The Oregonian

PORTLAND, OREGON. (By Mail.)

(By Mail.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year

Daily, Sunday included, aix months

Daily, Sunday included, three months

Daily, Sunday included, one month

Daily, Sunday included, one month

Daily, without Sunday, one year

Daily, without Sunday, six months

Daily, without Sunday, three months

Daily, without Sunday, one month

Weekly, one year

Sunday, one year

Sunday and Weekly, one year (By Carrier.)

Eastern Business Office—Verree & Conk-New York, Brunswick building; Chl-go, Stenger building. San Francisco Office—R. J. Bidwell Com-PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 18, 1914.

Study of the causes of sexual vice among women has led the Wisconsin commission to the same conclusion was reached by The Oregonian when the subject was under discussion in this state-that the wage question has no material relation to a girl's downfall. The Wisconsin nmission finds that the use of intoxicating liquor is the greatest cause of commercialized vice and paper neutrality ought to meet and that contributory causes are: Public dance-halls, roadhouses, poorly lighted parks and public places, lack of breadth of the State of Washington responsibility by parents, non-enforcement of laws by public officials, lack of public amusement and recreation facilities, and automobiles. The remedies recommended include did solicitations for charitable enter-

many which have already been adopted in Oregon. Chief among them are added a morals court, a state white than any other city of its size in the slave law, a state police department, number of its worthy unfortunates. private associations to aid the police, prohibition of liquor sales in dancehalls and stricter regulation of liquor membering bountifully the stricker dance-halls and lodging--policewomen, women on boards of all children's institutions, increase of the age of consent, inhome and hospital women, special classes for subnormal the war sufferers is brought to the in schools, social neigh- attention of a country itself enduring borhood centers, amusements superby municipalities, rooms to be confined to providing necessities, domestic servants to receive company, limitation of servants' hours of labor, protection of rights of labor ments for soldiers in the trenches. and insurance against poverty. Bills to put many of these recommendaeffect have already been drafted.

While these preventive and cura tive measures may nearly all be good, it is impossible to escape the conclusion that spread of what is euphemistically termed the social evil is primarily due to relaxation of parental nations at war. control over girls and to that prudery step. A mother will not admit to herself the possibility that her own girl will go wrong, therefore does the exclusion of more pressing duties?

But the hardest heart sometimes grows soft, a soul saturated with crime occasionally purifies itself and begins to ask how its past may be redeemed. not exercise that supervision over her daughter which will keep her in the that throughout a wide district of A mother is unwilling to believe her daughter may deceive her. therefore does not suspect that, when the girl goes out for the evening member China. It is written to carry with a friend," she has gone with a man who will take her to a dance-hall and befuddle her with liquor in ists in the world today there would The not be much left wherewith to buy order to accomplish her ruin. mother is unwilling to suspect that, tobacco, toys or testaments for ourwhen her girl has gone to a city and selves or anyone else. writes home that she is at work. earning good wages and "having a good time," the wages are those of sin and that the good time involves moral and physical ruin.

It may be impossible for mothers. particularly poor mothers of working girls to "chaperone" their daughters as in former times. But they car keep a closer watch on their daughters during that critical period of from girlhood to They can guide their daughters in the selection of safe associate and amusements. Above all, they car instruct their daughters as to the elementary facts of sex, that the girls may not go out into the world unarmed against the wiles of the male tempter. They can warn their girls of the consequences of misconduct so of these consequences and aversion Thus forewarned and forearmed, a girl may go from home for an evenng or even may go to a distant city with reasonable confidence on her own part and on that of her parents that she will escape the pitfalls which await the too innocent and the

The social evil is not a product of low wages, though far be it from us to defend those who limit a girl's earnings to the bare minimum of subsistence; it is mainly a product of parental neglect to guide and instruct their children. A girl who earns good wages will as readily go astray, if not started right by her parents, as one who earns only the minimum wage. To one who blindly follows the flowery path to a prostitute's grave, the highest wages paid for honest work never seem enough.

