

BUREAU OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS WILL HAVE \$1,000,000 HOME

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 31.—The Government is going to build a new official home for John Barrett, not a residence, but an office. The Bureau of American Republics, a sort of advertising clearing-house for the United States and the republics of Central and South America, is to have an appropriate building in Washington, and John Barrett will be the first Director to occupy the new quarters.

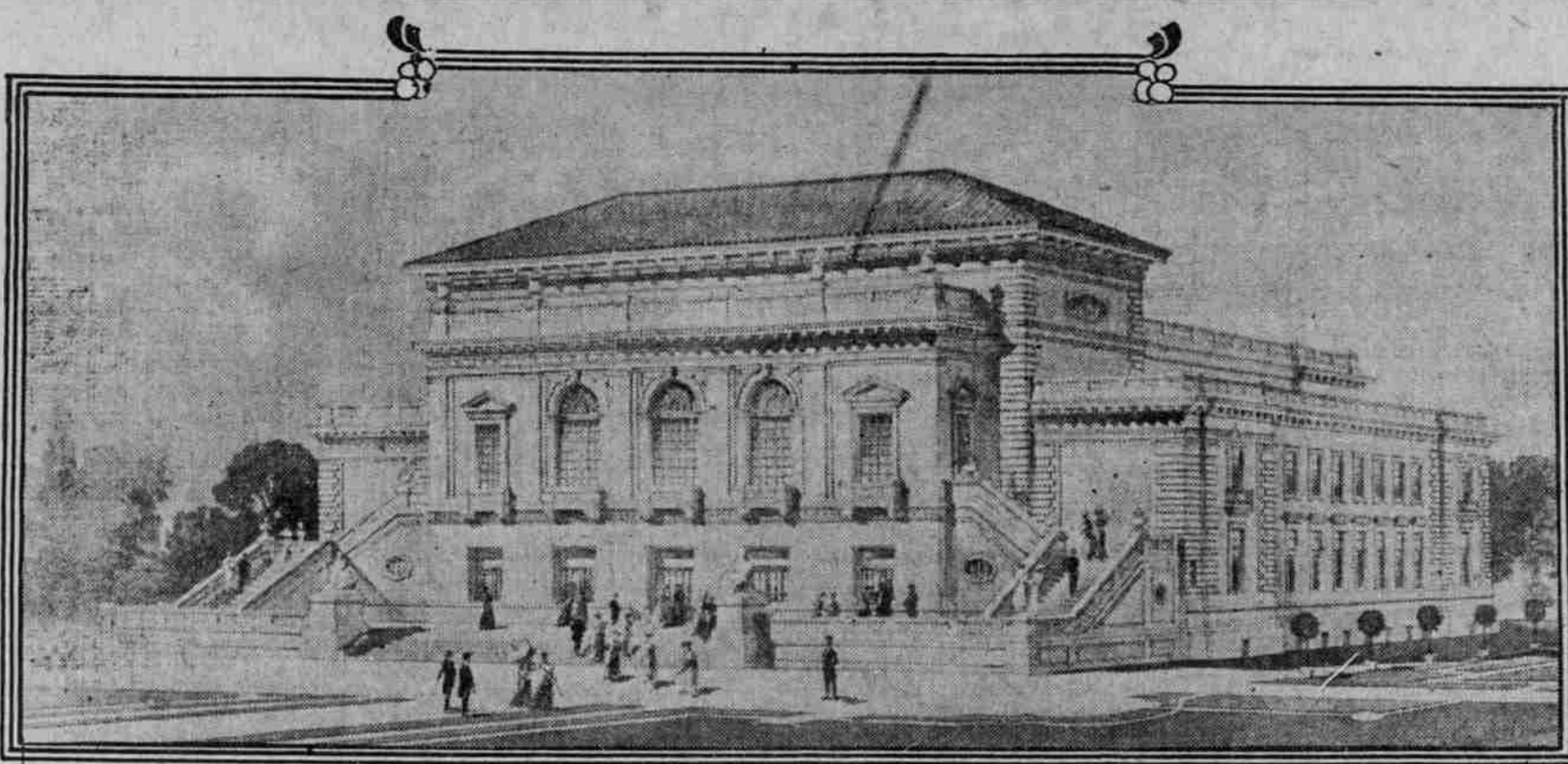
Although established in 1890, the Bureau of American Republics never amounted to much in times past. It operated to provide good salaries for a few favorites of past Administrations, but it accomplished little of value. Secretary Root made a tour of South America last year, discovered enormous trade possibilities which might be turned to advantage by the merchants and exporters of the United States, and on his return to Washington recommended to the President that the Bureau be reorganized. This was done, Mr. Barrett was made Director because he had demonstrated his proficiency as a diplomat, and now, through the efforts of Secretary Root and Mr. Barrett, a fine building is to be erected here to accommodate the new high industry, the reorganized Advertising Bureau of All America.

