

The Oregonian

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TODAY'S WEATHER: Occasional showers; cooler; southerly winds.

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, FEB. 28.

The seclusion of a private dining stall, especially in a restaurant where liquors are served with meals, is an effective promoter of immorality, and therefore the hope of the Law Enforcement League to keep girls out of such places when accompanied by men is in the right direction.

Amid all the blackness of a great city, nothing is so unmitigatedly devilish as the seduction of young girls, which, unless restrained, becomes a great evil.

It is a great pity that the police force, our numerous letters from "mothers" have served to bring out the fact, often overlooked, that while the average run of young persons are what they are made in the home, there are unexplained incorrigibles for whom every resource of affection and discipline is exhausted in vain.

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ways, ways have been found to reach these sources of money-making through taxes on franchises, earnings, etc. This should be done in Oregon. Our expenses are increasing in every way, and in many ways that are natural and proper; but our revenues are increased only by clapping heavier burdens on stocks of goods and real estate. This is not the way to reach the end. It will increase the burden on the beneficiaries of the injustice. Portland's street railways, for example, would profit in the long run if pressure on real estate should be lightened so as to duplicate the suburban boom we had here a few years ago. Their receipts would be doubled, because thousands would ride who are now huddled in the metropolitan district. Unequal burdens upon one class eventually press down upon all.

Who has got the money that ought to go to Indian War Veterans? Well, the people who have it and who are enjoying their ill-gotten gains, at the expense of these old heroes are no other than the fraudulent pensioners who already encumber the rolls by thousands.

The only defense in Congress against the Indian War Veterans is the bill which the door to other bills and swamp an already overloaded pension budget. Some of these bills that are feared are doubtless meritorious, but it is well understood that if they are passed, our liberal rulings will let in a horde of unworthy claimants. If the pensions paid survivors of the Civil War had been kept within just and honest limits, we should not now be obliged to turn away from the Treasury these white-haired veterans of a long and arduous struggle.

Next to the world's fair, the celebration of the centennial of the Louisiana purchase will signalize an event of the greatest importance to the United States. This purchase stands definitely for expansion—the means by which the Nation has extended its borders from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean and out beyond to the islands of the sea; and the growth of the nation into thirteen original colonies which fought back the encroachments of George III, a wide domain—an empire the vastness of which a hundred years ago was unguessed. To celebrate the centennial of this acquisition a \$10,000,000 exhibition will be held in 1903 in St. Louis as the representative and largest city within the boundaries of the Louisiana purchase. To insure the funds necessary for the success of the exhibit, Congress at first pledged \$5,000,000 in St. Louis would raise the smaller sum. Upon the assurance of the Secretary of the Treasury that this stipulation was met and that the money was already available in the coin of the realm, the additional \$5,000,000 was voted from the Federal Treasury without conditions or restrictions. It is thus that the Louisiana Purchase centennial fund is on hand two years before the celebration, in its completeness, will be due.

It has been cited in this connection that no single official act of Thomas Jefferson, except his signing of the Declaration of Independence, is more significant or of greater or more far-reaching importance, literally as well as in a more subtle sense, than his negotiation of the Louisiana purchase. At that time the Mississippi River was the western boundary of the United States. Population was sparse and beset by the perils of savage warfare in the Eastern valley of the great river; in the western valley it was confined to a few adventurous explorers, hunters and trappers. A century and the Louisiana purchase have transferred the center of the country's population to within a few miles of what was then its extreme frontier. A century and three-quarters of occupancy had been necessary to plant 5,000,000 people in the New World; another century has sufficed to add 70,000,000. Without the Louisiana purchase this wide expansion and vast increase in population would have been impossible. Experience has shown that lawless and barbarous executions do not act as a deterrent to crime. On the contrary, there is conclusive evidence on every hand that brutality begets brutality and increases lawlessness. The life of Ward was justly forfeit to society, and the execution of the extreme penalty by dignified and stern process of law was demanded. Falling to insist upon and secure the orderly condemnation and execution of this criminal, the commonwealth of Indiana has suffered disgrace and its civilization repudiated.

The wreck of the steamship Rio de Janeiro was located without difficulty. The bodies of those who went down with the vessel in the darkness and the fog are still imprisoned in her cabins and staterooms. The owners of the vessel will use every endeavor to release the dead and raise the ship, though there is little promise that this purpose will be accomplished. Kindly, even affectionately, remembered on the Pacific Coast is the "raid" of the volunteers, "Captain Ward's" raid is mentioned as that of a brave and generous man, in whose just estimation a sick man was a sick man, whether an officer in the Army or a private in the ranks, and was treated accordingly.

The Oregonian would call a hidebound Democrat one who would vote for the mischief and folly of free silver just because and only because Mr. Bryan put it into the platform. It would call a hidebound Republican one who would vote for the ship subsidy bill and extreme "protection" measures merely because Boss Hanna ordered it.