It is well to remove intoxicants and other evils which often accompany public amusements, as the Wisconsin commission proposes, and to exercise a considerable degree of public supervision over them, but amusements provided by municipalities should not conform too closely to the restric and the rigidly righteous," for then they will fall of their purpose. They repel the innocently pleasureloving young people, who desire a certain degree of free play for their youthful tastes and spirits, and will attract only those who adhere so strictly to the narrow path of rectitude that they are in little or no dan ger from the evils against which the community wishes to guard.

After everything has been done by the parents and the community to guard the young against evils which are included within the term "the social evil," a residue of girls will still go astray. Some are naturaly vicious and dissolute, but very many more are mentally or morally defective to of land through which highways total expenses of the State of Washsuch a degree that they either know not that they offend or are unable to resist the impulse or repel the suggestion of their associates. The only place for them is the industrial home, where they may be protected against themselves and against those somal The community will then be protectagainst those hideous diseases

of the community to combat the social evil, not only for the moral good | The roads once built, the annual Govof its members, but for its own phy- ernment contribution to the road fund stroys not only its victims, but, improve the roads. As the policy of the taxes. Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as spreading like a dark stain, it desecond-class matter.

Subscription Rates—Invariably in Advance: stroys the life and health of a large as a permanent source of timber supspreading like a dark stain, it de- Government is to continue the forests proportion of the innocent members ply, they would yearly contribute to of the whole community. Its reduc- the roads the allotted 35 per cent of tion to the lowest possible minimum revenue. is a duty of self-preservation on the part of each city, each state and the Nation.

HOORAY FOR NEUTRALITY.

On Monday, December 7, The Ore

gonian published a report of a lecture

man standpoint, delivered in Portland

by one of Germany's noted educators,

A few days later The Oregonian re-

Probably never before in Portland

prises come from so many sources.

Probably Portland is no less fortunate

Probably no other city is doing more

Under ordinary conditions it is dif-

hard Winter, philanthropy ought

The Oregonian has been invited to

It is urged to promote contributions

of Christmas remembrances for the

This is not a specific appeal to re

revenue was raised by indirect taxa-

tion. As the people paid taxes un-

secome necessary to wine out the def-

Though nothing can be hoped

for from the present moribund Con-

heed to Mr. Taft's plan for the formu-

lation of an annual budget by co-

operation between the executive and

egislative branches of the Govern-

ment. If it should not, National

economy may become an important is-

ROADS THROUGH FORESTS.

struct roads. Unlike Gifford Pinchot.

Mr. Houston admits that the No.

ment funds on road construction. The

est receipts already allotted for roads

sue in the next National campaign.

negro children of the South.

but it would seem that in times such as

for its own destitute and is still re-

Eugen Kuehnemann.

munication:

separates them.

peoples of Europe.

oldiers.

on the European war from the Ger-

It is cheering to see that the Government is disposed to recognize the obligations of the position it has assumed as a great landlord.

THE "WAR OF FAITH."

The declaration of a "holy war" by the Moslems is a curious, but, from accounts so far, a largely ineffective ceremony. The Hamburger Fremdenblatt recently published its text as supceived the following appreciative com- plied by its Constantinople corre-The fetwa, or call to holy Winlock, Wash., Dec. 10, 1914.—Gentlemen: You have been fighting the battles of England and France and her savage allies against Germany with an ardor worthy of a better cause. In so doing you trample on the feelings of German-Americans in every lasue. If you are inclined to be fair at all I ask you to give our side a hearing, etc.

C. H. SPANUTH.

The letter of Mr. Spanuth was preserved because of an expectation which was promptly fulfilled by receipt of the following courteous and broad-minded communication:

Twisp, Wash. Dec. 11, 1914.—Editor The Oregonian, Sir: The prominence given in The Oregonian, Sir: The prominence given in The fessor, tumbled into America hissing hot from the Fatherland, is an outrage to the feelings of your impartial and would-be

and his anxiety to wage the jinad, or war of faith?

Response—Yes.

Quediton — And the Moslem subjects of Russia. France and England as well as of the helpmates of the three countries which attack the caliphate with battleships and millitary hosts and thus try to crush Islam—must they, too, wage jihad, the "holy war," against the governments to which they are subject?

Response—Yes, they must.

