

The Oregonian

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Or., as second-class matter, SUBSCRIPTION RATES. INVARIABLE IN ADVANCE.

By Mail or Express. Daily and Sunday, per year, \$10.00. Daily and Sunday, six months, 5.50. Daily and Sunday, three months, 3.25.

By CARRIER. Daily without Sunday, per week, .15. Daily per week, Sunday included, .20.

THE WEEKLY OREGONIAN. (Issued Every Third Sabbath.) Weekly, per year, 1.50. Weekly, six months, .75. Weekly, three months, .40.

HOW TO REMIT—Send postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your local bank. Stamps, coins or currency are at the sender's risk.

EASTERN BUSINESS OFFICE. The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency—New York, 43-50 Tribuna building, Chicago, Rooms 510-512 Tribuna building.

REPT ON SALE. Chicago—Auditorium Annex: Postoffice News Co., 178 Dearborn street. Dallas, Tex.—Globe News Dept., 269 Main street.

San Francisco—J. K. Cooper & Co., 748 Market street; Foster, Creas, Ferry News Co.; Goldsmith Bros., 236 Sutter; L. E. Lee, Palace Hotel News Stand; F. W. Pitt, 1008 Market; Frank Scott, 510 Commercial; H. Stevenson, Hotel St. Francis News Stand.

St. Louis, Mo.—E. T. Jett Book & News Company, 307 North Second. St. Paul, Minn.—C. E. Ebbitt House News Stand.

AND, SUNDAY, FEB. 26, 1905. THE NORTH SEA INQUIRY DECISION. The efforts of the North Sea Commissioners to formulate a decision should not "cast any discredit" (to use the exact words of the translation) on either party to the proceeding.

They seem to have stretched their common sense and logic to the limit. The peculiar circumstances may be recalled by a moment. British fishermen were fishing their trade in a dark night on recognized fishing grounds in the North Sea, some forty to fifty miles off the common path to the Baltic to the Straits of Dover.

Their presence and occupation were proved by the customary lights. The majority of the Commission declare that in their opinion no torpedo-boats were either among the fishing-boats or in their vicinity.

The Russian fleet passed close to the fishing smacks, and without warning or inquiry opened fire and continued firing them. The result was that two of the fishermen were killed, one boat sunk, other men wounded and boats damaged.

So close were the searchlights of the war vessels that some of the fishermen deposed to being in their full glare and yet the firing was continued until the battleships, pressing on common path to the Baltic to the Straits of Dover, were within a few miles of the Russian ships.

So the Commission declares, excluding the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire. But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

But, say the Commissioners, "unusually the Russian fleet did not all be could be recalled to prevent the Russian Commissioner, that Admiral Rojestvensky was not justified in opening fire.

trespasser. It must be curbed. It will not be permitted without restriction to invade inviting residential districts to their sedentary homes.

Just now Portland is considerably worked up over the matter. A genuine spirit of reform is in the air. There is no public demand for more billboards, and wide dissatisfaction is voiced over the especially offensive ones that have been forced on the community.

Disregard of the universal protest against this nuisance may be met with a license fee which will tax billposters out of existence; therefore, it will be best for property-owners and paste-daubers to submit to reasonable regulation.

"A RELIGIOUS AWAKENING." Early in the present year a wave of religious enthusiasm struck the little principality of Wales and for a time carried all before it. The undercurrent was speedily felt in the north of England, and even the surface of the great City of London was for a time agitated by its partially-apt rage.

Yet a little longer and it reached our own Atlantic seaboard, and starting inland, struck Schenectady, N. Y., with the result that the "Electric City," so called, justified its name by flashing into a sudden glow of enthusiasm. A genuine old-fashioned revival of religion followed, minus, it is said, of some of the more hysterical features that belong to the impulsive and circuit-riding era, among which shouting, hand-clapping, embracing and wild exhortation were conspicuous.

