

Portland Telegram: The Western irrigationists are likely to obtain some recognition in the present congress. By combining their forces they can compel those who are deeply interested in other projects requiring large appropriations to yield something to themselves. While the members of congress from the arid and semi-arid regions are not numerous, they have friends and supporters in members from other portions of the country, and the president, whose influence may count for much, is on their side. Many persons living in fertile and well-watered sections of the country are beginning to believe that only through Federal appropriations and guardianship, in co-operation with proper state laws, can the non-productive and now waste lands of the West be made to yield their proportion of the products and wealth of the country, and that this result should be secured through governmental action.

Private enterprise has done much in the way of reclaiming arid lands, and many people were surprised at the statement in the president's message, or would have been if they had noticed it, that more than \$200,000,000 of private capital has been invested in irrigation. But private enterprise cannot, for obvious reasons, carry on this work in the scope, to the extent and under the conditions that are generally desired.

The problem, like many others with which the general government has to deal, is not simple and easy, and initial laws will be to some extent experimental; but the time has about arrived when the great waste acres of the West must be gradually and systematically reclaimed and fructified, wherever practicable, by irrigation, carried on partly at least through government aid.

M. D. Wisdom, of Portland, has returned from the livestock convention which was held in Chicago the first of the month. In an interview published in the Oregonian, he says:

"The question of leasing the public domain for grazing purposes was also taken up at this meeting. The question has been before the association for two years and has brought forth much discussion. The sheepmen have always opposed the measure and the cattlemen as warmly favored it. At the last meeting the sheepmen were so strongly represented that the cattlemen did not think it advisable to bring up the question."

Teddy has killed mountain lions, "roughed it" on the cattle ranges and waded through shot and shell at San Juan hill, but he never underwent the hair-raising experience of inviting Senator Tillman and Booker T. Washington to dine together at the same table with him at the White House, says the Roseburg Review.

A Kansas editor who read the president's message through was so mentally strained with the effort that he said it overlooked nothing from the landing of the Pilgrims to the Rough-Rider reunion in New Mexico.

The example of George W. Davis shows that any man can steal money from the state and escape punishment, together with his official chiefs, if he is roguish enough to neutralize the law with technicalities.—Oregonian.

One of the big department stores in Chicago has contracted with one newspaper for \$120,000 worth of advertising during the coming year. The manager of that store knows one of the secrets of doing a big business.

Last week's Dun's review made the statement that the cost of the things necessary for the ordinary man's living for one year had increased from \$72.45 in 1897 to \$101.07 in 1901. The republican press of the entire country is now engaged in a ridiculous attempt to show that the extra \$29 has gone into the pockets of the workingman, whereas anyone with ordinary reasoning power knows that the \$29 represents the extra amount which has been filched from the pockets of each laboring man in the country to swell the profits of the robber trusts.—Ex.

A lawyer in a court room may call a man a liar, a scoundrel, villain or thief, and no one will make a complaint when court adjourn. If a newspaper prints such reflections on a man's character, there is a libel suit or a dead editor. This is owing to the fact that people believe what an editor says while with the lawyer—but why go further—Huntington Herald.

A newspaper prints an advertisement, according to the New York Press, that deserves a response. It reads: "If John Smith, who twenty years ago deserted his poor wife and babe, will return, said babe will knock the stuffing out of him."

A Home College Course.

The Saturday Evening Post, of Philadelphia, announces two new departments which will challenge the interest of young men and women throughout the country. "A Home College Course," as one of them is called, has been designed to meet the wants of ambitious young people who have not had the advantages of a university training. This course will be conducted by a special faculty, composed of professors in the leading colleges. The studies have been most carefully chosen. Each will be treated in an interesting way, and helpful hints for outside reading freely given.

"To the Young Man Beginning Business" is the second of these new departments. In it the most successful men in a dozen occupations will write about what helped them to the front in their own business, and give a list of books and magazines bearing upon it. Their purpose will be to tell the beginner how he can make himself more valuable to his employers.

These new departments will begin early in January, and will be made a permanent feature of The Saturday Evening Post.

"Look here," said the burglar, as the man raised himself to a sitting posture in the bed, "what do you mean by living in a room that invites strangers and yet affords them no reward? Haven't you got any money hid out somewhere?"

"No," replied the man, "but I am expecting some. I have sent two poems to the Scribe, four sketches to the Scribe, and six—" "Say, are you a writer?"

"I should say so! Just let me read you my—"

The burglar raised a warning hand. "No," he said, "my time's limited. I've got three more houses on my list, and if they pan out as bad as this one I won't have any breakfast. I'll read your stuff when it's printed. I take all the magazines. By the way—"

"He paused—looked at his watch and asked: "Any more literary houses in this district?" "None." "All right—I'm off. Good night!" "Same to you. Please close the window after you."

A Great Newspaper.

The Sunday edition of the St. Louis Republic is a marvel of modern newspaper enterprise. The organization of its news services is world-wide, complete in every department; in fact, superior to that of any other newspaper.

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Vertical text on the right edge of the page, containing various small notices and advertisements.