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perature, 50; minimum temperature, 44; pre-sipitation, 40 of an inch. TODAT'S WEATHER-Occasionalrain; lower

PORTLAND, SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 1904.

DISOREDITED AT HOME AND ABBOAD. Special agents and grain experts connected with the Agricultural Department at Washington occasionally make visits to the Pacific Northwest, and Invariably complain at the criticisms made by The Oregonian over the worthlessness of the grain crop estimates of Bureau of Statistics. This paper has frequently printed extracts from newspapers in the East and Middle West showing that the Government estimates are as generally discredited in other parts of the country as they are in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Now comes the Liverpool Corn Trade News, the greatest grain paper in the world, with its detailed annual statement showing the wheat crop of the world for the past ten years. The opening sentence at the head of this table reads as follows:

Official returns are taken when obtainable except in the case of the United States, where recognized commercial estimates are adopted in preference.

Following this pointed reflection on the accuracy of our Government cropreporting bureau are the official figures from forty-six wheatgrowing countries throughout the world. The official returns from Crotia and Sclaventa, Herzogovina and Bosnia, Greece, Cyprus, Algeria, Tunis, Persia, Tasmania, Cyprus and all other countries which contribute to the world's supply of wheat are considered sufficiently accurate by this great grain authority. The official figures of the United States, the greatest of all wheat-producing countries, and the one country among all the others in which commercial civilization has reached the highest degree of perfection, are alone discredited. At first thought it might seem that this was an Intentional slight to a country on which Great Britain, the world's wheat market, was so largely dependent for sup-This theory, however, is ur worthy of serious consideration, for the very existence of the Corn Trade News is dependent upon its presenting, as nearly as possible, the actual figures on available supplies of grain. In consequence, an error regarding the size of the American crop would be more seriour than in the case of any other country, for no other country offers so large

an exportable surplus. Thus, being confronted with the ir disputable evidence at home and abroad that the Government figures are not reliable, the question arises, Why should they not be equally as accurate as the commercial figures which are gathered at no expense to the Governthe recent appointment of a Wyoming politicisn, with headquarters in San Francisco to supervise the collection of grain statistics in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and California. If the selection of a man to supervise this work had been left to the growers and porters who handle the crop of the ur states, there is every reason to believe that they would have chosen from their number a man familiar with the situation and in touch with the dness, in all or at least one of the four states mentioned. The extent to which Wyoming figures as a wheatgrowing state is shown in the Govern. sent's own figures for the year just losed. It is credited with a wheat production of 473,740 bushels, so that the opportunities for a man to familiarize himself with the business are essarily much more restricted than in states which produce fifty to sixty

lmes as much wheat. It is this policy of making the statis ical bureau of the Department of Agriculture a home for place-hunters, regardless of their qualifications, that has suited in bringing the department nto disrepute at home and abroad. It iss forced the commercial interests of the country to expend large sums of oney in securing accurate informaion while at the same time the Gov. nment is spending vast sums in salaries and expenses of men who, by the suits achieved, prove themselves unfitted for the service. Eastern papers ave frequently urged the abolishment Agricultural Department's Buau of Statistics, and, unless comsps are taken to relieve it from the Bum that is being cast upon it ut an end to its existence. The money w expended could be used in provid-

circulation of inaccurate crop reports, which are worthless alike to dealers and producers.

LET SLEEPING DOGS LIE. War between Japan and Russia seen

very close, but it is doubtful whether Russia, whose statesmen are the most astute and far-sighted in Europe, have any serious purpose to go to war with Japan unless Japan forces a fight by striking the first blow. Russia knows that it might be comparatively easy to repulse Japan's attack on sea and land, but is too long-headed not to see that, even if no European power interfered. Japan, when defeated, could take refuge in her island home, which is impregnable to naval attack, and there, like a nest of pirates, bide her time when some Russian hour of difficulty would furnish her with a new opportunity. This is assuming that Russia was successful on both sea and land. Russia knows, too, that a war with Japan is beset with many perplexing complications. She knows that China, while nominally neutral, is secret ally of Japan. She knows that the insidious emissaries of Japan may ultimately succeed, when the Empress Tsi An dies, in gradually persuading China to adopt the military arms and organization that have made the Japanese a nation of formidable soldiers. The popular impression that the Chf-

