

OREGON CITY PRESS

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OREGON CITY, MARCH 22, 1899

There were 172 ocean disasters in 1898. This does not include those caused by Dewey, Sampson and Schley.

We have heard of Greater New York, Greater Chicago and Greater Boston. We now hear of Greater America.

Aguinaldo shows signs of disintegration. The bushes of the interior are a safer retreat than in the vicinity of General Otis' guns.

Spain has offered Aguinaldo \$2,000,000 for the release of Spanish prisoners. Aggio wants \$7,000,000. If Spain will wait a few days, General Otis will turn them over for nothing.

Since her recent bad luck Spain is inclined to go out of the island business. She is negotiating with Germany for the sale of the Ladrones, the Pelew and Caroline islands.

That was a sad, sad editorial column in last week's Enterprise, but it was a mighty testimonial to the county commissioners and their faithfulness to the interests of the taxpayers.

It is dreadfully unfortunate for the republican party of Clackamas county, from the standpoint of Senator Porter, that it should fail to recognize the Enterprise as a worthy charity.

Sagasta has announced his last resignation as premier of the Spanish cabinet. This is similar to Patti's last tour. The last resignation will be turned in at intervals and the last tour will be continued forever.

The Secretary of the Navy has been authorized by congress to erect a suitable monument at Havana commemorating the victims of the Maine disaster. It ought to be erected on the spot where the disaster occurred.

The free coinage senate which has been an ornamental to the government as a wart on a healthy damsel's rosy cheek, disappeared March 5. The charm that caused it to melt away was the magic word "Prosperity" and "McKinley is its prophet.

We move that Clackamas county assume the debt of the Enterprise and be done with it. Then Brother Porter wouldn't have to make such a spectacle of himself, wallowing over the ingratitude of republicans too decent to permit him loot the county treasury.

The fifty-fifth congress expired amid flowers and tears. It conducted a ninety-day war with Spain and provided \$15,000,000 expenses, negotiated a treaty of honor, inaugurated expansion and created a larger army and navy. It was republican.

Indications for the present calendar year are that the total revenue of Cuba for this year will be about \$15,000,000. This is wonderful in the present impoverished condition of the island and is suggestive as to the plunder that must have been carried off by Spain in the centuries past. Great is the future of Cuba.

The sultan of Turkey complains that he has been bucconed out of Crete. His flag has been lowered and Prince George, the governor, reports to a commission of English, Russian and French ambassadors. The sick man is croupy over this arrangement, but all the satisfaction he is likely to get out of it is the kicking.

Generals Miles and Shafter should contemplate the fate of Admiral Montefo and General Toral and cease their jawing. The "embalmed beef" contributes largely to the large number of embalmed Spaniards, and that is as much as any beef could do. Possibly if Montefo and Toral had had "embalmed beef," they would have fought better.

The \$20,000,000 to boot due Spain on the Philippines has started for that country. America has paid high for the privilege of carrying light, liberty and happiness to over 10,000,000 benighted children of the world, but the

result will be worth the sacrifice. America has risen to her destiny as the eagle rises to the sun, and so long as she fulfills her mission on earth, so long will she escape the doom of the Jewish nation, the Medes and Persians, ancient Greece, ancient Rome and Spain. "To him that hath shall be given."

The sentiment voiced by the Molalla correspondent, regarding the bicycle tax, is seconded by every man, woman and child, living in the country, owning a bicycle. Like nearly all the other bills passed by the late legislature it taxes the many for the benefit of a few city chaps. The work of that session does not improve with age.

It is fatal in Spain to attain eminent success or to meet with conspicuous failure. Columbus was eminently successful in discovering the new world and Admiral Cervera conspicuously unsuccessful in defeating that same new world. Columbus died in chains and Cervera is waiting a court martial which may result in the order for the death of the old hero.

Popocatepetl, the great Mexican volcano, has been sold to a syndicate of English capitalists for \$250,000 for mining purposes, there being the largest sulphur deposits in the world located in the crater. Besides, there is an abundance of other rich minerals. A cog rail road will be run to the summit. If the old demon doesn't object vast wealth will be wrested from his domain. Anglo Saxon enterprise is the salt that salts the world.

