# The Oregonian

PORTLAND, OREGON.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as

The second secon	200
(BT MAIL).	
Dally, Sunday included, one year	1.00

Eastern Business Office—The S. C. Beck-with Special Agency—New York, rooms 48-50 Tribune building. Chicago, rooms 510-512 Tribune building.

PORTLAND, SUNDAY, MAY 15, 1916

NON-PARTISAN HUMBUG.

The Multnomah Bar Association has made the ludicrous announcement that awyers should choose the people's judges and that none of the people's political parties should name candidates for the judiciary. This doctrine the lawyers of the Bar Association proclaim as "non-partisanship." amusing to hear the Bar Association thus declaring independence of all party organizations and then to see it trying to create a party of its own on

a no-party basis. But men chosen for judges will be either Democrats or Republicans; their principles or purposes will be those of one of the parties or the other; and it would be a sorry time if they should ever be guided by the principles or purposes of lawyers in meting out justice to the people.

The Republican will not cease to be a Republican, however, nor the Demo-erat a Democrat, because either may have been elected Judge. In discharge their judicial functions judges de not get as Republicans or Democrats: never did. No complaint of that kind has ever been made in Oregon. But is converted into a no-party man, with no political principles, by being elected to a judgeship. The nonpartisan notion, therefore, is cant and humbug.

Judges heretofore have been elected as Republicans or as Democrats, After their election they have not, in any cases we remember, been active partisans. But they have not been expected to abjure all political principles. become political cunuchs, or epicenes. Nor will they, if elected by the pretonse of non-partisanship. Such in fluence as each one may have will still exerted quietly but effectively as possible, for success of the party of which he is a member. Judges elected on party tickets have done no more Judges elected as no-party men will do no less. If the man is worth any consideration his political purposes or desires are not changed, nor annihilated, by making him the judge of a court. On the other hand there is no claim or pretense that judges elected on party tickets have been guided by partisan motives on the bench, or have swerved from the rules of justice to usalst members of the party that elected them.

Suppose the test should be made that no man should be elected to a judgeship who has any ascertainable political principles, or ever has been a party man. This would be the logical conclusion of the so-called nonpartisan cry, for the election of nonpartisan judges. We have, and ever have had, good

and sound judges elected as nominees of parties-better men than any who may be ready to profess that they have no political principles or party pur pose, but merely with to be elected.

The Bar Association, which calls for the election of "non-partisan judges," is just like any other association in this respect, to wit: A few members pesse as "leaders" of the others and promulgate an idea or policy in its name; the great body of the members are careless or silent;-then when the election comes on all scatter and vote as they please-including the active members who made the "programme yet will never unanimously support the nominees, since they are sure to distike some or all of them.

IMPROVING OREGON'S "SYSTEM"

That "speech" of Senator Bourne' told wonders of the Oregon "system, that made its auditors It displayed the fine fruits of the system-two Senators, one a pullst-Democrat-Republican, other a Roosevelt-Democrat, engrafted a State that is overwhelmingly Republican.

The Oregon Senators are not loo modest to boast of the great triumph that has been won under a system which disrupts party organizafoments petty factionalism and defeats majority will of party and electorate; which thrusts alternative minority candidates for office upon the electorate, neither of whom the voters desire; which makes money more of a power than ever in exploiting seekers of votes; which ignores the representative principle by which alone citizens lift themselves from the ways of mob to those of deliberative concert; and which injects into polbitterness and perjury, demagogy and vainglorious self-seeking.

Oregon system, which was the text of Senator Bourne's speech, is a success in these respects. Yet Oregon's voice is never heard body thrilling men's souls with electrical truths of states-manship or guiding the Nation's career with clear-visioned policies for day's and posterity's thinking or showing that Oregon is contributing one whit to the Nation's destiny. Incontributing stead, Oregon's effort is centered on

postoffices and pensions. This State has done wonders, but the wonders are those of petty polpermitted the subversion of timeiested methods of determining the will of the majority and has lifted to the high offices of its pride and power men ov o boast of the achievement and point to themselves as its best ex-

umple of merit. There are men in this common wealth, sincerc, patriotic, and hard-thinking—large numbers of them who revere old landmarks and are not in tune with this system of demagogy and selfishness. They are not to be diverted from the effort of electing high-minded men to high offices. Their immediate goal is restoration as a means

The results of this old-approved system will go before the people, and the people will judge them in the primar-ies, accept them if they are good and reject them if they are otherwise.

