

THE EUGENE WEEKLY GUARD AN INDEPENDENT PAPER

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1908 TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

As announced heretofore, the Guard of the first of October was compelled to withdraw the offer of the St. Louis Republic free with every cash in advance subscription. Owing to the raise in the price of paper the publishers were forced to advance their price to us to such an extent we can no longer give the paper away as a premium.

We are, however, offering the Oregon Agriculturist or the American Farmer (your choice) free with each cash in advance subscription. Or we will give the Semi-Weekly Oregon Journal, the best newspaper in Oregon, with the Weekly Guard for only 75 cents extra, or \$2.25 for both the Guard and Journal. We will send the Guard and the Weekly Oregonian for \$2.50.

Splendid Premiums. To those who do not wish to take advantage of these clubbing offers we offer the following splendid premium to Weekly Guard subscribers: FOR ONLY TWO DOLLARS we will send the Weekly Guard one year, and give as a premium a set of six silver spoons, butter knife and sugar shell (Rogers make).

A kitchen set consisting of one carving knife and fork, one bread knife, one cake knife, one paring knife (American Cutlery Co. make), one pan cake turner and one egg spoon, a very useful thing to have in any family. Or a pretty mantel clock that keeps good time. These premiums we have in stock and are prepared to deliver them promptly. We know they will please you. Any one of them costs you only 50 cents in addition to the regular subscription price of the paper. Address GUARD PRINTING CO., Eugene, Oregon

PENSIONERS AND PENSION MATTERS

The annual report of the commissioner of pensions shows that the nation deals very generously with the men who fight to sustain its honor and integrity, says the Salt Lake Herald. From 1866 to 1907, both inclusive, the disbursements for pensions aggregated the staggering sum of \$3,411,621,793. That is not far from \$6 for every man, woman and child in continental United States, but it all went to war veterans and their dependents, and nobody begrudges them the money. That is, provided the pension claims were honest ones, based on actual injury or service and made necessary by disability or the infirmities of age.

That many abuses have been practiced in the pension system is not denied, that men who were not entitled to pecuniary rewards from the government have received such rewards is admitted by all who are familiar with conditions. But the disbursement applications that have been granted are so few, when compared with the total number, that not many people would dream of abandoning the system. The report of the commissioner of pensions shows that the veterans of the war between the states are rapidly answering the last muster call. In 1907, with a total of 1,094,196 names, the maximum number of pensioners was reached. Since that time the decline has been steady. At the close of the fiscal year ended June 30, 1907, and covered by the commissioner's report, the total had dropped to 967,371.

Nearly 50,000 names were dropped from the rolls by reason of death and other causes during the year, but the names of nearly 50,000 new pensioners and more than 1000 restorations and renewals were restored to reduce the net decrease to a little over 10,000. Most of the increase consisted of the names of soldiers of the war with Spain, and the amounts paid out on this account aggregated \$2,471,157. The grand total paid out during the year was \$141,464,522, but this included the cost of maintaining the

department as well as the payment of pensions. It is not believed that the total will soon be decreased. As the veterans of the civil war and their dependents drop out the veterans of the war with Spain will come in. Even if we could be assured that the United States will not become involved in another war during this century it is more than probable that the year 2001 would see pensioners on account of the Spanish war still on the rolls.

The last surviving pensioner of the Revolutionary war, as a widow, did not die until 1907. Three daughters of the Revolution are still on the rolls. And there are several pensioners of the war of 1812, as well as a number from the war with Mexico. And now comes the wireless telephone. A Dane has been able to accomplish the wonderful feat of talking through space with the aid of etheral waves as the only transmitters. Thus far he has been unable to perfect his mechanism for long distances, the receiving end burning out in spite of all that he has been able to do. The inventor is persistent in his claims, however, that he will be able to talk across the Atlantic when his mechanism is complete.

MACHINE REASONS FOR OPPOSING STATEMENT NO. 1

Reporting a meeting of the Republicans in Portland the Evening Telegram says: In opposing Statement No. 1 Senator Beach predicted not a candidate who favored the statement would be elected, and declared it was his belief that the majority of the Republican party believed likewise. He said far-spread recognition of Statement No. 1 would elect a Democrat to the United States senate, and that the Republican candidate for the senate would be beaten by Governor Chamberlain if Statement No. 1 prevails.

