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YESTERDAY'S WEATHER-Maximum tem perature, 62 deg.; minimum, 49. Precipitation, .16 Inch. TODAY'S WEATHER-Partly cloudy, with

SEPARATE CITY ELECTIONS.

possibly showers; winds mostly westerly.

FORTLAND, SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 1904.

An agitation has begun in the City of St. Paul for transferring municipal elections from the separate time they are now held to a time uniform with general elections. It has been found that the cost of the separate city election amounts to something like \$35,000 and it is doubted whether the alleged gain of separate elections offsets this expense. This agitation is of interest in Portland just now, inasmuch as our new charter proposes to institute separate municipal elections on the first Monday in June, 1905, and blennishly thereafter. There is little doubt, however, that amendments to the charter will be proposed at this Winter's Legislative session, and the probability is that the result will be to open up the whole question of separate elections.

We shall assume that when the time comes, the reigning political forces here will be found in opposition to the separate elections. Political machines generally are so opposed, and the enactment of our present charter is the first time that this alleged reform has ever been able to prevail over the determined stand of the politicians against It will be remembered, however, that The Oregonian has never acquiesced in the claims of the "reformers" for the separate election, believing it one of those specious but empty devices by which law is invoked to make citizens good and officials efficient. The busis of the separate election fad is the theory that the voter is so helplessly gnorant that if he hopes for a good Republican Governor he cannot help voting also for a bad Republican nominee for Mayor. The average voter is guite capable of this strain on his intelligence, as the split tickets so often elected bear witness.

The Legislature will undoubtedly be asked to rectify certain clerical errors in the charter pointed out by Auditor Deviln and to amend the present vexatious regime for street assessments; but if there were no other reason for anticipating charter legislation it would be found in the almost certain adoption of the direct primary and the necessity for conforming the charter to that law. It is even open to serious doubt whether the charter is sufficiently explicit concerning the election laws already in force. Perusal of it shows that the obvious purpose of its framers was to make it conform to all election laws past or yet to be enacted, or rather to make all that class of legislation conform to the new charter. For example, we have directions to the County Clerk about opening and closing the registry books; to the County Court about the expense account of the city election The Auditor, however, is to receive the nominations, instead of the County Clerk, and the City Council is to discharge the functions of the County

All these deviations from the election laws are doubtless legal; that is, they can be made legal by proper enactment; but it is exceedingly doubtful if some of the provisions of the charter limiting and diverting the election laws could stand the test of inquiry under our constitutional provision and decisions under it requiring the complete rehearsal of every amended statute in its altered form. There is a cheerful and glittering generality, for example, in the assertion (chap. II, art. 1 section 25), that "the dates fixed in said election laws are hereby changed as far as they relate to said city elections, and the dates prescribed in this charter shall be substituted for and take the place of the dates set forth in said election laws." These provisions may be adequate, but it is not likely the friends of the charter will forego the opportunity the Winter session affords of making assurance doubly sure.

The separate city election of June, 1905 would occur at a time shortly after the opening of the Lewis and Clark Fair, and it is a serious question whether the distraction would not justify a postponement of the election until the succeeding June, when the general election occurs, with a continuance of the present city officials in office. The matter is one that should be decided wholly on its public merits; but unfortunately there is little reason to hope that it can be divested of political significance. If the present Republican organization should oppose the change, it would doubtless rest under the charge that it oped to get a Mayor more pliable than Judge Williams to its will. And if it should favor the postponement its motives would be assailed by those who would have hastened to abolish separate elections if the power had been put in their hands. The Oregonian does not believe in ignoring or suppressing

natters of this nature which are in everybody's mind; and it hopes to see the subject fully and freely discussed on its merits, regardless alike of the desires of the "organization" to perpetu-ate itself, and of the rosy hopes of other ambitious statesmen to avail themselves of the coming municipal election to found a new and possibly more exclusive dynasty.

