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PORTLAND. SUNDAY, DEC. 18, 1910

THE NEW SPEAKER.

Mr. Champ Clark cheerfully sumes the responsibilities of Speak-ership of the Sixty-Second Congress, a year and more in advance of kis probable election, and as cheerfully turns back to the body of the House the enormous powers, or some of them, his immediate predecessors have Speaker Clark will not "meurped." point the committees. He would absolved from that crushing task would be the mere instrument of he House in carrying out its sovereign The House is the muster. no duty but to be the House's

This sounds singularly like the lingo ayed by Speaker Cannon to ex iain and defend the much-revited No autocrat he; Just Cannonism." he poor weak voice of the great body of the people expressed through the Republican majority in the House of Representatives, wherein there were certain necessary rules to enable that body to do business and a certain ecessary way of enforcing them. was the sworn duty of the Speaker to hold the Constitution, obey the

was all; no more. Oh, yes. caker-elect Clark bears his exted honors with dignity and huto rule, though he is just as as his fron predecessor in diftating between the whole House the Democratic majority thereof; variously speaks of the House ing its own committees and the eratic caucus naming the comees through the rules committe ways and means committee. doesn't know which; he All he wants is for the House. the Democratic majority, to take thankless and difficult job off

ands. It will. re, then, is the result of the arbitrary organization of the of Representatives, such effected by the Speaker and his ial cabinet. We are to have a ker who will be a mere presidofficer, like the Speaker of the sh House of Commons, and like esident pro tempore of our own ate. But the Speaker can hardly mere nonpartisan figurehead, not a mere parliamentary mouthpiece, for the House must have rules and the rules must be rigorously and imparenforced. The House will be a do-nothing body without organization and experienced and powerful diction. Speaker Reed, as long ago 1890 found that the Democratic minority was able to block all procedure by the simple expedient of refusing to vote and he defeated such plain and intentional ob-"counting a quorum," to struction by the immense indignation of the opposition. Yet no one will say that the practice of the Speaker was not jus-

effied, for it was a parliamentary ne-cessity. No succeeding House, whether Democratic or Republican, as changed the rule; and no member is now able to regard himself as constructively absent, while physily present. Then began the era Czar-like rule by the Speaker. cally present. broken down finally by the combination of Democrats and insurgents and by the verdict of the people. Now what are we to have in place of the House oligarchy dominated by

the Speaker? We will observe now the reign of the House machine dominsted by a committee selected by the Democratic caucus. In other words, there will be several bosses, and not one boss. But there must and will be a boss, or group of bosses. The House cannot get along without them

INDIGRATION CHANGING.

Unskilled labor has supplanted the highly desirable agricultural classes in the atream of immigration that is pouring into this country from the Old World, according to the report of the Congressional Immigration Com-mission. This change has been apparent to all who have come in conyears filled the steerage of the big est-bound Atlantic liners, but the figures presented by the Commission even more impressive than a casual observation of the illiterate mass that swarms down the gangway at They show that from 1819 to 1882 more than 95 per cen of the total immigration from Eu-Scandinavia, the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Switzerland. From 1883 down to the present time there has been a steady increase in the proportion of immifrom Austro-Hungary, Italy and Rureia, and a corresponding de crease in the proportion supplied by the countries which gave the United States its first European immigration.

The older immigrants, who cam prior to 1882, were a much more de-strable class than those now arriving. seek homes in the new hey mostly turned to agriculdo in the period mentioned, na-rn Americans were shifting and to new lands in great num-As a result of this e and naturalized citizens into ountry, the two races assimirapidly and an excellent citizens became permanent The class that followed has proved far less desirable, dgled into the cities and of the superior opof this country to earn

class, the report ission amourts that me than the old, more than

age being illiterate when admitted. Racially they are for the most part unlike the British, German and other peoples who came during the period prior to 1880 and, generally speaking, they are actuated in coming by differ-ent ideals, for the old immigration came to be a part of the country while the new in a large measure comes with the intention of profiting in a pecuniary way by the superior advantages of the New World and

then returning to the old country."
Of this new immigration, the report asserts that at least 40 per cent returns to Europe and 30 per cent remains there. The immigration prot lem is one in which the Pacific Coast will have a steadily increasing interest, for with the completion of the Panama Canal the ports of this coast will receive thousands of immigrants, most of whom can be used here to better, advantage than in the con-gested centers of the East.