This statement of Mr. Beach has the merit of frankness. It is not couched in words of the demagogue and hypocrite, and it is not necessary to read between the lines to grasp the meaning of this machine politician. He says plainly and without equivocation that he wishes Statement No. 1 brushed aside in order that the election of a Republican senator may be made a certainty. He professes to believe that a majority of the voters of Oregon would prefer to elect Chamberlain, a Democrat, and he would make sure of the election of a Republican, even though not the popular choice, by disregarding Statement No. 1, and throwing the election into the legislature just as in the days of old, when there were bribery and rumors of bribery, deadlocks and failures to organize for business. It is upon such disgraceful orgies that the politicians of the Beach-Hodson stripe feed and fatten. Beach alone, of all the enemies of real popular government, is frank and open enough to say publicly what this organized attack on the primary law all over the state means.

The rank and file of the Republican party in Oregon are honest, and they are not fools. They recognized the import of this Portland-inspired movement to restore machine rule even before Mr. Beach's frank avowal of its purpose, and will, furthermore, see that it is defeated in their primaries. Mr. Geo. Melvin Miller, of this city, in his letter to the Oregonian, republished in yesterday's Guard, voiced the sentiment of honest republicanism in Oregon—that a clean, capable Republican senator be chosen, or they would give their support to the Democratic candidate. The purification of the Republican party must be complete in the estimation of its honest friends, and the efforts of men of the Beach-Hodson stripe only postpone the day of its return to power in Oregon, for its voters must first have fully restored their confidence in its leadership. Statement No. 1 stands in the way of a clean Republican candidate for senator. Mr. Bourne defeated John M. Searin, the ablest Democrat in the state, and Mr. Chamberlain could not overcome the great Republican majority unless his opponent should be a man distasteful to large numbers of his own party. Mr. Beach knows this to be true, and he would lay the foundation now to thwart the will of the people by having a machine-made senate crammed down their throats by a wicked and unscrupulous legislature. When one desires to know what is the matter with the Republican party in Oregon it is not necessary to look any further than Beach, Hodson, et al, for the answer.

EXPRESS RATE WAR NOW FAIRLY BEGUN

At last the country is being aroused on the matter of exorbitant rates of the express companies, and a determined war is being waged by shippers for the purpose of compelling these common carriers to bring their schedule of prices within the bounds of reason.

The interstate commerce commission has taken up the subject, and at the present time is making a rigid examination regarding existing conditions. An examination is being held in Denver involving the rates charged

by the various express companies both east and west from the Middle States and the Far West, and the outcome will be watched with much interest by parties concerned everywhere.

Of all corporations doing business with the public, the express companies are the most grasping. This has been going on for years, and nothing was said about it until within the past few months. That their demands are excessive everybody concedes, when their attention is called to the subject, but nothing has ever been done to compel them to release their grasp on the throat of commerce. The railroads have caught it on every hand, but strange to relate the chief robber of all has been entirely lost sight of. Now that the subject has come up and the members of the interstate commerce commission understand the true conditions, it is to be hoped that the matter of express rates will be placed on a more reasonable basis.

GUARD'S CIRCULATION INCREASED MATERIALLY BY PRIZE CONTEST

At the end of The Guard's popular voting contest the publishers of this paper make the positive claim that it has the largest circulation of any paper in a field of similar population in the Northwest, and the largest of any paper published in Oregon outside of Portland, as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Publication Name, Circulation. Includes Daily Guard (2000), Weekly Guard (1800), Total (2800).

On the commonly approved basis of five readers to each regular subscriber, The Guard has 19,000 readers, 90 per cent of whom are residents of Lane county. Advertisers, who have a right to know what they are buying when they pay for space, will be given every opportunity to prove the truth of this statement by calling at The Guard office. Five hundred daily subscribers were added to the list during the past eight weeks, nearly all of whom are paid a full year in advance. This makes the circulation gain not transient, but of the most permanent character. For two years past The Guard has pursued the policy of making a house to house canvass of the county, and by this method had greatly increased its list, but it remained for the fair contestants in the prize contest to make a clean-up of the field that could be made in no other way, and the business men who use The Guard's advertising columns will really be the greatest beneficiaries of the increased circulation, since it will give them regular and welcome entrance to a very great majority of the homes in Lane county.