Another long leap and Denver was struck, and again there was quick response. That there was need of a great awakening of conscience in the Rocky Mountain metropolis cannot be doubted, unless the reason for that have come from there during recent months are wholly discredited. Be this as it may, under the direction of Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, who will soon be due in this city on like purpose intent, the meetings grew in interest until on one week day early in the present month 400 business-houses closed their doors, 35,000 persons crowded into places of worship in answer to a proclamation of the Mayor, and the State Legislature adjourned for the day.

Theorists are at work attempting to give an explanation in the light of human experience for this sudden impulse or stirring of the human emotions by which thousands have been touched and moved in widely separated cities. It is the common view that great religious awakenings are co-ordinate with, or follow closely upon, periods of financial depression or panics in the business world. So long, it is said, as the country is prosperous and its inhabitants do not lack in material comforts, their thoughts feed on things temporal rather than things spiritual.

When trouble comes and the social and economic foundations are disturbed or threatened, men turn for consolation and assurance toward things which material disaster cannot reach. In other words, as Public Opinion says, "the prodigal returns not from the joys of riotous living, but from the husks of the swine." From this bald and somewhat cynical theory the conditions attending the present religious awakening plainly dissent. Men are turning to religion in a time of great material prosperity.

What then? The journal above quoted makes answer as follows: "The cause of general religious revivals is not, as is commonly supposed, the want of material comforts, but the want of spiritual life. It is a spiritual crisis, and it is a spiritual crisis that is the cause of the present religious awakening. It is a spiritual crisis, and it is a spiritual crisis that is the cause of the present religious awakening."

be theirs when the Normal is deserted for vacations. The Normal is always been protectionists. When one of the "heaven gods or goddesses" became enamored of a mortal, the mortal got it in the neck from the jealous partner. It was turned into a heifer by Zeus, who thus hoped to haffle the revengeful mistress of his Olympian household.

Cain made himself "impossible" by taking a wife from the land of Nod. The rape of the Sabine maidens was possible only because there were no Roman women to boycott the men who married the captives. The American girl who goes abroad as the Duchess of Rockybora is looked upon with small favor by the girls who had contemplated with satisfaction the effect of a title of nobility.

There is nothing strange, therefore, in a display of resentment by home-dwelling girls who had seen strangers within their gates monopolize the attention of the young men, drink the soda of fellowship, consume the ice cream, smuggle into the baggies, take all the dances and receive all the tokens of admiration that are so dear to the hearts of ingenious girlhood. It may be that concerted action will cause the young men to pause before it is too late, and they are all engaged to girls from the distant counties of Harney or Lake. But if they still persist in ignoring the girls with whom—

A year ago, and blithely paired. Their rough-and-tumble play they share—there is still hope for the boycotters. Let them also become trespassers. Thanks to a kindly Legislature, there is more than one Normal. Let the girls of Weston attend the school at Drain, and make bond-servants of the young men in the district. It is a poor rule that will not work in both Weston and Drain.

GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH. The Grand Duchess Elizabeth, widow of Sergius, is a conspicuous example of the quiet submission to her fate of a high-spirited woman of much sensibility and rare culture. Princess of the Grand Duchy of Baden, she is the English mother (the second daughter of Queen Victoria), trained and confirmed in the Lutheran faith, beautiful and highly accomplished, she married while yet quite young the Imperial Grand Duke Sergius, the most dominating and imperious of the "big sons of Alexander II."

She stipulated, as did the wife of Grand Duke Vladimir, that she should be permitted to retain the religion in which she was reared, unless of her own free will, through conviction and conscience, she became willing to accept the tenets of the Greek orthodox church of Imperial Russia. This privilege was, however, withdrawn very early in her married life, and she was subjected to such persecution, slights and indignities by the court and church officials of Russia, and treated with such open and flagrant brutality by her husband, that she finally yielded the point, joined the Greek Church and proclaimed her own religion "accursed," according to requirement.

