

The Oregonian

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Oregon, as second-class matter.

TELEPHONE: Editorial Rooms... 100 Business Office... 107

REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Daily, per week, delivered, Sunday excepted...

POSTAGE RATES: United States, Canada and Mexico: 10 to 10-page paper...

Foreign rates double. News of discussion intended for publication in The Oregonian should be addressed invariably to "Editor The Oregonian," not to the name of any individual.

For sale in Chicago by the P. O. News Co. 217 Dearborn street. For sale in New Orleans by Ernest & Co., 115 Royal street.

TODAY'S WEATHER-Fair; variable winds, mostly northerly.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, JANUARY 28.

The way to get rid of Mrs. Naton and all her hysterical kid of Kansas is to repeal the prohibition law of the state. That law is a farce and fraud. It is utterly dishonest. Enforcement of it is created by the body of the people, or there would be no liquor saloons.

The "trusted agent" of a Manila firm, who sought out Aguinaldo in some unnamed place at some unspecified time, was "astonished at his knowledge of the history of the United States."

UP TO THE PRUNEGROWER. Prunegrowers of Marion County, and perhaps some other sections of the Willamette Valley, did not, as the sequel has proved, handle the dried prune product in any manner wisely.

The worthiness of a man's ambition for the United States Senate depends upon two things—his motive and his fitness. If he covets it for the honor and the opportunity of usefulness it affords, and if through quality and force of character he is equipped for usefulness in the place, the aspiration is legitimate and praiseworthy.

stator or affairs, his ambition is one that should be rebuked, in the interests of public policy and common honesty. When a man of Mr. Corbett's high character and demonstrated force in affairs is willing to serve a state in the capacity of United States Senator, the opportunity to secure his services should be gladly availed of.

President McKinley's open antagonism to the expedient of cutting down Southern representation in Congress and the Electoral College has been explained as a recognition of his disreputable Southern support in the last two National conventions. It is possible, however, that it rests upon the more statesmanlike basis of a belief that under similar policies a Republican party can be built up in the South, capable of drawing to itself elements of social and commercial strength.

In another column appears a discussion of Government aid for irrigation, by Secretary Hitchcock. It may be offered as an impressive and pertinent exhibit in the changed public opinion which once opposed, but now favors, use of public money for this purpose.

A FEW FACTS ON SUBSIDIES. Mr. Chauncey Depew, who represents interests which have much in common with those of Mr. Grison, Mr. Rockefeller and other impoverished patriots who are endeavoring to sell ships in competition with the rest of the world, has added his tribute to the shipping subsidy bill.

These figures reveal the extraordinary change that has taken place in imports and exports of steel, to and from the United States within twenty years: Imports, Exports. 1880 \$24,000,720 \$14,710,324

of the utmost importance for the subsidy grantees that the \$100,000,000 bill is railroaded through Congress at the earliest possible moment. The obsolete and disgraceful maritime laws of this country are fairly entitled to all of the scolding they received from Senator Vest Wednesday.

THE TRAMP EVIL. The experience of Massachusetts with the tramp evil seems to be conclusive that the uniform exaction of work will do more than anything else to check and finally to destroy this social plague.

The old English method of electing Kings by the popular assembly, or witan, started from a Teutonic custom, and still survives in the constitution. Edward VII has succeeded to the kingship through the same Parliamentary process.

Mr. A. E. Gebhardt, secretary of the Oregon Fish and Game Association, has taken pains to group in one bill all existing game and trout laws, and it has been introduced in the Legislature with the indorsement of sportsmen.

Waiting in a Restaurant. Grand Rapids Press. I gaily ordered coffee and pure of green peas; I was waited fifteen minutes, and have neither coffee nor peas. I had to wait for my coffee. I had to wait for my peas. I had to wait for my coffee.

GOVERNMENT AID FOR IRRIGATION. Secretary Hitchcock, of the Interior Department. One-third of the whole area of the United States, exclusive of Alaska and the outlying possessions, consists of vacant public lands open for entry and settlement under the Homestead Act.

There is a considerable amount of water in this vast area, but it is so situated that artificial means must be provided for conserving the floods and distributing the needed supply. When this system is completed, it will furnish water for thousands or even for millions of homes within a part of the United States now almost uninhabited.

The interest of the public is manifest in the formation of associations in different parts of the country to promote the examination of water and forest resources. Large sums of money have been subscribed, and the parties interested have had the co-operation of various bureaus, notably the hydrographic branch of the Geological Survey.

Progress in the construction of these large works of reclamation has come practically to a standstill, as such works are limited by the small amount of financial resources available for their construction.

Facts Without Comment. The annual pension appropriation bill now before Congress carries \$46,246,280. This is the largest appropriation on record.

It is more than double the expenditure of the Federal Government, for all purposes, in 1881, the first year of the Civil War.

Greatly Loved and Respected. Chicago Tribune. Few sovereigns have commanded so much respect and admiration from the world's large population as the Emperor of the Japanese.

The Emperor of Germany is now a British Field Marshal. Again, "Blood is thicker than water."

LESLIE STEPHEN ON ANTI-ISM.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

Leslie Stephen, president of the Ethical Society, author of a treatise on the science of ethics, and one of the most accomplished of living English writers, gives expression to views in the January number of the Monthly Review which will fill our anti-imperialists with horror and dismay.

Mr. Stephen says he declined to sign the protest because it argued in substance that the action of the English Government before the Boer war had been criminal, a statement which, if admitted to him, "whether true or false, had become an anachronism."

Under a joint resolution of Congress of March 20, 1882, directing the Secretary of the Interior to make an investigation of the water and forest resources of the United States, where agriculture was carried on by means of irrigation, as to the natural advantages for the storage of water for irrigating purposes, etc., a number of reports have been prepared and approved by the department.

