The Oregonian PORTLAND, OREGON.

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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, MAY 28, 1911.

THE FUTURE, NOT THE PAST.

Mr. Rushlight breaks a judicio allence to make an attack on Mayor Rimon as a "boss" of former days; but Mr. Rushlight may be advised that the public is not so much concerned about the political past of Mr. Simon as it h the political future of Mr. Rushlight. The career of Mr. Simon, personal, professional and political, is part of the familiar history of city and state. The cureer of Mr. Rush-light, so far as it is known, has been one of constant demagogic appeal to the restless, discontented and irresponsible elements of the community, of aubservience to the corporations and the sewer trust, and of traffic with the saloons and the North End. It gives no promise of firm control and rigid supervision of the immoral element, or of discipline of the corperations, or of rebuke to the dom-inant political ring in the City Coun-cil, or of effective opposition to the large schemes of the thrifty and energetic hand of contractors who infest the City Hall.

Mr. Simon has lived in Oregon practically all his life. He early man-ifested a real genius for politics and for adroit and successful political manipulation. He became a boss of the old style, operating in the old way, He was a State Senator, and several times president of the State Senate. He opposed and crushed the long dominant and arrogant Mitchell ring. He set up a machine of his own, h in time was destroyed, after he had been elected United States Senator. Then came the new era in our political affairs and the entrance upon the political stage of the selfmeking, stealthy-moving, people-fooling, primary-working, weather-vane-watching operator and statesman of the Bourne-Kellaher-Rushlight type: and the last estate of the common people, so far as political leadership is concerned, is as bad as the first, and probably worne

Throughout his long and active history in Oregon, Mr. Simon's personal integrity has not been impeached. He has been above graft or the suspicion of graft. He has been identified in a on graft. He has been interimed in a conspicious way with large affairs, and has manifested administrative and executive abilities of a high order. These guiding traits of Mr. Simon's character were so well known, and the public knowledge of his great capacity and confidence in his personal integrity were so general, that two years ago he was called out of his law office to become Mayor of Portland. He cona large vote. Now it is again demand-ed that he become a candidate for Mayor, and he has yielded. The kind of administration we have had for two

pears satisfied the public, though It is freely acknowledged that mistake been made. But by and large It has been a highly efficient adminis-With two years' experience tration. in handling problems that were, sot of them, new to him, and most of them difficult and momentous, Mr. Simon is equipped to do even better in the ensuing two years. It is futile for Rushlight, who has everything to conceal about his pres-ent dealings and future policies, to trall at Simon, who has nothing to conceal about past, present, or future. Not even Hushlight will venture to de clare that any act of Mayor Simon has been tainted by an improper purpose or inspired by personal or political ambition. He has been the Mayor. He has not sought to make the Mayoraty un instrumentality of other ends or the convenience of any group of politicians. He will not in the fu-Thirt

tion in rates is promised even if the American vessels are exempt from dues. Neither can the producer obtain any more for the commodities he ships, for the special privilege, which costs all of the people something, all goes in the nature of a contribution made for the purpose of making prof-itable an unprofitable business. There There

are a thousand consumers and produc-ers for every shipownsr, and any fa-voritism shown the latter must necessarily be at the expense of the former. What the Pacific Coast producers and their customers in the East need more than free canal dues is the right to use

than free canal dues is the right to be cheap ships. The canal is not being constructed for the purpose of enhanc-ing the profits of a fow wealthy ship-owners. It is being built to facilitate the commerce of the United States and to cheapen transportation. To reap the fullest benefits from the world is accessed that we erges this

to reap the fullest that we erase this canal it is necessary that we erase this fine line of distinction which at pres-ent prevents us from using any kind of an ocean carrier that is available. A free-ship bill which would permit Americans to buy tonnage in the open market and operate it on any route they saw fit would reduce freights between the Atlantic and Pacific seaboards nearly one-half. That reduc-tion would be followed by unexampled prosperity throughout the country.