ARCHITECT OF HIS OWN, EMINENCE. The recent great Life of Gladstone by John Morley has been followed by the publication of a very interesting blography of Gladstone's great rival, Disraeli, by Wilfrid Meynell. It is a very interesting book, because Disraeli not only was a statesman, who played quite as important a part in the politics of England as Gladstone, measured by the permanent mark he made in his time, but because Disraeli was a far more versatile and brilliant man in his personal gifts than Gladstone. He was not so powerful an orator, but he was a man of astonishing wit and humor, qualities which Gladstone lacked, and he was a man of genius in the matter of original literary expression, which certainly cannot be said of Gladstone. Disraell's novels, written in his youth, are a mine of fine political epigrams, to which more than one public man of our day has been indebted for the finest brilliants of his speech. His conversational powers were so great that he attracted universal attention in London social circles before he even won a seat in Parliament, and his manners were so polished and attractive that Queen Victoria, who had been obliged to meet in official intercourse the Duke of Wellington, Lord Melbourne, Sir Robert Peel, Lord Derby, Lord Palmerston and Mr. Gladstone, always said Disraell had the most delightful manners of them all. He made her feel that he was not only her loyal subject but her devoted personal friend. Our American poet, N. P. Willis, who met Disraeli in his days of youthful literary fame, describes him as a most powerful and impressive talker on any subject under discussion; he talked "like a racehorse approaching the winning post."

by the fact that he is the only English Prime Minister since the days of William III who rose to be Premier without being a child of one of the great English Universities or being allied by family connection with the aristocracy or rich English gentry. Godolphin and Walpole were both university - bred men. The elder Pitt was a university graduate and allied by family ties to the Temples and the Grenvilles. Earl of Bute, the Marquis of Rockingham. Lord North belonged to the aristocracy. The younger It was a brilliant graduate of the university and had large family influence. Fox was a university graduate, and the brilliant son of the wealthy Lord Holland. George Canning was a brilliant university graduate, who was a devoted partisan of the younger Pitt and at once pushed by him into Parliament. Lord Liverpool and Lord Melbourne belonged to the aristocracy; Sir Robert Peel was a brilliant university graduate, the son of a wealthy cotton manufacturer who had been made a Baronet by royal favor. Lord Palmersten belonged to the aristocratic family of Temple; Lord John Russell represented the great ducal house of Bedford, while Lord Derby represented the ancient and noble family of Stanley. Gladstone was a brilliant university graduate, the son of Sir John Gladstone, a rich Liverpool merchant, who had been knighted by royal favor. In the history of all these famous English statesmen we find that from the start they were planted in Parliament by family influence or personal aristocratic patronage, even as Macaulay in his youth was pushed into Parliament by the support of Lord

The force of Disraeli's genius is shown

But Disraeli, while not a Jew in faith was a man of Jew blood, and he was not the child of any English university, nor was she allied by marriage to any powerful aristocratic family. ancestors had abandoned Judaism in the reign of George II, because the rescinding of the act extinguishing the civil and political disabilities of the Jews had made them feel that there was no public career before their children if they remained Jews in faith. Disraeli born in 1804, was educated from 1817 to 1820, at the school of the Rev. Dr. Cogan, a retired Unitarian Minister. Here he was taught the classics, and with French literature he was familiar to the end of his days. His further education was that obtained very much as Byron obtained his, viz., by omnivprous reading. The popular notion that Disraeli was at the start a political adventurer is without foundation. He was far less of an opportunist than his great antagonist, Gladstone, who entered Parliament a most bigoted Tory, finally became a "Peclite" and ultimately became the most radical leader that the English Liberal party ever called chief. As early as 1830 Disraeli made an Eastern tour, in which he learned to smoke and during the first year of his Parliamentary life he said: "I ascribe my popularity in the House to the hours I spend in the smoking-

Doubtless he was right; the smoking room was just the place for a man of brilliant powers of conversation to frequent if he desired to diffuse rapidly his reputation for unique powers of mind and expression. Disraell had a wonderful command of language, an unsurpassed gift of sarcasm, a readiness of wit, a quickness of perception and a grasp of mind that enabled him to seize on all points of any subject under discussion; a man of such gifta would be sure to command an audience in the freedom of the smoking-room that would make itself felt on the floor of the House. The first speech of Disraeli in Parliament was a failure only in the sense that a rude, boorish opposition can squeich the speech of the orator just as a vulgar, brutal, proslavery mob more than once made some of Wendell Phillips' finest speeches "fallures" in the sense that by noise, hooting, cat-calls, groans, etc., they made it impossible for him to proceed. Only in this sense was Disraell's first speech a "failure." The matter of that speech, which filled five and one-half columns of Hansard's Debates, was admirable, but Disraeli had made an enemy of Daniel O'Conneil, and his first speech was ceaselessly interrupted by volleys from the Irish Brigade. In such a contest of course victory lay with the strong lungs of the opposition, and Disraell, finding it impossible to go on finally sat down, saying, "Though I sit down now, the time will come when you

