

Oregon City Courier

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One time Channey M. Depew gave New York newspapers a spread and a speech, and one of the city wails dubbed him "de peach."

Later on Channey got tangled up with some scaly life insurance transactions, and the American people dropped that "peach" business and Channey dropped into obscurity for a time—in the hope that people would forget.

But he's a peach yet, if he is getting well along toward a hundred years. He's a talker, a thinker and a big chief.

Last winter, at a meeting of some of the pirates of commerce, talk swung around to the recent election and to the disposition of the voters for free trade, when Channey took the fear out of the hearts of his brother pirates and stiffened up their spines with the statement that congress could declare for absolute free trade and that it wouldn't make a cent's difference with the business of the big combinations, for they could simply go over the pond and syndicate, tie up the staff and stop competition before it came into this country.

The great steel trust has been having an international "conference," and you have no doubt been reading of it in the newspapers.

"Conference" is a dandy word. It stretches like a crocheted shawl and it may embrace a Sunday school association or a black hand meeting.

And this "conference" appears to be of the Dago order.

One of the delegates to this convention, after they had tied up the steel of the whole world, slopped over with enthusiasm and indiscretion and made this break:

"WE ARE MASTERS OF THE WORLD NOW."

And as I read this exclamation of the delegate, in the New York World, I thought of old world-wise Depew and his talk to the "interests," and I conclude he is just as much of a peach as he ever was.

And I want to impress it on you that when the trusts of a country get bigger than a nation's tariff laws and bigger than a nation's congress they are getting some big and some dangerous.

If a steel trust can get world-wide control of steel production and fix world-wide prices, then so can other trusts, and so they will.

And what are we going to do about it?

Can a government force American industries to sell their products for less than foreign goods sell for here?

What is your constitutional opinion of a city ordinance that would compel a man to so cut and mutilate his shade tree that its branches would not interfere with a telephone company's wires that run through them?

Carried to the point of law this ordinance would stand about eleven seconds, for common sense and justice tells any man that the growing shade tree a property owner has planted and cared for for years has prior rights over a telephone pole and its network of wires, which intrudes only through the right of franchise.

Some of Oregon City's ordinances will be getting into the joke columns of the newspapers pretty soon, and Harry Murphy will be making them cartoon subjects.

Either Delegate Wickersham is a criminal agitator and liar or our government is a criminal partner in the hands of the syndicate that is trying to control Alaska and it should be determined which. Delegate Wickersham, before an investigating committee at Washington Monday said that the attorney general had shielded criminals in Alaska; that the Guggenheims can influence the appointment of United States officials and can do control them. These statements Delegate Wickersham says he is in Washington to back up.

It is folly to produce the wool and, after shipping it to Boston, bring it back again in the form of finished product paying a costly freight haul both ways. It is folly to ship the raw material east, and buy it back again as furniture, just as cheap as in America, and so long as we get these two varieties of justice handed down from the benches every day, the newspapers and politicians waste ink and breath talking against the recall of judges.

That attack on Wiley looks like a put up job to attract attention from the Alaska rascals.

This talk of dragging down the "sanctity" of the courts through the fear of the recall is the weakest kind of a political excuse.

Who are these judges that they are inviolable? How long since they took the holy orders? What makes their political jobs sacred?

You know how the trusts land many of them, and you know what they land for the trusts in return.

Don't ask such questions—just believe in congress and the administration.

Hides are now on the free list. Congress gave up one of our country's big sources of revenue and cut off from the west and southwest a big source of profit that the American people might get cheaper shoes.

Are we getting them?

Not only did congress give to the shoe manufacturer the revenue [which our country had been getting by taxing hides, but these same shoe makers had the American nerve to tack twelve per cent on top of that.

They did it because of the right of might—because their trust was bigger than our congress, our government.

Now I would like to ask some of the boss pilots who steer our tab at Washington WHY hides were put on the free list.

Was it because of a clamor for cheaper shoes and your desire to represent your voters that you fell for it, and swallowed hook, line and sinker?

And if so, why don't we get cheaper shoes?

Were hides put on the free list to give the Douglas bunch more rake-off or to give shoe wearers a cheaper article?

Either the tariff law makers played the game of the manufacturers or they were played by the manufacturers' game.

And either way of looking at it doesn't tend to inspire deep, nameless, unutterable confidence in congress by the shoe wearers.

If congress isn't bigger than the eastern shoe trusts, then we might as well throw up our hands and call for the kicking machines.