The new building of the International Bureau of American Republics will be unique, not only in Washington, but in all the world. It will serve as the international headquarters or offices in one national capital of 21 different American nations. The approach to it will be the new Temple of Peace now being erected at The Hague. The cost of this Pan-American structure, when it is fully completed and ready for occupancy, will be nearly \$1,000,000, of which Mr. Andrew Carnegie generously contributed \$250,000, and the different American nations approximately \$250,000.

The revised drawings of the architects here shown have just been approved by the United States Secretary of State, Elihu Root, Chairman of the Governing Board of the Bureau, and John Barrett, the Director and chief administrative officer, after having been originally selected from the competition in a contest which attracted the attention of the leading architects of the United States, in which 120 leading North American architects entered. The winners in this contest were Albert Kelsey and Paul P. Crest, Associate Architects, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

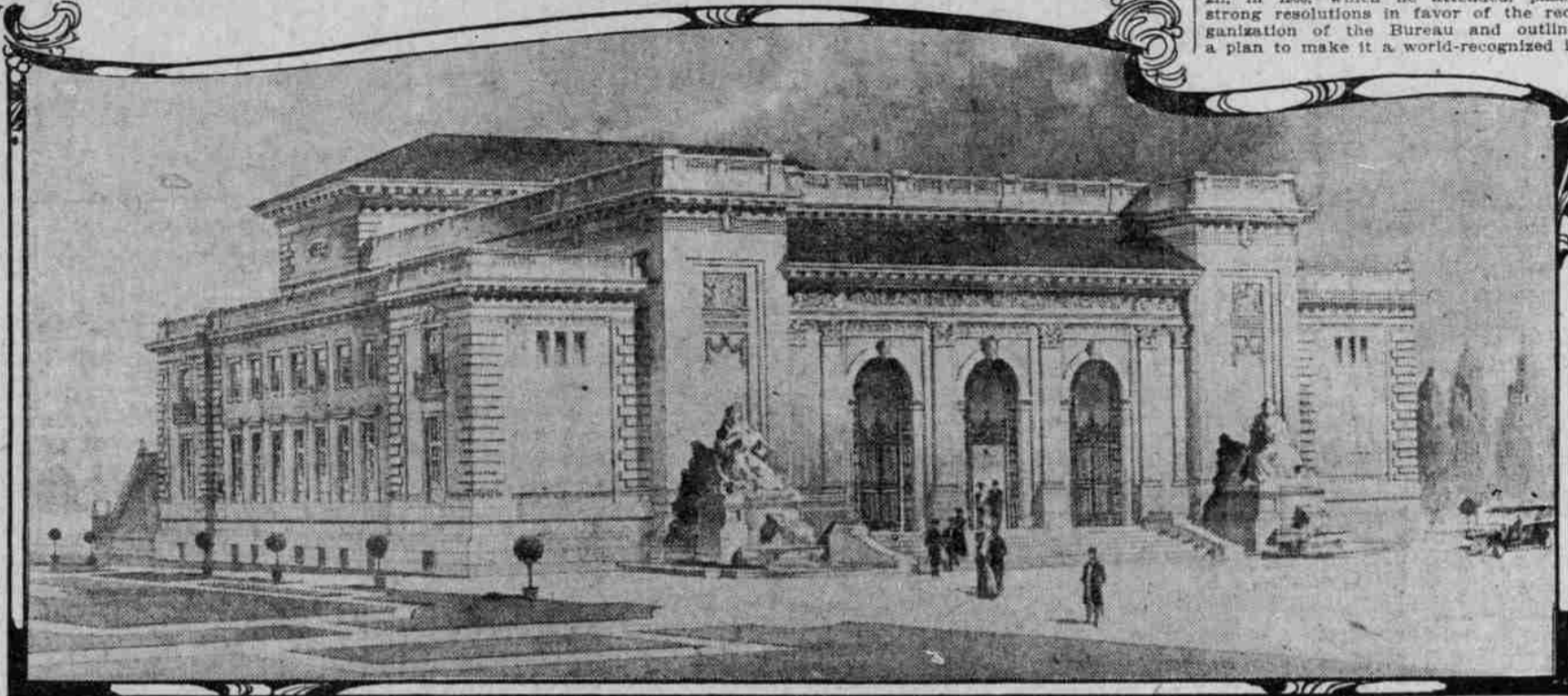
This imposing international building will stand on one of the most attractive and commanding sites of ground in the National capital, commonly known as the Van Ness Tract, which covers five acres, or about two hectares, facing the Presidential grounds, or White Lot, on the east, and Potomac Park on the south, at the corner of Seventeenth and P streets. The site is the block below the Corcoran Art Gallery, next to the new building of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and within a short distance of the Washington Monument.