Question — All those that shrink from taking part in the jihad at a time when all Moslems are called to arms—do they expose themselves to the divine wrath, to damnation and to the deserved punishment? feelings of your impartial and would-be readers. THOS, S. BLYTH. Two gentlemen with such intelligent conception of what constitutes newsexchange ideas. It is therefore a matter of profound regret that the

ment?

Response—Yes, they do.

Question—Are the Moslem subjects of the above named powers that are at war with the Islam government committing a heinous sin in taking part in their rulers' war, even if those rulers compel them to do so, otherwise threatening them with death and with the destruction of their whole family? Response—Yes, they are.

Question—If in the present war Moslems live under the flag of England, France, Russia, Servia or Montenegro or any other half of the state ficult to discriminate among charities,

Egypt has 10,269,445 Mohammethese, when lack of sustenance among dans who were expected by some to give a unanimous war whoop and jump to arms at Turkey's call. They It has been requested to lend its telligent faith in the Almighty. The Borneo. efforts to collect cigars, cigarettes and Egyptian Mohammedan is no longer tobacco for the French and Belgian a fanatical savage. He is a peaceful, money-making citizen.

A FORBIDDEN SACRIFICE.

One of the prisoners in the New It was asked to aid in sending York penitentlary, John Frank Hickey Christmas toys to the children of the by name, is serving a life sentence for heinous crime. He was convicted of The efforts of the promoters of which keeps girls in ignorance of these enterprises are well meant. Each pected that he had killed several. No about their sex knowledge suggests a thing that it would be nice doubt when he was sentenced he was of which would keep many of to do. But are not some of our philiphing the first false anthropists a little on the order of But the hardest heart sometimes grows

ask how its past may be redeemed. It is practically forgotten or ignored Hickey has experienced such change. He wants to make restitution China there are famine and starvation for the wrongs he has done, and since he cannot recall the dead to life he aspires to help the living. He has offered his body to the scientific investigators of cancer to experiment He asks them to inoculate him with the cancer virus in order that they may definitely decide whether or not this terrible disease can be communicated in that way. The Attorney-General of New York has ruled The definiteness of ex-President Taft's fied because inoculation with the cansuggestions for bringing economy and cer virus would be "a sort of suicide efficiency into our National expendi-

ures contrasts with the vague exhor- state. We dare say this dictum is perfectly tations of President Wilson to Congress that it be economical, but not legal, but that does not prevent it too economical, in spending money. from being archaic and silly. The There is no probability whatever that state, as a contemporary pathy observes, the present Congress will be too eco-would allow Hickey to sacrifice himnomical, and the President's warning self to save a drowning person from not to be so is likely to be seized upon the water, or to snatch a child from s an excuse for throwing economy to the jaws of a mad dog, but he is the winds. It falls into the same not permitted to risk his life in an ategory as the Irishman's warning to experiment which would help to save the mob which was hesitating how to not merely one life but millions. punish its captive-"Don't nail his ear would be praised for rescuing life by to the pump." The mob immediately a single brilliant act of heroism, but decided that that was the very thing he must not rescue the entire human race from a haunting horror which Congress hitherto has not felt the pursues generation after generation.

Conventionally, the New York Attorneed of a budget system, because all ney-General is unimpeachably right, we suppose, and he will be lauded by consciously, they were indifferent to old-fashioned people who do not keep the amount Congress spent and consequently Congress was indifferent. But pace with the march of events. the intelligently progressive mind of the income tax now dips directly into the world will deplore his view of the mark the course of the whole war. many men's pockets, and Congress has matter.

so overshot the mark in its reckless spending that further direct taxes have HIGHER EDUCATION IN WASHINGTON. Newspapers in the State of Washington are publishing remarkable in-formation bearing upon the expense of the "higher education" for the last few years. Education of the "higher" variety, state university and college, have beer names to conjure with north of he Columbia as they have south of it. Money has been poured into the treasuries of the institutions without much thought of consequences. Some of it has been wisely used. Some of it has been dissipated in extravagance and waste, as money One of the few rays of sunshine always is when it comes easily and