DIRECT ELECTION OF SENATORS.

Senator Borah, a Republican, and Senator Rayner, a Democrat, outnumber Senator Dillingham, a Republican, as members of a sub-committee of the Senate committee on judiciary, and they will offer to the full committee a recommendation for a constitutional amendment for the direct election by the people of all. United States Sena-It is interesting to recall that tors. Senator Borah was the popular choice of his party, expressed state convention, and got the unanimous vote of the Republicans in the Idaho Legislature. Senator Rayner has just been indorsed by the Democratic primary of Maryland for feelection. Senator Dillingham doesn't have to worry about re-election till 1915, and he stands pat. He always has stood pat. He may in time find, however, that his state doesn't stand pat. Other old-time Senators have been rudely awakened from their peaceful alumbers in Washington to find that the procession had moved

Senator Borah wants no expedients or makeshifts or roundabout methods in the direct election of Senators. Senator Rayner agrees. Senator Dillingham doesn't want anything but to

Yet the Senate will be forced to act favorably on the measure—if it gets the chance. The Senate knows that the people want, and long have wanted, their Squators elected by They want the real thing in direct elections. The Senate Judiciary committee would appear to be up against it this time. It will take adroit sidestepping or a fine assort-ment of grand and lefty parliamentary tumbling, to avoid a vote on the question at this session.

TAXES.

There is never money enough, either for public or private expenses. Here we have an increase for 1910 in assment of Portland property amounting to about \$20,000,000. The productive power of the taxpayer is enlarged proportionately and the revefrom taxes might thus be automatically increased proportionately The city and county government, the School Board, the Port of Portland and the entire governmental maadded \$30,000,000 on the basis of lust

year's tax levy. But the tax levy is never stationary, An ideal arrangement would be that the tax lovy should go down as the asseesed valuations go up. But does it? The city must have more and the levy must go up one mill over last year's; the Board of Education will ask for at least one mill increase; the Port of Portland will move its levy up a notch, and the county will do the same. What the state and the other tax-making powers will do re-Multnomah will be an increased levy

on the basis of increased valuation.

There is no check or balance or effective limitation on our tax-making machinery, as there is no end to taxeating and tax-spending. Everybody levies taxes; everybody that can get a public job spends them. Is it a business-like arrangement that permits half a dozen different bodies--state. county, city, Port of Portland, School Board and the like-to gather what taxes they please without accountability to any central or reviewing authority?

THIRTY-FOOT CHANNEL.

With a view to the future, the Port of Portland is already considering plans for a big dredge for use in deepening the river to a thirty-foot stage. The success that has attended the work of the organization in the past is a guaranty that the thirty-foot channel will be much easier to senel for which we labored so hard a years ago. From back in the old days when the sixteen-foot vessels always grounded on St. Helens bar, Post Office bar, Willow bar, or some of the other numerous "high spots" in the river, Portland has always risen to the occasion and provided a good channel as the demands of commerce required it. We are yet a trifle short of the thirty-foot channel, but with a record of more big flour and lumber cargoes than have been cleared from any other port on earth and with 10,ece-ton ships coming and going without the slightest delay, it is quite apparent that we are keeping well up with the requirements of the field for which this city is the distributing