During this period of her troubled life she sought sympathy and advice from her grandmother, Queen Victoria, hoping that she would be counseled to a separation from Sergius and be given an asylum in England. The Queen, however, with her well-known disapproval of divorce, advised her persecuted grand-daughter to return to Russia and conform to its customs. This she did, and that she has learned the lesson of submission and endurance well has been attested by her uncomplaining life and strict adherence to Russian customs ever since.

In view of what she has suffered at his hands and the indignities that he heaped upon her through his gross infidelities, the world may well believe that the God of the Grand Duchess, when required to kiss the dead body of her husband during the obsequies was due to horror and disgust rather than grief. She acquitted herself of this last revolting service, however, heroically, and may now consider the martyrdom of her marriage at an end. The Grand Duchess is beloved by the people of Russia as much as Grand Duke Sergius was hated. She has long been associated with the Red Cross and with other gentle charities, having taken her first lessons in this work when a child in Darmstadt under the tutelage of her mother, who was noted for her practical efforts for the relief of the poor, and especially of the soldiers' wives, who bore such heavy burdens during the war which resulted in the unification of Germany. The Grand Duchess is forty years of age, and, though she has bidden good-by to youth, is still a beautiful woman, with many possibilities for usefulness, and it may be hoped, some for happiness yet in store.

ABNORMALLY OLD CHILDREN. Dr. Maxwell, Superintendent of Schools in New York, has published facts carefully planned from observation, and statistically compiled, which show that from twenty-five to fifty per cent of the boys and girls in the public schools of that city are from two to six years too old for the classes in which they are being taught. In his opinion this fact is the most serious one that confronts the school authorities and presents an abnormal condition which a remedy should speedily be found. In the meantime he has ordered all the principals of the schools in which there are dull and undeveloped children to organize special classes for their instruction.

are obliged to bear their share of the burden. When these children, who are so often and care for smaller children, while their parents toil in the sweatshops for the support of the family, are so often assumed that a majority of our children are dull because it cannot keep pace with a hard-driven minority.

In our own city, the conditions of which in this respect are, however, not comparable with those of New York, with its large foreign population, preventive effort has been made in advance of any material difficulty in this line. A plan or system has been elaborated whereby the bright—even abnormally bright—pupils can go forward as rapidly as they are able, or as their parents will permit them to do, while those less quick in comprehension or less strong physically can find their places in the work and pass along easily and naturally without undue stress.

The trouble with us seems to be that our abnormally old pupils are at the top instead of the bottom of the class. The bright and the dull are the girls with flying curls crowd the High School and learn parrot-like lessons in the sciences, which it is idle to suppose their minds are capable of assimilating and retaining. The problem of properly placing abnormally old children in school work, whether viewed from the standpoint of the child, or, therefore, it must be admitted, a perplexing one.

ON GROWING OLD GRACEFULLY. No thanks are due Dr. Osler for the almost brutal way in which he forces people of 40 or over either to agree with or differ from him on the proposition that at 40 we must get ready to let go, and at 60 retire as gracefully as we may from the world's work. Some of us hoped that he had been misapprehended, but, now that he has blown it is up to us to take stock of our contemporaries and of ourselves. In industrial, or rather in factory, life, Dr. Osler is in the fashion. Until now it has been felt that experience and the ease that it brings in handling men and machines overset the brightness and spring of youth when the management of a large enterprise, and many men in a position of maturity, supposed to add value to men as well as to wine. But twentieth century ideas run in other grooves. When all is specialized in industrial affairs and for every operation a new machine is invented of almost automatic efficiency, and the men attend the machines and supply them instead of the machines being run by men, it is not surprising that it is up to us to take stock of our contemporaries and of ourselves.

In industrial, or rather in factory, life, Dr. Osler is in the fashion. Until now it has been felt that experience and the ease that it brings in handling men and machines overset the brightness and spring of youth when the management of a large enterprise, and many men in a position of maturity, supposed to add value to men as well as to wine. But twentieth century ideas run in other grooves. When all is specialized in industrial affairs and for every operation a new machine is invented of almost automatic efficiency, and the men attend the machines and supply them instead of the machines being run by men, it is not surprising that it is up to us to take stock of our contemporaries and of ourselves.