The dimensions of the building will be approximately 169 by 160 feet, or 52 by 52 meters. The main portion will stand two stories above a high studied basement, and will, in turn, be surmounted by dignified balustrades. The rear portion, in order to cover the capacious assembly hall, will rise still higher. It will be constructed throughout of steel and



REAR VIEW NEW BUILDING, INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS, WASHINGTON, D.C.

concrete with the effect of a Spanish stucco finish and with white marble steps, foundations and trimmings. The roofs will be of colored Spanish tile and the interior exposed portions will be decorated with polychrome terra cotta. The general architecture will suggest Latin-American treatment out of respect to the fact that 20 of the 21 American republics are of Latin origin, but it will possess such monumental characteristics as will make it harmonize with the general scheme for the improvement of Washington. Its most notable features of construction consist of numerous well-lighted rooms for the regular work and staff of the Bureau, will be a capacious, typical Spanish patio, over 50 feet square, in the front section, covered by a glass roof that can be opened in summer and closed in winter, thus providing protection against the weather for constantly running fountains and continually growing tropical plants; a large reading room, 100 by 60 feet, where can be seen all the South as well as North American publications; and a beautiful, dignified, assembly chamber, 100 by 70 feet, that, for present purposes, may be called the "Hall of American Ambassadors," which will provide the only room of its kind in the United States specially designed for international con-



FRONT VIEW NEW BUILDING, INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ventions, receptions to distinguished foreigners, and for diplomatic and social events of kindred nature. Other important divisions of space will include: A handsome room for the Governing Board of the Bureau; four committee-rooms suited for diplomatic conferences; a stack room for the library, that will hold 200,000 volumes; large offices for the Director and the Secretary of the Bureau, with their assistants, including editors, statisticians, translators, librarians, accountants, clerks and stenographers. Much of the decorative finishing of the interior will be in rare woods from the South American forests, contributed by the different countries that support the Bureau, while the walls of the "Hall of American Ambassadors" and other principal rooms will be decorated with mural paintings, pictures, statuary, etc. suggestive of Pan-American history, development and progress. At the main entrance of the structure will be two heroic marble figures symbolizing, respectively, North and South America.

The institution which will occupy this building was founded 17 years ago at the First Pan-American Conference, held in Washington in the Winter of 1889-1890, and presided over by James G. Blaine. The original object, as announced, was that of making the American republics better acquainted with each other and of exchanging information about their respective resources and trade. It never, however, had the complete support and interest of the United States, or of her sister nations, until Hon. Elihu Root, Secretary of State of the United States, made his memorable visit in 1902 to South America. The Third Pan-American Conference, assembled at Rio Janeiro, Brazil, in 1906, which he attended, passed strong resolutions in favor of the reorganization of the Bureau and outlined a plan to make it a world-recognized in-