The great work of deepening the hannels by which ocean carriers enter and leave port is being carried out at all of the big ports of the United States. Philadelphia, which is situated somewhat similar to Portland, is endeavoring to induce Congress to provide a thirty-five-foot channel, and New Orleans is preparing to handle business through the new Southwest Pass which will have a depth of five feet replacing the present thirty-foot stage in the South Pass. Galveston, Pensacola, Mobile, Baltimore and New York also are deepening their highways to the ocean. ternal commerce has branched away from the river banks along which it incentrated in the early days of the country, so that railroads have supabove tidewater. This has had a tendency to enhance the importance of keeping the outlet to the ocean in the best possible condition for handrailroad facilities that are now center ing at Portland the traffic of nearly 250,000 square miles will be drawn to tidewater at Portland on a down-hill

The matter of getting this traffic !

one-third of all those over 14 years of down to Portland no longer will cause any anxiety for the city. The rail-roads prefer hauling it down hill to lifting it over the mountains, and they will bring it to Portland if Portland will provide the harbor and sel facilities for sending it on to the high seas. It is full time to begin the preparations for the thirty-foot channel in the river, and if the present jetty system does not provide the ne ssary forty-foot channel on the bar the dredge should be kept at work untill the sufficient depth is obtained there. The results already secured on the bar and river show quite plainly that the matter of securing a thirtyfoot channel in the river and a fortyfoot channel on the bar is no serious problem. We should, however, abandon rainbow chasing and center our efforts on the river, improvements that are most needed.

OUTDATED SCHOOL METHODS.

That there are some things peraining to the management of our public schools-some details or featares of the system itself-that have en outdated by events and that are a clog upon our educational interests is no doubt true. To make assertion to the contrary would be to declare that our public school system and the details of its operation are perfect. That some of our school buildings have cost more in construction than the type of buildings that have been furnished warrants is also probable. Everyone who has tried to work out preconceived ideas on the building of a dwelling-house for himself knows how hard it is to get just what is wanted at a price that he is able or willing to pay or, for that matter, at any price. This is not to say that all architects and builders are dishonest. It is merely to say that different people have different ideas in matters pertaining to building and its reason able cost, and, indeed, that individual ideals and ideas change even while

onstruction is in progress. We recall in this connection that the D. P. Thompson school building was completed ten cars or more ago it was considered perfect in plan and construction. Even so sagacious a business man and one so observant of details as was the late D. P. Thompson, and for many years then a member of the School Board, ed himself as perfectly satisfled with the building, and halled as a model for the purpose for which it was built and has since "that used. Yet who is there today that regards this building as a model, and that would be satisfied with a high school building worked out according to the same general plans?

Times change and people change justice to the Board of Education of this district it must be said that its members, severally and collectivemeet, upon the tax levy allowed, the heavy demands that growth has made upon the school acc mmodations and management of the district. Their work is open to criticism, but not, we believe, from the standpoint of neglect of duties or collusion with contractors. They working in a prosperous, growing city under an antiquated school regime befitted the village a system which which Portland so long remained, but which does not meet the requirements of a progressive age in an opulent place like the Portland

WILLIAM JAMES.

Very likely the philosopher William James came as near to what we may call National popularity as any man we have ever had whose career did not follow "practical" lines. The citizens of this country whom everybody knows or has known intimately have been soldiers and politicians, with now and then an inventor like Edison. Our men of science have ren ers to their countrymen for the most part. Even Simon Newcomb, with all his democracy and his numerous elementary books, was not a very familiar figure, while such men as Henry and Rowland might as well have been Russians for anything the average

American knew or cared about them. Fame has treated our literary men little better, but not much. Longfellow enjoyed a certain genuine pop ularity for a few years, but people are now forgetting him as they have forgotten Whittier and Lowell. The effort which the public schools once made to insure permanent popular renown to these poets did not amount to much. They are on the way to that oblivion which lurks on the schol-

ars' shelves. There is a dispute as to whether Emerson's fame is growing or waning. Abroad he shares with Poe and Mark I wain a repute which few of our other writers have gained, but at home there are many who decry his emi-nence. It is pretty certain that Walt Whitman is more read and talked about now than he was ten years ago, and the signs seem to foretell a rising instead of a declining rank for him as the years pass. His may be one of "the few, the immortal names that are not born to die," and naturally the same may be said of Nathaniel Hawthorne, But Whitman and Mark Iwain stand on an entirely different footing from any of the rest of our literary men. Their writings have a flavor which seems to be of the esence of democracy. At least foreign critics seem to think so and they are read more and more as democracy beomes predominant in European thought. The same peculiarity exists in William James' philosophy. It is democratic through and through. The article by James Jackson Pulnam in January Atlantic, which gives many entertaining personal memories of the Harvard philosopher, does not hit upon this radically important fact, but others have.