No State Fair will be held in 1905, but the annual appropriation will be used for the construction of buildings and the making of such permanent improvements as may be needed. To the annual appropriation of \$100,000, the Legislature added \$5000, and all of this sum can be used in putting the State Fair grounds in good condition. The Marion County delegation, which always looks after the interests of the Fair, even though it is not a local institution, displayed good judgment in making this arrangement for the present year, for it promotes the best of feeling, and will prove most advantageous to all concerned. It is very doubtful whether the State Fair could have been made a success in 1905, for the reason that no county exhibits would be made. The several counties are putting forth great efforts to make a good showing at the Lewis and Clark Fair, and could not have anticipated work at the State Fair at the same time. So far as attendance is concerned, it is not probable that the State Fair would have interfered in any way with the Lewis and Clark Exposition, but the holding of two fairs in one year would mean a division of effort that could not be productive of good.

Wars may come and wars may go, but the Mad Mullah goes on forever. He is a man of good feeling, and his angry gentlemen from Somaliland in the warpath, and has killed a number of the Sultan of Omdia's followers, and is within a day's march of Omdia. It's a poor season when the Mad Mullah is not captured or killed a few times, and if his life were subject to the same limitations as that of the ordinary cat that is credited with but nine lives, he would have long since passed from the minds of the present generation. If some of his numerous captors would hang on to him long enough to make it worth while, they could amass a colossal fortune by taking him down the vaudeville circuit.

Dr. Osler would cut a man off as a member of the ground when he is forty. Other men who claim to be scientists say there is no reason why a man should not live to 150. Between these two extremes lies the golden mean which the majority of men, aided by kind Nature, find. To die before one is forty is to curtail life's possibilities and enjoyments in a measure that it is not pleasant to contemplate. To live beyond eighty or ninety is surely all that a man can expect, and if he is nearly all the friends whose association made existence worthy to be called life on the journey to the summit.

Tracklaying on the Arlington branch of the O. R. & N. is proceeding with a rush, and a National bank for London, the interior end of the track, has been organized for business. Settlers are pouring into the country, and new buildings springing up all along the line. The activity noticeable along this branch is no greater than that which will be in evidence in Central Oregon, in the Wallows country, in the Nebelonia in a number of other isolated localities as soon as the new live transportation facilities for reaching the outside markets.

even approximate its loss by the Civil War, but unquestionably thousands of Americans with talents that in later life would have enabled them to reach high places were sacrificed on the altar of their country. Sleeping their last sleep throughout the sunny Southland are thousands of young men, the flower of the Nation, and their passing from life just at a time when they were beginning to master its mysteries in a degree that retarded the intellectual development of the country for a generation.

There were undoubtedly William McGees among both the blue and the gray who are "waiting the call of the judgment day," but it would be a harsh reflection on the thousands of others to advance the theory that they reached as well as themselves, was a rather by their early demise. There can be found today criminals, vagabonds and miscellaneous nonentities within age limits of fifteen to ninety. There are also to be found plenty of men in all walks of life who have failed to get even a foothold on prosperity. They are the men who were well past fifty, just as there are others who have taken high rank before they reached the age of forty. There are rules that cannot be proven by the exceptions, and one of them is that which assumes that all men are so nearly equal that a horizontal age limit abolishing their degree of usefulness will be sufficiently fair to warrant its enforcement. This is a matter that can be gauged only by the individual, and not by the people as a whole.

William McGee would cut a much better figure as a dead hero than as a live murderer, and it is a matter of regret that he did not remain with his comrades on the Little Big Horn. He was well past fifty, just as there are others who have taken high rank before they reached the age of forty. There are rules that cannot be proven by the exceptions, and one of them is that which assumes that all men are so nearly equal that a horizontal age limit abolishing their degree of usefulness will be sufficiently fair to warrant its enforcement. This is a matter that can be gauged only by the individual, and not by the people as a whole.