The fight that is framing up for next year's national campaign is whether the people or the trusts are going to run this country—whether we have got to stand for legalized robbery or not.

The present tariff laws are a national joke, and the most of us know it and admit it. The duty was raised where it would help the "interests" and lowered where it wouldn't hurt them.

We need less appetite and laughter in the white house and more back-bone.

Mr. Taft will be the Republican nominee for president next year if he wants it, and there is little doubt on this point. And Mr. Taft will have a fight made against him compared with which the last campaign was a communion service.

The joints in the president's armor that look weak, and his enemies are going to pound these thin planks.

They will make the most of the Alaskan scandal, of how he fought Glavis and Pinchot until he got them out; they will make the most of the supreme court judges and the trust decisions these men have handed down; they will make the most in the Pacific coast states of his opposition to Arizona statehood because Arizona citizens wanted Oregon's reform laws; they will make the most of the Guggenheim attempt to steal Alaska, and the president's weak defense in his recent message, and they will hold him up as a disciple of free trade on farmers' production and high protection on the rest.

There are other men in the Republican party who would make a much stronger run for president than Mr. Taft, but Mr. Taft wants the nomination and big business wants him to have it.

If Governor Wilson of New Jersey is nominated against him our country will elect a Democrat. The masses see this, and the politicians should. It is evident enough.

Here are a few points that will make you think a little and hunt for the joker.

The Republican party has declared for protection of American interests "equal to the difference between the cost at home and abroad."

This is plain, is justice, is fairness. No concern has any right to more protection than the difference between what it cost Americans and foreigners to make the same article. When they get this they are on equal terms, and if our industries cannot compete under such conditions, then let that industry close, in justice to consumers.

With cotton goods higher than at any time since the civil war, both eastern and southern manufacturers are cutting down production because of the difference in price between the raw material and the manufactured article.

How much profit do these manufacturers want?—Oroville, Cal., Sun.

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You farmers of Clackamas county, did Senator Bourne vote for your interests or the trusts' interests when he voted against the farmers' free list bill Tuesday? Did he represent YOU or the McCormicks and the other big members of the harvesters' trust? Did he represent this county or did he betray it?

The free list bill as passed by the senate will give you farmers much in return for what the prospectively will take from you. It will reduce duties on agricultural implements, bagging, harness, wire and many other articles.

Senator Bourne voted against the bill and against you.

And in whose interests did he vote—and WHY?

You working men of Clackamas county, you business men, you who are rebelling against the trust extortion prices on necessities, did Senator Bourne vote for YOUR interests or the trusts' interests when he voted AGAINST the bill that would reduce the duties on boots, shoes, lumber, building materials, meats, cereals, etc.?

Who did Senator Bourne represent when he voted against the bill that would reduce duties on necessities?

Did he represent a dozen men in Clackamas county, or a hundred men in the state of Oregon outside of trust connections?

The man who Senator Bourne is pledged to represent, the common people of Oregon, wanted his vote FOR this measure—and the trusts got it against.

What excuse can he offer? He failed to represent.

He wanted that the people of Oregon want—there isn't room for any doubt.

And Mr. Bourne is a candidate for senator again next year—he wants to throw you down again.

If you like betrayal, you can't do better than support him.

If you want representation, you've a chance between now and next April.

The farmers' free list has passed the senate and will go into conference with the house, and it will no doubt be laid on President Taft's desk very soon for him to make good his threat of veto.

This bill reduces the duties on all kinds of agricultural implements, on bagging, boots, shoes, saddles, fence wire, rods, ropes, fresh and preserved meats, flour, cereals, bread, lumber, lath, shingles, sewing machines, salt, etc.

President Taft should veto this measure, passed by both houses, right after passing the Canadian reciprocity bill, he has more nerve than judgment.

He has said he would veto it, but the reason he gives (awaiting some future report of a tariff board) will hardly offset the list of articles which the trusts control, and which the trusts do not want reduced.

The stand-pat follows reason that the game is young yet, that a veto will be forgotten in the next winter's election campaign, and that the president won't hurt his chances with the people.

The people remember better than they need to. This tariff board dodge won't stick. They will look at it as trading a veto for trust contributions to next year's campaign.

After the work President Taft has done for free trade on farmers' products, it will be the biggest blunder of his administration if he vetoes a like bill on the trusts' products.

Governor West is certainly getting in with the people of Oregon in his efforts to unite congress on something that is going to show up his gage with the governor is that when he takes a hold he doesn't let go.