In his later years William James settled down more and more content edly with the pragmatic view of life and truth This may be expressed in the phrase that whatever works well in practice is true in theory, at least over the ground which the practice covers. It corresponds in speculation with what is called "opportunism" in The opportunist directs his conduct not at all by a set of abstractpropositions whose truth he has demonstrated in his study, but by the needs of the moment. He is guided, by the necessity of the case, and not by the necessity of logic. In the same way the pragmatic philosopher takes everything for true which mollifies and sweetens life. That is, it is true in so far as it does this, but no farther; and the same thing which is true for one person may be false for another. Of course, the reader per-ceives instantly how strongly this doctends toward individualism.

When we accept it we are emancipated from formula and precedent and at liberty to choose from all the realms of offered beliefs those which best suit our circumstances. The criterion on which our choice depends is not so much the possibility of demonstrating truth by logic as by proving that it sults our particular needs. What meets the requirements of an individ-

ual's life is true for that individual. William James showed his love of individualism as much in other directions as in his philanthropy. He was as far as possible from being a "pro-hibnionist" of any variety. His maxim was not to forbid the wrong, but to teach the right. When the controversy arose in Massachusetts over the Christian Scientists and there was talk of making it illegal to consult their healers, Professor James came out boldly in favor of liberty. Although he did not believe in the new doctrine, he held that any person who desired to treat his diseases by Mrs. Eddy's precepts had the right to do so and law should not interfere with him. Mr. Putnam rightly reminds us that it took some courage to do this when the controversy was at its liveliest. James proved his courage in many other ways. One of the most interesting bold resolve to investigate "occult" phenomena at a time when it was as much as a man's scientific reputation was worth to be caught in ommunication with a medium. Since he set the example, other men of learning have imitated him and truth has gained by it.

James also had the habit of encouraging men who had ideas in their heads but no way of bringing them before the public. He obtained a ficar-ing for many of these humble thinkers, including some very odd ones. But in his estimation an idea was preclous, no matter where it came from, and he never left off the habit of seeking out obscure philosophers. Naturally he was ridiculed for this as well as for his intimacy with dubious spiritualists, but he was not disturbed. These traits of his, as well as the powerful thought and incomparable style of his books, made him a popular figure in the large sense of the phrase is better known throughout the country than any other philosopher or man of science we have ever had, there are numerous indications that his fame will increase with time rather than diminish.

PROMISES AND POLITICAL PROMISES. The good old Democratic practice has been to look upon a promise to the people as an excellent instrumentality for getting into office and a more excellent thing to forget as soon as one was safely installed. The ancient wheelhorses must therefore see something almost portentous in ernor Woodrow Wilson's opinion that a promise is a promise even if it is made To be sure the promto the public. ise of the politicians to abide by the results of the direct primary on the Senatorial candidacy was only implied. Nobody said outright that he would run for Senator before the Legislature if the people rejected him, but that was the understanding. It was upon that implication that the people of New Jersey took the trouble to cast their votes. If they had believed that the votes meant nothing and that the election returns would not bind the consciences of the politicians they would have paid no attention to it. There would have been no expression of the public preference for United States Senator. But the people accepted the primary law of New Jersey in good faith. They knew it had no legal obligation but, to their understanding, its moral obligation was infinite.

