

THE HILLSBORO ARGUS.

VOL. IX. HILLSBORO, OREGON, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1902. NO. 32.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting to Our Many Readers.

The United Irish league will raise \$100,000 to fight the landlords.

Fifteen lives were lost by the capsizing of a boat in Chinese waters.

A Texas mob overpowered officers in a court and lynched two Negroes.

General Miles was robbed in Honolulu of his valise containing jewelry and other valuables.

Boilermakers in the Washash shops at Springfield, Ill., have gone on strike for an increase in wages.

George Smith, colored, on trial in Portland for murdering his wife, has been found guilty of murder in the first degree.

At the official trial of the monitor Wyoming, she showed a speed of 12 1/2 knots, one knot more than was called for in the contract.

The statement of the collections of internal revenue for September show a decrease of \$1,718,770, as compared with the same month of 1901.

Venezuela is again at odds with Great Britain. It is alleged the latter agreed to put down the rebellion if she were given a 30 per cent reduction of customs on goods going into Venezuela.

The secretary of the interior holds that in all homestead entries made of lands embraced in the former Sitka Indian reservation, three years' actual residence must be proven before patent issues.

The Irish Nationalists created another disorder in the British house of commons.

The Mollineux jury has been completed and the state is offering its side of the evidence.

Representative C. A. Russell, of Connecticut, is critically ill and his recovery is not expected.

An electric light wire started a fire in Helena, Montana, which destroyed \$45,000 worth of property.

A Big Four passenger train ran into an open switch 14 miles north of Columbus, Ohio, fatally injuring several persons.

The National W. C. T. U., in session at Portland, Maine, passed a resolution condemning the character of advertisements placed on bill boards.

Two persons were killed and 15 injured in a railroad wreck at Herno, Texas. The accident occurred at a crossing, two trains meeting.

Matthew H. Money, a pioneer newspaper man of the Pacific coast, died in Oakland, aged 70 years. At different times he conducted several papers in different parts of Washington.

Railway switchmen of St. Paul and Minneapolis have given notice of a demand for higher wages and shorter hours. They will strike if the raise is not granted.

British army officers say the American horses are far better for cavalry use than any other they can obtain.

Two convicts in the Leavenworth, Kan., federal prison fled off their shackles and were about to escape when discovered.

The treasury department has asked for offers of property for sale in New York for use to erect the new postoffice building on.

Ocean vessels sailing from Atlantic ports are being delayed somewhat on account of their inability to secure coal promptly.

Sanitary conditions in the Philippines are rapidly improving. Cholera has been gotten under control and is rapidly dying out.

France is facing a serious labor situation. Every union man in the nation may be called out to gain a universal eight hour day and an old age pension.

Dr. William H. Bates, a well known New York physician, who disappeared last August, has been found in London. He says his mind has been practically a blank since that time and he did not know his own identity.

The execution of murderer Belding will take place at Portland October 31.

The Haytian rebellion is at an end by the submission of the revolutionists.

Secretary of the Treasury Shaw has announced that he will buy \$20,000,000 of 1925 bonds.

The 29th annual convention of the National W. C. T. U. is in session at Portland, Maine.

A new panel of 150 taleamen has been called to secure the jury for the trial of Roland B. Mollineux.

A collision between two trains in Ohio resulted in both engines being demolished and 20 persons injured.

Sir Thomas Lipton's challenge to race for the America's cup has been received by the New York yacht club.

The principal issue before the miners' convention will be provision for men thrown out of work by the retention of nonunionists.

The grand jury found an indictment for murder in the first degree against William Hooper Young, who is under arrest at New York for the killing of Anna Pullitzer.

SUGAR FACTORY BURNED.

Fire in Chicago Results in Loss of Valuable Property and Many Lives.

Chicago, Oct. 23.—Five men are known to have lost their lives in a fire which tonight partly destroyed the plant of the Chicago branch of the Glucose sugar refining company, and the list of dead will certainly be much greater than five, and may reach as high as 30. The estimates run all the way from that number down to 10. Only one of the five men whose bodies have been recovered has been identified.

