GENERAL NEWS.

General Alger in an interview says he is entirely out of politics.

The churches in Paris are being guarded from attacks from the mobs in the streets.

A verdict is expected from the Dreyfus trial at Rennes the first week in September.

Arthur Pratt of Salt Lake City was selected Saturday to be census supervisor for the state of Utah.

The call for gold certificates in exchange for gold coin, according to last reports, amounted to $20,821,800.

Major Russel Harrison, son of ex-President Harrison, is critically ill with yellow fever at Santiago, Cuba.

There was a $250,000 fire in Jamestown, New York, Wednesday. The cane seat chair factory was destroyed.

The trusts which have been organized since the first of the present year represent a capitalization of $7,370,783,333.

There was a $40,000 fire in Sidney, Nebraska, Saturday. A whole block of buildings in the heart of the town was burned.

Several yellow fever cases have occurred at Panama, the disease, it is said, having been imported from Guayaquil, Ecuador.

The Church Missionary Society has just received a report stating that 440,000 persons hae died of famine on the east coast of Africa.

A wind and rain storm did much damage to property in the vicinity of Decorah, Iowa, Sunday. Several buildings in the town were wrecked.

Religion in Japan will hereafter be controlled by the government. Without the consent of the local governor a church cannot be built or meetings held.

General Butterfield, chairman of the Dewey reception committee in New York, has been stricken with aphasia at his home on the Hudson and is in a dangerous condition.

It is announced that President McKinley will go to Ohio shortly with the purpose of strengthening the republican party's chances in the fall campaign in that state

The Nebraska people could not raise enough money to bring their regiment home from San Francisco by special train. It required $35,000 and only $20,000 could be raised.

Lieutenant-General Sir Frederick Walker, who relieves General Sir William Francis Butler as commander of the British troops in South Africa, sailed for his post Saturday.

Surgeon General Wyman, of the marine hospital service, does not think there is reason for alarm in this country on the account of the outbreak of the bubonic plague in Portugal.

Two hundred people were poisoned at Oregon, Ill., Thursday by lemonade which they drank at a picnic given by the Woodmen of the World. As yet no fatalities have been reported.

The secretary of the interior has instructed the commissioner of Indian affairs to establish the Fort Spokane Indian school at the abandoned Fort Spokane military reservation September 1.

James P. Young, a private in company D Third infantry volunteers was killed by a freight train at Evanston, Ill., Sunday while on his way to Fort Sheridan to report after a day's absence.

A community in Alabama, containing 400 negroes and but two white persons, is about to be incorporated. The negroes propose to have a strict negro town. All the officials will be negroes.

Charles. Jones, a well known thirty-three degree Mason and chief of police of Wichita, Kansas, died Monday after a brief illness contracted at Pikes Peak during the recent cryptic ceremony there.

The United States transport Tartar from San Francisco, July 24, with General Joseph Wheeler and his daughter, troops of the Nineteenth infantry and more than $1,300,000 in coin, has reached Manila.

Jim Frainey, the pugilist injured by Frank McConnell in their fight in San Francisco, died Thursday without having regained consciousness Frainey was from Portland, where his uncle and sister lives.

Professor Frank Lewis, the wrestler and athlete, was sentenced to twelve months at hard labor at Rossland, B. C., for robbing a saloon. There were three others implicated with him who received longer sentences.

Captain Power, of the United States engineer corps, who is in charge of the government survey for the waterway connecting the Mississippi with Lake Michigan, was found dead in his tent at Hillsdale, near Joliet, Ill.

Mrs. Ivy Crabtree, the Illinois girl poisoner, has been sentenced at Carmi, Ill., to 18 years in the penitentiary. She plead guilty to poisoning her father and brother. She is only sixteen years old and a wife and mother.

Walter Wellman, leader of the Wellman polar expedition, which arrived a Tromsoe, Norway, August 17 on the steamer Capella, having successfully completed explorations in Franz Josef Land, left Tromsoe Monday for the south.

Joseph Benoist, a follower of Ingersoll and Tom Paine, died in Kansas City, the other day, and when his will was opened it was found that he had left practically his whole estate, valued at $200,000, to religious and charitable institutions.

Bishop John P. Newman's will shows his estate to be worth $50,000. Aside from two or three nominal bequests the estate is left for the life use of the widow, after which it goes to the Drew theological seminary, at Madison, N. J.

The gigantic cattle syndicate which is seeking to invest about $40,000,000 in Texas and Mexico cattle and ranches, has closed options on over 300,000 head of cattle of all classes in the Texas "pan handle" and New Mexico within the last few days.

Harry Staininger, 17 years of age, was instantly killed and Frank Murdock, also 17 years old, mortally wounded by Henry Bartholmus, whose watermelon patch, six miles east of Omay, Col. they were raiding. Stainninger says he shot to scare the boys.

