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PORTLAND, BUNDAY, MARCH 19, 1805.

## THE PLIGHT OF RUSSIA.

Russia is a victim of her ignorance of Japan. She underrated the fighting power of the country with which she voked war. It seemed to Russia really absurd, in Japan, to raise her protest against the continued military occupation of Manchuria by Russia-for what was Japan going to do about it? Russia therefore treated Japan's pro-tests with contempt. Some of them she didn't deign to answer. To others she returned evasive answers, after long periods. Russin was bored. She thought Japan impudent. She deemed presumptuous for such a nation as Japan to press insistently as she was doing on mighty Russia for satisfaction as to the matters in controversy. Russia was in Manchuria and meant to stay there. She had Port Arthur and was fortifying it, contrary to agreeent; was converting it into a powerful naval station. To the remonstrances of Japan she turned a deaf ear-since It pleased her majesty to suppose Japan couldn't help berself. Japan wouldn't dare to go to war with mighty Russia, and if she should. Russia would crush her in three months and there would be an end.

Of course, had Russia known what Japan's resources were, had she known the spirit of the Japanese and how they could fight, she would have met the protests and remonstrances of Japan in diplomatic way, and war would have been averted. But Russia had no doubt she could afford to treat Japan in a haughty and supercilious way; and if war should come, why then with one sweep of her mailed hand she would wipe the little brown men, the race and nation of pygmies, off, the map of the worlds And, not only were the Japa rown or "yellow," but "pagan," too.

Japan did not insist on withdrawal of Russia from Manchuria, but merely on her adherence to the terms and conditions under which she went there, The concession, through lease, of Port Arthur to Russia, for commercial purposes, was not contested; but Japan constantly insisted on military evacuation of Manchuria; and Russia had 0 agreed upon the date (October 8, 1903) when it would be commenced. But the day came and passed, with no sign of the evacuation; weeks and months ran by, and Japan could get no satisfactory enswer. The policy of Russia was equivocation, evasion and delay. was the contention of Japan that Russian military occupation of Manchuria would continually threaten the independence of Corea, and in the end ould Russianize both that country and Manchuria, by which they would e closed to the trade and economic enterprise of Japan. Such certainly would have been the reshlt; and Japan felt that she must stake all on the effort to defeat the aims of Russia, or virtually perish by the process of strangulation thus clearly foreseen. Russian ocof Manchuria threatened our country was threatened with by we call the Monroe Doctrine there is a principle wider than any application of that particular doctrine itself.

To her amazement and discomfiture Russia has found that Japan can fight and fight terribly. Most of Russia's Pacific fleet is at the bottom of the sea, and her armies of more than half a million men have been routed from colony for twenty-five years, or a natstrongly intrenched positions, on their own rallroad, and virtually destroyed. No wonder it astounds Russia; for it surprises all the rest of the world. Now ital value of over 41600. By the pension the captain to display any skill or gain the problem is how Russia is to meet the income may be made up to \$260 a anything by deviating from the course her difficulties. It is easy to say she will send other armies. But to get by the state must not exceed \$50 a But the old-time sailing master could joit and smash of the gloves. Judging other armies and their supplies for year. Absence from the colony for not drive his ship into the teeth of the with an enterprising enemy to meet them on their arrival in qualifies. detail-for they can't all be got for- since 1808, and the annual charge on ward at once—is a mighty problem. Moreover, it is useless to send raw levies against such soldiers as the vetulars are sent, can the new troops, just drawn from the people, be trusted at

more severely than ever Napoleon was able to shake her.

Japan, advancing through Manchur and towards Siberia, will organize and consolidate the country against Russis. Here is the basis of a political scheme that will organize and control against Russia the whole northern line of the Chinese Empire. Here is a new starting-point in the history of the world. There have been prodigies heretofore; why not prodigies now? Russia will be shut up in Europe and in Arctic Asia. Japan will be the leading Oriental nation. China, though retaining her nominal independence, will admit or accept the hegemony of Japan. History is full of surprises. Here is one

STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT.

