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TODAY'S WEATHER—Increasing cloudiness, followed by showers by afternoon or night; cooler; southerly winds.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 72; minimum temperature, 48; precipitation, none.

PORTLAND, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7.

DEMOCRATIC ACTIVITY.

The issues of 1902 may or may not be the issues of 1904. The most that Democratic rejuvenation can accomplish in a National way this year is a reduction of the Republican majority in the House of Representatives. In the present Congress the Republicans have 198 in the lower House to 153 Democrats, six scattering. Here is a margin of some thirty to forty votes on the general run of party measures, enough and more than for the strictest form of party discipline. There is no Democratic expectation, so far as we are aware, of overcoming this majority, though Republican losses of a minor character are to be expected for more reasons than one.

It is futile, however, to evade the very manifest activity and confidence in Democratic circles. In New York State, especially, the surface embarrassments over platform and Devery are more than compensated for by the return of the party's brains and character on the basis of the elimination of Bryanism. New York City is evidently Democratic again, and Tammany Hall is in abler and cleaner hands than it has been for a long time. Heavy moneyed interests are interesting themselves in the Democratic cause. If the men who have at last rescued the party in New York from the rule of rag money and free riot can have their way at the next Democratic National Convention, a Democratic President may easily be elected.

The sources of this Democratic revival are two—and radically different. One is Republican inaction on the tariff. This is discreditable and the lost ground may be recovered. Tariff revision has its only rational and safe support in the Republican party. Manufacturers who want reciprocity understand this and will understand it more and more as the Democratic hostility to reciprocity finds expression.

The other source of Democratic activity and reassurance lies in Roosevelt's antagonism to the trusts. This cannot now be changed. It is as creditable, moreover, as it is irrevocable. The Democratic outhursts of J. J. Hill, J. P. Morgan, President Baer and other plutocrats, the uprising of New York capitalists for Hill, Coler, Parker, McLaughlin, Stanchfield and that whole coterie, the activity of A. S. Hewitt anent the strike—all these things betoken a reappearance of the silk-stocking Democracy in the political sky, in ludicrous and almost pathetic conjunction with the constituency of Carter Harrison in Chicago and Ben Tillman in South Carolina.

Every plutocrat that comes out against Roosevelt and the Republican party will send ten workingmen to them. There is no juster or more promising road to political success in this country than by the way of justice to organized labor, and the abolishment of special tariff and statutory privileges to the trusts. It is significant, moreover, with what readiness Morgan, head of the steel trust, offers aid to the party of free trade. How much does the steel trust care for the tariff when it voluntarily antagonizes the only party that can keep its wares off the free list? Our high-tariff worshipers can take warning by this that it is vain to think to hold the trusts by the tariff hook. There will be no reward for Republican truckling to the trusts. In caring for the interests of the consumer lie both justice and policy.

A SPECIFIC ACT OF PHILANTHROPY

Mr. Henry Phipps, of the Carnegie Steel Company, lately gave $100,000 to the fund for the relief of Boer widows and orphans. Lest this act might be construed into one of political significance, Mr. Phipps said in a letter to General Botha: "My desire is that the temporary misery of the women and children may be relieved as far as possible by the use of this sum. At the same time I trust nothing will be done which could justly be considered unfriendly to Great Britain." In explanation of this apology, if such it can be called, it is stated that the British government and press are greatly irritated by the appeal made by the suffering Boers for help, and the prospect that it will meet with generous response on this side of the Atlantic. The British feel that in granting the substantial sum of $15,000,000 for rebuilding the ruined Boer homes and restocking the devastated farms they have acted with signal magnanimity. Hence the disposition to resent the Boer request for funds to apply to their immediate needs.

Philanthropic Americans are not likely to be deterred from their generous purpose toward a suffering class in the Transvaal, by this oversensitiveness of the British. That the British government has acted with magnanimity toward the Boers in the matter above noted is conceded. But this large sum applied to the rebuilding of homes and restocking farms will not furnish immediate relief to the pressing necessities of an impoverished people. The question, "What shall we eat and wherewithal shall we be clothed?" is a pressing one. It will not wait for solution until crops grow. Its requirements are of the present. General Botha, whose conduct, both during the war and since the termination of hostilities, has gained the respect and admiration of the civilized world, declares that his countrymen "have made peace in the fullest sense of the word," and adds that his only object in appealing to charity in their behalf is to relieve the suffering of an impoverished population in a land made desolate by war.

It seems entirely unnecessary, in view of this declaration and explanation, for Americans who are able to contribute and desire to contribute to this fund to accompany their certified checks with an apology to Great Britain.