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Meanwhile the Russian financial world has notably improved its status. Discounts at the Imperial Bank were 151 million rubles in 1899 and 221 1/2 million rubles in 1900; Russian securities have been floated freely everywhere; uncounted millions of foreign capital have floated freely into the empire for development work; large credits have been opened for Russian banks in European and American banks; importers' balances, once promptly collected, are suffered to remain on deposit in St. Petersburg for long periods at prevailing rates of interest, and foreign exchange, once fluctuating from rumors and local conditions, now holds strictly to gold values, and is expressed in rubles instead of marks, francs or "sterling."

Nothing in all this interesting story is so startlingly suggestive of the power and resources behind this reform as the gold backing for notes and the measures recently taken for warding off trouble. The aggregate of all notes that can be issued is fixed at 600 million rubles, against which sum 300 million rubles in gold must be held by the Imperial Bank; while every issue in excess of the 600 million must be covered by gold and silver. This basis is extensive and costly, but it shows determination to maintain the parity at all hazards; and doubtless the loss through unemployed gold will not in the end compare with that sustained in the United States through the greenback and silver crazes. Last Fall there was in Russia the menace of a financial crisis, and the inflationist party were for hurrying out the Treasury's holdings into circulation. Instead of that the government empowered the Imperial Bank to issue gold bonds in the amount of 100 million rubles, up to 50 and 75 per cent, respectively, of their market value; discounts were accepted for six months instead of three; interest on deposits was stopped, so as to force money into circulation. The trouble was averted, the treasury's holdings remained intact, and the currency secure. Operations of this firm and beneficent character would be impossible in the United States. Nothing in this world is free. Popular government has its price.

It is a matter of regret that the bill looking to the completion of the fund for the erection of a monument to the dead of the Second Oregon failed to pass. A rider, in the shape of an amendment including the dead of the Civil, Mexican and Indian Wars within the state in the memorial, was placed upon the Senate bill by the House, which proved too heavy for the measure. It was held by the Senate, when called to consider the amendment, that since the appropriation was merely supplementary to the popular subscription fund already on hand for the erection of the monument to the soldiers of the Second Oregon, it would not be proper to divert this from its original purpose by making the monument a joint memorial to the dead of other wars. It is probable that with more time to devote to the legislative business of the session and less given to wrangling on the Senatorial question, an adjustment of the matter would have been possible. Experience has shown that lawless and barbarous executions do not act as a deterrent to crime. On the contrary, there is conclusive evidence on every hand that brutality begets brutality and increases lawlessness. The life of Ward was justly forfeit to society, and the execution of the extreme penalty by dignified and stern process of law was demanded. Falling to insist upon and secure the orderly condemnation and execution of this criminal, the commonwealth of Indiana has suffered disgrace and its civilization repudiated.

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Senator John H. Mitchell has been elected United States Senator for Oregon. He is a man of long experience in National affairs, an able and energetic legislator, and a man of high character. He has been elected to the state's representation in the United States Senate, and will take office on March 4, 1901. He is a native of New York, and has spent much of his life in that state. He has been a member of the New York State Legislature, and has served in the United States Army. He is a man of high character, and has been a member of the New York State Legislature, and has served in the United States Army. He is a man of high character, and has been a member of the New York State Legislature, and has served in the United States Army.

The party has saved the state's representation in the Senate, has given to the state her full representation there, has sent to the Senate the man who is recognized to be the best and most successful worker for Oregon ever in the Senate. The state is on the eve of a wonderful development. She needs a full and complete representation in the United States Senate. There is only a very remote probability that any other public business will demand the presence in Washington of both houses of Congress after March 4.

The adoption of the Spooner amendment allows a foreigner to become a citizen of the United States. The President will then have no occasion during the year to ask Congress for further powers of control in the Philippines. The Cuban constitution is finished, and an official copy will be received by the President in a few days. He may already have come to his hand. But what has Congress to do with that? The President cannot submit the constitution of a foreign country to the Congress of this country. In General Hanna's speech to the constitutional convention, however, he instructed the delegates that it would be their duty "first to frame and adopt a constitution for Cuba, and when that had been done to formulate what, in your opinion, would be the relations between Cuba and the United States."

Congress will have something to say about that. But there will be months of executive negotiation and pondering of the question before it will be in form to be presented to the President. Certainly the interval from March to December would be none too great for a due preparation of the Congressional mind. A discussion of Cuban relations in Congress at the present time would be worse than a discussion of the relations between Cuba and the United States. It would reveal only ignorance and partisan declaration. From the opponents of the Administration there would come speeches that might do as much harm in Cuba as the speeches of Mr. Hearst have done in the Philippines. However, it is probable that we should very likely hear excited protests against hauling down the flag where it has once been hoisted, with here and there a plea for annexation outright.

The President and his advisers are in a position to know whether that sort of thing would help them in Cuba. In fact, it would vastly muddle the situation and engender ill-feeling and distrust among the Cubans. It would also tend to furnish a solution of the problem of our relations with Cuba. Congressional discussion now would almost certainly postpone a settlement that the Executive unaided might easily prepare for submission to the President. It would be a very wise act for Congress to confer upon the Executive specific authority for that purpose.

