THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL
AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
C. S. JACKSON PUBLISHED BY JOURNAL PUBLISHING CO. JNO. F. CARROLL
Published every evening (except Sunday) and every Sunday morning at The Journal Building, Fifth and Yamhill streets, Portland, Oregon.
OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

JUSTICE TO THE GRADE TEACHERS.

THE JOURNAL has no desire to add to the difficulties of the school board, but it must continue to protest against the preposterous "merit" system which it seeks to inaugurate. In its inception this matter was very simple. An appropriation of $30,000 was voted by the taxpayers for the definite purpose of increasing the salaries of the grade teachers. There was no question of some teachers being raised and others not, but all grade teachers were to get the benefit. The tangible result thus far has been an annual raise of $1,000 to the superintendent, $400 to the drawing teacher, $400 to one or more principals, and $50 to each teacher in the grades and high school. A "merit" system has been adopted, limited, as we understand it, to teachers above the sixth grade. The teachers who get on the merit list will get $10 a month more. As we are advised there are not more than 75 or 100 teachers eligible for this list, so that by far the larger number of teachers are thus debarred from its benefits.

It is not easy to conceive of an instance where the publicly expressed will of the taxpayers was more deliberately disregarded. It has been hinted, though we hope without foundation in fact, that such of the teachers as have privately protested against this distribution, have received an intimation that it would be wiser for them to keep quiet. As it was through the efforts of the grade teachers that the taxpayers were induced to act and as they have not received the benefit intended for them, there are added reasons why the public would resent any interference with their right of free expression. The money was intended for all the grade teachers. If any of the teachers fail to come up to the requirements they are not only not entitled to a raise but they should, of course, not be given employment. The raise was to be general and the requirements should be general. All teachers so employed should be able to earn the full amount intended to be allotted to them; one teacher in the same grade should not be paid $70 and another $80 a month, for in this way demoralization will be brought about in the whole system. It is too late to do with the fund as the taxpayers desired and intended, for too many arbitrary raises have been or are to be made, but it is not too late to approximate justice and to do away with the "merit" system so that what remains of the fund may be distributed among the grade teachers, where it belongs.

This much at least should be done and it should be done at once.

PEOPLE AND RAILROADS.

IF CONSOLIDATION OF RAILWAYS into great systems is to be defended and approved, then it follows as an inevitable corollary that government control of those great consolidated systems is essential, for the simple and sufficient reason that otherwise the consolidated railways, especially when acting in conjunction with other great corporations, would soon become more powerful than the government itself. Indeed, they seem to have become so already, if not positively, then negatively by having a host of friends and servitors in positions of prominence and power. If it comes to a choice between the government being run by the consolidated railroads, and the railroads being run by the government, the people will have to choose the latter as the lesser evil.

The financial supplement of the New York Evening Post publishes a list of 23 railroads, aggregating 131,530 miles, in the management of which the Standard Oil interests are openly acknowledged. Besides this, the same group of "interests" are dominant in 24 great industrial corporations, including Amalgamated Copper, Consolidated Gas, United States Steel, United States Realty, Colorado Fuel and Iron, and others, and also in 14 banks and 14 trust companies.

Now it scarcely needs any argument to show that these very astute and industrious gentlemen are getting entirely too much power. The people have got to check them and control their operations. This is just now the paramount business of the American people.

A SAMPLE INVESTIGATION.

THE INUTILITY OR FUTILITY of most legislative investigations is again illustrated in the case of the investigation into the official acts of the late state land agent, L. B. Geer, and his apparent close business connection with W. H. Odell, who in those days was doing a very thrifty business—what in former parlance might be called a "landoffice business" in the matter of "base" for land purchases from the state.

It appears that at times when the state land agent had no base to dispose of to would-be purchasers, Mr. Odell, who had a desk in the same office, had unlimited quantities of just what they wanted, as they supposed, which he furnished them at a personal charge varying from 75 cents to $1.75 per acre, which money he is supposed to have been entitled to and retained as fees for his superior knowledge, skill and industry on the "base" subjects.

