

The Oregonian

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TODAY'S WEATHER

Cloudy and threatening, with probably occasional light rain or snow; brisk northerly winds.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6.

Let those persons who turn their thoughts to incineration of the body have their way; but what is the origin or basis of the idea? The thought, it would seem, concerns itself too much with apprehension of what is to become of the materials with which we are associated or the forms we inhabit, after we are done with them.

Civilization, as Dr. McLean seems not to know, has grown up sporadically in widely scattered centers. The complex society now familiar in Europe and America, largely built up through interchange of racial and national ideas, was practically unknown in the ancient world.

The Legislature is urged to enact another cigarette bill in the moral and physical interest of the boys of the state. While cigarette smoking is pernicious in its influence and deplorably in its effects, retarding physical growth and development, clouding the mental faculties and blunting the moral perceptions, there is no reason to suppose that it can be banished by legislation.

When the United States interfered to expel the Spanish Government from Cuba, a coterie of Senators, actuated by partisan demagoguery or interest in Cuban bonds, forced into the declaration of war a recognition of the Cuban Government and of the Cuban people as a nation.

consequences of that act were foreseen at the time, and are now becoming imminent. Senators Frye and Gallinger point out the difficulties that are crowding about us. Chief among them are the Cuban constitution and Cuba's bonded debt. Suppose that free and independent Cuba undertakes to repudiate its bonded debt of \$300,000,000 to the European creditors.

The Democratic answer to the currency reform bills is a most interesting contribution to our political history. It fairly bristles with suggestive surprises. For example: It is impossible for silver dollars to go to a discount as long as they are limited in number as now provided by law.

MR. TONGUE AND HIS TEMPER. The Oregonian never has felt personal unkindness toward Hon. Thomas H. Tongue, and has often borne testimony to his efficiency in Congress. He is, indeed, the object of its unqualified admiration, because it has always known that he is a vacillating or trimming politician, whose primary desire is attainment of votes.

Washington, Feb. 1.—The Senatorial box is busy tonight in Representative Tongue's home. He is, it is said, preparing to be a candidate for the Senate, but has been most restlessly awaiting developments. He says that he is not at all sure whether he will be elected, but that some dark horse will be chosen. He hopes the lightning may strike in his direction, and has so stated to several friends in the House.

It seems that the McBride people at Salem, noting the dispatch in the Oregonian from Washington, had telegraphed it back to Mr. Tongue; and this was the cause of his ill-natured dispatch. They now print in their local campaign organ at Salem a copy, or the substance, of Tongue's dispatch to the Oregonian, and comment on the matter, and spur him on to accept the nomination. It is stated that Mr. Tongue would like to be elected to the Senate; that he is eagerly on the lookout for indications favorable to himself, or of which he might take advantage; that he holds the opinions and desires that our correspondent attributes to him, and that he has stated them to members of the House from whom the correspondent received them.

BAD, BUT THE WORST IS OVER.

What is wrong in the Philippines, and what can be done to correct it? This is what everybody would like to know, unless perhaps we except the ants, whose occupation would be gone, once peace and order prevailed there. The first of May will soon be coming on, and that will be three years since Dewey sailed into Manila Bay and landed us up with an uncomfortable responsibility.

Let us begin with the negative process of exclusion. Nothing can be done in the Philippines that contemplates withdrawal of American authority, or mitigation of unrestricted allegiance to American sovereignty. Nothing can be done that treats insurrection otherwise than as rebellion, or puts governmental responsibility into hands unfitted for its exercise.

It is evident, also, that while General MacArthur accounts himself in general as to the result of the election, the result does not impair the correctness of the hypothesis from which his expectation was derived as a corollary. That is, the basis of Tagal persistence has been hope of co-operation and recognition from the United States. As that hope has risen, hostilities increased; as it failed, they declined. The lingering activity in accounted for by a lingering hope, revealed in the recent printed a few days ago from the Philippines sources.

"COMMON HONESTY." Elsewhere appears a rejoinder of Dr. Robert McLean on the subject of evolution. The question at issue we shall not discuss, except to say that citations of scientific authorities in support of evolution can be adduced two to every one against evolution, because the latter subordinates the question of evolution to personal reflections, which demand personal treatment.

There is a bill in the Legislature that proposes to take one of the park blocks in the City of Portland for a building for a public library and similar uses. It is objected to this suggestion that it may be merely a beginning for diversion of all the park blocks from park purposes to other uses, and may be absorbed, one by one. There may be a question as to the legality, too, and if the blocks should be disposed of so, whether heirs might not reclaim them.