Subdivision of lands is a great need in ur newer states, and will be, yet for a long time. It is necessary, not only in itself and for itself, but for its effect both on town and country life. It is the first necessary step towards relief from isolation; for the towns cannot have growth unless occupation of the lands of the country precedes it. We shall reach a stage after a while where subdivision of lands will cense, and increase of the size of holdings will take its place. But not soon. Conditions of life vary, according to times and cir cumstances; and the movements of one age do not repeat those of another.

People always wish to get out of life and living the best they can, circumstances in which they find them selves; and it is right that they should do so. On the whole, in our present situation, during many years to come, we shall establish and maintain better onditions of life, social and economic, through subdivision of lands and increase of rural population. But in course of time a limit here also will be reached, as in our older states. It to not necessary to go to New England to see the tendency now towards larger holdings. It may be observed in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. But in our states of the Pacific Coast we are in the newer stage of development, which must be traversed before we reach the conditions that are to succeed it We haven't yet done with agricultur or for agriculture one-tenth part of what is to be done here; and manufa tures cannot make much advance till we have done more for agriculture and nave established a larger population of producers and consumers.

Yet even in these newer states w may observe a distinct tendency of our population from country life to town life. We see young men pushing everywhere into trade, into mechanical pursuits, into the learned professions, into insignificant clerkships, into salaried positions of every sort that will take them into towns and support and hold them there. It is impossible to drive poor people from the cities with threat or starvation, or to coax them with promise of better pay and cheaper fare. Young women resort to the shops and factories rather than take service in the farmers' houses, where they are received as members of the family; and when they marry they seek an alliance, when practicable, with mechan ics and tradesmen who live in the villages and large towns. The youth of both sexes who have seen nothing of the world have an overwhelming desire to meet life and to be among the multitude. They feel their country life to be narrow in its opportunities and rewards, and the pulsation of the great social heart, of which they have some observation, thrills them with longings for the places where the activity cen-ters. They are not to be blamed for this. It is the most natural thing in

The time will come, therefore, when the farins will be growing larger with us, as in the older states; and subdiwe shall have and must have more subdivision, first becaand because the conditions demand it. The movements of a people are not controlled very much by theif volitions, but chiefly by the circumstances in which they happen to be placed—in other.

A COUNTRY OF EXPERIMENTS.

In the Southern hemisphere are the two islands which make up New Zealand. The area is about 115,000 square miles, comparing with Oregon's 96,000. The population is now \$50,000, and growing rapidly. The climate is healthy, the land productive, the people prosperous. All this is in the handbooks. What has not yet been published broadcast is that, although labor unions are strong and aggressive, although employers are self-assertive and bound in associations, strikes have been practically done away with since the arbitration and conciliation act, passed in 1894, was amended and passed

into general and compulsory use in 1950. Two courts are thereby created. One is the Conciliation Court, composed of and employed, with a disinterested chairman to hold the scales. Any party to a labor dispute may apply to this court and get prompt hearing. If either party falls to appoint the necessary arbitrator, the government selects one and the hearing proceeds. Appeals may be taken to the Arbitration Court, and from its decisions there is no further appeal. This court, at its own option, either gives advice or issues an award. Pailure to comply with the award brings a penalty of \$2500 on a culpable employer, and the same amount against a trades union if a party. If the uni-Japan with far greater dangers than falls or is unable to pay the penalty, each member of the union is responsi-French occupation of Mexico. In what bie for its default up to the amount of \$50. Under this system strikes are said guides this mass of steel and iron that to have disappeared, and work goes on

without interruption. The most noteworthy experiment among these enterprising people is that is expected to go from a given port to of instances. of old-age pensions. To qualify for a pension an applicant must be & years old or over, have been a resident of the uralized citizen of five years' standing. He must not possess property yielding an income of \$260 a year, or of a capfour years out of the twenty-five dis-gualifies. This act has been in four years out of the twenty-five disthe public revenues has now reached about \$1,000,000. Fancy the Oregon skill of the navigator pitted against the

by the Charitable Ald Board, which fills the function of our organized char-ities. The old-age pension law has materially lightened their labors. state recognizes the duty of public charity, and cheerfully pays the cost. The public school system of the slands is excellent. For some years islands is excellent. the plan of one good school at the accessible spot in three or four adjoining country districts, in place of a poor and cheap school in each district, has been in force. A graded school with competent teachers accessible to every child is the aim. The children living at distant homes are taken to the school for their lessons and returned when school is over, at the expense of school fund. The same plan is making its way in some of the East-ern States, in one at least of the states of the Middle West, and is under experiment in Oregon. The results, both in advantages gained and in cost incurred, will be watched with much in-