This will improve the system where by two men, now in the Senate, ap-propriated their offices in this state, and make it possible for the ruling sentiment of Oregon to choose fit men for its high honors.

PUBLIC DOCKS AND PRIVATE INTEREST Agitation for a policy that would ommit the city hastily and unadvisedly to the sale of a parcel of bonds for public docks is due more than at company which wishe

anything else to the efforts of a small compel the city to furnish a dock for its use, at the public expense; where as, from the beginning of the City of Portland till now other steamboat men have built and maintained their own docks; and others not running steam oats have supplied dock and wharf facilities both to river and vessels at reasonable charges, and are doing so yet.

Not much significance is to be attached to the popular vote in favor of the sale of bonds to the amount of \$500,000 for this purpose. The sub-ject was a new one; it was not fully considered or digested by the electors; esides at first motion great numbers will vote bonds for anything, thought-less about the burden and little disposed to think of the pay day.

If the city should enter this busi-

less it will soon be "in" to the tune of many millions. The one-half million now proposed will accomplish nothing; and since there is no plan, if the bonds should be sold, the money could lie tdly by, while the interest charge would steadily accumulate. Nothing could be done with \$500,600; and there would be a continuous de-mand for more and more and more. The worst kind of business would be to sell bonds beforehand and then try to buy a site. The true policy, if the policy of creating public docks is really to be pursued, is to get proposals and offers of sites and allow the public to judge of them. Then everything

would be in the open. Public docks will always be a burden, and it will become a heavy and growing one, to the taxpayers of Portland. Their operation, as in all other matters of the kind conducted under officialdom, will be a great center of factional effort, at the expense of the Wouldn't it be as well, if the public. little steamboat company which raising great part of this clamor, in the hope of getting a dock for its own ise at the public expense, would buy a site and put up a wharf of its own, or its own use, as others have been doing, time out of mind?

RECURRING TROUBLES IN CUBA. Matters in Cuba are falling into such bad mess again that it is becoming plain the United States made econd mistake when it withdrew its authority from the island the second time. The Cubans have had less than a year and a half of self-government this trial, and already the public debt has increased enormously, taxes are excessive, swarms of office-holding parasites infest its government and legroes have been attempting a revoltuion in order to gain larger share of

the spoils for themselves. The United States withdrew from Cuba in 1902 and returned in 1906, when Mr. Taft went thither on his celebrated mission of bringing order out of chaos. In January, 1909, the island was handed over to the Cubans again, against protest of responsible property-owners who feared recur rence of trouble under Cuban independence. Distribution of spoils has been going on more than a year and corruption is reliably reported to be permeating all official circles. Taxation is extremely burdensome and the public debt has reached \$65,000,000. A negro party under General Esteno has been organizing for the avowed purpose of gaining more recognition in distribution of offices, and its leaders have been clapped into prison by the government of President Gomez, which alleges that Estenoz and his followers have been striving to work up a negro insurrection and have been naking military preparations for an

uprising against the whites. It is merely a question of time until Cuban self-government shall reach an That will be after large debt and injustice have accumulated. namby-pamby sentimentalism and false political doctrines of "government by consent" and "liberty" this country there would not be this unnecessary renewal of trouble.

HILL THE TRAFFIC-MAKER. The earnings of the Harriman properties in the State of Oregon have always ranked high among the dividend-paying roads of the country The enormous grain crops formerly moved to tidewater from the Willamette Valley formed the original traffic for the valley lines, and when hopgrowing, fruit, dairying and other forms of diversified farming supplant ed graingrowing, the freight traffic became greater than ever. The timber resources of the state hardly have been touched, but the output of the mills at Portland and other districts in the state has supplied an enormous traffic for the railroads as well as the watercarriers. East of the Cascade Moun tains, even with the comparatively scanty development that has taken place, there has poured out an immense volume of wheat, wool and live stock, which is now being supplemented by the much more valuable busi ness that is following the change to diversified farming and modern ho building made possible by completion

of numerous irrigation projects Not even the most pessimistic in dividual who is at all familiar with the natural conditions in this great state believes that the territory which produced such great earnings for the Harriman lines is developed one-half or even one-third of its traffic-producing capacity. It thus fol-lows naturally that there is in Oregon a field for exploitation by the Hill lines which, properly handled, will yield to the newcomers fully as large revenues as have been collected by the Harriman lines without in any manner affecting the revenues of the older system. This much for the territory in which the railroads have already made a beginning and in a portion of which Mr. Hill will operate