Democrats and populists had conventions at Lexington, Neb., to select candidate for congress to succeed the late W. L. Greene They resulted in failure to fuse. The democrats nominating M. C. Harrington, of North Platte, and populists Judge Neville, of the same place.

The colonels and lieutenant-colonels of the new regiments of United States volunteer infantry soon to be organized for serivce in the Philippines, are men of experience. All but one of them are graduates of West Point, and all have been in the service over 20 years—some of them over 30 years.

The stage between Salmon City and Red Rock, Idaho, was held up Tuesday half a mile inside the Idaho line, by four men. H. T. Reilney, manager of the dredge company working on the old McNutt property, near Salmon City, was robbed of $5000 in gold dust which he was taking to Dillon, Montana.

The 31st annual convention of the Irish Catholic Benevolent Union of the United States and Canada began in Philadelphia, Wednesday. President Duffy read his annual address, in which he recommended the establishment of libraries, reading-rooms and social societies throughout Canada and the United States.

Three employes of the Washington navy yard took refuge from a thunder storm in a barn near Washington. The building was struck by lightning and all the men were rendered unconscious. On the back of Charles Ward is the clear imprint in red of the branch of a tree, leaves and twigs being distinctly marked.

The Illinois Society for the Prevention of Consumption is preparing plans for the establishment of a state sanitarium for the treatment of consumption, which it will ask the next legislature to build. The fundamental purpose of the project is to provide means for the treatment of the poor who are disabled by the disease.

At Glenns Falls, New York, Lady of the Manor, a chestnut mare by Mambrino King, driven by Geers and starting in the sixth place, made a quarter in :30¾; half in 1:01, and three quarters in 1:31½ and a mile in the record-breaking time of 2:04¼. The best previous time made by a pacing mare in a race was made by Lena H, last year at Cleveland in 2:05¼.

Jack McCormack of Philadelphia knocked out Kid McCoy in about one minute in Chicago. The bout was to have been for six rounds and it was generally thought McCormack stood no show at all. The fight was so short and so quickly over that there was almost nothing to it but a punch that put McCoy to sleep. McCoy was over confident and McConnell caught him napping.

The union reform party in session at Columbus, Ohio, nominated the following state ticket: Governor, Seth A. Ellis, of Warren county; lieutenant-governor, G. W. Seeleye, of Wayne; auditor, Frank S. Montgomery, of Franklin; judge of the supreme court, A. R. McIntyre, of Knox; attorney general, Thomas Bartham, of Hamilton; board of public works, A. A. Weaver, of Putnam; Mayor Jones, of Toledo, was turned down by the convention.

Sunday in Paris was a day of disturbances, recalling some of the aspects of the commune. In response to an appeal of the journals Le Peuple and La Petite Republique, groups of anarchists and socialists gathered in the Place de La Republique. The police had taken precautions and there seemed no danger of disorders. Sebastian Faure and Faberola, well known revolutionary anarchists, were the ring leaders. A number of buildings were wrecked, among them the Church of St. Joseph, the interior of which was torn to pieces.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST NEWS.

J. T. Taylor died at Bethel, Marion county, Monday. He left a widow and five children.

A parasitic plant called the dodder is attacking clover and alfalfa in Eastern Washington.

Philip Sheridan, who had lost in a Walla Walla gambling game, grabbed all the money in sight on the table and ran. He was arrested.

One hundred people attended a meeting in Everett, Wash., to protest against the playing of baseball on Sunday, and the next day 500 attended the game.

William Smith died at Eugene, Wednesday, aged 73 years. He was born in England. He removed to the United States with his parents when a boy, and crossed the plains to Oregon in 1847.

E. A. Schiffler, of Albany, tailor, has filed a petition in bankruptcy in the United States court in Portland. His liabilities amount to $5125.99, and his assets consist of "no property, personal or real."

The directors of the Second Eastern Oregon District Agricultural Society have not as yet decided upon a place to hold the fair which has heretofore been held at The Dalles. Pendleton may be chosen.

Recently five men were arrested on a charge of larceny, on complaint of Alex Mathews, of this city. They were acquitted and now they have brought claims for damages aggregating $5025 against Mathews.

Mrs. Delina Porchet, who was committed from Multnomah county nine years ago, committed suicide at the asylum Monday. She hanged herself from a window guard with a strip of her dress. She was 54 years old.

Gov. T. T. Geer has appointed Mrs. Augusta C. Dolph, wife of Hon. Cyrus A. Dolph, as a member of the Paris exposition commission, to succeed to a place on the commission made vacant by the resignation of B. B. Beekman.