In many other directions New Zealand is boldly accepting the idea of a paternal government. Its ownership of all the 2400 miles of railroad in the colony, except 100 miles of a private road, and its absolute control of the railroads with no bugbear of interstate mmerce and all its complications, has enabled it to reduce the profits of the roads to 31/2 per cent on the capital inested by the state, all excess over that return being used in reduction of fares

Under this regime we see a thriving people trying out their ideas of selfgovernment and general development, free from any outside interference, called a colony, but independent in life and government, if ever that word can be applied to any people on this wide earth.

THE MISSOURI REPUBLICANS. Missouri has finally elected a Reput lican as United States Senator, Major William Warner, a lawyer, an ex-Congressman of Kansas City, and a well-known figure in Grand Army circles. It is a satisfactory solution most vexatious and discreditable factional row that bade fair to throw away entirely the fruits of a hard-won and inexpected Republican victory. The contest had lasted from January 18 to the day of the Legislature's adjournment, and had been conducted with much bitterness and some scandal. It ended finally in great uproar.

Niedringhaus was the caucus nomi nee. He is chairman of the Missouri Republican State Committee, and he was boss of the Republican state organization. He had supplanted in control of the machine Richard C. Kerens, a very rich man who had led the party in a consistent record of defeat through many years. The Roosevelt upheaval found Niedringhaus in position to claim the fruits of victory. Kerens organized a caucus bolt and the result is that these two bosses have killed off each other, and permitted a desirable choice to be made.

When any one sets himself up owner of a political party, he is due for fall. His ruin may be accomplished by the clamorous persistence of reformers, or by the overwhelming force of the popular will, or by the activities of an aspiring rival. It would have been unfortunate if Niedringhaus, a mere machine politician, had been made a Senator by his own machine; it would have been deplorable if Kerens, another machine politician, had been successful. But because neither would let the other have the Senatorship, a good man gets it, and the Republicans of Missouri have done well in spite of themselves.

DOOM OF THE SAILER

Foreign shipyards have received very heavy orders for 1905 delivery of steam tonnage, but throughout the United vision of lands in these new states of Kingdom rot a single new order has ours is checked by this tendency to an been received for a deep-water salling extent even now. But on the whole vessel. The doorn of the sailer has bewinged argosies of trade play the prom-inent part which in the past they have taken in the world's commerce. the passing of the sailer there also departs from the literary field a theme other words, by the environment. A which from the earliest ages has supcountry must pass through one stage of piled great material for romance and story. There was beauty in every curve of the famous clippers which raced around the world before the age of steam, and even the broad-beamed merchantman, booming along under a cloud of canvas, always presented an inspiring sight. These were the craft which originally "drew the world together and spread the race apart," they developed a race of seamen and navigators such as the world will never

The modern steamship, which has driven the salling ship from the ocean, is a prosaic piece of machinery that places navigating skill at a large disrequired of the men who guided the age of the clippers. Not even Captain knocked hours and days off the record the performance was a triumph of skill on the part of the captain, whose nerve, daring and knowledge of the elements mast would bear without breaking, the shipowners. With the successors of those wonderful creations of wood and canvas records are broken by a sootgrimed swarm of human machines naces with a degree of precision that the machinery with which they are sur-

And the man on the bridge who goes thrashing through the waves? Small indeed are his opportunities for the display of skill and judgment. another given port by the shortest and safest route. If a head wind blows throughout the trip, his steamer little harder and a little longer, but rare indeed are the opportunities for the captain to display any skill or gain This act has been in force For days and weeks at a stretch he was forced to fight every mile of the course, and it was a clear case of the

mance and history, and another such a breed can never be developed in the modern steamship service. All that glamor of romance which literature has thrown around the pirates and their pursuers on the Spanish Main would have been missing had the black flag hung from the masthead of a steumship instead of a trim sailing vessel, whose chance for safety or capture rested to so great an extent on the skill of the navigator in charge. The steamof that mystery of the sea and robbed