PROGRESS AND FRANCHISES.

A sure way to keep the city from being robbed by corporations that use the streets is to grant them no franchises. But that is also a sure way to stop development. We must find a medium ground somewhere between reckless betrayal of the people's interests and reckless prevention of all progress. To find that intermediate course and follow it is the duty of the City Council, without fear or favor.

A great deal of capital has recently been interested in Oregon urban and rural development. It ought to be encouraged. Our street-car lines are improving their roadbeds and adding to their rolling stock. They ought to be encouraged. New lines are talked of and extensions projected. These should also be encouraged. Portland is a sparsely settled city, its 100,000 inhabitants being scattered over forty square miles of territory. This is about four persons to the block. A prime need of such a city is means of transportation. The more railroads and car lines the better.

All this is perfectly compatible with conservation of the public rights. One of the largest elements in the valuation of Portland's street railways is their franchises. The companies do not own the streets, but they use them as freely as if they possessed them in fee simple. The streets belong to the public, and the public is entitled to payment from the companies for the privilege they enjoy of making money out of the streets. In the capital stock of these enterprises the owners contribute something in roadbed, rolling stock, power and payroll. But the public also contributes something in the shape of franchises. One factor in this capital stock is entitled to earnings as well as the other.

As a general rule, railway and street-car franchises should be granted. There is no reason to wait for a charter which may or may not become law. There is no virtue in the new charter which may not be availed of under the old charter, so far as street franchises are concerned. The rights of the public, in the way of forfeiture, length of franchise, public ownership, revenues, etc., can be secured in ordinances now as well as under the new charter. The corporations show a panicky desire to take out franchises before the new charter goes into effect, but if the Council does its duty no advantage need accrue to them now which will not accrue under the new charter.

There may be and often are exceptional circumstances which require the refusal or modification of franchises. A main-traveled street, like Lovejoy, may be denied and a less-used street substituted. A route proposed through an exclusive district like that on Johnson's Hill may properly be subjected to change. But in general the desires of transportation lines to cover the city with tracks should be encouraged. The City & Suburban has spent all the money in Portland it has made in Portland, and its extensions and betterments should be accorded every possible facility. The same is true of the Portland Railway Company, in whose properties several fortunes have been wiped out of existence. The same is true of the Oregon Water Power concern, which is spending money like water for docks, right of way, tracks, etc., and which cherishes a perfectly proper and laudable ambition to get down East Water street and through Sellwood and over the Burnside-street bridge.

All these ventures of capital should be welcomed. They may not all pay, but the money will be spent here, the tracks will be laid, the facilities provided; and if they pass through an era of receivers and bankrupt owners, the successors will operate them to the community's benefit. Franchises should be granted, but they should contain provisions looking to the city's future remuneration for use of streets and to the alternative of public ownership. These valuable privileges should not be withheld, but they should be paid for. If Portland were today deriving a fair income from the use of its streets for transportation, light, power, telephones and telegraph, it would not have to be thinking of utilizing roulette wheels and bawdy-houses to support the city government.

A MISCHIEVOUS ESTIMATE.

The public is startled from time to time by the ghastly and fiendish details of a crime that is abhorrent to every instinct of humanity. Casting about for a reason or an explanation for that which is altogether unreasonable and inexplicable, the criminologist and moral apologist strive to enlighten others, being themselves unenlightened upon this point by disquisitions upon "degeneracy" and its causes.

The murder of Mrs. Pulitzer in New York a short time ago by William Hooper Young furnishes a recent example in this line. Enough has been disclosed in regard to this crime to show that it is one of an unusually repulsive character. Young is said to be a "degenerate," and to show how glibly this word rolls from the tongue he coolly characterizes the man whom he associates with himself in this murder as a "degenerate."

The scientific discussion of moral degeneracy, as based upon the deductions of Lombroso and his fellow-investigators, says the Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph, "has created the rather hazy conviction that degeneracy is a species of disease for which the victim is largely irresponsible." The effect of this conviction upon the unthinking is distinctly mischievous. Reference to a criminal of the more abhorrent sort as a "degenerate" conveys more or less vaguely the idea that the poor fellow is irresponsible and that the blame for the evil wrought out through his medumship might with blended mercy and justice be shifted from the man to the disease of which he is declared to be possessed, and by which he is, by inference at least, controlled. It is easy to see the mischievous trend of this reasoning. As stated by the journal above quoted, the processes by which a man reaches degeneracy have not changed since the world began. They involve the same yielding step by step to criminal passions and proclivities. In a sense every man who yields to a criminal impulse is a degenerate, but his responsibility is as great in the last horrible climax of vice and crime as in the first conscious acceptance of evil as a practice involving cunning and cruelty. Character is not builded in an hour, a day or a year. The consciousness of right does not give way under one sweeping impulse to do wrong. The steps are taken one by one, and it is indeed a pitiful subterfuge, and as mischievous as pitiful, that seeks to excuse the climax of vileness by declaring the perpetrator of a malicious crime to be the victim of irresistible moral disease. It is, on the contrary, the part of wisdom to make men responsible and hold them responsible.

