te Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1914.

MR. PAGE'S LIGHTER VEIN.

If the old saying, "In vino veritas," be true, then Ambassador Page correctly expressed the attitude of th Wilson Administration toward Great Britain and the Wilson interpretation of the Monroe Doctrine when spoke "in a lighter vein," "late at night" and "extemporaneously" before the Associated Chambers Commerce in London. Not that w mean to suggest that Mr. Page had gone beyond the bounds of modera tion in partaking of good cheer, bu that the genial spirit which prevails at a banquet moves a man to say things which he would hesitate to express under circumstances where his sense of official responsibility and his words are in full control of his

Many recent events combine to confirm the opinion that Mr. Page only said what he knew to express the Wilson policy and that the only reprod which he subjected himself from Mr. Wilson was something like this: you should not have said it quite so loud or with so much publicity. Those are the lines on which we are working, but we aim to do it quietly."

For Mr., Wilson has shown a de cided disposition to lean on England for support in maintenance of the Monroe Doctrine. He could not have maintained his boycott on Huerta in Mexico without British complaisance. which secured him against interference not only from Great Britain, but from other European powers, which cannot have viewed with equanimity murder and torture of their subjects and destruction of their subjects' property. He says he has not heard that the Monroe Doctrine was "failing in any way," but he could scarce have upheld it in Mexico had he not taken John Bull into a sort of partnership.

For that is the logical effect of the Wilson policy toward Mexico. Determined not to recognize the present ruler of four-fifths of that country, get determined not to drive him out by force, and not then to set up such a government as comes up to the Wilon ideal, Mr. Wilson is dependent on the complaisance of foreign powers for freedom to let that policy work itself out by the painful and tedlous process of civil war. In order to insure that complaisance, he enlists the goed will of England. That assured, he car stave off the interference other powers for some time. In order to hold it, he proposes that we abandon the position taken by both parties on canal tells. We are buying England's support in warding off European interference in Mexico, that the Monroe Doctrine may not be jeop-

ardized. Mr. Page's utterances an London closely accord with that policy. He strokes the fur of the British lion with soft phrases calculated to evoke a purr of contentment, as a woman's caresses soothe the domestic cat. He tells a British audience that we are "English led and English ruled," and that to England we owe our form of government and our civilization. expresses pleasure at the knowledge building of the Panama Canal "and at the prespect that the Underwood tariff will swell the volume of British trade." He extols "the colossal structure of Brilish commerce." He interprets the meaning of the Monroe Doctrine as being only "that no European government should gain any more land in the new world." All this is designed to put the old lion in such a frame of mind that he will not grow restive when a Benton is murdered in Mexico and will forget the day when Palmerston stormed over the wrongs of a British subject who was a naturalixed Portuguese Jew.

Those who criticise Mr. Wilson are accused by the New York World of having "too many Monroe Doctrines" and are reminded that the original Monroe Doctrine meant only what Mr. Page said. The World thus interprets that doctrine:

terprets that doctrine:

In a word, the Monroe Doctrine forbids further conquests on this hemisphere, it does not establish a protectorate. It does not releve Latin-America of responsibility to foreign powers. It does not shield any country that murders or despoils foreigners or is otherwise in the wrong. It does not prevent the use of force by European nations against delinquents. It is a guarantee or independence. It is an assurance Against oppression. It is believed to be a measure of peace and safety for the United States.

All this is true. So in a sense is Mr. Page's definition of the Monroe who has read history knows by what to be insufficient. the demands of a great power leads As in personal, so in National conduct, it becomes us to avoid the first beginnings of evil. We can better and more easily uphold the Monroe Doctrine by dissuading an American state from giving cause of offense to a European power or by inducing an for wrongs done than by calling upon a European power to evacuate territory once occupied. For this reason President Roosevelt took precautions that, when the coast of Venezuela was blockaded, none of its ports should be occupied by European forces; also that a fixed proportion of Santo Domingo's revenue should be applied to payment of its debts by American collectors. Our action in those cases seemed to go beyond the Monroe Doc- than he without paying extra for the house trine, but really served to keep it inviolate. By depriving European nations of opportunity or excuse for occupying American territory, it avert- 50,000 men from Tunis on the east inventions have been made by native ing for anyone,

ed the danger that, under some preext, that occupation might become ermanent or might reduce an Amer-

can republic to a state of dependence Mr. Wilson has departed from the Monroe Doctrine in two particulars, both important. He has requested Europe to keep hands off Mexico, but 4.25 by his renunciation of force as a 75 means of carrying out his purpose means of carrying out his purpose there he has in effect said: "If you interfere, we shall protest, but shall not fight." By making England his partner in that policy he has made it ap-3.50 pear that his protest would be backed by the force of England, not of the United States.