In the Central Oregon country lies virgin territory larger in area and nearly as great in natural resources as that which has already been invaded by the railroads. Into this new land ooth railroad systems are hurrying with feverish haste, and their advent has been the immediate signal for the of curing defects of the direct primary. greatest rush of homebuilders and

landhunters that this region has ever known. It is the presence of this great empire entirely undeveloped in some portions and only partly developed in its oldest and most thickly settled regions, that has attracted the attention of Mr. Hill, one of the most prominent industrial figures of the century. It is from these rich regions that Mr. Hill expects to draw traffic which will be hauled out of the country over his \$50,000,000 trunk line, North Bank road. Following his lifelong policy as a railroad man, he expects to create new traffic instead of wresting from his competitors business which is already being de-

What the coming of this "empire builder" means to Oregon can be understood by what he has done where, for to a greater extent than any other man he has caused two blades of grass to grow where but one Bank road added more millions to the value of Portland property than any enterprise that was ever undertaken in the Northwest. In his present campaign of development the benefits ac cruing to Portland will be greater than those which have already been se much in evidence

NORMAL SCHOOL TROUBLES REVIVING Neither will electors of Oregon gain satisfactory solution of the normal school trouble through direct legisla Bills are being initiated for reestablishment of the institutions Weston, Monmouth and Ashland. Voters have no choice of alternative location. They must take back the old schools or none. Of course, they are at liberty to select one of the three or two of them, but that would not remedy geographical missits which n so long disturbing forces in the politics and the legislation of this

The Oregonian realizes full well that this criticism will incite resent-ment in certain localities. But in common with most of the citizens of this state. The Oregonian would like to see normal school education established on an enduring and efficient basis. It would like to see one, or at most, two schools properly supplied with funds and equipped with facilities and located near geographical centers. This eems a reasonable view of the mat-The question ultimately is to be decided, after all, not by local preference, but by state-wide choice

Yet no measure is to be initiated, evidently, that will accord with the general interest of the state. Instead, the electors are to hash over again the old-time normal school mess. The Legislature last session was deadocked between House and Senate on the normal school question and ad-journed without appropriating funds for either of the three schools. This was an unfortunate outcome. The state has lost two years for training of teachers and for establishment of new normal system. Now comes the initiative, threatening to make matters worse. For if by criss-cross voting all three schools or one of them should win a plurality vote, then the cry of the "will of the people" heard forevermore, although it is manifestly the will of the people that old normal abuses should be forever

What is needed is legislation framed in the interest of the state instead of in the interest of localities.

## A GREAT DISCOVERY.

The marvellous scientific discovery which Mr. Philip W. T. R. Thompson has exhibited to an assembly of educational men at Los Angeles seems to rank in importance not very far be low the great Sympsychograph which Dr. David Starr Jordan invented some years since. Readers will recall the wonderful advances in knowledge which the world owes to the sympsychograph. It enabled a person to see his own soul in a sort of looking-giass and even to procure a photograph of it. Since that time, there has been no such thing in the world as a soul eret and spirit affinities have not had half the difficulty in recognizing

each other that they had before.

The atmosphere of Los Angeels, for some reason not thus far explained by savants, seems to be remarkably well adapted to the promotion of a We recall ertain sort of science. that it was in this famous center of illumination that spiritual ear trumpets first became popular as a means of investigating the other world. To all appearances the trumpet used in this miraculous process is like the small tin ones which bad little boys and hoydenish girls love to toot upon in Rose Festival time, but in reality it is very different.

