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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 1906.

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NEW OREGONIAN THONE. The Morning Oregonian and Evening Tele gram have installed a private telephone exchange, Main 7070. If anyone desires to communicate by 'phone with any department of The Oregonian or Evening Telegram let him call Main 7070. The office operator will make the proper call. For example, if you desire the city editor of The Oregonian. call Main 2020. The operator respo "Oregonian and Telegram." Then ask for "City Editor Oregonian."

### JACOB RUS AS A PROPHET.

Mr. Jacob Riis, the New York philanthropist, is meritoriously known to Americans for high achievements of at least four different sorts. A poor young man and a foreigner, he has attained distinction and moderate wealth by his own efforts. This we all admire. We do not always withhold our admiration when the wealth exceeds all possible fruits of honest endeavor and the selfmade man who gains it has failed to endow himself with any striking qualexcept swinish greed; but in Jacob now and then, until complete success be on the alert early and late to pre parks, playgrounds, open schoolhouses, the coming season. public roof gardens for children, baths | A peculiarity in the plea of the Mon-

Not only has he wrought mightily and well to assuage human misery in | There is no divided responsibility here the New York siums, but he has also but a joint one, earnest and solemn and written good books. In one of them he which cannot be met by one parent how manfully be struggled upward from the most formidable rock in the found worthy "to stand before Kings." | Nature-themselves In still another be narrates the life of Theodore Roosevelt, who, he thinks, is among the best and greatest of men The fourth achievement to praise Mr. Rils for, certainly not the least in merit, is his conquest of the friendship the public knows, he holds no office and desires none, but no man stands closer than he to the President or understands better Mr. Roosevelt's intimate

mones and fears. When, therefore, Jacob Riis predicts classes and the mass of the American people, it is difficult not to believe that he reflects more or less definitely some sion. This prediction Mr. Rils made nuite recently in Cleveland, if the report is true, adding the two interesting points that the contest would obliterate present party lines and that Roosevelt would be the leader on the people's side. "The fight," he said. "will be against

the money power," which is steadily all human beings and all homes." It from Salem to the country schoolhouse may at once be urged in reply that our reverence for mere wealth in this coun- freight only, and on promise of restoratry is sensibly less now than it was a tion of any books lost or badly damyear ago, for excellent reasons, and aged. that the last elections showed the power of predatory capital to be very few days ago in the "Long Creek Ran-

All this is true, but one may imagin ister facts which lie not quite so open to casual observation. Let their weight be what it may, it is perhaps worth since nothing is gained for either or triches or men by shutting the eyes and hiding the head in the sand. Consider this, then. Workmen, except small farmers, no longer own the tools they labor with, the materials they manipulate, or the buildings that house them. All these things are owned by capitalists, and the laborest to get a chance privilege of using them. That is, the laborer must buy of the capitalist the right to work, and for this right he pays a share of what he earns.

This payment, which is none the less real because the workman never actu ally handles it, is of the nature of rent, tinually to increase. In the first place the pressure of want continually tempts kmen to underbid one another, which necessarily causes a downward trend of wages. Organization some what counteracts this tendency, but the great majority of laboring men are not

to work with. Remembering that poor families are more fertile than rich one that, in fact, fertility is almost in direct ratio to poverty, it will be seen that this downward tendency of wages is some thing like a law of Nature, and that it grows stronger and stronger through the reaction of its own results.

Add to this that industry has passed inder corporate control and that corporations look only to dividends with out regard to the worker's welfare There is no hope that they will sacrifice any possible gain to save the laborer's standard of living. As a matter of fact, it is currently notorious that corporations are always ready to sacrifice the standard of living for the sake of dividends. They even force wager downward, or, in other words, increase the rent upon opportunity. One way of doing this is by opposing labor unions another is by employing women and children. The latter device absorbs the labor of a whole family for bread instead of conceding it to the efforts of adult males only, and, of course, rapidly depresses the standard of living. Another way to force wages down is by watering stock. This cuts from the workman's pay enough to make up the dividends on the water, as President Roosevelt intimated in his reply to the raliroad employes.

