

The Oregonian

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Oregon, as second-class matter. TELEPHONE: 1010 Business Office, 1011-1012 Editorial Rooms.

REVENUE SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By Mail (postage prepaid), in Advance: Daily, with Sunday, per month, \$3.50; Daily, with Sunday, per year, \$40.00.

United States, Canada and Mexico: 10 to 15-page paper, 10¢; 16 to 20-page paper, 12¢; 21 to 25-page paper, 15¢; 26 to 30-page paper, 18¢; 31 to 35-page paper, 21¢; 36 to 40-page paper, 24¢; 41 to 45-page paper, 27¢; 46 to 50-page paper, 30¢; 51 to 55-page paper, 33¢; 56 to 60-page paper, 36¢; 61 to 65-page paper, 39¢; 66 to 70-page paper, 42¢; 71 to 75-page paper, 45¢; 76 to 80-page paper, 48¢; 81 to 85-page paper, 51¢; 86 to 90-page paper, 54¢; 91 to 95-page paper, 57¢; 96 to 100-page paper, 60¢.

TODAY'S WEATHER - Fair and continued warm; northerly winds.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER - Maximum temperature, 80; minimum temperature, 58; precipitation, 0.00.

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1901

OUR TORRENS LAW.

Very little has yet been done by property-owners in this state to bring their property under the provisions of the Torrens system of land title registration, enacted by the last Legislature. That the process of registering titles should be slow is to be expected, for there is no branch of civil rights that respects ownership of real property.

One of the chief obstacles to be overcome by any scheme having for its object the quieting of a title is the right of every person interested to have his day in court. When an ordinary suit is brought to quiet title, the only persons bound by the decree are those who are specifically made parties to the suit, and who are served with summons.

CITY OR COUNTRY?

The pope's verdict that "rural population is the happier and healthier in body, mind and morals" than the residents of towns and cities, will be accepted without question in some quarters, but in more than one respect the theorem is debatable. It is easy to form such an opinion if we look upon the manifest imperfections of city life.

Again, a man may hold land under a deed from a man who was once married, but who was not so when the deed was made. The wife may have died prior to the making of the deed, and therefore the title is perfect, but there is an apparent flaw in the title.

after many years, an adverse claimant appears and successfully asserts his title. In such a case there is no justice in such a claim, but it succeeds through the technical title a man may establish according to law. The Torrens system avoids this, and gives an owner assurance that his title is good, and that any improvements he may make cannot be taken away from him.

Though the abstract may show a perfect title, the owner may in fact have none. A registered title is unassailable. While the first cost of registration, therefore, may be heavier than the securing of an abstract, the cost in the end will be less and the results attained much greater. The main features of the Torrens act, thus briefly stated, commend it to the consideration of all property-owners.

NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

It is probable that no method of bringing the states of the Pacific Northwest to the notice of the country at large could be devised, which would be more effective than that of inducing the National Educational Association to hold one of its annual meetings here.

It is not a thing of vital consequence to the thoughtful leaders of labor throughout the country, when Andrew Carnegie gives labor a great library or not; the vital concern of labor is to see to it that in future no tariff unduly protects Andrew Carnegie so extravagantly that he is able to acquire an enormous fortune in an incredibly short time, and is able to cast his millions into the crowd, right and left, as a purse-proud aristocrat in the Middle Ages.

Such a meeting, held here, would mean a great deal for Portland, for Oregon, and for the whole Pacific Northwest. It would bring twelve thousand to fifteen thousand teachers and promoters of education to Portland, and their tours would be extended to all parts of the Northwest States.

The presence of Rev. G. W. Iser in this city will doubtless recall to the minds of many who were residents here during his first pastorate the "Woman's crusade" of 1874, to which he gave cordial encouragement and ardent ministerial support. Twenty-seven years have passed since that phenomenal and in a sense hysterical effort was made to pray the saloons of the country out of existence.

began life as a newsboy or mechanic or clerk or office boy quite as often as he began on the farm. The city leads its peculiar offenses of conviviality and artificial pleasures. But in the country are nourished solitary vices, feuds and hardness of heart which the more cultivated and absorbing life of the city tends to eradicate.

LABOR NEEDS JUSTICE, NOT SOUP KITCHENS.

