

Current Opinions on Live Topics

No Step Backward.

(Chicago Tribune.)
Secretary Bonaparte's suggestion that habitual criminals be condemned to death upon a fourth conviction will receive no support. It is contrary to the spirit of the age, which is everywhere in favor of less capital punishment instead of more. In some countries where capital punishment has not yet been abolished by law it has fallen into disuse through executive action; in no country has there been an addition to the list of crimes punished by death. No legislature in the Union would pass a law such as Secretary Bonaparte suggests.

The idea that something ought to be done to protect the public from habitual criminals is a good one and a fit corollary to Mrs. Ballington Booth's principle that most criminals can be redeemed if subjected to the right influences in prison and given a helping hand when out of prison. Save every man capable of reclamation, shut up those who are beyond reasonable hope, and the world will be a much more agreeable place for those who are not criminals.

Hanging does not reform a man. Neither does it protect society any more thoroughly than any other form of punishment which keeps the inveterate criminal away from his fellow men. Whether or not it is true, as some criminologists assert, that there is a large class of criminals who are really not responsible for their actions, since their malformed brains or other physical characteristics make it impossible for them to lead normal lives, it is certain that some criminals will inevitably relapse into crime at the first opportunity. They should be pitied, but it is best both for them and for the community that they should be imprisoned.

The death penalty ought not to be abolished. It should always remain in the power of a jury to punish re-

volting crime by ending the life of the offender. With the increasing mercifulness of juries the presumption is that that power would not be used so often as it should be. But it is useless to advocate the extension of capital punishment. The tide is running the other way. If Secretary Bonaparte had recommended the life imprisonment of professional irremediable criminals he would have found many agreeing with him.

Subsidies.

Japan shows no sign of letting up on her policy of developing an ocean marine by extending heavy subsidies. Those who are responsible for the subsidy program pay especial attention to the promotion of European and American runs, and during 1906 the government paid out \$2,216,000 to make the Japanese flag a familiar sight in the ports of Europe and America. The course pursued by Japan ought to be carefully studied by the free traders of this country, who profess to believe that the failure of the United States to develop an oversea trade of consequence is due to the protective tariff. Japan has a stiff tariff of that kind, but her shipping industry is expanding rapidly. The explanation is simple. Although she can man her ships with cheap labor and ought to do pretty well with that advantage, she is not contented to let the matter rest at that, but adds heavy money bounties. We labor under the disadvantage of being compelled to pay very high wages to the crews of vessels in the oversea trade, and we refuse to extend a helping hand to men who would strive to overcome that drawback. Under the circumstances it is not surprising that our flag is never seen in foreign ports; it would be amazing, under the circumstances, if the Stars and Stripes were a familiar sight outside of American waters.—San Francisco Chronicle.

24th PROPOSAL WINS HIM BRIDE

Ardent Suitor's Persistency Softens Heart of Girl He Couldn't Live Without.

Chicago, Oct. 5.—If James O'Donnell has become discouraged the first time that Miss Mayme Curtin declined to become Mrs. James O'Donnell, or if he had become discouraged the fifth time, or the fifteenth, or even the twenty-third time the announcement would not have been made of the marriage of the two.

But he was not discouraged the first or the fifth or the fifteenth or the twenty-third time, so on the twenty-fourth time that he brought up the subject he brought down Miss Curtin, with the resulting announcement. And now both of them are glad that he did not get discouraged.

So are all their friends. O'Donnell and Miss Curtin were of a large company of young people drawn together frequently through mutual interest and activity in the affairs of St. Pius' church. All of these young people tried their best to prevail on Miss Curtin to accept her loyal suitor.

And so did the mother, Mrs. B. Curtin, 659 West Twentieth street. And so did Miss Frances Anderson, her dearest friend. And so, of course, did O'Donnell.

Miss Curtin was drawn to him all along, but she felt that she would rather give herself to religious work, and so she told him she would just be a friend. Once more he became discouraged and left Chicago to take up a course of study for the ministry, but he could not forget, and came back. Still the girl was obdurate. Then her friend, Miss Anderson, was married last spring to J. F. J. Heidler of Oak Park, and pretty soon tales of her happiness began to melt the heart of Miss Curtin.

And then the twenty-fourth time came, and then—the rest of it. They were married Tuesday at St. Pius' church and went away to talk it over in the dells of Wisconsin. When they come back they will live in Oak Park.

One of the wedding presents from O'Donnell's father was a \$3000 check, which he had promised to give his son if he ever succeeded in his suit. That, however, had nothing to do with his success.

Notice.

Holders of Kinney & Waite contracts for lots in Plats B, C and Boulevard Park are hereby notified to call at First National Bank of Marshfield and settle all payments now due or suit will be commenced at once. F. B. Waite.

Show cases in stock and to order, cheap. At Corthell's Delicatessen, C street.

DOCTORS QUARREL AT CLEVELAND'S BEDSIDE

Princeton, N. J., Oct. 5.—Following a dispute between his physicians, Grover Cleveland is in the hands of a new specialist, Dr. Banks of New York and Larchmont. The former president is believed to be in a serious condition.