which have shone from the present goes without adequate responsibility. Administration on the West radiates In 1905 the University of Washingfrom the report of Secretary Houston, ton received \$298,690 from the Legisof the Agricultural Department. He lature. In 1913 it asked for almost has taken pity on the "sparse local five times as much, to-wit, \$1,013,869, population of pioneer settlers who find and received it. The appetite for cash themselves surrounded by a wilder-ness largely consisting of National forest land." He is the first executive the same story is told of the normal officer in charge of National forests schools and the State College at Pullhas taken cognizance of the fact man. Ten years ago they were satisthat, as they "pay no taxes and serve fied with comparatively modest apno purpose toward developing the propriations. Now they demand exorountry," the Government should con-

bitant sums. . The Bellingham Normal School ma with whom every settler is an object stand as a sample of all. In 1905 it of suspicion, Mr. Houston regards set- had an appropriation of \$80,000. In lers as "the advance guard of civiliza- 1913 it received \$198,656. The total amount appropriated for the higher education in 1905 was \$663,690. jonal forests are actually a burden on 1913 it had risen to \$2,317,856. It is esidents in their vicinity, for, while only fair to say that extravagance in contributing nothing, they add to the education has merely kept pace with ost of connecting settlements with the same thing in other departments roads by interposing wide stretches of the state government. In 1905 the must be built. He proposes an ington barely exceeded \$3,000,000; in appraisement of the forests and on 1913 they considerably exceeded

that basis the expenditure of Govern- \$9,000,000. The phenomenon of reckless expencost would constitute an advance to be diture is not confined to any one state. refunded from the 35 per cent of for- It has run about the same course in Oregon and in many others. and schools. By making the National The authorities have made ducks and forests more accessible, roads would drakes of the taxpayers' money under ed against those hideous diseases render the timber more readily mar-which such women would spread ketable and would thus hasten the "higher education," now the inspec-abroad if left at large. It is the duty day when the Government would re-

coup the sums of money it advanced. I that one. have not mattered. The result has been always the same-extravagance, sical conservation. Sexual vice de- should suffice to maintain, extend and waste and increasingly burdensome

> The poet Cowper sent Benjamin great American wrote to thank him, Oregonian. saying that, although he had long ago stopped reading poetry, there was something in the book "so new, easy, something in the book "so new, easy, correct and clear" that he liked it.
>
> Time has confirmed Franklin's judgment. Cowper will always be liked by specific powers will always be liked by the Supreme Court, has decided to the sensible people.

When the Mayflower coasted Cape Cod heavy forests clad the shore to the water's edge, but they are gone The new ship canal has awakened fresh interest in the historic where the Lord "tempered the wind to peninsula and efforts are under way the shorn lamb." to reforest it. There is no reason why they should not succeed. The reclamation of the Danish heaths was far more difficult.

A united Scandinavia would present

Union at Washington an Aztec garden has been reproduced with its curious pools, rockwork and aviary. Nothing could be more truly characteristic. The Aztecs were Americans, and Garick Mr. and Mrs. James B. Stepretty good ones, long before some phens donated the block for the school of us thought of seeking these shores.

In the grounds of the Pan-American

money to keep it going. Who will quires it the county will double the intervene with a generous donation to save a noble charity?

The Republic of Panama shows itself a well-behaved member of the family of nations by contracting a loan of \$3,000,000. No country really respectable until it gets into debt. Solvency would be a disgrace in a community of bankrupts.

It comes out that our troops in the Philippines were ready for a mysterious attack from an external have not done so because they have mysterious attack from an external somewhat modernized their religion. foe last year. Official disclosures fail It has been transformed from blind to note the source of danger, but it faith in Sultan and ceremonial to in- is safe to suspect the wild man of

> The spirit of gambling is inherent and widespread, from the boy playing marbles "for keeps" to the grown up punching holes for cigars. Stopped one way it breaks out in another. flance to suppress is necessary.

> look, seeking to eliminate the ques-tion of age as a requisite to registry, will have their trouble for naught Equal suffrage means political equality without favors.

> Colonel Goethals wants additional defensive forces for the Panama Canal. Send him an armored scow and a platoon of infantry-something commensurate with our military policy, you know.