The genuine Los Angeles spiritual ghost, trumpet must be subjected to a preparatory incantation before the souls of the departed can speak through it. A distinguished clergyman of this city who has enjoyed converse with the inhabitants of Paradise through one of these marvellous instruments says that the trumpets are prepared by soaking them seven days in spiritus frumenti, or perhap it is the person using them who is soaked. The exact fact escapes us but it makes no difference. ciple is the same. After it is properly prepared, any person can set up a communication with the souls of the dead by simply putting the magic instrument to his ear and listening. The soul of George Washington, Socrates or some other equally reliable person will at once begin to talk into the trumpet, and will reveal the fact that the moon is made of green cheese or something just as important and not less true. Up to the date of Mr. Thompson's great scientific revelation the ghostly trumpet was the predominant marvel among the leaders of thought in Los Angeles. No parlor gathering of the learned was com plete without two or three of the instruments, and it is said that the reve lations obtained through them will soon be published in a book. It is expected that this work will rank as high in the scientific world as Laura Jean Libbey's novels do in belies

lettres The fact that the ghost trumpet or the person using it must be soaked seven days in spiritus frumenti is interesting in this connection because of the intimate relation between the magic number seven and Mr. Thompson's great Illumination. What this famous genius has done, it appears, "discover four "forms" which he can reproduce the entire universe. Democritus and Lucretius before him had a vague notion that the world could be built up of atoms patterned after a few fundamental shapes, but they did not say how many shapes would be required. Mr. Thompson puts them to shame by giv

This is also a magic number. there are four gods of the wind, four sides to the celestial city, three times four tribes of Israel and exactly as many disciples, as well as four seasons of the year, four weeks in the month and four quarts in a gallon. We must not forget either that the Greek philosophers discovered the fundamental scientific truth that the iniverse is composed of four elements, earth, air, fire and water. No doubt Mr. Thompson's four forms when he publishes his full explanation of them vill be found to correspond to these four elements and likewise to the four angels, Michael, Gabriel, Raphael and Uriel. But it was of the number even that we began to speak more particularly in connection with Mr. Thompson's new revelation.

We are told in the account of the narvel that "seven is a magic number in working out geometric forms' and it appears that our Los Angelean philosopher has made full use of it. It will be news to geometricians that seven has any particular connection their science. The heptagon never has been an especially fascinating figure to them heretofore. Pascal and Brianchon delighted rather in the hexagon, while the projective geome-ters love to dally with the complete quadrilateral and Archimedes devoted himself to the polygon of an infinite number of sides

But no doubt Mr. Thompson has a reason for what he says. It will be remembered that the spiritual trumpet was reviled at first as being a novelty. His magic forms, we are told, divide the octave of music into Musicians have up to this time parted the octave first into tetrads and these again into twelve intervals which they name semi-tones, but following Mr. Thompson's discovery they will probably abandon their antiquated views. The physicists must do likewise. Since Helmholtz they have believed that light was composed of three primary Mr. Thompson declares that there are seven and that each of these even subdivides into seven others. The opinion commonly held that light s a continuous series of wave lengths running without a break from the red to the ultra-violet of the spectrum must of course now be regarded as verthrown. Later developments of Mr. Thompson's discovery will doubt-less show that while he gives great prominence to the number seven in his scheme of the universe and still greater to the number four, he has ot forgotten the supreme importance of number one.

SOMETHING NEW IN DWELLINGS.

The thought of living in a house a hundred miles long startles one at first, but within a few years it is likely to take place among other commonplace wonders of the times. change from the isolated dwelling of today to the "road town," which is described in a recent number of The Independent, would not be much greater than that from the dirt floors and dark rooms of five centuries ago to the rugs and plate glass of the modern mansion. The house of that period was a filthy, unventilated, inconvenient place, without stoves, gas, electricity or any of the other commonplace comforts of our day. Most of the conveniences which we cannot do without have been contrived within the last hundred years, and there is no reason why inventive genius should pause in its work now The imporant changes hitherto have been made within the house. They pertain to the furniture, the appliances for daily for business and sociability Along this line there is perhaps little more to be done. But the outward type of the human dwelling has remained essentially unchanged for many thousands of years.