The effort to improve the Molalla road has stirred up several factions that do not seem to harmonize. The people of the Molalla and Marquam country as well as the people of Oregon City are interested in having the best possible route selected. It is quite natural for those living along the different routes to be interested in their especial section. Justice to the majority of those interested can only be obtained by giving all routes due consideration. The road is of interest to several thousand persons.

While President McKinley has the greatest regard and respect for Admiral Dewey, the latter probably reciprocates in the highest degree. When the Admiral needed ammunition to smash the Spanish fleet, he found that the President had it for him. When he wanted soldiers, the President had seen the necessity and soldiers were already on the way. The other day the Oregon was wanted and behold it was on its way with the Iowa lying at San Francisco, waiting orders to go if needed.

President McKinley and cabinet have decided to extend the sovereignty of the United States over the entire Philippine group at once. The state of anarchy in the islands outside of Luzon has made the step necessary. Admiral Dewey and General Otis will do the rest. The inhabitants of Negros and the rebels of other localities have tendered allegiance. Aguinaldo, however, still contends that he prefers Spanish to American rule. He is still hovering about the Americans like a moth about an electric lamp. The lamp will blaze in wrath shortly and consumed all in reach.

There was a time when ours was classed an importing nation, rather than an exporting nation. Today the conditions are reversed, and the change has been brought about under a system of protection. A favorite doctrine of the low tariff advocates was that if we did not buy abroad we could not sell abroad, but today they are confronted with the actual fact that we are buying less and selling more abroad. All that is needed by American manufacturers is to protect them against the cheaper labor of Europe, and in time they will become so far advanced by improved methods that they can compete right in the heart of European trade.

While the people are not paying much attention to army affairs, but are making hay in the glorious sunshine of prosperity which shines on all alike under republican rule, the administration is still as alert as ever. The hospital ship "Relief," the gunboat "Vixen" and six additional regiments of regulars have been started Manilaward, while the commission appointed to examine into the conditions of affairs there and report to the government, has already arrived. The change from Spanish sloth, corruption and inefficiency to American energy, probity and skill in organizing affairs is making a profound impression in the Orient where "Manana," "Kisnut" and tradition have paralyzed all human ambition and endeavor and is bringing retribution.

Sir William Hunter, one of England's eminent Indian commissioners, does not share the views of the calamity howlers of this country in reference to the Philippine question. He says, "The United States in the government of their dependencies will represent the political conscience of the nineteenth century. I hail their advent as a new power for good, not alone for the island races coming under their care, but also in that great settlement of European spheres of influence

in Asia, which, if we could see aright forms the world problem of our day." America is awakening to the fact that she has a destiny to fulfill, and there is something to do besides folding her hands and enjoying her great blessings. Sir William Hunter's words are more than words of mere wisdom—they are prophecy.

The democratic Texas house of representatives has declared the war in the Philippines to be one of brutal conquest and calls on the Texan members of congress to do all in their power to stop it. There was a big frost down there a few weeks ago and cotton was endangered. The calamity party is getting ready to take advantage of this.

Our friend, the "proprietor" of the Enterprise appears to be up against it pretty hard, judging from the whine that burdens the editorial page of his last, or, if not last at least latest, issue. County Judge Ryan, Ex-Senator Cross, Commissioner Dick Scott and other good republicans have not seen fit, it seems, to recognize the self-assumed right of our longlegged friend to straddle the neck of the republican party of Clackamas county and ride it through the mire he has assisted in getting it into. They evidently think the taxpayers of this county are under no obligations to carry the financial burdens of the Enterprise. Senator Porter is shocked to find them so unfeeling—hence those tears.

The Populist brethren are discussing ex-assessor Stout and his treatment of the "corporations." An inspection of the tax rolls will reveal the most unjust list possible to imagine. One case will be cited as an example: A fine tract of 25 acres, with an orchard, is assessed at \$5 per acre; an adjoining tract is assessed at \$10 per acre; the next tract is assessed at \$25 per acre. The \$25 tract is the least desirable of the three. Many pieces of property appear on the rolls without any valuation, thus bringing down the total valuation and increasing the rate. We have no fight to make on assessor Stout, as he is out of the county. These figures are cited to illustrate how expensive it is to elect incompetent officials.