Thus he has made a European ower an ally in upholding a strictly American policy and has thereby weakened it. By announcing his opposition to foreign concessions in American republics he has departed rom and greatly extended the Monoe Doctrine and has created new causes of friction with Europe. So ong as the United States has the power to maintain that doctrine and s even suspected of readiness to use hat power, no European nation is likely to infringe, but a practical empargo on investments by European itizens in this hemisphere will create intense irritation.

Truly times have changed since leveland, the last Democratic President, thundered against aggression on Venezuela, when a Democratic Ambassador to England tickles the risibles of a London audience by discussing a cardinal principle of American life, liberty and happiness ought to policy "in a lighter vein."

THE REMEDY. For a decade we have been told hat the cure for our economic ills was to be found in the prescriptions of an entirely new school of statesmanship, indigenous to Oregon. They undertook to provide Oregon a completely new system, a flexible consticonsideration of the effect of his tution, a novel code of laws, a new party method. All these things Oregon has now, but somehow the cure is not complete, though the patient still lives.

Although Oregon has striven faithfully to adjust itself to the new order, still the surgeons are not satis-They persist in cutting off a "What you said was quite correct, but leg here and there, or eliminating an eye, or providing a new internal or-

They would abolish poverty by giving everybody a job at the state's expense.

They would insure perfect legislation by abolishing the Legislature. They would equalize taxes by exmpting from taxation half or more of the state's citizens,

They would guarantee the efficient administration of civil law by ignoring the law officers and calling out the militia. They would relieve the public of

burden of supporting penal institutions by turning loose the convicts under an "honor" system. They would insist that the state and not the individual is primarily responsible for idleness, vagrancy and rime and they would coddle

drones by supporting them at public They would do many things that

ociety has not elsewhere done To achieve Utopia, they would put n public office the dreamers and the upsetters and would ignore the serveable men who insist on care and aution and who have the old-fashoned notion that the public, as well as its citizens, should look before it leaps.

The real remedy lies in staunch and tried men for public office and not now in new systems nor untried nostrums.

WASTING TO CHECK WASTE.

A contributor writing today in favor of the installation of meters says of the opponents of the Daly

what as follows: The city has more water than the consumers can use, so why spend money to put in meters? Let everybody use all the water he desires and if the city runs short, let us spend the moneynot for meters to check the waste—but tended through his sophomore year, but he never took a backelor's desired. go on wasting more.

The Oregonian has not seen nor heard such an argument advanced, Union College recognized his merit nor anything like it. The city, in fact, has more water than it uses. Commissioner Brewster, who supports the purchase of an initial 10,000 meters, nical High School, of Berlin, an insays there is no shortage nor one in prospect. There is a city ordinance robibiting the waste of water, Mayor Albee says that it can be enforced with the co-operation of the police Daly plan advocate the checking of waste but they insist that it can lone without spending \$500,000 for meters.

The letter from this same correspondent gives a personal experience which answers the contention of Mr. Brewster that meters will alleviate an insufficient distributive system. This writer used more water when not. Yet his bill was comparatively Meters will check the use of less. water only if the meter rates are so high that the consumer cannot afford to sprinkle his lawn as much as it dicates that the consumer may use more water with a meter for the meter. If this be the general rule etting meters along a main of inadequate size would not decrease the

shortage. The correspondent also estimates Doctrine. But the declaration that that his Summer's water charge is air-brake, which he applied to railno European government should gain \$5.17 greater without a meter than more land in the new world imposes with it. He uses that as an arguon us the necessity of preventing a ment for meters, yet doubts that the situation which will furnish an excuse general installation of meters will for European acquisition. Any man cause the revenues of the department easy stages a temporary occupation an argument for installation of meof territory becomes permanent, or ters only in the event it is not excepthe submission of a small power to tional. If consumers generally would save an equivalent amount by the in- trains "with wind." "Wind," howto a dominant influence which saps stallation of meters the revenues of the independence of the small power. the water department would fall off

