### Morning Astorian



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#### GENERAL MILES ON ROADS

It is announced that Gen. Nelson A. Miles, just retired from active service in the army, is about to embark in the movement for a systematic building of good roads. No man can have a keener appreciation of the need of good roads than he who has had such long experience in the activities of war, the moving of large bodies of men and heavy equipage, as General Miles has had. It may be also said that no work in which the General has ever engaged could be more laudable than that of spanning the country in all directions with decent highways, and if he shall only make a commencement of sufficiently permanent and desirable character so that it wil be continued to gradual completion, the people of the great west will rise up and sing peans.

One difficulty in the way of extensive road building of a permanent and substantial character in the United States has been the prosperous condition of its people and the high rate of wages labor receives. No local authorities could possibly think of hewing out a smooth and comparatively level road through the mountain sides of this coast as has been done in Norway and Sweden. And no local authorities had the work done in those countries either, It was done by the government and the work served two purposes. It provided the desired roads and it provided the people with bread. The same is true of the roads that have been built through the bogs and over the mountains in Ireland. Some of them are gigantic undertakings, but the government had thousands of starving people (a starvation which its own laws had made) and the roads were needed. So the work was provided at small wages and the great enterprises were carried through to completion.

It has been pretty well established in United States have expended millions of dollars in so-called road building. but by reason of its desultory, unsysfor man or beast.

districts. These may build and main- parent. tain short cross-roads, but the general system of trunk roads, in order to be up by national and state forces.

Perhaps General Miles is just the man scientific manner. If so, all hall Gen-

not be so bad.

#### SHRINKAGE IN SECURITIES

Henry Clews is out with a statement declaring the recent decline in stocks compilation has been made showing that this year's shrinkage in securities a shrinkage of 1300 milions and a cap- qualified for the place. italization of 4668 millions in 1893, the year of general financial disaster. Thus in a year of general prosperity there has been a contraction double that incurred in a year of adversity, only ten years ago. Mr. Clews' analysis of the situation is generally hopeful. He says

"The country is practically certain of a large volume of business this season. Our farmers are likely to be prosperous for another year; because, while crops are not particularly heavy, prices are high and afford good profits. Labor is also well employed at good wages Manufacturers are feeling the high cost of production somewhat, and there is likely to be less expenditure for extravagances than when the "boom" was at its height, yet the country, as a whole, is in satisfactory condition. Our basic industry, the iron trade, is in better shape than supposed. It is true



there is a big demand for all sorts of iron and steel products at the more rea sonable prices, and no signs of cessation are yet in sight.

The worst as to the money market seems to have been anticipated. Crop demands are close at hand, yet bankers show no anxiety about meeting them-Should money rates advance much further gold imports would simply be be in better supply and tend to weaken sterling bills. London shows more interest in American securities than for many months, ad as soon as the distrust developed by our excessive promoting has disappeared we may expect prices do not advance too rapidly. A on the 'Street,' for stocks have passed from weak into strong hands. Investindications are that the larger local interests are working in the direction of higher prices."

Canada's foreign trade more than doubled the past seven years. The increase was about 103 per cent. The increase of the United States' foreign trade during the same time has been about 48 per cent. Canada's trade for the last fiscal year was \$467,637,049. which reckoning on her population of 5,750,000 was \$81 a head. The United States trade was \$2,445,889,552, which reckoning on a population of 80,000,000 was a little less than \$31 a head Canada's exports amounted to about \$37 a head, ours to \$18. This showing of Canada, figures the New York Tribune, which observes that reasons may be as plentiful as blackberries, comes right out and admits that New York's trade is decreasing as Canada's increases, It is pointed out that the process dates this country, that good, permanent, level from the development of he Canadian roads cannot be made by local effort canal system and the neglect of the by hap-hazard. The people of the canal system that connects New York with the Great Lakes.

The factional fight of Johnson and tematic character we still have lines of Zimmerman in the Democratic party of clay ridges on the lower lands that Ohio knocks into ple the reasoning would mire a rabbit, and onthe higher which the poet Milton put into the elevations a series of winding, narrow, mouth of one of his characters, and stony, break-neck trails that are unsafe in was considered downright good reasming at that time, too. He said:

The building of main roads must be . . . . Where there is then no

and supported by the nation and the What good there is in fighting for a several states working together. It Democratic nomination in Ohio under can never be done by counties and road present prosperous conditions is not ap-

Colonel Hofer on the Capital Jourwhat the country needs, must be kept | naf is laying himself liable to contempt of court. His paper says that Birdle McCarthy, whose verdict of \$22,500 party photographed. We know of loto head a movement which will niti- against James Heryford for breach of calities where that game has been mately bring good roads in a practical, promise was set aside by U. S. Judge played for years without photographs. Bellinger because she didn't look as sweet to the judge as she did to the Miles out of the army and Miles ad- jury or else forgot to make goo-goo knives and forks at a paper table, sit ded to the country's good roads will eyes in the right direction, intimating on paper chairs, read the news in a susceptible to goo-goo eyes.