stitution for the promotion of both commerce and comity. The Bureau is strictly an international and independent organization, subordinate to no Department of the United States Government, and maintained by the joint contributions, based on population, of the 21 American governments. Its affairs are under the administration of a chief officer, called Director, who is elected by the Governing Board of the Bureau, consisting of the Diplomatic Representatives in Washington of the Latin-American governments, presided over by the Secretary of State of the United States. The present Director is John Barrett, former United States Minister to Colombia, Panama, Argentina and Spain. The Secretary of the Bureau is Doctor Francisco J. Yanes, an eminent Latin-American scholar. Since the new administration took charge of its affairs, the correspondence of the Bureau has quadrupled, while the demand for its printed publications has tripled. Its practical use is demonstrated by the fact that during the last six months it has developed business that has amounted at least \$1,000,000 to the value of Pan-American foreign commerce. Its present object, in short, is not only to advance commerce and trade, but to strengthen comity and friendship among all the republics of the Western Hemisphere.

Mr. Blackbird's Red Epaulets.

In the fast times de whole tribe was all over black, dat what get 'em dey name: Black bird. Dey stayed round de house den, not in de swamp-roots and travelin' round like dey does now. Mister Black Bird one day was peckin' round de house do' when all of a sudden Miss Cat jumped on him. He think it do last' ac' wild him when he look up inter Miss Cat's face as she belt him in her mouf—and dat Cat's face was dirty. A cat's a mighty clean conditioned critter ef don't love water. Mister Black Bird he holler. O, M' Cat, I grant your grace. Don't eat me wild a dirty face! Miss Cat she was she stonish and she was sho mad, she say: What's dat word? You say, Black Bird? Black Bird skeered, but he cheep out bes' he could ag'in: I beg your pardon, grant me grace—Don't eat me wild a dirty face! Cat jump de black bird, M' Cat give a quick lick at him as he go and scratch de feathers clean offer de tops or boff shoulders. Scratch his shoulder-blades rale red raw. Dey been red ever since. He and all his folks wears 'em dat way twel yit fer a warnin'. Dey keep away from quarters where cats stays now, dey do. Chillen, it's mighty well ter keep up de 'membance of yo' misfortunes, so's you can keep out dey way nex' time.

Obadiah Oldway and Public Schools

Unqualified Approval of Recent Criticisms on Portland's Educational Trust with Application Toward Country Schools.

HOAXVILLE, Or., Sept. 2.—Mr. Editor: It pained me to the innermost recesses of my heart to see in one of last week's Oregonians that Mr. Prominent Educator What'sname ain't a-goin' to write no more about the school doin's in Portland. I ain't missed a word of what he has writ, and I've been greatly edified thereby. Hanner and Becky Ann has been a-cavin' around here about it. They think that Mr. P. E. What'sname is a calamity how'er a-goin' around with blue goggles on, but I know he ain't. I can tell by his writin' that he's a good, noble, brave man as ain't afraid to say what he thinks about the way things is a-goin'. That's just where I stand, too, and though I ain't personally acquainted with him, I stretch out my hand to him, across the gulf of persecution and says I, "Let's hold out for the right, Mr. P. E. What'sname, I'll stand by until the mornin' as Shakespeare says, 'Down with the school trust! Down with high taxes! and dem the City Superintendent of Portland!' shall be our watchword and we'll win or die a-kickin'". I asked that durned walkin' normal school that's a-keepin' school here, if he knowed the City Superintendent, and he said as how he did and had got a good many good points from him, too. Now, see there! Ain't that just what Mr. P. E. What'sname has been a-tellin' on us? That uneducated man has not only ruined the school system of Portland, but he's also got his hifalutin' notions a-goin' out here to Hoaxville a-corrupin' our governin' and I ain't a-doutin' in the least that he and H. Abrams is good friends. Abrams is the car of this district, and as yet I ain't been able to get him ousted. He's to blame for all the extra taxes we have to pay and I ain't ashamed to say that I have tried to get into his shoes so's to make things easier for the taxpayers. I didn't know that I had such a foe to fight as the boss of the Portland schools, but it's all plain to me now. The whole state looks to Portland for example, but there's a end a-comin'; the ball has got to roll in at last. Mr. P. E. What'sname has already saved the city several thousands of dollars. There won't have to be any extra rooms put onto any of the school buildings this Winter on account of the crowded condition of affairs. As Shakespeare says, he's leas't cut out of the bag and told the world that the Portland schools ain't no good, and people will be a-feelin' hence instead of crowdin' in. He's solved the Japanese question, too, for the Yellow Peril will stay away from Portland where it can't get educated. The Russians will stay to home and not "jump out of the fryin' pan into the fire" when they hear that there's a car over here as well as there. There'll be houses to rent cheap, and the grocers will have to sell at a discount to get rid of their stuff, and all Portland will have to do is to set back on its haunches and "watch Tacoma grow". Hanner says that if Mr. P. E. What'sname ain't assisted with things here he'd better go back East where he come from. "Now, Hanner," says I, "that's a very unchristian-like remark. He ain't from the East, he's from Missouri, and out here a-lookin' for a job and a-doin' the missionary act for the taxpayers." "Obadiah," says snc, "he's got a bad case of swell head which is catchin' so you'd better look out." "Now, ain't that just like a woman! But me and my comrade, we ain't a-goin'