will hear me." Nevertheless, this first speech of Disraeli commanded the warm praise of the speech as one that was filled with | hand the exaggerated demands of the

the spirit of oratory and predicted that "nothing can prevent that man from becoming one of the first speakers in the House of Commons." Disraell married the widow of his colleague in the representation of Maidstone, Wyndham Lewis, through whose good offices he had been sent to Parliament. The widow inherited a life interest in her husband's property, a house in London and some four thousand pounds a year. But she was 50 and Disraeli was not \$5 when they were married in 1829. pite this disparity of years this handsome, brilliant man appears to have been devotedly attached to his wife. What began in gratitude soon ripened into love, for his wife was a woman of very lively mind and affectionate disposition. Disraeli near the close of his married life said to Lord Ronald Gow-'We have been married 30 years, and she has never given me a dull mo ment." His wife was not only devoted to her husband but she knew how to amuse him. Disraeli once said of her "I do owe to that lady all I think I have ever accomplished, because she has supported me by her counsels and consoled me by the sweetness of her disposition." In a tribute paid by Sir William Harcourt to Lady Beaconsfield in the Times the day after her death in December, 1872, he says: "She loved him with her whole heart and soul; she believed in him above all men, and he appreciated at its real worth that single-minded, self-sacrificing devotion. Whether as a man or a statesman Disraell was at least the peer of his great rival, Gladstone.

TRAFFIC IN YOUNG GIRLS. We cannot help thinking that there is some feverish exaggeration in these reports of systematized traffic in girls for immoral purposes, whether at St. Louis, Portland or Spokane. The reformer is never disposed to err on the side of underestimates when he is outlining the dread situation he is about to correct. High School boys are not likely to maintain harems of High School girls in the North End for any length of time, and such young women as are permitted to make the fourney to St. Louis alone in search of work cannot be blessed with parental vigilance and sense sufficient to protect them long against mischief if they stay

at home. But making every allowance for exaggeration, the residuum of truth is awful enough to startle the community and waken to serious effort every right-minded man and woman. have laws upon this subject, but we seldom hear of their enforcement. It is high time that striking examples were made of some of the procurers of both sexes who have come, through long indifference on part of public and officials, to ply their nefarious trade with impunity. Somebody must be arrested and not released through social. business or political "pull." Somebody must be brought into open court, where the tale of infamy can be unfolded to universal knowledge and the condign punishment that follows conviction will

strike terror to others. It is never amiss to emphasize the towering importance of individual resibility in these matters, and there one phase of parental neglect that needs special emphasis in these days of working girls and working women. It is that girls under 21 years of age, or at least under 18, are quite as much need of parental oversight as those of much tenderer years. The home process of careful rearing must extend beyoud the irresponsible period of young girlhood that can hardly be said to end with the sixteenth year. It has been said by those who have taken pains to investigate the matter that boys who reach the age of 20 years without having learned to smoke very seldom contract the smoking habit, and are almo certainly immune from cigarette smoking. It is also said that girls who pass to the age of 18 in modest, womanly environment seldom, relatively speaking, even under the most trying conditions, fall into social sin.

In other words, it is only boys and girls who have been safely piloted through what in plain language is termed the "fool age" that may be trusted to take care of themselves. It is during the third period of seven years into which human life has been poetically and perhaps rationally divided that the seeds of social ruin and moral death are most plentifully sown. Men and women old in wickedness are found all along the highways and byways of life, but in very many instances they are but reaping the pernicious harvest of evil whose seeds were planted during these fateful, fruitful seven years, when they thought they were old enough to take care of themselves, and in this iden were encouraged by the indulgence or indifference or neglect of parents.

An enthusiastic believer in the farreaching power of early training has said: "Give me a child for the first seven years of his life and I care not who has charge of him thereafter." This is an assumption at once egotistical and at variance with human exerience. The first seven years should be properly guarded, of course, but equally careful training is necessary during the second seven lest the seeds of good counsel, "having no depth of earth," wither away. Still more faithfully and vigilantly should the third period of seven years be guarded lest careless handling destroy the promise of the early sowing.