oldiers is not shared by Lord Wolseley, who met them in battle under Sir Hugh Rose in 1860. He says that they have every quality required for the good soldier and the good sailor, and they "only want a Chinese Peter the Great or Napoleon to make them the most formidable nation in the world. follow Japan's example in reforming her army and navy, she is bound to become the most powerful of nations. China has only to study how Japan has converted herself into a powerful empire within the life of one generation." Burmese, the fighting races of India and Africa. There is nothing incredible in this prediction. There are between four hundred and five hundred millions of people in China, and out of this vast population it would be an easy matter to raise a vast army of stalwart men of fighting temper. Trained under Japanese officers, there is no reason why they could not become formidable soldiers. They are of the same blood as the Mongols, that under thirteenth century penetrated into Russia, Poland and Hungary; they are of under Tameriane marched to the gates of Constantinople in the first decade of the fifteenth century. Of course, it is easy to say that such conquests could not be repeated under our modernirallway system of military concentration. That is true, probably, but with Japanese instructors China would be placed in a perfect state of formidable military defense and could become capable of making a destructive military invasion of Asiatic Russia. Now there are able men in China who know what Japan has done, and, taught by the force of example, they will some day, with Japan for an organizer and instructor, seek to place China in a state of military defense. Of course, this is not a certainty, but the astute statesmen of Russia know that it is among the probabilities that are worth considering in their project of the fu-

ture. Russia is too shrewd and astute a diplomatist to wake a sleeping dog in shape of a new China, roused, educated and organized into a military nation by the arts and impulse of Japan. The fundamental dispute between Russia and Japan is the domination of Corea-This is a matter of vital consequence to Japan, since it is their only field for colonization, but it is not a vital matter at all for Russia; that is, it is not a matter of present pressing consequence. Russia's real interest lies in quietly clinging to Manchuria. Russia has a legal right under agreements with China in 1896 and 1898 to keep troops in Manchuris to guard her railroads across Manchuria to Vladivostok. with an extension from Harbin, on this road, to Tallen Wan-and Port Arthur. During 1900, just as the allied forces marched on Pekin, Russia poured thousands of troops into Manchuria and juartered them as far south as Niu Chwang. These troops have never been

Manchuria has an area of 270,000 square miles, with a population of 8,500,000. It is a country of enormous undeveloped mineral wealth; it has agricultural lands of wonderful fertility. The City of Harbin, in the heart of Manchuria, with 9000 inhabitants, is as much a Russian town as the Russian seaport of Dainy. If the Russlanizing process continues, the finest province of China will become part of the Rus sian Empire, and the Russianizing process will continue if Russia keeps out of war with Japan. Japan today is the largest foreign market for Manchurian produce, and altogether Russia risks too much, even if she wins the battle with Japan, Corea, indispensable to Japan, is not indispensable at all to Russin, while war with Japan might weaken Russia's foothold in Manchuria. for the line of railroad communication would be exposed to nots of costly destruction. Small parties armed with dynamite can easily break a rallway. and if it was seriously broken by the Boxers in 1900 it can surely be broken by Japanese emissaries in time of war. Russin is long-headed; she sees all these possibilities; she knows there is a hereafter, a consequent, an aftermath, to every war, and because Russia is astute and far-sighted, we do not believe she will go to war with Japan unles Japan strikes the first blow. Russia knows that the real prize is Manchuria, for which she can well afford to concede to Japan domination in Corea. When the Trans-Siberian Railroad has a double track, a solid roadbed, rolling stock enough to make it a sufficient line of rallway communication, when Russia has a Pacific fleet of superior strength to that of Japan, war might be a tolerable venture, but even in that event Russia will hesitate to make a vindictive enemy of 45,000,000 of Asiatics, who mean, soon or late, to organize and arm China against Russia, Russia has hitherto won by treading softly; she understands the Oriental character, and she will not now abandon astute diplomacy for the bayonet

bate with cannon. If Japan is suffered to dominate in Corea she will be content to obtain in Manchuria neither more nor less than se and abroad, it would be well to the United States obtains, but if she cannot dominate in Corea, her colonization ground, she will fight, and if she is ng a home for indigent politicians, and beaten she will retire to her impregna-

unless Japan forces war by firing.

the Russian flag, thus closing the de-

in this way would not be used in the ble island home and organize insidiously trouble for Russia in China. It may take twenty-five years, but ultimately China will be organized by Japan's promptings into a state of formidable military defense. Russia does not want this to take place, and she will not quarrel with Japan unless Japan forces the fighting.