He says that with the Alaska coal in shape so the people can get it at moderate prices, and with the completion of the Panama canal, Oregon will become a field for manufacturers, and will take a great jump into progress.

He scores our representatives in congress for being utterly unmindful of the situation, and apparently doing as little as they can possibly do to retard the great wealth of Alaska from the trust hands.

Governor West says the government should develop these coal lands, and he urges that Oregon send a delegation to Washington to show congress the great value of these coal deposits, and to urge that laws be framed to protect them from the trusts.

It is hard for people to understand the state of mind that would justify a vetoing of a relieving wool measure, despite the lapsus lingue of the president at Winona. The country knows that President Taft thinks the wool schedule to be inequities, and the country wonders if it really be true that he will veto its favorable amendment.—Portland Telegram.

It isn't hard for the people to understand the state of mind that has to be inquired into but the state of trusts. It doesn't matter what a president thinks of a measure, it is what the "interests" think of it.

NEWS OF OREGON.

Jack London, the famous author accompanied by his wife, is taking a bear hunt among the wilds of Curry county.

It cost the state of Oregon \$350,000 for the month of July, this amount having been paid out from Salem, and it being the record for any one month's expense.

William Lane of Medford was crushed to death while trying to loose a sledge load of rock on the side of a hill, near Prospect, Saturday.

The man got in front of a sledge of rock which he was trying to slide down hill and the mass slid on top of him, breaking every bone in his chest. He lived 30 minutes, but not long enough for a physician to reach him.

Weighing but twenty pounds, the second colt of the Shelburn breed born in Tillamook county, made its advent recently near Bay City on the Whitney Co.'s ranch.

The colt at time of birth was twenty-one inches tall, measured sixteen inches around, and from the tip of her nose to the roots of her tail the tape showed thirty inches.

The U. S. Civil Service Commission announced an examination on August 18, 1911, for the position of painter at \$60 per month at Vancouver Barracks, Vancouver, Washington.

The age limits are 20 to 50 years and anyone interested is urged to inquire of the secretary of the Eleventh Civil Service District, Room 224, Post Office Building, Seattle, Washington, for application blank and full information.

A Washington hop buyer says "Growers are refusing offers of 26 cents for hops in the field. There is no telling how high the price will go. You simply cannot buy hops on the coast. Offers of 26 cents are refused and it is said no surprise will be caused if offers are made soon at 35 cents. A few dealers believe hops will go up to 40 cents, while several say the price may possibly go to 50 cents."

Seventeen carloads of powder, partly dynamite, will be exploded in one gigantic blast by the O. W. R. & N. K. R. Co. now building along the Snake river towards Spokane.

The blast will be touched off sometime within a fortnight, and it is estimated to move hundreds of tons of earth. One of the mines to be exploded will be more than a quarter of a mile long, but if the engineers' calculations are correct, no rocks will be hurled into the air, and the spectacle will be as safe as a fireworks display.

Immediate construction of a railroad from Eugene to Marshfield, at a cost estimated at \$5,000,000, was authorized Monday by the Southern Pacific Company. Preliminary surveys already have been made and six engineering parties are in the field locating the permanent line.

Although the definite course through which the new road will be constructed has not yet been selected, the general route will be along the Sinclair river, through the Coast Range to the coast, thence south to Marshfield, where it will connect with the Coos Bay, Roseburg & Eastern Railroad.

MORGAN MAY BE WITNESS

Explanation of Tennessee Deal is Sought by Committee.

New York.—The congressional committee of inquiry into the United States Corporation is now desirous of hearing personally from J. Pierpont Morgan with regard to the absorption of the Tennessee Coal & Iron Company by the Steel Corporation in 1907.

"The best man to defend J. P. Morgan for his part in the Tennessee Coal & Iron transactions," said Chairman Stanley, "is Mr. Morgan himself. I sincerely hope that Mr. Morgan's engagements in Europe will not deter him from appearing."

That the New York financier will be subpoenaed to appear before the committee when he does return now seems certain.

Part of Oregon Law Held Invalid.

Portland, Ore.—A part of the law creating the Oregon State Railroad Commission was held invalid by Federal Judge Wolverton. He declared that section 27 of the act, requiring percentage of business between railroads, is so sweeping in its requirements as to affect not only interstate business, but interstate traffic as well. He held that it is, therefore, "obnoxious to the commerce clause of the Federal Constitution."

REBELLION DAYS.

History of Fifty Years Ago, Recalled by a Veteran.