THE VENOM OF AGITATION

John Kirby, Jr., president of the Employers' Association of Dayton, O., in a recent debate before the Aldine Club of New York, declared the record of labor unions to be "black with shame, injustice, crime and defiance of law. Professor John R. Commons defended labor unions, and while he admitted that some mistakes had been made by their leaders, he added: "The wonder is, under the conditions, that the union forces are as law-abiding as they are."

These are extreme statements, characeristic of debates. There is no conflict in which right and justice remain wholly upon one side. The very nature of a contest forbids this. It is but human to seize upon and press an advantage to the utmost when war is on between two contending forces. Take, for example, the strike in the Cripple Creek district as it has been waged for weeks between deflant miners and determined state officials. Each element has marshaled all the power that it could bring to bear against the other. Both have been dogmatic, arbitrary, The state authorities hold the strongest hand, but it has not yet groved a winning one. And when it does, if it does the victory will be barren of all that entities it to the name, since it will be permeated through and through with the venom of bitterness and hatred Sir Robert Peel and of the famous Irish | which only the slow process of the orator, Richard Lalor Shell, who praised | years can eliminate. If on the other

common acceptance of that term will have been practically driven out of trict for years to come, or until another

conflict ensues. Bishop Spaulding, of Peoria, has declared that "a strike is hell," meaning not alone the strike in its active state, but the aftermath of hatred and bitterness that results. And this good and conservative man is a true friend of the working man and would save him, if possible, from the poison engendered by the inflamed passions of human nature. In view of the dire consequences that out the industrial body, it would be well for representative men on either side of this great question to take counsel of noderation before speaking and to eschew "debates" the tendency of which is to arouse antagonism and settle nothing. The strike is an evil; the exactions that lead up to it are evils, and they who blow a coal between these forces with the heated breath of exaggeration are the enemies of industry and of the state.

AN ARTFUL ENEMY. By far the most dangerous because the most artful enemy of the election of President Roosevelt is the New York Sun. The New York Evening Post is an able but it is an open, ingenuous critic of the administration of President Roosevelt; and so are the New York Times, the Brooklyn Eagle, the Springfield Republican and the Boston Herald; but the Sun always attacks Roosevelt with the weapons used by Gibbon against the claim of miraculous origin for Christianity. Byron describes Gibbon as-

Sapping a solemn creed with solemn sneer, The lord of irony; that master spell.

This is the Sun's method of insidious attack upon President Roosevelt. Under the cover of pretending to be an "independent" paper, the Sun is today by far the ablest because the most artful enemy of Roosevelt's election as President in 1904. Its artfulness is illustrated by a recent article entitled "Democrats Defining Their Objections to Mr. Roosevelt." In this article the Sun carefully sums up the reasons given by the leading Democratic members of Congress why "Roosevelt must be defeated." Representative Williams, of Illinois, charges the President with retaining in office Cabinet Ministers "who are responsible for the malfeasance known to exist in the Postoffice Department, the General Land Office and the Indian Bureau." Mr. Williams further added that Attorney-General Knox recently issued a statement which signified that the trusts had nothing to fear so long as they "stood pat" for the election of the present President to a second term. United States Senator Gorman is quoted as denouncing President Roosevelt as having usurped functions as an executive never intrusted to him by the Constitution,

Senator Gorman has denounced the President as a Czar who, if a law of Congress does not suit him, changes it 'the President by executive order is ready to give the old soldiers more money; by executive order he is ready to amend the interstate commerce act; that, while he does not dispute the President's honesty, something more than honesty is needed to qualify for office of Chief Magistrate." Senator Carmack, of Tennessee; Senator Mallory, of Florida, and Senator Simmons, of North Carolina, have united in an effort to impeach Mr. Roosevelt's fitness for the post he alms to hold for four years more. These Senators described the President as "a man of spectacular propensities; rash, hotheaded and impulsive; disqualified by temrament and character for the exermay be asserted by a President." These Democratic Senators in derogation of President Roosevelt lay particular

stress on the following executive acts: First, his unconstitutional interposition be-tween employers and employed in the anthra-cite coal strike, an interposition not requested by the Legislature nor by the Governor of Pennsylvania. Secondly, his inflexible deter-mination to promote Dr. Wood to be a Major-General in the Regular Army, with the knowledge that such promotion would cause Wood at no distant day to become practically the head of the military system of the United States. Thirdly, his ditual exercise of the war-making power by the "fifty miles order," which, say the Democratic Senators, was an application of force by the United States against Colombia. Fourthly, the promulgation by Executive flat of the rule that her after the age of 62 years shall be accepted as proof, prima facie, that veterans of the Civil War are "disabled" in the meaning of the pension law.

