The Oregonian he walks the earth equal to he ready for death. To most of us this nobility is

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ERE THE SUN GOES DOWN.

sins. The only reason in the world why the average citizen is not a virtuous pilgrim in the straight and narroy the fallure of this opportune his ability to loose the clutches of habit no man entertains the slight-est doubt. "I could quit smoking this minute," says one. Another assures his friends as they lean up to the bar that he can "make this glass of beer bank instead of the barkeeper's till? 'Oh, I haven't got ready yet." When to call sins, every man cherishes in his secret heart the belief that he can square his account once and for all upon the record books of the Almighty. Still, the precise conjuncture that would make repentance desirable in his sight never arrives. At daybreak he thinks noon will be soon enough. At noon the evening twilight seems a betthat "the night cometh when no man can work," he still delays, waiting for the first stroke of the passing bell to make his peace with the ruler of the

What confidence we all have in the untring mercy of God! The genuine ment of most men, which they hide from themselves under a thin veil of self-deception, is to sin all their lives then, affront the Almighty with a "deathbed repentance." In current late, we are often taught to make our peace with the just and righteous judge. He is more ready to forgive han we are to ask forgiveness, and no he is ever eager to accept it. Hymns which children sing in Sunday school neourage this disastrone faith by sugpleased to receive the wreck of a senil sinner's mind and body as to enroll him among the redeemed in the vigor-ous bloom of youth. He is "knocking at the door," according to one of these dubiously moral songs, and will contime knacking though admittance be desied up to the end of life. 'Between the saddle and the ground," one of the favorite maxims of this strange superis extremely questionable because it

defles the universal law of conse-The punishment of evil habits lies in their consequences. These no repentance can avert. Habit and the effect of habit are linked together, not by a chain of steel, but by the incomparably stronger bond of cause and effect. Broken body and ruined mind follow victous indulgence inevitably. There is of the Almighty cannot work contradictions. He cannot make three equal power in the universe which can interpose between habit and its consequences. We may, if we like, believe that a man secures by repentance the cancellation of his guilt. But the ruin believe that which is the most pleashas wrought upon himself remains the insidious chains of habit, for every day we see men emancipating themwhich only he knows who is complete ruler of himself. Marvelous is the wonderful still, it rends the intricate universe is a free man. Seeing clearly,

To most of us this nobility is thing to dream of, but never to attain, Habit is like those Liliputiane who came in the night while Gulliver lay sleeping and bound him with a million them. With a little exertion he could have broken a thousand. But all to- "the incidental accumulation of great Weekly, one year (issued Thursday)... 1.00 mies wrought their will with him. point of a perfected manhood. We Sunday and Weekly, one year 3.50 Habit comes upon us like the drop of would rather believe that Mr. Rocketose leaves in the dewy twilight. It is feller represents the occasional American of the grandy insect in the eastern ican of the present than that he stands tale which flew in through the keyhole for the type of good Americans of the of the door and charmed the student future.

It out, behold it had waxed to giant size and with its talons tore out his sult the figures. Americans will lead heart. "This I will do just for once." Thus easeth the fool in his folly. He does it once and again, and in the day when he thinks not the habit holds him own vanity and be reassured. But the the arms of that brazen statue which drew the victim closer and still loser until he perished.

Habit is like that vampire of the

bering man while it sucks his blood. It stupefies him with perpetual delusion. St. Paul, Minn.-N. St. Marie, Commercial it continually assures him that he can free himself. But let the victim once first dram there will be no need of a last one. If the first cigarette is never Kansas City, Mo.—Ricksscker Cigar Co., smoked there will be no call for the broken nerves and paralytic will to seek him and walnu. Cleveland, O .- James Pushaw, 307 Su- ing to free himself from a vicious habit is like the child in the story book which had taken a red hot iron in its still held to the iron. It is a fine thing -D. L. Beyler W. G. Kind, 114 to pass from slavery to freedom, but Mageath Stationery Co., 1308 Farnam, 240 it is better to form habits which need not be repented of. He is a wise man instead of his enemies as he fights the battle of life. There are foes enough in the world to keep every one busy wit out admitting them into his own hour

One of the many myeteries which Bailey's transactions with Standard Oil is set forth with much analytical skill in the Springfield Republican. We do not mean that the Republican ex-plains the mystery. Nobody but the Texas Senator and his oleaginous clients could do that. What the Republican does is to make it exceedingly lear that a mystery exists, and to how how greatly it would advance Mr. Bailey's cause to unravel the puzzling

circumstances.