WHAT CAN BE DONE.

There are eminent lawyers who argue with intelligence and force that the President is in possession of power to move legally against the anthracite operators in processes of compulsion or seizure of their properties for temporary public operation. Heman W. Chaplin, an able lawyer of Cambridge, Mass., points out that it is a familiar principle of law that "all real estate of whatever character is subject to the right of the public in many respects to restrict the use of it, or to require affirmative action in respect to it on the part of the owner." This is notably true of property like public inns and railroads, and so of coal mines. Under the common law of America we have the established rule, says Mr. Chaplin, "that when a person voluntarily devotes his property to a public use, and invites the public to make use of it, he cannot back and fill with the public, but the public's right in his property will control his own."

The conclusion of Mr. Chaplin is that since the public has a right to have coal forthwith mined and immediately transported out of the mine regions by coal-carrying roads—a court of equity has the authority to, and upon proper application of a representative proportion of the public would, appoint a receiver or receivers to take into his or their hands the whole business now in the hands of the anthracite combine and to run it in their places. The Government at Washington, as a consumer of hard coal in the public buildings, could bring such an action in its own behalf and that of the public. The United States Supreme Court has sustained Mr. Chaplin's contention that when private property is affected with a public interest it ceases to be the subject of mere private rights. Judge Benjamin, of Illinois, a lawyer of distinction, favors the purchase of the mines by the State of Pennsylvania under the right of eminent domain, and their operation hereafter on public account. Judge Benjamin holds that such a necessary bounty of nature as coal is not a proper subject of private ownership. The condemnation of the coal mines by the state, to be managed for the benefit of the public, is clearly a public use justifying its exercise under the power of eminent domain.

But to this proposition it is answered that the State of Pennsylvania will not take any such action, for it is practically owned by the corporations among which the coal companies are supreme. No State Legislature could probably be elected that these corporations would not control as completely as they do Senators Quay and Penrose today. The Governor of Pennsylvania is justly charged with lacking firmness and force from the start, and trying to play politics because he is to be elected United States Senator to succeed Penrose. Stone does not want to offend the laboring element, and has refused the demand of the coal corporations to have a regiment at every mine, while on the other hand he has not called the Legislature in session to take such measures with corporations as might end the strike.

Under these circumstances what can the President do, since nothing is to be hoped reasonably of Governor Stone and the State of Pennsylvania? It is answered by lawyers of distinction that the President can have notice served on the coal companies that unless they proceed to operate the mines he will use all the power and influence residing in his office to force the corporations into a receivership, and that in any event proceedings will be instituted to test the legality of the combination which exists in the anthracite business. Whatever is done must be done quickly. The power residing in the Government at Washington is the only power that can now be made adequate to this great public emergency. If the Government at Washington does not rise to the emergency and allows what is practically civil war to continue in Pennsylvania because Governor Stone is playing politics in this strike, the Republican party will be beaten in the Congressional elections, and if it were, in 1904 it might be beaten in the National election.

REPUBLICAN TARIFF DOCTRINE.

Nothing better has been said on the tariff than this speech of Senator Dolliver at Chicago. He stands with equal spirit against the high-tariff superstition and the free-trade impossibility. The principle that the tariff insures adequate competition from domestic sources, he says, a principle "which never failed to justify the doctrine of protection in any period of the past, is today passing through an ordeal hardly even anticipated when the tariff law of 1897 was placed upon the statute-books. If one field of production after another passes under the control of speculators in the interest of notorious schemes to engross the whole market, the protection literature of a hundred years becomes obsolete."

Let us put alongside this utterance of Senator Dolliver a few more along the same lines, to show how firm a hold tariff revision has taken upon the minds of Western Republicans:

GOVERNOR CUMMINS, OF IOWA.