Of course styles of architecture have varied, but that is not the point. The house has remained an isolated structure with all the apparatus of life repeated over and over again for each separate family. Dreamers have often lamented the expensiveness of this arrangement. It is absurd schon you ome to think of it, that each family n a neighborhood should buy kitchen range large enough to cook for a dozen, while each has also its machinery for washing lothes, serving food and cleaning house, to say nothing of heating and often lighting as well. Plans to remedy the waste of wealth which results from the isolated dwelling have not been lacking and some of them have been fairly successful. The modern apartment-house saves a great deal of money and worry for who inhabit it, but there are also sacrifices to be considered. Life in an apartment is deprived of the pleasures of the green grass, trees and flowers. The flat-dweller has no land to call his own. He is a prisoner in brick walls, a humble slave to landlord, janitor and delivery man, while, vorst of all, his neighbors are so near and not always so dear that life loses its best savor. His dog is an abomination, his children are nuisances and his piano is an instrument of torture. All this trouble arises from the fact heretofore inventive faculty

working at the problem of the co perative dwelling has looked persistently upward. It has built toward the stars, forgetting the possible advantages of stringing the multiple ouse along the ground rather than making it tower skyward. At last, lowever, a tremendous genius has struck a new note in architecture The "road town," which we mentioned a moment ago, is not to be more than or three stories high, but its length is to be prodigious. It will neander across the country through green fields and flowery vales, climb ng hills and sinking gently down declivities, wandering pensively by of babbling brooks and seeking philosophic repose in the gloomy depths of broad forests, from which it will emerge and come to an end only after a course of some scores of miles. It is to be as long as rapid transit will permit. Of course the dweller in the last apartment it contains must be able to reach his business in the city after an hour's ride or so on the electric car, but that is the only limitation upon the length of the road town. It is to be a sort of hollow Chinese wall divided up into separate houses, with solid concrete walls between them, and provided one after the other with the loveliest gardens you can imagine. plenty of room for children and especially for dogs. The latter feature is expected to make the invention singularly attractive to childless women. Country roads will pass through the structure under arches, but transportation to the city and back will be in a

hundred miles length would house 10,560 families, and if in each family there were five members, the entire population of the structure would be 52,800 persons. This is ample to supply traffic for a well-equipped electric line to carry freight and passengers. The roof of the road town would naturally be devoted to the lighter toys. Here of an evening pater familias will sit surrounded by his brood and smoke his pensive pipe while the little ones disport themselves. The fond mother will mingle admiration of the setting sun with worship of her lord. Here tea will be served as day declines and on moonlight nights dinner will forsake the gloomy interior and be philo-sophically fletcherized beneath the be-

On paper the project is practicable as well as alluring. What difficulties may develop when the inventor tries to carry out his idea time will tell. No doubt the structure is feasible enough mechanically. No doubt, too people would enjoy living with the advantages we have described, but it occurs to one that there may be trouble in getting title to a strip of land of the right shape for the road town Would the farmers be willing to sell a meandering ribbon through the heart of the country for any practica-ble price? A road town one hundred miles long, with its gardens, would require some 2500 acres of ground, which might possibly cost half a millike a large sum, but it is after all a mere trifle compared with the cost of hand enough within a city to build dwellings on for 52,800 people.

REDMOND'S JUST PROTEST.

A strong protest has been made by John Redmond, the Irish Nationalist leader, to Premier Asquith against the form of oath to be taken by the new King before Parliament. The wording of this oath is held to be needlessly offensive to Catholic subjects of the realm. By it with all due solemnity the King is made to disavow any belief in transsubstantiation and to affirm that "the invocation or adortion of the Virgin Mary or any other saint and the sacrifice of the mass, as they are now used in the Church of Rome are superstitious and idols trous." Since there are between 6.000. 000 and 7,000,000 loyal Catholic sublects in the United Kingdom, the oath s held to be grotesquely out of place It is cited further that the absurdity of the oath is the more noticeable be ause one of the high personages in attendance on the King when the oath s administered is the Duke of Norolk, Earl Marshal of England, and a

Catholic. It is recalled that King Edward disapproved the wording of the oath n this particular and was anxious that t be changed before he took it. dispute, hot as religious disputes usually are, arose over the wording of the altered oath and no change was, made. The incident passed and the acrimony engendered was forgotten in the conciliatory and tactful reign of King Edward, only to be revived when his heir came to the throne. the oath sprang from a time and conditions far distant and at variance with the present in the mater of repressed therein is utterly immaterial at this time, it would be a gracious thing if the wording so offensive to a large body of the loyal subjects of the King could be changed.