The Philippine situation is not good from our standpoint, and is not satisfactory to us, as good as the Spaniards had it for 300 years. We shall not be content with this, however. We shall make it better, by the double method of force—arms and persuasion.

OREGON'S EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

During the past two years I have carefully studied the public school system of Oregon, both past and present; conversed with many who were interested in furthering any movement tending to the betterment of the schools, and from what I have observed and learned, I am convinced that the school system of Oregon, both past and present, is in a flourishing condition. In making this statement, I do not wish to be understood that they are at the limit of their efficiency, for they are not, but I do mean that there are forces at work, which have greatly increased their efficiency, and will continue to do so.

The Legislature of Montana appears to be making tremendous efforts to meet the demands of labor unions of the state, or, more specifically, perhaps, miners' unions, which have their stronghold in Butte. Conspicuous among these is the enactment of an eight-hour labor law. The advocates of this measure seemed to have plain sailing at first, although there was not lacking those who denounced it as class legislation.

Senator Daly, in his letter printed today, touches a point upon which there is room for practical improvement when he says there should be a better balance of manual and mental training in the public schools. The state makes a mistake when it permits the public school system to become top-heavy with Latin and higher mathematics, while neglecting many of the more homely branches of learning.

The Duke of Cornwall and York, her apparent British throne, has no doubt chafed under the attack of German measles that held him captive at Osborne during the splendid pageantry of the Queen's funeral. Being of delicate constitution, this enforced retirement was no doubt fortunate for him, since the fatigues of the funeral obsequies, covering a period of four days, in which biting winds, chilling fogs and cold, drizzling rain alternated with a feverish sun.

Desperate Tactics. Senator Frye, who is Senator Hanna's chief supporter in the advocacy of the ship subsidy bill, made this declaration yesterday regarding that measure. I desire to say now that I do not intend to yield to anybody for anything during the consideration of this bill. I do not intend to yield to an appropriation bill unless by a vote of the Senate, I am compelled to do so.

There is a sufficiently candid expression of the purposes of the subsidy advocates. Legislation is pending that is imperatively needed, and the subsidy bill is not only a necessary measure, but one of the most important of the year. It is a bill that will be a particularly strong and capable officer. JOHN D. DALY. Senate Chamber, Salem, Feb. 5.

Rudyard Kipling has at last caught the dramatization fever, and a play made from one of his own books is announced for production in London in the early Spring. It is characteristic of Kipling that he has not entrusted this work to other hands, but will do it himself. It is also characteristic of him that he has selected a dramatizable story he has ever written, the Jungle books. The production of the play, in which the interest is almost entirely animal, will be looked forward to with much curiosity. It may be easy for Kipling to represent Mowgli upon the stage, but what he will do with the other characters of the Jungle is another matter. In some of their characteristics, it remains to be seen. But if any one can stage them Kipling can.

MARYLAND AND THE NEGROES.

Philadelphia Public Ledger. It is reported that the leading Democratic politicians of Maryland favor the calling by the Governor of an extra session of the Legislature to abridge negro franchise. One of the foremost advocates of the proposition is Colonel L. Victor Baughman, who is ex-Senator Gorman's proxy at the meetings of the Democratic National committee.

The whole subject of the abridgement of voting in the various states was thoroughly thrashed out in the House of Representatives, but nothing came of it. An act of Congress, in providing for the new apportionment, made no deductions in representation from any state. The course of Congress in this respect is to be had in mind, for the Maryland Legislature there are Democrats and Republicans, the Democrats controlling both the Senate and the House of Delegates.

THE AUTHOR TO THE EDITOR. From Life. (A printed circular to be sent on the return of a manuscript.) The author regrets the editor's inability to accept a story of the chess and trawler, or rejection of a manuscript, however, does not necessarily imply that the editor is lacking in merit, merely that he is in judgment.

THE SHIP SUBSIDY SCHEME. Boston Herald. Those men who are forcing this scheme upon the Republican party are giving that party a heavy burden to carry. The earnestness with which the bill is backed in the House is a proof of its objectionable character. We remember no piece of legislation for years that has been so indignantly condemned by its opponents as this measure. It is a bill that will be a particularly strong and capable officer. JOHN D. DALY. Senate Chamber, Salem, Feb. 5.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHS. They Will Do It.—The young gentleman is seen in the drawing-room waiting for you. "Very well, Elsie, do tell him I will be down right away. And come back in about half an hour and fix my hair." "Liz, tell my father and mother where you very fond of each other. She—Yes, I have often heard mamma say she was more than half sorry they were given to each other."