The fire broke out with an explosion in the drying house, which is seven stories in height, and stands close to the main building of the plant, which is 14 stories high. A third structure is four stories high. The two smaller buildings were destroyed and the larger building was badly damaged. The fire spread after the explosion with such rapidity that it was impossible for the men in the upper stories of the drying house to make their escape, and it is the number of men believed to have been at work on the seventh floor that causes the uncertainty in the list of dead. Some of the employees who made their escape say that there were 20 or 30 and others say that there were not more than 10 at work when the fire broke out. Whatever the number, all are dead. Four men leaped from the upper floors and all are dead. The fifth in the list is an electrician, who is known to have entered the building, and was there at the time of the fire. He is supposed to be dead for the reason that all the firemen and laborers about the burned building say that no man made his escape from the upper floors.

Secretary Glass, of the refining company, stated that he estimated the loss at \$500,000.

SAMOAN CASE DECIDED.

King Oscar, as Arbitrator, Rules Against the United States.

New York, Oct. 23.—King Oscar, of Sweden and Norway, has decided the Samoan controversy in favor of Germany, says a dispatch to the Tribune from Washington.

This fact became known on the return of Mr. Grip, the minister of Sweden and Norway, from a long visit to his home. Mr. Grip called at the state department, but did not, of course, disclose the decision of his sovereign, which must be formally presented simultaneously to the three powers concerned. The announcement will be astonishing to the governments of the United States and Great Britain, which were confident that they would establish fully the legality and propriety of the joint landing of marines at Apia in 1899 to sustain the decree of the Samoan supreme court and end the revolution. The full scope of the arbitral decree of King Oscar is not yet divulged, and the extent to which it covers the claims for damage filed by the citizens of three countries and of France may not be known for several days. These claims, which were nominally the prime cause for arbitration, are insignificant, however, compared with the question of national honor, on which they depended, and if the action of the United States and Great Britain had been sustained by the royal arbitrator, would have fallen to the ground.

TO REGISTER LAND TITLES.

Philippine Commission Decides to Adopt the Torrens System.

Manila, Oct. 23.—The United States Philippine commission has decided to enact a land-law registry bill drafted by Commissioner Ide. The bill adopts the Torrens registry system, with modifications to fit local conditions, and creates a land titles court. Land titles throughout the island are at present clouded to such an extent that sales of land and its improvements are retarded. An enormous task is involved in the labor of clearing titles. Government lands which were sold under authority of the Philippines act after that act passed the American congress, will be recorded under the Torrens system.

The commission has passed a bill defining the terms under which the Manila street railway franchise is to be granted. This bill provides for the award of the franchise by competition. Bids will be opened next March, after advertisement here and in the United States.

CHINESE RECORDS RESTORED.

American Officer Will Return Tablets of Jade to Chinese Government.

San Francisco, Oct. 23.—The famous Jade tablets brought to this country by Lieutenant F. M. Wise, of the marine corps, will now find their way back to China. Collector of Customs Stratton has been instructed by the secretary of the treasury to turn them over to the Chinese consul on the payment of \$50. The money will be given to Lieutenant Wise, who has alleged all along that he paid that amount for the stones. There are 10 tablets in all, and on each are inscriptions of great value. On some are the old names of emperors long dead, and on some the names of beloved empresses.

Britain Will Have Justice from China.

Shanghai, Oct. 23.—Four British gunboats have been ordered from here to the Yangtze Kiang, to Hankow, because of the failure of the Chinese authorities to deal with the murderers of Bruce and Lewis, the English missionaries who were killed. It is said that the Chinese authorities are alarmed at Great Britain's step and that Prince Ching, president of the foreign office, will confer with regard to the matter with the British minister to China.

NEWS OF OREGON

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF THE STATE.

Commercial and Financial Happenings of the Past Week—Brief Review of the Growth and Development of Various Industries Throughout Our Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

Three free rural mail delivery routes out of Junction City will begin service December 1.

Construction work on the terminal yards, at Grants Pass, of the Oregon & Pacific railroad will begin January 1.

Arthur Scofield, confined in the county jail at Albany for larceny, made his escape a few days ago. He was captured at Eugene.

The first carload of Oregon's dried prunes of this year's crop left Albany last Saturday for New York. Four and one-half cents was received.

Marion county physicians have formed a county medical society. C. S. White, of Gervais, was elected president and C. H. Robertson, of Salem, secretary.

J. F. Markley, who murdered John D. Fain at Clatsop last June, has been sentenced to spend the remainder of his life in the penitentiary. He is 67 years old.