> Secretary Daniels' aide and who is quite satisfied with our state of naval preparedness should be in some other profession. He has missed his own

> Austrian newspapers are looking toward America to promote peace. by the way, precipitated the little

Boys of the school that had to close because the janitor forgot to order manhood is just what the Nation re- depended on in war. Let nobody imagfuel will consider him a "brick." brief vacation while the skating good is just right. President Wilson will arise at 3 A

San Diego Fair. Which is just about the hour many of our citizens will be Four million allies are preparing to

ficial report, Which is enough to give the Kaiser a couple of nervous Now the Austrians are retreating efore the Servians. Victory and de

Give the Kaiser credit for playing square. Two officers who parole were ordered back to Holland German honor is an asset.

Summer or Winter, Oregon crops are always the best. The ice harvest in the Grand Ronde River is the record for quality.

The bright Canadian boy emigrate and makes a name and fortune. One just dead became the oil king of

Hobson is in his happy element once has enabled him to trot out the yellow

Chicago policeman has mad \$100,000 in real estate and retired. He watched the market as a side line. England is not so large that au-

thorities cannot uncover a Germa wireless station. Yet they fail. Berlin admits with pardonable reason the Russians at Warsaw were too

numerous to mention. Now the allies have adopted a Mexcan method. They will crush the Germans-manyana.

growing too fast for its accor-Nothing less than outbreak of neasles can score O. A. C. ahead of

The rat hatchery at the City Park

It is a poor specimen who does nothing for the poor these festive days.

However, this sunny weather got something of a sting in it.

Von der Goltz considers Belgiur 'normal." So is a graveyard, Weather of the Medicine Hat brand

extends clear to Florida.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian December 15, 1864. John Barrows, Esq., at Albany, and N. O. Parrish & Co., at Salem, are authorized to receive and receipt for Franklin a copy of his first book. The subscriptions to The Daily and Weekly

We learn from the Statesman that

The London Times thinks as Lincoln has probably "sown his wild oats" and found out the folly of troubling Eng-land, that his election is no bad thing This appears to be a case after all.

Surgeon Watkins returned from Salem yesterday. From him we learn that the company raised in Benton and Polk counties will be mustered into the service of the United States Army as Company A, Oregon Infantry. Gov-ernor Gibbs has appointed the follow-Shipley, First Lleutenant; W. R. Dun-bar, Second Lieutenant, The Marion Countries dread the County company now numbers 82 men. It is above the minimum and soon will They would round out either empire to the complete admiration of the missioned Captain, T. H. Reynolds First Lieutenant and M. Reynolds Cold Respective. ing officers to command the company Charles Lafollett, Captain; William J. ond Lieutenant.

> A fine schoolhouse was recently erected in school district No. 21. East Portland, and at present it is occupied with a flourishing school of some 45 pupils under the instruction of Mr.

Under the influence of the impetus From all accounts the Rotary Club clinic in the Selling building has been of invaluable service to deserving unfortunates. Apparently it must be closed after Christmas for lack of money to keep it going. Who will divide the influence of the impetus lately given recruiting in this county. Gaptain Powell is getting on nicely in raising his company. In Clackamas the people are quite jubliant at the success of Captain F. O. McCown, and send word that if the Governor remoney to keep it going. Who will divide the county will down the property of the impetus His discussion.

> The gallery of Buchtel & Cardwell tion from the depth of the o the line of corals and shells, collection than which it would be hard to find.

Dr. George Simpson Ramsey, once at excellent physician in practice at Eugene City, distinguished as a chemist and who has written some things that have won him a reputation as a poet died Tuesday night at the asylum from nervous exhaustion. He had been an inmate of the institution for four years.

Superintendent Huntington arrived last night en route to San Francisco in connection with business of the In-

TIMID POLICY BY TIMID MAN Responsibility of the President for Sit untion in Mexico. Chicago Citizen (Democratic).

Our National Administration is now n the defensive. It was easy enough to parry the attacks of Catholics who are supposed to be unduly sensitive to certain crimes. But when Theodore Roosevelt takes up the question in the name of humanity a different complexon is put upon the situation. The for- the ner President's indictment will ring round the Nation, and beyond.

We have met many people who think
Mr. Wilson a competent chief. We have never been able to agree with the view

ou know.