It is practically the unanimous sentiment of the Republican voters of Iowa that the time has come for certain changes in the tariff. Formerly, protection was understood to be an equalizing of the cost of labor in this country with that abroad, and was designed to enable the American manufacturer to hold his own against foreign competition. There are schedules in the present tariff which are not based on that beneficent principle, and through some of these clauses onerous and unnecessary taxes are collected from the people and monopolies are fostered. If the revision is made by the Democrats, as it will be if the Republicans stick to their present attitude, over will go the protective principle and disaster will fall upon the country.

GOVERNOR LA FOLLETTE, OF WISCONSIN

When competition was free between protective industries of the country, the fact that a duty was above the level necessary for protection to American labor was not so important, because competition could ever be depended upon to reduce the price for the consumer upon any protective product to the lowest point to which it could be produced in this country and pay American wages to American labor. The natural law of competition was the same protection to the consumer that the tariff was to the producer. But a new law, an artificial law, is supplanting the natural law of competition. By secret agreement, the producers of like articles limit the number or quantity produced and fix prices. Combination is destroying competition. I believe that the hour has come when tariff revision must stand close guard over tariff schedules.

SENATOR FORAKER, OF OHIO.

At the very foundation of the protective policy has always been the idea and claim that it would multiply industries, improve facilities, develop competition and ultimately reduce the cost of manufactures below their cost abroad. It has also always been a part of this policy to reduce high rates of duty deemed necessary to secure the establishment of an industry as rapidly as its development and the cheapening of its product might allow.

The sooner Republicans generally accept the necessity of tariff revision wherever its justice and wisdom can be shown, the safer the cause of protection will be from overthrow. Tariff agitation will not be promoted by a declared purpose to reform the tariff. It is best promoted by such blind and stubborn resistance to all revision as is shown by Senator Hanna.

An audience of 8000 people gave attention last Sunday in New York while General Booth, of the Salvation Army, repeated the old, old story of divine love and mercy that has touched the hearts of men for ages. The venerable originator and leader of the Salvation Army has inaugurated a practical system of Christianity without doing away with its traditions. He appeals not to the reason of those who need both moral and physical uplifting, but to the emotions through which alone they can be reached and led. Herein lies the secret of his great power. His plan of salvation is one wherein prayer and bread, psalm-singing and the bath, faith and works go hand in hand, mystifying no one, but satisfying and helping thousands. Divine help is only another name for self help, and to the extent that the one provides ways and means for the exercise of the other it deserves the name. Statistics show that divine help as represented by the methods of General Booth for securing it has removed thousands of men, women and children from the lower levels of morality and hand-to-mouth existence and given them peace and hope and such opportunity in the world as makes for decency, sobriety and self-support. Upon this record his record as an evangelist, a humanitarian and a worker in the broad field of simple Christianity rests.

The gambler's plea that he "must support his family" can hardly be taken in this age of wide and widening opportunity to mean that he must gamble in order to keep the wolf from the door that protects his wife and children from want. Of course, he must support his family. Why should he not? But to do this is it necessary for him to rob the families of others? Is not this a plea that a common thief plying his vocation could as reasonably make? Are there, then, no ditches, no potatoes to dig in this Northwest country at this time? And wherefore the cry for help from logging and railway camps, from milk ranches, from sawmills and lumber yards? No able-bodied man need now stand upon the street corner with the plaint "No man hath hired me" upon his lips. Nor is it necessary for any man to rob another man's children in order to feed his own. The door of honest labor is open to all.

In one way or another the deadlock between the coal operators and miners must be broken. Early frosts have already added their sharp pinch to the distress in thousands of poor homes, and it is appalling to contemplate the multiplied misery that Winter will bring upon helpless thousands if present conditions are allowed to continue. If the laws of the State of Pennsylvania are inadequate for the protection of this class of working people from the greed that grinds them down; if the Federal Government is powerless under present conditions to say to inhumanity "Thus far and no farther," then let the guarantee of the President and his Cabinet that legislation supplying this grave deficiency will be urged be accepted as presumably powerful enough to secure such legislation. The strike may be considered won if work is resumed in the mines under a guarantee of this kind.

A protesting, anxious, half-terrorized suburban community has been trying to stop a flying automobile, of French manufacture and unknown horsepower, from the reckless use of its chief thoroughfare by a volley of words. It will not be surprising if, finding this will not do, the good people of Montavilla will be driven to try what virtue there is in more forcible instruments of expression.

Party politics is a two-edged sword. Governor-elect Chamberlain, though from long experience an adept in wielding it, seems likely to be caught by a backward stroke. A sharp thrust or a vicious counter stroke will probably awaken him to a knowledge of the fact that he is simply a Democrat among Republicans, and not by any means "the whole thing" in state politics.