more than \$200,000 a year. If we can afford to sacrifice \$200,-000 a year and at the same time expend \$500,000 for meters it is obvious that the flat rates are now too high The short and reasonable course is to reduce the flat rate and save the important electrical inventions but he American state to give prompt redress \$200,000 a year without spending a half million to Go it. If the city ordinance against water waste is same-sized families in the same-sized there is more water available than duced the alternating current in light the city can use what is the sense in tion it may give John Smith to know that Jim Jones cannot bathe oftener

privilege?

and from the Atlantic seaboard on the west to attack Taza, the sole Berber stronghold which blocks the way to communication through the interior of Morocco south of the first Atlas range. Railroads have been built in both directions towards Taza and, when it is taken, they will be joined and the way will be cleared for civilization to return where only semi-civilization has existed since Roman

A DANIEL, YEA, A DANIEL,

An aggrieved world will weepingly applaud Judge Turnbaugh, of Chieago, for his feather decision. It is a step, albeit but a short one, toward the emancipation of the henpecked and harried male sex. The learned judge decided that a man who sat behind a woman and suffered from her feathers had some rights in the premises. Not many rights, but still some. He might, after the torture had risen to a certain degree of intensity, grab the feathers and jerk them out of the woman's hat without incurring any legal penalties. In fact, if we read correctly between the kines opinion, the law will mildly and discreetly applaud a male person who thus defends himself against intolerable oppression.

It has always been the aim Anglo-Saxon courts to uphold the persecuted individual in maintaining his personal liberty. The right to he secure even against the weapons which women attach to their headgear. To be sure in this case there were aggravating circumstances After the woman had just about put out Mr. St. Aubien's eye with her feathers and tickled his nose till he was more than half distracted he meekly remonstrated. To his representations she replied that "he was It was then that Mr. St. Aubien, taking the neglectful law into his own hands, grabbed the feather and heroically jerked it out. We hope he threw it on the floor and trampled it with his boot, but on

point history is unhappily silent. Had Mr. St. Aubien gone to a dungeon for his lofty deed we should still have cheered him. The world has a real grievance against the pervasive feather. If you go to hear Kreisler fiddle, the chances are ten to one that a woma just in front of you will torture your soul with a horizontal plume until there is no more music left in it. To be sure, she will take off her hat when the playing begins, but what of that? The mischief is done. The apperceptive nidus has been destroyed and there is no enjoyment for you that

night. The horrible feather is everywhere in the streetcars, at church and, worst of all, in the elevator. Caught in that trap, the female Torquemada has one at her mercy and she never

GEORGE WESTINGROUSE.

George Westinghouse, the great inventor and constructive genius, died on March 12 in the fullness of years Although he did not es and honors. cape financial reverses in the course of his long career, still he retained foremost position in the engineering and manufacturing world up to the time of his death and almost to the last exercised those remarkable powers which won him renown, leadership and wealth. Westinghouse was ne of the finest examples of the oldfashioned American, who by force of vill and inhorn capacity rose from humble beginnings to world-wide inin the ordinary meaning of the who knows anything worth while must have mastered it by his own exby the coddling process. Still Westinghouse knew what it was to go to school and college. He went to the lsts. Schenectady High School and aftertended through his sophomore year, ore reinforcing mains, etc., so that we but he never took a bachelor's degree. Later in his life when he had achieved success and won renown follow. by conferring an honorary doctorate ipon him. He was also made a doctor of engineering by the Royal Techstitution which outranks many an American college in academic pres