There have been those who suspected a "divvy" somewhere along the line, but there appears to be no proof of this. If not, it was a very neat, comfortable and lucrative business for Odell. He is said to have probably made somewhere around $100,000 out of it, and had free office rent check-by-jowl with the state land agent besides. Even a Salem man doesn't run across a snap like that very often.

But nobody would have complained much, perhaps, if the "base" had been genuine, if good claims could have been gained thereby. But it turned out in many instances that the state did not have title to the land it conveyed, and could not get it. The general government knocked out most of the base, and the state could not deliver the lands to the purchasers. So they were out not only the money they had paid to the industrious general, but to the state as well. The state land agent, and the governor who appointed him, seem to have known, or else cared, little about the business, kindly turning it over to Odell, who evidently made a successful study of it.

On the whole it looked like a case demanding a very exhaustive and searching investigation, and a legitimate investigating committee was appointed, ascertained some facts, made a cursory report on the last day of the session, and there the matter ends. A similar performance was gone through with two years ago, and may be again two years hence, but nothing further has been done about the matter, nor, probably, ever will be.

The base business has, however, fallen into some disrepute, and the present state land agent, having no genial and distinguished assistant to play first "base," wears a wrinkled brow of care.

RUSSIAN PRESS CENSORSHIP.

THAT RUSSIA is making a pretense of being moved by modern forces of progress is shown by some modification recently of its strict censorship of the press. It is daily demonstrated that a good deal of the Associated Press news from St. Petersburg is incorrect if not entirely fabricated, yet press censorship is not so rigorously maintained as it has been hitherto. The newspapers in some cases have broken over the bureaucratic restrictions, and the government seems to realize the necessity of loosening up the lines of press censorship.

A free press will do more than any other one thing to enlighten Russia, and bring the government and people together. There will be extreme papers, under such changed conditions, on both sides, that will stand for trouble and peril, but gradually the voice of the press as a whole, if untrammeled, will exert a powerful influence in aid of Russia's ultimate political and social salvation.

The Russian government has been able to fool the people because the press was altogether under the thumb of the autocracy. The press spoke for the government, the bureaucracy, entirely; for the people not at all. This once changed, and the press being free to speak for the people as well as for the government, conditions will rapidly change for the better, though such change will involve much turmoil and fierce struggling. Light alone will not beat down the walls of the autocratic bureaucracy. But with a free, cheap press, and people learning to read and understand, their power must grow with their knowledge.

With respect to current events, the facts, the truths of the world's current history, the Russian people have long lain in utter darkness. No newspaper or magazine in any language was permitted to reach them from the outside world, and their own papers, dominated by the government, were full of misrepresentations and lies.

Not only have all foreign periodicals been barred from the Russian people, but no book or pamphlet not approved by the church hierarchy was permitted to exist on Russian soil. Thus the people's minds were kept in cimmerian spiritual as well as political darkness.

We must not believe all that we read about the new resolve of the government to allow entire freedom of the press; the nature of the bureaucratic bear is not so quickly and readily changed; but there is evidence that there has been a little relaxation of the former narrow and rigid restrictions upon the press and the circulation of current literature. Unfortunately one may usually hope for the worst rather than the best in Russia.

NEW SENATE TO MEET.

THE PRESIDENT has issued the customary call for a session of the senate to be held immediately after the inauguration ceremonies on March 4. This is done to enable the senate to wind up executive business, confirm nominations, consider treaties, or attend to any other business which is its especial province.

When a new president is elected the senate of the new congress is convened partly for the purpose of confirming his cabinet appointees, but in this case it is not expected that President Roosevelt will make any changes in his cabinet on entering upon his new term, unless possibly Secretary Shaw should be retired at that time.

The new senate cannot of course pass any bills passed by the house during the present session, for the present congress expires on March 4, and all its incompleted work dies with it, hence the Esch-Townsend bill, the pure food bill, and others that the senate may not have passed by that date, will have to go through both houses of the new congress.