The train of baffling incredibilities which Mr. Batley asks his admirers to accept upon his almost unsupported word begins with a statement that he did not know that the Waters-Pierce ness in Texas. To this he adds that no helped on the restoration of the rust out of pure charity, receiving to fee for it. Such an act is so little in harmony with either the legal or the Senatorial type of character that it is a strain to believe Mr. Balley when e says he did it.

But there are other things. A certain draft plays an important part in he game. It was drawn by Mr. Bailey upon Mr. Pierce, of the trust, apparently; but the Senator declares that the draft was forged. A telegram from Mr. Pierce alluding to the draft and authorizing it, was also forged, he says one forgery preparing the way for who have anything to say worth lis-

the other.
All this is very puzzling. To the plain man who sees little probability in the sinuosities of melodrama, it ooks as if Mr. Balley's explanations bemselves demanded explanation. The ecount of his adventures with Standard Oil reads like a dime novel, with a peculiarly wily villain in the dark, dark background, and a singularly simple-minded hero in the foreground. If Mr. Bailey is innocent of complicity with the hated octopus, he has been with surpassing If he is guilty, he defends himself with brazen inventiveness. Unfortunately. his election or defeat will not settle the truth of the matter. In any case, it will be a long time before Mr. Bailey completely regains the influence he once had.

By degrees, slow but sure, the human

race is coming back to its famed or fabled period of longevity, for the ex-treme limit of which the name of Me thusaleh has stood for many centuries In the opinion of Dr. McGee, one of the directors of the St. Louis Museum, the American of the future will be a giant in intellect, in humanity, in physical strength and in bodily development. in support of this statement that the average length of human life has increased within half a century from 27 to 29 years, while a century ago the span of life, calculated upon this basis, was from 24 to 25 years. We leave to into abnormal activity by such questions as "How old is Ann?" the quesallotted to the Jewish patriarchs,

of human life is increasing, and are more than willing to believe that the American of the future will be a larger man in inches, in intellect and in strength than is the American of today. Most people are ready to believe ing and self-satisfying? The world has come, in a large measure, to take its theology upon that basis. Why not exlieve that strong resolution can break | tend it throughout the domain of speculative belief? Thus far, therefore, we are with Dr. McGee. The world is getting better every year, the span of human life is increasing, has increased. between four and five years in a cen-tury; the race of the future will show great improvement in mental, physical Nature to the needs of man, but, more and spiritual development; and in all of this grand march of improvement Americans will lead the van. This much is settled to the satisfaction of all good Americans, But

of himself and the peer of his fellows. type of the improved American of the and indeed the necessity of making he walks the earth equal to life and future; as a man who has preceded his the postal service more attractive of the qualities of perfected manhood; to both clerks and carriers, as first in the ranks of humanity, etc., etc., an observant generation will repudiate the statement as contrary to the known facts in the premises. The shadow of the Standard Oil story ob-scures this estimate; the story itself tells of methods that contributed to

> The span of human life among civitized nations is lengthening. If arone doubte this assertion, let him con the human race in all that pertains to incellectual and moral growth. Let the American who doubts this consult his away with the idea that John D. Rockefeller is a present example of the perfected manhood of the future.