Magical power which like the wind nothing can stay and nothing can

It has drawn the world so close together and churns around that world on such well-defined courses or highways that there has been a steady less ening of the mysteries of missing ships and there are but few ocean routes to day that are not so well covered but that the whole world is in almost constant touch with the movements of vessels. The saller has fulfilled its mission in the development of the world's transportation system, and, like the bateau of the trader on inland rivers, or the ox team of the ploneer on land, it seems destined to pass into history as one of the utilities that was good in its day, but is now out of date.

The successful writer of sea stories for the present generation must cut out all reference to the whistling of the wind through the rigging, the creak of the blocks and the swelling canvas, and in lieu thereof must draw his inspiration-if he can-from the throb of the engines, the purr of electric ventilators and the hiss and roar of waves angered by the thousands of tons of iron and steel hurled through them at railroad The change will not be welespecially by the sailor man himself, but it is inevitable, and must be accepted, regardless of any affronts that it may give romance and literature, neither of which has much of a place in business.

THE SACAJAWEA STATUE. Local interest has been reawakened n Sacajawea, the intrepid Indian worann who contributed so much to the success of the Lewis and Clark expedition, by announcement that the clay model of the statue that is to be placed in a central position on the Exposition grounds will soon reach this city. The thrilling story of this century-ago jour ney is replete with interest. The comnest events detailed rise almost to the stature of the heroic, and none are more replete with heroism than those with which the name, the tact, the endurance and the loyalty of the "bird woman" are connected. The patience helpfulness, cheerfulness, of this young slave wife of the wholly worthless and stolid human mongrel who was her master must appeal to the chivalric admiration of all men and enlist the sympathy of all women who learn of her through the journals of the great ex-

Her story, lost, as it seemed, in the shadows of the years, was recalled as the Lewis and Clark Centennial approached and interest in the wonderful achievement of the explorers was revived. An Indian woman who had scarcely passed beyond the years of childhood; a mother giving birth to her first-born on the trail and bearing him in her arms or upon her back over dreary stretches of plain and mountain; the slave of her husband and the camp servitor for the entire company, Sacajawea came through with the pedition to the shores of the Pacific, returned with it again to the far-away region whence she was taken, and dropped out of sight.

The clay model, executed, as is fitting, by a woman, is that of an Indian woman, strong but lithe of limb, clad in Indian fashion, and in Indian fashion bearing upon her back her pappoose Pointing with her one free arm ever to the west, the strong outlines of her face and figure represent purpose and endurance that may well be perpetuated in bronze

The daily achievement of this Indian woman, apart from her native intelligence and the traits of character which nade her invaluable to the explorers, should command attention in an age that is boastful of the strenuousness of its endeavor. For it mus well be conceded that nothing in this line surpassing the dally rou tine of Sacajawea's life for many months together is being enacted any where in the world today outside of

There is a great gap in English and American literature. Fortunately this great gap is about to be filled, so that the discovery of its existence need not worry the public unduly. Jack London is the man who has discovered the count compared with that which was lacuna, and he is the man of letters who has volunteered to remove the recourse of the sailing ships in the golden proach from the literature of the English tongue. "The prize-ring has never Marryat or W. Clarke Russell could been comprehensively done into literfind romance or feel any thrills over ature." says Mr. London; "when it has is the Conciliation Court, composed of the strictly mechanical movements of a been attempted it has been a description of employers steamship. When the old-time clipper tion of a contest between world champions by a man who didn't know any thing about it, who had never felt the jolt and smash of the gloves or known the shock of the knockout." of Nature-wind, tides and currents- at that precious "done into literature" and whose judgment of the strain each it smacks of the "literary society," but, passing over such a triffe, it must be admitted that most of the men who write of the ring do know very little of the jolt and smash of the gloves, especially the real literary gents. was a bit of a boxer, but he didn't do shoveling coal into batteries of fur- a fight into literature. President Roose velt is also handy with the gloves, but we doubt if he will ever rank maker of literature, except of the tabloid kind exemplified by "A square deal for every man." It is unfortunate that the men who are long on literature should be shy on practical experience of boxing, but in the nature of things we fear it is inevitable in the majority