Westinghouse was no recluse consuming his life in solitary meditation department. The opponents of the He was always active in the affairs of men, with wide interests and persistent principles which he strove to make efficient in practical affairs His youth fell in the exciting years of the Civil War and like many other ardent and gifted young men of his generation he enlisted in the Union Army. Afterward he entered shortage caused in some districts by Navy, where he was made an assistant engineer before he left the serv-But the bent of his mind was he had a meter than when he had inventive, not military. He began to produce original contrivances in his boyhood, a practice which was enouraged by his father, a machinist, in whose shop George worked as soon as he could handle tools. needs. This one man's experience in- hand nor brain was neglected in his education and the result shows how much he gained by an all-round same price than he may without a training. His first invention of consequence was a rotary engine which he made when he was 15 years old. not long before he joined the Army. The most important of his earlier

discoveries was the principle of the way trains. Lacking money to de this fundamentally important invention, he applied for assistance to Commodore Vanderbilt, the famous railroad magnate of that day, only to repulsed contemptuously, millionaire, with the narrowness of many of his class, could see no promise in an attempt to brake railway ever, turned out to be precisely the means by which railroading could be Westmade both safe and speedy. inghouse applied to more enlightened capitalists and ultimately saw his invention used everywhere with consequences which are familiar to us all Westinghouse made some was not among the foremost in this He shone rather as a friend line. of men like Tesla, whom he greatly forced the inequalities incident to dif- sided, and as a constructive electrical ference in water needs among the engineer. He utilized in practice the inventions which other men made. houses will be infinitesimal. When Against strong opposition he introand power systems, though spending \$500,000 for the gratifica- not invent the appliances which made it possible to do so. These we owe mainly to Tesla, to whom Westingsupplied financial backing when that great genius was in straits It is interesting to note for funds. France is about to send an army of how few of the fundamental electrical

Americans. The dynamo, for example, which lies at the root of modern electrical practice, was invented Germany. But, on the other hand. Americans have constructed electrical machinery with an ingenuity which astonishes the world. Westinghouse built the first ten dynamos by which some of the energy running to waste at Niagara was saved for industry. He also built the dynamos for the ele vated roads and for subways in New York City. The Metropolitan street railway of London also employed his wonderful constructive capacity when it installed its electrical system.

Westinghouse's abilities were exercised in many other fields besides electricity. He was one of the pioneers in turning natural gas to account. He, in fact, devised the methods by which it was conveyed through pipes and utilized in mills, factories dwellings. In his mature years Westinghouse became a great capitalist and employer of labor. As the head of numerous corporations he controlled some \$200,000,000 money and commanded the services of 50,000 men. The panic of 1907 sadly disarranged his affairs and inof this upright and erudite judge's volved him in proceedings which finally deprived him of the active management of the great concerns which he had built up. From this blow he never recovered. From that time his energies gradually declined. with a loss of bodily health and interest in life. He was not only wrapped up in his business, but it was truly an essential part of his being. When circumstances compelled him to part with the management, a large part of the man perished.

It is interesting to remember how many great men have died very soon after falling from a commanding position in the world. Shakespeare makes Cardinal Wolsey live only a little while after he had lost his greatness. Lord Bacon's latter years. after he had been deposed and fined. were merely a lingering death. Everybody knows with what pathetic speed politicians who have risen to station sink into the grave after they have been stripped of their power. The history of Oregon would furnish plenty of examples if one wished to recall them. Westinghouse was a man of towering genius who utilized it fully for the good of mankind. His career affords one of the best instances in history where great abilities met great opportunities with the happiest results for the world

It is believed by M. Duroquier, a oted European electrical engineer, that the crossing of wireless waves caused the burning of the steamer Volturno, the Cardiff mine explosion and the destruction of the French battleship Liberte at Toulon. bases his belief on the fact that these disasters occurred at points where wireless waves between different stations cross. English experts call this theory absurd, but we certainly do not lets up until the victim expires in know all that is to be found out about wireless energy. Explosion of quantity of dynamite at a distance by an Italian and control of a meterboat rom shore by young John Hays Hammond show that we are still discovering new facts about the new force. The next Maine explosion may be caused by a wireless expert stationed on the other side of the globe

J. P. Morgan & Co. show that they only made \$350,000 in twenty years as financial agents of the New Haven road and had no part in the bad bargains which were made by the Meller management. Then who did loot the road? There is no question that it vas looted, and it is up to the Interstate Commerce Commission to disfluence. He was not self-educated cover the guilty and relieve the innocent of suspicion.