BE NOT TOO BOLD.

It is not wise to believe too confidently that the comet as it draws near the earth will exercise no influence upon our affairs. The latest opinion is that it is a huge ball of gas shaped like a globe. It will therefore act like an enormous lens and will ondense the light and heat of the sun to a focus somewhere in space. At exact point the heat must something frightful to contemplate. No doubt it is sufficient to vaporize Were this focal point ross the earth there would be few left in its path to tell us of their ex-perience, but fortunately it will not each our planet Still the condens. ing effect of the cometary lens will be perceptible here on the 18th of May. and we may expect that day to be unusually warm and the sunlight to brighter than ordinary. Even if the comet passes us in the night, there will be a good deal of illumination.

It will seem like bright moonlight. Moreover, the condensing effect of the comet will appear in other was It will direct down upon the earth a powerful stream of radiations similar to the X-rays. Many of these are as vet unknown to science and it is im ence. It is certain, however, that they are forms of energy and can therefore produce all sorts of mechanical dis turbances, such as high tides, earthquakes and storms. Many scientists hold that the unusual weather we have had this Spring in some parts of the country must be attributed to the stream of condensed radiations which comet has been sending, not directly toward us, but into our general When the downpour becomes direct, of course, the effect will be greater.

As to the visi 'e tail of the comet. it has lost the last of its terrors. Scientists now know that it is nothing more than a beam of sunlight precise ly like the rays which a searchlight this complete explanation of the thought of long ago, but it is a trait the simple only after it has baffled centuries with the complex and difficult.

PAX VOBISCUM. Although Mr. Roosevelt's Nobel prize oration at Christiania contained nothing new, still it restated in an entertaining way what can be said upon the subject of universal peace. Something, though not very much, has been done of a practical nature to prevent international hostilities. Hague tribunal, as Mr. Roosevelt intimated, must remain somewhat in effective as long as there is no way of enforcing its decrees. to them is purely voluntary and must continue to be so until some sort of an international police force has been organized. At present we may think it out of the question that powerful nations will ever agree to be controlled by a world police, but five or six centuries ago the same might have been said of the powerful nobles waging from their feudal castles, prediction that the mightiest of them ontinuous tunnel beneath the whole would one day bow humbly before the length of the building. Here also will policeman with 'Is presaic club would ing the correct answer, which is four. | run the water mains and conduits for have seemed ludk out if anybody George.

electric wires. Reckoning each dwell- had been hardy enough to make it. ing fifty feet long, a road town of a But ludicrous or not, it has come

Mr. Roesevelt is not unaware of the parallel between the present condi-tion of the separate nations and that of pioneer roughs living without much law on the frontier. Every man under those conditions is his own de-fender and the weakest goes to the wall. This is not ... ite the state thing's among the nations today, because there is at least a beginning of international morality and something like a world conscience; but as might makes right between governments, and it always will until public opinion has been radically changed.

Perhaps the most potent factor in putting an end to war, if that ever happens, will be the economic difficulty of maintaining armaments. The expense of the fleets and armies which are now kept up is likely to bankrupt the principal governments of the world within a quarter of a century. Prudence urges them very stringly to discover some method of reducing the cost, and this may perhaps lend irresistible attractiveness to the arbitration treaties for which

There is plenty of material for a

fine line of sensational tales of murler and mystery in the Gohl case at Grays Harbor. Human life was of small value when it interfered with the plans of the man who was looking after the affairs of the sailors' union, There seems to have been no lack of victims to satisfy the murder lust of the flend who killed men with no greater compunction than would ordinarily be felt over the slaughter of a log. Interest was added to the horfor by the subordinate actors in the tragedy. Klingenberg, the frightened or hypnotized tool of the master mur-derer, seems to have played a part as weirdly wicked as anything that fiction has presented. The extent to which "Jensen the Weasel" figured in the case has not been fully revealed as yet, but if he played any such part as Northern Railroad. It is fair to as "Cooney the Fox" played in the celebrated Cronin murder in Chicago about twenty years ago, he has added another element of mystery to a wholesale murder plot that stands without an equal in criminal annals of the North Pacific Coast.