COLONEL HOPER'S PLAIN DUTY. The Salem Capital Journal has inaug. prated a scheme by which it proposes to give away to its subscribers a \$150 diamond, absolutely free. The plan requires the payment of a dollar for subscription, which entitles the subscriber to a guess as to an unknown number. The person lucky enough to guess closest to the right number is issue the Journal explains the whole cherge in a first-column editorial, and follows this with an editorial on gambling. The editor says: "What to do with gambling? This question comes up in two forms: What is our private What is our public duty?

Your duty is plain, Colonel Hofer, absolutely clear. There can be no possible doubt about either your public or your private duty in the suppression of gambling. You have undertaken a work of reform that is worthy your rare ability. The desire to get something for nothing is the greatest evil of our times-has ruined thousands of iese could not be made into stanch lives of brightest promise, has made desolate the homes of thousands of happy families and has broken the hearts of thousands of proud fathers and affectionate mothers.

Both your private and your public duty are plain. You must strive to tench both young and old that it is not honorable to get something for nothing Should China ever be wise enough to by the mere stroke of chance. You must tell the young people who read your paper that it is work, and not chance, that wins in this world; that business men of the highest standing no longer have use for young men who play at games of chance for reward. This is the judgment of an educated Tell them that it is in small and appar-English soldier, who has fought the ently harmless ways that the gambling spirit is developed; that man is a bundle of habits, and that evil habits formed in youth are flaws in personal character.

Your duty is plain, for you have said that "the private citizen's duty is to obey the laws and set a good example in all things to his fellow-men." In setting a good example it is best to follow the Bible injunction to "avoid even the appearance of evil." cussing this gambling question before Genghis Khan and his successors in the your readers, do not mince words, but go in to demolish every gambling scheme from playing marbles for keeps the same blood as the Tartars, that to buying options in Wall street. Recount to your readers the reasons upon which the lotteries were denied the United States mails. Reprint, at the head of your editorial columns, the recent report of the Postmaster-General, in which he denounced guessing contests as among the most pernicious schemes that are now enabled to exist by use of the mail system. Go after them, Colonel, and you will have the commendation of all decent people.

FAMOUS SONGS.

A memorial building is to be erected in Sheffield, Mass., in honor of the late Dr. George F. Root, through contributions obtained from the G. A. R. and the Woman's Relief Corps and Loyal Women of the United States. Dr. Root was widely known as a musician and teacher of music before the war. His first popular song, "Hazel Dell," published as early as 1853, but to his songs during the battle for the Union he owes his largest and most lasting fame. Among these famous songs were "The Battle Cry of Freedom," "Just Be-fore the Battle, Mother," "The Vacant Chair," "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp," and many others of superior merit. The song of "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp,

song of the war on

either side, from the sentimental point of view. It is, of course, not equal in poetic merit to Randall's famous song of "Maryland, My Maryland," but that is a pure war lyric; the battle side of the conflict; but "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp," touches both the battle side and the home ties of the soldler with great tenderness of sentiment and felicity of expression. No other song of the Civil War ever touched so many hearts in war time, and long after the war is over, as this immortal song of "Tramp, Tramp, 'Tramp." It does not mean so much today as it did forty years ago, when thousands of Union prisoners sat in confinement "thinking, mother dear, of you"; that is the sentimental thought of one verse. Another verse tells of the battle front, of the fierce charge, of the repuise, of the victorious cheer. To the soldier of the Union Army this famous song was realistic, and to the friends and neighbors, the mothers, brothers and lovers of the soldier behind the Army, this wonderful song was realistic, too. There were other famous songs, like "Tenting Tonight," a most beautiful song, both in the words and the air. Then there is the splendid song, "Old Shady," which was the spefavorite of General Shern 'Fing of the Free" was another charming song, and with the Western armies 'Marching Through Georgia" was a prime favorite. Then there was a good deal of sentimental trash that had considerable currency, such as "Mother, I've Come Home to Die," but the fine songs we have named soon drove the cheap stuff into obscurity. It is said to true of soldiers that sentimental songs have a larger vogue than humorous ditties. We suspect that it depends on the mood and situation of the soldier. Sherman's soldiers had an easier time marching through Georgia than Grant's Army did marching to Petersourg, so felt more like singing rollicking songs than Grant's Army did, but Sheridan's Arms in the Shenandoah felt more like chirping occasionally, for the enemy was not so near and so deadly all the time as in the march to Petersburg.

