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Bound to Disagree.
"You don't get along very well with your mother-in-law, I hear," said a friend to a young husband.
"No, I don't," answered the bridegroom. "Nobody can. Even the food she eats doesn't agree with her. When she comes into the room everybody shuts up. The other day she got into a folding bed, and the bed shut up."

CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE BEGINS RAILWAY INQUIRY

Proposed by President to Better Condition of Carriers.
MAY CHANGE PRESENT SYSTEM

Officials of Roads Prepared to Advocate Federal Incorporation, Supervision of Securities and Extension of Authority of Interstate Commerce Commission.

Washington, Nov. 20.—Ten members of Congress, five Senators and five members of the House of Representatives, began here today an inquiry into the subject of public control and supervision of railroads that may lead to the revolutionizing of the whole scheme of governmental regulation of the country's transportation lines. Incidentally the committee is to look into the question of government ownership of railroads, telephone and telegraph lines and express companies.

The members of the committee which will conduct this important investigation are Senator Newlands of Nevada, chairman; Senators Robinson of Arkansas, Underwood of Alabama, Cummins of Iowa and Brandegee of Connecticut, and Representatives Adanson of Georgia, Sims of Tennessee, Cullop of Indiana, Esch of Wisconsin and Hamilton of Michigan. The inquiry was recommended by President Wilson in his message to Congress in December of last year. He described as its purpose to determine what could be done "for bettering the conditions under which the railroads are operated and for making them more useful servants of the country as a whole."

Prominent Men as Witnesses.
In order to obtain the views of all interests affected by the operations of the transportation lines the committee has invited prominent shippers, bankers, representatives of commercial organizations, railway executives, economists and others to appear before them. The first to be heard are railroad commissioners of various states who began their evidence today. Their testimony is directed chiefly to opposing any enlargement of the federal authority over commerce that would detract from the powers now exercised by state bodies. They will be followed shortly by officials of railway labor organizations who are expected to register their opposition to the increase of governmental authority over wages and conditions of labor.

Chief interest in the hearings centers in the proposals that will be put forward by representatives of the railroads, for it is reported that they will advocate an extension of federal authority over rates and securities to the practical exclusion of state control of these matters. It is understood also that they will go on record in favor of federal incorporation of all railroad lines.

Legislative Program of Railroads.
From an authoritative source is obtained the following outline of the legislative program which the railroads will ask the committee to consider in its investigation: They will endeavor to demonstrate to the commission that one of the principal defects in the present system of railroad regulation is the lack of coordination resulting from the simultaneous and conflicting regulation by the federal government and by the 48 states. They will, therefore, ask that entire governmental control of the rates and practices of interstate carriers, except purely local matters, be placed in the hands of a federal body so that interstate traffic may be regulated without reference to state lines, leaving to the state commissions jurisdiction only over local matters and local public utilities. As a part of this plan, a compulsory system of federal incorporation is to be recommended, accompanied by federal supervision of railroad stock and bond issues.

A reorganization of the Interstate Commerce Commission will be asked, in order to enable the commission properly to exercise its increased powers. It is also proposed that the preparation and prosecution of cases against the railroads shall be delegated to some other agency of the government, possibly the Department of Justice, so that the commission may devote its energies to its administrative functions.

With the commission thus relieved of some of its present duties and equipped to handle its business more promptly, the railroads will urge that the period during which the commission may now suspend proposed increases in rates be reduced from ten months to 60 days, with provision for reparation to be paid to the shippers if the advance shall be declared unreasonable.

They will also ask that the commission be given the power to prescribe minimum as well as maximum rates so that in meeting complaints of discrimination the commission may order the advance of a rate which it considers too low.

One of the most important recommendations for which the railroads will ask favorable consideration is that the commission be specifically authorized to take into account in rate regulation the effect of rates upon total earnings in the light of expenses.

While the Newlands Committee is required, under the resolution creating it, to submit a report by January 2 next, it is not anticipated that the Committee will have come anywhere near completing its labors then.

MACKSBURG

Ranchers of this region have been materially indemnified for the high cost of food by a corresponding high price for their potatoes, making it safe to predict that a far large amount of energy and space will be devoted to this crop the present year than ever heretofore.

Many a field of long rows of the dark green potato plants will be seen in the coming summer where now only the impenetrable jungle or blackened stumps and logs meet the eye.

This, in time, gives a new impetus to the land clearing.

So far, we are happy to say, there have been none of the casualties that too often result from a free use of powder and dynamite, though some minor accidents are reported.

Mr. Frank Schultz suffered quite a serious injury to his knee while handling a mammoth stump, and Glenn Hepler is laid up with a bad cut in his foot.

Four new autos have come into our place in the past week. Mr. Chas. Keesling, Mr. Stevens, and two of the Le Mour brothers, have each bought one of these vehicles.

The cold spell has merged into a springlike rain, that has drawn all the frost from the ground, preparing it for the spade and the plow as soon as the rain shall have ceased.