The intelligent leaders of labor fully appreciate what the establishment of what are called industrial betterments by wise and humane employers for the protection of health and the increase of creature comforts mean to labor, but they fairly say that since improved living conditions mean improved health, which means better work, intelligent employers may be trusted to make this investment as a good business proposition.

Under this ruling a striker could not talk with another workman at any place or time with a purpose to convert him to the striker's cause, under penalty of being punished for contempt of court. If this injunction will hold as the law of the land, why, then, the Judge can forbid the holding of public meetings by the strikers and the delivering of addresses designed to influence nonunion workmen, and prohibit the printing of reports of such meetings in the newspapers.

The loss of the Nome steamer Charles D. Lane in far northern waters presents the unusual event of a midsummer wreck on a smooth sea. A dense fog and treacherous rime, however, opposed the vessel to navigation in quiet waters, and at times, as illustrated by the wreck of the steamship Rio de Janeiro in San Francisco Bay a few months ago, even in a sheltered port.

While the copper production of the Lake Superior district showed a decrease last year of 3.3 per cent, the output of these mines has increased enormously in the last decade. Until the year 1890 the production of refined copper by the Lake mines did not, in any year, reach 100,000,000 pounds. Last year the total estimated output was 141,603,313 pounds, as compared with 146,550,238 pounds in 1899.

Last year the corn crop of the United States was 2,105,000,000 bushels, which at 33¢ cents, the price then quoted, made the value \$704,250,000. The drought this year is expected to cut down the yield about 500,000,000 bushels. But the 1,600,000,000 bushels, at the present price, 55 cents, will make this season's crop worth \$880,000,000, or more than \$185,000,000 above the value of last year's crop.

A dispatch from Denver a few days ago reported the death in a wild part of Mexico of Schlatter, the famous "healer," who a few years ago took the credulous of that city by storm. There are still numerous "Schlatters" traveling over the country, and trafficking in this strange creature's name and fame, but the assurance is positively given that the real Schlatter—he of the long, flaxen hair, light brown beard, drooping mustache and long, flowing hair in an expression of unutterable weariness and ecstatic absorption—died a lonely death on the Mexican desert and lies buried in the old cemetery near Terregas, about 150 miles south of the American line.

superstition and credulity of the Middle Ages than of the matter-of-fact skepticism of the people of the great West. An uncouth Norwegian shoemaker, he suddenly proclaimed himself a divine healer and was sought by rich and poor, humble and great, with a strange, feverish intensity that amounted to religious fanaticism.

Sheriff Joseph L. Merrill, of Carroll County, Georgia, who recently believed a colored boy from being lynched by a mob, has received a well-deserved tribute to his energy and courageous fidelity to his trust from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, who, in delivering an opinion before the court last week, said: "Sheriff Merrill taught the mob that the law can shoot as well as hang. In our opinion, if the other sheriffs in this state would exercise the same courage and fidelity to duty as did this noble man, many lynchings would be prevented and mobs grow less frequent."

The difference between the haphazard, happy-go-lucky dairying of a former era and the methodical, systematic dairying of the present time is, in applications, that between the wooden churn with upright dasher or back-breaking crank, by means of which sour cream was laboriously agitated until the "butter came," and the modern power-driven separator, from which is extracted from rich, sweet milk so good as it is drawn from the cow.

But there is another aspect of this expansion "business" which the Post can never get through its hypocritical old religion papers except the commercial venture. Few expansionists, if that name can be properly applied to those who felt that the Philippines should not be turned back to Spain, the President, have ever regarded the commercial opportunities as anything more than an incidental and subsidiary advantage.

"The Devil Can Quote Scripture for His Purpose."

PORTLAND, August 1.—(To the Editor.)—Referring to your editorial of today concerning my former letter criticizing Heber's hymn, "The Trinity," I wish to say that I do not object to the use of the Revelation, part of which you quote as a continuous quotation, although the same is taken from different parts of the said chapter. I believe, however, that the King of France and forty thousand men marched up a hill—and, then, marched down again—states a fact, but until I read your editorial I did not suppose it to be poetry.

A Matter for the Neighbors.

For many years Robert Johnson, of Courtland, Va., refused to be shaved or have his hair cut, as his appearance was so objectionable to his wife that she asked the neighbors to do something. So they captured Johnson the other evening and cut his hair and shaved his head. He objected until he saw his assailants' mean business. When he went to the house nobody knew him and it took his wife some time to learn who he was.

A FALSE ACCOUNTING.