Dr. Banks reached here today. On the same train with him came Mrs. Cleveland's mother, Mrs. Perrine Folsom, accompanied by a maid. All three were rapidly driven from the station in a closed carriage to the Cleveland place.

Doctors Quarrel at Bedside.
Dr. Carnochan and Dr. Bryant, who have been attending Mr. Cleveland, are said to have disagreed as to who was properly in authority in the case. It is said their clash reached so acute a stage that both decided to retire, uniting in a request to the family of their distinguished patient that another physician be retained. Both of them refused today to make any statements.

The head nurse also left yesterday. Her departure created some surprise, as she had stated no longer than the day before that she would be here at least for a month, adding that Mr. Cleveland could not possibly recover under that time and that he would have to have extraordinarily careful attention to be sure of getting up and about in a month. She packed up and went yesterday afternoon. It is reported that she quarreled with Dr. Carnochan, Mr. Cleveland's Princeton physician, regarding the invalid's diet.

Conflicting Statements.
Callers at Westlands today were met at the door by a nurse. She merely said Mr. Cleveland was "doing very well," and refused all other information regarding the former president's condition.

Later it was announced on behalf of the family that Mr. Cleveland had been out riding this morning for an hour. A man who was on duty just outside the gates during the entire day said he had not seen Mr. Cleveland either going or returning, had been out riding this morning for last Sunday and again on Tuesday, but most of the reports regarding such outings are believed to be fictitious.

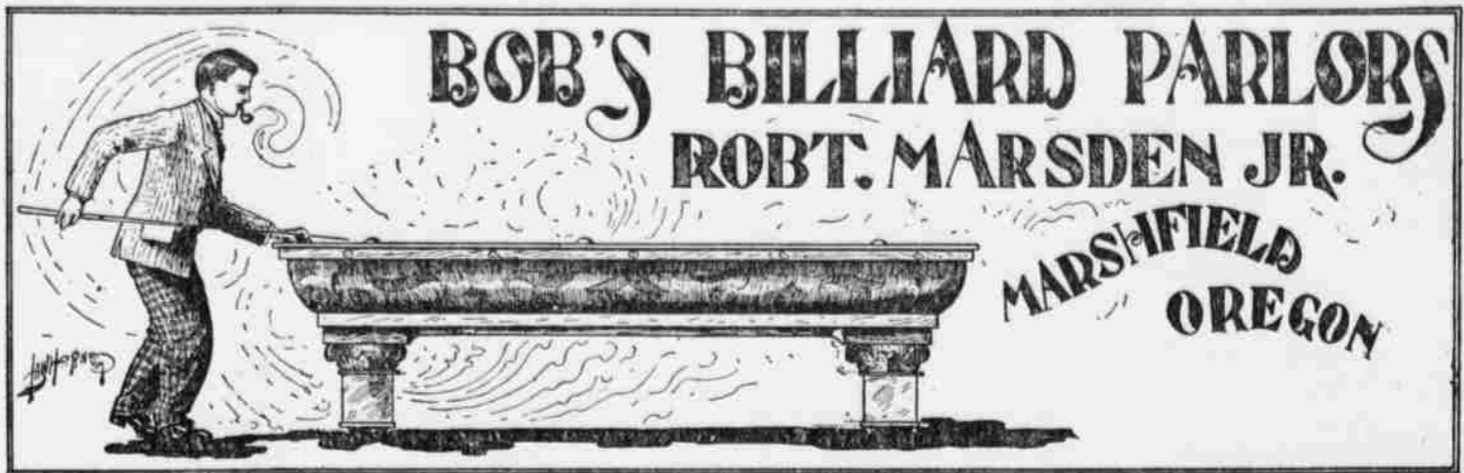
—Try our 5:30 o'clock dinner at the Palace tonight.

County Valuation.
The assessed valuation of Coos county this year, 1907, totals \$13,586,692, exceeding that of 1906 by \$3,553,735. While the growth of wealth in the county is responsible for this, the increase in the value of timber lands, is quite an item.

—Lots in West Bunker Hill at \$100 to \$250 See J. D. Johnson & Co.

—Crockery and glassware at Prentiss.

FOR SUNDAY'S PASTTIME AND AMUSEMENTS GO TO



Five of the Best Tables In Coos County

HISTORY OF TYPEWRITER GROWTH

Thomas Hall, of New York city, was the inventor of the first practical typewriting machine in the world—one which would print at the will and touch of the operator, says the New York Press. The first typewritten letter now in existence was made on the Hall machine by Henry W. Vail on February 13, 1867. It was to his sister on some personal matters. The writing was entirely in capitals, as there were no small letters and no shift key.

Mr. Hall's machine, in appearance, was similar to the Remington; that is, the type bars were arranged in a circle and the type struck in a common center, but without roller or platen as in our modern machines. The paper was placed under the machine on a flat carriage, which fed the space of a letter or character upon the stroke of each key, but each letter and character had a space of its own, but not all were alike, as now.