The Rose Island house, a resort five miles up the Willamette from Portland, was burned Monday morning. Eight inmates—six men and two women—narrowly escaped with their lives, but without much wearing apparel.

The county commissioners of Yakima county, Wash., have ordered the issuance of $92,000 of county bonds for the purpose of funding road and bridge and general fund warrants, that aggregate $69,000 with $23,000 of accrued interest.

C. F. Baker, of The Dalles, has received notice from Illinois that his uncle, Frederick Baker, was dead leaving an estate of $150,000, which will be equally divided between six children, all of The Dalles, they being the only heirs.

Henry Nursen, aged 15 years, was severely crushed under the wheels of the Oregon express train at Red Bluff and died in the hospital there. He was making his way from his home in Walla Walla, Wash., to the hop fields near Sacramento.

Articles of incorporation of the Corvallis & Southern Railroad company have been filed. It is proposed to build and equip a first-class railway from Eugene to Coos bay, and also from Corvallis to Eugene. The capital stock has been placed at $50,000.

While a reconnoitering party of the Twenty-fourth infantry, under Captain Crane, was crossing the Mariquina river on a raft near Manila, the hawsers broke. The current, very swift at that point, caused the raft to capsize, drowning nine enlistetd men.

Major Percy Willis, formerly of the Second Oregon volunteers, who was recently recommended to the war department by Governor Geer for appointment as major in the volunteer army now being formed has been offered a captaincy. He has not as yet accepted.

James Frainey, who died from injuries received in a prize fight in San Francisco, was buried in Mount Cavalry cemetery at Portland Monday, the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Plumber's Union conducting the funeral. Frainey was a resident of Portland.

Negotiations are in progress for bringing the Washington volunteers by steamer from San Francisco to Seattle. Two steamers will be required. Levi Ankeny, the well known Walla Walla and Pendleton banker, has offered to bear the entire expense of the vessels, which will amount to between $7000 and $10,000.

The annual meeting of the Oregon Press Association was held at Astoria, Tuesday. After a general discussion over legislative matters and rates of advertising, the following officers were elected: J. S. Stewart, Fossil, president; B. F. Irvine, Corvallis, vice-president; Albert Tozier, Portland, secretary; Fred C. Baker, Tillamook, treasurer. Ashland was chosen as the place to hold the next annual meeting.

The Result of the Storm.

These official figures are given of the casualties in the Ponce district, Porto Rico, due to the hurricane:

Dead, buried in the city. 144.
Dead, buried in the country, 250.
Swept out to sea and drowned, 150.
Serious hospital cases resulting from the storm, 200.

The whole of the Ponce valley from Juana Diaz down is a complete ruin. Trees, houses, piles of river sand, bodies of cattle and general debris are scattered everywhere. The highway can not be picked out in the midst of the wreckage and traveling is dangerous even yet.

SOUTHERN LYNCHINGS.

Out of the fearful lynchings which have followed one another with such rapidity in the South of late there has come at least one good result. The appalling nature of some of these terrible offenses against law and humanity has startled the intelligence of the Southern people with a fear their states may be drifting back to barbarism, and from the Potomac to the Rio Grande the more earnest leaders, white and and black, are busily engaged in discussing the evil, with a view to finding some prompt and adequate remedy.

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It is significant of the earnestness of the new phase of the discussion that lynching is no longer justified offhand on the ground that it is the natural and proper retaliation of the white man upon the negro who assaults a white woman. The Southern people are now aware the toleration shown to lynchers in cases of that kind has prompted the lawless and rowdy element in the South to resort to it on almost any kind of provocation, and to carry it to the extreme of savage cruelty. As a consequence the plea in defense of lynching is but little heard of late. It is now alomst universally conceded to be an evil, and the trend of the debate is toward devising means for its suppression.

* * *

Many of the leading men among the negroes have given up the problem in flat despair. At a recent meeting of the council of elders of the African Methodist Episcopal church of Georiga and Alabama a resolution was adopted setting forth the deplorable condition of the negroes in the Southern states, and a committee was appointed to petition congress to appropriate $100,000,000 to subsidize a line of steamships between the United States and Africa to facilitate negro emigration to that continent.

* * *

The whites are naturally more hopeful. It is not in the nature of the American white man to despair in the face of any kind of governmental problem. It is asserted by some of the speakers and the writers on the subject that the practice of lynching has sprung up in the South largely because of the law's delay and the inefficiency of the courts. An elaborate array of statistics has been published in leading Southern papers showing that of the number of persons indicted for murder comparatively few are convicted, and the conclusion is drawn that the people resort to lynching in the case of great crimes because they have no confidence in the courts.