Society thus, by a sort of law of na ture, falls into two classes between which the line of demarcation grows ever more distinct. Will there be war between them, as Mr. Rits predicts? War is impossible. One class, the enormously wealthy, continuously dereases in numbers; the other, the orkers, continuously increases. It is a cautious estimate that the Rockefeller fortune, should be live to Russel Sage's present age, will amount to \$8,000,000,000. Practically all the wealth of the country will, as Judge Grossour has shown, by that time be controlled by some half-dozen men. The line-up for a war will display six men on one side, the rest of the Nation on the other. Undoubtedly an energetic movement for freedom of opportunity will be initiated, but it will be very peaceful. What occasion will there be for war? When the apple is ripe, it falls

# CARE OF YOUNG GIRLS.

Judge H. C. Smith, of Helena, Mont, ecently sentenced a man who had been guilty of criminal assault upon young girl to five years in the penitentiary. Before passing sentence he ook occasion to speak as follows to the throng that always crowds a courtroom upon such occasions:

There is another phase of this matter th obligation that rests upon the parents of your girls. Of all the encred duties imposed upo rents that of protecting their daughters fro inger is the most sucred and important. I o many cases this is lost sight of. I so ot speaking of anyone in particular, but it the solemn, bounden duty of parents make their homes pleasant; to guard the ions; to prevent their staying out on the pu He streets and at places of entertains all bours of the night with men and boys, the end that they may arrive ut woma-estate pure and unsuffled, fit to becomes wives of bonest men and mothers of clean sinded children

If the precedent of last season is fol lowed, this advice will be timely in this city when, with the opening of Spring, business is resumed at "The Oaks." It is, indeed, always timely, but the morso when attractions are planned that Rits' case we may praise without reser- lure the young and thoughtless into vation both the man he has made of paths that lead to shame and dishonor. himself and the deeds he has done. A With the ruin of 100 young girls, as esbenefactor of his kind, he initiated the timated by competent authority, as one war upon the deadly tenements of New of the results of a Summer's "amuse-York and has waged it courageously ment," coupled with lack of parental and persistently, not without a victory vigilance, it will be well for parents to seems within sight. He has fought for | vent repetition of this appalling record

"parents" instead of to "mothers" only recounts the details of that grisly woe alone. It is often necessary to supplewhich grinds the city poor into mere ment maternal admonition by puternal human muck; in another he tells his authority, and precede both by parental own story, what he came from and tact in steering young people away until, like another Franklin, he was channel of inexperience and awakening

In city libraries people go to th books. The traveling libraries installed by the Oregon Library Association take the books to the people.

This is not what is intended, bu what is actually being accomplished, Farm homes have ever shown hospitality to the passing traveler. Now their doors are open to Allen and Barr, Mrs. Bishop and Wilkie Collins, Mrs. Craik and Margaret Deland, Anthony Hope n class war between the privileged and Hawthorne, Tom Brown and Miss Jacob Riis, Sir Walter Scott and Frank Stockton, Mrs. Ward and Booker Wash ington. Choice spirits they are, who go to stay as long as they are wantedwho need no entertaining, but come in swift succession as fast as one or other has given of his best to the little society round the Winter hearth, when the rain beats on the windows but the backlog burns bright.

And it is all almost without cost. advancing toward "the enslavement of box of fifty-three good books is sent or literary society at the expense of

The list before us was published slight against an aroused public senti- ger," a Grant County paper. It con tains fifty-three books. The distribu Mr. Riis to have had in mind some sin- knowledge of what suits the average reader. It is divided as follows: Fiction, '21; natural history, 2; travel, 5; a reaction in railway operation in favor American history, 6; art, 2; mechanics, while to recount one or two of them, 1; sociology, 4; poetry, 1, and 1 miscellaneous, for it falls under no exact head. Possibly our grandfathers would have put in less fiction; they surely would have had more poetry, and what we today should call dry books. But and a half rallway employes there are let it go without destructive criticism. but about 10,000 general and subordi-It is a sure thing that there is not a book in the entire list to harm boy or maiden. And the life and light and discipline and supervision of this large to earn his bread, must pay for the stimulus to be carried far and wide are good to think of.