The naval captain who is serving as genius in the man. He cannot rise, in our opinion, to the requirements of a grave situation, such as the present Mexican condition furnishes. His weakness is especially manifest in the wellknown fact that he not only does no want war, but even shrinks in mortal terror from it. No true man wants trained soldiers. This is no disparagewar, but no wise statesman will let it be known that he will bear anything material of the world's best armies. invite the contempt of hostile peoples, and experience promote perfection in something it seems which Mr. Wilson has done. As to Mr. Bryan—well, we In this country we have raw material

quires. Of course, we may expect a ine that numbers and courage alone lengthy reply from our rhetorical Section spell victory in battle. The hosts that retary of State, but this will not change are willing to fight for their country the situation.

Perhaps some Catholic organizations that, after looking into the situation. M, on New Year's day to open the felt there was nothing for them to do Four million allies are preparing to edge and insist upon do-nothing caubreak loose in February, says an oftion. The rank and file are abashed in treatment in the field report, Which is enough to give the Kalser a couple of nervous tion.

Administration.

CONVICTION.

If I ever write a poem I know it will defense There is so much that's beautiful to the put into a song;
So many hints from Nature—I could feat, action and reaction, seem to

refuse no part— Nor reject a wave of tenderness that had swept a human heart.

should try to catch the note Of the bird when it is pouring Spring-time gladness from its throat. time gladness from its throat.

should want to laud the hero who
swings the mighty arm,
and more sweatly sing the project of And more sweetly sing the praises one who brings great calm.

I'd hurl the javelins of wrath at our native bores Who think this country is less grand than those of other shores; They'd steal the stars from Liberty to For some high and mighty potentate-

should want to paint the sunset when they are so golden bright
That seemingly the "gates ajar" have
let out floods of light;
Then I would tell the mourner that
heaven must be near.

Even though a skeptic might chance Now poetic themes are crowding, each

one eager for the touchof Midas, but a poet-beauty means so much. Not And so I say it over (conviction grow ing strong),
It I ever write a poem I know it will
be long. SARAH A. DAVIS.

Hood River, Oregon. She'd Had Experience.

Philadelphia Telegraph.

In Sunday school one afternoon, the superintendent announced the hymn, "I want to be an angel," and when the others began to sing, it was noticed that little Jessie was conspicuously What is the matter, my dear?

kindly asked the teacher. "Why don't you sing, 'I want to be an angel?"
"Because, Miss Mary," was the rather startling rejoinder of the child, "I don't want to be one."

don't want to be one."
"Don't want to be one!" exclaimed
the horrified teacher. "Why do you
say that?"
"Because," calmly answered Jessie,

PRESS OPINIONS OF THE MESSAGE President Wilson Meets Demand for

National Defense With Fine Phrases. New York Sun. Those in favor of an inquiry are just as anxious for the continuance of peace with all the world as President Wilson is, and they no more desire a sarge standing army than he does. At the most Congress would supply the defi-ciencies of the Army and Navy pointed out in official reports which have been discovered.

Let Patrlotism Be Not Swerved.

no argument that should swerve a patriotic Congress from the duty devolving upon it to provide for a same and

New York American. The opponents of an inquiry into our National defenses are as foolish as the President is in thinking that to refuse an inquiry will still the agitation. To clamp down the lid, as he is endeavor-

New York Evening Post. Mr. Gardner had expressed the fear that the President would lay "the cold hand of death" upon his pet project. But all that Mr. Wilson lays upon it is the cold hand of reason. Of that, Gardthan of death. So have the people 1888. The Oregonian lay on the top of vaguely excited about the asserted all the other articles in the box, but helplessness of the country to defend was only slightly scorched. itself. To them all the President says "Come and let us reason together." His discussion of National defense is His discussion of National defense is eminently reasonable, looking before and after.

dray's musee and theater, while engineently reasonable, looking before and after.

It Is Chautauquan Diplomacy. Philadelphia Bulletin.

The plea of postponement, based on the hope that the United States may play an important part in bringing the warring nations of Europe together in peace negotiations, and the fear that suggestions of peace would come with bad grace from a nation bristling with military preparation, is of a kind with much else of the Chautauquan diplo-macy and naval policy which has char-acterized the Administration.