Conan Doyle used to be a good ame teur boxer, and in "Rodney Stone" he has given us a readable story of the smashes into it and the human ma-chines down in the hold must work a crature." Kipling's Mulvaney stories erature." are sometimes regarded as coming within the vague boundaries, and Mulvancy's fight with the railroad con tractor is not a dull affair, but we do wrote a good fight story in "Gallagher, whether or not he has been joited and smashed. The schoolboy doesn't care a straw for the Aepeld as literature, but he has a little better opinion of gainst such soldiers as the vetI Legislature being called on to add mightlest forces of Nature.

I Japan; and if the Russian regre sent, can the new troops, just from the people, be trusted at The charity of the state is managed to most picturesque figures in regThis war shakes Russia far.

Legislature being called on to add mightlest forces of Nature.

These were contests which developed the 'breed of the oaken heart' that is presented with the prize bull. Enterthan made the paller of the sea one of lius affected gloves of seven-pity bull's and. It seems, then, that the campublication of this time can fairly well be the will not be ahead of his national standtor v
publication of the sea one of lius affected gloves of seven-pity bull's and. It seems, then, that the campublication of the present of the sea one of lius affected gloves of seven-pity bull's and. It seems, then, that the campublication of the present of the sea one of lius affected gloves of seven-pity bull's and of the future, as of the present.

that his fight was outside even the old London prize-ring rules. The schoolboy also enjoyed Tom Brown's great fight without knowing or caring whether or not it had been done into literature And of less pretentious fights many there are, from Jack Harkaway of glorious memory to that interns tional batle in "The Witch's Head, one of Rider Haggard's most vivid scenes. We omit such travesties on clean-cut flat fighting as Gunter's story of "the tenderfoot's kick"-a college football man kicks a cowboy so far that the distance is marked off as a show place for visitors!

College men, by the way, are always figuring in ring stories in the maga-zines, and they always beat a champion. Conan Doyle's "Master of Crox-ley" is perhaps the best of these. The result comes as a great surprise to the talent, of course, and the young college man makes enough to pay off the

mortgage on the old homestead. Great stories all, but literature? Never mind that; take them for what they are worth, and be glad that the ring and literature are at last to be united by Mr. London. The first part of his story, "The Game," appears in the Metropolitan Magazine this month. It looks as if it will be a good story, as most of Mr. London's are. will also be literature we know, because Mr. London says: mere superficial motif. It is universal, and beneath the bare story and realism is a motif of motifs." Anything with a motif is literature.

It is fitting that San Francisco should produce the story in which the prizering is first done into literature. San Francisco is long on both the ring and iterature, and, since the Raiston law has been deservedly solar plexused, bids fair to prolong its golden age. James Edward Britt and Jack London-what city can match them?

THE PRIVATE SOLDIER

After all, the science of war consists delivering the best-equipped, the bravest, most enduring, most healthy, est-instructed private soldier at the critical point of attack or defense in greatest force. To this one end are bent the energies of the General Staff. Commander-in-Chief, all subords nate commanders down to company officers. To efficiency there, efforts of ommissariat, transport, medical staff, ommunication service, all tend. have heard so much lately of the Jap anese private, all are so impressed with virtues and special qualifications, that it may be worth while to see in what his superiority consists, and if it be really so marked over other races.

In Frederick Palmer's most interest ng book, "With Kuroki in Manchuria. we see the private soldier of Japan at range. He is brave but not reckless, trained to a high point in endurance, in marching power equal to any, superior to nearly all, temperate in diet and healthy, obedient to orders, and educated up to the point of comprehension of orders, treating himself in thought and act as a unit in a squad, company or regiment. He is loyal to Emperor and country to the highest degree, kindly and self-sacrificing. With whom shall he be compared? With his Russian antagonist?