The Press recognizes the right of the county commissioners, city council or other body discharging public functions, to do the best it can for the interests of the taxpayers. This as a primary consideration. Secondly, those bodies may properly favor the political interests they believe in. But to favor partisan political schemes, at a heavy expense to the taxpayers, as Senator Porter strove to have the county commissioners do, would be nothing less than a crying shame. Porter's whole cry is that his "demand" was not acceded to—a demand based on his own idea that he is quite invincible or irresistible as a political factor. The republican party need not be afraid of the Enterprise. Papers that really and truly support a party are not so afraid people will overlook it that they continually prate about it. The Enterprise would cut a pretty figure opposing the republican party, wouldn't it?

Invitations are out announcing a tea to be given Saturday afternoon from 2 to 5, at Willamette hall by the Ladies' Chorus to their friends.

New Officers

On Monday evening the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Willamette Savings & Loan Association was held in the office of the Oregon City bank. The officers are: President, E. G. Caulfield; Vice President, W. A. Huntley; directors, R. Koerner, A. W. Francis, L. L. Porter, H. E. Straight, E. E. Charman, Thomas F. Ryan; Secretary, G. B. Dimick; Treasurer, Bank of Oregon City. Auditors, C. H. Caulfield, Max Bollock and A. W. Cheney.

Money to Loan.

I have some money—\$500 to \$1500 at 7 per cent interest. Good mortgage security—3 to 5 years time. H. E. Cross.

A Mason & Hamlin parlow organ cheap, at the Oregon City Auction House.

Services will be held in St. Paul's Episcopal church every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Sunday school at 10 o'clock. Service every Friday evening at 7:30. All seats free. Strangers cordially welcome. Rev. P. Hammond, rector.

ACTIVE SOLICITORS WANTED

everywhere for "The Story of the Philippines" by Murat Halstead commissioned by the Government, as Official Historian to the War Department. The book was written in army camps at San Francisco, on the Pacific with General Merritt, in the hospitals at Honolulu in Hong Kong, in the American trenches at Manila, in the insurgent camps with Aguinaldo, on the deck of the Olympia with Dewey, and in the roar of battle at Manila. Bonanza for agents. Brimful of original pictures taken by government photographers on the spot. Large book. Low prices. Big profits. Freight paid. Credit given. Drop all trashy unofficial war books. Outfit free. Address, F. T. Barber, Sec'y., Star Insurance Bldg., Chicago.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Matters of National Interest Discussed by W. E. Curtis.

For the first time in history the government of the United States has been recognized as a "power" among the nations of the earth. Never before has any other government invited our support or intervention in any matter that involved the peace of the world. We were ranked as a quaker nation, isolated and absorbed in our own affairs, without interest in the welfare of our neighbors and without military force to support any opinion or desire that we might have. We have involuntarily interfered now and then in the affairs of other nations. While the French were invading Mexico in 1867 and the Venezuela boundary dispute became hot in 1894, and on several occasions like the war between Chile and Peru, we have given advice and tendered our good offices, and two or three times Uncle Sam has shaken his fist, or at least his finger, at his neighbors and told them that they must behave themselves. The king of Italy asked if the United States would approve his plan of seizing a slice of China, and the emperor of China sent Mr. Wu, his minister here, to the state department to inquire if we would sustain his government if he resisted the Italian demand. To both inquiries the same answer was given—that Uncle Sam had troubles of his own and did not care to interfere in the affairs of his neighbors.

Postmaster-General Smith left on March 15 for Cuba to look into the organization of the postoffice department on the island. He will not have time to visit many places, but hopes to inspect the postoffices at principal cities.

The action of the so-called Cuban assembly in dismissing General Gomez has simplified matters, and now General Brooke will not have to deal with them also when he distributes the money to the Cuban army. Gomez alone will be recognized. This assembly has been recognized because such a course was easier than to suppress it. It is composed of a lot of swashbucklers and paper generals who want to rule Cuba, and the authorities at Havana have always said that if they were given rope enough they would hang themselves. General Brooke would recognize them only through General Gomez, and now that they have voluntarily cut themselves loose from Gomez they will not be recognized at all.