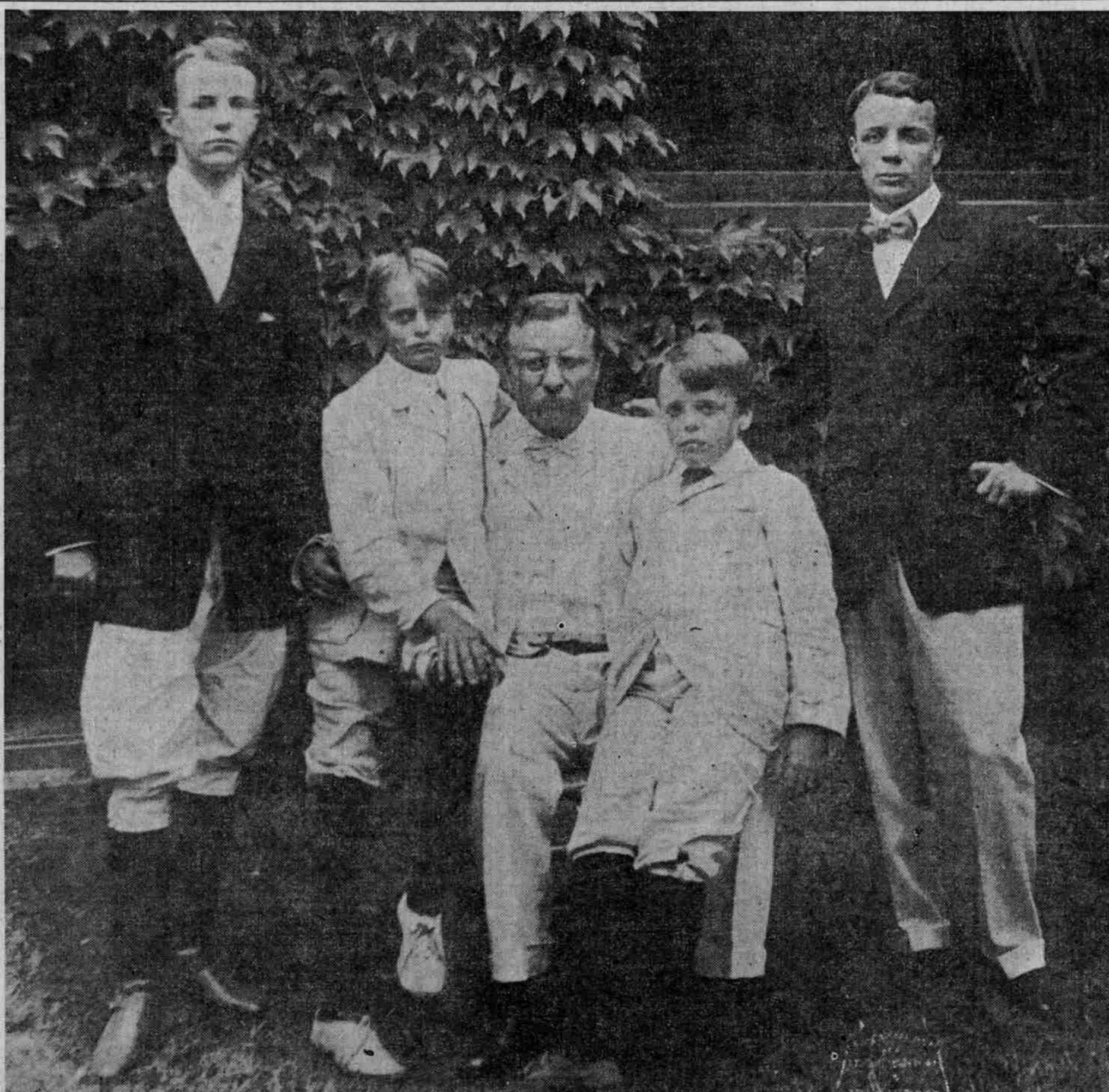
to care. We are a-goin' to press onward and upward till we get where we can't run things to suit ourselves. I can't make