Thus some good legislation will fail, but there may be some compensation in the prospect of the long congressional vacation, when no positive harm will be done.

TRUSTS' PROMOTION OF SOCIALISM

From the New York Press.

In this discussion of the trusts and other special interests we have frequently warned them that, while their constant protest is against the spread of socialism, they themselves are doing more than any other influences to bring about this result. The Standard Oil company, for example, now finds that its high-handed methods, its disregard of the interests of the public, and its defiance both of the people and people's servants not only have culminated in the adoption of a plan by the people of Kansas to build and operate state refineries but are the cause of a resolution in congress demanding an investigation which shall show exactly how this great trust oppresses both the producers of crude oil and the consumers of the refined article.

The method by which the Standard Oil trust is able to coin money faster than government mints is, of course, by a double back action control both of the buying market for crude oil and the selling market for refined oil. The trust refuses to buy the crude material from independent producers at anything but the lowest prices. It can do this because it has wiped out competition in refining and has made itself, with its control of refineries, pipe lines, etc., the only market where producers of the crude material can sell. But the consumer of the refined article gets no benefit from this low cost of raw material to the refineries. On the contrary, controlling the refineries and thus the consumers' market, the trust pushes up the price of the refined article to the highest figure that the buying public can stand.

Kansas, where there are many oil wells, understands this situation perfectly. Therefore the people of Kansas, choosing the lesser of two evils, adopt a socialistic policy under which the state goes into the business of refining oil and selling it to the general public. The investigation demanded by congress will advise all the people of the United States of these facts, with which persons now engaged in the oil business are chiefly familiar.

When the people generally understand these facts as well as the public of Kansas understands them they probably will, like their fellow citizens in that state, consider socialistic policies as the only available remedy for other wrongs and oppressions. Thus the Standard Oil trust and the other greedy special interests succeed when they are decrying socialism in spreading it far and wide.

The Three Points of View.

From Life.

The stork came.

Said the man: "My salary is no larger."

Said the woman: "Now I shall be tied down."

Said the newspaper: "Mr. and Mrs. B—— are rejoicing in the birth of a son."

The Fly in the Pastry.

From the Washington Star.

Oklahomans are in some cases disposed to disapprove of statehood on a cold tea basis.

FRENZIED FINANCE.

From the Chicago Tribune.

In order that his wife might become better acquainted with business methods, Mr. Ferguson handed $100 to her, and instructed her to deposit it in the bank in her own name and pay her bills thereafter with checks.

Several weeks afterward she came to him in a high state of indignation.

"George," she said, "the other day those people down at the bank wrote me a note and told me I had 'overdrawn my account'—whatever that is—and that I would have to send them $4.75 'to balance it.' I sent it to them right away, but it didn't satisfy them. They're bothering me about it again."

"You sent the $4.75?"

"Yes. The same day."

"Well, that's—by the way, Laura, how did you send it?"

"I sent them a check for it, of course."

Koch Still Busy—Perhaps.

From the Boston Herald.

Speaking of matrimony, there has rarely been a time when so many bachelors have been advertising for wives in the personal columns of the New York Herald as now. Some of them are ostensibly from Boston.

A Crown Goes Begging.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

King Alfonso has hunted all over the world without being able to find an eligible wife. Women are becoming harder to please every year.

Small Change

Let us have peace—in labor circles.

Out in Kansas they call him John D. Robafeller.

What fools do sometimes accumulate $10,000 or more.

Rockefeller has the Esch-Townsend bill sidetracked.

General Trepoff is slated by the anarchists for a send-off.

Guglielmo weeps — but for himself, not for Freda Garacio.

Mrs. Chadwick is still being indicted, but she is mum about that million.

What we'd like to know is, whether any woman ever refused to marry Hoch.

Secretary Shaw's speeches last fall were ineffective to check the growing deficit.

The Kansas legislature has voted down woman suffrage. It has a men's fight on hand.