WHEN DID RACE SUICIDE BEGIN? Between the Springfield Republican and Professor W. F. Willcox, of Cornell University, a protty little differ-ence of opinion has arisen over the procise time when the lamented de-cline in our National birthrate began. Professor Willcox sets the date as early as 1815, but the Republican in-clines to believe that the decline could not have begun much before 1850. Each of the two contestants has a good deal to say about the predictions of Elkanah Walker. This gentleman, who flourished early in the last cen-tury, prophesied that the population of the United States would continue permanently to increase as fast as it had up to the year 1815, that is, about one-third every ten years. His con-clusion was reached by study of the birth rate which then prevailed. It is a remarkable fact that the actual rate of increase remained at about

the figure he forecasted until the year 1850 and then it began to fall off. The Republican plausibly argues that, inasmuch as he drew from his premises a conclusion which was verified by the facts for many successive years, the premises themselves must have been accurate. Of course Elkanah Walker's most

important premise was the assumption that the birth rate would not decline during the nineteenth tury. The Republican contends that it could not have declined up to 1850 or his predictions as to the increase of the population would not have come true. Professor Willcox declares that it did declins, but that the population continued to increase as he had prophesied it would because of the falling death rate. On the other hand it is contended that the death rate in the United States did not change perceptibly during the interval between 1815 and 1850. Professor Willcox argues that it must have fallen, since deaths grew fewer in proportion to

population in every other country in the world, for which records exist. during that time. Unhappily there are no accurate statistics to confirm or contradict the conclusions of either side in this interesting debate. Professor Willcox derives some figures from the various census reports of the early decades of the last century, but evidently they are of no great service to him, while as for statistics of births and deaths

they simply do not exist. Our evidence upon the subject of the controversy is almost purely inferential. The subject is of practical as well as theoretical importance, for if our birth rate really began to decline as early as 1815 we cannot attribute the calamity to recent causes. It is idle for us to say that it comes from the high cost of living, the protective tarTHE SUNDAY OREGONIAN, PORTLAND, MAY 28, 1911.

for he pays the freight and no reduc- fore 1850 either in city or country Conditions remained about as they were at the beginning of the century while the density of the population had increased. Hence if there had been any change in the death rate it probably rose instead of fell. The conclusion follows at once that the birth rate could not have declined. All this omits any reference to the influence of immigration, but that factor did not become of pronounced importance until the latter half of the nineteenth century.

THE PERFECT ROSE.

A timely article in conjunction with Portland's annual Rose Festival, now but a week off, appears in the current number of Everybody's Magazine, under the head. "The Quest of the Perfect Rose." Daintily illustrated and written by an enthusiast in rose culture, this article is a seasonable embel-lishment of the pages which it covers as well as a timely presentment of the queen of flowers, so soon to hold sway over Portland streets. The "perfect rosel" exclaims one of our local devotees at the shrine of the We queen of this coming carnival.

already Testout! "Nay," exclaims another, "look at "Nay," exclaims another Viscountees Folkstone," and yet an-other and another claims perfection La France, and Richn for Lady Battersea and Duchess De Brabant; for Marie Von Houtt and Cath-

erine Mermet; for Maman Cochet and Madame Alfred Carriere. And And so on and on through a list of floral queens arrayed in shell or silver pink in gorgeous crimson, in tints of sun-set and gold, or in purest white, each and all of whom will hold court in the hearts of citizens of Portland during the week beginning June 5. To be sure, we need a few days of sunshine: warm and bright, to bring

our roses to perfection, but we need no new types of roses; no new variety of any type in order to be able to show perfect roses by the thousands and tens of thousands in early June days.

We are told that the "blue ros the dream of rosebreeders and hybrid. ists. Here the question, "Why should anybody want a 'blue rose'?" is pertinent. "Of course," comes the an-swer, "there is nothing beautiful about a blue rose. The affort to produce it is simply one of those strivings for the always desired-for the impossible. With this explanation we can afford

to drop the "quest of the perfect rose." feeling sure that it is pursued, not be cause we have not already perfect roses in abundance, perfect in form, fragrance, tints, habits of growth, vivid coloring and profusion of bloom, but because of the unappeasable de-sire to produce something new of quaint, or striking, that will serve to show man's power in the domain of Nature.

