

The Oregonian.

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TODAY'S WEATHER—Showers, with west, dry winds.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 66; minimum temperature, 56; precipitation, trace.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, MAY 28.

IS THERE A PARTY?

We take it that Mr. Edward Holman is heart and soul for Pacific expansion so long as he is vouchsafed the Coroner's office as an accessory to his business as undertaker and embalmer.

We infer that Mr. S. C. Spencer is soundly and enthusiastically for Republican policies so long as he bears a sword and epaulets at the head of a division.

We understand that the talents of Mr. D. Solis Cohen (and they are neither few nor insignificant) are at the service of honest money, national honor and advancement, so long as the police department is in his control.

These instances of defection and others that might be mentioned throw a flood of light upon the previous party activities of the men in question.

This year, as always, there is complaint at the autocratic powers of the various committees to whom the details of the campaign have been intrusted.

The Oregonian supported the party for its general purposes and principles, and in this campaign when they have lost that control it still supports the party for its general purposes and principles, without regard to who is nominated for Coroner or what particular affable and industrious young man is assistant secretary of the city and county committee.

The question, therefore, as to whether there is any Republican party here at all, or not. Undoubtedly we have certain individuals in the aspect

and garb of men, pursuing office with a diligence worthy of reasoning beings, to whom a Democratic or Republican Governor and Legislature are equally acceptable, so they occupy the posts of honor, authority and emolument.

If the Oregonian thought that the rank and file of the party entertained no higher ideal of party than this, it would despair of any appeal to intelligence or principle. But it cannot believe that the mercenary conception of politics—party for what there is in it—prevails among the masses of the people.

In this campaign, therefore, as in others, it labors and hopes for the success of the Republican ticket, regardless of inquest fees and wives' relations, and asks the party to follow it in so doing. No personal considerations of grief or revenge should stand in the way of a Republican victory next Monday that will strengthen the hands of those who are upholding Republican policies everywhere.

IT IS A SIMPLE ISSUE.

For the citizen's support of any party there is, of course, no reason, beyond the service such party may have rendered to the country, beyond success, achievement and success as its history has demonstrated, and such promise for the future as experience has derived from what such party has accomplished.

So now, if the Republican party has not been successful in its undertakings; if its policy has not been useful to the country; if it suffers by comparison with the Democratic party; if it has not shown in dealing with the problems of the time a quality of judgment and of wisdom, of which, in comparison with Democratic policy, it has no reason to be ashamed, then turn it down. Then don't vote to keep it at the helm of the country. But, on the other hand, if it has done well, if it has done better than its adversary, uphold it.

It is remembered, doubtless, that things were not very good some years ago when the Democratic party had direction of the affairs of the country. That, indeed, was an experience, which memory shudders. How the country was recovered from that nightmare is not yet ancient history.

The interests of our Pacific States are most intimately bound up with Pacific Ocean commerce. A splendid beginning has been made, which, however, would surely be arrested by success of the party that demands our retirement from the Philippine Islands, England, France, Germany, Russia—every great nation—has with infinite pains established itself in the Orient.

The meeting of the Ohio State Republican Convention has drawn forth a good deal of talk concerning Senator Hanna as the second choice of his state for President, should President Roosevelt not be re-elected.

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Whether France, Germany and Russia could partition China and absorb its great mineral-producing provinces depends entirely upon the action of Great Britain and Japan. There is not the slightest probability that Great Britain and Japan would consent to the occupation and exploitation of the great mineral-producing provinces of Shan Si and Honan by Germany, France and Russia.

Great Britain is the only real friend that Japan has against Russia, and Japan knows that the unity of China is indispensable to her own safety and perpetuity as a nation.

It is amusing to hear Mr. Chamberlain's supporter telling about his devotion to public duty and efficiency in office. It is generally known, and often has been subject of remark, that he is among the least efficient of the District Attorneys that Multnomah County has had—though the list is long.