Trust Aggression.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Whether J. Pierpont Morgan denies or affirms the story that he has threatened to work against President Roosevelt, there are good reasons to feel that the trusts will not be able to do much harm to the Republicans. The President's talk against the trusts is in harmony with the sentiment of the masses of the Republican party. It is in line with all the expressions of National Republican Conventions since the trust question, in 1888, first began to be dealt with in politics. Every Republican orator who has said anything on the trust question in this canvass, or in any canvass since that issue first came up, has taken the same ground as that occupied by Col. Roosevelt. That position is maintained by virtually every Republican newspaper in the country of any influence. It will be maintained through the canvass of 1902. The National Convention of the Republican party in 1904 will affirm it. The party in the campaign will hold precisely the same ground that it occupies in this.

Deductions.

Philadelphia Press.

"I didn't know he was a newspaper man."

"Yes, he's been in the business just six months."

"How do you know?"

"I asked him yesterday how long it took to make a good reporter, and he said about six months."

THE SECRETARY AND THE LAW.

New York Evening Post.

Granted that the law requiring a reserve against Government deposits is needless (and we agree that it is so), is the Secretary justified in disregarding it? Certainly not. Even if we assume that the situation in Wall Street was more critical than it appeared to be, the answer must still be in the negative. What makes the Secretary's action more inexplicable is the fact that we have had for some weeks, on the Treasury's authority, explanations that overspeculation had caused the trouble. Intimations have been continuous, from that quarter, that the money situation throughout the country as a whole was sound. There was no trouble in the West, it was alleged; no trouble in business circles; the excesses of speculative Wall street had merely brought on Wall street's head the natural penalty. If the Treasury practice is to be reversed, the place to reverse it is in the acts of Congress. If Government officers are to assume the right to overrule statutes when the occasion, in their view, requires it, where is the policy to end? We know where it ended in the panic of 1873, when a frightened Secretary threw on the market a batch of fiat money legally marked for retirement. The crisis was made rather worse than better by that move of reckless desperation, and the Administration responsible for it incurred the unchanging and unsparing censure of its own and later times.

Mr. Richardson's stretching of the powers of his office occurred at a time of genuine panic, helplessness and depression; this is hardly the case with Secretary Shaw. It is also true that the Secretary's moves are but partly warranted by absorption of currency by the Treasury. The daily surplus revenue is at present moderately large; but the surplus revenue for the fiscal year has been barely $8,000,000. It must be obvious, then, that the Government's powers are being strained, not to correct a situation brought about arbitrarily by the Treasury, but to help the money market out of a difficulty into which it had brought itself. But this is a wholly new function for the United States Treasury, and it is certainly, in our judgment, a step for which our system of government is not prepared. If a Secretary has the right to overstep strict construction of the law to relieve a temporary strain in money, what is to hinder similar action merely to foster speculation? This is a pregnant question, which will be asked in many quarters of the United States today.

A "PUDD'NHEAD WILSON" CASE.

Finger-Print Evidence Has Just Sent a London Man to Prison.

New York Evening Sun.

In "Pudd'nhead Wilson," the play founded on Mark Twain's story, the country lawyer, whose fad it is to collect impressions of the thumbs of his acquaintances, convicts a defendant of murder by identifying his thumb-print with an impression taken some time before the trial. The audience finds the notion ingenious and amusing, but the comment is apt to be that while it serves its purpose in a melodrama it would have no utility in real life. On the contrary, finger prints as evidence are coming to be regarded as of considerable importance by the British and continental police. In the Central Criminal Court of London recently a defendant was convicted of burglary on such evidence. The prosecutor said it was offered to convict for the first time in an English court. It seems that the window sashes of the house entered had been freshly painted, and on one of them was left the impression of the burglar's hand. A photograph of it was made by the police. Two months later the defendant was arrested in the neighborhood after a chase in which he dropped a burglar's kit. Sergeant Collins, of Scotland Yard, who, like "Pudd'nhead Wilson," had made a study of hand prints, took an impression of the prisoner's thumbs and fingers and testified that the lines of the prisoner's left hand exactly corresponded with the impression left on the freshly painted window sash by the burglar. This evidence convinced the jury, and it brought in a verdict of guilty. Unfortunately for a challenge of the theory set up by the prosecution, the prisoner was not represented by counsel. That theory was that the finger prints of no two living persons are exactly alike.

In the English prisons hand impressions of the inmates are taken as well as photographs and measurements. In France finger prints are sometimes offered in evidence in criminal cases. So far as we know the police of the United States have not made any use of the theory in their records for the identification of criminals.