The Pacific Christian Advocate felicifacts which it discerns among the family, signs of the times. The first is the virthe higher criticism. Once it was a berry. threatening apparition, but fits danger

ats couch of roses. It has discovered growing into trees eighty years fourths of most congregations are women," it esserts. The Oregonish made this same discovery some time

will not spare the Advocate. rooted out the reason for their delinthe Sunday newspaper. "They do not wish to go to church because they wish and the Bible. And the Advocate benewspapers, the churches would forthwith fill up with eager lieteners of the cause of religion is very much fur-

ing times as infidelity and the higher structive little pamphlet: criticism. There is some ground to apprehend that men who are devoted to this idol of the Sunday newspaper might resent being rudely deprived of it by the pitilees hand of a statute to "personal liberty" is unhapply with ecclesiastical legislation of all We are of the opinion that preachers

tening to seldom lack congregations shirk churchgoing may be somewhat contrition, clearly discerned in the Advocate's own sequential logic, that failure to grasp the true relations of things, that magnification of trifles and negli-weighty matters which prevail religious press. The Advocate's reaare mistaken. Its conclusions have not the slightest relation to its premises. We advise both the religious press and the pulpit to try the effect of a little reform along these lines and see if the churches do not fil! up without regard to the Sunday newspaper. The simple fact is that the Sunday paper supplies moral instruction and sound religious teaching on many practical points which the churches neglect. To genuthe Sunday newspaper,

ne religious work there is no better riend and no more efficient ally than WORTHY OF THEIR BIRE. This opinion is reinforced by the fact. as shown by the records of the depart-ment, that resignations from the serv-ice increased at an alarming rate in about 12.3 per cent of the clerks emwhose calaries range from \$600 to \$1000 noted, while 2.6 per cent of the letter-carriers attached to these offices volun-tarily quit the service.

Mr. Hitchcock has formulated a plan which he will present to the consider-ation of Congress, whereby the service therefore more attractive to responsi-ble men. He proposes six grades of compensation for both clerks and car-in order to see the possibility of riers, ranging from \$600 the first year currence of the industrial conditions is the biggest hired man in the United | ure he permitted to become a law. persti-master points to John D. Rockefeller as the with the report showing the wisdom people themselves, but also by the

day and generation in the development more promising and more remunerative trade. Probably no one would advo-

Under the above head, Dr. J. R. Cardwell, for many years president of the Oregon State Hortfcultural Society, himself a devoted son of nature and an admirer of her works, discourses in any one could suggest would be that must bring to the minds of the older ploneers much that was grateful to the palate before cultivated fruits were be had in any quantity or variety in the Willamette Valley. The wild strawberries of early times are held especially grateful in memory; scarceflourished in riotoue abundance, and with the addition of their weight in money on improvements will not suffer sugar, made a dessert for the noon-day mear fit for a King's banquet, or, better still, for the dinner of a sturdy tates itself upon two encouraging pioneer and his wholesome, happy

tual disappearance of infidelity from made from the little sour native crab-

mined denial of facts is almost as good for their own orchard trees to grow, second disability can only be overcome as proving their non-existence. We their children scoured the woods for hope our plous contemporary has not the "first fruits of the land," and remade any mistake in its diagnosis. If turned laden with the justious spoil, supply from a mountain stream of deit should turn out that, after all, in- These incidents and facts belong to pendable volume and assured purity. disappointment of the Advocate would the disappointment of the Advocate would the memory, and are happily recalled by the estuation may properly be described as acute when a community of disappointment of the Advocate would his theme. And when he tells further ceveral thousand people find themthat men do not go to church. "Three- still in bearing at Vancouver; of the dinners, though basements and streets eon Luclling and planted at Milwauago and was roundly abused in certain kie; of the first nursery started from

today. will be more fully appreciated in later to prompt remedial measures. ly more than a reference to the subthered by secular legislation. Laws in-tended to compel men to go to church are almost as antiquated in these plp-ing times as infidality and the blakes