PRESENT SITUATION IN CUBA REVIEWED

No one doubts the honesty of the promises of our government, but every one doubts whether Cuba will allow those promises to be fulfilled. If the nation is saved it must be saved in spite of itself, says Lieutenant G. M. P. Murphy, in Harper's Weekly. But the government has decided to grant it another chance.

The pity of the whole situation is that the great majority of the plain people—the peasant class—in Cuba are peaceful men and women who ask nothing but undisturbed permission to cultivate their little fields, and smoke their cigarettes and sip their rum of an evening. After being present at revolution in South and Central America, and studying closely the Spanish-American character in several countries, I have no doubt that in these ailing states the disease comes from a handful of silk-hatted conspirators and their bands of blackguard adventurers who frighten the simple farm folk, one by one, into their ranks. Even in Venezuela, with her shocking record of rebellion, the armies were recruited with the lash and the rifle butt. The particular ill fortune of Cuba is that she has such a large population of negroes, who, naturally lazy and lawless, and having nothing to lose, but everything to gain, by pillage, are the immediate tools of every leader who aspires to go into office through the brush. A Cuban veteran with several wounds and a noble record of real valor—his name was to force the rest to charge a Spanish column—said to me, almost with tears in his eyes: "Ah, the people—the poor people—they are so good. There is nothing bad in them. It is their wicked leaders. If they could be put together and shot we could save Cuba."

Unfortunately such a select execution is out of the question, and the problem that must be solved is how, in the circumstances as they are today, can our government keep its pledged word to give Cuba another chance.

RAILROADS ONE HUNDRED YEARS HENCE

The Railway Critic predicts that a hundred years hence the clumsy de-

vice of locomotive engines will have been dispensed with. Whatever power is employed to drive the trains of the next century will certainly be conveyed to them by central power houses.

The trains perhaps will not stop at all. They will only slacken speed a little, but the platform will begin to move as the train approaches, and will run alongside at the same speed as the train, so that passengers can get in and out as if the train were standing still. When all are aboard the doors will be closed altogether by the guard, and the platform will reverse its motion and return to its original position.

ORNAMENTAL BOARD SATISFIED WITH JOBS

The railroad commissioners all want to be re-elected to their present jobs. One thing in their favor is that they are doing no harm, simply drawing their salaries very quietly without disturbing the serenity of the railroad magnates or anybody else.

As many people feared at the time the railroad commission bill was judged by Speaker Davey and other politicians in the house, the board is more ornamental than useful, and as the present members are fairly good looking and of gentlemanly presence, it would no doubt be an act of wisdom on the part of the voters to continue them in office.

There are some things which crop up in the divorce courts occasionally that are absolutely funny. For instance a man down in San Francisco has filed a suit for divorce against his wife, and among other ridiculous things charged against the woman, alleges that she flirted with the minister that married them, and on an occasion when the family was stopping at a summer resort the wife conducted herself shamefully with an old man staying at the same place, who was withered with paralysis. Finally, the defendant, in this remarkable divorce suit, was attacked with appendicitis and when she was on the operating table her dominant characteristic prevailed and she flirted with the surgeon who performed the operation. The judge hearing the case should throw it out of court as being too absurd for the records. Then the plaintiff should be severely censured for presuming to trifle with the dignity of the court.

Because he swore at a telephone girl for swabbing him on the wrong line, a Sacramento man has been fined \$20 in the police court. He called for a number and the "central" office put him on a line and a woman's voice told him to come home at once and bring a quart of milk and a dozen eggs. The Sacramento man, who is a crusty old bachelor, at once became wrathful and vented his spite on the poor telephone girl, with the above result. And it served him right. No man is justified in using ungentlemanly language to the young ladies in charge of the telephone exchange. They have their troubles as well as the rest of us, and generally do the best they can for the many patrons of the company. They make many mistakes, it is true, but their duties are very difficult and cannot be always performed without errors creeping in occasionally.

After all there are other jobs which are better than being a king. Possibly the work is all right and the pay good, but the risk to life is too great for the nerves of the ordinary mortal. In this connection it is related by the dispatches that when the Czar of Russia read about the assassination of the King of Portugal in the papers he was greatly depressed. If that sort of news would not depress a person in the position of the czar of Russia he must be a man insensible to fear, especially when he well knows that an anarchist is crouching around the corner with a stick of dynamite in his hand waiting for him to come forth and be blown into fragments. Anybody that wants to be a king can have the job for all of us—the stunt is entirely too risky for a peace-loving citizen.

