightened. A the procession. delegation of stern moralists appeared before the Home Secretary, who has charge of such subjects in London, and asked him to see that more prosecutions were brought hereafter against the writers of "corrupting, demoraliz-ing and poisonous" books. The Home cretary politely informed his visitors that "they were rendering a great public service," so that one may naturally suppose there is trouble ahead in England for authors of a certain stamp Just what stamp is threatened cannot be pointed out definitely, however, until somebody does the public the favor to describe "demoralizing" literature with more precision than it has ever

been described as yet. The usual acceptation of the term is, of course, perfectly well known, but it lacks something of scientific accuracy. Denoralizing literature or drama or art is the kind which any particular critic does not happen to like. The kind

which he does like is always pure and elevating to an incredible degree. This definition, as we have said, is widely accepted, but it lacks scientific rigor. It would be well if we could light upon something a little less undulating. To certain fanatical religious sects all books are demoralizing except the Bible and those dismal works with which their own leaders have afflicted the world. We have known men who lumped all novels together Indiscriminately as "lies" and declared that anybody who read such books imperiled his soul. An elderly professor at the State University was once heard to say sadly that the singing of Handel's great air "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" by a charming soprano brought

the student body perceptibly nearer to perdition, not, of course, because the sentiment of the words was immoral, but because there was a certain devil-If ishness in everything beautiful. Handel had set the words to a cheap melody or if the soprano who sang them had had a bad cold, his fears would not have been excited.

There is a type of mind which instinctively looks for sin in all art. The statuary which was placed upon the

buildings at the Chicago World's Fair stood around upon the pavements for a while before it was put in position. Nothing could have been more innocent. It represented cattle, hornes and similar harmless creatures, including men and women, but the loungers who

gazed upon it did not fail to find iniquity in the nudo figures. If we were to attempt a definition of demoralizing literature we should be There is every reason to believe, as well as to hope, that Mr. La Fellerie will soon recover his health. As to list ground, the Senator want's much of a real estate holder in the campaign anyway. The New York Globe assumes that

With the adoption by China of the orrected calendar, Russia remains the only important country which reckons time by an antiquated and misleading method. The Russian calendar, which is wrong by twelve days, is part of the creed of the Greek church. To admit that one part of the sacred creed needs correction would shake the infallibility of the whole of it. So Russia clings to her theological calendar while China steps toward the head of

The muckrakers of the House will not gain much by proclaiming that President Taft saved from public disgrace a woman whose misdeeds with Major Ray had been condoned by her husband. The time has gone by when votes could be turned against a man simply because he refused to aid in besmirching a woman.

Elimination of Folk by Clark as a Presidential candidate in Missouri narrows the Democratic fight down to four leaders-Wilson, Harmon, Clark and Underwood, with a scattering of favorite sons and with Bryan hovering over the battlefield, ready to snatch up a fourth nomination if the combat proves undecisive.

There is sound reason in Germany's prohibition of mixed marriages in Samoa. The result is rather to debase the civilized than to uplift the barbarian and the issue of such marriages is well described by Kipling in the phrase The Mexicans "half devil, half child." are a warning to the world against such mixtures.

If any man doubts that President Taft can deal hard blows in the polit ical arena, let him read the President's speech to the New York Republican "Emotionalists and neurotics" is Club. as stinging an epithet as could be flung at the insurgents, the more so because of its truth.

Dr. Roland D. Grant is rather severa in calling Roosevelt a faker, in the sense that a faker is one who fakes. if he had said fakir, meaning one who makes big medicine, he would have hit the mark. But Dr. Grant often shoots before he aims.

Increased demand for Pacific Coast shingles in Kentucky and Tennessee has stiffened the market, but the limit will not be reached until Arkansas begins patching the roof.

Upton Sinclair's wife, having discarded the Kansus poet, is writing a book, which she might call "The Jangle" and continue Upton's line of nausea.

Patrons of husbandry, better than all others, understand the good roads problem, practical and financial,

The man who makes the weather was two months early yesterday.

Spring fever is trying to the nerves of a trusty.

paying this princely sum to the laborer, the trust must be content with the measiy profit of \$9.20 per ton. Every school child is taught that there are school child is taught that there are two objects of the Government in maintwo objects of the Government in main-taining a tariff on imported goods, one of which is revenue to meet necessary Government expenses, and the other to protect home industries. It has long been the slogan of the Jefferson Davis.

It has long been the slowant of the ultra protectionist that only by means of the protective tariff could American labor be protected from the cheap alien labor of Europe, but this is only a subterfuge, as these same protection beneficiaries are importing the cheap farates labor and are thereby placing foreign labor and are thereby placing 90 per cent of the tariff to the credit side of their ledger to be divided among

side of their ledger to be divided among opulent stockholders. It is very evident from this that: (1) The Government is losing its rev-enue, since the rate being prolibitive, foreign importations are small, there-fore, little duty is collected; (2) that we are protecting no one but the al-ready opulent steel baron, as he re-fuses to grant to labor its just pro-portion of the duty; (3) that the peo-ple are standing in their own light by portion of the duty; (3) that the peo-ple are standing in their own light by voting to maintain prices so high that railroad companies are deterred from building new and much-needed roads on account of the prohibitive prices of material.