Progress in the construction of these large works of reclamation has come practically to a standstill, as such works are limited by the small amount of financial resources available for their construction.

Facts Without Comment. The annual pension appropriation bill now before Congress carries \$46,246,280. This is the largest appropriation on record.

It is more than double the expenditure of the Federal Government, for all purposes, in 1881, the first year of the Civil War.

Waiting in a Restaurant. Grand Rapids Press. I gaily ordered coffee and pure of green peas; I was waited fifteen minutes, and have neither coffee nor peas. I had to wait for my coffee. I had to wait for my peas.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The report that Aguinaldo was dead is confirmed. But he is alive again now.

If the French had given grip a milder name it wouldn't be half so hard to get over.

The Kansas saloon-keepers probably spell Mrs. Naton's name with the prefix d-o-m.

Grafting at Salem is of all sorts. Even the territory of one county is not safe against another.

It is a very insignificant Oregon town that does not have an amended charter before the Legislature.

If John G. Woolley would beat his speeches into brackets, he could accomplish more for his cause.

Editorials of McBride organs at present are bringing out some very interesting aspects of the China question.

King Edward could hardly have been more of his pictures in the papers if he had married an American actress.

The King had better hurry up and appoint a competent press censor before Alfred Austin gets his copy ready.

New dogs the maiden who is wise, Improve the man she loves, And rather than be a truce, Than put on bathing-gloves.

The Oregon Legislature may abolish slot machines. The best way to do it is to kidnap Mrs. Naton and bring her out.

The Ladies Home Journal may now be expected to publish a column of side talks with Queen Victoria by her cook's fourth cousin.

Roosevelt's press agent denies the report that the wolves tread the Colonel. He says it was the wolves that climbed the tree.

That California ballot-box which has been presented to McKinley would be of more use to the party, if it had been held back for four years.

It is well that Congress has passed the anti-canteen measure. The Kansas saloon-wrecker might otherwise try her hand on the National Capitol.

As long as it is only a weather prophet who is going to the north pole, no one is worrying. If there is anything in scriptural adage he will be highly honored there.

Fourteen men who had been exposed to the smallest virus confined in a Rochester saloon. The wise city officials who employ such a pesthouse are spared the expense of guards and locks.

The State of Washington will buy the Courthouse at Olympia for a Capitol. Thurston's cartoonists are outgrowing the structure, but the building is thought to be sufficient for the state's purposes.

He looked about the taking out of slot cigar machines. "Cigars come high," said he, "and I can't buy them on my means." Yet every smoke had kept him broke.

Twins were born on a train which was speeding 40 miles per hour near Spokane last week. They have a good start in life, and if they can keep up the pace through life they ought to attain something.

Homer Davenport's cartoons play havoc with the vanity of the subjects of some of them, but they generally follow the chief rule of the cartoonist's art, which is to stick close to the subject's more prominent features, and make them funny by exaggerating them.

Lord Rosebery, in his book on Napoleon, speaks frequently of the Corsican conqueror's admiration of Richardson's "Clarissa." This reminds the "Academy" of Haillit's quaint remark, printed in a footnote to one of his "Table Talk Essays" in 1821 (a year in which it needed a bold man to admire Napoleon—in print).

During the peace of Amiens, Haillit wrote, a young English officer, of the name of Lovelace, had been thinking of the Boer war instead of the usual question, "Where have you served, sir?" The first Consul immediately addressed him: "I preserve your name, sir, is the sixth day of the month of Richardson's romance?" Here was a Consul. The young man's uncle, who was called Lovelace, told me this anecdote, while we were stopping together at the Hotel de Ville.

Senator Clem, of Linn County, seeks by legislation to abolish the time-honored custom of treating, and has introduced a bill making it an offense against the peace and dignity of the State of Oregon to buy a man a drink in a saloon. The bill will, of course, receive the hearty support of the members of both houses, for not only are all politicians (and the average legislator is something of a politician) rabid prohibitionists, but if there is any one place where treating is abhorred it is in a political campaign.

Senator Clem, of Linn County, seeks by legislation to abolish the time-honored custom of treating, and has introduced a bill making it an offense against the peace and dignity of the State of Oregon to buy a man a drink in a saloon. The bill will, of course, receive the hearty support of the members of both houses, for not only are all politicians (and the average legislator is something of a politician) rabid prohibitionists, but if there is any one place where treating is abhorred it is in a political campaign.

Did it Well.—Chawley Gorkus—I think it's delightful to have nothing to do. I'm busy doing nothing. And you do it well, Charlie.—Ohio State Journal.

A Clear Field.—Towns—'A'uber tells me he's in love with his art. Brown—Is he? Well, he never has any fear of a rival.—Portland Delphic Press.

Lady—Most of your trouble, I suppose, is due to drink? Tramp—Well, lady, it is a good deal of trouble to get a drink sometimes.—Delphic Press.

Too Bad.—My husband has had dyspepsia dreadfully lately. He has been such a sufferer. "I am so sorry to hear that," I had no idea that you were without a cook.—Detroit Free Press.

Sayings of Little People.—Teacher—And how do you know, my dear, that you have been a student? Scholar—Fears. He got the marks on me arm now, mum.—Leslie's Weekly.

In London.—"Yes," said the magazine editor, "we are trying to arrange a military symposium." "Yes," "Yes; we hope to publish articles by several well-known Generals, entitled, 'How I Didn't Catch De Wat.'—Puck.

An Agreeable Form of Patastrophy.—Mrs. Brown—We are going to give a progressive supper for the poor. I love to do something for the poor! Mrs. Jones—So do I. I love to play progressive supper for them.—Brooklyn Life.