The veto of the $70,000 appropriation for the deaf mute school was fully justified by the reasons given, and others.

Rivermen begin to talk reasonable and to acknowledge that landlubbers have some rights entitled to consideration.

The president will be dee-lighted to see again the man from Oregon who started the country going for him last June.

"Expense is ended," says the Roseburg Review in announcing the end of the legislature. But working to pay has just begun.

Japan has bought 3,000,000 pounds of yarns in America. That should be enough to keep the A. P. going till the end of the war.

What business has the administration to "investigate the Standard Oil or the beef trust without the advice or consent of the senate?

With L. T. Harris elevated to the bench, who will succeed Binger Hermann in the First district? Or will he be renominated next year?

The old senatorial leaders are beginning to wonder where the Republican party is at, or will be at before Roosevelt gets through with it.

A Colorado man who earns $15 a week has been ordered to pay his divorced wife $20 a week alimony, and he thinks he will have to go to Hoching.

All the oil states are ranging themselves alongside Kansas in its fight against Standard Oil, but it supposes itself stouter than any possible combination of sovereign states.

The morning paper was displeased with one act of the recent county grand jury, therefore says it was a "fool grand jury." With that paper, any one who ventures to disagree with it is a fool or a knave.

The Tillamook city taxpayers are having a run of hard luck. Lately the city had to refund a lot or money to saloonkeepers on account of the town going dry, and now it must probably refund occupation taxes collected to keep the city running. Perhaps the best way out of the coil is to abandon municipal government entirely.

Oregon Sidelights

Eastern Oregon sheepmen preparing to shear.

The oldest man in Ashland is Benton Million, aged 92.

A Grants Pass company will manufacture a new miners' drill.

Brownsville has over $400 in the treasury and owes nothing.

For the first time Irrigon has a Smith family among its residents.

Corvallis claims to have better telephone facilities than any other town.

For the first time, ice thick enough to pack formed this month on Siuslaw bay.

An Ione real estate dealer has gone to Kansas City to escort a lot of homeseekers westward.

A man named Kicker has bought a tract of land near Irrigon. But he may not be a kicker.

Pendleton would be a good place for Mr. Heney to convene his next grand jury, says the Pilot Rock Record.

The Jacksonville Sentinel alludes to that place as a "village." We have not seen such modesty before in Oregon.

Oregon hasn't enough oil yet in sight or within smell to join in the fight against the Standard Oil company—and then Oregon's biennial 40 days of trouble are over.

At considerable risk some kind-hearted men of The Dalles rowed out into the middle of the Columbia and rescued a howling dog that was floating down stream on a cake of ice.

What this valley needs, says the Amity Advance, is a lot of industrious and intelligent farmers and capital for the establishment of enterprises to handle the product of such farmers.

A Harrisburg girl was handling a rifle when it went off, the bullet breaking her brother's jaw and extracting several teeth. Moral: Girls should be allowed no deadly weapons except hatpins.

Irrigation without creek, river, lake or reservoir as water source is what a Freewater man is accomplishing. He digs a trench along a sidehill one and a half miles distant and conveys the water from it into ditches.

People of Klamath Falls have subscribed $30,000 of the $100,000 railroad bonus, and expect to raise $20,000 more there, and the balance of $50,000 in the rest of the county and among wholesale merchants of Portland and San Francisco.

James Inman came in from Looking-Glass for treatment for his right wrist, which was dislocated by a fall from a load of hay.—Roseburg Plaindealer. Mr. Inman was an independent candidate for president last fall, receiving one vote in Looking-Glass precinct. Perhaps his wrist was weak in consequence of writing that platform last summer, or he may have become forgetful of his position on a load of hay and tumbled off because of studying on another platform.

The Socialists in Germany

Harold Begbie in London Mail.

It is possible to exaggerate the Socialistic movement in Germany. The very title of this article, in spite of its verity, gives a false impression to the mind.