Attorney Littleton, chief counsel in the defense of Harry Thaw, is said to have withdrawn from the case of the young Pittsburgh millionaire, who killed Stanford White. He succeeded in having him acquitted on the ground of insanity, but now that Thaw is safely incarcerated in a mad house Littleton is perfectly willing that he should remain there. And if everything testified to by the witnesses in the case was true the asylum is the best place for the man and he should be kept there for the remainder of his natural life. Men of the Thaw type are of no use to the world in any capacity. Society can get along very well without them.

A Washington, D. C., dispatch states that Senator Culberson has introduced a railroad bill fixing a penalty upon all railroads that fail to furnish cars promptly for the trans-

portation of freight. The bill was drawn at the request of Judge F. H. Cowan, of Fort Worth, Tex., counsel of the Texas Cattle Rangers' Association. It is designed to break up the practice of refusing to furnish cars except those controlled by the beef trust for transportation of beef and fruits, and is drawn to meet the entire situation in order to prevent discrimination by any trust against independent manufacturers or shippers.

Times are getting better. Increased industrial activity is indicated by the reports from some of the large manufacturing companies in the East covering the month of January. From all sources the word is given out that the January volume of business was larger by far than that of December, and it is conceded that it is getting better all the time. From these straws it is argued that good times are again on the way, and will be with us with the opening of spring. Confidence is already established, and all that is to be done now is to keep at it until everybody and his hired man is busy.

Our friends, the Japanese, have about given up the idea that it is up to them to take charge of and run the earth. They are a bright lot of fellows, but there are others who are just as bright as the subjects of the mikado, and they have been doing business a good deal longer in the line of civilization. But the Japs will learn in time that one must cultivate the art of tolerance to get along well in the world, and that no man can be the whole show himself.

Attorney Littleton, having secured a verdict of not guilty for Harry Thaw on the grounds of insanity, is now confronted with the task of having him released from the Mattewan insane asylum because he is insane. Undoubtedly he will find plenty of expert alienists to testify in behalf of the defendant, for men can be persuaded to give almost any kind of testimony if there is enough money offered them.

There is a difference of opinion between the railroad telegraphers and the railroad managers about the enforcement of the law which prohibits working the former more than nine hours a day after March 4. The latter wants the interstate commerce commission to order a suspension of the law, but the commissioners do not think they have the authority, even had they the desire.

The drinking of an abundance of water will prevent appendicitis, because appendicitis is the result of constipation and constipation is the result of insufficient bile and insufficient supply of liquids. That's what an exchange says, anyway. If anybody wants any further reasons they will have to go elsewhere, for we are not here to run the doctors out of business.

Cards are out for the next catch-as-catch-can international matrimonial bout, the principals to be a daughter of T. P. Shonts, who got cold feet on the Panama canal job, and the Duke of Chalmeau, who lives in France, where titles are supposed not to be recognized. Time will be called at noon on the 15th inst, at New York city, of course.

According to a ner-scientist, love is electricity. That means that jarring married folk should consult an electrician, not a divorce lawyer, if they wish to have the current run smoother; also that the sudden jolts and stops in courtship are nothing more than broken circuits or burned out fuses, easily repaired, if you know how.