But Senator Smith did not think so. The good man, who belongs to the old, expiring type of politicians, laughs at promises which are not secured by bond and seal. In defiance of the people's wish he a that he would run for Senator again by the dear old methods of wire pulling and intrigue in the Legislature. New Jersey therefore began to look forward to the customary saturnalia of iniquity this Winter at the state capital.

It now appears, however, that there will be no saturnalia. New Jersey is enjoying the novel and refreshing experience of having a Governor, or a prospective Governor, who does not approve of saturnalia and has the will stand up against them. Woodrow Wilson declares that the expressed will of the voters must be obeyed and seems that the polificians deem it advisable to heed him. This shows what one able and determined man can do when he puts himself on the

PUCCINUS NEW OPERA.

Giacomo Puccini's new American opera which seems from the newspaer accounts to have set musical New York into a mild frenzy, emerges through an interesting series of transformations. The basis of it is Belas-co's "Girl of the Golden West." For operatic purposes the plot of this wild play was worked over a little and the keen, incisive phrases of the dialogue were elaborated into a smooth libretto by an Italian craftsman. From the utiful Tuscan tongue it was translated back into English by an English-How much of the real West is left in the libretto after these adventures the render can imagine. doubt reminiscences linger, but the spirit must have evaporated pretty

Of course, all that is known about thoroughly. Puccini's music for this strange pro-duction comes at second hand as far as Portlanders are concerned. The critics say that he has followed the Wagnerian system of attaching a leit motif to each of the principal characters which reappears as often as they come on the stage. Thus the villain, who is also the hero, wafts with him a "salvation melody," or redemption theme, which predicts his ultimate rescue from his wicked ways by the proine. This theme is heard at the beginning of the opera as well as at critical moments while the action proceeds, naturally not being omitted when the "Girl of the Golden West" stands off the boys who are on the point of lynching her shady lover.

It was not to be expected Puccini, who is an Italian the Italians and steeped in the traditions of European art, could understand or faithfully interpret the American West. With all his fondness for innovation in music he is still civilized through and through, while the men and women whom he has ventured to bring into his opera are primitive. If not savage they are far from being civilized in the Italian and artistic sense. Between their ways of looking at the world and the concepts of such

a man as Puccint there is an impa able gulf. According to the reports According to the reports tains a great deal of beautiful music but which presents a Wild West without a shadow of reality.

Charles Lamb said that the world of opera was always unreal. It must he argued, or we never could tolerate its morals and improbabilities of conduct. But the world of the mines and mountains which Puccini has imagined must be singularly unlike the one that lived and acted. doubtful indeed whether truly primitive life ever gets into art of literature. While it exists it is too unconscious to try to depict itself and when it has become sophisticated it never can remember what it was in the vanished time. Careless persons speak of the Iliad as if it were primitive literature, but scholars know that it dates from an old and probably decadent civilization. It marks the end, not the beginning, of an age. The same is true of the books included in the Bible. They are the ripe products of a culture running back through numberless generations. Here and there they contain explicit references to older books which were again no doubt the latest expressions of races with a long history behind them

To Europe the oddities of the West are its realities. To Americans they are amusing but trivial. The realities pertain to empire building, new experiments in democracy, titantic grug-gles with nature. The revolvers, ooker chips and oaths which were to Puccini the most notable things in the life he sought to depict with music are no more than variegations upon the surface of a profound economic warfare. Owen Wister was not too blind to see something of this. His Virginian" was odd enough to suit the most exacting European demands but he was also shrewd enough to get a wide area of irrigated land into his possession before it was too late. Mines, water powers, timber, and the battle for their possession are the vital realities of the West and no art dealing with it will ever be true and great which does not take account of the episodes and results of this mighty Very likely it is idle to look ontest. for anything of the kind from Europeans. They can no more understand us than we can share in their inheritance of a storied past and a ripe art. Some Americans think they can dint of great effort share in this inheritance but the pitiful figure they cut in the eyes of cynical observers makes their error sufficiently clear For us the spiritual treasures of the Old World will always remain external. The soul of America must build its own palaces or else continue to dwell out of doors and it must adorn its own inner chambers before