St. Paul Pioneer Press. The New York Evening Post recently published the following statement of our account with the Philippines:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes entries for 'Debit' and 'Credit' with various financial figures.

The Mississippi Valley Lumberman suggests that this statement shows a very peculiar notion of business, inasmuch as it credits the Post with a profit of \$200,000 on an investment of \$2,000,000. Just how it manages to make \$200,000 on an investment of \$2,000,000 is beyond the genius of our mathematical editor.

Furthermore, the Post treats the export business as the only trade which is a profit. But if it is proper to charge a 12 per cent profit on exports, it is just as proper to charge a 12 per cent profit on imports.

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The King of France and forty thousand men

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An Old Fishing Fleet Scattered.

London Telegraph. The great North Sea fishing fleet, known as the short blue trawlers, which for a century had headquarters at Yarmouth, after having been withdrawn from port for some time, has been finally dispersed. The last of the vessels, a fishery numbered 409, and employed 1500 men and boys, being sold by auction. This fleet was unable to be profitably worked on account of the North Sea being closed by the steam trawlers. The prices realized were remarkably low, the highest being \$500, while there were many vessels disposed of at \$150, \$175 and \$200 each. Some of the purchasers were Dutchmen.

The New Gas.

New York Journal of Commerce. It requires no argument to show that gas is the ideal fuel when its cost is sufficiently low. Its cleanliness, the fact that it can be started and extinguished in an instant, the absence of ashes and the fact that it is a gas, which need not be stored on the premises, are such very great recommendations that for domestic purposes illuminating gas is used to a considerable extent, and it is also used in the heating of the North Sea fishing fleet.

THE FIGHTING MACLAYS.

Philadelphia Times. Edgar Stanton Maclay, who has come into so much notoriety this week by reason of the strictures in his liberal history against Admiral Schley, belongs to a great Pennsylvania family. He is a lineal descendant of one of Pennsylvania's first Senators, and of the other Maclays of Maclayville, as Harrisburg was originally called. The Pennsylvania Legislature of 1783 elected Robert Morris to take care of Philadelphia's interests, and William Maclay to represent the western part of the state in the United States Senate.

It is reported that water is very scarce in Kentucky, but we have heard of no suffering resulting therefrom. However many chances the skippers of the cup defenders may take, it cannot be said that they are ever wreckless. I met a little city girl the other day who said she had a boy who was a first-class swimmer. And yet she would not swim herself. And she would not let her boy swim either.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

We notice that Captain J. B. Cochran, U. S. N., is preserving a dignified silence. The "Progressive Democrats" of Ohio should adopt the crawfish as a party emblem. The latest development in the trust line is one which will control photographic plates.

There was once an old fellow from Gloucester. Whose wife grew enraged when he boistered. And a person named Moore. Whom she'd known long before. Promised not to do so, so he boistered. Emperor William is growing a beard, and the Populists are looking confidentially forward to the time when they will have an orator dearer to their hearts than Bryan.

Perhaps when the esteemed New York Sun gets through dredging the depths of thought contained in "The Raven," it will come to the conclusion that the aforesaid poem was never deep in anything but wine. There's a wonderful fascination, when the fire bells ring about a midnight hour. That will conjure up instantly an excited howling crowd. And the "patent from the ring-side" on a black-head chink up high.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

McCort—You know something about horse-racing?—Yes, as usual by "the favorite's" Sport—A favorite is a horse that would surely win if people only wouldn't bet on him—Philadelphia Record. Deeds was told to go to the drug-store and get a dime's worth of sweet oil. After getting about half way the same running back to ask: "Excuse me, how sweet do you get your oil?" Chicago News. Couldn't make comparison—Person Jackson—In de match ob watahman, I s'pose you 'bible siden fruits am always amooed ob Sam Jones' 'bible siden fruits am always amooed out any by de one kind—Philadelphia Press.

The Reason—Mr. Frontispiece

The Reason—Mr. Frontispiece—I am glad you belong to our church, but my dear: It is such an orderly organization; I never see you whispering to one another during services. Mrs. Frontispiece—No, none of our speaking terms—Oh, that's all right. Schoolmaster (turning round sharply)—"Which of you is it that is daring to make faces at me?"—Freddy (turning round)—"Which of you is it that is daring to make faces at me?"—Freddy (turning round)—"Which of you is it that is daring to make faces at me?"

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