The Sun carefully recites this Demo cratic bill of particulars in the general indictment of President Roosevelt as a man who suffers from a congenital inability to distinguish the constitutional limitations of a President's powers, and concludes this artful article by saying: "Such are some of the grounds on which leading Democrats are preparing to convince the country that the White House ought to have a new tenant after March 4, 1965." No doubt the Sun has given the Democracy shrewd advice in urging them to make the peculiar, eccentric temperament of President Roosevelt their principal "card" in the next campaign. It is at best a weak card, but it is about the strongest that is contained in their dogeared pack. The eccentric temper of President Roosevelt; his occasional extravagance of imperious speech, may be worked against him to a trifling extent, but in any large, broad sense President Roosevelt has nothing to fear on this score. The general spirit of his administration its solid political results up to date, will be the test of measurement applied by the plain people. The mass of the American people are not concerned with the eccentric temper, speech and manners of their President. They will measure President Roosevelt just as they did President Andrew Jackson, by the integrity of his spirit and the substantial fruits of his government, and

not at all by his personal temper, manners or speech. Outside of the rank and file of the Democratic regular army and the intensely anti-imperialist faction of the New York "independents," there is no opposition to the election of Roosevelt save that which is recruited from "the wealthy criminal classes of both parties," whose organ, in season and out of season, is sure to be the New York Sun, which warns the Southern Democracy through an able correspondent that they "may retire to their tents if a platform shall be adopted and candidates nominated at St. Louis not sin cerely representing sound constitutional opinions regarding the right of Congress and the President to interfere with property in the states." The "constitutional opinions" refer to the general views very recently expressed by Justice White in the Northern Securities case, and by Chief Justice Marshall in his Supreme Court opinions, which

Miners' Union prevail, free labor in the have become classic, regarding the general relative rights and duties of the Government at Washington and the that great and wonderful mining dis- several state governments. This correspondent concludes his screed in the Sun as follows:

Were, for example, a platform and candidates to be adopted at St. Louis which looked toward, or tolerated, an executive attempt to oriminally indict under the Sherman anti-trust law individuals for doing the things the defendants did in the Northern Securities case, and to convict them on the theories set forth by Justice Harian in his opinion in that case, then Rossevell will carry New York next No-vember, and for the reason that thousands of Democrats will be disposed to avoid the ballot In view of the dire consequences that follow the wholesale distillation of this poison and its dissemination throughallied itself with its enemies.

> WHIPPING A MAN OF STRAW. Goldwin Smith was recently quoted

view of Sabatier's "Religious of Authority" that the papacy defies science by its affirmation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. Mr. Smith, in the New York Sun, fairly complains that his antagonists have erected a man of straw in their replies to his criticism by pretending that he said no scientists had been born and bred within the Catholic Church. He distinctly drew the line between the papacy and the Catholic Church. Many men of great scientific consequence have come out of the Catholic Church, just as good has come out of Nazareth. Goldwin Smith is a scholar, and it is absurd to pretend that he does not know the difference between the papal affirmation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception and the Virgin Birth. Plus IX in his famous bull of 1854 defined this dogma as follows:

The most Blessed Virgin was, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, by the singular grace and power of Almighty God, from the first moment of her conception in the womb of her mother, proserved free from all taint of original sin.

