

The Oregonian

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YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 72; minimum, 54; wind, S.W. breeze.

TODAY'S WEATHER—Generally fair; winds mostly northerly.

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, JULY 13.

OUR IMPENDING HUNGER.

Lapse of time will undoubtedly bring the United States to a condition where it can no longer supply its population with foodstuffs grown on its own soil.

Either we shall be reduced to the importation of foodstuffs from Europe, or else we shall have to learn, through applied chemistry or other means, to produce our foodstuffs on our own soil.

It is the opinion of those who have already entered upon the beginning of the end of our foodstuff exportation, and approaching the time when consumption will even outrun the home supply.

It is to say, our population is growing faster than the land can produce, while the relief afforded by new regions brought under cultivation is rapidly narrowing.

One naturally turns to the hope of subjugation of new land. The census of 1890 designated 45.6 per cent of our total farm area as "improved."

deficiency of something like 50,000,000 acres in the area required to feed 130,000,000 of people.

The bearing of these conclusions upon several momentous problems is interesting. When our farmers can sell all their grain at home, Siberian imports will have no terror for us, and the enormous export with which Mr. J. Hill proposes to feed Asia will have to be replaced by manufactured goods.

A hint may also be supplied for the theory of your Uncle Jimmy Wilson, who looks forward to an early and happy day when our trade "with abroad" shall consist solely of exports and no imports.

It is very hard to see in any of these visionaries to whom the operation of natural forces. Newton did not make the law of gravitation; he only discovered it.

Why inevitable. Spencer Wilkinson, the English military critic, in his recent book, holds that our American Civil War was inevitable, and Professor Goldwin Smith agrees with him and with the vast majority of the American people in regarding it as an irrepressible conflict.

The Springfield Republican thinks it is an open question whether our civil struggle was unavoidable, and quotes among others, so excellent a writer as Professor Macy among those who hold views exactly opposite to Mr. Wilkinson's on that point.

Professor Macy argues that "the Civil War occurred as the result of a series of political crimes and blunders." His view is that if the Whigs, acting through their great leaders, Webster and Clay, had not signed their own death warrant by passing the compromise measures of 1850, the Kansas-Nebraska troubles would have been averted, slavery would have been arrested from further progress North, and would ultimately have died out in the South.

These are facts so well known by every one in any way connected with the grain trade that it seems strange that a paper would print such nonsense as the above extract from the Post-Intelligencer. Truly, "it makes a difference that counts in the aggregate when large amounts are marketed," and this 75 cents per car—plain, ordinary graft, for which absolutely no service is rendered—is not appreciated by the men from whom it is collected.

Regarding the car shortage last season, it need only be said that, while there were "not sufficient cars to ship to the Sound," the Northern Pacific brought over 2000 cars of wheat over the mountains, right through Tacoma across the Columbia and into Portland.

NORTHWEST GRAIN TRADE.

When it is considered that so large a portion of the sinews of trade in the State of Washington come direct from wheat, the ignorance of some Washington papers regarding the handling of the business is so profound that it is amusing.

Another change, and one of great import to Washington, has come this season. Much of Oregon's wheat will be shipped to Puget Sound. This will be the case by reason of Washington's state grain inspection.

This "change," which the Seattle Post-Intelligencer has just discovered, has been in force for over ten years, ever since Mr. Hunt built a feeder for the Northern Pacific into Umatilla County, Oregon.

As to that ancient chestnut, state grain inspection, nearly every intelligent wheatgrower in Oregon, Washington and Idaho knows that it is a bore, and will continue to be until it is recognized by the grain trade throughout the Northwest.

Patrons of the public schools of Oregon will be glad to learn that at last we are to have text-books on geography in the schools that will answer the purpose of instruction in that very valuable branch of education.

The tobacco trust made announcement two weeks ago that the prices of cigars and manufactured tobacco would not be reduced on account of the reduction in the internal revenue taxes.

Harvard did not give John Fiske any academic honors until 1884, thirty-one years after he was graduated, despite the fact that Fiske was its most distinguished graduate of the past four decades in history and letters.

Harvard never recognized Wendell Phillips until fifty years after he was graduated, and in acknowledgment of this belated honor the great orator lauded his alma mater so mercifully as to seem a most unfeeling and unforgiving child.

ANTI-ISM'S LATEST OUTBREAK.

The lonely band of anti-imperialists celebrated the Fourth by issuing a manifesto to the country, calling upon them to resurrect a dead issue and to save themselves from themselves.