The Russian soldier was described and photographed the other night by a three years' observer. He, brave; so the blood-soaked battlefields of Manchuria testify. He is simple and bedient, strong with physical advantages. There he stops. He is excitable, and open to panic on one side, to barbarity on the other: keeping the peasant's ignorance and stolldity under the soldier's uniform; slow-witted, unbalanced, prone to excesses when the door s opened; dependent on his officers for all initiative. By training a machinelike performance of ordinary duty is secured.

Yet how manifold are the races wearing the Czar's uniform. Russians great and little, Lithuanians, Poles, Cossacks, Siberians, Finns, Tartars, and a score of others; at home they are wide as the poles apart. In the army mill, it seems as if individual character had been seen under the limelight of the hardest and longest campaign of modern times. In no trade does a man mature so rapidly as in war. The raw recruit of today becomes the veteran in a year. British commanders in the Boer War testified that their regulars took nine months' ripening before it was decent to them and safe to the army to expose them in actual fight to the Mausers of the Boers. The colonial troops on the other hand-Australians, New Zealanders, Canadians-and the frregular African British-born levies, naturally to that warfare. Excellent rifle shots, good horsemen, hardy, intelligent, out-of-doors soldlers, after a short acclimating they proved equal to all situations.

Under similar conditions and habits of life many of the soldiers of America have been reared. Iu Cuba and the Philippines the severe tests of tropical and savage warfare have been successfully met. The training of the Amer ican soldier has developed individuality, but not at the expense of discipline The comment of military observers at the time of the Boxer War was: "What splendid soldiers! Pity there are so few of them!" They were tried then, if ever. They marched with the Japanese, fought side by side with them and the British, and were at least up

In both German and French armies the training of the private soldier has been carried far and high, not only in the old ways of drill, but in the new ways of athletics, and individual development. The only places of comparison have been in the great army maneuvers. There seems to be little to choose between them. The Frenchman keeps his national cheerfulness and brightness in camp and in the field, and seems to enjoy his soldiering more than his German neighbor. Both are intelligent soldiers, and quick to learn during the two or three years' term with

Compulsory military service has been in force long enough in all European countries, except Great Britain, to pase the great majority of the men of the nation through the military mill. Once through the term of active service, they return to the pursuits of civil life. In case of war, the stress must fall on men recalled from the field, the office factory and store to serve. Hence it follows that the national character will be shown in its reality through the military uniform. Therefore, what the German, the Frenchman, the Russian, the Italian is at home, he will be in the field. So the character of the private soldier of this time can fairly well be

will be won by the force of organization and command, by the perfection of each and every part of the machinery of war-that, if well equipped, com dier of all the leading races of the world will do his part well in the furna the campaign.

The "college spirit," as shown by what has long been known at the University of California as the "charter rush," on the 23d of March, takes on this year a new form of expression. According to the new programme the classmen will celebrate the day by building on Charter Hill, back of the college, an enormous "C" in concrete. The letter will be sixty feet high and twenty-six feet broad, and will be built by students of the freshmen and sophmore classes under direction of civil engineering department of the university. It will be visible from any part of Berkeley or San Francisco, and will be a much more fitting expressi of college pride than the broken heads and suspended students of former "Charter day" celebrations have been. This is not all. It will show that students themselves have become tired of rowdyism as exemplified in the annual sede it with an effort not less strenuous

but more manly.

King Alphonso of Spain is abroad, presumably taking an inventory of the charms of the various marriageable Princesses of Europe. It was announced recently that the Kaiser would gladly bestow his only daughter upon the young King, but, though not rejecting the flattering suggestion, His Spanish Majesty did not accede joyously, but replied that he was in no hurry to marry. He goes now to London, where the inexhaustible supply of grand-daughters and great-grand-daughters of the late Queen Victoria is supposed to await his choosing. One of these days his betrothal to some omely and virtuous young Princess will be announced and the public will be told that the marriage will be "a genuine love match" Commiseration is due in advance to the unfortunate young woman who is chosen to become Queen of Spain, and congratulations may well be showered upon all who fall to pass muster in this matrimonial quest.