Thought Fixed by Party Politics New York Mail.

The events of vast and world-para lyzing influence which are today marking an epoch in civilization have not carried Mr. Wilson's horizon be-yond his party's interests, prejudices and policies. They fix the limits of his thought. He has not one suggestion to make that has the quality of leadership, of mastery of the present or of forceful, unifying and encouraging planning for the future. In truth he makes no suggestion at all, except that "we shall learn and profit by every experience and every new cir-

Plen for Security Is Popular.

Washington Herald. We do not know whether the leaders of the Democratic party or the Republican party, or of any other particular political party have even if active steps be immediately discovered it, but the movement that has been started by the organization known as the "National Security League" is one that has struck square-cause he deprecates the necessity for ly in accord with negular sentiment. ly in accord with popular sentiment alms, which necessity according to his and constitutes a force that will have forecast, must continue partially to to be reckoned with in the months immediately at hand. It has been evoked at once. by the spontaneous growth of a popu-lar conviction from one end of the they can with self respect, accept relief United States to the other.

No Safety in Untrained Numbers.

Philadelphia Telegraph. This were to But we must recognize that ught not to have forgotten that he is for the greatest fighting force the world ever saw. But that material must sevelt's appeal to American be worked into shape before it can be must be taught how to fight for it.

Administration Forces Disappointed,

New York Mail.

The President must realize by this time that he will have great difficulty may again take heart of grace. The trouble with organizations is that, while they possess many earnest and self-sacrificing men, they also have wiseacres who affect superior knowl-National security. His inadequat treatment of this overwhelming issu-in his message left the leaders of th Administration forces in the Senate disappointed, almost dumfounded, but they were quick to rally. On recovering from the shock of the presidential defense of National unpreparedness they quickly and publicly lined up on the side of a vigorous American policy of strengthening the Nation's defenses.

Nobody Wants Great Army.

New York Times. In what he has to say upon the ject of National defense the President's words leave upon the mind the im-pression that he has become convinced, outlines the measures necessary to be taken.
That is the very substance of the de

mand. We must have not a great standing army, which nobody wants, but in "a citizenry trained and accustomed to arms," the potentiality of a big and efficient army, adequate for our pro-

> Real Issue Dodged. New York Tribune

With his usual bland manipulation With his usual bland manipulation of phrases, the President dodges the whole issue raised by those who are asking for investigation. "We must depend in every time of National peril," he says, "not upon a standing army, nor yet upon a reserve army, but upon a citizenry trained and accustomed to arms." But that is not the situation at all. We must depend, toward off foreign attacks, first on the Navy and next upon the standing and Navy and next upon the standing and reserve armies which can be mobilized at once to defend the coast. The "clt-ixenry" could not come into play until after an enemy had made a lodgment in the United States. Then the dam-age would already have been done.

Conditions to Be Met Now Known. New York World. The most important words in the President's message are those relating

repeatedly said that business could ad just itself to any conditions if it only knew what those conditions were to be. It now knows.

The stable conditions that trade and commerce and finance petitioned for have been achieved so far as it is within the province of an Administra-tion to achieve them. A new era has begun, and it can continue as long as "they have to play on the harp, and I have had trouble enough taking my corporation remembers that "the can continue as long as billity for the management of a great plane lessons." corporation remembers that "the pub-lic interest is part of his own interest."

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian, December 14, 1889, Washington-Thomas Potter, a we Washington—Thomas Potter, a well-known citizen, died yesterday at the age of 83. He was one who helped to draw Lafayette's carriage into Wash-ington from Baltimore in 1824.

Olympia-The flag on the Statehouse floats at half mast in honor of the memory of Dr. Thomas T. Minor, of Se-attle, the first of the 75 men who attle, the first of the 75 men who framed the state constitution for Wash-New York Herald.

In his message delivered yesterday President Wilson presents no facts and no argument that should swerve a patriotic Congress from the duty devolving upon it to provide for a sane and complete investigation into the whole complete investigation into the washington to cross the great river. Dr. Minor, with G. Morris Haller and Louis Cox, left Seattle on Thanksgiving day for a fishing and hunting trip on Upcomplete investigation into the whole question of National defense. This is what the American people desire, and they are entitled to it.