WORLD'S GREATEST CORONATION. "The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power," have been very much in evidence whenever Great Britain or any other monarchy crowned a new ruler. The coronation ceremonies in all times and among all peoples have been impressive, interesting and expensive. The affair now under re-hearsal in London, will be more impressive, more interesting and more expensive than any that the world ever saw. This is made possible only because the world is richer and the genius of man has provided facilities for spending money that were never dreamed of when William the Con-queror, Richard L or any of the longdeparted rulers of England were crowned. There is nothing in the annals of the old days that reveals any lack of desire for the spectacular or for the pomp and glory that are predominant features of twentieth cen-tury coronations. In their respective

day and age these old-time coronations were perhaps in degree the equal of that for which the world is now walting. In view of the fact that London has

thing more romantic is rewonderful movement that cost the immortal Joan of Arc her life. Napofond of the spectacular, violated all precedent by summoning the supreme ad of the Catholic Church to crown him at Paris instead of at Rheims, the ecclesiastical home of the nation. But for all this, the military and theatrical features of his coronation far outshone those of the church.

George V may lack the blood and iron qualities of some of the central figures in the gorgeons coronation spectacles of past ages, but no mon-arch who in earlier years followed the path of glory to the grave was ever called on to assume the mighty responsibility symbolized by the crown which will be placed on his head next month. The far-flung possessions of the British Empire embrace nearly 12,000,000 square miles, and nearly 400,000,000 subjects will hall him as King. Sub-rulars of these subjects are already pouring into London from all parts of the world, and the crowd have it. Look at Caroline is being increased by thousands of Americans, who are attracted by the prospect of the greatest spectacle of its kind that the world has ever seen.

Added interest is caused from the possibility of this being the climax of England's greatness. Certain it is that the limit of her territorial ex-12 11 pansion has been reached. With the mutterings of her starving millions at home, rebellious millions in India and other outlying colonies, and with her people staggering beneath the weight of army, navy and royal family burdens, a change, economic and political, may not be far in the future. Historians of the future may have occasion to write that the British Empire reached the zenith of its greatness with the crowning of George V.

MATERIALISM.

Mr. Roosevelt's opinion that this country stands in great danger from the spread of materialism and pagan ism merits serious attention. The warning was delivered to a congregation of ministers, members of the federation of churches, who had assem bled in New York and must therefor be received as one of the Colonel's profoundly meditated utterances and not a mere fugitive breeze of sentiment. It is to be regretted that he did not define paganism as he did mate-rialism. Had he done so the weight of his prophecy might have been bet-ter appreciated. As the subject now stands we know we are threatened with one peril, materialism, which has been clearly described for us and another, paganism, which we are lieft to make out for ourselves as best we

can We venture the modest guess that "paganism" Mr. Roosevelt meant by to signify that form of faith which is sometimes called "natural religion." It was the theory of divinity and life which was accepted in the ancient world up to the time when Christianity triumphed. Just how widely it appeals to the populace in our day seems rather a difficult question to answer. Mr. Roosevelt declares tha it is undermining orthodoxy everywhere and he has traveled so widely and observed so much that he ought to know.

But it does not follow that pagan sm, even if it has been adopted by large numbers of people, is a real danger to the country. Its ultimate effect may be to waken the ministers of Christianity to more fervent zeal and thus bring about the restoration of those happy conditions which ex-isted when every man was a church member and orthodox. This, however, is nothing better than speculation. We are more concerned with what Mr. Roosevelt had to say about material-ism. Of this evil he offered a clear and brief definition. He said it meant "concrete forms of wealth and power."

in evidence at the coronation of definition of materialism. Perhaps all Charlemagne at Rome in 800, and of us will. Matter grows a little vague orded in and elusive in the light of modern history than the crowning of Charles science. It becomes harder every day VII at Rheims, the culmination of that to tell precisely how it differs from mind. President McCosh used to be-gin his lectures on metaphysics with leon, wielding a power greater than attained by any other man and always ter? Never mind. What is mind? No matter." His puns have lost some-thing of their pungency to the twenmatter." tieth century student who inclines to believe that if mind is no matter still matter is mind. The two entities seem to differ most radically in the way they are measured. Mind cannot be

there are things which can be esti-mated in terms of quantity and in no other way. These are material things. Ideal entities can only be estimated in terms of quality. They answer the question "What kind?" while of matter we can only ask, "How much?