The next box to our Long Creek friends will contain, it may be hoped, a book or two on the history and geography, political and commercial, of count in this indictment, and a deome other country in the world beyond the limits of the United States. after all, history does go back of the trouble occurs under this violation of Declaration of Independence. And there rules, "lays all the biame upon the poor are naturalists who are travelers, whose stories carry more interest, than the average novel. Then the wonder of science have been told in simple language, easily understood by the common people. The poets, too, should have more than one in fifty represen-Now, not to desert our theme, a fall in tation. But those who have made so

their responsibilities for the good yet to be done.

So will the teaching of the people not stop with the closing behind boy or girl of the school door. For the good book is the teacher one chooses of free will, whose lesson has been tested by time, and by that common acceptance into the ranks of good literature whose seal is above all college and university diplomas in the wide world.

Is one satisfied with the passing visit of a new-found friend? No more can ne reading of many a good book reconcile us to close its pages and put it away. Pass the library books on, clean and unharmed, as they came to us Then set in to save money to buy them. Make them your own, in every sense intellectual and material. Have your friends ready at your call, to see as much of and as often as you desire A book is a very indestructible posses sion. If, having owned one, you can reconcile yourself to part with it, what better present is there for your choices!

The weak point of the education of most of us is in the use of the language in which we speak and write Any words, any sentences, by which our meaning is conveyed are good enough for us. Full of errors, hot with hasty and ill-considered sentences, are both the speaking and writing of most persons. But insensible correction comes from the language of good

So the advent of the traveling library takes rank with the rural mail and the farm telephone to lift yet another burden of duliness from the life of the family on the farm.

### LET HIM WORK IT OUT.

When a lad of fifteen or thereabouts cuts school" and runs sawy from home, it is just as well for his parents to add their blessing and let him shift for himself a while. If he has had proper training up to this time, in his nome, he will take care of himself; if not, it is too late to coerce him into "being good." It is well enough to seek him out and keep up communication with him, if possible, but it is the height of folly to attempt to compel him to stay at home or go to school. What perience among strangers in the art of naking his way in the world. Later on present he sees only through the haze

of inexperience "I am letting him work it out for him self," said a widowed mother of this city a few years ago of a bumptious lad of 17 who had run away from home and school. "I write to him about home matters," she continued, "express a kind interest in him, and send him little birthday and Christmas tokens but have never asked him to come back," though the wistful look to be eyes and the nervous movement of her lips told of the effort that it cost her to assime this indifference, Last Christmas the young man invited him self home to dinner, was cordially received, announced that he had secured steady work in the city, and intimated that he would be very glad to board at home if his old room was still un-occupied. Of course his room was waiting for him, as it had been all the years of his absence, and he is installed therein, a cheerful worker, under promise of helping his mother and sisters until he has a home of his own. Whether he keeps this promise or not, his mother feels that she did the wise thing in letting him work out for himself the problem of restless, dissatisfied youth, without futile attempt to coerce him

This incident is recited for the comfort of anxious parents who are seeklent youngsters of from 15 to 18 years who have resolved to leave home and school and "do for themselves." Let the boy work out the problem to which he has voluntarily set himself; it will oligarchy.

# TO REDUCE RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.

A recent number of the Outlook con tains & foreful presentment of this subject by Major Charles De Lano Hine, a man of West Point training and of practical railroad experience His view of the subject of railway ac cidents is that of a man who is well qualified to speak upon the subject accidents as largely chargeable to the comparative novelty and, hence, crudevolve large expenditure to begin with, Johnston, Mrs. Alice Hogan Rice and to the roads. In the operation of most large railway systems, he says, "good basic principles of organization and administration, sufficient in amount to road with the most approved block signals and other safety appliances," If agers must cultivate a solicitude for human life apart from its punitive value in dollars and cents.

Major Hine does not deal wholly in generalities. Specifying, he finds demoralization among employes as a fruitful cause of accidents on railroads, and this in turn he believes to be due largely to heavy trains. The latter oc casion delays, worry, discouragement better friend to the masses? and sleepiness, complaint of the latter being often silenced by payment for tion is suggestive of an up-to-date overtime, which, however, does not suffice to keep men alert to the point of safety for the train. He therefore urges of shorter freight trains as the first

step toward prevention of accidents. Again, he regards railroads as unde staffed with officers. A military regi ment has one officer to every twentyfour or thirty men. For the million nate officials, an average of one to every 150 employes. The insufficient moving force he finds reflected in "unnecessary accidents."