There are, indeed, 3,000,000 Socialists in Germany, but the Socialism in which they put their faith is far from being the revolutionary and iconoclastic gospel preached with so much eloquence by Herr Bebel.

The truth is that anybody having a grievance votes Socialist at the elections in order to express his injury. In Germany it is the only means of giving vent to bad temper.

"The lackey who changes your shirt-studs and folds your trousers," I was told by a privy councilor, "votes as a Socialist if you repsimand him for carelessness." This servant would probably curl the lip of scorn at Herr Bebel's waistcoats and shudder at having to take the overcoat of Herr Bernstein; but he votes Socialist because he is sulky and because he desires to frighten the nobleman who keeps him in luxury.

There are many thousands of such cases among the 3,000,000 Socialists in Germany, but when these are remembered and properly allowed for, there yet remains a considerable body of genuine Socialism sufficiently compact and articulate to trouble the dreams of autocracy.

"The truth is," Professor Delbruck told me, "that wherever you have a strong government you will have a strong opposition. It is a healthy sign. We have in Germany a very strong government; the will of the rulers is expressed vigorously and executed rigorously; there is no shuffling or tampering with affairs of state. We are a business concern. Naturally enough the people, advancing under this government, desire to stand more and more on their own feet, and slowly they will be given more constitutional liberty. But we do not rush things; and the government is not in the least perturbed by the growth of what is called Socialism. The emperor could probably end the whole movement by a word."

This German Socialism, too, is divided into two camps. On one side is the party which angrily regards religion as their great enemy of progress, and seeks only for a purely material kingdom; and on the other is a more or less idealistic Socialism which sees in religion the only gospel of fraternity which is likely to move the world, and which is philosophical enough to perceive that without ethics Socialism would be the greatest disaster that could befall a state. These two camps, it should be remembered, are actively hostile to each other.

Herr Bernstein, without having any religious creed of his own, is a powerful leader among the idealistic Socialists, and preaches ethics with increasing success to the German workpeople. He told me that Socialism is certain of victory in Germany, but the victory will be of a perfectly quiet and orderly nature.

"But your workpeople," I argued, "have everything. They possess a state insurance, splendid state schools and technical colleges, and a system of labor organization which prevents pauperism. What else do they ask?"

"Yes," he answered, "they have all this; but they have not liberty. They cannot live without liberty—no great people can—and liberty they will have. They insist upon a voice in the affairs of the nation which will be heard and obeyed."

"How can you attain that end without a revolution?" I asked. "You may fill the reichstag with Socialists, but the government will take no notice of your motions and your majorities. You are powerless."

"That is true enough," he answered. "The government cannot be turned out—as a government in England—by a majority of parliament, which is a very great evil. But you overlook one thing. We can stop all supplies. That means victory for us, and a perfectly constitutional victory. When our numbers have increased, as they will at every election, we shall withhold all moneys from the government, and force autocracy to obey the will of the people. This victory, which is certain, will come quietly, and government will bow obediently to the storm."

Herr Bernstein told me many interesting things about the German working classes. He is convinced that a religion of some kind is necessary for their salvation. When he became editor of a purely labor newspaper he was told that unless he gave horse-racing and betting intelligence the venture would end in failure.

From a working man I learned similar things. In the little beer houses, he told me, the proprietors paste up on their walls the results of horse races in England, and weeks before the running of any great race in this country the working people in Berlin and other large cities are speculating on the result. Materialism is the greatest evil in Germany.

"We are nearly all atheists," this workman told me. "We want more money, and better clothes, and more leisure to enjoy ourselves. That is what we want, the life of our masters, who are also atheists. But do not think that Socialism will make a mess of things in Germany. You hear that we are opposed to compulsory service in the army. It is not true. Working men look back on their soldiering as the jolliest days in their lives—plenty of beer, warm clothes, and as much love-making as you have a mind for. No; if Herr Bebel ever sits where Count Bulow sits now, things will be very much as they are. We shall keep our great army, we shall build our fleet; we shall develop our powers. We are not fools in Germany, I tell you."