This enables us to define a material-ist pretty satisfactorily. He is a man who tries to state everything in num-bers, in quantity, ignoring quality altogether. The person who declares that "all is matter" may be an idealist without knowing it, but he who thinks of the universe in tons and millions of dollars alone is a materialist. Whether he calls himself a Christian or a pagan makes no difference.

WOMAN IN A NEW BOLE.

The announcement of the appoint ment of Miss Mabel Albright as Deputy Prosecuting Attorney of Douglas County is surprising chiefly because the appointee is not an elector of the county or state and therefore is supposed to be without political pull or recognition in the graver affairs of commonwealth. The fitness of the the appointment is, however nized in the assignment of the young woman to the prosecution of juvenile offenders. The harsher judgment of men-always excepting Judge Ben Lindsey, the originator of the juvenile court in American cities—is often illsuited to the case of the juvenile offender, while the intuitive instinct of woman specially qualifies her to deal with offenders of this class. At least this is the ground taken by many

criminologists, who insist that not only should justice be tempered with mercy in the case of the child who has gone wrong, whether from crimi-nal instinct or from lack of experience and proper direction, but that mercy should, and in a vast majority of such cases might with ultimate benefit to the individual and the state, set justice aside, or at least hold it in

From his large experience in dealing with juvenile offenders Judge Lindsey designates children as "neither moral nor immoral, but simply un-moral," and holds that they should be restrained and directed, rather than punished. This view is shared by most women who have given thought to the subject. And while the entrance

of duly qualified women into the de-partment of law that deals with with youthful offenders is an innovation in our jurisprudence it can hardly be decried as inapt or unwomanly, since surely anything that she Ac toward the uplift of the child is strictly within "woman's sphere."

Miss Albright, of Douglas County, is the only woman holding the office Deputy Prosecuting Attorney in this state. It may be hoped that she will discharge the duties ond obligations of her important office wisely, realize ing that she cannot afford to make mistakes in her new and highly reonsible position. It is tolerably certain, indeed, that any faults or flaws in the pursuit of her official duties will be those that lean to virtue's side.

A WOEFUL TYPE.

The Oregonian has received an ap al which ought to touch the hardest heart. A young woman, a pupil in the eighth grade of the public school in an Oregon town, terrified by the approaching peril of the June examinademanding all that the transit comtions, writes for information on two pany can, in reason, be required to which reads a little oddly seeing that power is always immaterial and occult way she has made up her mind

come to his rescue, and unfortunately memory has little to cling to. The school child feels instinctively that his mind is filled with a sort of intellectual rubbish, unrelated fragments of knowledge which rest real education no more than a pile of bricks resembles a house. On examination day he is imperatively ordered to search through this rubbish heap and draw forth treasure after treasure at a moment's notice. The command would be inhuman if he had weeks'

notice of every question, for a needle in a haystack is proverbially hard to weighed or counted, stind cannot be find. No wonder the poor child, in thought or memory or purpose. But comes first to hand to surver that there are things which can be supposed on the survey of the survey of the suppose. about it is that he ever gives a correct answer. The fact that this occasionally happens goes far to convince us that the day of miracles has not yet passed. The paths which lead from fact to fact are far more important than the facts themselves. The level

> snowcapped peaks. On the other hand, the peaks can caricature of life. We said a moment ability in vaudeville. ago that the child's terror of examination day arises from his deep sense of ignorance. The contents of his mind have no handles by which he

features by which he can recognize them, and he knows it. Hence he is appalled by the command to catch and exhibit them in orderly array. Chil-dren are not frightened by an examination in what they truly know. On the contrary, it delights them to show off their knowledge. It will not do to offer the excuse that the schools have

to much to teach that they can teach nothing well. As a matter of fact, the entire contents of any ordinary series a nuisance as that other evil of textbooks do not amount to a great teach them all.