Fruit culture is most fastinating and anobling, as well as the most profilable branch of horizontarior, and the advance in the fruit product is evidence of the culabsent and wandering to the roof tree; and the erring one is not wholly lost as long as these marred memories of home and child-hood sometimes come to swell the heart and

ties are either out of debt or have re-duced their incumbrances to compara-tively small amounte. Some of the citthere is no hope that all men will be of one mind, there is opportunity for a niggardly with its postal servants. In provements should be undertaken as a in hard times, then it is the duty of hem to handle the chormous business the public in good times to prepare for the postal department promptly. In the opinion of First Assistant in every part of Oregon, and of the In every part of Oregon, and of the Postmaster - General Hitchcock the whole country, for that matter, there salary scale of postoffice employes has been great trouble for three or four must be adjusted upon a higher basis, years in securing laborers. Wages are if this class of clerks is to be retained, high and workers are scarce. There are not enough men to do the wok that is to be done. Farmers want new land cleared, but cannot find men to do it, even at high wages. The same men who refuse such work at high wages per annum, resigned during the period in town and country are putting up frew dwellings and otherwise improving their property, though at great cost, for high wages mean costly lumber As a check upon these resignations and expensive construction. In many will be made more remunerative and to do the work if it were undertaken.

to \$1200 for the sixth year and there- that give rise to the assertion that the after. There is an incentive to constate or city should provide employ-tinue in any service in a scheme that ment for the poor. There are many carries certain promotion, and, if the men of good judgment who are pradictrecommendation of Mr. Hitchcock is ing hard times within the next four or favorably received by Congress, it will near that the best men—those ambi- a period should be experienced, it e years, or perhaps sooner. period should be experies tious to increase their earning capa- would be particularly fortunate if city as well as their earnings—will remain in the service to its advantage. The plan is carefully elaborated, and provements that would give employits details will be embodied in a bill ment to labor. Such enterprises would

eate adoption of a policy by which a policy would be un-American. In this pamphlet pleasantly and profitably in good times a few debts should be early horriculture in Oregon and of paid off, so that when hard times come again conditions would permit the incurring of new debts. Then a city that desired to help out its working people and indirectly its merchants, could is sue a few thousand dollars' worth o common-indeed, before they were to bonds and go ahead with improvements. They would get more work don for one dollar under such condition than for two dollars now. The city tha less so are the blackberries, lusclous ular use may well spend it on public dabundant, borne unon creeping improvements, but either a city or an ince, instead of the upright cames of individual carrying a debt would do the Middle West; the raspberries that well to use spare money to cancel the debt while there is opportunity. The city or individual that is in a financial condition which will permit spending

unavoidable kind than should beset a college town, the scut of the State University. Twice this season have the the world. "Neither in public speech apples, the pungent Oregon grape and cellars of the lower sections of the nor in book nor in magazine article is the purple elderberry, and, rising above town been flooded, the water works there any longer any infidef attack."

So thinks the Advocate. The second the red-flowered Oregon currant, and schools closed by reason of floode—all hopeful fact is the abated virulence of the milk-white blossoms of the service for lack of drainage and a well-devised water system. For the first cause there Ravenously hungry for fruit were is probably no remedy for the lowin most places is no longer feared." the settlers of early Oregon, who had tying districts of the town, the levels One feels like congratulating the Adleft well-grown orchards behind them of which approach that of the river vocate upon its cheerfulness. Deter-"in the States," and, while waiting at an ordinary stage of water. The of the beginnings of northern through the control water to much here by the Hudson's Bay Company, atorm, without water to much here by the Hudson's Bay Company, toffers, supply their baths or boll their local trees eighty years bid, toffets, supply their baths or boll their of the beginnings of horticulture in selves for a period of several days.

greatly from a period of hard times,

Water, water every where,

throughout the entire sparsely settled block upon traffic, with its attendant country, forming the nucleus of the fuel famine, lumber shortage, livestock "first orchards," and through all the delention and enfecting, grain congesgolden woof thread of romance," he been a year of universal prosperity as tells a tale that can hardly fail to be appreciated, not only by pioneers and their descendants, but by the people world's history, but the facilities of who make up the population of Oregon | traffic have not kept pace with the demand made upon them. Legislative inpreserving. It has, indeed, a historical may be hoped that answers to these value that, like all things historical, inquiries will be elicited that will lead

Roya are coming into great promisence in the Pacific Northwest. Between slipping up behind people and killing them and running away from stabulary busy, and in the determination to control the high schools by n of ments of "Jehu" of song and story ap-

It may be hoped that the present measures, providing the "price is right," to purchase this bit of wood-At the beginning of the present period land and water so close within the city of prosperity it was several times sug-gested in these columns that this is a very good time for counties and cities to get out of debt. The suggestion met The city wants it, but not at a prewide approval, and nearly all the coun- mium. Doubtless it will be willing to

bonded indebtedness, but others have strengthn his weak position by quot-not. A good business policy for the public as well as for individuals le to York Sun. Notoriously the organ of in hard times. Of course, if all should patron, that once great newspaper as do this, we would have no "good well as Dr. Day thinks by "inspira-times" and "hard times"; but, since tion."