* * *

At a recent meeting of the Georgia Chautauqua Society at Barnesville the Hon. Dupont Guerry of Macon disputed the charge made against the courts and declared: "Those who have so much to say about legal technicalities are either demagogues or ignoramuses who do not know a technicality from a great constitutional provision." Mr. Guerry argued, however, that since it is clear the people demand a swifter process of law, it would be better to provide it than to submit to the alternative of lynching.

* * *

By way of bringing the issue in a definite form before the people the speaker submitted the outlines of a bill providing for prompt justice. According to the Atlanta Constitution, the bill continues the organization of the grand jury from one term to another, makes it a conservator of the peace, and requires it to serve at called terms of court; provides that witnesses may be summoned at once to attend called terms, and for appointment of counsel in advance and for trial at that term if parties can get ready; provides for immediate hearing of motion of new trial, immediate bill of exceptions, and immediate hearing in supreme court.

* * *

A bill of the kind providing for what may be called a "shortcut" trial in times of popular excitement may not be as good as the safeguarded trials to which we are accustomed, but it is better than lynch law. It is to be hoped the Georgians will try it. Certainly some oranization is needed to conserve the peace and promote good order in the lynch-ridden counties of the state, and a grand jury might well be assigned the task.—San Francisco Call.

Georgia deserves to be complimented on her governor. He has given the people of the state an example which is a reproof to the lawless among them and an inspiration to every right-minded citizen.

* * *

Preparations had been made to add another to the savage murders called lynchings which have been such a disgrace to the commonwealth of late, when Governor Candler was notified of the criminal project by telegram. He was at Atlanta, sixty miles from the scene, and the telegram came to him in the dead of night. But neither the hour nor the distance nor the prospective danger of facing an angry mob was sufficient to deter him from doing his full duty.

* * *

Though he might have remained at Atlanta without reproach, he went himself direct to the place of the disturbance, arriving there at 3:30 o'clock in the morning. Under his direction the prison guards took new heart, a conflict with the mob was avoided and the prisoner was got safely away to Atlanta. The vigilant executive is now rewarded with the consciousness that his extraordinary and unprecedented exertions have saved the state from excesses which would have intensified the disgust and abhorrence that is aroused throughout the country with every new recital of the lynching of negroes.

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It is a happy augury for the South that such men as Candler, Northern and Speer have set resolutely to work to check this species of outlawry and to create a better public sentiment both by their words and their deeds. Such earnestness as they are showing and such sacrifices as they are making in the interest of right and order cannot fail to impress and influence their fellow citizens.—Chicago Times Herald.

OREGON AT PARIS.

Plan for Separate Exhibit for Oregon, California and Nevada.

While the plan of the American exhibit at the coming Paris exposition is admirably designed to portray the character of American resources and industry as a whole, it will not afford much opportunity for distinction to individual states. For example, there will be a general exhibit of American breadstuffs in which Oregon's contribution will appear suitably marked; and so on as regards timber, fruit and other products. But there will be little or no space, even if exhibits shall be provided, for the setting forth in a comprehensive way of the industry and resources of Oregon, or of any other state individually. With the idea of making a more satisfactory showing for the three Pacific states through which its lines run, the Southern Pacific company has conceived the idea of a special exhibit to be made outside the exposition—in side-show form, so to speak—in which the states of Oregon, California and Nevada, and possibly the territory of Arizona, shall be very fully and completely represented.

It is proposed to find quarters in some prominent and popular street of Paris, and there to make a showing of Pacific coast products the like of which cannot be equaled by any other part of the United States, or, for that matter, any other country of the world. The California board of trade, a body whose chief function it is, in connection with the Southern Pacific company, to exploit the state, has taken up the work of organizing the California feature of the exhibit. The secretary of the board—Mr. J. A. Filcher—was recently in Portland for the purpose of inviting our people to co-operate. He has conferred with the Chamber of Commerce, and that body has named a committee to take the matter in hand

The offer made to Oregon is a generous one. If our people will contribute the materials for an exhibit—massing them at Portland—the Southern Pacific will transport them to Paris, pay all the charges of transportation, and return them here or elsewhere in the United States. And if, further, our people will send an agent or commissioner to take charge of the exhibit and explain it to visitors, special advantages in the way of transportation will be afforded him. How much an effort under this plan will cost, the Southern Pacific representatives do not undertake to say. The more the better, of course; but $5000 would probably make an effective display and pay an agent to accompany it. There should be no difficulty about raising this moderate sum, and there will be none. Oregon will take advantage of this extraordinary chance, and will be represented at Paris in a way that cannot fail to advertise widely the potentialities and charms of the state.

While the exhibit is to be a state affair in the fullest sense, the advantage will be most likely to lie with Western Oregon, through which the lines of the Southern Pacific pass. It will be especially to the interest of the western counties to stir themselves to the end of setting forth their attractions in the best form. The timber, the grains, the fruits the minerals and the vast multitude of other interests must all be represented. Contributions will be freely made, ingenuity and art will be taxed to present them in beautiful forms, and the result cannot fail to be a prodigious benefit to Oregon.—Portland Oregonian.