it can ever feel at home in them. The genuine life of this country will not get into art until some American puts it there. If nebody is born who can do the trick, then it will remain undone. No doubt we must wait for the consummation until our first rate intelligencies have grown tired of making money and look for some other employment. Perhaps we must wait longer. It may be that the soil and climate of the United States are inimical to the noble arts. But there is encouragement in the thought that we are not so dependent intellectually and socially upon Europe as we were Some of our childish ways we have outgrown. Americans no longer English books with copy ervillty nor do we reverence the merdame of a lord as formerly. We still think our own language unfit for the lyric stage. A real artist must sing in German or Italian and no Ameri can composer appears quite so desir-able as a Polé or Bohemian, but these imbecilities will pass away. Critic who are capable of judging aver that "My Old Kentucky Home" is a better plece of music with more true Americanism in it than any European comser has ever written on a trans Atlantic theme. It is not a negro melody either, as some people idly suppose. It comes from "white folks." The only barbaric trait about it is the

PRUDENCE IN SCHOOL ATHLETICS. Student body activities, so-called and the expenses incident thereto are becoming burdensome both to teachers and patrons of the public schools of Portland. The football teams, first and last are a vexation and an expense that the results of the game in nowise justify. More than this there is a menace to the morals of boys of the high-school age in the junketings about the country that match games between teams of widely remote

schools include. Take for example the strenuous effort that is being made to get a Chicago High School team to come to Portland and play a team from one of our High Schools. A guarantee of several hundred dollars in gate money is contingent upon securin this attraction and pupils are called upon to pledge this sum or be con ddered disloyal to their school or without proper confidence in the prowess of their team. This means, of course, that parents must put up the money, since relatively very few high school pupils have developed an earning capacity. In the meantime are pushed and pulled over it while minds are on the coming

"game And what of the boys who, under guarantee of all expenses paid, come all the way from Chicago to Portland to play a game of football? Are they of an age that justifies the under-taking with the hilarity, loss of sleep and recklessness that attend such a junket? And in the very nature of things are not their studies neglect-Junket? ed, their teachers harried and their parents worried by this proceeding? Briefly is not Chicago the best place for schoolboys whose homes and par-ents are in Chicago? What does Mrz. Ella Flagg Young, City Superintendent of Chicago schools think about it, we wouder? And really, what do the school authorities of Portland think about it? No need to inquire what the patrons of our public think, since expressions of disapprov-al of this midwear interruption of the ourse of study and of the excitement and expense attendant upon the "big that is scheduled are heard on every hand. Prudence and economy should rule in this matter and in this ruling the true interests of education

With the courage that has been a leading factor in the management of that Institution, Pacific University is preparing to enter upon a vigorous campaign for funds wherewith to rect a library building on the cam-The experience of the past two to the Colonel?

or three years has determined the trustees of the university to build no more wooden buildings. The Car-negle fund of \$20,000 for a library building is contingent upon a similar sum to be raised by the university Mr. Carnegie's pledge was given five years ago, but because of the heavy expense incurred by replacing the girls' dormitory that was burned in the interim, and the building of a gymnasium at a cost of \$25,000, the brary fund has lagged. It is hoped that a vigorous canvass in this inter est will result in securing the required amount, one-half of which has al

Winter.

been subscribed during the

Figuring prominently in the De cember exports from the United States is a record-breaking volume of the United money orders. The reports of the first half of the month of December for New York City alone indicate that the month's business will reach a total of about \$12,000,000. As the practice of sending back a cash membrance for Christmas is universal among foreigners scattered through out the country, the grand total that will be shipped out this month will undoubtedly be many times us large as the sum reported from New York. This exportation of so many millions is quite a drain on the country even though at a season when we are also shipping out large quantities of products for which gold will be sent back The one redeeming feature of the performance is that the arrival of so much money in Europe will act as an advertisement among intending immigrants, many of whom will use the country.

oney in purchasing tickets to this A million Chinese are threatened with famine in the northern part o the province of Anhul. Destructive floods and the inability to reach the flood sufferers with supplies are the reasons given for the unfortunate sit-uation. While the purchasing power of many millions of the Chinese wretchedly small, and as in some parts of the great country starvation is always in evidence, it is the lack transportation that is the greatest drawback to their alleviation, Perhaps if the Chinese use that \$25,000,000 loan which they have recently negotiated for the purpose of building railroads, they may be able in future to take care of the sufferers whom floods deprive of means of living.