Acquiescence by managers in the liberate disregard for safety regulations "make time" is the third served stricture is passed upon the "administrative cowardice" which, when from censure at headquarters comes not infrequently from the fact that the same "poor fellow" was killed in the

ocident and his testimony silenced. Turning to labor organizations as the perpetual thorn in the side of railroad

prompted by insecurity of tenure, which good behavior in the army of his road, since only when possessed of this feel-ing will be do his full duty in preventing accidents." It is unreasonable, he be properly vigilant in scrutinizing every bolt and tie on his lonely beat when any day it may be his turn to payroll or because the season is chang-

The railway accident is one of the great drains upon the commercial life and productive energy of the country. It adds each year thousands to the list of disabled wage-earners and places a heavy burden upon public and private charity. Its loss to the world in active, useful human life is beyond computa-The contention that it can in a great degree be obviated by better methods of rallway management in regard to the points specified deserves earnest attention where it will do the most good-among the managers of the great railway systems of the country As a railroad man of experience, speak ing to railroad men, Major Hine should have an attentive audience.

STATE AND NATION, Replying to Mr. W. W. Langhorne who writes The Oregonian an interesting letter upon the seemingly endless conflict between the respective merits of Hamilton and Jefferson as statesmen, some of the facts which he ad-duces must be admitted, though it can hardly be allowed that his inferences from them are correct. The Oregonian has never asserted that Hamilton's opinions of "the masses" were just in all respects. It asserted that "he was dur greatest constructive statesman,' and this he might well have been though his views of the common people were erroneous.

That he did distrust the masses there can be no doubt, but this should not lower our estimate of his political judg ment. Up to Hamilton's time the masses had nowhere shown themselves worthy of confidence. Every popular government, no matter where organized or when, had ended in anarchy or desthe young fellow wants or needs is ex- potism. The elective principle applied to rulers had falled utterly in every case. It had falled in Athens, in Rome in life he will, like the rest of the world, and, most disastrously, in Poland. We see where he made his mistake. At must believe that Hamilton had in mind, when he opposed elective rluers the lamentable example of Poland. whose recent ruin had appailed the world. Possibly also he remembered how viciously the elective principle was working at that very time in the "Holy Roman Empire of Germany." Repeatedly tried under the most varied conditions, it had always brought disaster. It had been discarded even in Holland, the classic land of liberty. There was absolutely nothing in all history to justify confidence in the plan of an elected executive. Everything was against it. How can we blame a statesman for not rejecting those lessons of history which constitute his only possible guide to conduct?

On the other hand, while the hered ltary principle had conspicuously failed in many cases, nevertheless it then prevailed in every important nation which had a tolerable government. Such happiness and prosperity as existed in the world anywhere had been attained under hereditary monarchs Can we be surprised at Hamilton's preference? Moreover, those who advocated an elective executive did not wish him to be a ruler in any real sense. In their view the Federal Government was to be little more than a shadow; all actual power was to reside ing runaway boys-resolute, self-suffi- in the sovereign states. They believed in the people no more than Hamilton did. What they wanted was a set of almost independent states, each ruled, not at all by the people, but by a petty

The contest in the convention was no between absolutism and popular rights. Those who think so read history strangely awry. It was between central and state authority; and such the con test continued down to the Civil War. As a statesman, Lincoln did stand with Hamilton, for he stood for the Nation against the state. How either of them felt toward the common people is aside from the present issue. The American People as sovereign ruler has slowly emerged and is still emerging. It is a have loomed large in the news columns "nothing extenuating and setting down naught in malice." He regards such very different thing from what either Hamilton or Jefferson conceived. Its capacity is something entirely new in ness of railway organization and prac- history. Its genius for government contice, This fact, he asserts, calls for tradicts all precedents and belies all certain broad improvements in general prophecies. Jefferson, who was really management, which, while they will in- the advocate of state oligarchies, has to show a sanitary certificate, covering gained a glory he does not deserve as will in a few years make full returns the champion of the people. Hamilton, him to come aboard, there would have tials the course of study would be brief who stood for the Nation, and whose contention has absolutely prevailed, money is wasted through violation of has gained a discredit he does not deserve as a foe to popular rights. Popular rights were not an issue in the equip in a few years every mile of rail- constitutional convention; the question was between the sovereignty of the state and that of the Nation, and on railroads are to avoid governmental this question, all-important then and regulation, he thinks that their man-since, Hamilton was right. If Jefferson's ideas had prevailed, there would now be no such thing as the American people. Our country would consist merely of a wrangling assemblage of petty oligarchies, all weak and all tyrannical. Under the protection of Hamilton's mighty concept the People has grown to manhood and seized the reins of power. Which, then, was the

