

The Oregonian.

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TODAY'S WEATHER—Showers; southerly winds; temperature, 53; minimum temperature, 47; total precipitation, 0.2 in. to 5 P. M. none.

PORTLAND, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4.

LOWERING THE TARIFF WALL.

Least possible legal interference with the course of industry and of commerce, least possible obstruction by law, is the policy suggested by reason and approved by experience.

Every interference by government is one way or another an obstruction, even if the avowed object is to aid industry and commerce.

It is inevitable that the United States should move in the direction of freer trade. Development within, and advancement into the outer world, are making this course a necessity.

The obstacle of the protectionist position of the West, and especially of the Pacific States, is wool; but a strong outlook is fruit.

Now, the American producer is getting a lower freight rate than was ever promised him by the most ardent subsidy advocates.

IS THE MONROE DOCTRINE IN DANGER?

Sydney Brooks, an Englishman who knows Americans thoroughly and understands the politics of Continental Europe, has an admirable article in the November number of the Atlantic Monthly.

Here in the Pacific States we want trade with Asia, but we cannot have it on an extensive scale unless we take Asiatic commodities; nor can we build up a trade with the Philippine Islands.

His life had been an exceedingly active one mentally for many years; physically it had been inactive, as shown by the autopsy, to a degree that invited degeneration of the muscles and tissues of the vital organs.

The facts thus developed should be a warning to men who are approaching middle life of the danger that waits upon bodily inactivity combined with great responsibility and mental strain.

There has been a remarkable decline in ocean freights out of Atlantic Coast ports within the past three months.

By the recent legislation in France, leveled at certain religious orders, no less than 18,463 associations were affected.

There are queer politics in San Francisco. One Republican newspaper, which is not supporting the Republican majority candidate, declares that the fight is between the Democratic and Socialist nominees.

The Lewis and Clark Centennial will be celebrated. There will be an attraction and creditable, yet moderate, thing. We shall keep within our means and run to no excess.

There is a difference in the estimates of the results in Ohio tomorrow. The Republicans claim the state by 40,000 to 75,000; the Democrats by 25,000 to 30,000.

The torrid quality of the New York campaign may be judged from the headlines under various articles in a single issue of the New York Times.

Because there still is resistance in the Philippines, the withdrawal of our troops may be withheld and quieting that the English language is now spoken all over the globe, and by not less than 140,000,000 people.

will neither take South America nor let anybody else take it. She does not attempt to colonize it with her own people. She has no trade with it to speak of.

Mr. Brooks does not believe that Continental Europe will be passive under the effect of the Monroe Doctrine for another fifty years.

Mr. Brooks makes a plausible and very interesting argument, but it is highly improbable that Continental Europe will ever be able as a unit to undertake to force the barrier of the Monroe Doctrine with the sword.

Years and years ago, while abolition of slavery was still disputed, our ears were assailed every day with the sound of the fearful words "miscegenation" and "amalgamation."

The current number of the Atlantic Monthly contains a candid and searching discussion of "Modern Murder Trials and the Newspapers," by Charles E. Grinnell.

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MORE STRINGENT PENALTIES.

The recent announcement of President McKinley has provoked an alarming demand for more stringent penalties regarding assaults on the President of the United States.

The bill which has been drafted by the Commission for Codifying the Federal Statutes, it is framed as a paragraph of the Federal Criminal Code, which has now been completed and submitted in the form of a report to the Department of Justice.

In order to secure a larger measure of security for the President, the commission has drafted a separate bill, making it a felony punishable with a \$5000 fine to threaten the life or person of the President, and a capital crime to assault so as to cause death.

The purpose of the new law is to define as crimes assaults which are directed against the office of the Chief Executive, as distinguished from the occupant of the office.

Another feature of the legislation which will be recommended to Congress for the purpose of punishing accessories before the fact, as advisers, or assistants in, the crime, is calculated to reach the anarchists.

The commission has practically given over trying to frame written legislation aimed directly at anarchism. Any move in this line trenches so upon free speech that it can be only a matter of time before the law is struck down.

The Woolgrowers' War on Shoddy. The wool-growing farmers are going to ask Congress to pass a law to prevent the sale of shoddy cloths as wools.

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AMUSEMENTS.

Gov. E. Steiwer's comedy, "Hunting for Hawkins," opened a week's engagement at Corley's last night to a house that filled the theater as full as it would hold.

The advent of one Hawkins, who is roped in by an artist friend to impersonate a poor fellow who has been driven to New York, has been woven all the complications that could well be crowded into three acts.

The company is headed by John L. Kearney, who was last seen here in the leading part of "The Stranger in New York." He has an easy way of doing things that suits the part.

Best Attraction Yet Appearing at the Metropolitan. Hi Henry's Minstrels, which opened a week's engagement at the Metropolitan yesterday afternoon to a big house.

Hi Henry's Minstrels, which opened a week's engagement at the Metropolitan yesterday afternoon to a big house and packed the theater to the very last night.

The olio opens with a concert by Hi Henry's band, which is the best minstrel band yet to come to Portland, J. A. Probst follows with a series of interesting and novel songs.

"Theodora" at the Marquon Tonight. Tonight, at the Marquon Theater, Minnie Tittel Brune, an actress who has many friends and admirers in Portland, will present her scenic production of "Theodora," in which she makes her initial appearance as a star.

"Jesse of the Bar Z Ranch." The sale of seats for Miss Alice Archer, as "Jesse of the Bar Z Ranch," will open tomorrow (Tuesday) morning at the Marquon Grand Theater.

Seton-Thompson Changes His Name. Ernest Seton-Thompson, the writer of animal stories, has had his name changed by the courts. In law Ernest Seton-Thompson has become Ernest Thompson Seton.

Handsome, Handy and Valuable. The Morning Oregonian has issued a handbook of Portland and vicinity, which is certainly a handsome, handy and valuable compilation of information.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The paths of glory lead but to a court of inquiry. There seems to be trouble of some kind in the Transvaal.

Peace again broods over Kentucky. There must be another ammunition famine down that way.

Will the Southern papers object to President Roosevelt's eating duck meat on Thanksgiving day?

The California party who rode 40 miles in an escaped balloon probably cannot see much fun in a high time.

Only a few hundred dollars' worth of property was destroyed on Halloween. Have boys ceased to be boys?

Kitchener got another drubbing the other day. It is surmised that a kopje was at the bottom of the trouble.

The publishers' union intends to see the undertakers' coffin up. They will demand a stiff price for their services.

Oregon continues to tear off a first prize at Buffalo now and then, just to show the other states that she is on the map.

It is inferred from the testimony before the court inquiring into Admiral Schley's method of disposing of the Spanish fleet was very effective.

A New York church is going to open a restaurant. If the prices are as low as the church social scale, it will make Deimonstros look like a penny soupstone.

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