Prosperity and Religion.

Chicago Tribune.

Since July 1, on which date the largest edition of Bibles on record was printed by a Chicago Bible publishing-house, that house has been unable to fill its orders, and is today over 20,000 copies behind its sales. Another edition of like number with the first, now on the presses, will be consumed by the trade by December 1. Never before has a Chicago publisher sold over 15,000 copies of the Bible in a year, while the sales of this one house have been three times that number in six months. There is no reason to suppose that what is true in one city as to Bible sales is not true of all others, for while Chicago is always a righteous city, it is not any more so than "the other cities of the plain." This does not look as if "prosperity were bad for religion."

"If prosperity is bad for religion," how comes it that the Methodist denomination during the last 12 months in this country, Canada and England has raised $23,850,000; the Canadian Presbyterians, $1,430,000; the English Congregationalists, $3,312,000; and the English Baptists, $1,250,000? There are several other denominations yet to be heard from, for at the beginning of the 20th century various denominations resolved to make a vigorous effort to establish what they called a "jubilee fund." It is now expected that by the close of this year the aggregate fund will reach $75,000,000. It is to be remembered also that the collection of this great fund has not in any way interfered with the regular church collections for running expenses. This does not look as if "prosperity is bad for religion." On the other hand, it looks as if it was an excellent thing for religion. Religion is not only good for adversity, but thrives well in prosperity.

The President's Wound.

Boston Herald.

The Philadelphia Medical Journal, in discussing the recent opening of an abscess as the effect of President Roosevelt's Pittsfield accident, remarks that there has been a lack of prudence in the course permitted to him since that casualty occurred. It thinks there should have been absolute rest provided as an essential feature in the case, and says that it has been a source of amazement to many physicians that he was kept constantly on the move almost immediately after the shock to his system had been received. The writer concludes his discussion of the subject by saying: "If physicians have learned anything about such accidents, it is to guard against their remote effects. They often leave a trail of disasters behind them that is not anticipated at the time. The President of the United States was entitled to a little rest treatment. He should have been respectfully advised to submit to it whether he wanted to or not."

The President and Mr. Morgan.

Detroit Free Press.

If Mr. Morgan is looking for a fight with the President he can undoubtedly have it. Mr. Roosevelt is not given to shirking trouble when it becomes insistent. If Mr. Morgan wishes to make plutocracy a paramount issue in the political campaign, he can succeed. If he wishes an opinion from the people of the United States regarding the right of the Government to govern and the right of the President to discuss questions of government, he can obtain their verdict, and he may rest assured that the jury will not disagree.

SPIRIT OF THE NORTHWEST PRESS

Wide Open in One Respect.

Salem Journal.

Portland will be an open town in some ways—always open-hearted.

And With Good Reason.

Eugene Register.

The China pheasant is unalterably opposed to the open door policy of America.

Discount Not Needed.

Eugene Register.

One of the first duties of the next Legislature will be to knock out that 3 per cent discount for payment of taxes and lowering the penalty for delinquency.

The Proposed Referendum.

Albany Democrat.

Will the Portland people be willing to submit the Lewis and Clark appropriation to the people? Having voted in favor of the referendum it would be consistent and proper.

Very Natural.

Spokane Spokesman-Review.

When it comes to closing hospitals and shutting down the elevator in the Washington monument because of the coal shortage, it is not surprising that some people begin to talk of compulsory arbitration and Government ownership.

Doesn't Attempt the Impossible.

Newport News.

If President Roosevelt were a demagogue he would promise to wipe out the trusts, raise wages in the coal mines and secure equal incomes for the hustler and the laggard—but the President is too honest to promise the impossible and the people respect him all the more because of it.

Commends New York Democrats.

Albany Democrat.

The Democrats of New York did a very commendable thing in "setting down" very hard on the infamous Devery, of New York, a man who wants to lead, notwithstanding the fact that he is about as capable of leading as a yellow dog. Now if the Republicans will sit down on some of their reprobates they will also have set a good example for the country generally to follow.

Hopmen Will Have Money.

Salem Statesman.

The hopgrowers and dealers of the Willamette Valley are going to have several hundred thousands of dollars to spare after the crop is sold. There will be many uses for the money. It will enter into business in various ways and make improvements without number in country and town. Some scores of thousands of it could be used profitably in Salem in the building of new dwelling-houses for rent, and for sale, on the installment plan and otherwise. There is plenty of room for the houses. Vacant lots are numerous and cheap, and there is unplatted property without limit.