But after the surrender at Appomat. tox the air was vocal with songs of war and peace. A Confederate General said laughingly to General Gibbon, whom he had known before the war in the old Army: "We always envied you your songs; we couldn't sing 'The Star-Spangled Banner, 'Red, White and Blue' any more; we couldn't sing 'Maryland, My Maryland,' and 'The Bonnie Blue Flag' all the time, but your army was stocked with good ongs; you had all the old Union songs and some new ones better than the old. This was true, and it was a pity that it was true, for the average Southern man is fonder of good, popular music good songs than the average Northern-bred soldier, upless the North-

ern soldier was city bred and had his

taste educated and his songbook en-

larged by attendance on minatrel enter-

quality. The average country recruit from New England couldn't sing anything but popular hymns and tiresome stuff like "Joe Bowers." The song of "John Brown's Body" obtained easy popularity because it was sung to a pular Methodist revival air. But the really fine songs of the Civil War were those of George Frederick Root; they were fine sentiment set to fine music; they touched the hearts of the whole people; the people within the Army and man said that if the operations hearts were always with their boys, their boys who fought at the front and who fell where they fought. Dr. Root caught the mood of the plain people within and without the Army at what might be called the psychological moment of the war, when he wrote his faentitled to the diamond. In a recent they will be his most eloquent popular requiem.

EUPHEMISMS FOR BLASPHEMY.

Not only do the English take their pleasures seriously, but they take their societies in the same way. The names of most of them are so ponderous that they indicate the state of mind of their promoters. The latest society of tedious name is the National Association for the Suppression of Bad Language. Over here such an organization would probably be known as the Anti-Cussers or something equally abrupt. While one may cavil at the name, nothing can be said against the society's object, for if any class of people on earth should have the greater part of their language suppressed it is the lower stratum of Londoners. Americans use plenty of oaths, but the wanton obscenity that defiles the speech of a certain type of Englishmen is almost nauseating. Furthermore, the American usually shows some ingenuity in his cursing, while the Englishman has a mere parrot-like repetition of words that were originally iosen, to all appearances, for their power to disgust.

The N. A. S. B. L. has work before t, and it is proceeding to tackle its work in a peculiarly English way, by the distribution of tracts. At football matches hundreds of specially prepared leaflets are passed among the spectators, and the too-ardent barrackers are exhorted to refrain from saying anying stronger than "Oh, my!" or "Dear me!" when the opposition shoots a goal. It is further stated that the N. A. S. B. L. is preparing a list of "harmless words to take the place of profane language." Just what harmless word will be suggested for use when a man steps on a tack we are not informed, but it will have to be an explosive one to afford any relief to an overflowing soul. Newspapers will also feel the influence of the society. The question of indicating cuss words by dashes will be taken up. To most minds it preferable to spell out the ordinary expletives than to leave a dash, which provokes the imagination and possibly eads the evil-minded reader mentally to supply a worse word than the speaker used. Furthermore, what a trouble to have little Willie asking, "Pa, what sort of a fool is one with a line in front?" Sentimental Tommy, whom Barrie described, used to read aloud to a woman of strict Scottish virtue. When he came to a doubtful word he said ('stroke,"
"You stroke scoundrel' cried Sir An-

thony," he would read, and who can doubt the harmful effect of such a subterfuge upon his mind. Some writers, Kipling one of mem, spell out "blank." "You blankety blank blank!" at least gives one the thythm, but it must be condemned along with dashes and strokes.

There is nothing virtuous in a dash. Bishop Potter, playing a round of golf with Pierpont Morgan, made an atroclous foorle. He looked at the ball in silence for almost a minute. "Bishop." said Mr. Morgan, "that was the profanest silence I ever heard." Similarly some newspaper dashes are the profanis still in vogue, and is in our judgest blanks that one ever saw. Dash dashes! Do you think Speaker Cannon. when he wrote on the back of his check for a set of useless books, left his remarks in this spineless fashion: books are not worth a -, and are high at that"? It requires no intimate knowledge of Mr. Cannon to know that he went off with a greater report, and that a well-known word was spelled out in full, even to the mute inglorious letter at the end.