THE STANDSTILL ONE. Chicago Times-Herald. The world may laugh to see me fall, But I shall rise again, and I shall fall. The world may deem me weak or small, But mother won't! The crowd may say 'if I, some day, succeed in winning, that I won through luck or in some shameful way, That all but fools and knaves would shun, But mother won't!

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

No. Evangeline, the law protecting the game in Oregon does not apply to furs. The Commoner ought to get a full-page "ad" out of the ice tract next Summer. The Chicago Inter-Ocean wants to know if the West is becoming depopulated.

Winston Churchill says that South Africa is the land of lies. He ought to go to Shanghai for a while. The fact that William C. Whitney has just paid \$30,000 for a horse is a direct insult to the automobile.

Some one has said that Alfred Austin's ode on the Queen is like "Paradise Lost." It certainly is suggestive of despair. Charles Ross has turned up again, but as Pat Crowe has not yet been expunged his career will probably be brief.

Cuba, it appears, has been running heavily in debt. She wants to play Count De Castellano to Uncle Sam's George Gould. The insane hospitals of New York State, public and private, contain more than 23,000 patients; that is, about one to every 300 men, women and children residing in the state.

The Daughters of the American Revolution are going to meet in Washington this month, and the papers are beginning to withdraw their war correspondents from Kansas. The struggle of humanity in the last millennium was to get civilized. This millennium it is struggling to make of itself ladies and gentlemen.

Twenty years ago an investigation of ruffianism at West Point was made by Congress, and Mr. McKinley signed a report recommending that the academy be abolished if the officials could not eradicate hazing. The present officials have shown their inability or unwillingness to suppress the evil, and it is not unlikely that President McKinley may decide this time to abolish them, instead of the academy.—Philadelphia North American.

Some years ago, the late General John Gibbon, U. S. A., in his address at West Point, told of a fight he had when in the fourth class. His adversary broke his fist on General Gibbon's nose, which was likewise broken, whereupon the fight was declared off. General Gibbon thought, and correctly, that the victory was his, because, although his proboscis was damaged, he was ready for another round, whereas his antagonist was hors du combat.

There is one importation from Russia that is giving trouble wherever it takes root—the rapidly spreading thistle. In the Northwest this experience is reported: Trainmen and passengers on South Dakota trains on the way to Pierre, the state capital, report the rare experience of bucking great piles or drifts of Russian thistles. The thistles collect in the cuts and form an interwoven mass, which stop the trains and interfere sadly with passenger service. Probably the engines would be able to force their way through the drifts if it were not for the fact that the smooth (rough fiber and oily seeds of the Russian thistle make the rails so slippery that the wheels of the locomotive go round in vain, and, after a liberal application of sand has been used at times the only way for the train to get through is for the crew to go ahead and clear the track of the bothersome weeds.

The liquor men preyed like the wolf on the fold. With their pockets all flinging with silver and gold. And the ships of the sparks on their shirt studs and rings. Like the Jewels that gleam from the headgear of a knight. Like a dog that has never been whipped in a fight. They strutted around in their glory at night, And their faces were lit with a gleam of delight. They looked to the people the following day, For Mrs. Nation came down with her ax, And cleaned them all out with her withering whacks.

And there lay the glassware all broken to smash. When the back-bar came down with a thundering crash. And there flowed the liquor in streams on the street. Like the blood in the vats 'round the Roman slave's feet. And the kegs were all empty, the bottles all broke. And the liquor men looked, and they saw not the joke. The barkeeper's union is lost in its howl, And the snail's pace is dark with a lowering bowl. And the great liquor traffic, unsmote by the law, Says "Nation—damnation," and says it with awe.

How should I choose to walk the world with? How often beloved? When green grass is stirred By Summer breezes, and each leafy tree, In season the nest of many a singing bird, In time of roses, when the earth doth lie, Dressed in a garment of immortal hue, I should choose to walk the world with you. Lulled by a soft wind's wifery? Or should I choose To walk with thee alone a wintry road, Through flowerless fields, thick-down with frosty rime, Beside an ice-bound stream, whose waters flow? In voiceless music all the Summer time? In Winter dreariness, or Summer gloom, How should I choose to walk the world with you? The time of roses be the time of love, Ah, my dear heart! But winter fires are bright, And the back of sunshine from above, And we tend carefully love's sacred light. We tread among the roses both so sweet, But the winter's path is far more real; For he that clings in pressure close and true, There is more need of love's supporting arm and love's aliphany pathway, in its frost; Against life's cold, when Summer flowers are lost. Let us share thy life's glad Summer glow, But let me walk beside thee in its snow. —Anonymous.

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