Finns Are Needed.

Astoria Astorian.

As a general rule the Finns are engaged in developing this country in positions that American born men do not want. But they are a depressed people and are about to be shamefully subjugated to a despotic rule. Therefore, this Republic, whose motto is "Freedom," is only supporting our own doctrine in showing these poor, uneducated people that we make no empty boast. We certainly concur with The Oregonian that we can afford to welcome any workers of a downtrodden race, always provided that their intentions are to be useful laborers under and loyal supporters of the Stars and Stripes.

Very Likely True.

Walla Walla Statesman.

Over in Oregon they are trying to raise a fund to provide for a testimonial to be presented to Admiral Clark, who commanded the really great battle-ship Oregon in the conflict off Santiago harbor. It is generally and officially admitted that if it had not been for Clark and the way he maneuvered his vessel one or two of the Spanish ships would have escaped. Now that Colonel Bob Mitchell, formerly of this city, has taken hold of the project, it looks like success. It has dragged two years, much to the reproach of our sister state. If Clark had commanded a ship named after this commonwealth, he would have been wearing his sword a long time ago.

Good Indication.

Lebanon Criterion.

Last week witnessed the opening of nearly every college in the state, and in every instance, where we have seen any account o fthe enrollment, it is greater than last year and in most cases larger than ever before in the history of the institution. This is a very pleasing state of affairs, and shows two things. First, that our people are a progressive people and although, in many instances, they were themselves denied a college education, yet they believe in it and intend gaving their children all the advantages possible. Second, it shows that our people are universally prosperous, for with all possible zeal for education parents cannot send their children to college without considerable expense.

Wants Scalp Law Repealed.

Hillsboro Argus.

That the coyote tax law should be repealed is the general consensus of opinion in Western Oregon. That the Willamette Valley should be made to pay for scalps of Eastern Oregon coyotes is as absurd as to expect Eastern Oregon to pay for the spraying of the Western Oregon hops to kill lice. Let the law be repealed, and, if our bunchgrass friends want to pay for scalps let each county pay for its own. The counties in that region are more than "protected" by a tariff on wool, while the Willamette Valley rancher must raise his wheat and oats with no aid from the Government—unless, of course, you can find some brilliant ass who can figure that a tariff on wheat is a help to an Oregon farmer. By all means the scalp bounty law should be repealed. No Senatorial election should obstruct its recall. Trading which perpetuates this law should trade out of power the party which placed the law on the books.

Begging the Question.

Tacoma News.

The operators in their replies to the President's appeal entirely failed to touch the real point in the controversy. They had not a word to say as to the reasons for their refusal to grant the demands of the miners for better pay and better conditions of employment which culminated in the strike. All that President Baer and the other operators said at the conference related to conditions subsequent to the beginning of the strike. The condition of affairs in the anthracite mine region of Pennsylvania is deplorable, but it will not remove the cause of the trouble to garrison the territory with soldiers and match the unarmed forces of the strikers with a superior force of armed troops. A settlement at the point of the bayonet is not a settlement. The demand of the miners for "higher wages and improved environment" is either justifiable or untenable. It will not do to claim the right of combination for capital and deny the same privilege to labor. The question of exclusive employment for union men is not involved in this proposition and is not now under discussion. With coal soaring to $25 a ton in the Eastern cities the public will not sustain the position of the operators. The demand will be that the mine-owners pay fair wages and employ a sufficient force of men to produce the required supply of coal. The coal operators will not be justified in holding out against a demand that the miners be paid a few cents more per ton for their labor. Sentiment will crystallize against the so-called "coal barons" unless they adopt a more reasonable attitude.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

True to Nature.

What time is it? Great Heaven!
I know I shall be late;
The clock is striking 7,
And I am due at 8,
To give my famous lecture
On innocence and truth
Obedience to Nature
And everlasting youth.

Please bring my straight-front corset,
Its hanging on the chair,
Those pads, and in that bottle
Restorer for my hair.
And get the eyebrow pencil
And hurry for your life!
The rat there for my pompadour
My file and cuticle knife.

Don't cut you with the scissors,
Or get the powder damp,
Oh, bring the curling iron
And light the spirit lamp!
Oh, where's the massage roller,
Oh, where's my ongoline,
My cream jar and my red-lip rouge,
My pot of rosaline?

It's well you're here to help me,
I couldn't dress alone;
Now hand me, please, the buffer,
And cake of pumice stone.
Nail powder, I use Diamond,
Those emory boards I prize,
A touch of belladona
To brighten up my eyes.