AN INTERESTING BOOK The British soldier, Field Marshal Viscount Wolseley, in his "Story of a Soldier's Life" describes his military career of over half a century. His first service was in Burmah, when, an ensign of 20 years of age, he was dangerously wounded. In the Crimea he was again wounded, loning the use of one eye and obtaining the cross of the Legion of Honor; he served in India during the famous "mutiny" of 1857; he served in the Chinese war of 1860, when the English and French troops captured Pekin; he was one of the British officers ordered to Canada with their regiments during the excitement following the Trent affair; he headed the expedition that put down the Riel Red River rebellion; he commanded in the Ashan-tee War of 1873, and captured Coomassie; he defeated Arabi Pasha's Egyptian army at Tel-El-Kebir in 1882, and was commander-in-chief in the Soudan campaign of 1884-85, undertaken for the re lief of Gordon. This story of a military career of varied experience many lands is admirably well told. It shows that General Wolseley was always a very gallant soldier, whether he was a great General will never be known, for the merit of a soldier is determined by the ability of the General he encounters and the number and quality of the troops he defeats. It was no "trick" at all for General

Wolseley, in command of the crack troops of the British army, to defeat an army of Egyptians or to put to rout the Ashantees. Lord Roberts fought Afghans, a fighting race of powerful physique, many of them admirable marksmen; he fought the Boers, but all of Wolseley's victories were won over a fighting foe of poor quality, ill armed and iii disciplined. Lord Wolseley has all his days been a supercitious critic of the Union side during the Civil War, and his book shows that he has not got over his prejudice. He still thinks the Confederate side had the right of it, and he still holds Lee and Jackson the only figures worthy of note in our great struggle. Shortly before his death, in 1891, General Sherman, in an article contributed to the Century, took General Wolseley sharply to task for his contemptuous and supercillous treatment of our campaigns as offering no agitimate and valuable lessons in th art of war. Sherman could speak with authority, for he was educated as a soldier; knew the art of war as it is found in standard military text-books, and knew it by four years of practical

dinate corps commander or as leader of or three generations of "Americanisan independent force he watched the ing" these disaffected Boers operations of armies ranging from 50,000 make good American citizens. to 100,000 men.

General Sherman led a veteran army of 100,000 men of English blood and intelligence against a veteran army of 50,000 men of English blood and intelligence, commanded by a General who had been a soldier and studied the art of war from his youth. General Sherpeople behind the Army, whose great veteran armies of English blood, easoned as they were by three years of battle, conveyed no useful lesson to the military student in Europe, it was significant of stupid arrogance rather than superior scientific knowledge on part of the European critic. Sherman live to see the Boer War, in which the mous war songs, and for many years | best troops of England were discomfitted more than once because men like Lord since they either enslaved or drove out Wolseley had refused to be taught the Kaffirs whose lands they took. The lessons of our Civil War, which were the use of mounted infantry and the futility of frontal attacks on intrenched lines held by well-armed stanch infantry. If Lord Wolseley and the English War Office had studied the history of our war instead of sneering at it, they would have escaped repeated disasters.

The per cent of loss on both sides

after our troops became veterans shows that they were the equals of any troops | telligent, progressive American citizens. of the century. Their losses are only equaled in the most terrible of Napoon's battles, where defeat became destructive because of the use of large masses of cavalry, which could not be used in our day over difficult ground and against long-range rifled muskets. All of our losses were suffered in "stand-up-and-take-it" fighting, and not by the slaughter of panic-stricken fact, says the Outlook, that there are a fugitives by cavalry, such as swelled the losses of the beaten army by pursuit in Napoleon's day. In the matter of strategy and tactics, General Sherman's campaigns surely were full of lessons of military energy and skill that could have been studied with profit hear so much of rogues in office, of by such "scientific" foreign soldiers as Bazaine and MacMahon, and even by General Wolseley, who lost Khartoum and sacrificed Gordon by his slowness, who never commanded to exceed 10,000 men, and whose sole victories were over Ashantees and over a rabble of

wretched Egyptian insurgents. The campaigns of Lee, Grant, Sherman and Johnston must have as much interest to the European military student as the Red River campaign against the halfbreeds, the defeat of Arnbi Pasha, the capture of King Koffey and the fruitless march on Khartoum. Lord Wolseley is a soldier of distinguished gallantry, but his notes on our Civil War are valueless, because his prejudice clouds his eye like a cataract. There is a strain of meanness in General Wolseley when he alludes to Grant. He speaks of Lee as "General Lee," but in some of his published correspondence he persistently called Grant "Mr. Grant." This was only repeating the insolence of the British General in the Revolution who addressed a letter intended for General Washington to "Mr. Washington," - General Wolselev does not repeat this old-time insolence in his present book, but it is the first time he has omitted an opportunity to treat the civil and military leaders of the Union with insult and contempt.