# STATE SCHOOL LANDS.

A statement given out by State Treasurer Moore shows that in the last seven years the irreducible comm school fund has increased from \$2,000. 000 to \$4,550,000. The money in this fund is derived from the sales of state school land donated to the state by the United States. The lands sold are such as have been the subject of many fraudulent transactions in the last ten, twenty or thirty years.

While all will rejoice that the con non school fund has so rapidly creased, there are many who will de clare that the state has pursued an un wise policy in disposing of its lands a low figures, and that, if the land had been withheld, either directly or by fixing the price so high that it would have been kept until values advanced the assets of the common school fund would now be much greater. This contention is undoubtedly true. Still, a state that is inviting immigration, as fellow at fault." Further immunity Oregon has always done, cannot consistently adopt a policy of withholding land from sale. A consistent course would have been to offer lands for sale to actual homeseekers upon such terms. and then the state would have retained managers. Major Hine declares that, title to the vast areas that have fallen while they are often arbitrary, their into the hands of speculators. So long ses means nothing less than an in-good a choice to start with can be trust-use of the rent paid for the means ed to see their chance and recognize organized activity is not infrequently as the lands are passing into the con-

is preventable. An employe, he urges, the argument that the policy of the "should feel himself enlisted during state should be to sell its lands. If the lands were to be the basis of specula tion, the state might as well have been the beneficiary of the speculation. If they had been wanted by homeseekcontends, to expect the track-walker to ers, the state could not have withheld them consistently. Manifestly the state has not pursued a wise course, for the lands have gone, but not to settlers suffer discharge in order to "reduce the The increase of population has been due in small degree, if at all, to sales of state land at low prices.

An advance of from 50 to 100 per cen

chinery, electrical supplies and other manufactured articles shipped from the United States to Russia. This is the second increase that has been made in the duty by Russia, and it is put in effect partly for the protection of American and German manufacturers who have located in Russia, and partly to aid her good friend Germany in the retaliatory tariff war which the Germans are about to institute against the United States. We have better customers than Russia among the foreignere. Even Germany buys more goods from us than we ship to Russia, but our trade with the land of the Czar last year amounted to \$16,000,000. This trade, together with that of Germany, which is worth many times amount, will now be lost by our strict adherence to the trust-building tariff Individually, these protests from - our former friends and customers may not be serious, but if every country which has the same just cause for complaint that Russia and Germany have should decide to fight us with our own weanons, there would soon be a commercial and political upheaval that would sweep every "standpatter" into obliv-

The only excuse over offered by the International Association of Sailing Ship Owners for their unfair discrimination against Portland was that vessels were delayed in the river by storms. Nearly every shipmaster who has sense enough to box the compass knows that rare indeed are the occasions when a ship cannot cross out of the Columbia, providing it is when it is safe for her outside. That Portland is no worse off than other ports in this respect is shown by the following from the Tacoma Ledger of January 19:

According to advices from Fort Creace the ship St. Paul to still ancho out from Tacoma a week ago, but it is evi-tent Captain Snow has been awaiting the abatement of the storm along the coast before venturing out. The St. Paul is bound for

The British bark Australia, which left Tacoma a couple of days ago, is also at Clallan Bay walting for a favorable opportunity to

Since the St. Paul left Tacoma five grain-laden ships have crossed out of the Columbia, bound for Europe, and more than thirty coasters have crossed in or out during the same period.