Ordinarily the public does not take cindly to an exhibition of the family skeleton when it is handed into public gaze for the purpose of gaining a point for the exhibitor. Criticism over such an expose of family troubles will however, not lie in the case of the late John A. Benson, the California land thief. By the long list of crimes committed while he was building up the fortune that is now the bone of contention, Mr. Benson brought so much sorrow and suffering upon the respectable members of his family, that it now can add but few heart-aches to prove the post-mortem charge of higamy. The charge is made by his own son for the purpose of preventing a large share of the Benson 1, tune from falling into the hands of an exdancehall artist for whom Benso aside the lawful wife and mother of his children. Viewed from almost any standard, the late Mr. Benson seems to have been an exceptionally versatile and disreputable old scoundrel,

It is announced that the Pennsylvania Railroad will soon put into operation an all-steel train made up of ion-collapsible cars. Other railway companies are preparing to follow sult. In planning for this train the Pennsylvania has endeavored to build a coach which will provide the greatest possible strength, a steel framing which cannot be afflected by fire, an inside lining which will be non-combustible, and at the same time will not conduct heat or sound. More safety in travel is the universal de-Let us hops it will be universally met.

The statute forbigling the exisvoked against we disgusting hills of human flesh, a woman and a man, whose mammoth proportions have been exhibited for some days in Portland for gain. is as it should be. A huma, creature so lost to all sense of decency as to be induced to parade a physical misfortune before gaping crowds for pay causes even pity to turn away from the spectacle with contempt.

Evangelists John Wesley Pill and John Callahan, of New York, tre going to San Francisco to set up a counter attraction in the way of rival services at the time of the Jeffries-Johnson prize fight. The nagnitude of the andertaking is only equalled by the zeal of those who have engaged in it. The object is an intere. ing on , whatever the outcome

Students of the University of Oregon threaten removal of the institution to Portland unless Eugene shall provide better water. However, the City of Eugene may think these recipients of free education rather ungracious There are colleges in Portland already Mayor Busse, of Ch' ago, has issued

an order prohibiting wrestling bouts on Memorial day. This is well as far as it goes. But is there any good and valid reason why r thing that is objectionable on one day should be considered perfectly legitimate on other days? Mr. Bryan, it is sail, will not be a

unfavorable, from another it is quite encouraging. Perhaps the Walla Walla Valley, in order to save the strawberrs crop, will have to turn the schools loose in the patches. Pupils will probably wel-

candidate. So that while from one

point of view the Democratic outlook

The ideal baseball team is one that ins all the games at home and also all the games away from home. s all the "fans" ask of Manager Mc-Credie.

The Colonel praises the Kaiser and the Kaiser is quite sure the Colonel is the biggest man America has produced.

However, the Republican assembly vill not be so ungracious as to de nounce the State Grange assembly,

The end in the comet's tail is said to have gone to its head. The disreputable old skylark!

The new King of Britain seems not lismayed to wear the "hoodoo" name

MR. HILL AND CENTRAL OREGON. Why He Will Develop the Great

Inland Empire. Here is an article on a subject of some current interest from the Med-ford Mail-Tribune, entitled "The Bible of the Mossbacks" (meaning The Oreognian):

James J. Hill when at Salam recently, stated that he had turned his attention to Washington instead of Oregon, because of the stillude of the Laids, Corbetts and other Portland capitalists, who did not want railroads; did not want progress and develop-

nt. The attitude of the old set of Portland thallsits was typical of the old Oregon. I will be seen that the conservatism or mossbackism leb disgusted Mr. Hill. long ruled the te and kept it in the rear of sister commercialitis. It was the spirit of the riland hog and the Salem pig. which the v Portland has outgrown, but which still es Salem. rules Salem.

This old marrow, provincial, carping spirit finds an echo in The Oregonian, the Bibliof the mossbacks, an anactironism in up-to-date Oregon, which with its eyes glued on the isolated past, still exerts its influence to oppose progress, block good roads, slaughter normal schools fight taxation for improvements check legislation that opens up and develops the state and restores corruption and machine rule in politics. Like a crab, it moves backwards, or sideways—anything but forward. crab. It moves backwards, or sideways—anything but forward.