What is the remedy? It seems to us that it can be formulated very sim-Stop teaching for culture, which ply. inevitably degenerates into bald tricks of memory, and teach for faculty, or themselves of the privilege. in manual dexterity do not frighten pupils. They can do the work and they know they can do it. What a contrast they present with the panicstricken child vainly rambling through the barren desert of his mind in pursult of fugitive facts. The girl whose letter furnished u

with a text asks for the causes of the troubles in Mexico, whether the treaty of peace has been signed, and so forth. In reply we wish to ask another question: What is the reason that pupil has not been taught to read this the wspapers and thus keep herself informed upon facts of current interest? She also inquires what per cent 10 is of 1/2. What human being outside of an asylum for the insane ever really wanted to know that 10 is 2000 per cent of something or other? This poor girl is a type, and a woeful one.

Fancy the howl of indignation that vill go up from the crowd waiting on every street corner when one car : another, to the full capacity of the street railway company's rolling stock, whizzes by because there are no more empty seats! Is it not clear that this attempt to make a street-railway com-pany do an impracticable thing will prove a boomerang to the crowd of workingmen and women of the suburbs who are anxious to get home for dinner and rest after their day's la-bor? It goes without saying that every honest son and daughter of toil is entitled to all that he or she can get in the way of convenient, rapid and comfortable transit to and from work; to a seat if one can be had-to a strap, if there is no seat, to standing room on the platform if that is all that is available. They are justified in

Scraps and Jingles Leone Cass Baer.

What I want to know is where do women carry their powder rags and money when they wear harem skirts.

One of the really satisfying signs of the times is the spread of technical education. I note that an anarchist's association has just been discovered in Chicago, a feature of which is the course of instruction for members in the use of chemicals for the manufacture of explosives.

Woman novel reader writes to this department as follows, "I am reading 'Lena Lee, or the Lure of a Handsome Travelling Salesman,' and in one line occurs the sentence. Lura bit her lips till the blood came again.' Can you The level tell me to what story this is a sequel untry between the mountains is of as this is the first and only biting refinfinitely more consequence than the erence in this book?

A tramp hauled into the local police be numbered and classified, while it station was, upon investigation, found is difficult to the last degree to tabu- to be wearing a horse blanket about late for recitation purposes the teem-ing cities and flowery fields that lie between them. The latter stand for former for the school, with its and

Wife says, "Why do you sit on the piano stool Ichabod, you know you can't play a note"" And Ichabod sava, can seize them, they have no living 'Neither can any one else while I'm here,"

> It is thought unlikely that all the public officials will be installed in the new City Hall before next year, difficulty of getting public officials to move is notorious.

A mere man writes to complain that the fearful and wonderful edifices of hair now worn in theaters are as great huge hats. It is difficult to know how to deal, and nobody thinks of trying to remedy the evil. I doubt, even if women were permitted to leave their

curis and puffs and coronet braids with the matron during the performance even if it were perfectly free of charge whether many of them would avail

You called. But no reply I made To your gently breathed command, Your eyes gleamed at me unafraid, You held toward me your hand. "Twas not that I played false with you, Or that I wished to stall,

I didn't hold a single trump, So I couldn't heed your call.

As a companion volume to that new book, "The Complete Motorist," I suggest that some one get busy and write about "The Complete Pedestrian." And do it at once or it will soon be difficult to locate an entire specimen.

Statistics show that in France 5000 wives are deserted annually. Which only goes to prove what we have always been told that Frenchmen are the most considerate and thoughtful of husbands.

Miss Calamity Step-and-Fetch-it, the ultured and charming, etc. lady-poet of Kalama, is writing a soulful epic called "The Castiron Pirate," a sequel to that other pretty fancy, "The Apple Ple-rate."

Extract from an exchange reads. "Mr. Roosevelt showed his knowledge of history while admiring a table said to have belonged to Catharine II of Russia by pointing out the extreme im-probability of the story that the Peace of Tilset was signed upon it as late as 1907." Now that's what I call a sweetly subtle incident. And it would never have appeared in print if it hadn't been connected with T. R.

A note of unrest is sounded in this testimonial clipped from a jeweller's ad in a country paper, "I am quite sat-isfied with the wedding ring I purchased of you and will in future deal

But Rushlight?. What will Rushlight do? Who will be his appointees? Who will constitute his cabinet What will be his aims and policies These are questions of present mo-No buncombe protestations of ment. virtue or threadbure recital of long-forgotten events will obscure the live issues of the day and the hour.

