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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1903.

**THE STATE LIBRARY.**

There is one department of the state government where it would not be expedient for the legislature to practice too rigid economy. At the most the demands of this department are small, while the returns are exceptionally great. This is the historical library, presided over most admirably by Mrs. Laura E. Howey, the state librarian.

Under her careful direction the library has grown rapidly during the last few years until now the new quarters are becoming inadequate to the demands. A large amount of immensely valuable historical souvenirs, writings of pioneers, files of old newspapers, pictures and other matter has been collected and is now in possession of the library. All this matter is open to the public under the usual mild restrictions. Mrs. Howey is constantly adding to the collection and to the documents, building up an historical library which is rapidly becoming the best in the West.

In addition to all this three volumes of the historical documents of the state historical society have been published through her assistance and a fourth volume is now in press. They constitute easily the most valuable collection of the kind referring to the history of the Pacific Northwest that is in existence. In many states of the union this work was begun all too late, necessitating the expenditure of vast sums for the documents. Here the historical society and its friends have been wise enough to begin their work while many of the pioneers who made the early history of Montana are still alive. The co-operation and aid of these pioneers has been secured in the work, so that the total expenses of the society and of the library has been almost absurdly small.

Not content with the regular work she has done Mrs. Howey is now engaged upon a task of tremendous size. It is the indexing of all the files of newspapers in the possession of the library and these comprise about all the newspapers ever printed in Montana. This alone is a work the value of which cannot be estimated. In years to come this value will be increased enormously.

Mrs. Howey makes modest requests of the legislature. The library by all means should get all it asks. Liberal appropriations at this time are in the nature of an economy for the state, for the investment is one which will increase with marvelous rapidity.

**THE ARMY STAFF BILL.**

One of the administration measures went through the national house of representatives the other day, and it went through with a whoop. It was the much-abused general staff bill for the army, but what little effect the abuse has had on the measure is shown by the fact that there were 152 yeas to 52 nays. Now if the other administration measures will go through as easily the public will be willing to stand for the democratic members indulging in more perfervid oratory.

Some of the criticism launched at the measure just before its passage, like the criticism which had gone before, was absurd in its character. For instance, Kluttsch of South Carolina made the point that a general in the field was infinitely superior to a board of strategy, the intimation being that the province of the general staff was to be a board of strategy in war time. The gentleman's lack of acquaintance with the bill is apparent in his remarks. A general staff is organized for the purpose of keeping a military establishment in what Captain Mahan so aptly termed a state of preparedness. The fallacy of never preparing for a war until the war arrives was long ago exploded, but some politicians in congress, of whom Kluttsch is a type, still cling to the theory.

What keeps the German army in such excellent condition at all times and thereby makes it so formidable is the general staff plan. Students of military affairs do not hesitate to assert that the ease with which the Prussians defeated the French was due almost entirely to the fact that the Prussian army was prepared for war while the French army was not. And that state of preparedness was due to the efforts of Von Moltke as chief of staff.

In this connection it might be pointed out that officers of the general staff, so far from finding their duties amounting to harmless amusements, as intimated by a critical but ignorant congressman, are very much occupied with the most important military matters of the nation. It was as chief of a general

staff that Von Moltke won his military reputation, not as a general in the field.

This is the age of the organizer and the executive in military as well as other matters. A general staff is charged with the work of keeping the army organization up to a high standard and the military force ever ready for work. The weakness of the American army in the past has been in this very regard—congress and the powers that have been in control were too ready to wait for trouble instead of preparing for it in advance. Secretary Root saw the weakness and had force of character enough to carry through the measure to cure the defect. The country is to be congratulated on the bill's passage.

**IMMIGRATION MATTERS.**

Some talk is current at Helena in favor of the establishment of a state bureau of immigration. Many of those who have the best interests of the state at heart, realizing that a pressing need in the state is a larger agricultural population and that the operation of the national irrigation bill will render immensely productive certain lands in Montana, are pressing for the establishment of such a bureau.