The first of Crook county's annual fairs, held at Prineville, was a success in every respect. Large crowds were in daily attendance, and some fine exhibits were on display.

The stage running between North Yamhill and Tillamook was held up about five miles from North Yamhill Saturday night by three masked men. The stage was bound for Tillamook. The robbers secured \$200 from passengers.

The recent rains throughout the Willamette valley have enabled the farmers to push the work of fall seeding. All fruit is picked and other fall work over and a few days more of good weather will enable the farmers to finish seeding.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Ackerman recently asked several county superintendents to offer suggestions for the betterment of the school system. The ideas he has received are many and varied, and include higher qualifications of teachers, consolidation of districts and an increase of the compulsory attendance period.

A sale of 300 bales of hops at 25 cents is reported from Dallas.

A franchise has been granted for another telephone line from Baker City to Sumpter.

The report of Superintendent Lee of the state penitentiary shows that on October 1 there were 300 convicts in the institution, 19 less than at the beginning of the quarter. The earnings for the quarter were \$4,246.40 and the total expenditures were \$14,746.09.

With appropriate ceremony, Agricultural hall, designed to facilitate and advance experiment and instruction in agricultural lines at the Oregon agricultural college, was dedicated at Corvallis October 15. Addresses were made by Governor Geer, Congressman Tongue and a number of others. The attendance from outside the city numbered several hundred.

Four proposed amendments to the Oregon constitution will be before the next legislature for its endorsement. These amendments were proposed by resolutions approved by the last legislature, and they must receive the approval of another legislature before they can be submitted to a vote of the people. The proposed amendments relate to the state printer, city charters, elections, state institutions outside of Salem and repeal of anti-Negro section of constitution.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 65¢@66¢; bluestem 68 1/2¢@69¢; valley, 66 1/2¢.

Barley—Feed, \$20.00 per ton; brewing, \$21.00.

Flour—Best grade, 3.00@3.50; Graham, \$2.85@3.20.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$18.50 per ton; middlings, \$23.50; shorts, \$19.50; chop, \$17.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1@1.02 1/2; gray, 95¢@1 per cental.

Hay—Timothy, \$10@11; clover, \$7.50; cheat, \$8 per ton.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 60¢@70¢ per sack; ordinary, 50¢@55¢ per cental; growers' prices; Merced sweets, \$1.75@2 per cental.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50@4.25; per pound, 10¢; hens, \$4@4.50 per dozen; \$3 per dozen; fryers, \$3@3.25; broilers, \$2@2.50; ducks, \$5@5.50 per dozen; turkeys, young, 10¢@12¢; geese, \$6@6.50 per dozen.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 13 1/2¢@14¢; Young America, 14¢@14 1/2¢; factory prices, 12 1/2¢ less.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 27 1/2¢@30¢ per pound; extras, 30¢; dairy, 18¢@20¢; store, 12 1/2¢@15¢.

Eggs—23¢@27 1/2¢ per dozen.

Hops—New crop, 21¢@23¢ per pound.

Wool—Valley, 12 1/2¢@15¢; Eastern Oregon, 8¢@14¢; mohair, 26¢@28¢.

Beef—Gross, cows, 3¢@3 1/2¢ per pound; steers, 4¢; dressed, 6¢@7¢.

Veal—7 1/2¢@8 1/2¢.

Mutton—Gross, 3¢ per pound; dressed, 6¢.

Lamb—Gross, 3 1/2¢ per pound; dressed, 6 1/2¢.

Hogs—Gross, 6 1/2¢@7¢ per pound; dressed, 7¢@7 1/2¢.

COST OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Impressive Figures Taken from Report of Commissioner of Education.

Washington, Oct. 22.—The annual report of the commissioner of education just submitted to the secretary of the interior shows the grand total of pupils in schools, elementary, secondary and higher, both public and private, in the United States for the year ended June 30, 1901, was 17,299,260, an increase of 278,250 pupils over the previous year. Of this number the enrollment of pupils in institutions supported by general and local taxes furnished by states and municipalities was 15,710,394, as against 15,443,462, the number reported for the previous year. Besides these there were certain special institutions, like city evening schools, business schools, schools for Indians, reform schools, schools connected with asylums, schools for cookery and other special trades and vocations, which enrolled nearly half a million pupils. Adding the enrollment in these special schools to that for general education, the aggregate is something over 17,750,000 of our population that received education for a longer or shorter period during the year ending June 30, 1901.