And now I guess I'm ready,
The clock is striking eight;
The hack will have to hurry
I'll not be very late.
Now who, to see my make up,
Could doubt my lecture's truth,
That being true to Nature
Will give perpetual youth?

We had our fingers crossed last spring when we said we were going after that pennant.

This is the last week of the Portland team's triumphal progress from first to fourth place.

Constable Jackson has not butted in for 48 hours, and everything is once more serene in the North End.

The Tacoma News says: "Everything points to the renomination of Roosevelt in 1904." Who said Tacoma is slow?

The dispatch from Buenos Ayres that there was after all no Strong-Yohe wedding has caused no widespread consternation in this country.

St. Louis has convicted one boodler, and is now making it lively for a millionaire brewer. Here is one plutocrat who would be willing to arbitrate.

Now the workmen at the job of renovating the White House have struck. It's time that Mrs. Roosevelt took a hand to settle the labor problem.

General Corbin says he dined with the Kaiser nine times, and pronounces him O. K. Evidently William was dead set on making a hit with Corbin.

At last accounts the hunters who got 20 birds and say they shot the legal limit of 10 are about a stand-off for the hunters who got one and swear they shot 20.

We beg to call the President's attention to the fact that the absence of a leg or so will not prevent several old vets from stumping along in the G. A. R. parade.

The difference between a steamboat collision on the Columbia River and Puget Sound is that in the former the collidor and the collidee do not sink promptly in about a thousand fathoms of water. We may add parenthetically that there is water enough in the Columbia to sink a ship in.

Tom L. Johnson's unique political campaign in Ohio is likely to have at least partial duplication in the West Superior, Wis., Congressional district, where Dr. J. A. Rene has been nominated to run against Congressman Jenkins. The district is strongly Republican, but Dr. Rene, who is an expert chaffeur, will make his campaign in his automobile and is confident of making a hit with the farmers.

Next month Justice Shiras of the United States Supreme court will have completed ten years on the bench and under the law will be eligible to retirement on full pay. Chief Justice Fuller is also eligible for retirement, but will doubtless continue to serve in his present office for an indefinite period, having a high regard for the position and its social advantages. Justice Harlan, still hale and vigorous, despite his long term on the bench, does not show any desire to abandon the flowing robes.

Mrs. Hanna, wife of the senator, settled a labor dispute in a hurry the other day. A Cleveland house owned by the senator was being painted by a force of sixteen men who did not belong to the union. Officers of the Painters' Union came to see the senator, who was not at home. Mrs. Hanna heard what they had to say, drove to the house at once and ordered the men to quit work. They obeyed her promptly, and that night every one of them joined the union. Employes of another firm followed suit next day, and the painters are considering the advisability of electing Mrs. Hanna an honorary business agent.

Allan Percy.

It was a beauteous lady richly dressed;
Around her neck are chains of jewels rare;
A velvet mantle shrouds her snowy breast,
And a young child is softly slumbering there.
In her own arms, beneath that glowing sun,
She bears him onward to the greenwood tree.
Is the dun heath, thou fair and thoughtless one,
The place where an Earl's son should cradled be?

Lullaby!

Though a proud Earl be father to my child,
Yet on the sward my blessed babe shall lie;
Let the winds lull him with their murmurs wild,
And toss the green boughs upward to the sky.
Well knows that Earl how long my spirit pined,
I love a forester, glad, bold and free;
And had I wedded as my heart inclined,
My child were cradled 'neath the greenwood tree.

Lullaby!

Slumber thou still, my innocent—mine own,
While I call back the dreams of other days
In the deep forest I feel less alone
Than when those palace splendors mock my gaze.
Fear not! my arm shall bear thee safely back;
I need no squire, no page with bended knee,
To bear my baby through the wildwood track,
Where Allan Percy used to roam with me.

Lullaby!

Here I can sit; and while the fresh wind blows,
Waving the ringlets of thy shining hair,
Giving thy cheek a deeper tinge of rose,
I can dream dreams that comfort my despair;
I can make visions of a different home,
Such as we hoped in other days might be;
There no proud Earl's unwelcome footsteps come—
There, Allan Percy, I am safe with thee!

Lullaby!

Thou art mine own—I'll bear thee where I list,
Far from the dull, proud tower and donjon-keep;
From my long hair the pearl-chains I'll untwist,
And with a peasant's heart sit down and weep.
Thy glittering 'broidered robe, my precious one,
Changed for a simpler covering shall be;
And I will dream thee Allan Percy's son,
And think poor Allan guards thy sleep with me.

Lullaby!

—Caroline Norton.