The motives of these gentlemen cannot be questioned, but the way of going about securing the desired population is open to criticism. It is not at all certain that a state bureau of immigration is a necessity at all, or that its operations would have the desired effect. Much of the work done by such bureaus in other states is now done in this state by the transcontinental railroads, whose interests in the matter are precisely those of the state. Further than this, state bureaus have not always been a success. A large number of students of immigration problems are convinced that local organizations such as chambers of commerce, business men's associations and the like are of infinitely more value in producing results.

But above and beyond all this the state now has a bureau which is already doing the work and doing it well, though with limited means at its command. The state bureau of agriculture, labor and industry is in better position to do the advertising and furnish the information that form the chief work of a bureau of immigration than the latter bureau could be in. The reports of the bureau we now have are published regularly and are of great value. They give facts and figures from official resources, avoid misstatements and "boom" matters and make plain the enormous resources of the state. The reports are of great size, to be sure, and the edition is limited, but if the state wants to spend money to attract settlers it could do no better than to increase the edition and take steps to give the reports wider circulation. Supplemented by a smaller and handier publication containing a condensation of the statistics given in the larger book, it would be the very thing for general distribution in those sections from which there is a movement of desirable immigration.

**A QUEER SITUATION.**

Should King George of Saxony succumb to the illness which has attacked him since his daughter-in-law flew the royal palace, a most peculiar complication would result. The escaped princess would become queen, whether the royal family would or no, and legally there would be no help for the matter, provided, of course, that her husband, the crown prince, does not get his divorce before the death of the old king. Immediately upon the death of George, the present crown prince and his wife, no matter whether she was still living apart from him, would be Saxony's queen with no chance of avoiding the honors save by death. Of course there is no power on earth to compel her to go back and ascend the throne, but nevertheless she would bear the title forever.

There is little likelihood that, queen or no queen, she will ever go back unless she be abducted and shipped off to an insane asylum—a possibility not at all remote. Not a royal house in Europe but would wink at the kidnapping of the independent princess in order to end a scandal that is bringing all royalty into disrepute and tearing holes in that divinity that doth hedge about a king. She is comparatively safe in Switzerland; but nowhere else in Europe can she be at all sure of escaping a fate which would mean a living death. Further than this, should she give birth to a child in the next few weeks, as the dispatches indicate she will, the German embassy at Berne will make prompt demand on Switzerland for the infant, and Switzerland will have to see that it is surrendered to the king of Saxony, the head of the house. There are many instances in Europe of just this sort of thing being done.

Knowing all this it cannot be doubted that the princess wishes to escape to the United States. Only here she can feel safe and be sure that her child will not be torn from her. Here she certainly would have a refuge and here it is believed she will come.

Pity the sorrows of poor Rudyard Kipling. The German poets, in retaliation for his scathing "Rowers," are after him with adjectives as long as Governor Toole's message, and it is said Kipling does not know enough German to fully understand their meaning.

Lancaster's bill to close the saloons at 12 midnight Saturday and keep them closed until 7 o'clock Monday morning would simply add another to the dead laws already on the statute books.

A canvass of the legislature indicates that the women suffragists will have to suffer under their afflictions for at least two years more.

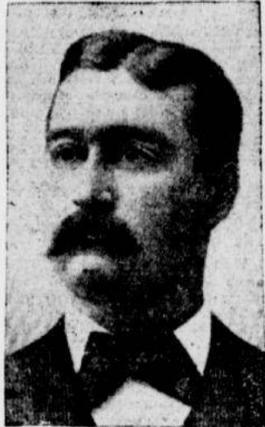
From Culebra a bunch of disconsolate American sailors are returning home. The European powers positively declined to monkey with the Monroe doctrine,

**LEGISLATIVE GOSSIP**

**SPECIAL TO THE INTER MOUNTAIN.**  
 Helena, Jan. 7.—The republicans have started off well in the matter of practicing economy in the affairs of the legislature. The house members are practically a unit on the proposition to cut down at every point possible. A committee of three have been delegated by those in the majority whose duty it shall be to report all suggestions for reducing the expenses of the legislative session as may result from their investigations. The inquiry into the matter of paying out state moneys will also go as far as proposed appropriations, and the same committee will look into the question of the state's Economy Course, expenses from every direction. It is confidently believed that a large sum will be saved the taxpayers of the state as a result of the watchfulness of the republican members during the session.