William McGee would cut a much better figure as a dead hero than as a live murderer, and it is a matter of regret that he did not remain with his comrades on the Little Big Horn. He was well past fifty, just as there are others who have taken high rank before they reached the age of forty. There are rules that cannot be proven by the exceptions, and one of them is that which assumes that all men are so nearly equal that a horizontal age limit abolishing their degree of usefulness will be sufficiently fair to warrant its enforcement. This is a matter that can be gauged only by the individual, and not by the people as a whole.

Now, in these days Daly had a stage doorkeeper who still remembered as a unique character. He was known as "Old Owen." No one ever heard his other name, and he was faithful to Mr. Daly with the fidelity of a dog. One day the great manager instructed Old Owen that if William Winter came to the stage door he was to be refused admission. The lordly sage of the Tribune waved Old Owen imperiously and pushed his way in. The old retainer was not to be undone, so he followed Mr. Winter and laid a heavy hand on his shoulder, saying that Mr. Daly had ordered that William Winter should not be admitted. The pressure of the doorkeeper's hand set the critic on fire, and he landed a blow on the faithful Owen's features. Now, it should be understood that Mr. Winter is a little man and Owen was a giant; so the big doorkeeper promptly picked the Tribune representative up in his arms and threw him on the floor. A wrestle ensued which created sufficient disturbance to attract the attention of Daly, who came running back to learn the reason. He was amused at the sight he saw and set about extricating the entrapped "beast" from the grip of Mr. Winter to the door and out onto Sixth avenue. For years thereafter the two men did not speak, but before Daly's death they made it up and were the best of friends.

There was a time within recent years when William Winter was forbidden entrance to the front of the house at Daly's. He was after Daniel Frohman secured the historic theater, and the occasion was a kind of nature, find. To die before one is forty is to curtail life's possibilities and enjoyments in a measure that it is not pleasant to contemplate. To live beyond eighty or ninety is surely all that a man can expect, and if he is nearly all the friends whose association made existence worthy to be called life on the journey to the summit.

Tracklaying on the Arlington branch of the O. R. & N. is proceeding with a rush, and a National bank for London, the interior end of the track, has been organized for business. Settlers are pouring into the country, and new buildings springing up all along the line. The activity noticeable along this branch is no greater than that which will be in evidence in Central Oregon, in the Wallows country, in the Nebelonia in a number of other isolated localities as soon as the new live transportation facilities for reaching the outside markets.

Mr. Richard Croker has decided to leave America to his fate, and will hereafter reside on his country estate near Dublin. He will thus escape the oft-recurring inquiry as to where the money came from, and if Ireland can stand it New York may as well make the best of it. The ex-Tammany leader might form an alliance with William Wadsworth Astor, as they have much in common, neither of them being missed from this country nor welcomed in the land they now claim as home.

It is probably just as well for the blockade-runners that they were all gathered in by the Japanese. The decision regarding the North Sea incident establishes quite clearly the fact that no craft is safe within reach of the Russian guns, and the Vladivostok squadron would most certainly have mistaken the blockade-runners for Japanese torpedo-boats, men-of-war or transports, and served them with the same greeting as was given the Dogger Bank fishermen.

WES OF A DRAMATIC CRITIC.

These be times of peril for the dramatic critic, as the Metcalfe incident bears witness. The resolutions committee of a National convention of theatrical managers would probably report back this plank for the platform: "Resolved, That dramatic critics should be shot without benefit of clergy."

It is almost a certainty that the plank would be adopted with a whoop, and, if the syndicate were in possession of all branches of the Government, the critics would supply a carnival of carnage equal to the "Red Sunday" in St. Petersburg. It would seem that even managers and critics might live together in peace and contentment until recent occurrences prove the contrary.