Large educational bodies in the corn few to lay the foundations for benefit to the many. It is contended by some that during periods of financial and indisapproved. Experimentally, write the dustrial depression it is the duty of word "thru" in your natural chiregthe state or the city to provide work raphy and note whether you can dis-for the taboring people. Those who tingulah it except by the context, from

means of providing the employment. If the menace of a flood following the it be true that it is the duty of the public to provide employment for the poor Pacific Northwest during the first three days of the new year has passed

more wages to its section hands. These

Portland's gain of 39 per cent in bank clearances stands out in happy con-trast with New York's decrease of 14 per cent. Portland doesn't overplay herself in stocks; the other games are In the interests of social and eco-

ought to find out how many men who got on the water wagon January I fel off before the end of the first week. On sworn testimony before the In state Commerce Commission it may truthfully declared that Harriman

nomic science, the Census Bureau

Nowhere in the land will Secretary Hitchcock's order to tear down illegal fences be bailed with greater satisfac-

Among the January bargains, don't overlook Bull Run water; family size,

COMMENT ON CURRENT STATE TOPICS

The Proposed New Water Code and Its Provisions -- Appropriation Bills and Under the Direct Primary Law-Higher Assessments and More Taxes.

bill, known as house Bill 51, was the this estimate included only what the ommittees and advocates and oppo-

enacted merely provided for condemnation of water rights by the Government for its projects, and created the office of State Engineer, with power to make hydrographic and topographic surveys prison calls for the expenditure of in co-operation with the Government. \$125,000 for a plant, \$100,000 for raw nection with the reclamation projects of \$250,000. The bill for a law under the Carey Act, and provided that application for the appropriation of of in the offices of county clerks, as

dently been made to avoid some of the objections made to the measure ore- demand for removal of the printing ofprovides, for example, that the public of a separate building therefor, cights. The new bill declares, as did new buildings and furnishings, and the the old one, that the beneficial use of Agricultural College a similar amount. water is a public use, and that, therefore, water rights may be condemned over which there was a hard fight, and

makes a public use. Cole bill made the Governor, Attorney-Commissioners. The new will places the appointing power in the Supreme present bill voquires no such approval.

was (so we are frequently told) when of water rights, the present bill approture and eivilization of a people. It is hard to overestimate the beneficial influence on the men of the state controlled its priates \$25,000. The Cole bill provided mental was two we are frequently told) when of water rights, the present bill appropriate section of the men of the state controlled its priates \$25,000. The Cole bill provided mental was two was two are frequently told) when of water rights, the present bill appropriate section from their columns, but as a rule are the mental formation of the state controlled its priates \$25,000. The Cole bill provided mental was two was two are frequently told) when of water rights, the present bill appropriate section from their columns, but as a rule are the mental formation of the mental formation of the mental formation in the mental formation of the state controlled its priates \$25,000. The Cole bill provided mental formation in the mental formation in pensition of Water Commissioners at of one candidate were in many cases paid to per day and expenses, for not to excoed 60 days in a year. The new bill done without pay, there was more paid extends the limit to 200 days, and also work in the last campaign than in any provides for the employment of water masters at \$4 per day and expenses.