HANDICAPPING OUR TRADE.

Senator Jones, of Washington, has introduced a bill in the Senate providing regulations for the Panama Canal and containing a provision that American vessels engaged in coastwise trade shall have the free use of the canal. Regardless of the fact that ex-treates which we are making no attempt to abrogate explicitly provide that no favoritism in rates shall be shown any vessels making use the canal, the Seattle Post-Intelli-gencer commends this feature of the Jones bill, and makes the unwarranted statement that "either the American ships must have special privileges in canal or the benefit of the canal the foreigners at the exwill go to pense of the people of this country.

The Seattle paper reaches this con-clusion in this way: "When the canal is open the British Columbia lumber ufacturers can ship their products through to the Atlantic States precisely as easily as can the Washington lumbermen. But the Washington lumbermen will have to ship exclusively in American' vessels, while the British Columbia millmen can use vessels of any country in the world." The Panama Canal is not being constructed as a money-making enterprise, but it is ed that a sufficient amount shipping will make use of it to enable the earning of operating expenses and at least a small interest on the invest-ment. Any "special privileges," such as exempting American ships from tonnage dues, must necessarily be paid for by the American people, who must

foot the bills. us see who secures the financial indvantage of

have been due to something in the the greatest of all attractions which natural conditions of the climate or she has ever been able to offer the It is well known that, although the Indians had dwelt in this note that even the church is making country for many generations, they did not increase in numbers. No doubt the land was as thinly populat-ed when the Pilgrims landed as it was a thousand yours earlier. Why did not the natives multiply? War reaped its harvest, of course, but not more than it did among the popula-tion of Europe from the fall of Rome to the eighteenth century, and yet during that whole interval the number of human beings living in Europe steadily increased, while the number of the Indians never increased so far

as anybody can learn. It may even have diminished from the date of their primitive migration to this strong religious vein. From the days country.

It could not have been war which kept the Indians from multiplying. No more could it have been disease. In their original condition they not seem to have suffered much from deadly maladies. They caught several from the Buropeans, but that is

different matter altogether. seems tenable to argue, therefore, that the climatic conditions of the North American continent are not favorable to the multiplication of human be-This inference is reinforced by ings.

their landing. The solliary exception of the French Canadians would not of itself invalidate this general conclusion. It is therefore a matter of great interest to prove, if possible, that our National birth rate did not begin to decline until the pressure of popula-tion supplied an obvious reason for it. This would relieve us of the disagreeable thought that our continent may

not be adapted for the permanent survival of mankind. As a matter of fact, there is hardly more than fanciful ground for concluding that the birth rate began to decline early in the last century and still less for imagining that this hypothetical decline was counterbalanced by a falling death rate. The decrease of the death rate in the modern world is due almost entirely to scientific discoveries which, as the Republican notices, are very recent. Almost all of them depend upon the germ theory of disease which has made its striking advances in the last twenty or thirty years.

tourist it is not at all surprising to some concessions. Despite the pro tests of Lord Halifax and other church dignitaries the nonconformists will be permitted to participate in the minor features of the great event. The average Englishman "dearly loves a lord" and is always in readiness to grovel at the feet of royalty. Precedent and tradition coming down through centuries in which murderers reprobates graced and disgraced the throne on which King George is about to be crowned have not taken the keen edge from the British desire to day. But the Englishman also

of the Roman invasion he has fought for his religion with the same ardor displayed in fighting for his king. the two objects not infrequently admitting of concurrent fighting. Hence it is that the crowning of a king in all ages has been regarded as a most sacred religious rite in which the church appears as a witness or agent to a solemn contract entered into be-tween the people and their ruler. In the days soon after the Romans had departed from England the opportunities for elaborating this religious ceremony were not always of the best.