> Now the outside world can view a duel of Frenchmen, thanks to the meeting of these mercurial antagon-

The Chicago man who cut off a hat feather that tickled his nose pos sessed more nerve than the ordinary Yet it is a good plan to

a death struggle between a farmer and a black bear. The black bear is Oregonian. usually about as combative as a fat pig. The wife of an Iowa tippler is dy

ing and their child is dead, as a result of the drunken father's pranks. The family is usually the victim. Orchardists of Hood River County

are setting fine example in demand-

ing hard surface on their county

The Albanians are again suffering from poverty and pestilence. And yet they don't seem to have had enough of war!

The Alaska railroad will be commenced without delay. That is the true American way of doing big things.

Page spoke late in the evening and hat accounts for it. After all, there is merit in Bryan's grape juice idea. It is fortunate that Secretary Mc

Adoo secured that Cabinet job before applying for the son-in-law post. Six years for a New York million-These are getting to be harsh

Consumption of salmon yesterday will make noticeable increase in brain activity ere long.

days for the rich wrongdoer.

A fossil has been found in Africa which hints at a fine race. Must be a very, very old fossil.

Columbia highway bridge contracts go to a local firm. Strange if Engand doesn't protest.

Albany people are becoming too

roud to ride in their lone streetcar

of uncertain age. The war on the cigarette begins today and the juvenile smoker must take to the brush

A Mexican Major is suspected of having killed Benton. So Villa has found a goat.

If we don't have to meet a silly meter bill it will be easier to meet our water bills. The fly is doomed in Portland.

Hard news for the coffin trust. That I. W. W. spirit will win noth-

WAGES AT WHAT LABORERS EARN Mr. U'Ren Revises His Views on Paternal Care of Unemployed.

OREGON CITY, Or., March 12 .- (To the Editor.)-In considering possible remedies for unemployment it is hard to be patient with men like Mr. Rus. who believe in sending missionaries to the employers, while working men and women starve to death in Oregon. The average employer is driven quite as hard to keep his business as the average workman is to get a job. This is proved by the number of employers vho fail.

My plan of public work for those who cannot employ themselves is not charity. The state is to get full value in useful labor for every dellar it pays. The Oregonian's estimate may be right that \$3 a day is the least that should be pald any workman by the state, but I do not think of so high a rate. I should think \$2 a day would be enough to begin with and let the rate be raised as experience proves that the men actually earn more than \$2 a day in building the roads. The state certainly cannot lose anything at that rate, because the official reports not been combatted by the opponents from Iowa state their convicts earn that amount working on the roads. The labor of free men would, of course, be still more effective.

Those who cannot employ themselves nust be fed. The cost now is met by he more generous members of the must be fed. community. Every dollar spent in that way is worse than lost, because it not only brings no return, but is a sort of charity that degrades those who re-ceive it. On the other hand, if these men are given honorable and useful abor, even though wages in the be cinuing are barely sufficient to supply than he uses, while his neighbor, perhaps, is using more water than he oss of self respect and their habits of pays for. ginning are barely sufficient to supply their absolute needs, there will be no industry and self reliance will be maintained. They will still be desirale citizens.

The professional tramps and hobos graduates from the school of unem-pleyment and from the rockpile, can be given piece work under guards and suaranteed bread and water. If they arn anything more than enough to for their guards and bread and water, let them have it. They would soon learn to work without guards or else

steal away to some other state where they could not get a job.

Neither will the wealthy men take their property out of Oregon because of any inheritance tax. They have too much pleasure in getting the wealth to leave Oregon and most of it is not of a kind that can be taken. of a kind that can be taken away from the state. W. S. UREN.

Mr. U'Ren dodges around a good deal on the subject of the unemployed or perhaps he has a very hazy idea of what should be done. His original propsition was that the state furnish employment to all applicants at wages sufficient to maintain themselves and families in comfort and educate their children. Today he would have them paid what they actually earn. We know of no definite measuremen

of "comfort" or of "education," and the only way we know of to estimate the worth of a man engaged in comon labor on roads is to compare the product of his toil with that of other ommon labor paid at current wages. Perhaps Mr. U'Ren has a system of ils own to determine these matters, but does not divulge it.

We are unable to understand whether or not he believes he has discovered the happy figures that represent both what a man earns and what will keep him in comfort and educate his children. A touch of indefiniteness is given by his expression of willingness that workmen be paid in the beginning wages barely sufficient to supply their bsolute needs.