It has been more than half a cen tury since Longfellow in his "Build-ing of the Ship" wrote of "the deer-haunted forests of Maine," but the phrase still remains appropriate. During the hunting season which closed Thursday there were shipped through Bangor out of the Maine woods 3391 deer, 100 moose and 22 bear, an increase of more than 300 in the number of deer sent out in previous sea son. It is gratifying to note that while there was an increase in the of game killed the death roll among the hunters was materially reduced. But eighteen hunters were killed this year compared with thirty-one last year and twenty-eight in 1908.

An experiment in one of the refining arts will be undertaken today, when the best musicians of Portland will give a concert made up of the best music that Portland is capable of producing with instrument voice. This is not a money-making scheme. The purpose of the men and women who have gone into it is to create a love and satisfy the for "harmony of sweet sounds." Receipts from admission go to pay ex-If enough interest is shown, similar concerts will be given every two weeks during the Winter. The intrinsle merit of this undertaking commends it. It ought to meet with ample response.

The endowment of a chair in the School of Forestry at Yale by Mrs. E. H. Harriman as a memorial to her husband is commendable, not only as accomplishing the purpose of a membut as doing this through a living channel of usefulness. The ques-

hanor's voice provoke the sile flattery soothe the duil, cold death?

must always be sadly answered in the negative. Yet honor, that is not flattery is bestowed in this endowment in the name of a man whose large ac cumulative powers led to great wealth.

Who shall say after this that the modern cooking school is not a public benefactor? There is an institution of this kind in Minneapolis that has discovered that the carrot is an excellent substitute for eggs! This announcement just at this season, says the Baltimore News, falls as gratefully upon the housewife's car as if she had een told that soap wrappers had been made a legal tender.

It will set a dangerous precedent if the Board of Education remits the fine imposed on five public school principals who neglected to call fire Fallure to perform this imdrills. portant duty is unforgiveable. There can be no valid excuse. The fire drill is the last thing in school discipline that should be overlooked.

Merely for preliminary exercise, Champ Clark's outlining a platform on the tariff question is not open to objection, but it is a good guess that he will not be in the Speaker's chair one month until he has hold of the hot end of a poker.

As the red-blooded college boys themselves are patching up the row that occurred at Corvallis the matter need not be referred to Carnegie's new peace commission. Let the \$10,-000,000 be spent where it is worse

No doubt the Jackson Club of Port-

early in the season there is offered a text for the I-told-you-so's to predict a big flood next June.

Some enterprising dealer advertises
butter fit for the President's table.
What we need is butter fit to be
spread on bread baked in Portland
for the multitude.

Do your Christmas shopping early, ere
the drifting snows are here,
butter fit for the drifting snows are here,
the d butter fit for the President's table. What we need is butter fit to be for the multitude.

When the Portland Y. M. C. A. arranged for a lecture on "First Aid to the Injured," why didn't Secretary Stone think to send an advance copy

POLITICAL GOSSIP

What Dad Gets.

A fan for sister Mary.
A sleigh for brother Fred.
An opal ring for Jennie. A diamond pin for Ned. For mother, yes, God bless her, The best that can be had, of cars for Willie, A two-bit pipe for dad.

Cut glass for good Aunt Susan, A music roll for Elo;
A flaming vest of scarlet
For jolly Uncle Joe.
Fine things for everybody.
And isn't it too bad. will go stronger than A two-bit pine for dad?

—Detroit Free Press.