The English at times changed mon-archs so often and in such haste that the coronation exercises may be said on the run. to have taken place Even when William the Conqueror was having the crown fitted to his head in Westminster Abbey in 1966 his Norman guards outside the Abbey mistook the hearty responses made in the Eng-lish tongue for a signal for trouble

and began burning the town, thus attracting so much attention that William and the priests were obliged hastily to finish the coronation exercises The religious ceremonies at the cor-

onation of Richard the Lion-Hearted were also disarranged by a massacre of the Jews, which began almost simultaneously with the appearance Westminster of the new King. But lows upon the splendid show of virtual there will be no massacres and no discordant notes at the coming corona-tion that is now drawing spectators from every country on the globe. The coronation proper will cost Great Britain \$25,000,000, and this is only a small portion of the grand total that

ing advances in the last twenty or hirty years. Before it was established that the from the standpoint of cost, most dangerous epidemics were B. C., from the standpoint of cost, caused by microscopic forms of life | would have given that of King George B. C. the summer is a close race, but the world in Ptol-bills are who secures the financial so of this proposed special Surely not the consumer, and prolonged were thought of be-

wealth often so. It did not escape Blackstone's no

tice that many forms of wealth are pure abstractions. The property right represented by a bank note or a share of stock partakes very slightly of the material. It resembles much more closely those "generalized ideas" closely those "generalized ideas" which Plate followed into the empyrean. Most great modern fortunes have passed into this etherealized state. They are not composed of gold and sli-ver, nor of land or any other tangible substance. What they really are is a mere right, sustained by the lay hold of a certain proportion of the products of industry from day to When too much of this right or power is accumulated in the hands of one man we agree with Mr. Roosevel that it becomes a menace but we cannot concede that "materialism" is the name by which menace ought to be designated. On the contrary it is a subtle form of idealiam. Wealth in its modern and dangerous shape is not a thing but an idea just as the pagan gods were. Whether it is real or not makes no difference so far as its power over the minds of men is concerned. There was a time when the Egyptian Isis exercised tremende authority over human beings. She did not exist but her ministers did and that was sufficient to obtain the ef-

fect Since, then, we must class wealth among immaterial things, mere abstractions, we cannot concede that the craving for it ought to be called terialism." The pursuit of wealth is the quest of an ideal in more than one By far the greater number of those who seek it do not thirst much for the wine it will buy nor do they long especially for automobiles and fine linen in themselves. These things are valued merely as symbols, Like # bishop's crozier they stand for spiritual authority. The persons who pos

sess them are eminent in the modern hierarchy which conducts the ritual of Mammon. They value the station, the power that goes with it and the adoration of their fellow men which folomnipotence. No doubt a hungry carpenter gets more enjoyment out of his badly cooked beefsteak than the dyspeptic millionaire does from his champagne and exquisite French dishes, so far as mere eating goes, but he does not get the awe-stricken worship from the humble which irradiates the mil-

Honsire's meal and makes it like a religious function where he enjoys the dignity of the god. A heathen god, to be sure, but that does not mar the

that these matters will be referred to in the examination questions, and, with true feminine shrewdness, she

wishes to take time by the forelock. She would set her intellectual house in order to prepare for the day of doom. Her letter is printed in another col umn of today's paper and we shall speak of its contents by and by first we wish to give utterance to an irrepressible astonishment that the exminations in the public schools should be so much of a horror to the pupils. What can the reason of a horror be? It is certainly not because the questions are difficult. Those which we have seen ought to be answered easily by any intelligent person, whether he ever went to school or not. They touch upon subjects of ordinary concerning which persons interest. who read the newspapers and share in the usual routine of life can hardly escape being informed. And yet the examinations frighten the pupils into than

nervous prostration and m half of them fail to answer the questions correctly.

Many of the "failures" are, course, to be attributed directly to this paralyzing fright. Nobody can use his mind to advantage when he is hadly scared. Other failures result from diversity of instruction. The same word has not the same meaning in different textbooks. Definitions are given in varying language and often in irreconcilable substance, and so on.

But the latter cause ought not to count for much in Oregon, since here we have the same textbooks in all the schools. Children lately arrived from other states might experience some difficulty from it, but not those who have attended Oregon schools all their lives.