At all events, if only bare living wages were offered the willing and piece work pay with bread and water provided the unwilling, it is doubtless true that capital would not be frightned away from Oregon by the U'Ren scheme, provided, of course, the proposed inheritance tax were fixed with view to the certain consequences. The consequences were indicated Friday when an employer who sought 150 men ertions. Education cannot be gained moving-picture machine, with all the at \$1.50 a day, with a place to sleep fuss and froth that accompany the thrown in, entired away only 11 of 1200 who are accepting "charity that degrades" at the Gipsy Smith auditorium.

Help for Needy. PORTLAND, March 13 .- (To the Editor.)—Please tell me if there are any Christian Science practitioners in Portland who give free treatment. If so, would you kindly give me their ad-dress, as I have a little sick girl whom From Hoquiam comes the story of death struggle between a farmer all my money? Please answer in The H. C. S.

The Oregonian is confident that there are Christian Science practitioners in Portland who will give free treatment in worthy cases. Such kindly disposed persons, however, do not care to advertise their charity. The writer may be able to gain information suitable to his individual case by inquiring at the United Reading Rooms, Wilcox build-

Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of March 14, 1889. London, March 13.—St. James' Hall was crowded this evening with people anxious to hear Parnell's speech. Parnell received an ovation.

Washington, March 13 .- An investigating tour to Europe and Canada will be made about Apri, I by a board of engineer officers, consisting of Col-onels Mendell and Craighill and Major

Salem, March 13.—Mrs. Elizabeth mith, aged 102 years 9 months and 5 Smith, aged 102 years 9 days, died here this afternoon.

Walla Walla, March 13 .- The Rosenfeld-Smith Company, of Portland, has leased a brick block about to be erected by Max Baumeister for a tobacco warehouse.

Centralia, March 13 .- Charles Johnn has disposed of his drug business Mr. Mead, brother-in-law of Dr. Des Moines, March 13 .- The Farmers'

Alliance of the Northwest today re-solved on measures to fight the binder twine combination. At the annual meeting of Midway School District Joseph Manning, E. A. Webster and M. Mann were elected

directors, and William Dempsey clerk. N. B. Crane and J. S. Purdom have opened a real estate and insurance of-fice at 216 L street, East Portland.

The water committee has instructed Superintendent Smith to ascertain what valuation A. N. King places upon his four-inch water pipeline, which runs from the spring on his property near his residence down Twentieth street to J. The cost of the line Mr. Smith esti-mates at \$1000, but Mr. King said it was paying him interest on \$3000, and therefore was worth that sum.

Charles Oliver is making a survey of the site of the proposed reservoir in City Park.

Philip G. Eastwick, assistant en-gineer in the office of Major T. H. Handbury United States Engineer, has resigned and will go into business here as a civil engineer.

MORE WATER FOR LESS MONEY So One Man's Meter Showed, Yet He

Thinks Meters Curtail Use. PORTLAND, March 13 .- (To the Edi tor.)-The opponents of the meter ordinance, recently passed by the Council, have seemed sedulously to avoid meet ing the greatest objection to the flat rate system-namely, the manifest inequality and injustice of a non-metered sale of water. It is a well-established rule that all patrons of a public service corporation shall receive equitable treatment, that no customer shall be favored over another one and that each customer shall pay in proportion as he receives. It would appear that a city should be no less bound to deal justly and equitably with the con-

The flat rate system is by its very nature unjust and inequitable. No two families, having the same number of plumbing fixtures and the same area tion: J. H. McMillen, H. W. Eddy, E. to be sprinkled, will use the same T. T. Fisher, H. W. Shipley, John M. Drake, Owen Wade, William Barlow, W. P. Burns and Nelson McConnel. amount of water. This unfairness has city has more water than the con-sumers can use, so why spend money to put in meters? Let everybody use the water he desires, and then if not for meters to check the waste, but for more reinforcing mains, etc., so that we can go on wasting more. This argument, however, fails to satisfy, strange as it may seem, the consum water who is paying for more water

I have lived in Portland for six years and have in that time occupied me tered and non-metered houses, so have had considerable first-hand ex perionca with both systems. A com-parison of 1912 and 1913 will, however, suffice to show some of the workings of the two plans. During the year 1912 I lived in a dwelling where the water was metered. The area of the lot was 50x100 and the amount not covered by buildings was 2800 square feet. The house contained bathtu lavatory, toilet and kitchen sink. M bills for water for the months of June, July, August and September were in the total sum of \$3.30.