The value of property used for public school purposes has risen to \$576,963,089 from \$130,380,908 in 1870, and the expenditures for the common schools (including elementary and secondary schools, but excluding all institutions for higher education) amounted to \$226,043,236, having risen to this sum from \$43,396,566 in 1870. In 1870 the expenditures for schools per capita of the population was \$1.64; the past year it was \$2.93 per capita of the population, the highest that it has ever been. It was an increase of 10 cents to each man, woman and child over the year previous. The average attendance of each pupil for the entire number enrolled was 99 days for the year, an increase of 24 days over the previous year.

TAFT ANSWERS THE TEACHERS.

Complaints About Philippine Positions are Not Well Founded.

Washington, Oct. 22.—Some time ago complaints were made by school teachers in the Philippines about the hardships which they endured. It was asserted that good places were given to a few teachers and bad places to others. Complaint also was made that the condition of the currency caused a loss to the teachers, and that the commissary supplies of the insular administration were not good. All these complaints were referred to Governor Taft. His reply has now been received at the war department.

Governor Taft says that in the very nature of things the teachers had to enter upon duties which were largely of a missionary character, and hardships were certain to be the portion of some. It was impossible to make all assignments equal, but as the facts became known efforts would be made to equalize the duties of teachers, so that all would share in the pleasant duties as well as the arduous work.

Governor Taft says that the completion of boats that have been building for the insular government there will bring a better system of supply from the commissary department.

ADOPTION ALMOST SURE.

Miners are Considering Peace Plan, with Mitchell in the Chair.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Oct. 21.—The anxiously awaited convention of the 143,000 striking miners met yesterday, but did not reach a vote on the proposed plan of settlement. It is expected to do so today. There were 662 delegates present in the Nesbit theater, where the convention was held, and they were empowered by their local unions to cast 867 votes for or against President Roosevelt's proposed plan of arbitration. The majority of the delegates were uninstructed. The few who were instructed were engineers, firemen and pumpmen who fear that the 5,000 strikers of these classes may not get back their old places now held by nonunion men. This question of the engineers, firemen and pumpmen proved the only immediate block in the way of almost immediate adoption of the president's plan, which carries with it declaring the strike off, and a general resumption of work through the hard coal mining region.

Politics in King's Visit.

New York, Oct. 22.—It is said that the coming visit of the king of Portugal to England has great political significance, and that many important matters between him and King Edward in regard to South Africa are to be discussed, cables the London correspondent of the Tribune. Vague rumors that England is seeking to purchase Portugal's South African colonies have been current for a long while, but at the foreign office they are denied.

New Cruiser Washington.

Washington, Oct. 22.—In view of the conclusion reached today by the naval board of construction, plans for the armored cruiser Washington will be completed and ready for advertisement by November 3, along with plans for the twin ship Tennessee. The regular differential of 4 per cent in favor of the Pacific coast bidders will be offered.

STRIKE VOTED OFF

MINERS AGREE TO ACCEPT DECISION OF ARBITRATION BOARD.

Great Rejoicing Everywhere in the Coal Fields—Engineers Firm to the Last, and Their Employment is Finally Left to Executive Board—Roosevelt Summons the Arbitrators to Meet.

Duration of strike, days..... 162
Men on strike..... 147,000
People directly affected..... 500,000
Total loss to all classes..... \$200,000,000
Price of coal at beginning of strike, per ton..... \$5.50
Present price of coal, per ton..... \$3.50

Cause of the Strike.

The miners' demands, which were refused, were as follows: An eight-hour day; an increase in pay for men on piecework proportionate to that given to day laborers by shortening of hours; just weighing of coal mined, instead of arbitrary measurement by varying "carloads"; a fixed scale of wages, the rate for the same work to be the same everywhere; an agreement embodying these demands, entered into by the operators and the union.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Oct. 22.—With a shout that fairly shook the convention building the representatives of the 47,000 miners who have been on strike since last May officially declared off at noon yesterday the greatest contest ever made between capital and labor, and placed all the questions involved in the struggle in the hands of the arbitration commission appointed by the president of the United States.

While the large army of miners and their families, numbering approximately 600,000 persons, are grateful that work is to be resumed on Thursday, the strikers have still to learn what their reward will be. President Roosevelt, having taken prompt action in calling the arbitrators together for their first meeting on Friday, the miners hope they will know by Thanksgiving day what practical gains they have made.