That the people of the North were not entirely discouraged over the defeat at Bull Run is evidenced by the enthusiastic cheers that greeted the twelfth Massachusetts regiment as it passed through New York City a few days after the battle. As the regiment passed through the streets the people who thronged to see soldiers march through the city recognized the words they were singing as what proved to be the greatest marching song of the north ever during the war. The chorus contained elements of simplicity and sentiment so essential in a war song. It was a bustling forth of New England's well known hostility to slavery and a glorification of John Brown as personification of the cause of the war. A few months before this song would not have aroused any outburst of enthusiasm in the North, but now, with war sweeping over the country, the summoning of old John Brown from his grave had a serious effect.

The New York Independent contained the following account of the singing of the song by the Twelfth Massachusetts regiment:

"Who would have dreamed, a year and a half since, that a thousand men in the streets of New York would be heard singing reverently and enthusiastically in praise of John Brown! Such a scene was witnessed on Saturday evening last (actually, Wednesday), one of the new regiments of Massachusetts on its way through this city to the seat of war, sang 'John Brown's body lies a-moldering in the grave.'"

"The stanzas which follow are in the same wild strain: 'He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord, etc.'"

"Seldom, if ever, has New York witnessed such a sight or heard such a strain. No military hero of the present war has been so honored. No statesman has thus loosed the tongues of a thousand men to chant his patriotism. Little did Captain Brown think of the national struggles that were to follow his eventual death. But his enemies and firmness gave evidence of his faith that the cause of freedom demanded the sacrifice of his life, and he nobly died."

"It was a notable fact that while the regiment united as with one voice singing this song, thousands of private citizens, young and old, on the sidewalks and in crowded doorways and windows, joined in the chorus. The music was in itself impressive, and many an eye was wet with tears. Few who witnessed the triumphal tread of that noble band of men arrayed for the war of freedom will not get the thrilling tones of that song."

The regiment that thus introduced "John Brown's body" was entitled to notice, for the name of its colonel was Fletcher Webster, a son of Daniel Webster.

Fletcher Webster had left his charming country home in Marshfield, Mass., to recruit this regiment, and had enlisted in it some of the best young men in his state.

The progress of the regiment in its organization and drills had been followed by local papers with more than usual enterprise. When it was ready to start for Washington it was presented with a stand of colors made by Boston women. The presentation took place at the Massachusetts state house, the speech of welcome being made by Edward Everett, one of the celebrated New England orators of the time.

But Boston did not divine then that the song, which had originated at an island fort in its harbor, would become the slogan of the marching hosts of the Union, just as "Dixie" had already become the war-tune of the Confederacy.

The tune of "John Brown's Body" is not original to Massachusetts and antedates the war. According to accepted tradition, it was composed by a Philadelphia musician, on order, for a Charleston, S. C. fire company, that desired a "chant" to sing on a picnic.

There were many rude verses to accompany this original music, the first line being: "Say, hummers, will you meet us?" There was so much "ginger" in the tune that it was quickly adapted as a revival hymn, the first line being: "Say, brothers, will you meet us?" As a source of inspiration in camp-meetings, the tune was highly successful, and at the beginning of the war it was well known as a camp meeting melody.

The story of the adaptation of the tune to the words of "John Brown's Body" has been told in a small book, with illustrated pages, printed about twelve years ago in a private edition of 100 copies at Philadelphia by James B. Sale, a veteran of the Twelfth Massachusetts. The book is now a paper read by Mr. Beale before the United Service club of Philadelphia.

This authority states that "John Brown's Body" originated with the Second battalion of Massachusetts infantry—composed of the Fourth, Sixth and Eleventh regiments and known as "The Tigers"—stationed at Fort Warren in the spring of 1861.

There were a number of singers among the troops, and a quartet was formed, of whom one was John Brown, a Scot, who, because of his name being the same as that of the abolitionist, was the butt of many good-natured sallies which he did not always take with good grace.

It was the custom of the quartet to have an hour's singing after a hard day's work.

The story goes that when two of this quartet were returning to the fort—John Brown and the other being seated near the sallyport—the being shouted, "What's the news?" "Frankly came the report, 'Will John Brown's dead.'" Someone answered, having in mind the John Brown then before him, "But he still goes marching round."

This idea tickled the fancy of the regimental wits, and shortly a "John Brown's body" song was being put together to the southern tune, and the "Tigers" were chanting:

"John Brown's body lies a-moldering in the grave, But his soul is marching on."

The first line was repeated three times, and there was a chorus of "Glory, Hallelujah," also repeated three times and followed by "His soul is marching on."