Goldwin Smith was at this time a distinguished historical student, and when he graduated from Oxford the Oxford tracts written by Newman, Keble and Pusey had surrounded him with an atmosphere that forbids any supposition of ignorance in the matter of the Church of Rome on the part of so able, so learned and so upright a man. Of course, he might reach a wrong conclusion from his knowledge; but it is absurd to assume that so precise a scholar and so able a man could possibly confuse the dogma of the Immaculate Conception with the Virgin Birth. Goldwin Smith is also historically correct in his distinction between the Cathelic Church and the papacy. Dr. Doilinger, famous for his controversy with the papacy, was a Catholic, but he was not a papist. Pascal, who was a Jan-senist, refused to accept the dogma of the infallibility of the pope. Gallleo was a Catholic and a man of science; but the papacy "disciplined" him because of his new and strange doctrine of the motion of the earth. The same papacy in the nineteenth century rebuked St. George Mivart, the scientist, because of certain of his views on the subject of evolution. Descartes was a by executive order. Gorman says that Catholic, but he was so doubtful a papist that the Jesuits placed his works

on their list of prohibited books. To publish a list of famous scientists who were born and bred Catholics, as an answer to Goldwin Smith's charge that the papacy by its affirmation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception fifty years ago assumed an attitude of defiance to science, is absurd. Napoleon was born and bred a Catholic, and yet it will hardly be pretended that he was much of a papist, even if as a matter of state policy he established the Concordat. Alexander Pope, the famous English poet, was a Catholic, but he denied that he was a papist. The communicants of the Greek Church are atholics, but they are not papists. There was a considerable abstention of prelates from the Council of Rome which affirmed the infallibility of the popes. There was at least one American Roman Catholic prelate who did not vote to affirm this dogma. Goldwin Smith is historically correct when he says in substance that the papacy on the subject of Biblical criticism absolutely shuts the mouths of its scholars, for Leo XIII in giving permission for the examination of the Scriptures expressly declared that the authority of the church had already determined what was to be believed regarding them and research must be held within the

limits laid down. Goldwin Smith in a very able letter to the Sun takes the ground that even if the edifice of dogmatic Christianity. or its dogmatic connection with a supernatural source, is destroyed, "the essence of Christianity as it came from the lips of the author" remains unimpaired, for that essence is "belief in the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man." Mr. Smith thinks there is a manifest tendency on the part of the clergy to glide from the work of the theological pulpit and religious ministration into that of philanthropic leadership and to concern themselves less with the life to come and more with the life that is. This union of a spiritual pastorate on a rational footing congenial leadership in good works is about what Unitarianism is today in the judgment of Mr. Smith.

Every resident of Portland who ever drove over the White House road will be chagrined to learn that the finest drive in Oregon is likely to be turned into a dustway this season. Members of the Driving Association, which has taken the initiative and raised the money for the last twenty years to keep the road sprinkled, have gone on record with the declaration that they will not sprinkle this year unless the County Commissioners provide a roadway worth sprinkling. There is no reason why such provision should not be made Few if any taxpayers will protest against the cost, Riverside Drive is not only a stretch of picturesque park; it is an avenue of traffic from which Portland derives benefit. It is the one approach by team to our most beautiful emetery. No one will dispute the proposition that it is entitled to as much consideration as a road supervisor would give to a country lane. This is about all that is asked of Multnomah County. The Oregonian is inclined to believe that the Commissioners have been only slow to move and that they are not yet chargeable with positive neglect. There is ample time to put the roadway into good shape if a move is made at once. Let it be done; then individual residents of Portland will see that the road shall be maintained in good shape.

Mr. Samuel Gompers lately fande tour of the Island of Porto Rico, and returning tells tales of the unclad wretchedness and hunger of the people of that island that must shock even the dullest sensibilities. He testifies that he saw everywhere women and I these,

children in rags, and many, indeed wholly without clothing. He that the death roll on the island from starvation alone was from 450 to 500 month, People who, in a mild and equable climate, where the soil is fertile and crops mature quickly and of ten, cannot manage to live by their own efforts and to keep decent covering for their bodies and simple roofs over their heads, are in a sense objects of pity They are, however, so utterly lacking in energy and thrift that if put upon their feet, industrially speaking, they could not stand. Paupers by nature, sluggards by instinct, they are content with little and that little they have not the industry to compass for themselves. Gauged by the civilized idea of living they are wretched and destitute; gauged by their own idea they would be happy if their hunger were relieved today. But such as they are, these peoin The Oregonian as saving in his reple appeal through their helplessnes to the Government that has assumed charge of them for a policy that in the course of time will make human beings out of them instead of the creeping, helpless, thoughtless creatures that they

are.