ARE THE JEWS JEWS?

Professor Ripley of Lowell institute says the Jews are not Jews, but a mixed race. He establishes his case on anthropological grounds, claiming that the great variety in the form of Jewish skulls shows that the race is not a pure one. The typical Jewish head is long, but a very large proportion of modern Jewish heads is round. Professor Ripley thinks we find in the Arab nation the type of the original Jew.

* * *

The professor's contention is attracting profound attention and has been replied to by Joseph Jacobs, president of the Jewish Historical society. Mr. Jacobs is inclined to accept the round head as a proof of racial unity. He protests against the claim that the Arabs are a pure race, because, he alleges, for twelve centuries the Arabs have been perpetuated by intermixture of the original blood with that of slaves taken in war and placed in the harems of their conqrerors. He also points out that there is practically no intermarriage between Jews and Gentiles and that there is not more than one such marriage a year to each 25 Jews.

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We think Dr. Jacobs has rather the best of the argument. The Jews are Jews and constitute a race of marvelous vitality, notwithstanding the terrible persecution to which they have been subjected through centuries of time until a comparatively recent date. Most people will also be inclined to accept his claim that it is to history rather than to skull formation that we must look for proof of the racial unity of the Jews.—Tacoma News.

STRANGE NOISES OF THE NIGHT.

Sounds Without Explanation That Affect the Nerves.

The sleepless man in a big city could tell much of night noises and their effect upon the nervous system of him who waits for the coming of "nature's soft muse," says the London Mail.

He can tell of countless vigils for hundreds of nights, and knows exactly to what extent the creaking of boots, the shutting of a hat-box lid, the bang of a door, or talking on the stairs damages and distances his chances of sleep.

A householder over the way may be given to striking up some patriotic tune upon his piano towards the small hours.

Another neighbor makes it practice to let out his house-bound dog for exercise around the square at the same unreasonable hour. There is sometimes a great clatter when the housemaid next door begins to throw tins and heavy objects at the cat that prowls in the area; and the late bansom, with the hurried beat of the horse's feet on the pavement, comes sharply through the night.

But an expert in night noises says that the sound of sounds most calculated to set the nerves on edge is the "Whop whop! whop!" of a woman's skirts shaken out of an upper window at midnight or close upon that hour.

The Cæsarian Operation.

At the St. Vincent's hospital, in Portland, was performed a most critical surgical operation, which is known as the caesarian operation. It was performed upon the wife of Captain Bertrand, by Dr. Bryon E. Miller, says the Oregonian. Both mother and child are doing well. This is the third person that has been successfully operated upon on the Pacific coast, and Dr. Miller has the distinction of having done two of them. In fact, but a very few similar cases are on record in the United States. It is reported, without authenticity, that Cæsar came into the world by such an operation. The next operation of the kind is reported to have taken place in Switzerland about the year 1500. The operation is hazardous, and only resorted to in extreme cases to save two lives.

Salem Boys to Enlist.

Governor Geer has written to Secretary Root, recommending that a company formed from company K, O. N. G., of Salem, and others who may volunteer, be oragnized; the company to be allowed to elect its own officers and join as a body the regiment to which it may be attached. The recommendation is the result of a movement originating among members of the local militia company, a large percentage of them being in favor of enlisting if they can go in a body, with officers chosen by themselves. The officers of company K are: R. H. Leabo, captain; Walter Lyon, first lieutenant, and Harry A. Young second lieutenant.

Paul Mohr's Road.

The "mysterious" Paul Mohr is again in The Dalles and as usual the railroad stories follow in his wake. This time, however, unless all signs fail, there is something more than rumor in the air. The arrival, says The Dalles Chronicle, of Senator Turner, Messrs. Harris and Evans, all capitalists, seems to indicate that a change is about to be made and the portage road a sure go. They are to meet Paul Mohr, but what the conference indicates can only be conjectured.

Looks Like Suicide.

Miss Sarah Starr, a stenographer in Governor Geer's office, at Salem, took carbolic acid by mistake to relieve a toothache on Thursday and died about 30 minutes afterward in terrilbe agony. She mistook the carbolic acid bottle for one containing camphor. She was the daughter of Frank Starr, a well known resident of Salem. She was about 20 years old. An inquest was considered unnecessary.

Grasshoppers are being successfully killed in the vicinity of Market Lake, Idaho, with coal oil. Forty-five barrels of oil was used.

THE IOWA DEMOCRATS.

The Iowa democrats, in convention last Wednesday in Des Moines, Iowa, nominated the following ticket:

Governor—Frederick E. White, Keokuk county.