The Prohibitionists of Pennsylvania are out with their regular candidate for Governor and their customary platform of degeneracy in morals and politics, all owing to the liquor traffic.

The loss by fire of the extensive plant known as the Sugar Pine Door and Lumber Mills, at Grant's Pass, is most unfortunate. An industrial calamity at any season and time, this loss is particularly heavy at the beginning of a busy season in a prosperous era.

A prohibition orator last week in Portland was at some pains to describe how Sheriff Pearson had enforced the prohibition law by closing up saloons in Portland, Me. Here is another objection to which every critic of war is forced in Maine, which is set forth in the following from the Bangor (Me.) Commercial:

What is this? A Lewiston man says that Lewiston liquor-sellers are paying as big a license as those of any city in the United States. He says that he knows of a wholesale dealer in Lewiston who was recently paying certain duties on a cargo of liquor.

Republicans of Marion County and elsewhere, too, would do well to look out for the stiletto and fifth-rib politics of Governor Geer. It is known that Senator Simon is doing his utmost to stab the Republican party, wherever he can.

A class war between the sophomores and freshmen of Vermont University has resulted in the death by drowning of one of the latter class. It is not too much to say that there is a fatal weakness in the governing forces of any college where war between its classes is permitted to reach the stage here.

Generosity can easily be overdone, even in the face of great calamity. Witness the statement that comes from Fort de France, Martinique, that, owing to the excessive relief being distributed there, the laborers of that port refuse to work.

The Rev. Thomas B. Hyde in a recent address on "Married Life" in New York City said: "Give women the right to propose and there will be more marriages." Of course woman now has that right or privilege, and indirectly used it. A man too dull to detect the wink of invitation to matrimony or too timid to assume the initiative does not deserve to win a wife.

The cold rains of May have reduced materially the promise of the prune crop in various localities in the Willamette Valley. As is usual in such cases, however, the fruit will be larger and of better quality than when the trees are overburdened; hence the cash returns from the prune crop may not be materially lessened.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE WAR.

New York Commercial Advertiser. Ex-Secretary Long made the following excellent remarks in the course of an address before the Massachusetts Club in Boston:

There is just now a little excitement going on about the manner of the conduct of the war in the Philippines. Indeed, our brethren on the other side seem to be driven out of every other corner of attack except that of the conduct of the war.

That is precisely the position which the War Department has maintained throughout the Philippine hostilities, as revealed in the recent letter of Secretary Root to the Senate. The Secretary showed in that letter, not by what he said, but by original documents from the records of the War Department, that the only kind of war which the department had authorized and approved in Batangas and Samar had been of the kind known in the famous instructions embodied in General Order No. 10, issued under President Lincoln's approval and command in 1862.

The policy of the War Department in those provinces, as in all other parts of the Philippines, has been humane and successful in its results. It has been successful in deterring the rebels from the guerrilla bands. Their proper name, as the Commissioner-General said, after inspecting them, should have been "gangs of robbers and thieves."

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HATS OFF TO THE ARMY.

Kansas City Star. In a small pamphlet, Hanna stands a marble statue to the memory of General Albers, the Cuban engineer to whom the city owes its excellent water supply.

The Army has not only to clean up the filth of ages, it had to educate the people to keep clean. It had not only to create a decent government, it had to train the voters to care for efficiency and honesty when it set its face against bribery it found little public sentiment to back it up.

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

The weather has squared itself. No one who knows J. F. Morgan can accuse him of being afraid to buy.

Buy your fuel now. You may need a little of your money for other things in the Fall.

It is curious how the scientific account of the Marlinque disaster takes the horror out of it.

Senator Stewart says silver is dead, but the world nerved itself to bear the shock of the news some time ago.

Emperor William is still anxious to visit America. Prince Henry has probably been putting on airs over him since he got back.

Mr. Hanna still looks longingly at the White House, but the present incumbent likes the place so well that he will probably keep it.

The students of Northwestern University seem to have forgotten that having is no longer looked upon as a harmless form of amusement.