We can imagine the surprise and in dignation of Lieutenant Charles Pendieton, of the Manila constabulary, when he was sentenced to life imprisonent for killing a native policeman Mr. Pendleton comes from Atlanta, Ga., where the "nigger" is usually required to stay in the stable and curry the horses and engage in other mental occupations that do not run counter to the social sensibilities of men like Pendleton. The particular "nigger"-a policeman-that Pendleton killed refused to light a lamp in a vehicle which Pendieton was driving, and, being decently drunk and having an active appreciation of the great outrage that the offensive policeman had thus committed by his surprising contumacy, Pendleton pulled his pistol and shot him. Now he must go to jail merely for asserting the dignity and social rights of a gentleman and a soldier. Perhaps one might be able to fix things differently if President Roosevelt would appoint a Var-

When the thirteen-spired cathedral of St. Basil, in the Kremlin at Moscow, was completed. Ivan the Terrible is said to have asked the architect whether he could duplicate the work. With the pride of an artist he declared he could surpass it, whereupon Ivan caused him to be blinded. This masterpiece as well as other wonders of the Kremlin, which recently, is described in an interesting article on page 39 of this issue of The Oregonian.

Had the captain of the good ship Martinique required Monsieur Taigny both health and morals, before allowing been no cause for surprise. As a man who had rubbed elbows with Castro he would have been a proper subject for fumigation.

Senator Piles, whose residence is Seattle, demands that his town share in the commissary trade of Vancouver Barracks, which he declares is monopolized by Portland. With this prec dent, Senator Gearin may properly demand that Portland share in the commerce created by the Puget Sound Navy-yard, near Seattle.

Of course Neva will miss its annual blessing, but its disappointment will be as nothing compared with that of the nihilists who have been planning to pot the Little Father from behind the grandstand on the river bank.

City announces that outside money will be welcomed. In this respect, at least, the Dowie policy has not been departed from. Let us not judge too harshly First Mate Hiller, of the whaler John and

spiritual and material welfare of Zion

While the news reports on the subject are ellent, it is a pafe guess that Joe Gans, newly victorious pugilist, whose fame was in eclipse for some time, is not on intimate terms with whisky.

The Dowie family and the Clan Mc-Curdy seem to be in the same boat. Thus on this earth are thrift, frugality and sanctimonious observance of the family virtues rewarded

Next we shall learn, no doubt, that that angel child Midshipman Meriwether was wont to open his hazing

To reach any department of The Ore-gonian-editorial, business or mechancal-call up Main 7070, which is a pri-

# PUBLIC SCHOOLS CRITICISED.

When the old farmer objected to his bo studying geography, saying that if his boy knew the way to the potato patch that was enough geography for him, it was thought that his views were very narrow. But were they any more narrow than the views of the professor who teaches his pupils all about the rivers of Zanzibar but omits the road to the potato patch? I may be narrow, too, but believe I would rather my boy would know the road to the potato patch and no more, than to know all that is in his book in geography and not know the will be made on March 1 on all maway to the potato patch. There would be some excuse for taking the old man's boy and forever spolling him for hoeing potatoes if we fitted him for anything

As a rule, what kind of a product are our schools turning out? No doubt a number of brilliant statesmen can be pointed out as the product of our schools but we cannot deny the fact that our schools have spoiled a whole lot of good potato-diggers, and we need more potato diggers than statesmen. It may b batable question whether the good that they have done outweighs the harm or

What are our common schools for? As I understand it, they are supposed to prepare our youths for the practical affairs of life. They should furnish the foundation, and a good substantial foundation it should be, on which they may erect such a superstructure as meets their tastes and desires, and the schools are overreaching themselves when they attempt to add the superstructure.

There is a well-grounded belief that our ommon school course of study has too much in it, and that as more and more has been added it has been at the expense of the fundamentals. As new matter has been added other and more lmportant matter has been necessarly slighted. To see the volumes in the form of text-books that some of our children have to master, or rather go through, confirms one in this belief. Pupils are hur ried on into algebra and geometry who can hardly add a column of figures and get a correct result.