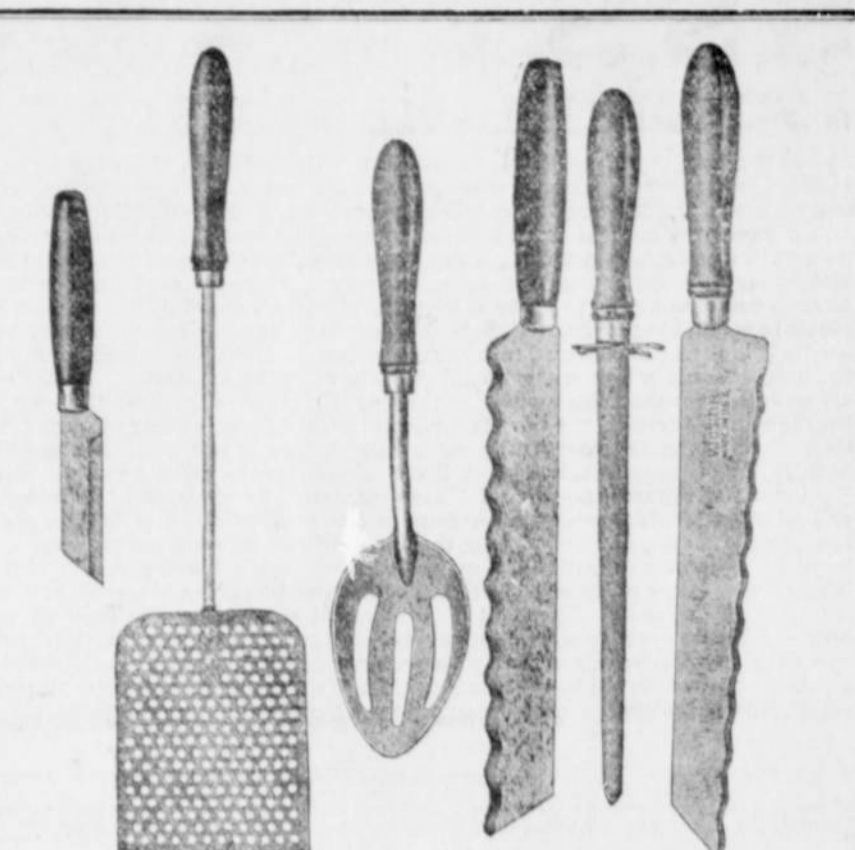
Maybe Germany is "only" following in the steps of the other sea powers" in its naval expansion, as the secretary of the imperial admiralty said when the big appropriation for new warships was passed by the Reichstag, but from this distance it looks more like an attempt to lead.

A brother of the count—that Gladys-bought says this is a great country, and we have no doubt he would say it was the greatest ever if he could sell a share in his citizenship for five million good American planks. He has a wife, however, and she might not consent to the usual method in such cases.

A fellow named Donald G. Ross is sending out from New York city a lot of press staff booming W. L. Douglas, of Massachusetts, ... president on the Democratic ticket. This may simply mean another ad for the famous \$3 shoes.

Strange that a magazine should waste space to ask, "in what line of work is woman most successful?" when everybody knows the answer is man—she works him successfully wherever and whenever she pleases.

We take it that President Diaz is not opposed to bull-fighting, as



Above is a picture of the kitchen set which is given away to subscribers of The Weekly Guard who pay \$2.00 a year for the paper in advance. It is a very useful present for the housekeeper.

the largest bull ring in the world is being built, at a cost of \$700,000, in Mexico. Before we throw any stones at the Mexicans, let us remember that it costs a lot more than that to fight our Wall street bulls.

Some idea of the importance of railway construction operations to our lumber interests is contained in the statement that during 1906 over 100,000,000 cross ties were supplied to the steam and electric railways of the United States, costing approximately \$59,000,000, says the Oregon Timberman. The building of 2,000 miles of new railway in the Pacific Northwest, employing 2,800 ties to the mile, will result in the expenditure of about \$5,000,000 for timber products for this branch of construction alone.

Some would-be financial statesmen overlook the fact that no matter how great a volume of currency is provided for, it cannot be had by individuals who fail to offer value in work or goods, or to put up a bluff that will be accepted as equivalent.

"Make marriage easy and divorce difficult" is the recipe for bettering humanity handed out by Alexander Graham Bell, the millionaire inventor. Most people will agree to the last, but we confess that we do not see how marriage can be made any easier than it is now.

This near-poet, who is advising the readers of the paper that prints his stuff to get busy "and make your dreams come true," must have 'em pleased. About the last thing most of us would want would be to have our dreams come true.

A new serial story, "The Woman in the Alcove," by Anna Katherine Green, will begin in tomorrow's Guard and will also run in the Weekly Guard beginning next week. Our readers should get overlook the opening chapters.

For the sake of Governor Vardeman, we trust that either the statement that he is going to be an editor or the one that he is going on the lecture platform is wrong. It's a combination that seldom works well in double harness.