A spelling match was held at the Ely school house on the evening of Friday, January 19th.

The general interest taken in these contests was attested by the large and attentive crowd present. Miss Pearl Miller, formerly of the Bear Creek school, carried off the honors. Her latest competitor was Miss Lena Walch of the Ely school.

The Mothers' Club held a very busy and interesting all-day session on Thursday, January 18th, at the home of Mrs. Ben Pierce. Present as guests were Mrs. Pottartz, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Zweifel of Portland, sister of Mrs. Deier, Mrs. Henry Walch and Miss Anna Koch. A pleasing feature of the meeting was the return of the club's vice president, Mrs. Simon Miller, who has been detained at her home since November by illness in her family.

Mr. Paul Smith has announced a sale of farm implements, stock and furniture, to take place on February 1st. Mr. Smith intends to spend some time visiting former friends and eventually, to settle east of the Rockies.

Several cases of measles are reported. Earl Goertner, whose illness was mentioned in last week's

Observer, is now down with this malady.

Irma Stue is also one of the patients whose trouble is pronounced measles.

Mabel, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Eby, has burned her arm so badly that the shock and alarm caused by the accident proved too much for the mother, who is prostrated by it.

Miss May Schultz, who is staying in Canby, came home for a week end visit, but returned on Monday morning.

The little girls' sewing circle met at the home of Mrs. G. M. Baldwin on Saturday with a full attendance, notwithstanding the rain.

JOSEPH RODMAN DRAKE.

GREEN be the turf above thee,
Friend of my better days!
None knew thee but to love thee,
Nor named thee but to praise.

TEARS fell when thou wert dying
From eyes unused to weep,
And long, where thou art lying,
Will tears the cold turf steep.

WHEN hearts, whose truth was proven,
Like thine, are laid in earth,
There should a wretch be woven
To tell the world their worth;

AND I who woke each mornow
To clasp thy hand in mine,
Who shared thy joy and sorrow,
Whose weal and woe were thine;

IT should be mine to braid it
Around thy faded brow,
But I've in vain essayed it
And feel I cannot now.

WHILE memory bids me weep thee,
Nor thoughts nor words are free,
The grief is fixed too deeply
That mourns a man like thee.
—Fitz-Greene Halleck.

AMERICAN WOMANHOOD.

THEY are tann'd in the face by shining
Suns and blowing winds,
Their flesh has the old divine suppleness
and strength,
They know how to swim, row, ride, wrestle,
shoot, run, strike, retreat, advance,
resist, defend themselves,
They are ultimate in their own right—
they are calm, clear, well possessed
of themselves. —Walt Whitman.

An Anecdote of Handel.

On one occasion Handel was caught in a shower of rain and was obliged to seek shelter in a blacksmith's forge. Either Handel was in a silent mood or else the blacksmith showed no conversational symptoms, for in a little while the latter began hammering away at his anvil, accompanying his work with a song. Handel was listening all the time to the strokes of the hammering on the anvil, which, by producing two harmonic sounds, according in time and tune with the tune the man sang, formed a bass accompaniment. Handel, on reaching home, remembered the air and the hammer accompaniment. He wrote down both, and so we owe to a shower of rain the composition known as "The Harmonious Blacksmith."

POOR TEETH ORIGINATORS OF MANY ILLS

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 22.—Sixty-five per cent of juvenile disease and infirmities later on in life are caused by neglected teeth.

This is the announcement made by Dr. Guy S. Millberry, dean of the great public clinic at the University of California college of dentistry here. The gospel of clean teeth is being spread throughout the city as a result of the work being done at this infirmary.

"It is safe to say that fully 65 per cent of all diseases can be attributed to neglected teeth in youth," said Dr. Millberry. "Quite naturally, that same percentage of suffering among humans could be decreased, if not completely eliminated, by the proper care of the teeth in the early years of life."

Following is the amazing list of diseases, the source of which can be traced to neglected teeth, according to Dr. Millberry:

Rheumatism. Poisonous substances from bad teeth circulate in the blood and lodge in small blood vessels around the joints, setting up disease factories.

Heart Disease. Inflammation of the heart valves and lining membranes of the heart is caused by impure blood, contaminated by neglected teeth.

Ulcers of Stomach. The walls of the stomach are seriously affected when disease particles from forgotten teeth find their way to that organ through the blood.

Tonsillitis. Food from unclean mouth and teeth is scraped off onto the tonsils as it is swallowed, causing soreness and infection.

Tuberculosis and Pneumonia. Germs of these two terrors are taken into the mouth with food. Permitted to lie untouched in the mouth cavity, they develop disease which spreads throughout the entire system.

Diphtheria. Infection caused by disease germs lodged in the teeth and mouth.

Mumps, scarlet fever, whooping cough, measles, chicken pox, typhoid fever, group spinal meningitis and other afflictions are included in the indictment against neglect of teeth.

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