There is talk of reproducing at the Lewis and Clark Fair the fine old colonial home of Thomas Jefferson known as Monticello. It is urged, and very properly, that this would be a fitting tribute to the man whose foresigh mapped out the great Northwest Territory and saw the advantage to be derived from it as a National possession, in advance of actual exploration which resulted in the discovery of its vastness and infinite variety of resources. The picture of the Jefferson home in Virginia; its wide verandas, quaint gables and many-paned windows, is quite a familiar one. It would require no great expense or skill to reproduce it, and there is still ample time to do so. The matter is one that should commend itself, without urging, to state societies, especialy the Dixie Society, all of which are working in conjunction with the Lewis and Clark

Compulsory pilotage, which was for so many years a handicap to Portland's marine commerce, is faring badly both north and south of us. Puget Sound has always regarded compulsory pilotage as a joke, and paid no attention to laws requiring it. British Columbia has never been able to get rid of it, but is now investigating the matter with a view to reducing or abolishing the fees. The California Legislature, at the session just closed, reduced the rates 25 per cent. If all of the money collected for compulsory pilotage in the ots who do the work, instead of to industry would probably stand a further reduction without jeopardizing the service.

Establishment by the Weverhaeusers of another immense sawmill in this city will more firmly than ever clinch the prestige of Portland as the greatest lumber port on the Pacific Coast, The State of Oregon and that portion of Washington tributary to the Columbia River were several decades behind the Puget Sound country in beginning manufacture of lumber on an extensive scale, but the rapidity with which the industry is growing is assurance that It will be but a short time until the lumber exports from the river will exneed those of all Puget Sound ports combined.

There is something in knowing "when you have a plenty." There is point, therefore, in what the Louisville Times says, to-wit: "If Russia continues aggressive tactics for another two years, the end of that time will find her without a navy and without an army deserving of the name. Should Japan then be forced to agree to peace through financial exhaustion, Russia will be too weak to take advantage of any concessions wrung from her opponent at such staggering cost."

Seeing is believing. There was brought to The Oregonian office yesterday a fresh bunch of alfalfa, not less than ten inches long, plucked two days ago on a Willamette Valley farm in Linn County. The field was of thirteen acres; it is the third year of its growth; there is no irrigation whatever, and the alfalfa has been pastured by sheep early all the Winter. Let our farme friends go and do likewise. The time for experiment is past; the day practice is right now.

A handsomely illustrated "Lewis and Clark edition," printed in two colors, has been issued by the Amity Advance. Photographic illustrations of farms and farmhouses in Old Yamhili form the principal feature, and the edition is full of information such as prospective homeseckers would most desire. Amity has advanced in prosperity and the Advance itself does not appear to belie

We shall soon have to have 65,000 enlisted then in our Navy. That is one for every 1200 of population, and as big as our standing Army. Perhaps we shall be in greater need of a Navy than of an Army in our next war. which Representative Hull says will be with the Japs.

The Oregon style of electing a Sepa-ter was adopted by the Missouri Republicans, with the usual hurricans re-

## NOTE AND COMMENT.

Professor Williston, of the University of Chicago, has announced that, in a mill years or so, man will have vanished from the earth, and that the birds will be himself is a bird, which perhaps prejudices him against poor, ordinary mea, who have not the inestimable privilege of pronouncing judgment from a Standard Oil chair.

The cruiser Washington was launched esterday. Seattle would have been a shorter name, and would have meant much the same thing-in the opinion of

Kuropatkin reports that he has handed ver to Linievitch command of the "land and sea forces operating against the Japanese." Russia probably forgot before now that she had any sea forces,

## Passing It Along.

"Think not that God does not see you pass
the hilled beggar and not drop a cein in his
cup," says the New Orleans Picayure.
"Also think not that the blind beggar does
not see you." adds the Louisville Times.
"Further think not that the Board of Chari-

ties will not condemn you for premisenous almostving," says The Oregonian.