Sound Advice to Mr. Morgan. Chicago Tribune. Mr. J. P. Morgan and the other promoters of the United States Steel Company, which is being organized with a stock and bond capitalization of \$1,000,000,000, may as well be warned that its situation in the United States is not so favorable as they would have us believe. The public must derive benefits from the great corporation, or not all the efforts of the multi-millionaires who are behind it can insure it a lasting life. To live in the United States, it must have the advantage to extend the market for its products in foreign countries and to maintain low prices to domestic consumers.

The adoption of this course will be, in part, a new departure. It has never been the indefensible policy of the great steel manufacturers to sell more cheaply to foreigners than to Americans, though the latter are their best customers. These manufacturers have felt that they could not do this without incurring the wrath of their own government. They have sheltered them from the possibility of competition in the home market. Having the power to discriminate against their own countrymen, they have exercised it without the slightest hesitation.

It has been much complained of this practice. It has become more vehement as the size of the corporations which have been the chief offenders has increased. It is proposed now to call into being a steel and iron trust, which will control all of these industries in this country. Men who have seen dangers in the establishment of a corporation with a capitalization of \$100,000,000 or \$200,000,000, will believe that a corporation with a capitalization of more than \$1,000,000,000, which checked control of a great industry, must not be put up with, especially if it shall make use of that control to sell cheap to foreigners and dear to Americans. The only justification for the existence of such a corporation will be a low price to the people of its products, in which Americans as well as foreigners shall participate.

Whatever may be the policy of the United States Steel Company, it is certain that it will not need the protective duties of the tariff. It is admitted that the American manufacturers of these products can undersell the world now and can do so indefinitely.

But there are tariff-mongers who say their duties should not be touched. They pretend to be disturbed about the so-called "small producers." This solicitude for the welfare of these "small producers" would be wasted if genuine. It is not the "small producers" who are the danger to the smaller manufacturers who have little chance in competition with this colossal which is soon to bestride the country. The United States Steel Company, with its capitalization of \$1,000,000,000, will be a work of domestic competitors when it pleases, and will be able to take care of itself in contests with foreign rivals if on iron and steel and their products are put on the free list.

Consequently, the first thing Congress should do is to make almost a clean sweep of the duties set forth in the iron and steel schedule. The duties on a few articles may be permitted to remain for the present, but the bulk of them should go. They are no longer needed. They tend to be beneficial and have become harmful.

Must Give It Up. Philadelphia Record. Within the country there is without people have grown weary of a jealous system of tariff exaction. The pretence that American export trade in manufactures owes its expansion to this system is being exposed by the evidence that it has taken new wings during the brief existence of the much slandered Wilson tariff. Nothing is more clear than that the Republican party can remain no longer united as the champion of a policy which not only fosters industrial monopoly at home, but invites warfare upon American commerce abroad.

Quite the Usual Way. Washington Times. It seems to be settled that Mr. Hanna is to occupy with Mr. McKinley the state carriage in the inaugural procession. Why such an obviously proper and even necessary arrangement should occasion surprise in any quarter is something that we cannot understand.

It is not always been the rule for the retiring and incoming Presidents to ride together?

NOTE AND COMMENT. Spain has no more colonies to oppress, so she is fighting with herself.

The mountain lions will not miss Teddy, and he missed very few of them.

We can't play in Cuba's yard unless some big boy is fighting with Cuba.

The frost which causes the annual destruction of the peach crop is about due in Delaware.

A London nobleman has recently married a chorus girl, thus founding a very ancient family.

"Give me Democracy," says Croker. Why should he ask for what is already his, body and soul.

It is too bad to abolish the pneumatic tube service, when the Senate has expended enough wind on it to run it for 10 years.

When two Chinese officials lose their heads in one day, it is very evident that the Oriental nature is exceedingly excitable.

Bryan needs hard times to furnish him with campaign material, and, judging by his paper, he is tolerably sure of having a few before very long.

The Iowa editor who interviewed Pat Crowe will learn something of his advantage by communicating with W. R. Hearst. Creelman's imagination is likely to wear out some day.

Thomas R. Reed is quoted as saying that a great deal of eloquence is wasted in Congress. He might add that such was the fate of all of that article expended on him while he was speaker.

A student in the Maryland Medical College was the other day deprived of his matriculation because he was guilty of being a freshman; the fact that he was 32 years old and the father of a family not having any weight in his favor. He promptly had warrants sworn out against the bawlers, and the court as promptly fined 25 the one who had rendered the offending matriculation. In pronouncing the fine the Justice remarked that the bawler had missed his vocation and ought to have been a barber. The student body is now chuck full of resentment against the bawler man for taking legal action and against the Justice for making impolite remarks. The former is to be ostracized by not only the upper class, but his own class as well, and as for the Justice, commendatory resolutions are to be drawn up against him.

Here is a story they are telling in Europe about the German Emperor: The Kaiser, at a recent review in Berlin, reprimanded old General von Meerschmidt for losing his mind at a critical moment. "If Your Majesty thinks that I am getting too old, I beg of you to allow me to resign." "No, no," replied the Kaiser, "you are too young to resign. Indeed, if your blood did course through your