"What shall I do for busy work?" is question often heard at institutes. Suppose you set for your pupils some sums like those the master used to set for us in the good old days, before methods came into use. That would keep them busy with knitted brows for a while, and would be good, wholesome practice for them. Instead of that they are drilled for a time on the 45 combinations and almost before we know it they are studying logarithms.

Are the schools meeting the demand for a practical education? Send some young graduate to a business man and have him apply for a position. The man may ask subpensed. If you drink tacks or files him some questions. I won't attempt to say what he may ask him, but it's dollars to doughnuts that he won't ask him to explain the binomian theorem. Read the columns in the papers headed-Wanted," and see what the world's demand is for. How often does the business world advertise for a man who can name the geological ages or explain the process sion of the equinoxes?

"What do you know about bookkeep ing?" said a business man to an apphcant for a position. "I've been teaching the subject for ten years," responded the applicant, "That may be, but what do you know about practical bookkeeping?" That question could not be satisfactorily answered, and the position was given to a young man who had begun by sweeping out the store. He had grown up in the business and was practical, though he had not got beyond the three R's when he

A man in a freight-house once told me that when he wanted a tally clerk he would rather take one of the men who had been pushing a truck and give him the position than give it to an applicant from some of the schools. Such a man was not nearly so likely to get to speculating on the laws of hydrostatics and for get his tally. And he wouldn't expect to be superintendent and general manager inside of six months,

Some time ago a complaint was made that there was too much in our common school course of study and legislative action was suggested to cut it down, "Tell us what to cut out," said the superintendent. If the complainants answered I did not see the answer. They probably gave up in disgust, knowing that to answer would require more time and space than was at their disposal. One could not very well specify any particular branch of study that could be eliminated a married man." but in every branch there is a whole lot of matter that might well be eliminated. If some practical man should go through our text-books and cut out the non-esser enough.

"The head of a fish is 12 inches long the tail is as long as the head and half the body, the body is as long as the head and tail; how long is the fish?" Now, of what practical value is a problem of the foregoing character? "Oh," says some mathematical zealot, "think of the brain cry and shut up, or go to sicep, power and mental skill that is developed by such problems. They give the pupil intellectual power that is useful to him in practical life." Yes, about as much as being able to turn a back summersault will help a man to be a good mechanic. Are not our schools training a lot of intellectual acrobats that are about as much use in the world as the clown in the

Seems to me there would be more sen in having the pupil figure out the value of that fish at a certain price per pound. "gives an old tar three hundred plunks What's that you say? He was able to do that long ago? Are you right sure he knew it thoroughly? If you are, you er's only boy is sent to Paris to paint should have graduated him then, for he views for marines, and takes kindly to was then prepared to be of more use the world than he is now.

"I don't like to study grammar; I'm use in grammar, nohow"; says some poor, Winthrop, who playfully harpooned sailors who earned his disapproval. discouraged pupil. Buily for you, my lad. Stick to your resolution. I glory in your spunk. We need farmers and we Perhaps he was educated at Annapolis, have got plenty of shyster lawyers, good-for-nothing doctors and lazy preachers. You will need to know how to figure and read and write, and the more you can learn about the culture of the different cereals and vegetables the better; and there are some business and legal forms that you ought to be posted on, but don't expect to learn them in school. They are too busy with the more important branches, such, for example, as Nature points to the blow or the stem, or how a cow stands up and lies down, and how a horse lies down and stands up. If you want to learn how to tell the age of a horse by his teeth, don't ask your teacher. He ham't time for such trivial matters. He hasn't time for such trivial matters. The milky way is of much more importance to him than the way to milk. But

# THE SILVER LINING.

Joking is a serious business.

Jerome and Loomis have made everybody sober up.

Did you ever notice that a large propertion of the beautiful residences in town are owned by physicians? Portland is not a sick town, but the thrift of its prosperous doctors is very apparent.

Whom God hath joined let no man put asunder. But who's to tell whom God hath joined,

The uninspired might sometimes make a

blunder. The reason why I weep is because I

tnow that tears can't bring her back. I don't want to be consoled.

A young man who went through the fortune his father left him was arrested the other day for etealing a dollar. What degeneracy! His father never thought of taking less than a million.

The reason why he is awfully giddy is that every pretty girl turns his head, and there are many pretty girls in Portland.

