THE ITEMS

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

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President Roosevelt is demonstrating that his aim is as deadly to the political spoilsman as to mountain lions.

Senator McLaurin and Senator Tillman have been ably demonstrating the truth of the adage "Few die and none resign."

The persistent prosperity which has penetrated to every nook and corner of the United States is the most discouraging feature of the democratic outlook.

The chaplains of both the Senate and the House of Representatives are blind. There are phases of life in congress that to pray for their reform would make a sensation.

Senator Tillman is reported to have posed for a photograph recently and to be furnishing a magazine with data for his biography. Now let Senator McLaurin reload his oratorical blunderbus.

While there seems to be no practical way of helping the Boers in South Africa, says a Washington correspondent, the Boer prisoners in Bermuda will be allowed to receive contributions to their personal comfort.

The President has taken another important step towards making the civil service law effective. He has made it illegal for disbursing officers to pay salaries to people who are appointed contrary to civil service regulations.

Census Commissioner William R. Merriam is being talked of as Secretary of the proposed department of Commerce and Industry. Mr. Merriam is a business man of marked ability in addition to being a prominent politician.

There is reason to believe that the business men of the South are awakening to the visionary and untrustworthy nature of the democratic party and are turning to the republican party. Is it wise to estrange them by decreasing Southern congressional representation at this time?

The time may have been when the abuse of the postal laws which permitted paperbacked novels to circulate as "newspapers or periodicals" was excusable because it gave wider circulation to the works of standard authors, but the character of the paperbacked novel of today obliterates all trace of an excuse for the perversion of the law.

LITTLE HOPE FOR IRRIGATION.

A Washington dispatch to the Oregonian of the 25th says: There is no hope of securing the passage of any general irrigation legislation during the present Congress, and very little hope of securing an appropriation for even an experimental system.

Eastern members of Congress have examined the compromise bill recently agreed upon by the irrigation advocates, and are already taking radical exception to its provisions. A general bill, in order to pass, must provide that the right to water shall remain in the land and the price at which irrigated lands may be obtained, under the homestead law, shall be equal to the amount expended by the General Government in their reclamation. The proposed bill is so worded that the water rights may be absorbed or purchased by any individual or corporation and diverted from the lands upon which the water was intended to be turned. Furthermore, a uniform price of $5 an acre for irrigated lands is fixed, which is only half of the cost of reclamation. Eastern men are now beginning to open their eyes to the fact that the creation of a reclamation fund from the sale of public lands is practically appropriating so much from the treasury under another name. Until a bill is framed which will insure the full return to the Government of all money expended in the reclamation of arid lands, and, furthermore, making strict provision to prevent speculation in water rights. Eastern support cannot be had, and without Eastern support any bill will fail.

The bill now proposed provides that no reservoirs shall be constructed where the cost of reclamation shall exceed $10 per acre. Officials who are familiar with conditions in Eastern Oregon and Washington say that there are but few sections of those states where the arid lands can be reclaimed for such a small amount, hence these states would practically derive no benefit from the bill. This would withdraw the support of some Western States, combined with the solid East, which does not propose to expend $10 and receive but $5 in the creation of new home. Furthermore, the East will not lend its support until it is clearly established that reclaimed lands are to be used solely for farms and homes and not for grazing purposes, nor is there likely to be any agreement in favor of the construction of an experimental system, as each Western State is clamoring for the location for such system within its boundaries, and there can probably be no compromise.

The farmers of the country will be delighted to learn that the Bureau of Animal Industry has prepared a bulletin for their delectation on a serious disease of hens which the Bureau says is "a form of apoplectiform septicaemia caused by a highly virulent form of nonpyogenic, streptococcus." Hitherto the great morality among chickens has been charged to preachers.

Judge William E. Chandler, chairman of the Spanish Claims Commission announces that there are before the Commission claims amounting to over $50,000,000 prosecuted by over one hundred and twenty-seven attorneys. His appeal to Congress for more legal assistance should be heeded.

If woman would only remember that her influence over a child the first few years of its life can have greater effect, and produce wider and more lasting results than her whole life given up to walking in the ways of men!—Cardinal Gibbons, in The January Ladies' Home Journal.

A distinguished French Engineer predicts that in ten years coal mining will not pay. There is a strong tendency toward liquid fuel with petroleum as the chief ingredient. Scientists and inventors are giving it much attention.

YOUR NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE.