Lieutenant governor—M. L. Bevis, Keggs county.

Judge supreme court—A. Van Wageneen, Woodbury county.

Railway commissioner—W. H. Calhoun, Marshall county.

Superintendent of public instruction—B. P. Holst, Boone county.

The populist state convention also met and endorsed the above ticket. All the nominees are democrats, except Calhoun, who was the populist candidate.

The Chicago platform was endorsed in its entirety and the democratic state committee was empowered to fill any vacancies caused by death or otherwise.

Cato Sells could have been nominated for governor, but was not acceptable to the populists and withdrew, throwing his strength to White, who was the candidate on the fusion ticket two years ago, being defeated by Governor Shaw. The convention was turbulent throughout and the business was transacted with difficulty but the results are satisfactory to the radical silver element, which was in control. It is not probable, however, that the gold element will make an attempt to maintain a separate organization this year.

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Just before the democratic state convention opened its session Cato Sells, who had been the most prominent figure in the race for the nomination for governor, withdrew his name and declined to remain in the fight. Sells' unexpected action threw the forces supporting him into disquiet, as the delegates went into the convention without any suspicion of a slate. The withdrawal is regarded by many party leaders as proof of the absolute control of the Iowa state democracy by William J. Bryan. Sells' free silver views have been seriously questioned and it is intimated that he was forced to withdraw owing to his convictions that without Bryan's support he could not be nominated. He was made temporary chairman of the convention and endorsed Colonel Bryan in his address.

The committee on resolutions made its report and after endorsing the Chicago platform in the whole and in detail it proclaims admiration for and loyalty to that peerless exponent of democratic principles, William J. Bryan, and favors him for the nomination in 1900.

The convention then goes on to say: "We rejoice in the exalted sentiment and motive that prompted the United States government to take up arms in defense of the bitterly oppressed people of Cuba, in the successful termination of the war with Spain and in the patriotism and unsurpassed bravery displayed by soldiers and sailors on land and sea. The war for the liberation of the Cubans is now worthy of the greatest republic and most civilized nation that flourished in the tides of time, but for the same reason that we glory in the successful war against Spain, we deprecate the continued war against the Filipinos. One war was for the emancipation of the people. The other was for the subjugation of the people and if the war against Spain was right, and it was, that against the natives of the Philippines who have committed no offenses save love of liberty and to be willing to fight and die for it, is wrong.

"The war authorized by congress to conquer the natives of the Philippines is a repudiation of the American doctrine of consent affirmed in the declaration of independence and in conflict with the principles which George Washington and his fellow patriots of the revolution made sacrifices to establish. We also condemn the war against the Filipinos, believing it to have been inspired by Great Britain for the purpose of producing conditions that will force an Anglo-American alliance and we not only protest against the war and demand its termination by extension to the Filipinos of the same assurance given to the Cubans, but we record our deep seated antagonism of an alliance with Great Britain or any other European power and express our detestation of the attempt made in British interests to disrupt the friendly relations which have uniformly existed between the United States and Germany. We oppose conquest of the Philippines because imperialism means militarism, because militarism means government by force and means the death of government by consent, destruction of political and industrial freedom and the obliteration of equality of the rights and association of democratic institutions.

* * *

"We view with alarm the multiplication of those combinations of capital commonly known as trusts that are killing and monopolizing industry, crushing out independent producers of limited means, destroying competition, restricting opportunities for labor, artificially limiting production and raising prices and creating an industrial condition different from state socialism only in the respect that under socialism the bone of contention—production—would go to all, and would increase the fortunes of the individual. These trusts and combinations are the direct outgrowth of the policy of the republican party, which has not only favored these institutions, but has accepted their support and solicited their contributions to aid that party in retaining power, which has placed the burden of taxation upon those who labor and produce in times of peace and who fight our battles in time of war while the wealth of the country is exempted from these burdens. We condemn these policies and it is our solemn conviction that the trusts must be destroyed or they will destroy free government and we demand that they be suppressed by the repeal of the present tariff and other privileges—the legislation responsible for them. By the enactment of such legislation the state and nation will aid in their destruction."

The platform concludes with a denunciation of letting convict labor by contract, urging a careful study of the existing liquor laws, and a condemnation of the administration of Leslie M. Shaw and the republican party of the state of Iowa.

NATURE'S FORCES.

Among the forces of nature which it has been proposed to utilize for the service of man are solar radiation, the tides, wave power and atmospheric electricity. The last of these possibilities has not been discussed as much as the others, but perhaps is equally feasible. At any rate, it exerts no little fascination upon one who considers it for the first time.