The Cuban assembly is not a legislative body selected by the people, but a voluntary organization of officers of the Cuban army who are now seeking office under the government and have organized for mutual benefit. They have no authority, no constituents and very little influence.

The February exports were the largest in history, with the single exception of 1898. The exports of breadstuffs, provisions, cotton and mineral oils amounted to \$55,989,894, against \$49,843,806 in February, 1897, and \$52,114,373 in February, 1896. The slight reduction as compared with the corresponding month of 1898 is not in volume, but in value, because of lower prices for some of the leading articles. The quantity of wheat exported in February, 1899, was nearly 10,000,000 bushels, against 7,000,000 bushels in the corresponding month of 1898, while the value is given at \$7,335,309, against \$6,434,028. While the wheat producers are not obtaining as satisfactory prices for their products as they did at this time last year, the cotton growers are more fortunate. The February exports of cotton, which amounted to 283,412,706 pound, exported in February of last year were valued at \$21,761,167, the average export price last year being below 6 cents per pound, while this year it is considerably above 6 cents. In practically all articles except wheat the export trade is more satisfactory than usual, that of provisions in 1899 being larger than in the corresponding months of 1898, 1897 and 1896, while manufacturers continue the steady growth over last year and over any preceding year.

The construction bureau of the navy department have commenced the preparation of plans for six 2,500-ton protected cruisers, authorized by the last appropriation bill. The designs will be new and somewhat radical in comparison with ships of that class now in the navy. Their speed and sailing radius will surpass those of any ships of their size afloat, and their equipment and armament will be entirely up to date.

The preference of the Japanese people for local enterprises and their loyalty to each other has enabled them to provide their own life insurance, foreign companies are losing nearly all their business. The frequency of fires and the combustible nature of the buildings does not encourage the formation of fire insurance companies.

The reported loyalty of the Mohammedan inhabitants of Mindanao, the largest of the Philippine islands, is believed to be due largely to the influence of the sultan of Turkey, who is the

spiritual head of the moslem church. Abdul Hamid II has always been friendly to the United States, and has been greatly impressed by the achievements of our navy during the war. There are supposed to be about 2,000,000 Mohammedans in the Philippine archipelago and their loyalty can be depended upon.

Since the approval of the war revenue act on June 15, 1898, the collections under it have been \$62,012,191. There have also been collected an additional tax on tobacco of \$778,487 and on fermented liquors stored in warehouses \$164,927, making a total of \$62,955,606 derived from the war revenue act from the time of its passage up to the 1st of February. The largest part of this sum, \$26,383,440, comes from the sale of documentary and proprietary stamps, \$20,084,450 from the increase in the tax on beer, \$8,162,621 represents the increase in the tax on snuff and tobacco and \$2,503,058 on cigars and cigarettes. From legacies \$253,951 has been realized.

It isn't a foreign enemy that need worry the American army. The real cause for anxiety lies in the work of the friendly politicians at home.

GEORGIA HIGHWAYS.

System of Working the Roads With Convicts or Free Labor.

Professor McCallie, assistant state geologist of Georgia, in a paper read at Omaha, explains the system of road improvement of the state as follows:

"The law inaugurated in 1891, now called the 'new road' law, authorized the commissioners of roads and revenues of each county, upon the recommendation of the grand jury, to fix and levy a special road tax, not to exceed 2 mills on the dollar, and also to exact of each male inhabitant a commutation tax, not to exceed 50 cents per day for the number of days' work required. Furthermore, the law authorized these road



HEAVY TRAFFIC BARRED. (From L. A. W. Bulletin.)

authorities to organize chain gangs of misdemeanor convicts or to hire free labor for the improvement and the maintenance of the public highways, the expenses of which being met by the special road and commutation taxes.

"About one-fifth of the counties of the state have since adopted this new road law and are now keeping up and improving their highways, either by convict or hired labor. This system meets with general approval wherever it has been tried, and it is now only a question of time when it will be universally adopted throughout the state.

"The usual method adopted in this system of road working is as follows: Convicts or free laborers are organized into squads, consisting of 15 to 45 men, who are placed under a competent superintendent and one or more overseers.