The Roschard contest, Lane against Hopkins, promises to take up a good part of the time of the committee on privileges and elections. The record thus far made up, consisting of the testimony of witnesses which was taken before the justices of the peace, makes a volume of nearly 800 pages, and 40 more witnesses are to be heard. These will be examined before the members of the committee, and, of course, cross-examined at great length, making it certain that the contest will be a long drawn out one.

Thomas McTague, one of the wardens of the state penitentiary, is here "just



THOMAS M'TAGUE.

looking around." As the firm of Conley & McTague are creditors of the state to the tune of \$35,000 for the care of prisoners it is presumed

Mr. McTague's interest in the legislative session is more than general. For the past two years the appropriation was \$100,000, and as this ran out on August last it is manifest that the law makers will be called upon for a much greater sum for the next two years. It is estimated by the contractors who care for the state's wicked that \$180,000 will be required to wipe out the deficit of the last two years and care for the Deer Lodge institution during 1903 and 1904. Any moneys which may be appropriated for this purpose will not be available until about the middle of March, and in the meantime the penitentiary is being run on credit. Nothing aside from the maintenance fund will be asked at this session, as the state institution is well provided for in the way of accommodations and equipments. The appropriations for the penitentiary, and also other state institutions, are estimated by the secretary of the state board of examiners and recommended by the governor to the action of the legislature.

Representative Teal of Madison will father the orphans' home and endeavor to secure for that institution, which is located at Twin Bridges, enough money to properly care for the little wards of the state. Only \$23,000 was appropriated at the last session and in view of the increase in the number of inmates a much larger sum will be asked for at the hands of the "Eight." There are at present 110 children under the care of Wylie Montjoy, and the accommodations are crowded beyond comfort. The institution is in need of some means for protection against fire and an adequate water supply, and also a lighting plant. Mr. Teal says that Warden Montjoy is the most poorly paid man in the employ of the state, receiving only \$100 per month for labor enough to keep three men busy. At least \$40,000 will be asked for the care of the orphans during the next two years.

There is a horde of disappointed office seekers hanging onto the skirts of the "Eight." Silver Bow contributed a large proportion of hopeful ones and the direful looks and long faces in the Grandon lobby in the evening is enough to take all the cheer that Helena offers out of the hearts of the law makers. Many of those who did not land are clinging on with the hope that something will open up for them after the wheels get well started. Miss Maggie Sullivan, who came here with the indorsement of Senator Tewey, is in the double cross list, while Thomas Donnelly, an aspirant for house page from Silver Bow, slipped out of the sorrows of disappointment in rather an original way. The Silver Bow people did not get a taste of patronage on the house side, and when Tommy saw the lay of the land he hustled around and got a deputization as special page for the Silver Bow delegation, the members each contributing pro rata to his salary. He will be sworn in as a page "without compensation."

Dr. O. Y. Warren, who has the contract for the care of the state insane, says that about \$125,000 will be required for this branch of the public charity during 1903-4. Last session the appropriation was \$120,000, but an increase in the number of patients at Warm Springs will make a slight increase necessary.

The house has not authorized the appointment of an assistant journal clerk and none will be selected unless the rush of business actually demands it. This is in accordance with the economy plan previously agreed upon by the majority. Committee clerks will also not be employed until the year needed, and then they will be selected by the respective committees.