PENALTY OF CHEAP RAILWAY CARS. It has been cited that out of the 32,-000,000 passengers carried in Pullman sleeping-cars on the railways of the United States in the last three years only six were killed and about sixty slightly injured in wrecks. By conrasting these numbers with the frightful fatalities and casualties to passengers who were traveling in the light and flimsily built smokers, chair-cars and ordinary coaches, a very -potent reason for this wholesale death and mutilation is discovered. The remedy is not far to seek, but it will in all probability be difficult to apply. In the rolling stock of most, if not

numbers of cheap, old cars that, while everything goes well, answer the purposes of local passenger traffic with asonable safety and comfort, but which go to pieces in collision or derailment as if they were constructed of cardboard and glue. In a late wreck on the Rock Island near Topeka, for example, all of the deaths occurred in the chair-car. That car. doorned passengers, was placed between a new and heavily built smoking-car and a second chair-car, new and of modern construction. The smoker was strong enough to resist the impact, but rose in the air, crushing and telescoping the light, worn-out first chair-car, reducing it to kindling wood and killing and maiming its occupants. This is only one instance among many which that it is not only the fact that the Pullman cars are placed in the rear of the trains which gives them immunity from destruction, but that their heavy and substantial construction to factor that further insures their safety. There is, indeed no room to doubt that loss of life through railway accidents would be greatly lessened if all of the cars that make up the trains, including the malicars, which are the filmsjest of all, were heavier and more

substantially built. It is not conceivable that any individual railroad manager or owner in the United States would willfully cause or permit the death of persons traveling upon his trains through greed or to save money. But the corporation's conscience becomes dulled by divided responsibility, while the desire boards of managers to declare dividends which show an increase of business over their roads may easily over rule considerations of possible danger. "Surplus emotion" is not a factor in business of any kind, and it is not strange that it is ruled out of railroad management. This is conceded without prejudice to the humanities that govern individuals, whether they are engaged in one business or another.

It may be said, however, that the time is overripe for legislation upon some of the points where danger has been developed by the terrible loss of life in rallroad wrecks in recent months. Since railroad managements, as events show, do mix with their new and substantial equipment, in making up trains, old cars that, in their flimsiness, are an additional menace to human life when accident occurs, it is the duty of Legislatures, rallway commissions, and, if it comes to that, the National Congress, to pass laws or adopt rules which require every possible safeguard in the matter of car construction and equipment that ordinary prudence enjoins for the safety of the traveling public.

A portion of the press of Montana is in favor of offering special inducements to the homeseeking Boers of South Africa to come in colonies to that state and engage in stockraising and farmtainments or English opera of light experience in the field, where as subor- ing. It is no doubt true that after two them

is also true that they are a stubborn, pugnacious, non-progressive people, with ideas of homebuilding that do not ouch at any point the idea upon which the American home is founded. They are thrifty in the ability to compass rude abundance, but, unless Olive Schriner and others who have written from personal observation of the Boer homes and social life greatly malign them, there was not a home on the broad veldt over which their flocks and herds roamed prior to the late war that afforded the decencies and comforts of life according to the civilized view, They love liberty, it is said, but this was not a sentiment that caused them to scorn alike "to be or have a slave," self-exiled bands who are founding colonies in Mexico will no doubt prove to be an improvement, industrially speaking, upon the thriftless people whom they displace or with whom they com in contact, but it is very doubtful whether under two or three generations of contact with the American public school system and strict compulsory education laws they would make in

Henry Livingstone Thomas, who died ecently in Washington, was for twenty-eight years chief translator to the State Department, and had been connected with it in confidential capacity for thirty-four years. The record of his service that was made public after his death calls attention to the number of men employed by the Government who are absolutely unknown to the public and are quite removed | lull her to sleep as soundly as the famous from the sphere of politics, yet who render faithful, expert and indispensable service. That journal adds: "We place-seekers and time-servers of sensation-mongers and political plotters, that it is refreshing to turn to the record of a man like Mr. Thomas and to think too much emphasis was laid upon award him and those like him the praise due to a scholar, a gentleman and in a true sense a patriot." A correspondent of the New York Evening Post pays tribute to this faithful public officer, saying: "Mr. Thomas made a life study of languages, and was familiar with nearly all except Chinese, Japanese, Russian and Hungarian-knew them, moreover, as a scholar in literature and grammar, with power to write as well as to speak." It is easy to see make himself almost indispensable to aire. the State Department in its dealings with the nations of the earth, and to agree with the Post writer that if Mr. Thomas did not have the meed of popular applause and political reputation he certainly had the satisfaction of a quiet and modest usefulness.