To Put Lid on Means Explosion.

> Citizens of Scio, Or., are arranging to build a motor line from that place to connect with the Oregon Pacific Railroad.

> Calvin E. Nelson, a former resident of Union, died at Mineral City, Idaho, last Monday evening.

The West Oregonian, published at Myrtle Point, Coos County, is the latest venture in the journalistic field in the

R. H. Kemp, of Spokane Falls, sends a copy of The Oregonian that passed through the recent great fire at that place, tightly sealed in a copper box the cold hand of reason. Of that, Gard- and placed in the cornerstone of the ner has much more cause to be afraid Frankfurt block that was laid April 25,

> Lou Smith, stage manager for Corto break his leg, between the ankle and knee. Dr. Rand attended his in-

> A. C. Brown of Eugene, patentee of Quimby yesterday. Mr. Brown, who has just returned from the East, has made arrangements with an Indiana manu-facturer to put the harrow on the mar-

The new Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, at the corner of Tenth and Tay-lor streets, will be dedicated Sunday. The dedication sermon will be preached by the Rev. R. C. Houghton at 11 A. M. Rev. E. W. Caswell, the former pastor, and Rev. G. W. Izer. of San Francisco, will assist in the services. Rev. Mr. Izer will preach in the evening.

KIND OF WAR THAT IS USEFUL Effort to Abolish Poverty Better Than Militarism, Says Writer. PORTLAND, Dec. 15 .- (To the Edi-

tor.)-The article by E. G. Hopson, supervising engineer of the United Stated reclamation service, in The Oregonian Sunday, is to be commended a a frank, straightforward and truthful statement regarding business and so-cial conditions and the danger of unemployment. It is a timely warning and should be heeded. His relation to public works should be a guarantee of his knowledge in regard to employ-

when their necessities compel, so long as they are assured that the com-munity is doing its best to organize works of public improvement that ultimately will give them steady em-ployment. Such action as Mr. Hopson proposes would loosen the tension and remove to a large degree the "danger"

beg to take issue, however, with Mr. Hopson when he complains that we "have to meet war taxes for a war for which we are not responsible in any sense." When we have sown and cultivated the thorns and thistles of militarism ourselves are we not responsible? Preparation for war only leads to war. We are talking of arming for "defense." That is what the nafor "defense." That is what the na-tions of Europe have done, and we see the result. Our defense against other nations should be our just dealings with them. Our safety as a republic, should be justice to our people. The remote causes of war, greed and selfishness, are rooted in all nations, our own included. We, like other nations, have been sowing the wind and are reaping the whirlwind. War against our fellows seems to be a primal in-stinct. In our evolution it must be onverted into a war against the evils which oppress them.

To carry out the works which Mr.

Hopson suggests would be to wage a useful war; a war to abolish poverty.

THOMAS HAWKES.

Umatilla Is First. UMATILLA, Or., Dec. 14.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian recently ou published a paragraph that a certain town in the Williamette Valley had just completed a modern fireproof school building containing inclines instead of stairs. The as-sertion was made that this was the first school building built in the state containing inclined planes for stair-

Allow me to refute that assertion, Umatilla, Or., has a modern fireproof, building of re-enforced concrete erected. in 1912. This building has inclined planes to reach the second floor. Unless some town can show a prior construc-

tion, give Umatilia the credit.
Umatilia, also has the distinction of having the first town school in Umatilia County to fulfill all the requirements of a Standard school adopted by the Board of Education, August 5, 1914. W. A. FORD, Principal.

Definition of "Santa Claus."

PathBnder.

Modern Child-No, Ethel, there isn't any Santa Claus; he's just your own father and mother. Ethel - An' ain't they no Satan, Modern Child (up in her eugenics)— No, he's just your father and mother,

Let the Children Read the Advertising

Very likely they are doing it anyhow, for children are quick to see things. But if not, encourage them to do so.

and it may give you a clue to what they want in their stockings or under the sparkling tree. Newspaper advertising is at all

It is good information for them

times good constructive information.

At this season of the year it is not only at its flood tide in volume. but teeming with the things most calculated to excite a child's interest-suggestions for Christmas.