The chaplain on a certain battleship was giving a magic-lantern lecture, the subject of which was "Notes and Scenes From the Bible," He arranged with a sailor, who possessed a gramoph discourse appropriate music between the slides. The first picture shown was Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. The sailor cudgeled his brain, but could not think of anything appropriate, "Play up," whispered the chaplain. Suddenly a large idea struck the folly tar, and-to the great consernation of the sky pilot and the delight of the audience-the gramophone burst forth with the strains "There's Only One Girl in the World for Me."

Two men were, camping together, and one morning one of the men remarked, at breakfast: "Heard a cow bellow in the swamp just now." Nothing further was said, and they went about their business for the rest of the day. Twentyour hours later, once more at breakfast, the second man said, "How d'you know it. wasn't a bull?" Again no Again a pause of 24 hours. Next morning the first man began to pack up. "You going?" inquired the other. "Why?" "Because," said his "Because," said his friend, "there's too much - argument in this amp!"

A new and interesting point in the study of the occult is being discussed in London. It is the effect of diet on dreams. If you eat pie you'll dream of your grandmother. If you eat at a restaurant you'll dream of being pinched or you'll dream of being a hackdriver. If you drink milk you'll dream of beginning life over again. If you cat lightly you'll dream of starving. If you cat heavily you'll dream that you are listening to the sermon of a Presbyterian minister.

Senior Partner-We had best have that oung bookkeeper's books examined. He ook 12 drinks between here and home resterday. Junior Partner-How do you know?

"I was with him. He was treating me." A friend in need is the friend to feed,

The dull girl stumbled upon a bright thing. She said that she had lots to think about, but nothing to think with.

The Little Boy's Lament.

(Not Original.) Tommy owns a guinea pig: Georgie has a barrow. Walter's brother lets him shoot With his how and arrow,

Franklin Jones has got a knife. Willy has a blister, I've got nothing but a new Ugly baby sister:

"What sort of a girl to be engaged to is Miss -

"First rate and square as a die. The last time I was engaged to her she returned my ring and presents within three days, and got up a farewell dinner in my

He tried several dieting fads, thinking he had dyspepsia-and now he has got it. A friend of mine said that the reason

why he talked in his sleep was that it

was the only chance he got. "For he was

"How is this book?" "Oh, worth skipping."

Manners are the debt we owe to othern Our enemies hate us for our faults and

our friends love us for our virtues that we do not possess. The cloud of every other man has a sil-

ver lining, but our own has no opening and no glint on the other side. Moral;

## Prize Dramatic Criticism. When a theatrical company playing

"Ghosts" struck Nevada, there was bound

to be some sort of explosion. Two such diverse elements were bound to strike fire, and it fell to the lot of the Carson Appeal to set off the first bomb. "The play is certainly a moral hair-raiser," says the critic, who describes Mr. Aveling as a "spavined rake," and Mrs. Aveling as a proud beauty who keeps her chin in the air and who to marry (the hired girl whom Mr. Aveling gets gay with). Oswald, the moththe gay life of the capital, where the joy of living is the rage, and families are reared in a section where a printer rungoing to be a farmer, and I don't see no ning a job office solely on marriage certificates would hit the poorhouse with a dull thud." The incident of Regena and Oswald is mentioned, Pastor Manders "has a spasm," and "Engstrand, who runs a sort of soldiers' and sailors' canteen, sets fire to an orphanage and the boy, who has inherited a sort of mayonnaise-dressing brain from his awful dad, tears about the stage in a spell. breaks some furniture and upsets the wine. He finally takes rough-on-rats, and dies a gibbering idiot, with his mother slobbering over him and trying to figure out in her own mind that he was merely drunk and disorderly." The virile, clearseeing Nevada critic thought that the company "handled the sticky mess as well as could be expected," though he was grieved to note that "Miss Razeto built up her bustle too high." By way of gen-The milky way is of much more importance to him than the way to milk. But stick to your resolution, and you'll make a good citizen. Bring to the world's market something for which there is a demand, and your life will be a success, mand, and your life will be a success, whether you know how to conjugate a werb or not.

L. H. VINCENT.