The Population

We sure are some big!
In spite of the reasting
Our critics hand out,
No wonder we're boasting. We've counted ourselves, And though not in the billions, We'me cutting some shine. With ninety odd millions.

Advantages, too, Fit themes for orations, We surely can hold Above other nations; or we're growing still, And for places to stow in, We've got half the land To give room to grow in.

The quantity's great.
But there we're not stopping,
Though records that way
From others we're topping.
As matter of fact Past all reason of polity, ith quantity, too, We may say we have quality. —Philadelphia Inquirer.

The American Hen.

(The eggs laid yearly in the United States exceed in value the production of all our silver mines.—Press item.)

The humble hen commands our love She brightly shines; Her eggs surpass the value of Our silver mines.

Her output, if placed end to end, The scholars say, Would belt the globe and then extend A lengthy way.

Or, if we placed them in a pile, With such a mass No pyramid along the Nile Could ever class. The output of the hen, I vow,

Should be our boast, I'd like to have a couple now On buttered toast. -Washington, D. C., Herald. Elasy. The poet has an easy job;

He never has to think: He only needs a fountain pen, Some paper and some ink.
—Leavenworth Post, The hod carrier has such a cinch

He never cares to shirk;
He totes the brick up seven flights,
A man there does the work.

—Houston Post.

The knocker has it pretty soft,
For almost any slammer
Can land his blows both hard and oft, and never use the hammer.

—Exchange.

Ol' Man Sandy Claus.

Ol' Man Sandy Claus a-comin'-Chillun, head 'im off! Hear dem wagon-wheels a-hummin'? Chillun, head 'im off! His face is black

Ex de chimney-back.

An' he comes wid de drum an' de jumpin-jack;

An' de mostest things in his Christmas sack+ Chillun, head 'im off!

Nail yo' number on de do'-Chillun, head 'im off! Fr'en' ter de young, an' de oi' an' po'— Chillun, head 'im off! He stayed away

Fer de longest day, Twel de chilluns lowed dat he los his But he comin 'now, wid de hip hoo-Chillun, head 'im off!

-Atlanta Constitution.

Without Redress.

The lass who minds the telephone Is busy as can be;
She has a most convincing tone,
And, though you cannot see
Her face, you fancy there's a frown
Upon her classic brow
When she remarks and turns you down,

"The line is busy now." Although the rich and wise and great In power may be sure. She is the one who holds your fate

within a grasp secure.

In silence you are left alone.

You wonder why and how,
when she exclaims in placid tone,
"The line is busy now!"

Washington, D. C., Star.

Does This Mean You?

See the children of the poor. Look with longing, hopeless eye.
At the windows gay with toys,
Poor tots, barred from Paradiset
Eager they, for childhood's bliss,
Yet by powerty dealed. Yet by poverty denied
All that Christmas means to them,
All its pleasures and its pride.

Little prisoners are they, a Shut behind cruel iron bars. From the luxury of life.

Knowing but its joits and jars: Taken from the childhood's rights.
Forced to inbor promature,
At a time when they need love,
Taught hard privation to endure.

Listen to their muffled nob Hushed to silence by the roar
Of the busy world about.
Pitiful, all the more.
Let no empty stockings plead
All in vain, for loving head:
Gives the children of the poor
In this Christians time, full me lives the children of the poor In this Christmas time, full meed:

Do It Early. No doubt the Jackson Club of Portland will celebrate the next anniversary of Jackson day with greater eciat than at any time since 1892. In this case, hope, though deferred eighteen years, maketh the heart glad.

Sixteen feet of snow in the mountains back of Baker is reported. Thus early in the season there is offered

your money and your list—
But at ten o'clock on Christmas eve
you'll think of one you've missed Do your Christmas shopping early, ere

You will be riggt in the attagate and wing how to make things hum.

And on Christman eve, dear sisters, all of you, including ma.

Will exclaim: "Well, goodness gracious. We had quite forgatten pair" Chicago Post