It appears to me that while the present emperor reigns Socialism can never be more than an agitation in Germany. If the reichstag refused supplies, the emperor would take them. The army and the police are solid behind him. But it is quite possible that an industrial change of some kind may be made during the present reign. Count Bulow is a wise man as well as a very strong man. The great grievance of the modern workman in Germany is that he has no power to "better himself," no opportunity of becoming his own master. He requires an inducement beyond stated wages to work with a swing. Limited liability companies are his chief enemies; and a strike that paralyzes these soulless concerns gives him the pleasures of a powerful revenge.

But always there will be strikes and discontent in Germany, for it is certain that even in Paradise the Teuton would be envious of those over him.

The Richest Man.

"Who is the richest man in the world?" asks a correspondent. The man who has a happy family and employment that enables him to live comfortably.

Market Basket

Just at present the egg market is the most interesting of the various lines of trade. Of late, the receipts have been so heavy that prices have shown an enormous reduction at wholesale, and retail figures are consequently down.

The month of February is a notable one in the egg market. As the weather grows warmer the hens begin to lay, and soon the production reaches a higher figure than the trade can take care of.

February is the month when cold storage operators begin to think of putting away their supplies for the next winter. Last year the storage eggs began a trifle late on account of the high prices then ruling.

Egg men began to pick out their eggs for storage when the market reached 18 cents a dozen at wholesale a year ago. At that time there was no real weakness in the market, and soon after storage operations the market suddenly took on a stronger feeling and a small advance was recorded.

From the present outlook and barring a sudden change in weather conditions cold storage will begin soon. The receipts will already justify storage operations, but the wholesalers have been timid about cutting prices.

In the retail markets today eggs are selling all the way from 20 to 25 cents a dozen, and the market is not any too firm at these figures.

The chicken market shows a big scarcity, and prices are very eager to climb. Already the price has reached such a limit that the ordinary mortal cannot afford to put the fowl on his table.

There was a general shortage in the supplies of wild birds all through the week, and prices are slightly higher.

Fresh vegetables of all sorts are in the retail markets in abundance and prices are not high. There is a gradual stiffening of the prices on sweet potatoes.

The best grades of Oregon burbank potatoes are held firmer on account of the better demand from other coast cities.

The onion market is firmer, and prices in all sections showed a spirited advance during the past few days.

Good apples are more plentiful this week, and prices are somewhat lower. Fancy grades, however, are still short of the demand.

Oranges have about reached the bottom of the ladder, and a general advance is said to be ruling in the southern markets.

The retail prices on various products today are:

Eggs, fresh Oregon, 20@25c per dozen.

Chickens, 18c; turkeys, 25c; tame ducks, $1 each; tame geese, 16@20c pound; mallards, $1.25 pair; teal, 50c pair; widgeon, 75c pair; jackrabbits, 25c each; snipe, 25c each.

Oranges, 15@20c per dozen; tangerines, 15c; bananas, 25@30c dozen. Grapes, Malaga, 40c per pound. Apples, fancy Spitzenburgs, $2.50 per box; Baldwins, $1.50@2.00; Rhode Island Greenings, $1.50. Grape fruit, 3 for 25c; Jersey cranberries, 15c quart.

Steaks, 8@15c pound; mutton chops, 8@15c pound; veal cutlets, 10@12½c pound; chops, 10@12½c pound; roasting beef, 12, 12½@15c pound; boiling meats, 6@8c pound; pot roast, 8@10c pound; corn beef, 8@10c pound; ham, 15c pound; boiled ham, 30c pound; spareribs, 8@10c pound; pork tenderloin, 20c pound.

Crabs, 2 for 25c; lobsters, 20c pound; eastern frog legs, 50c dozen; shrimps, 20c pound; eastern prawns, 30c pint; salmon, 2 pounds, 30c; Royal Chinook, 20c pound; flounders, 10c pound; rock cod, 12½c pound; California soles, 15c pound; perch, 10c pound; California striped bass, 15c pound; Sacramento shad, 2 for 25c; smelt, Columbia river, 10c pound; Puget Sound, 10c pound; catfish, 10c pound; black cod, 2 pounds, 25c; halibut, 2 pounds, 25c; sturgeon, 12½c pound.