Your neighbor is just as good as you are. Your neighbor is no coarser, commoner, or more vulgar than you. Your neighbor is just as truthful, just as honest, just as sincere as you, and is possibly not half as big a lying gossip as you are. Your neighbor is just as religious, just as virtuous and in every way just as good a citizen as you and has just as much right to inhabit the earth as you. Your neighbor has a right to eat his pie with a fire shovel if he likes; has a right to attend church or stay at home, just as he likes; has a right to punish his children, go a fishing on Sunday, smoke a pipe, keep his face clean or do lots of other things, and it is none of your business; and you are not appointed, elected, or chosen to set yourself up to judge him or his. You and your neighbor are made of the same mud; live in the same sunshine; are governed by the same laws, and as long as he attends to his own business you should attend to yours and when you set yourself up to gossip about your neighbors, or scalawag others, just because you can find somebody to listen to your hypocritical criticisms, you simply advertise yourself as a three story idiot. Stop lying about your neighbor; stop speaking unkindly of anyone; attend to your own business, while your neighbor is attending to his, and your chances of wearing a crown will begreatly improved. The hypocrite, the vile gossips and the assassins of character will all burn together; and if you dont want to burn with them stop lying about your neighbor.—Eldorado Republican.

What Democracy Needs.—"The dimmyeratic party," says Mr Dooley, "ain't on speakin' terms with itsilf." He advises the party to advertise for a suitable candidate and suggests the following qualifications for a representative standard bearer: "Wanted. A good, active, inergetic dimmyerat, sthrong iv lung an' limb; must be in favor iv sound money, but not too sound, an' anti-impeeryalist, but f'r holdin' onto what we've got, an' inimy iv thrusts, but a frind iv organized capital, a sympathizer with th' crushed an' downtrodden people, but not by anny means hostile to vested inthrests; must advocate sthrikes, gover'mint by injunction, free silver, sound money, greenbacks, a single tax, a tariff f'r rivinoo, th' constituotion to follow th' flag as far as it can an' no farther, civil service rayform iv th' la'ads in office an' all th' gr-reat an' glorious principals iv our gr-reat an' glorious party or anny gr-reat an' glorious parts thereof."

If domestic life has its cares and responsibilities—and what life has not?—it also has its sweetness and its consolations, its joys and its benefits, that are infinitely superior to anything that can possibly be obtained in hotels or flats.—January Ladies' Home Journal.

Life is a race—not for a silver cup, but for character—that is the goal. The prize is heaven, but the race must always be run, and life, to many, is outward defeat, and to a larger number, inward defeat.—January Ladies, Home Journal.

There is a flavor of the Hibernian about Judge Dunne's decision that it is all right for a newspaper to criticise a judicial decision after it is rendered. He does not explain how it could be criticized before it was rendered.

The Isthmian Canal Commission has reported; the Hay-Pauncefote treaty has been ratified, Senator Morgan has reintroduced his canal bill. The time has come for Uncle Samuel to begin digging.

A paying gold mine has been found on the site of a United States Government building in Montana. All the Gold belongs to the Government and Uncle Sam can go to digging if he wants to.

Cowboy Saddle That Cost $300.

The Dalles Chronicle: In the west show window of the clothing department of A. M. Williams & Co., there is now on exhibition what is claimed to be the finest saddle that ever was turned out of a Dalles shop. Whether this claim is well founded or not the writer cannot tell, but anyone can see that the saddle in question is a magnificient work of art. Every available inch of space on the leather is stamped with beautiful pictures of wild and domestic animals and landscape scenery. Back of the cantel is a silver plate with the name of the owner inlaid in gold letters. It has sixty-two solid silver conchas, besides a number of elaborate silver plates that are intended for mere ornaments. The saddle was built by Vic Marden, of the East End, and is made on one of the trees of which he is the inventor. It is for R. S. Settlemire, of Burns, Harney county, an employe of the Pacific Livestock company, which owns some 300,000 head of cattle and is the largest stock company on the Pacific coast. The saddle was of course made to order and will cost its owner the snug sum of $300.

"Through the months of June and July our baby was teething and took a running off of the bowels and sickness of the stomack," says O. P. M. Holliday, of Deming, Ind. "His bowels would move from five to eight times a day. I had a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in the house and gave him four drops in a teaspoonful of water and he got better at once." Sold by H. M. Horton, Burns; Fred Haines, Harney.

The Northwest Livestock and Wool Growers' Journal and Items, $2 a year.