Gold has been discovered within the territory of the Sultan of Bulu. He will probably invest it in a new and complete stock of wives.

The framers of the Cuban constitution will avoid political complications later on if they will tell what the document means in the footnotes.

The Filipinos would undoubtedly prefer cold water to hot air, which is what they would get if their friends in the Senate treated with them.

There is a great rush for offices in Cuba. It makes little difference about the nationality of a people. They're all the same when they get into politics.

The Dalles appropriation has been cut from \$60,000 to \$24,000, but this ought to accomplish just as much if the contractor is not in too big a hurry to get rich.

The Filipino hero who held up a flag of truce and cried to kill the American who answered it, is, of course, too sensitive to be insulted by a dose of the water cure.

Andrew Carnegie says that England will one day become an American state. That is an encouraging outlook for the young persons who are in line of succession to the throne.

It is reported that the meat trust has gone out of business; that Mount Pelee has ceased to erupt, and that peace has been declared in the Transvaal. These are fictitious times.

Senator Beveridge is a felicitous letter-writer. When he takes special pains with an epistle it is pretty sure to do its work. His communications are celebrated all over the state of Indiana.

The Senator's mail came the other day, gossiped a Washington writer, he noted one envelope with a black border. Wondering which one of his constituents had been bereaved, he opened the letter first. It began thus: "Yours of the 15th inst. received. My husband read it himself. At 3 P. M. he died of heart failure."

When at a "smothered chicken" dinner in New York the other day a guest expressed a preference for legs, an epicure present told this story: "We were touring Europe and had stopped at Lepthos, a short distance from Athens. The landlord of the small inn served with every meal a large dish containing a sort of stew, the principal ingredient of which was turkey drumsticks. For days we thrived on drumsticks. They were good, but we began to wonder why he never gave us any other portion of the turkey. It was finally left to me to make inquiries, so I approached with some trepidation, not caring to seem officious, the head of the house. When I intimated that he might have saved the breasts, wings, etc., for some special occasion, he looked at me and laughed. 'You like them?' he asked. 'It is all yours. In Greece we eat only the drumsticks.' He then showed me three or four of the fattest young turkeys, weighing seven to nine pounds, from which only the legs had been removed. I captured them all, and during the rest of our stay we lived high."

Zack Snyder, a citizen of Byron, Ill., has won a wager made 22 years ago, and a recent storm decided the bet. In 1830 Snyder was in Oregon, Ill., talking to G. A. Mix, when their gaze happened to fall on the spire of the Methodist Church which stood across the street. The two fell to talking as to the probability of the structure's toppling over in a wind storm, and each ventured predictions as to which way it would fall. Mix bet Snyder that it would fall to the north, while Snyder held out that it would go over to the east. The result was a bet of a box of 10-cent cigars, and they cleverly planned to get the weeds in advance. They went into the store of T. A. Jewett, then, as now, a merchant of Oregon, and told him that the loser would pay when it was decided. Jewett, not suspecting the terms of the wager, turned over a box of cigars to the pair, and he has been waiting for some special occasion, he looked at me and laughed. 'You like them?' he asked. 'It is all yours. In Greece we eat only the drumsticks.' He then showed me three or four of the fattest young turkeys, weighing seven to nine pounds, from which only the legs had been removed. I captured them all, and during the rest of our stay we lived high."

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHS. Result of Worry.—"What makes her look so miserable?—She's experimenting with health foods."—Chicago Evening Post.

Affluence.—"Is her husband so very rich?" "Rich? Why can she even afford to communicate on her telephone?"

Tommy—Willie hit me (crying). Grandma—Did he hit you on purpose? Tommy—No; on the head.—Detroit Free Press.

Conscience.—You going to church with me today, Henry? He—No; it's too confounded hot; I think I'll play golf.—Ohio State Journal.

No wonder.—"What started the fuss at the milkman's stall?" "Some blamed fool asked one of the men if he had brought his pumps along."—Chicago Tribune.