The Architectural Record for April thinks twenty-five stories is likely to be the average of the skyscraper hereafter. So far as the writer in the Record has been able to discover, "there is absolutely no engineering or econom limit of height below about eighty stories, provided the area of the lot be sufficient. Taking into consideration, however, the ethical or sentimental side of human nature, it is the writer's be-Hef that, while many buildings will exceed 25 stories, many more, sufficient at least to establish a general practice, will be kept down to 16 or 20 stories if left free from municipal interference On the other hand, the writer believes that the interests of the municipality would be best served by establishing height limits in certain districts, so that the population by day in such areas will not be too large for easy transportation and wholesome living." A Vform open to the south will become, it is thought, the typical plan. There is however, a limit not mentioned by the Record, namely, the limit of time in which a tenant in the top story can get down to the street in case a fire breaks out on the first floor. Baltimore's experience is said to be that while the steel construction saves the owner in case of fire from 25 to 50 per cent of the cost of his building, the tenant's belongings are thoroughly destroyed and he cannot afford to lolter long after the fire gets started.

burg causes the British Medical Journal to recall the fact that "plague has existed in Cape Colony for some four years, and although in no town or district except, perhaps, Port Elizabeth, has plague assumed any considerable proportions, yet the continued presence of the disease in both men and rats in several towns of Cape Colony and Durban, Natal, rendered the possibility of a serious outbreak, either within the infected area or in adjacent towns or districts, an ever-present cause of anxlety. The last plague patient was discharged from the hospital at East London on February 25. Rats however. are still reported as being infected by plague at Port Elizabeth and East London; so that although no case of plague in human beings actually exists for the moment, the probability of recurrence in one or other of these towns has to be contemplated. Within the year 1903 the total number of deaths from plague in Cape Colony amounted to 135." Transvaal has hitherto labored with success, says South Africa, to keep the disease from crossing the border. The plague there, the journal adds, "is of the pneumonic and not of the bubonic form; and it is much easier to cope with it on the Rand than elsewhere, on account of the existence there of the much-abused compound and location system."

The outbreak of plague in Johannes-

Andrew Carnegie, in setting aside \$5,000,000 for dependent survivors of heroes who lose their lives trying to save others, has created a new avenue for charity. This gift does credit to his heart, but it is worth while to inquire whether heroism will be thus stimulated. Brave deeds are spontaneous; they are not inspired by hope of reward. charity? A pension comes with honor; the Nation simply pays its debt. But making application to a board of directors composed of strangers who are managing a fiduciary trust in a busimissioners? Will Andrew Carnegie's money be sweeter than money raised by taxation for the poor? Will the income from this fund find its way to the worthy, the deserving, the modest, shrinking widow and children of him who pobly surrendered his life? Will being mentioned as having had a chat Carnegie's trustees be able to carry out in letter and in spirit the intent of the giver? Their management of the trust | was, of course, Philip who had the honor and the manner of its reception by proposed beneficiaries will be watched with

The Sunset Magazine for April devotes several pages to the Lewis and slaughter against the disciples of the Clark Centennial Exposition, to the Lord," so that the blunder is all the more beauty of Portland and her environment and to the commerce of the second Pacific Coast city. These topics are handsomely treated in text as well as in illustration. Because the Sunset is widely read by our neighbors all the way from San Diego to Sitka, the article can not fail to be of material benefit to Portland and to the Fair.

That Mr. Frank C. Baker, during his absence on a sick bed, was selected as tral Committee is not only a tribute to his qualifications and efficiency, but part of the committee members. acquaintance fit him admirably for a position of this kind, and we predict for him the successful discharge of his Important duties.

The cool weather came just in time to check the threatened floods in the rivers of Eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho that feed the Columbia with their melting snows. For every ton of snow that went off during the first days of the present week the settlers on bottom lands are duly thankful, since by this much is the danger of disaster from partila to clean his system. an early Summer lessened,

Erskine Nicol, an excellent Scottish artist, has died in his 80th year. His pictures of Irish life and character are his best works. Scores of them have been engraved, and in that shape were familiar in America. "Donnybrook Fair," "Paying the Rent" and "News From the Crimea" are perhaps best known of | vided he burns the completed poem.

NOTE AND COMMENT. In Training. The Rev. Arthur Allen is getting ready to ack sin in Independence.-Independence En-Note and Comment's weather forecast copyright, 1904): Sunday-mixed, Our naval gunners seem to suffer rom nothing worse than an excess of zeal. Be careful which bill of fare you get n those "fashionable North-End res-

> at dog. This is an unworthy slam at the sausage-makers. Portland has a Chinese firm called the Sow Wow Company. Are we going to the "demnition bow-wows?"