State Engineer from \$2400 a year

THE experience of the last Legislature with an appropriation bill in preparing and introducing appropristion bills. In fact, discussion of this subject during the campaign made it ies have also been lifting part of their out a prop when he attempted to necessary for many candidates to express themselves and there was a very save money in good times and spend it truets, with Standard Oll as its chief poses should not be grouped, but should may be exercised as to one without in-terfering with others, was pretty generally asserted by men who aspired to nany pledges were made on another share of the appropriation subject, it is quite probable that bills for appropriations will be introduced and passed propriation bills until near the close of the session and then the measures such circumstances, the Governor has jections, or veto them and leave some of the institutions entirely without after passing one house, it generally

takes about a week to get a bill through both houses. If the appropriation bills should be introduced at the propriations, and, if he so desired, veto some of them and send them back for further consideration before ad-journment. Such practice would relieve the Legislature of any charge of attempting to force a measure past the Governor, and would place upon the Governor responsibility for every meas-

FROM present indications, the de-mand upon the coming Legislature will be the heaviest in the history of the state. In his blennial report, Sec-retary of State Dunbar presented an es-timate of the appropriations that will be needed in the next two years. In this estimate, he made additional allowances for the different department No charge of Portland's proverbial and institutions in accordance with conservatism can lie against the pres- the growing needs of the state because of its increased population. He

Portland Board of Trade, differs for the feeble-minded, the appropriaverse particulars from the bill in- tions for both of which are generally Secretary could see from his official position were necessary for the maininstitutions. Besides the amounts he

posal, for example, that \$1,006,000 appropriated for the purchase of possible, and by condemnation if necessary. Then the agitation in favor of the establishment of a jute mill at the for the working of convicts on the roads carries an appropriation of \$250,000. The National Guard would sented two years ago. The new bill fice from the Capitol and construction to existing rights," thereby removing ing plant by the state, will require opportunity for the charge that the about \$100,000. The University of Orenessure proposes to destroy vested gon will want \$50,000 additional for was one of the points in the former bill and the hydrographic and topographic surveys, \$50,000 will be needed. The will probably second the request by creation of a railroad commission will ost about \$49,000 for the ensuing twof State Bank Examiner will take about \$10,000. The free text book movement. If successful, will require ber of minor demands which will ag and all making up a total of some \$2. 300,000. The demands for appropria tions in addition to those estimated as necessary by the Secretary of State are in the vicinity of \$4,600,000. Manifestly, the work of the Ways and

office une r the direct primary law closed. Almost lithout exception the candidates admitt d expending larger sums than they superted, and much more than they would have done under the old convention system. As the imthat preceded it. The result of this is that men elected to office are under less political obligation than ever before, Un-The new bill increases the salary of der the convention system, appointments and deputy-ships were pretty well promdelegation was in a position to exact pledges of reward. In the popular nomi-"deliver the goods." and very few ap pointments were promised in advance. As a consequence, the newly elected state officers are free to appoint to office whom-soever they please. Their re-election will depend upon their pleasing the people. and not upon their yielding to the de-mands of bosses, hence they are likely to select subordinates with a view to securment of political debts. From this viewpoint the money-spending campaign has its advantages.

THE Department of the Interior has recently issued a statement showing that in the permanent forest reserves in total area of the state is almost \$1,000,000 state, but temporary reserves will probably be made permanent in sufficient area

T SEEMS to be the experience of nearly overs county that raised its nesered valuation materially that the increase has resulted in a marked increase in taxes. The theory that a higher assess marked advances, there is a tendency to believe that the same course will be fol-lowed in the future and that the higher taxes this year, made possible by the higher assessment, will be followed by still higher levies next year. The news-papers of the state have pretty gener-ally condemned the raise in taxes because it will very likely create a strong demand for a reduction to the former val-

He's Not Satisfied.

She age the wide world can't produce t man like him. And have the democi I think that he's a poor excuse.

Though I agree !! May be the case. He may be fine
And not what I would term a "shina"
The error may perhaps be mine.
She cays he have a noble mind.
That is a like it. That he is true and brave and kind; Perhaps he is I may be blin!
And very stupid,
And very stupid,
At least he wears a scool disguise.
But whether that or otherwise
I always thought that bandaged eyes
Belonged to Cupid. He's not had looking. I admit His clother too, he slways seems to me. That still he doesn't make a hit. With me, I'd rather She'd get a boy who's not in debt And who abjures the cigarette.

Perhaps I have no call to fret.