And again think not that the blind beggar couldn't better afford to give you a two-bit eight than you could to give him a plugged time. Seattle Accept

Government employes in Panama com plain that the three-grain quinine pills sent them from "the States" contain only two grains. Why don't they take one pill and a half then, instead of kicking about it? But these charges of graft in con-nection with hospital supplies read very much like the stories about Russia's Red Cross organization, which caused us to hold up our hands in horror.

The President is going to hunt in Colorado. Not trusts or anything dangerous this time; just mountain lions.

A few gracticable airships would be warmly welcomed by the Russian army

Just a trifling mistake by the Canal Commissioners; instead of making the dirt fly, they are making the mud fly,

One thing about the Fair: To see it will be worth paying a fine.

It appears that the officers responsible for the whift of grapeshot which nearly wiped out the Romanoffs "didn't go for to They were just a little negligent do it. in their duties, that's all; and in view of the fact that they nearly hit some one the Caar might do well to send these officers to the rapidly-retreating "front.

The weak Sisters to the South are a roublesome lot. Here is Santo Domingo oringing out all sorts of charges and counter-charges in the Senate and elsewhere, and Venezuela is laying up a store of trouble. As benevolent assimilation on such a large scale is out of the question, a little malevolent intimidation might be powerful good thing.

That famous passage comparing man's brief life to that of the grass is not fully appreciated by the man behind the lawnmower. To be cut down as the grass doesn't impress him with the fraility man; indeed, he is inclined to regard it as an evidence of toughness and tenacity.

Of all annoying thieves the "trousers thief' is surely the head. To wake up in the morning are find one's trousers gone with all the change that was in the pockets must be a trying affair and. besides, must sooner or later lead to a trying-on affair with the tailor. There is, however, a way to prevent such annoyance. The dodge comes all the way from India, and for once the Orient gives the Occident a good tip on practical affairs. Mrs. Ernest Hart writes in the House Beautiful: first time I was introduced into the harem of one of the noblemen of Hyderabad, in the Deccan, I was surprised to find the Begum and her ladies California district were paid to the dressed in tight-fitting trousers made the Commissioners and politicians, the fashion to have these trousers as closefitting as possible, they are actually sewn on and are taken off and changed about once a fortnight." By lowing this plan, the most adroit sneakthief would be f-o-i-l-e-d!

> "Society is literally soaked with alcohol." says Bishop McFaul, of Trenton. Come to think of it, we never did see anyone soaked on buttermilk.

> A story that might have come from "The Earl of Pawtucket" is told of a visitor to a London artist's studio Pausing before a painting, the visitor remarked "It isn't so devilish bad, you know." "Now, don't be fulsome," responded the artist, to whom such outspoken appreciation from an Englishman bordered on flattery.

New departures in "literature" are always interesting. The Metropolitan Magazine for April announces a story called "Outside the Law," a very fine title, indeed. "To make the unravelling of the plot worth while," says the Metropolitan, "a number of very valu-able prizes will be given to those readers who shall write the most accurate and interesting papers explaining the actions of the several characters in the story." This promises well. Hitherto readers have had no privileges except that of paying for books which usually give but a scanty return for \$1.50, but now there is a prospect that publishers will have to give away premiums with novels. Literature may yet come into its own. Instead of getting "The Poisoned Wedding Ring" as a present with every dollar purchase of dry goods, a yard of ribbon may be given with every copy of the book purchased for cash Lovers of literature will then have the better of mere purchasers of groceries and dry goods, as they should have had long ago.

A Burbank is badly wanted in the animal world. Why, for instance, should wool not be grown on elephants. We don't know how many square feet of hide an elephant possesses, but he must have an area equal to that of a whole flock of sheep. Consequently, a man owning six or seven merino elephants would become wealthy in a short time, especially as his flock could chase away all the cattle that happened near the range. Eurther, the elephant is so intelligent that he could be taught in a few lessons how to wash and shear himself, pack up the wool and transport it to market.

Senator-elect Warner of Miciburi should understand the meaning of "in the nick of time." WEXFORD JONES.

More Work for Kansas.

Chicago Tribune.

We commend to the serious consistion of Kansas the expediency of state state hencery in opposition to the famous egg trust.