St. Louis people won't let the Igorrotes

The war correspondent using wireless telegraphy will be treated as a spy. Better be shot than scooped.

Water that has fire in it has been discovred in Texas -Ontario Argus. It's an old story in Kentucky.

"Lamming the Lama" seems no less opular with the newspaper paragraphers than with the British themselves.

If the Vladivostok squadron doesn't make its address known pretty soon, it won't get in this year's directory.

The Corean Emperor is afraid of spirits. With such a failing he wouldn't even be a bootblack in Kentucky. Spokane papers didn't think they

vere carrying coals to Newcastle when they put up a job on the employment Rather than surrender four bills he

and stolen, a Seattle thug chewed them up and swallowed them. Quite a nice little stake. Togo is not well up in the details of

naval warfare. He has so far failed to say, "You can fire when you're ready, Gridlikura." A man went to Salem to buy a plano. Instead he bought a jag and was robbed.

Perhaps his neighbors considered desperate measures justifiable. A Victoria tailoring firm advertises that its trousers are poems in cloth. Noth-

ing is said, however, about selling them at market price for poems, The Kaiser lunched on board the Vanderbilts' yacht, the North Star.

Some New Yorkers will hereafter look at the Star with increased respect. After a long chase a California Sheriff succeeded in running down a dangerous criminal. The Sheriff used an automobile. Hitherto no one but an inno-

an automobile. In a few years we shall read epitaphs like this:

cent pedestrian has been run down by

Here Lies JOHN PITTSBUILG SKIBO SMITH Who Was Horn in a CARNEGIE TOWN. Educated in a CARNEXHE INSTITUTE. Studied in a CARNEGIE LIBARAY. At the Age of 30 He Became & CARNEGIE HERO.

This baseball story from the Seattle Argus might have been told about a Port-

land fan A "fan" dropped into Lou Cohen's rop The average fan likes to say things n Lou when the team loses.

"Well," said Cohen with a sickly grin, "the team batted well, anyhow."
"When-yesterday?" asked the fan in as-Lou studied the report and error column

"No," said he soberly, "I guess it must have

The Victoria Colonist notes with satisfaction that few persons attended the wrestling contest between two women, held in the principal theater of the city. Such a spectacle seems more appropriate Will self-respecting widows accept this for a red-light saloon than for the stage of a respectable theater, but if the pub-He had evinced sufficient curiosity to attend. Victoria would undoubtedly have had a series of wrestling matches between women. As It is, the game has been nessilke way-doesn't this savor of killed by neglect, which is the great going before a Board of County Com- lethal weapon against objectionable performances,

"Ignorance, sir, ignorance," said Dr. Johnson when asked why he made a certain mistake, and the same thing caused a mistake recently in this column. Paul with the eunuch that was treasurer to Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. It of baptising that official of the Ethiopian court, a court which has remained Christian to this day. Paul, at the time of the interview, was still known as Saul, and was "breathing" out threatening and astonishing. We owe Philip an apology.

If there is one popular man-on the stage-it is the liar, and the bigger liar he is the more the people like him. A critic in New York calls attention to the coincidence that in the two latest plays produced there the heroes are both liars of unusual abiliy in their vocation. "The Dictator" is an American play produced by William Collier, and "Saucy Sally" is chairman of the Republican State Cen- an English play produced by Hawtrey, so that an American and an English actor are vying in lying. Probably the an unusual testimonial of confidence on explanation of our admiration for the stage Har is caused by his skill in wrig-Mr. Baker's political talents and wide gling out of the consequences that we in real life are unable to dodge.

"Spring poetry." says the Toronto World, "ought not to be scanned with a coldly critical eye (most of it cannot be scanned at all), nor should the poet be held to a pedantic adherence to the reguler methods of versification. The writing of Spring poetry is not a mere literary performance, but a process of Nature." And the World goes on to say that writing Spring poetry purifies the blood, and that the poet needs no sulphur or sarsanew view of the matter, and one that would cause the average newspaper man to tremble, were it not that the World ieprecates the publication of poetry produced by Nature's process. every desire to encourage the poet who feels that his blood would be benefited by the production of an ode, or desires to shake off his lassitude with a sonnet, pro-

WEXFORD JONES.