It is the spirit of The Oregonian that kept Hill out of Oregon for 25 years and still endeavored to keep him out even after he had begun his recent invasion of the Deachutes. But Oregon has outgrown her mossbacks and their Hible Progress and development are the order of the day, and those who oppose, though backed by the prestige of the past, must shed their provincial shells and learn to move forward with the procession.

This singular outpouring from the Memord paper is worth little attention, perhaps; but it would appear to make appropriate republication of the following paragraph from an account of a public banquet at Prineville Sat-

urday, May 7: In speaking at the banquet, Mr. Hill said that James J. Hill laid been induced to enter the Central Gregon field largely through the representations of what the country contained made to him from time to time by William Hanley, of Burns, Harvey W. Scott and The Portland Orego-

The Mr. Hill herein referred to is Louis W. Hill, president of the Great sume that he is a qualified witness.

### MERELY A "SCRAPPING MATCH."

It does not escape observation that the Senators of either party who are baiting Aldrich all declare themselves protectionists, but dispute with Aldrich and with each other on the application of the "principle" And the principle, as each one interprets it, is dictated or guided by special conditions In his own state. That is, the tariff is "a local question." Even the Southern States have now reached this "principle" of interpretation. Here is ocrats in the House voted against free lumber; 29 against free hides; 102 of the 171 Democrats are recorded against reductions of schedules. And when it came to a vote on free iron ore in the Senate-a vote for or against a future monopoly by the steel trust-out of 24 who yoted for free iron ore, 14 Senators were Republicans-more Republicans than Democrats were found fighting protection on an important raw material Ten Democrats were the oni: ones among the entire party representation in the Senate who voted for free Iron ore-10 Democrats out of 32.

Durin- Mr. Cleveland's second term the first and only time the Demoratic party has had entire control of the legislative and executive branches of the Government during more than lifty years-this same difficulty or embarrassment in dealing with the tariff beset and confounded it. It couldn't possibly marshal its forces for the "reform" it had been preaching so long, but made a tariff more lopsided in favor of protection than the one it had undertaken to repeal or correct.

All the uproar about protection and against special privileges it conferswhether by Republican "insurgents" or by Democratic "reformers"-is shallow humbug, and so it will ever be so long as the men of either party, or both parties, who contend against the high priests of protection, insist that they are still protectionists themselves and fight for the protection of the special interests of their own states or dis tricts.

There is but one principle on which the abuses of protection may be overcome, and that principle is tariff for revenue. Till this principle can be adopted, the tariff debates in Congress and before the country will be merely a contest among "interests" for special advantages for themselves. This is illustrated perhaps better than ever before by the present "scrapping match" in Congress .- From The Oregonian, June 14, 1909.

Nearly one year age The Oregon ian published the article here repreduced. It fits present conditions exactly. Men of either party, every where, are juggling with the tariff for party ends, but each and all fiercely for the special incrests of their own localities.

# The Vanishing Legion.

New York Mail.

With the approach of Memorial day there is a renewal of the suggestion that the veterans who turn out be spared the long, fatiguing marches which they are accustomed to undertake on that solemn accustomed to undertake on that solemn anniversary. The Civil War veterans are all old and most of them are feeble. Their lines grow thinner and thinner every year. They are the vanishing legion whose annual turnout is viewed with mingled emotions-pride in their heroic deeds and tender regret for their dimin-

bling numbers, Would you hazard a guess as to how apidly those honored veterans are pass-ng away? Senator Scott, of West Virginla, estimates that they are dying at the rate of one every 12 minutes, or say 43,000 a year. The world never has witnessed the spectacle of so vast an army of veterans of a single war marching into the silence.

# Spokane's Back-Down.

Yakima Republic, The Spokane City Council, in deference to the wishes of the people, has reversed itself on the question of giving the North Coast & Milwauke, the right to come into the town. The Council refused franchises to these roads, except on condition that they grant the city terminal rates. Con-sideration has convinced the Spekane that the demand was unrea

Cause for Jealousy.

Kansas City Star.
Formal proclamation of George V as
King was made in London today by
'the York herald.' This will be sure
to make Mr. Pulitzer and Mr. Hearst

# Room for More.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Hell may be full of politicians, as Dr Parkhurst says, but doubtless there is room for one or two more.