In the spring of 1865, work was first begun upon this machine. Mr. Hall then working for the Florence Sewing Machine Company, No. 505 Broadway, as an expert machinist, told another expert, J. B. McCune, a fellow worker, that he had contemplated building a writing machine ever since 1856, when he had made the first drawings. Hall and McCune agreed to work together on the invention and Hall was to give McCune his ideas, while McCune was to build the machine or working model, each to have a one-half interest in the invention and the profits from it.

The partners worked on this machine for months, frequently burning the midnight oil in pursuit of their ideas. Finding it necessary to raise more money for their enterprise, to perfect their invention, get it patented and introduced to the public, they admitted their employer, George Buell, to the partnership. Through the money he contributed, the first machine was constructed, and patents were obtained in the United States, England, France and Belgium. The stock of the new company was divided into three equal shares.

Three months before the completion of the machine Mr. Buell called in Mr. Vail to operate and exhibit it. With the dummy made by Mr. Hall, the operator became so expert that when the machine was finished he was able without difficulty to attain a high rate of speed. Mr. Vail could produce typewritten matter faster than the speediest penman could write, with readableness in favor of the machine.

Then came the task of interesting capitalists and moneyed men in the enterprise. For several weeks the typewriter was on exhibition at the office of John Pondir, in Exchange place, where many of the Wall street "bulls" and "bears" of that day came to look at it. But none invested. It was next taken to the New York Independent office, in Beekman street where publishers, literary men and others came to see it, declared it wonderful, and went away again. Here Horace Greeley saw it and said: "With one of these machines I can write so that any person can read it, and I must have the first one made."

The Rev. Abalom Peters, whose hands had become paralyzed through using his open too much, found that by placing one hand in the palm of

the other and stiffening the finger of the gripped hand, he could strike the keys of the machine properly and put what he wished on paper. He also wanted the first machine marketed, but did not live to get his wish.

For two weeks Mr. Vail directed the wrappers in which the independent was mailed, work usually done by six girls, but all the girls could see in the use of such a machine was that it would throw five of them out of a job, not thinking that in the days to come the typewriter would be the key to unlock the business office and the counting room to thousands of bright-eyed, eager young women.

Mr. Vail had it exhibited in a prominent place at the office of George Francis Train, on Pine street. Train was a great financier in those days, but neither he nor his moneyed friends invested.

Next it went to Bridgeport, Conn., and was exhibited to Elias Howe, Jr., the inventor of the sewing machine; to Wheeler & Wilson, Major Mallory and other manufacturers there. All, however, looked upon it more as a joy than a useful invention.

Next it was shown in Washington, D. C., at the treasury, capitol, government printing office, General Benjamin F. Butler's residence and the quartermaster general's office. It finally was placed on exhibition at Jay Cooke's bank, now the First National, where senators, representatives in congress and distinguished and wealthy men of many nationalities called and inspected it. They looked, but would put no money in the invention.

Now there are in the United States alone more than 5,000,000 typewriting machines of various kinds and makes, and the typewriter agency and the business college, where writing by touch is taught as a part of our industrial system.

North Pole—What and Where It Is.

Who can tell what the north pole is? Commander Peary says it is the precise center of the northern hemisphere of land, of population, of civilization. It is the point where the axis of the earth cuts its surface. It is the spot where there is no longitude, no time, no north, no east, no west, only south. It is the place where every wind that blows is a south wind. It is the place where there is but one night and one day in every year, where two steps only separate astronomical noon from astronomical midnight. It is the spot from which all the heavenly bodies appear to move in horizontal courses, and a star just visible above the horizon never sets but circles forever, just grazing the horizon. Noon is the point from which we estimate time—that is, the moment when the sun crosses the meridian, where we are, or some fixed meridian that has been selected. At the pole there are no meridians—or, rather, all the meridians of the globe are gathered in one point, so there is no starting point for time. The north pole—the geographical pole—is an entirely different spot from the magnetic pole, the center of magnetic attraction, where the compass is useful. The latter is some 1,600 miles south of the true north pole. It is located on or near the peninsula of Borthia Felix, the most northerly mainland of North America, about on the meridian of

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ELMER A. TODD,

O'Connell Bldg., Marshfield

Galveston. The four things which seem to form the conception of the arctic regions in the minds of most people are the cold, the darkness, the silence, and hunger. Almost invariably they ask questions about these four things, and usually in this order.

Beauties of the Black Opal.
Black Beauty in the mineral kingdom is the black opal. One who saw it for the first time at the New Zealand exhibition at Christchurch says it combines the iridescence of the dewdrop with the colors of the rainbow set in the darkness of the night.

It is a smothered mass of hidden fire. This fanciful description gives a fairly accurate picture of the wonderful and varied colorings of this remarkable stone. Somber at first glance, its beauty does not always appeal immediately to the observer, but a closer inspection discloses the hidden fire and a gem marvelously handsome. Its commercial value is still problematical because it has only recently been found and is unknown to the large public.

—Underwear, lowest prices, at Prentiss.