one of them durned courses of study as will meet a long-felt want, but he can't be's made lots of 'em, and they run

along as slick as grease when you get the proper kind of teachers to run 'em. There's another thing he's done up,

and that's the normal school question. According to his magnificent plan we can get along without the whole d-d

burned outfit and save the money. It stands to reason that since people will come to Oregon to get shed of the East-



NEW PHOTOGRAPH OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND HIS FOUR SONS—READING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, KERMIT, ARCHIE, THE PRESIDENT, QUENTIN, THEODORE, JR.

ern climate, they've got to have some way to get their relatives feed 'em. I've had some experience and I say to set 'em to keepin' school. Most any of 'em can do that, and we don't need to pay money out of our own pockets to learn 'em how. But instead of encouragin' of such teachers what does the school trust do? Why they goes to work and makes the examinations so durned hard that them fellers from Missouri and the East can't pass 'em and we have 'em on our hands. Hanner's cousin was a college graduate in Missouri and kept school there for years, then he come out here and took the examination. "What was the consequences?" He failed and he's been a-chorin' for me for his keep ever since. Some-thin' has got to be done with the educated men from back yonder when they has outlived their usefulness in their own state, and it's to the interest of the taxpayer that they should be allowed to keep school out here. What if they don't do just what the rules require of 'em? They're at least payin' for their feed, which ain't no small thing. If any of our people gets so stuck up that they want colleges leas't, let 'em go back where they can learn somethin'. We ain't got no use for colleges and high-toned schools out here. My pardner, allows that them as we have got ain't no good. A person don't know nobin' when he does get through 'em, so let's save our money for the rainy day that's sure to come. I knowed some of the Hoaxville people was easily woolled around, but I didn't know that you people in Portland was such durned fools as Mr. P. E. What'sname says you be. Ain't it kind in him to show you fellers what 'fjots you be to not know how to pick a school committee? "Arise shine, for thy light has come," as the Scrip'ter says. Oust the bosses and march forward to victory. Put my comrade in your superintendent's chair, and I'll send Hanner's cousin down for his assistant. I'll do what I can to get some more good teachers for you. You won't need more'n eleven or twelve providin' they know their business, will you? Yours truly, OBADIAH EVERAT OLDWAY.

Two Facts 'About Numbers. Some very curious facts have been discovered about numbers, which maybe to a professor of mathematics might seem simple enough, but to the average person certainly appear remarkable. Nine is perhaps one of the most mysterious numbers. If we multiply nine by any number under 20 except 11, the sum of the digits in the products will always be nine. Thus: 9x2 equals 18 and 8 plus 1 equals 9. 9x3 equals 27 and 7 plus 2 equals 9. 9x4 equals 36 and 6 plus 3 equals 9, and so on. Another queer number is 37. If 37 be multiplied by 3 or any number of threes up to 27, the three digits in each product will be alike. For instance: 3x37 equals 111. 6x37 equals 222. 9x37 equals 333. 12x37 equals 444. 15x37 equals 555, and so on up to 27. Any one who chooses to try some of these mathematical experiments, no doubt, will find out other interesting ones for himself.

Uncle Sam's Precious Stones. Baltimore News. For the fiscal year ended June 30, the importations of precious stones in New York amounted to \$11,000,000, and the United States is now buying 60 per cent of the output in South Africa.