I am of the opinion that the proper I am of the opinion that the proper way to protect the American laborer is to put a head tax on these cheap for-eigners who come here only to usurp the work which we should give to our own citizens, making it practically pro-hibitive, unless the candidate for ad-mission shows unmistakable evidence of his desire to become an American citizen and not a leech, preying on la-bor, expecting to return to his own country when he has acquired a com-patence, only to send two others in his d two others in h E. R. PARKER. stence, only to send two place.

Labor Letter in South.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. Feb. 9.--(To the Editor.)--I am inclosing a clipping from the Albuquerque Mining Journal. am sure this is a great mistake and an injustice to the city of Portland and state of Oregon in general, I just left Portland a few weeks ago, and no such conditions prevailed at that time AN OREGONIAN.

The elipping inclosed contains the Central Labor Council letter in full, un-der the following introduction: Declaring that the state of Oregon has been the victim of "unscrippilous exploita-tion." and that the legitimate development of that state's vast resources is threatened by the conditions that how prevail, the Central Labor Council of Portland and vicin-ity has sent out a red letter to the Governor of every Western state, warning the public Gevernor McDonaid has received one of these caustle productions.

Postal Card Has 532 Written Words. Baltimore American.

Baltimore American. Mrs. M. W. Thomas, of North Adams, has received from her mother, Mrs. T. C. Phelps, of Vergennes, Vt. a postal card containing 532 words, written by the latter in a very fine but perfectly legible hand. Mrs. Phelps is 78 years old and without the aid of eyeglasses, wrote the words.

David's Stick and Its Lond.

Cincinnati Enquirer. David had slain Goliath and the ad-miring throngs wondered that a small aling should have felled a giant. "It was easy," explained David. "You see. I didn't know it was loaded."

est of workers, devoted, honorable, single-minded, a figure on which a flerce light has beaten. A man not pe fierce light has batten. A main how per fect, nor always just, bound in the trials of his own personality, but yet an able man who suffered and gave all, believed in himself, and in his cause, and to the height of his power labored for it day and night. Such a man was

Nails and Handshaking.

Manchester Guardian. William Ewart Gladstone, the British

statesman, is said to have found the Inverness cape in which he made his Midlothian campaign of immense as-sistance, and not alone in keeping off the cold. Once, at a railway station, he stood at the carriage door, osten-sibly shaking hands with his admirers. But the hands of Mr. Gladstone, were snugly hidden beneath the cape, while an obliging porter knelt behind and thrust out his hand to the Gladstonian worshipers. "A hard hand has Glad-stone," said one of them as he walked away, and his companion replied, with tears in his voice: "But, man, did ye statesman, is said to have found the

notice his nails?" Exhibit in Family Cutlery. Louisville Courier-Journal. "I call 'em the cutlery family." "Why so?"

the daughter spoons, the Well. father forks out the money and the mother knifes the other guests."

A Race in Dollars and Cents.

Cincinnati Enquirer. Binks-What's the trouble old man? You look worried. Jinks-I am. I can't keep up with

cine.

my running expenses.

Medicine From Stags' Horns. Indianapolis News.

In China stags are raised for their horns, which latter are cut when soft and used in the manufacture of medi-

rather peculiar manner." "Tes," said the landlady. "He is

There Are Many Real Estate Bargains Advertised Exclusively in The Oregonian Classified Columns.

Real estate offerings that are advertised in no other section of the paper. These small ads are inexpensive. There are a great many people who consult the classified section every day looking for real estate bargains. And they find them.

You will find offerings of vacant lots, improved property, acreage, business sites and all other forms of realty investments advertised for sale at bargains in the classified columns. These columns are a sort of a market place. Some come in with things to sell. Others come only to buy.

Philadelphia Record. Hubbubs-So you don't agree that the age of miracles is past, ch? Subbubs-Not on your life. There's a man out my way who has had the same cook for nearly a year.

Christian Intelligencer. "Tommy," said his brother, "you're a regular little glutton. How can you cat so much?

"Don't know; it's just good luck," replied the youngster. Ringing in the Lawyer.

Philadelphia Record. Judge-Prisoner, have you anything further to sidd to your defense? Prisoner-All that I ask you to con-sider, my lord, is the extreme youth of my counsel.

A Boarding-House Barometer.

Louisville Courier-Journal. "That new boarder is acting in a

either going to pay up or propose

Explanation of an Appetite.

Directory for 1911 mentions three Re-publican newspapers in San Diego, Cal.; Evening Tribune, dally except Sunday; Progress, issued Saturdays; Union, daily.

Losing a Prospective Husband.

Age of Miracles Not Past.

tears in his voice: "But, man, did ye