The idea is by no means new, but it is brought to public attention afresh just now by a letter from Washington to the Boston Transcript. This communication mentions the study which Dr. Alexander McAdie of the United States weather bureau has given to the matter for several years past. While other kite flyers have been sending up barometers, hygrometers and thermometers, Dr. McAdie has been imitating Franklin by drawing down electricity from the skies and measuring at the earth's surface the amount of energy received there And for years it has seemed credible to this meteorological expert that a way might be found to harness the agent under investigation.

It is a mistake to suppose that electricity can be obtained from the skies only during a thunderstorm. To be sure, the development of atmospheric electricity is more rapid and its exhibition of violence more startling at such times than in fine weather, but even when the heavens are cloudless there is still a permanent store of this form of force in the upper air.

* * *

There is a bit of apparatus in all electrical laboratories called a condenser. In its simplest form it consists of a glass plate with tinfoil on each side. If one sheet of foil be charged with positive electricity a corresponding charge of negative electricity will develop in the other. Now, the earth's atmospheric shell is a great condenser. The earth itself is negatively electrified. The lower layer of air serves as the insulating glass which separates the two pieces of foil, and the upper air is positively electrified.

Even at an elevation of 50 or 100 feet it is possible to discover a difference between the conditions prevailing there and at the earth's surface. But if the conducting wire which brings down the current be carried still higher by a balloon or kite the difference is greater. The electrician expresses this state of things by saying that he finds at this or that height a potential of so many hundred or thousand volts. The voltage of electricity signifies the pressure or strain, or its tendency to penetrate all barriers and establish an equilibrium. This is not the same as the quantity of a current, which is expressed in amperes. Sometimes the electrician deals with a current having a low voltage and a large quantity, and sometimes he handles a high voltage with a small quantity. Both factors need to be considered in order to obtain an accurate idea of the real energy represented.

Simultaneous observations in Washington at the signal office and on the top of the Washington monument showed that at the former, which is much lower than the latter, the voltage varied from 216 to 216 inside of 10 minutes, while on the monument it ranged from 825 to 900 volts during the same period. During a thunderstorm a potential of 4000 or 5000 may be noticed, and on the Eiffel Tower, 1000 feet high, voltages of 10,000 have been recorded. If a kite is flown during a thunderstorm the little electricity which is thus drawn off exhibits a moderate potential. But it is estimated that when a first class flash occurs and a large cloud discharges itself to the earth the voltage goes away up into the millions. The quantity of energy is small, but the pressure is something fearful to contemplate. The duration of the attendant flash is prolonged by the oscilatory nature of the discharge, but the time consumed by the passage of the current in one direction only is an exceedingly small fraction of a second.

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Two practical questions are raised by the proposition to capture atmospheric electricity and employ it industrially. In the first place, can enough of it be obtained to make the venture pay? And, secondly, how is the electricity to be handled in order to apply it to its work? Dr. McAdie finds that when he has a kite up in the air and when he uses a piano wire for a kite-string he can bring down enough electricity to produce a stream of sparks when he presents his knuckles to the lower end of the wire. At times these sparks are so powerful that it is risky to handle the wire, but the amount of energy actually obtained under these circumstances is believed by some experts to be rather small.

"I am reminded of the attempts to utilize wave power and tide power whenever I think of this proposition," said Joseph Wetzler, who is at the head of the Electrical Engineer Correspondence school. "The amount of energy that is apparently at our disposal is immense—incalculable. But we seem to be able to get hold of only a very little of it. In proportion to the cost of the apparatus required to obtain a supply in this manner the value of what we get is insignificant.

"But there would be no particular difficulty in handling it after we got it. Of course, it would not be feasible to lead the electricity directly to the wires of an electric light system or a trolley road. It would be necessary to store the energy which was captured, and then draw it off as required. In other words, a storage battery would be needed.

* * *

"The accumulators now employed in all lighting plants and in electrical vehicles must be charged at a uniform voltage. As the voltage of our atmosphere supply would be varying from day to day, from hour to hour and perhaps from minute to minute, it would be necessary to regulate the flow into the cells or the latter would be damaged. Already to equalize the current from a dynamo, which has its own irregularities, a regulating device is employed when a battery is charged. But these irregularities are small compared with those which would be observed in the supply of atmospheric electricity. A different regulator would be needed, therefore—something covering a wider range of fluctuations in potential. I can see no inherent obstacle to such a manipulation of the current, however. In my mind, the chief if not the only question is whether or not enough electricity could be obtained in the way suggested to pay for the investment."

Referring to the same topic last week, "Electricity" remarked: "That Professor McAdie has just grounds for thinking that the 20th century will see the utilization of atmospheric electricity for industrial purposes may be inferred when it is stated that the electricity drawn from the sky has already been made to run a small piece of mechanism with pasteboard wheels, in which insignificant toy may possibly be found the preliminary step toward the solution of the problem of the future application of atmospheric electricity for power purposes."