Such was the origin of the song. "The Tigers" left Fort Warren, May 25, when the Twelfth Massachusetts had already been there more than two weeks. The men in the original "John Brown" quartet enlisted in the Twelfth Massachusetts, and carried the song with them.

It soon became the fashion after dress parade for the regiment to strike up the song, and march around the parade ground. This marching suggested the second verse:

"John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back, As we go marching on."

It was a favorite figure of speech with the army chaplains to characterize the troops as "soldiers of the Lord," and from this the "song-makers of the Twelfth" drew an idea for another verse, thus:

"He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord."

Still another verse was suggested by a nickname of the regiment, which was "Webster cattle." This verse was begun with:

"His pet lambs will meet him on the way, As they go marching on."

The Twelfth had an excellent band, which was instrumental in popularizing the new song.

"The air was whistled to the band master, William J. Martland," writes Mr. Beale, "and written down by one of the band, S. O. Perkins, and soon the tune was played on dress parade as accompaniment to the 1,100 voices of the regiment."

A copy of the song was given to the leader of a celebrated local band, Gilmore, and he helped popularize it in Boston.

PROSPECT FOR BUSY WEEK IN CONGRESS

Future Legislation Depends on Action of the House During the Week.

Washington.—A busy week is in prospect for both houses of Congress and it is likely that before the week ends the calendar will be cleared for several of the important matters now pending and the date fixed for the final adjournment. The president has cancelled all out-of-town engagements for the near future and will probably remain in the capital until the session ends.

The situation in the House is the key to the entire tariff tangle in Congress. Upon the action of the House this week rests the possibility of further tariff legislation at this session.

Speaker Clark expressed confidence that a wool bill would be agreed on in conference and that it would be signed by the president. Other House leaders, however, adopted a more pessimistic view of the president's attitude and expect him to veto any wool bill framed by the present Democrat-insurgent Republican coalition in the Senate.

Coalition Threatens General Revision. The coalition of Democrats and insurgent Republicans which bowled over the regular organization and passed a compromise bill for the revision of the woolen tariff by 48 to 32, flushed with victory, is threatening not only to pass the so-called "farmers' free list bill," as it came from the House, but to put through a cotton bill as well. The insurgents want the sugar and steel schedules included in the program.

The Democrats of the House committee on ways and means formally decided to recommend to the House that it ask the Senate for a conference on the wool tariff bill.

Wickersham Evicts House. Following general charges and details between the Wickershams of the government—the Attorney General and the delegate from Alaska—the House committee on judiciary decided that it had no power to do anything but report the evidence to the House.

It reported Delegate Wickersham's resolution calling on the attorney general to furnish all the papers and data bearing on alleged frauds in connection with government coal lands in Alaska. The committee did not recommend that the House investigate Delegate Wickersham's charges that Attorney General Wickersham has shielded and protected Alaska "syndicate criminals."

Entrymen May Take More Land. Congressman Mondell has just secured from Secretary Fisher a very important interpretation of the 330-acre homestead law, making it possible for entrymen who have taken less than the maximum under that law to enter now additional land up to the full amount.

New instructions, embodying the changed interpretation of the law, will be sent to all land offices. Members of Congress have received thousands of complaints from entrymen who desire to take up additional tracts under this law, who have only filed on 160 acres.

National Capital Revivified. The government has decided to appeal the Harriman merger case to the United States supreme court.

Fines of \$500 to \$5000 for each offense for sending intoxicants from one state to another are provided in a bill introduced by Representative Jackson, of Kansas.

Unsatisfactory conditions in the national banks, according to Controller of the Currency Lawrence O. Murray, are due, in nearly every case, to the failure of the directors to direct. In a letter to the national bank examiners, just made public, Murray implored them to be more stringent in their examinations.

Young men ambitious to enter the United States army need not depend upon a nomination to West Point. So great is the demand that the Secretary of War has issued a general call, and any young man with good moral standing, and who can produce letters of reference will now be designated for the competitive examination.

A bill prohibiting the employment in any capacity of persons under 16 years of age by the government or any government contractor and providing that special delivery letter carriers shall not be less than 18 years of age, was introduced by Representative Berger, of Wisconsin, the Socialist member.

The Department of Justice is planning immediate prosecution of all trusts or monopolies which do not dissolve or take other steps to obey the Sherman anti-trust law, as it has been interpreted in the Standard Oil, tobacco and powder trust cases. Attorney-General Wickersham is authority for the statement.