New potatoes, 4 pounds for 25c; radishes, turnips and green onions, 2 bunches, 5c; watercress, 5c bunch; lettuce, fancy heads, 3 for 10c; egg plant, 15c pound; tomatoes, 20c pound; huckleberries, 10c pound; rhubarb, 5c pound; sweet potatoes, 8 pounds, 25c; walnuts, 2 pounds, 25c; others, 20c pound; beans, string, 2 pounds, ——; limas, green, 2 pounds, 35c; artichokes, small, 3 for 25c; large, 2 for 25c; celery, 10c head; peppers, 40c pound; cabbage, 10@15c head; cauliflower, 10@15c head; Oregon peas, 12½c pound; cucumbers, 25c each; summer squash, 3 for 25c; bread fruit, 25c each; mushrooms, 75c pound.

ELECTING A FRENCH PRESIDENT.

By Marquise De Fontenoy.

I suppose it is hardly necessary to call attention here to the fact that the method of electing a president in France is very different from that in vogue in the United States. There the president is chosen by a convention composed of the senate and chamber of deputies, sitting together as one national assembly for the purpose, the majority of the votes deciding the issue. This being the case, it is of interest to note that in the first week of January one third of the members of the senate will be renewed, having completed their nine-year term. When the presidential election occurs on February 18, there will be about 100 senators quite newly elected, who, it may be assumed, will represent the opinion of the electorate at that time. Should the presidency become vacant by M. Loubet's death or resignation before the end of this year, the senate taking part in the choice of the president will be composed entirely of senators elected three years, six years and nine years ago, when popular sentiment and public conditions were different from those of today. Therefore, much depends upon President Loubet completing his term of office.

It may be added that the chamber of deputies, in the ordinary course of events, brings its existence to a close in May, 1906, three months after the presidential election. Of course, the president could dissolve the chamber of deputies during the course of the present year and order a new general election in view of the presidential election in January, and there are many people who are in favor of such a step, as the present chamber of deputies was elected three years ago. But in order to dissolve the chamber the president would be obliged to have the consent of the senate as now constituted, and it is a question whether this would be given. Under no circumstances will Emile Loubet be a candidate for re-election. He has already intimated that in the event of his being re-elected, notwithstanding his wishes, he will decline to serve.

The Wildness of the Bore.

From the Philadelphia Press.

Mr. Staylate—I was reading the other day about Emperor William's hunting expeditions. I suppose Germany's the only place where they have wild boars.

Miss Patience Goone (yawning)—Oh, I don't know. Haven't you ever been so mad as to be positively wild, Mr. Staylate?

Final Victory to Right Is Inevitable

By Mrs. John A. Logan.

The long suffering inhabitants of that vast Russian empire have at last risen in their might, and, though the censored press report that order has been restored, there is no question but that it would more nearly represent the situation if they reported that the people have for the time being been suppressed. The emperor's officials and soldiery, being many times greater in number and thoroughly organized, have mowed down the men, women and children in the streets. By this means it is expected to obliterate the whole scene and discourage the spirit of revolution.

The brutality manifested by this species of inhumanity will scatter the seeds of discord and disloyalty to every part of the emperor's domain. Autocracy has assuredly sown the wind and will reap the whirlwind ere long. It was impossible to kill and sweep into the tide every creature of the mighty throng which came to beg of the "Little Father," whom superstition has taught them to believe is divine, to listen to their woes and grant them some relief through his supreme power. They asked for bread; his minions gave them stones, shot and shell, cast the bodies of the dead into the deep and those who escaped with their lives into dungeons, dark and dismal, only giving them sustenance enough to prolong existence so that they might have punishment heaped upon them, while those who for the present have eluded the grasp of the insatiable cruelty of the soldiery and police long disciplined under the command of conscienceless superiors are being hunted down.