The vote to resume coal mining was a unanimous one, and was reached only after a warm debate. The principal objection to accepting the arbitration plan was that no provision was contained in the scheme to take care of those men who would fail to get back their old positions or would be unable to get work at all. The engineers and pumpmen get better pay than other classes of miners, and they did not wish to run the risk of losing altogether their old places and being compelled to dig coal for a living. This question came up and was argued right up to the time the vote was taken. No one had a definite plan to offer to overcome the objection, and the report of the committee on resolutions, recommending that the strike be declared off, and that all issues be placed in the hands of the arbitration commission for decision, was adopted without the question being settled. A few moments before adjournment, however, a partial solution was reached when a delegate in the furthest corner of the hall moved that the problem be placed in the hands of the executive board for solution, and his suggestion was adopted.

SPEED SACRIFICED TO POWER.

Naval Board Decides to Make Important Changes in New Cruisers.

Washington, Oct. 23.—The naval board of construction today finally decided upon the features of the armored cruisers authorized by the last act of congress. Speed has been sacrificed to power.

By a vote of four against one, Engineer in Chief Melville's proposition to give the big ships 25,000 horsepower and a speed of 23 knots at a minimum was rejected and the horsepower will stand at 23,000, which he estimates will actually bring the speed down to about 21 1/2 knots. The new boats therefore will be three and one-half knots slower than the four famous English armored cruisers of the Drake class. To offset this lack of speed the Tennessee class will have a much more powerful battery, namely, four 10-inch guns in the two turrets against two nine-inch guns in the main batteries of the British ships. The Tennessee class also will have more armor, the protective deck at its thickest part being four and a half inches with six-inch side armor.

Navy Yard is Too Small.

Washington, Oct. 23.—The annual report of Rear Admiral Kenney, paymaster general of the navy, devotes much space to showing that there is a shortage of officers for the work. It is stated that there is a demand for the enlargement of the storage plants at Washington, Boston, Norfolk, Mare Island and Puget sound. A modification of the bill compelling advertising for supplies is asked for in the interest of the service.

REBELS DEFEATED.

Government Forces of Venezuela Score a Victory—3,000 Dead and Wounded.

La Victoria, Venezuela, Oct. 21.—A messenger has arrived here from the scene of the engagement near this place between the government troops and revolutionists, bringing news that after several days of terrible fighting, 9,000 rebels under General Mendoza abandoned the field, having retired from their last position, six miles from La Victoria, Friday night, retreating in the direction of Villa de Cura. According to President Castro the killed and wounded number 3,000.

During the last days of the fighting the temperature rose to 116 degrees, and a visitor to the scene of the engagement declares he never saw such a terrible spectacle as was presented by the battlefield.

The victory of the government troops, which is said to be due to the personal courage of President Castro, who, twice, with a Mauser in his hand, charged at the head of his soldiers, is considered a serious setback to the cause of the revolutionists.

A courier from Valencia, who arrived here today, reports that up to yesterday that town was not in the hands of the revolutionists.

PANIC IN BALL ROOM.

Fire in Albany, N. C., Building Resulted in One Death and Many Injured.

Albany, N. C., Oct. 21.—Fire broke out shortly before 11 o'clock tonight in the Tower & Brooks store, one of the largest in the heart of the business section of the city. For a time the entire dry goods section was threatened, and only by most heroic work on the part of the firemen were the flames practically confined to the building in which the fire started. One fireman was killed and a number injured.

At the time the fire broke out a dance was in progress in a hall on the top floor of the burning building. Escape to the street was cut off by the fast spreading flames, and 25 young men and women were lifted out of the front windows and helped over adjoining roofs. The shrieks of hysterical women created much excitement, but cool headed firemen soon carried them to a place of safety. Several women were burned, but none were seriously hurt.

Ten minutes after the fire was discovered flames were pouring out of every window, and neighboring buildings were ablaze in many places. The Municipal telegraph company's building was badly scorched, the windows being shattered by the intense heat and the frames twisted out of shape and charred.

It was two hours before the flames were fully under control. It is impossible to secure any estimate of the losses tonight.

BOXERS NOT YET PUT DOWN.

Chinese Viceroy Asks Missionaries Not to Travel in Disturbed Districts.