Wright to the position of governor- crable, be fed with a paper spoon, take was intestified by artificial means. A second of the Philippines, notwithstanding his life-long democracy, Presi dent Roosevelt has again demonstrated amounted to 2650 millions on a capital- his ability to rise above partisanship takes your father and mother-that ization of 6034 millions, compared with and select the man he considers best makes two human beings. Each of

The town of Dallas is to have another bank, the First National with alli,000 capital, the promoters of which are McMinnville capitalists connected it has one bank already.

J. Bryan still has influence—that is the HOLY NAMES CONVEN There is one party with which Mm. populist party of Nebraska which he has again entired to fusion and to

Governor Odell of New York has shown himself a keen, merciless dissecter of character in his reply to the nainuations of that oily politician, D.

Eugene is the first Oregon town to discover that a close relative of Lou abnormal profits are disappearing, but Dillon is driven on its streets daily.

THE FREE TRADE POSITION

should say that if we consider the length of time free trade has been the accepted dogma in Great Britain, its oot have been shaken as it has been by the tour de force of Mr. Chamberlain. Look at the length of time it took free trade to conquer British policy. To one portion of the people it was an unheard of atrocity, to another, an unhoped for ideal, but for a long time no part of the people ever considered that it could be put in practice. Through the force of circumstances it made its way, however. Great Britain was gradually changing from a self-sustaining agricultural country, to a manufacturing country, which consumed more food products than it produced. Free trade was accepted by the mass of the people food. It is more than questionable at Fort Stevens, Oregon. U. S. reservwhether food became really cheaper through the removal of import duties dered available by improved means of marked: "Proposals for repairs to Hosommunication. However that may be. free trade was accepted as the cause of cheap and abundant bread, and consequently the cause of British industrial expansion, and became as firmly fixed in the mind of the people as, apfixed in the mind of the people as, apparently, any political dogma ever has Dr. T. L. Ball been. What we fall to understand is, why its advocates should be in such an unseemly state of fear the moment it has been attacked as the last word in 524 Commercial street, Astoria Ore. political and economic science. If what they believe of free trade is true, and they can demonstrate it, why should OSTEOPATHY they be so much afraid, and why should they point with such glee to elections which seem to show that Mr. Chamberhastened. Very soon produce bills will lain's ideas have not yet been assimilated by the mass of the British electorate? The doctrine they believe in teck long years to make the slightest headway with popular opinion. Why should they be jubilant, if that doctrine has not destroyed it in less than three months? The attitude of free traders a better demand from that quarter if in Great Britain does not appear to us to be an evidence of the strength much more confident feeling prevails of their position. They seem to claim Office Over Griffin's Book Store. an outrage in the attack upon a dog ma, as if it did not require to be defended upon grounds of reason and ment purchases have been liberal, and common sense, but was to be believed in by everyone upon penalties. They do not meet the arguments of the Imperial unionists, they do not combat them. They only reassert an abstract propositon which apparently fitted the facts of sixty years ago, and shriel with rage at the bare suggestion that Fulton Bros. it may not fit he facts of today."

> With such men as Whitelaw Reid, John Hay, secretary of state, St. Clair McKelway, Andrew D. White, Victor Lawson, president of the Associated Press, General Charles H. Taylor and Press, General Charles H. Taylor and PRAEL & COOK as an advisory board: with a \$2,000,000 fund and under the guidance of the Columbia university. Mr. Pulitzer's school of journalism is not to be "sneered at." It's impress is sure to be felt in the DRAYING AND EXPRESSING newspaper world just as the energies and money of Mr. Hearst when he embarked in the business. There is really need for the Pulitzer school. The tendency of journalism the past few years has been in the direction of sensationalism, which breeds recklessness and irresponsibility in reporters and the Insurance, Commission and Shippin Pulitzer school will tend to swing the pendulum back to conservatism,

The editor of the Everett Record will use the masculine pronoun in referring to Lou Dillon. He thinks perhaps female could not be so fast.

The New Jersey minister who has consented to allow the pretty women of his congregation to kiss men for conducted upon an extensive scale and good for which to strive, no strife can purpose of raising money for church purposes should first sample the goods Wines, Liquors and Cigars to see if they are worthy of so sacred a cause.

An exchange speaks of the game of 'gossip" which is having quite a run in some localities in the east. It is played with photographs. They are shuffled and dealt out like cards. Everyone in the party receiving a photo. It is then the play to tell every mean thing that can be thought of about the

An observing individual says a man can today wear paper shoes and clothes eat from paper dishes with paper that the sedate judge on the bench is paper, sleep on a paper bedstead, in a room carpeted with paper, wash in paper tub or bowl, live in a paer house ride in a paper car or carriage, sall in in the appointment of General Luke a paper boat, be rocked in a paper pop or toddy out of a paper bottle and

be buried in a paper coffin. A genius has been figuring out how many ancestors a man has. First, he these must also have a father and moth er-that makes four more human beings. Each of these must have had a mother and father-and that makes eight more human beings. So he goes on back fifty-six generations which brings him to the time of Jesus Christ The calculation thus resulting shows with the principal bank there. Dallas that 130,235,017,489,534,976,458 births must s one of Oregon's prosperous towns. have taken place to bring you into this world-you who are reading these lines

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