These hopes have not been realized. Where Benjamin Harrison nobly led, too few have followed. It is perhaps not worth while to waste words on a cult that exposes its own absurdities and its own weakness in a naive manner.

In organized society there is no liberty that is not constitutional liberty. Even in America, where the banner of liberty is hoisted by our own fellow-citizens, we all rely on constitutions, National and State, to protect our rights.

Of course part of this misrepresents the facts, and part is premature and will be proved to be so, in the course of time, as events have proved the earlier prognostications of this school of calamity howlers.

When I was serving as a chaplain to the forces in 1899 on General French's lines of communication at Rosmead Junction, I was told on excellent authority that a colonial Boer farmer in the neighborhood of the Boer Republic, in 1788, actually burned his Bible and had no more to do with God.

Lesson Business Men Have Learned. Philadelphia North American. If we have learned one thing in the last 10 years it is that business and partisan politics must be divorced.

Rejection Proffered Free Trade. Philadelphia Record. Here we have Cuba shaking her sugar and fine tobacco and fragrant spices and woods and ores before our eyes, and under our noses, and we are forbidden by our protectionist doctors to accept the bounty which the fortune of war and diplomacy have placed within our reach.

Dear Folded Hands. Yours with the never-ending task Born of a never-ending task Our selfishness, it was to ask Your sweet unselfishness to heed My yearning, and to have me joined Long promised in the better lands, How can you sit an idle guest With folded hands?

AMUSEMENTS.

The engagement of the Cummings Company at Corday's terminated with the production of "One Night in Broadway." It was expected that the play would run the rest of the week.

Concerning the prospective production of "Romance and Juliet" by Max Adams and Sara Bernhardt, the New York Dramatic Mirror says:

Indeed, Sarah already has cast a shade of doubt herself over the proposed transaction by saying in a London interview that her appearance will depend upon her ability to study the lines in English satisfactorily.

Hope Booth will play leading roles with the extravaganza company to be located at the Columbia Theater, Boston, next season.

Marie Dressler has quit "The King's Carnival" in a huff. A quarrel with another member of the company led to the desertion.

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

Satan might take a run up to Chicago these days and get some pointers in modern methods of raising the temperature.

Now don't get the mosquito When up his pointed snout, The mosquito will soon be full of People coming out.

The heat that caused that Denver dynamite explosion was probably generated by a spark from a pipe in the mouth of one of the workmen.

Simple Simon went a-fishing With a rod and fly, But all the good his friends e'er got Was an inspired lie.

The Evanston authorities who turned the hose on a gathering of Dowdites administered the kind of a baptism that the sect is in need of.

Now don't the little busy bee Improve each shining minute By bringing forth to an end When other folks begin it.

"The blow that killed father," said the farmer boy when he learned that the old man had used his breath to extinguish the gas in a city hotel.

By the time the Summer vacation girls get through with the present stocks of books, Mr. Carnegie will have ample opportunity to buy new libraries.

Then to side with truth is noble When we share her humble crust, But it's different when our shares are In a money-collecting trust.

The Kaiser has ordered an American schooner. This is only fair, as hundreds of American sovereigns are ordering German schooners these warm days.

It ought to make no difference to the Summer girl whether or not a young man wears a coat. Young men usually carry their money in their trousers pockets.

A drummer who hailed from St. Louis Was wrecked on a whistling boat, And he said, "The salt sea Does not look good to me, And I'd hate to be Admiral Doig."

The correspondent who seeks to startle an unsuspecting world by recording the fact that the man who was shot in Montana was Hitt will be doomed to disappointment.

A New York man killed his wife because she was late in getting dinner. We do not like to be harsh, but we are of the opinion that this man was perhaps a trifle unreasonable.

We've crossed the Western ocean And taken in Porto Rico, We've picked up Porto Rico, Where the redoubtable tree smiles, For other worlds to purchase We turn as one perplexed, But we'll keep stick on expanding Till Albin is "next."

The following is a copy of a warrant issued by an Alabama Justice of the Peace "to any lawful officer of the State Complainant on oath having Bene made before me that the offence of a Busting E. J. Wheeler By Coming in Hear Hous Cursing Hear and threatening to Knoc her down & for her to shear her mouth & drawed Back his arm and Sead he wold Knock hell out of her & then jump on Chappel and got out Dors Dis appeared for one hour and Come Back a fine & did Kic her Dor & Brock the hole Busted the Dore in too Places & Sead if She did not open the dore he wold Brake hit Down to any lawful officer of the State you are Commanded to Bring frank Stevens Before me this April the 13, 1888. F. M. Price Justice of the Peace."