We take it that Congressman Gordon, of Tennessee, who has introduced a bill barring horse-race betting tickets and newspapers containing betting information from the mails, is not much of a "sport."

Whatever may be his political future Governor Hughes will not, unless he changes radically, have to accuse himself of having talked too much.

John Sharp Williams proved that he, too, could make pungent out-grams on occasion, when he said, "The tariff on printing paper is a brain tax."

Senator Tillman must either keep a card index in his desk or have an extraordinary memory, to keep track of all the resolutions of enquiry he offers in the senate.

To look high is all right, provided you don't look so high as to overlook opportunities to gather enough coin on the level to make a living.

Another thing that should be limited is the number of strokes of girls who jilted Lincoln and were sorry for it—after he became famous.

Belgium has one law that should appeal to our woman-suffragists. It gives to each married man two votes, while bachelors only have one.

It costs more for a dull merchant to brush the dust off his goods than it would to advertise and sell them.

GEO. MELVIN MILLER ON STATEMENT NO. 1 (Oregonian.)

Eugene, Feb. 2.—(To The Editor) —Since Judge Lowell, of Pendleton, is considered one of the brainiest Republicans of the state, his argument contained in a communication to the Oregonian of recent date, in opposition to Statement No. 1 will be given serious consideration by prospective candidates who think they are good Republicans, who will disagree with Judge Lowell as to the merits of what he terms a "chimeric—an excessiveness upon the primary law." There are good Republicans in this state who believe the Republican party of Oregon should be still further "purified as by fire." These Republicans will stand by Statement No. 1 until the last member of the old and corrupt political ring is buried in oblivion. What matters if this "chimeric" does threaten the election of a Democrat to the United States senate from Oregon? Let the Republican party put up men for office whose records are pure and unquestioned and no such danger will appear. Statement No. 1 was not designed to favor politicians; therefore Judge Lowell or others will not convince the people of its defects by calling it names and appealing for political organization. I am a Republican, I hope, having voted for that ticket for 34 years, but I believe the interests of the people should be considered before the welfare of the party. If the use of Statement No. 1 has done no greater harm than disorganize the Republican party in Oregon its merits certainly far outweigh its demerits. It has put Oregon in the lead of a political reform that bids fair to sweep over every state in the Union. It has landed an Oregon senator in the Gridiron Club, and in many ways has given the state unusual distinction. It was Statement No. 1 and not the primary law that enabled our legislature to elect a senator on the first ballot with decency and dispatch. What has the Republican organization ever done for the state of Oregon, except to disgrace it? The Republican party of Oregon has been cursed with too much "organization." It was for 20 years so well organized that it became necessary for LaPollette, the Eastern magazine, and Henry to "clean house" for us. If we make it necessary for a Democrat like Henry to do our dirty work, why not put a Democrat in the United States senate?

There are still some things to be done before the Republicans of Oregon can afford to draw close party lines. We still need the help of both Populists and Democrats. Stand-patism and corporation rule must be unshored before Republicans will consent to return to the fold of strict party organization. So long as such men as Fulton are put forward as political leaders the best organization for the Republicans of Oregon is total disorganization. Statement No. 1 has done more for Oregon than any other like number of words in the English language and it will remain the bulwark of the people against political corruption. GEORGE MELVIN MILLER.

THE QUEEN CITY (Graham, Or., Herald.)

Judging from the appearance of the Eugene Daily Guard, which is a welcome addition to our exchange list, we should say that Eugene certainly has a right to call herself the queen city of the Willamette. The Eugene Daily Guard is one of the most prosperous dailies in the state, and certainly speaks well for the progress and sound sense of Eugene business men.

MR. VAN DUSEN SATISFIED (Pacific Outlook.)

This week the fitness and competency of Fish Warden Van Dusen is again questioned, in this case by the governor himself. Chamberlain holds that the incumbent is hampered in the performance of his duties by personal prejudices and by a tendency toward favoritism, and that he does not realize the importance of the closed season. Along with a lot of others in the state, the governor would like to see the master warden among the "has-beens" and his successor appointed. Judging from the "kicks" that have come in from various parts of the state it would seem that the only person who is entirely satisfied with the service of Mr. Van Dusen is Mr. Van Dusen.

The Chambers-Bristow Banking Company has moved his books and accounts to the First National bank and the merger of the two institutions is now complete.