

The Oregonian.

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TODAY'S WEATHER—Cloudy and threatening, with probably occasional showers; winds mostly southerly.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25.

Now at length, we may suppose, it begins to dawn on the minds of the three or four men who supposed last Spring they were "the party" in Multnomah, that some errors were committed—though entreaty, remonstrance, expostulation and argument were then alike unheeded.

The great trusts of the country, which have the favor and support of the so-called protective tariff, may well fear the effect or result of an appeal to public opinion on their system and its methods. Their argument for continuance of "protection" is based on its alleged benefit to the workers of the country.

The Oregon law must be regarded, on the whole, as a mere beginning, which will give us sufficient experience for perfecting a system of land registry adequate to supersede in time the cumbersome, expensive and uncertain procedure now in vogue.

THE OUTLOOK FOR SPAIN.

The present King of Spain, who will be 15 years of age in May next, is so feeble that if he lives to be a reigning monarch, he will probably not long survive his accession.

Since the war with the United States Spain's domestic affairs have not improved. The loss of Cuba and Porto Rico was a severe industrial blow to the artisans, merchants and mill operators.

Hon. George C. Brownell, Senator from Clackamas, is great on "eloquent tributes" to distinguished men. In putting Mr. Mitchell in nomination on Saturday night, he said: "Mr. Mitchell is ripe in genius, intellect and integrity."

The army believes that Cuba would not have been lost if Weyler had been kept in command and allowed to defend the island against the United States.

Twenty-seven years ago, in February, 1874, a temperance crusade began at Hillsboro, O., a small town of 65 miles from Cincinnati.

Incomparable candidate for the United States Senate; I present him in the name of a state proud of her illustrious son; I present him as her noblest specimen and product of Anglo-Saxon citizenship.

OREGON'S TORRENS LAW.

Among the acts of the Oregon Legislature little noticed, but of great political moment, is the act establishing the Torrens system of land registration.

This Oregon act, unless such accounts of it as have been given to the press are erroneous, is apt to meet with obstacles in its enforcement. It is customary to provide a considerable force of officials to do the work now done by the abstract companies.

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Woodhull is now Lady Martin, a very wealthy widow, for her husband will be all his property, and Tennessee Claflin is Lady Cook.

It looks as if China were bent upon her own destruction. Under the practically insane rule of the Empress Dowager that nation is dallying with fate in a way that makes the world shiver in view of the awful consequences.

DIRECT PRIMARIES BETRAYED.

The direct primary law passed by the Legislature is a fraud on its face. The plain in the Citizens platform was merely to get in on. The reason for this betrayal of a popular reform is, of course, that the outs who got in next time to be the ins.

According to the estimates of General Greely, in command of the Army Signal Corps, at least 25,000 miles of new cable were laid during the past year. Great Britain, among other stupendous matters that occupied her time and heavily taxed her resources, laid the most of it, including a line from England, via the Spanish Coast and St. Helena, to the Cape of Good Hope.

The Servians, though a fierce people, are also childish. Utterly, and for good cause, detesting King Milan, they heard of his death without regret, but upon the neglect of his son, King Alexander, to shed tears over the demise of his worthless, disreputable parent, the populace of Belgrade caused for death, and, perhaps, the breaking up of the King howled furiously around his palace on the evening of the deserted ex-monarch's funeral.

AMERICA HAS ORDERED ENGLAND TO REPLY BY MARCH 4.

There are those who seem to think that clouds and darkness are round about the political future of Joseph Simon. But there is many a turn, many a result, which, if not victory, is yet revenge.

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AMERICAN STATESMANSHIP.

The following dialogue is not an abstract from a farce played at some vaudeville theater, but is a verbatim record in a Delaware, Nebraska, Montana and Oregon—which met early in January, are still balloting fruitlessly, day after day, in the attempt to elect United States Senators.

Mr. Tillman—I beg the chair's pardon. I am a little off today. The Presiding Officer—Pardon is extended to the Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. Tillman—Mr. President—The Presiding Officer—Does the Senator from Tennessee yield to the Senator from South Carolina?

Mr. Chandler—Mr. President—The Presiding Officer—Does the Senator from Tennessee yield to the Senator from New Hampshire?