In the year 1913 I moved into a resi-lence where water was supplied under the flat rate plan. The lot was 50x117, area not covered by buildings, 4410 square feet; fixtures in house same as in former dwelling. The total bill for June, July, Angust and September this year was \$9. Assuming that I sprinkled the additional 610 square feet as much as I did the area sprinkled in 1912, which incidentally was not the case, and assuming that the balance received a like amount of water to the ground sprinkled in the former year, and that the house con-sumption was equal for the two years my bill under meter would have been \$3.83, a difference of \$5.17.

A meter installed costs approxi-mately \$12; serveices chargeable to meter reading and billing about 36 cents per annum. Therefore in two and one-half years I would save in the difference in my bills the cost of the meter, which I, as a taxpayer, would have to pay. And, as the average life of a meter in this city about 13 years, I would save in water bills for these four menths only, dur-ing the balance of the life of the meter, practically \$44.

It may, however, be argued that the present meter rate is too low, and that

f every service connection was me-ered, paying at the present rate, the income would be insufficient to meet the demands of the department. I do not believe, from my knowledge of the rates of other cities, that such would be the case, due to the increase in revenue the city would receive in many cases if the water wave appelling. cases if the water were supplied through a meter instead of at rate, as at present. But, granting that this would prove to be the case ther remains the fact that then the con-sumer would pay his just proportion and there could be a scientific adjustment of the rates-a thing impossible matters now stand

We insist that the electric light com-panies and the gas companies install meters, but there is far more reason why we should insist that the city stall water meters. I can get along without electricity if I am so minded, I can refuse to use gas. If I choose can walk instead of using the street cars. But I must have water and my very necessity should demand that my payment for it should be fair equitable-a thing impossible of attainment under the flat rate system.

The foregoing argument for meters refutes Mr. Brewster's argument for meters. There is more about it in another column.

Publication of Decisions. OAK POINT, Wash., March 12.—(The Editor.)—Please advise me whether or not it is compulsory for the courts of give a public record in a newso give a public record in a news whatever disposition is made of a case hat is on the court docket. Is there toyway to find out what disposition has been made of a case without in quiring directly to the docket? other words, is there at some time mother a published record of all

Rees. In some cases, when the judge of the Superior Court orders property sold, the Sheriff is required to publish the fact that the property is to be sold.

However, in Washington, there is no law requiring a published record court cases. The only way to find out would be to refer to the records Post, who are investigating the best means of overcoming the obstructions to navigation in the Columbia River at the proceedings of the County Commissioners to be published.

> DO METER READERS HAVE WINGS: Engineer Clark Has Wrong Idea of Speed of City Employes.

PORTLAND, March 13 .- (To the Editor.) — Mr. D. D. Clark, in The Ore-gonian, defends Mr. Daly and his meter scheme. What struck me is this. Mr. Clark says a good meter reader can read from 200 to 300 a day. Ye Gods! Think of it! Less than two minutes to pull the covering off, then wipe the meter so you can read it, or prob-ably dig dirt and sawdust out of it, then pull out his book and mark it down, put the 11d on and run to another house. Who ever saw an em-ploye of a city (except firemen) run?

mean when on duty, Mr. Clark may be an engineer all right, but when it comes to reading meters, I'm from Missouri. I watched a man reading a meter on Nineteenth street a short time ago, and he put in 17 minutes on one. City employes are only human. They can't fly. Besides they may organize a union and only read so many a day. But, in justice, give them more than two minutes. ONE WHO DON'T LIKE METERS.

Oldest Paper in Cincinnati. PORTLAND, March 13 .- (To the Edi tor.)-Please give the name of the old est paper now published in Cincinnati Cincinnati, SUBSCRIBER.

Commercial Tribune

Literature in Japan. London Tit-Bits. In the last year 41,620 books wer published in Japan, while Germany, the most bookish of European nations, had only 31,281 volumes to her credit.