Speaker White believes in running the affairs of the house in a common-sense way. Realizing how precious time will be during the last few weeks of the session, he is desirous of establishing customs that will expedite all business before that body. Yesterday he instructed the sergeant-at-arms and clerk of the house to make all announcements which necessarily occasion an interruption of the house in the briefest manner possible. For instance, he explained that, instead of "Mr. Speaker, a message from the honorable senate of the state of Montana," the custom shall be, "Mr. Speaker, a message from the senate." The matter came up in the presentation of the governor at the reading of his message to the joint assembly. The secretary of the senate started to say, "Mr. Speaker, the governor is at the bar of this hon—" when Senator Kennedy interrupted with the admonition that the chief executive should be addressed as "His excellency." Then the long-winded announcement was gone through with, after which the ideas of Speaker White were imparted to those who will have occasion to make similar announcements during the remainder of the session.

At a caucus of the third house, held in the refreshment room of the Grandon last night, the following amendments to the rules of both houses were adopted:

"Rule 1.—The chaplain shall open each session with prayer for the survival of the Silver Bow delegation.

"Rule 2.—Each Saturday afternoon, before adjournment, all democrats, fusionists and labor members shall join in singing, 'Oh, Didn't They Ramble?' During the rendition of this number Senators Hoffman, Biggs and Cullen will retire to the visitors' gallery."

Rule 30 has been amended so as to limit the privileges of the floor to members, ex-members, children of members, grandchildren of ex-members, messenger boys, clerks, librarians, janitors, telegraph operators, barbers and disappointed office-seekers, visitors from Chinook and all citizens of Montana who have never been dubbed "colonel" or "general." Correspondents of reputable newspapers shall not have the privilege of the floor.

Rule 17 is amended to read as follows: "Until otherwise ordered straightjackets will not be allowed and the joker can only be used to fill a flush, provided that the speaker shall have power to suspend this rule to meet emergencies."

**PEOPLE WE MEET**

**SAMUEL T. HAUSER** of Helena, who for a brief term held the office of territorial governor of Montana, under appointment from Cleveland, and who is one of the well-known old-timers of the territory, is in the city looking after some business interests.

Governor Hauser is interested in the Missouri River Power company, which owns the dam across the Missouri river at Canyon ferry and which transmits a large amount of electricity to Butte for use in the mines.

He says the system is working very satisfactorily, although from the dam to Butte is one of the longest transmissions in the world. The company has contracted to furnish about 1,000 more horsepower in Butte and this will be done as soon as the extra water wheels and other equipment can be installed in the power plant at the dam.

For several months it has been currently reported that the company intended in the near future to build another dam across the Missouri river at Stubbs ferry, below the present dam. Governor Hauser says this will be done whenever the mining companies of Butte want more power than can be furnished by the present dam and power plant.

The former governor of Montana was found buried in a newspaper reading Governor Toole's annual message. When asked what he thought of the document he laughed and said:

"Well, I guess Joe has got it all in; he don't seem to have overlooked anything; it's long enough."

While the Helena man did not express himself for publication it was quite evident that he considered that the executive was trying to ride several horses at once in favoring the initiative and referendum, women suffrage, the railroad commission and several other new wrinkles. The length of the message, by far the longest of any state executive, also caused the former governor to chuckle to himself.

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Change for the Much Worse.  
 [St. Louis Globe-Democrat.]  
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**LITERARY NEWS**

**By Burroughs.**  
 John Burroughs has been known chiefly as a writer of out-door themes, but his latest book, "Literary Values and Other Papers" (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.) will also give him a place among literary critics. His papers on criticism have, to be sure, been welcomed by editors on their rare appearances, and some of the essays in this volume are taken from the Atlantic and the Century, but the collection will be a welcome surprise to many of Mr. Burroughs' readers.

The titles of typical papers will show the range of the book: "Style and the Man," "Literature and Democracy," "Poetry and Eloquence," "Thoreau's Wildness," "On the Re-reading of Books," and the vitality of its criticism may be felt from such a sentence as this: "Only an honest book can live; only absolute sincerity can stand the test of time." The book is a contribution to literature and criticism.

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