The emperor, the potentate and autocratic ruler over 140,000,000 souls, instead of listening to their appeals, fled in terror and disguise under the protection of his soldiers, notwithstanding he had been induced to issue the call which had ostensibly for its object the disarmament of the nations of the earth. He has added another cause for revolution to his discontented and outraged subjects in that he has cowardly surrendered his power into the hands of bloodthirsty minions, who are given over to rapine and brutality and who are without sympathy with the people in their unspeakable struggle for life. He can never win back their confidence and reverence, and, though they may for a time submit to a power they cannot overthrow, they will not be idle or without the deepest thoughts of vengeance and retaliation upon their oppressors.

Trained in the school of tyranny, they will exact blood for blood, eternal vigilance and darkest of conspiracies will occupy their time while they wait for opportunity to avenge the fearful wrong visited upon them when they were using the only means they knew for relief, the ancient right of petition. Their watchwords will be "Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot. Burning for burning, wound for wound, stripe for stripe."—Exodus xxi:24-25. As it has been meted out to them so will they mete it out to those whom they hold responsible for their afflictions and inhuman treatment.

The fearful ignorance and superstitions that have made the strikes for freedom heretofore in Russia ineffectual are gradually passing away through the onward march of civilization and education. The penetration of the railroad across the barren wastes of Siberia is bound to open the way of enlightenment. With knowledge of good and evil will come an awakening among the serfs that will mean death to the reign of autocracy.

After every dash for liberty which has been made through assassinations the gulf has grown wider and wider. The last appeal, however, was made in the light of the twentieth century and seemed to have been conceived in a spirit of peace and loyalty, and to be only a plea for protection and a lightening of some of their insupportable burden. A different class from those who have hitherto been known to be among the revolutionists were conspicuous in the crowd which assembled peacefully to greet the emperor. In the consequences which followed they were all treated alike, and must pay the penalty of their daring. But like that of the martyrs the blood of these unfortunate creatures will surely rise up against the czar, and he and his descendants will eventually suffer from their vengeances. The long years of patient endurance of the generations that have come and gone since the days of Ivan the Terrible have not been in vain, and doubtless the time is near at hand when the weak shall wax strong in the righteousness of their cause.

The troops that survive the deadly conflicts of the Russian-Japanese war will one day return to tell the story of a better civilization than their own which they found in the Orient, and they will join the Terrorists, upon whose list the name of the czar is borne. Freedom of thought, and the inherent right of all mankind to life, liberty and happiness is older than any earthly dynasty and will yet prevail even in Russia, though one contemplates with horror that the emperor, his heirs and every member of the cabinet may be destined to fall and the streets of St. Petersburg and Moscow run with blood before the right is enthroned.

Lewis and Clark

Feb. 24.—The weather is again fine. We succeeded in loosening the second periogue and barge, though we found a leak in the latter. The whole of the next day.

A POLITE DISCHARGE.

From the Philadelphia Bulletin.

James Rankin Young, the new superintendent of the dead letter office, admires politeness.

"It is possible," he said recently, "to be polite always. It is possible to be polite even when discharging a drunken coachman. I know that this is so, for I have seen the thing done.

"A friend of mine found himself obliged last week to get rid of his coachman for drunkenness. He summoned the man into his presence, and discharged him with this polite speech:

"'I fear, Montgomery, that we must part. It has been impossible for me to avoid noticing that several times during the past month you have been—er—sober. Now I don't believe that any man can attend properly to drinking if he has driving to do, and, therefore, at the month's end you will be free to devote yourself exclusively to your chosen occupation.'"

A Modern Olive Branch.

From the Washington Post.

In consideration of a donation of $30,000,000, one of the Lockhart heirs has suppressed her unfriendliness toward other heirs, and will not contest the will. Most of us would be willing to suppress a whole lot of unfriendliness for even less money.