At the present time one of the foremost writers on dramatic subjects in this country, James S. Metcalfe, of Life, is refused admission to New York theaters, which practically bars him from every playhouse in Manhattan. Metcalfe has incurred the displeasure of Klaw & Erlanger, and, as these gentlemen are in the seats of the mighty, they retaliate by stopping him at the theater door.

Acton Davies, of the Sun, one of the ablest and most entertaining reviewers in the metropolis, is likewise shut out of the Klaw & Erlanger houses, and although the late Hilary Bell has been dead more than two years, his paper, the Free Press, has listed Alan Dale, of the Journal, dead, no welcome at any of the syndicate houses. In fact, he cannot get in for love nor money, and Dale is commonly supposed to be Charles Frohman's press agent, Frohman being a leading member of the trust.

Even William Winter, dean of American critics and the most learned, has been subjected to the humiliation of closed doors. A year ago he was refused admission to two or three New York theaters. During the Nance O'Neil engagement Davies and Alan Dale were barred from Daly's, but when an unfortunate engagement terminated the embargo was raised, and this suggests a story of the bitter quarrel between William Winter and Augustin Daly, which occurred some 15 years ago, and was afterwards healed.

The two great men fell out over some caustic articles Winter had written, and the manager issued orders that Winter was no longer persona grata at the stage-door. The great critic was not denied admission to the front of the house, but whereas he had always been cordially received at the back of the stage, he was to be punished by exclusion.

Now, in these days Daly had a stage doorkeeper who still remembered as a unique character. He was known as "Old Owen." No one ever heard his other name, and he was faithful to Mr. Daly with the fidelity of a dog. One day the great manager instructed Old Owen that if William Winter came to the stage door he was to be refused admission. The lordly sage of the Tribune waved Old Owen imperiously and pushed his way in. The old retainer was not to be undone, so he followed Mr. Winter and laid a heavy hand on his shoulder, saying that Mr. Daly had ordered that William Winter should not be admitted.

The pressure of the doorkeeper's hand set the critic on fire, and he landed a blow on the faithful Owen's features. Now, it should be understood that Mr. Winter is a little man and Owen was a giant; so the big doorkeeper promptly picked the Tribune representative up in his arms and threw him on the floor. A wrestle ensued which created sufficient disturbance to attract the attention of Daly, who came running back to learn the reason. He was amused at the sight he saw and set about extricating the entrapped "beast" from the grip of Mr. Winter to the door and out onto Sixth avenue. For years thereafter the two men did not speak, but before Daly's death they made it up and were the best of friends.

There was a time within recent years when William Winter was forbidden entrance to the front of the house at Daly's. He was after Daniel Frohman secured the historic theater, and the occasion was a kind of nature, find. To die before one is forty is to curtail life's possibilities and enjoyments in a measure that it is not pleasant to contemplate. To live beyond eighty or ninety is surely all that a man can expect, and if he is nearly all the friends whose association made existence worthy to be called life on the journey to the summit.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Collector. O all you foreign nations, come and beseech me, and I'll show you all the pathway to a brimning treasure. Since Uncle Sam in Ninety-eight waited up Manila Bay, He's got an all-potency crass to pay and pay and pay.

So if you've got an island, Swampy land or dry land, Low land or high land, Put it up for sale, Uncle Sam will buy it. Never ask to try it, But pay you on the nail.

He started his collection with some choice "back woods" islands. In the scattered archipelago where the solo-welder milks, He picked up for a bagatelle that lone Guam the chess. And rounded out that set of isles by getting Porto Rico. And now he's in the market for islands great and small, Or even bits of continents, he doesn't care at all.

The boom of San Domingo (called Uncle Sam the origin) and now that land, by jingo, is a half-protectionist. And then he has his promise of the Danish to St. Thomas. Just the thing to make a millionaire's estate.