Thousand-dollar purses, with men of Kings," when conducted as sport and | der. not on a sure-thing gambling basis, has just as strong a hold on the people as ever, and Oregon horsemen are today better provided with prospective record-breakers than ever before. Until last year there had been a long interval since the old days of honest racing and enthusiastic crowds, and, now that the pastime has got back to a proper plane, the experience of the past will probably be a guard against the recurrence of any of the evils that killed horseracing in Oregon for more than ten years. Incidentally, it is worthy of mention that M. D. Wisdom, of the Rural Spirit, is entitled to more credit for the revival of honest racing and good meetings than any other individual in the Pacific Northwest. Through all the years of depression in the breeding industry, due as much to "Mike" Wisdom never ceased hammering away on a policy the adoption of which alone could save the breeding industry and bring back the confidence of the public. He has at last been successful, and for his efforts is entitled to the thanks of every horseman on the North Pacific circuit.

The bulleter of the lost steamer Clallam is out with a statement that "there never was a stancher or more seaworthy vessel on the Sound than the This reads well from Clallam." builder's point of view, but it is ridiculeus for any individual to put forth such a claim in the face of the facts. If the Clallam had answered the description thus given, she would not have been pounded to pieces in a sea which was not so terrible as to prevent a 25-year-old tugboat going out to her assistance and after taking hold of her pulling her to pieces with an ordinary towline. The statement is further made ridiculous by the fact that a number of other "stancher" and "more seaworthy" vessels were out in that same gale that ended the career of the Clallam and with the exception of that unfortunate craft, all of them reached port in safety. There is a grave responsibility for the Clallam disaster resting on some shoulders, and it cannot be shifted or dismissed by any such wild statements as are credited to Superintendent Heath, who had charge of the construc-

tion of the steamer. Stanch and seation of the steamer. Stanch and sea-worthy steamers are not knocked to pieces before they are six months old by a gale that permits 25-year-old the house was built in eighty eight the wooden vessels to weather it in safety.

The British Columbia government has at last succeeded in making the "stump tax" so onerous for American loggers and millmen operating across the line that they have been forced to retire. Telegraphic advices from Bellingham Bay state that the Americans will either close down their camps in British Columbia or sell the raw product to the British Columbia millmen. The "stump tax" came into existence as a retaliatory measure against the lumber tariff, and our Canadian brethren have increased its obstructive powers until it has at last proven as effective in keeping American loggers out of Canada as the American tariff has proved in keeping Canadian lumber out of the United States. All hands should now be satisfied, but are they?

Disgusted at the ill manners of American sightseers upon the occasion of her daughter's recent marriage in New York, Mrs. Ogden Goelet has determined to reside in Europe hereafter. She will be very fortunate if she meets abroad no rude or Ill-mannered people -much more fortunate, indeed, than well-bred Americans generally have been. The attempt to fly from cheap, Ill-mannered people is both futile and foolish. No country has a monopoly of contest.

NOTE AND COMMENT

Just Wishes. I'm sick to death of Panama: I have the mention of its name, and all this talk about its birth, And whether we helped on its games I wish a tidal wave would sweep. The inthinus plumb into the deep.

This talk of names that end in ski-The very meation of Japan— Corea, Chim, cursed four— How thred they make the common : I wish they'd go to work and scrap, Or else back off the suffering map.

This hunt for issues, too, is fiere Expansion, silver, trusts, to-wit-if there's no issue, what's the use Of doing anything but quit? I wish the Democrats would plan To pass as straight Republican.

It's a live wire that makes a dead man, The jury to Chief Hunt: Not guilty, but we must fine you on principle.

Few persons seem capable of dying in

so many places as does the "daughter of John Brown." There are few thines more discouraging than to look through the Dictionary for

a word you don't know how to spell. "Has a hen a mind?" asks the New York Times. Well, she won't lay unless she has a

Councilman Mahncke, of Tacoma, says e married his wife for pity, because she told him such a sorrowful story, Those that marry for pity seldom get it.

mind to.