Half a Century Ago

Prom The Oregonian of March 14, 1864. The Albany Journel, a new and handsome paper, is cheerfully added to our list of Oregon exchanges this morning. It is earnestly devoted to the welfare of the Union.

The Multnomah County Union con-ention elected Rev. T. H. Pearne hairman and S. A. Moreland and R. J. Ladd, secretaries, A. M. Starr, Thomas Frazar, J. H. Mitchell, D. Pov Failing, L. H. Wakefield, T. H. and J. B. Congle were elected dele-gates to the state convention. Reso-lutions were adopted in favor of the re-election of Lincoln as President.

The Clackamas County Union convention elected W. W. Buck, chairman, E T. T. Fisher, secretary and R N Short, assistant secretary and the following delegates to the state convertion: J. H. McMillen, H. W. Eddy,

Washington, March 11.-Senate bills for the admission of Nevada and Colorade into the Union of states will be considered on the 15th.

New York, March 11 .- A letter from Farraguet's fleet says he intends to silence Fort Powell so as to send the mosquito fleet up Mobile Bay. This mosquito fleet up Mobile Bay. This will cut off Forts Morgan and Gaines. Mobile is strongly defended.

Washington, March 11 .- By order of the President, General Grant is as-signed to the command of the United States Army, Major-General Halleck is relieved from duty as general-in-chief and assigned to special duty in Wash-ington as chief of staff. Major-General herman is assigned to the command Major-General McPherson is to command the Department of the Tennes-see. General Grant is to establish his headquarters in the field with the armies of the Ohio and Tennesses under is personal supervision. General Smith was today nominated Major General of volunteers. This is sup-posed to be preparatory to his assignment to the command of the Army of the Potomac, General Grant intends to concentrate all the Western forces camp for smashing blows this Spring.

A thief attempted to steal a very fine saddle from the store of J. B. Congle on Front street Friday evening. Being closely observed, he left his booty on the street corner and escaped.

Vandals demolished the mirrors hang-ing over the bar of the Pearl saloon. corner of First and Morrison street, at midnight Saturday and turned the faucts of all the liquor casks.

The bark Iwanowna, Captain Brown which has been for the past three months dashing around in her efforts to reach Portland, arrived in tow of the John H. Couch Saturday evening with 313 tons of salt consigned to Richards & McCraken.

Memoirs of Princess Luisa

The romantie, often tempestuous life of the former Crown Princess of Saxony is told first-hand by Luisa for the first time. The opening chapters of the memoirs will appear in The Sunday Oregonian

Brady's Fight Tales.

W. A. Brady is the one man who knows the inside story of the fighting game of the days when Sullivan, Corbett, Jeffries and history. His reminiscences form remarkable narration of absorbing interest throughout. First installment Sunday.

Right From Paris.

A full page of photos showing the latest conceits from the foun-tainhead of fashion. Three other pages especially for wemen.

Trapping Elk.

A new herd arrived a short time ago and is now at home in the City Park. The story of how these animals were rounded up and tamed is an unusual one.

Why Is a Mode?

The inner facts about the origin of fashions. Starting a style is as difficult as cranking up a rusty motor. It must be turned often and coaxed along before it will go. Dreams

They are the echoes of a prehistorie past, says a German psychologist, who has a new and most interesting theory about the

origin of nocturnal visions. Pen Pointers Another page of character read ings, by Edith Macomber Hall, drawn from handwriting specimens submitted by readers of The Ore

gonian. A Breeder of War

It is only a mild-appearing little plant, but it has fire in its vines, and it really has much to do with the present state of chaos in Mexico.

Taming Wilhelm

They've shorn the German Emperor of most of his power and left him helpless. Just how this was done is described by a Berlin correspondent of The Oregonian.

St. Patrick's Fold Interesting facts and figures about the Irishman in America. An

appropriate St. Patrick's day feature in colors. The Labor Question It is discussed by Theodore

Roosevelt in chapter 52 of his autobiography.

"Motor Goose" Rhymes An illustrated feature for the hildren, together with a half page of stories and pictures for the

little ones. FICTION FEATURES The Prince of Granstark-Sec

ond installment of George Barr McCutcheon's story of love and adventure. Together - A domestic comedy,

by Thomas L. Masson.

Many Other Features

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