But when the islands all are bought, from Kool-land to Ceylon, The continents will still remain, though smaller game is gone. Alaska can't be purchased, and if China gets the same, It will be a fair extension of the island-purrs the cat. So all you foreign nations, join the seller in their crush. And sell your homes right early, if you would avoid the snuff.

For Uncle Sam is dying, He's buying and buying, And to have his flag a-flying Over all the land there is, He is out to buy and buy land, And to get it in his hand. No matter how the market may behave, It will be a fair extension of the island-purrs the cat.

"Memoirs of a Rat" and "The Autobiography of a Dog" are two books that have just been published by the Macmillan Company. We may soon expect "Reminiscences of a Worm," "Ruminations of a Cow," and "Treats of a Flea."

"Among the many gifts he showered on his bride was an automobile," says a story in the Philadelphia Bulletin. Just think of being out in a shower of autos.

Love is not always blind. A Portlander is chasing a wife who has skipped with a cross-eyed man. There is a certain amount of humor in the notice posted on the safe of the Albina Fuel Company, "Save your time; no money in this safe." How disgusted the burglars must have been when they discovered by investigation the truth of the placard. But why not have a pane of glass in each safe used in Portland? The robbers could then satisfy themselves that there was no coin inside and the owners would be saved the expense of repairs.

The Hon. Something French is now a private in the United States Army. If the fashion spreads, barrack-rooms will become something of a society resort, and the little sisters or the billonaires will be "walking out" with Private the Earl of Entail and Trooper the Marquis of Nodoguh. The regiments most affected by the peers and heirs to peerages will be represented in every engagement.

Five Admirals, after grave deliberations upon the North Sea incident, came to the conclusion that "much was to be said upon both sides."

Some jocular dramatic critic recently announced that Frohman had decided to dramatize one of Shakespeare's plays. The jest has a grain of truth in its satire, for "The School for Scandal" has been turned into a musical affair called "Lady Teazle" and "The Stoops to Conquer" has been made over into "The Two Roses," another musical thingamajig. There is no apparent reason why some of Shakespeare's plays should not be deftly worked into musical comedies.

Buffalo Bill's divorce case pursues the laudable tenor of its way. A young woman who figures prominently in Mrs. Cody's accusations is described by the bihulous scout as a lady press agent. His enemies insinuate, however, that most of the press work was done when Buffalo Bill had his arm around the agent's waist.

An exchange says that the Swedish town of Hafafang is about to impose a graduated tax upon all persons weighing more than 120 pounds. As if a fat man or a fat woman didn't have troubles enough already.

A Kansas City paper refers to the proposed oil refinery as the refinery, and says: "There is nothing absurd in the proposition that the addition of a \$10,000 building in which to board 15 or 20 fellows to a \$200,000 refinery, with a working capital of \$200,000, makes the whole a penitentiary." But this is wrote sarcastic.

Chicago's Alimony Club certainly has an apt motto in "United we stand; divided we stand it better." After all, alimony is a fixed amount that cannot be increased; but how different with household expenses.

From the Kansas City Weekly Journal of February 15: R. H.—When will the Lewis and Clark Expedition open, and what will be the nature of the Exposition? I have not seen the date announced. It will be of the same general nature as the Chicago and St. Louis Expositions.

An anti-gambling bill has been stolen from the Missouri Legislature. Apparently Oregon hasn't all the smooth ones.

Interference by the Chief of Police prevented a pleasant social affair that had been planned in Olympia. It was to have been a fancy dress ball, pajamas being the fancy dress. Truly the life of the legislator is dull and colorless; and the police take it upon themselves to make things worse by preventing the quiet relaxations that mean so much to the over-worked man.

Portland has passed an ordinance against expediting in public places. Who should have borrowed Seattle's? It doesn't appear to be working.—Seattle Argus.

There is no need for alarm. Portland's ordinance joins Seattle's in the realm of innocuous desuetude.

Portland got a peep into Spring's blue eyes yesterday. WEXFORD JONES.