No doubt Patti will feel happier when she gets back to Craig-y-Nos, where the ripple of the Liwyrddiwdns as it runs past the storied rocks of Liwchyllddnwydd will old Weish bard Llwyddnwchgogogoch.

However, Paul Heintz accomplished the feat. He has shown that it is possigle to fire the hired girl. If this particular hired girl were thrown down the steps of the house, it may be that people will the order to "git!"

Georgina Hewiston, aged 14, chafed under parental control. So to free her 'oabined ample spirit" she filled mother's teapot with carbolic acid. Mother did not drink the acid, and Georgina is now under the control of the Vancouver police. It is pitiful how the desires of youth are thwarted in this world of injustice, and Georgina's case makes one more than ever inclined to hope for a scheme of how a man of such attainments could things moulded closer to the heart's de-

The postmaster at Geneva, Washington, nust be in a quandary. Should he kick himself for his carelessness or pat himself on the back for his inventive genius? It appears that the postmaster invented a new kind of gunpowder, and placed it to dry by the kitchen stove. Presently the powder exploded with such force that unquestioned character in charge, will the postmaster, the postmistress, and the certainly result in the 1964 meeting of postchildren were shot through the winthe Multnomah Fair Association prov. dow, and nearly became subjects for a ing a record-breaker. The "sport of post-mortem. Evidently it was good pow-

> Prairie City is nothing if not spo'tin'. A prisefight has been arranged and two good men have been selected for the go. One is said to have stood up to Jawn L. Sullivan for four rounds on some occasion in the vague past. The other man is a long, slim "Fitzsimmons-looking" fighter. This scrap should be worth a trip from Portland, and the wise ones will be puzzled to pick the winner, Is a man who is alleged to have stood up to Jawn L for four rounds better than a man who is undoubtedly a "Fitzsimmons-looking" fighter? 'Tis a pumling question.

> No doubt the new woman (in the hen world) will be duly grateful to Mr. Ladd, who so ably defended her in The Oregonian yesterday. There is always a certain amount of prejudice against anything new, and it takes time to live it down. No doubt the grandsons of Noah kicked about the new-fangled hens of their time. "Not like those we had in the ark-fresh eggs there every morning the year 'round." Even the chicken-pox of our youth seems better than the kind they have nowadays-how much better, then,

The great Eastern educator was visiting Portland in 1930. The president of the Reform School Board was showing his visitor around the city. "Here," he said, is the forest we have planted to give the children climbing exercise. That hundred-acre plot to the left is the playground for girls of 5. Similar spaces provided for the girls and boys of all ther ages. It is, we flatter ourselves, the finest educational establishment in the "It is certainly magnificent," asworld. sented the visitor, "but may I ask where the school itself is situated?" "Oh, the school? We've had to spend so much money on playgrounds that we can't build the school for five or six years yet."

A Pendleton newspaper man has forwarded to The Oregonian the poem reprifited below. "I have always contended that Eastern Oregon could beat the entire state in the production of anythingpoetry no exception. Carefully peruse this ommunication and then admit that it is up to you Webfooters to come anyway near a duplication." The poem was sent to the Pendleton Tribune from Pilot Rock: The Chicago theater was burned just the

grate by walls of brick. the hall filled up with gues and smoke and turned the spectaters sick.
They was visiting this theater at their very hearts dissire
the house was erected, at a very heavy

and from six to eight hundred lives were perished there and lost, those that were not burned to death, were looking very pale, and none of them could speak a word, to tell the oful tall.

The pale-faced and slim actor is giving way to a man with buiging muscles. Sac dow has opened a physical culture class for theatrical people in London, and Sir Henry Irving has commended the project very highly. Now we may look for some tin' doin' on the stage. Duel scenes and wrestling scenes, struggling heroines and baffle-i villain scenes, death grapples and melodramatic rushes of the mob, will be worth seeing when professional strong sen engage in them. We may expect

Romeo and Juliet! Neville Dingbal, the strongest actor in the world, as Romeo-Hanel Hoplite, champion fernale weight-lifter, as Juliotal? Romeo hangs from the balcomy by one hand for 30 minutes—Juliet hangs from her manufactured and the strong strong

future bills to read something like this:

window by one hand for 29 minutes 29111 Special Attraction!! On the conclusion of the first act Juliet will

neet all comers in a weight-lifting content.
-Romeo and Mercutio in a catch-as-ca-WEXFORD JONES.