Mr. Chandler—I do not remember who made that charge. I understand really the evidence of all the facts which the Senator from Tennessee is now stating, is and about to state is contained in some public document, published by somebody, handed to the Senator from South Carolina by him last week.

Mr. Jones of Arkansas—I think that is a good deal like most of the information of the Senator from New Hampshire.

Mr. Turley—Yes, sir; I yield that. The Senator from Tennessee—The Senator from Tennessee, I believe, yields to me.

Mr. Chandler—Mr. President, during the long and pleasant service on the naval and military staffs with the Senator from New Hampshire, I think that he himself will bear me out in saying he has never yet caught me in any such finally, wholly, log-rolling, log-rolling.

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DEADLOCKS OVER SENATORSHIPS.

It is now well toward the end of February, and yet no fewer than four Legislatures—in Delaware, Nebraska, Montana and Oregon—which met early in January, are still balloting fruitlessly, day after day, in the attempt to elect United States Senators.

Both the state and the Nation suffer from this tendency to deadlocks. The former the better type of man is likely to be secured through the nomination of a candidate by the state convention of the party which should carry the election.

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

Mr. Clossery is again thinking how "chieft" would sound before his name. The Nicaragua canal will be dug as soon as J. Pierpont Morgan has time to buy it.

While they were offering Judge Calkins the crown, Hon. P. L. Willis said in and carried it away. This is the Chinese New Year, but the Empire hasn't yet made any resolutions worth mentioning.

When the town is open. The graters all will sing. "Isn't it a perfect snap This triumph of the ring?" Lieutenant Drum, the latest hero of the Philippine war, is not, as might be expected, a tattooed man.

A Spanish battleship broke down while going to Victoria's funeral. And yet there are those who say the battle of Santiago was a big fight. The most lamentable thing about the adjourned Oregon Legislature is that no notice was taken of the death of King Milan of Serbia.

In the light of scientific discovery, adjournment of the Legislature without a bounty on mosquito scalps was nothing short of criminal. These are indeed perilous times. The Legislature has scarcely adjourned when the news comes that an extra session of Congress will be held.

A class at West Point has graduated. Since hazing is abolished, this is the last output of soldiers and gentlemen the academy will produce. As Judge Thomas O'Day says he has but one candidate for Senator, and that is himself, he evidently viewed the returns with distinct disappointment.

Kruger is reported sick unto death. Eternity's peace commissioners may be the only ones he will meet, and the Hague is as good a place as any to prepare for them. A man wants \$10,000 from the Southern Pacific for election from a train. But a man whose honor is so cheap as that deserves to be put off a train on general principles.

It is said fewer students are in hidebound Presbyterian seminaries than in those of liberal teaching. We are coming to learn that a creed must be fashioned to fit a religious idea, not necessarily a religious truth, and that a dogma must change its style to the inconstant mode of vacillating zeal. Evidently we have not yet arrived at truth, for truth is supposed to be constant and everlasting.

CUBA'S REAL FRIENDS. Obligations From Which the United States Cannot Escape. Chicago Inter-Ocean. There are two parties in Congress on the Cuban question—a noisy minority, made up of those who take a common-sense view of the situation. The members of the minority, who are the greater part of the talking, hold that in its relations to us of an independent sovereign nation Cuba must have the right to frame and adopt a constitution acceptable to its own people, even whose decision the United States has not, and never can have, the power of veto.

PLEASANTHIES OF PARAGRAPHS. Different—"What a hideous hat Hilda has on!" "Why, that's the latest style." "Oh, isn't it sweet?"—Philadelphia Evening Bulletin. He—What did your mother say about our engagement? She—Oh, she said it is all right so long as there is nothing serious.—Harper's Bazar.

High Art in Antiques—"Oh, Mabel, where do you get such a lovely, beading pattern for your jacket?" "I copied it from my brass bedstead."—Detroit Free Press. Her Dress—Dr. Howls—"But surely, your neck's fast being loose, causing people to look with growing favor upon the proposition to amend the Constitution to this end."

Time Files. Richard Le Gallienne. On drives the road—another mile! and still Time's horse gallop goes the leavening hill. Oh, why such haste, why such nobbling at the end? Fain are we all, grim driver, to descend And stretch with lingering feet the little way That yet is ours—O stop thy horses, pray!

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