Pekin, Oct. 21.—The new viceroy of Sze Cheun province, Ten Chun Suan, reports that the Boxers have not been suppressed at Cheng Tu and two other centers and he asks the ministers and missionaries to refrain from traveling in central Sze Cheun at present.

The emperor's reception at the summer palace today was attended by the diplomatic corps except in the case of the British minister, Sir Ernest Satow, he having declined all social intercourse on account of the miscarriage of justice in the case of the murdered English missionaries, Bruce and Lewis, in Honan province, where the responsible officials were exculpated and ignorant peasants were beheaded.

The negotiations for the departure of the international troops from Shanghai have been interrupted. It appears that Great Britain before consenting to the evacuation desires a more definite arrangement in regard to her status in the Yangtze valley and more precise stipulations concerning non-alienation of territory in that region.

Roosevelt Doing Well.

Washington, Oct. 21.—While President Roosevelt was unable to go to Oyster Bay to register his vote for the November election, he will go home to vote. The president is progressing finely toward complete recovery, and is now able to move about without crutches or even a cane, but his physicians have advised him not to travel any distance for at least two weeks. For this reason he will be unable to attend the inauguration of President Woodrow Wilson, of Princeton university, although he had expressed his particular desire to be present when President Wilson is installed.

Dewey is Honored.

Philadelphia, Oct. 21.—At a meeting today of the board of governors of the United States held in Independence hall, Admiral Dewey was elected president, and the board consists of one member from each of the original 13 states, the District of Columbia and the territories. The territories are represented by Hon. Mark A. Smith, of Arizona.

THE CELILO CANAL

BOARD OF ENGINEERS ARE IN DOUBT ABOUT THE HARTS PLAN.

Columbia River Current So Strong That Placing of Huge Rocks for Submerged Dam is Considered a Daring Feat of Engineering—Several Favor Portage Railroad Plan.

Washington, Oct. 22.—The report of the engineer board on its investigation of the Harts plan for opening the Columbia river between The Dalles and Celilo, is to be delayed somewhat, pending the completion of certain estimates and computations, which are to be considered before the report is agreed to. There is doubt in the minds of some members as to the practicability of constructing the dam across the river, upon which the success of the Harts plan hinges. It is found that it will be a most daring engineering feat to get stones for the dam in position, and to retain them until the whole work is completed. It is a work more difficult than any of the kind yet undertaken by the engineers, although its success is promised by some. The probabilities are that there will be two reports, some of the engineers favoring a portage road as the best solution, unless another and more favorable site can be found for the dam. The boat railway project was considered, but it is not thought any member of the board believes in its efficiency or practicability.

The dam concerning the feasibility of which doubt is expressed by the board of engineers is thus referred to in the plan recommended by Captain Harts:

"The proposed submerged dam immediately below the head of Five-Mile rapids is designed to be made throughout of large blocks of rocks or concrete weighing 20 to 30 tons, each deposited at random in a selected narrow part of Five Mile rapids by means of derricks on either shore. If found necessary on account of the swift currents, some of the blocks could be anchored to the rocky banks by means of chains. The dam need not necessarily be tight, but should consist of enough blocks to raise the present low-water level 20 feet. Its top would probably need to rise to within a few feet of the present low-water level."

ILLITERATE VOTERS.

They Comprise 11 Per Cent of the Total Number in United States.

Washington, Oct. 22.—There are 21,300,000 inhabitants of the United States of voting age, and 2,300,000 of them, or about 11 per cent, were returned on the last census as illiterate—a very large proportion for a country in which the opportunities for education are universal.

An examination of the figures shows that, contrary to the general belief, it is not the foreign born voters who cause this percentage to be so high. The proportion of illiterates among the foreign born voters in the United States is 11.5 per cent, whereas among the native born inhabitants the proportion is 10.5 per cent—not a very important difference.

The part of the United States in which there is least illiteracy is the group of states which make up the middle west and northwest. Iowa and Nebraska have less than 3 per cent, Kansas less than 4, and Ohio, Illinois and Minnesota less than 5 per cent of illiterate inhabitants over the age of 20.

In Utah and Washington, in the Pacific group of states, the percentage of illiteracy is less than 4 per cent; in Colorado, Oregon and Wyoming less than 5.

In New England and among the native born inhabitants the percentage is still lower, 1 per cent in Massachusetts, 1.5 in Connecticut,