There may be many causes for the nervous dread with which most school children see examination day approaching, but we are convinced that one of them is far more important than any of the others. This is the deep consciousness of ignorance. A child receiving instruction in school is like a traveler conveyed by an angel from one mountain peak to another in stroyed by fire. country by night and kept blind

He is permitted to exfolded all day. amine the surface of the peak at his feet by the light of a tallow candle, but never does he gaze upon the wide expanse of the intervening handscape, nor does he learn the roads from nor does no reach the road the road to another. Naturally, the square yard of surface at the summit of one mountain looks very much like the similar area on another. When the angel is at last ready to bestow

give. When they go beyond this it will simply be up to them to get back According to a receiver and forth between their suburban homes and their work the best way they can. There is such a thing as converting a slege into a blockade,

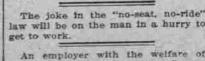
That weird, uncatalogued and unaccountable equine aliment known as the "walking disease," is so prevalent in Walla Walla as to cause the greatest anxiety among horsemen. A horse afflicted with this disease in able and gruesome sight and danger-ous withal, as he plunges about regardless of owner or caretaker like the mad creature that he is. Since neither cause nor cure for the disease known, the merciful farmer shoots his horse when the first symptoms appear, both to arrest infection and end, the sufferings of the animal. It is not con celvable that a disease at once so pronounced and infectious will much longer evade the researches of science in the interest of cause and cure,

> Two new transcontinental trains into operation tomorrow to ald the two dozen that are carrying people each way between East and West. Nothing can better show the growth of the country, for the man is yet far from old who remembers when trains a day carried all the people who could afford the trip-Nos. 3 and 4 for first-class and Pullmans, and Nos. 5 and 6 for emigrants, all on the Union Pacific and Central Pacific,

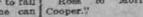
Possibly Mr. Rushlight may have forgotein that Mr. Simon was among the active forces that helped save Oregon for sound money in 1896. Or, has he not forgotten? Hence, the ac-tive hostility of forces that were against Simon and for free silver then are against Simon and for a free North End now.

A great city-the greatest in all the land-is appalled at the prospect of being left without something to laugh at during the coming Summer. "Dreamland," the great pleasure point of gay Coney Island has been de

The difference between Capitalist Ryan and Job is a simple matter of arithmetic. Ryan had a boil on a leg and Job had barely room for one more.



the city at heart will grant at least a half-holiday election day. -----Ross to Morris: "After you,



According to a recent scientific disovery an egg doesn't turn really bad until it is at least seven years old. We are naturally, then, led to infer that nost of them like people are born most of thanksin.

That figure of speech "launched on the sea of matrimonial bliss." doesn't. onvey much to those who get seasick easily.

Man claims to have invented a device by which "Summer flowers may be grown in Winter or vice versa." For the vice versa part anyway no device is needed in Oregon.

It was a mean man, who, in response o the photographer's request to "look pleasant, look as if you were about to be married," replied grouchily, "I am."

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian, May 27, 1861. There were several severe 1 There were several severe hall squalls in this section of the country yesterday. We have not heard that fruit has been injured or grain cut down by them.

A reconnoissance was ma week of the proposed route of a canal round the falls at Oregon City, and a calculation of its cost of construction. It was estimated that a canal might be was estimated that a canal migh instructed with suitable locks \$175,060

An enthusiastic union meeting was held at Dalles on the night of Satur-day, the 25th inst.

The bogus confederacy has declared war against the United States.

Where Elevator "Boys" Are Girls.

St. Louis Times. Milwaukee boasts of something new girl elevator operators, duly licensed by the municipal inspector and certi-fied to be competent not only to run lifts, but to make ordinary repairs on There are two of them, and they them. There are two of them, and they have solved a problem for the Young Women's Christian Association manag-ers, who stacked up against a com-bination of a building with elevators and a rule against men employes. As "the head of man" was not allowed to "set foot" in the Young Women's Christian Association, the officials had the two scours women take a course in

the two young women take a course in elevator running and repairing, and now everything is lovely.

School Girl's Queries.

TURNER, Or., May 24.- (To the Edi-tor.)-I am going to take the eighth grade examination in June. I would like for you to answer the following quesfor you to answer the housing of the tions: What are the chief causes of the war in Mexico? Describe the war. Has the treaty of peace yet been signed? What per cent of % is 10? SCHOOL-GIRL