To Make Grain Bags.

Farmers in the vicinity of Scio, Marion county, are growing this year about 4000 acres of flax for the Portland linseed oil works, and the crop is now about ready for harvest. The entire crop in that vicinity is contracted to this company for $1 per bushel. The flaxseed has heretofore been the only part saved, but this year a new company has been formed for the purpose of manufacturing the flax fiber into grain bags. A retting and scutching plant will be established at Scio to handle the fiber.

New York banks have fallen off in deposits and increased in loans during the last week.

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GOLD CERTIFICATES.

The country is being treated to the spectacle of tens of millions of gold from private stocks pouring into the subtreasuries of the government. Not a dollar will be added to the circulation as a cold mathematical proposition, but the amount of gold certificates projected into the volume of money may none the less have a sensational and far reaching sentimental effect. The transaction of issuing $100,000,000 or more—possibly $200,000,000 or $300,000,000—in gold certificates will be attended by the depositing of an equal amount of gold coin in the treasury. That movement will bring into sight the greatest amount of gold ever collected together in the United States, and the loftiest monument of yellow metal in the world. Against these deposits will be put in circulation a form of currency that will doubtless soon be known as "gold notes." That these notes will be regarded with the highest possible favor goes without saying. They will represent gold itself. They will be literally as "good as gold." Other forms of currency will be equally good, it is true, so long as the gold standard can be maintained, but until congress specifically puts the gold standard in the statutes no other paper money will have that special and exclusive brand of excellence. These gold notes and the offsetting "gold in sight" will be object lessons, and in the opinion of astute politicians they will be wonderful educational agents.

* * *

The bringing into sight of vast stores of gold will increase the respect of other nations for us. Even in the best-informed financial centers of Europe little account is taken of reports and estimates of gold held in American banks. It has heretofore been something that the financiers could not put their hands on. It was in a sense intangible, and therefore unreal. They could not bring themselves to classify it as a substantial asset, and looked only to the reserve of gold in the federal treasury. The spectacle of a sudden uprearing of a mountain of the yellow stuff can hardly fail to produce an extremely favorable effect abroad and tend to still further bulwark our credit as a nation and as a people. It may also have a stimulating effect upon investment and enterprise in our own country. Anything that will serve to enlarge the world's respect for us will naturally tend to "swell us up" just a trifle and encourage us to greater speed.

Status of the Bankruptcy Law.

The present bankruptcy law was the result of a very widespread demand on the part of the business community. It was designed to fill a really important want, and before its passage most of those competent to speak on the subject regarded it as a fairly necessary part of the commercial machinery of the country. If this act is repealed the old chaotic conditions will again obtain, with no bankruptcy law at all in some states and with widely differing laws in other states.

Two propositions in respect of the law will be very generally agreed to—first, that an insolvent debtor, whose insolvency comes about through acts performed in good faith, should be permitted, under reasonable regulations, to clear his accounts by turning over all of his property to his creditors; second, that commercial relations between the states being so closely knit as they are, the conditions and proceedings in bankruptcy should be uniform over the country. Of course the only deduction from these propositions is that there should be a federal bankruptcy law, founded on the principles of the present measure.

A trial has brought out some defects in this law; but it should be amended rather than repealed.—Chicago News.

Need of Manufactories.

Every observant visitor to the state of Oregon wonders why there are not more people in this state. The answer is easy. We have comparatively few manufactories; we are an agricultural people. An agricultural section is relatively a sparsely settled section, always. We raise foot products for other parts of the world, and the great water powers of the state are going to waste. This will not always continue. The waterfalls of the rivers and smaller streams will be harnessed to perform the service of man, and the Pacific Northwest will become a great workshop because of its natural advantages. The events of the past few months, the extension westward of the "star of empire," following the flag and marching to the "music of the Union," will levy tribute upon the islands of the sea, and build up on the Pacific shore of the continent a great commercial people.—Forest Grove Times.

Suit Against the O. R. & N.

J. H. Cassady has begun an action at Walla Walla, against the O. R. & N. for $7000 damages for injuries received in falling from a train, May 4, near Colfax. Cassady and other workmen were being taken by a railroad contractor from Pendleton to Wallace. The plaintiff alleges that the cars were so crowded that he was compelled to stand on the platform, along with several others, and a sudden lurch of the train caused another man to fall against him with such force as to knock him from the train. His left ankle was broken, his right leg strained and his chest injured.

Immediately following the meeting of the American Bar Association at Buffalo, N. Y., which will adjourn on August 30, the International Law Association will hold a three days' session. The meeting of this association was to have been held in the United States last year, but that meeting was prevented by the Spanish war.

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