Each squad is furnished with a camping outfit, two or more road machines, wheeled scrapers, wagons, from 10 to 20 mules, plows, etc. The work usually commences on the leading roads radiating from the county seat and consists first in going over the road with machines, giving them the proper crown, opening up the side ditches, macadamizing the boggly places and occasionally cutting down the grades of the steeper hills. The main highways being thus worked over, attention is then directed to the less important roads, until all of the public highways in the county have been crowned and properly drained. This first working usually requires from one to two years, depending upon the condition of the roads and the number of hands employed. The second time the roads are gone over more attention is paid to grading, and considerable macadamizing is frequently done, and the work in general is of a more permanent and lasting nature.

"It is the intention of the road managers adopting this plan to keep up this process of gradual road improvement until all of the principal thoroughfares at least in their respective counties are properly graded, macadamized and otherwise put in first class condition."

Location of Roads.

In the early pioneer days our sturdy ancestors naturally chose the hillside and ridges, preferably to the valleys, when building their homes, for the obvious reason of preventing surprises from the crafty, cunning and restless "children of the forest." The beaten paths between adjacent homesteads, which eventually became highways, followed the hillsides for the same reason, and the making of such beaten tracks into roads, in those days involving only the minimum amount of labor and expense in leveling the hillsides or slopes to admit of wheeled locomotion, sufficed for the moderate needs of the times. With a rapidly increasing population and multiplying needs these "roads," these lines of communication, rendered the properties through which they passed more and more valuable, until at the present time one of the most strenuous objections to a change of location for bettering the gradient is the property owner adjacent to a large city, where eligibility for building sites is so potent a factor, and who deems a slight change of location "financial ruin."

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

DR. J. H. MILLER, DENTIST. Fine Dental Work, Artistic Gold Crowns and Bridge Work. Office on Seventh St., near S. F. Depot.

G. B. DIMICK, Deputy District Attorney. Will practice in all Courts of the State and District Court of United States. Office on south side of Main street, between Sixth and Seventh Streets.

BROWNELL & CAMPBELL, LAWYERS. Will practice in all the courts of the state. Canfield Block.

W. S. U'REN, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Jaggard Building, Opposite Huntley's Oregon City.

BANK OF OREGON CITY

Oldest Bank in the City. Paid up Cash Capital \$50,000 surplus \$21,000

THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF OREGON CITY. Capital \$100,000. TRANSACTS A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS. Loans made. Bills discounted. Makes collections. Buys and sells exchange on all points in the United States, Europe and Hong Kong. Deposits received subject to check. Bank open from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. D. C. LATOURETTE, President. F. J. MEYER, Cashier.

RELIABLE

FIRE INSURANCE. BEST COMPANIES—LOWEST RATES. F. E. Donaldson, Agt

FIRE INSURANCE

There are no companies better, few so good, as the OLD HOME AND PHOENIX.

THE NORTHERN, CONNECTICUT, and the HOME MUTUAL. All of them TIME TRIED and FIRE TESTED. H. L. KELLY, Agt

City Treasurer's Notice. Notice is hereby given that there are sufficient funds on hand in the general fund of Oregon City to pay all outstanding warrants endorsed prior to December 1, 1898. Interest cease with the date of this notice. H. E. STRAIGHT, City Treasurer. Oregon City, Oregon, November 22, 1898.

Oregon City Market Report.

Corrected March 21. Wheat—No. 1 merchantable, w wheat, 53c per bush. Flour—Portland, in qr. sacks, \$3 35. —Dayton, " " \$3 50. —Howard, \$3 35. —Fisher, \$3 25. Oats in sacks—White, 45c per bushel, gray, 45c per bush. Bran—\$15; shorts, \$16. Butter—Ranch, 40@45c per roll. Eggs—12 1/2c per dozen. Potatoes—\$1 00 per sack. Bacon—Hams, 10@11c; sides, 7@8c; shoulders, 7@8c; lard, 8 1/2@9c. Livestock and Dressed Meats—Beef, live, 3 1/2@4 1/2c; hogs, live, 4@4 1/2c; hog dressed, 5 1/2c; sheep, 4@4 50 per head; veal, dressed, 7@7 1/2c.

TIME TABLES

Table with columns: Gdstone Cars, Leave, East Side, Leave. Rows include times for Gdstone Cars and Steamers Altona.