

The Oregonian.

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TODAY'S WEATHER:—Wet, with light rain, and a strong wind.

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, FEB. 13, 1903.

THE ETHERIAL REALM.

Whether we construct the Isthmian Canal at Panama or Nicaragua, it may be a question if we shall be disturbed more by earthquakes or by political revolutions.

Here's the rub. The railway powers of the United States thus far have prevented any real progress toward construction of the Isthmian Canal.

Either at Panama or at Nicaragua it would be an easy job to clear the path for a canal over all obstructions.

The upshot of it all is that we don't get ahead as fast with an Isthmian Canal—though we have been hammering at it more than fifty years.

THE LAMENTATIONS OF HILL.

Incidentally Mr. J. J. Hill reflects that his sort of trusts are all right, but others are bad.

LAST OF A BRILLIANT BAND. The death of Sir Charles Gavin Duffy in his 87th year removes from this world the last eminent leader of the famous Young Ireland party of 1847.

So keen a mind as Mr. Hill's should by this time have discovered the fallacy of a view which was widespread ten years ago, but which has been uniformly discredited not only by experience, but by American observers.

preme factor, as once it was, in manufacture. We have to reckon with capital's enterprise or timidity, with interest rates, with supply and cost of raw material, with transportation charges, and with labor-saving machinery.

Now is it possible to accept without question Mr. Hill's invidious comparison of our organized labor with Europe's. So far as Great Britain is concerned the greater antipathy of British unions to individual initiative, enterprise and excellence is universally recognized.

Passing strange is Mr. Hill's observation that the tariff is all that enables us to maintain high wages. What sort of a Democrat, and what sort of a free trader, is he that speaks out in this wise?

REAL TEST OF TRUST LAWS.

It is useless to pass laws, unless they are enforced; and the demand for stringent anti-trust legislation must not obscure the fact that tangible results can only come from fidelity on the part of the President and especially in the new Department of Commerce and the Department of Justice.

Herein lies the danger of present dissatisfaction with Congressional irresponsiveness to public sentiment, especially with irresponsiveness of the Senate: that on the one hand we shall lay too much stress upon the mere matter of statutory enactment and on the other hand we shall underestimate the ultimate accountability of the Administration for results under the laws as they are.

The fact is that the law has always been in advance of our practice. The Sherman anti-trust law of 1890 forbids combinations in restraint of trade, in form of trust or otherwise, and empowers United States Circuit Courts to prevent and restrain such operations.

It is time to cease the clamor for limitless drastic penalties for trust operations beyond what public opinion will justify the Administration in enforcing, or at any rate to cease putting the entire anti-trust cause in the position of standing or falling by mere act of Congress.

Much as we may condemn the trucking of Senators to corporation influence, much as we may deplore the Senatorial irresponsiveness to public opinion, it is nevertheless reasonably certain that the legislation of the present session will do anything to change the wrong from the courts and supported in the average opinion as just and wise.

But the main point is that the real responsibility will lie not so much with Congress as with the Administration. All the progress reasonable to expect in curbing monopoly can be had by the Attorney-General and the new Secretary of Commerce, if they will move ahead abreast of the increased powers given them by this Congress.

Yesterday the anniversary of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, was celebrated in all the great cities of the land. The orators selected for this occasion are generally persons of distinguished usefulness, who, through historical ignorance or lack of intellectual perception, either idealize Lincoln or give us a wooden shape for a fish-and-blood figure.

Senator Masters is the humane member of the Legislature. The latest proof of this is found in his bill to punish persons who set steel traps where they may catch dogs or cats after night.

superficial; he was naturally a very grave man, using his humor to mask his melancholy. His whole appearance toward the close of his life was that of a man of many sorrows.

The people on this Coast were so remote from the battle heart of the Civil War that they probably had a more dispassionate and therefore a higher and juster estimate of Lincoln's greatness than was felt at the East.

When Governor McBride, in his celebrated anti-railroad manifesto last May endeavored to read out of the Republican party of the state every man who failed to fall in with his views on the railroad commission, he essayed a feat that was impossible.

Lincoln was a humane man, but his justice in public matters was never sacrificed to his humanity. He hanged the slave trader Gordon, he hanged the Confederate officers captured in disguise within our lines; he hanged all the firebugs who tried to burn the hotels of New York City; he was a most merciless man to the guilty whom he deemed fully responsible for their guilt.

The statement frequently made of a great deficiency in naval officers is repeated in connection with the naval appropriation bill that was submitted to the National House of Representatives a few days ago.

It was this kind of thing that brought on the storm which broke on the Governor's head in both houses of the Legislature at Olympia Wednesday. That "terrible railroad lobby" was charged with bribery, and the men not necessarily friends of the railroad lobby but driven into a kind of partnership with it by the Governor himself were made to bear what measure of odium the Governor could heap on them.

THE UNITED STATES SENATE STANDS AS A SOLID WALL AGAINST THE ONSET OF POPULAR OPINION AGAINST THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF SENATORS BY POPULAR VOTE.

"We are sowing the wind," said Senator Warburton, the Governor's chief lieutenant, in an episode of Wednesday, and we will reap the whirlwind. It is questionable Senator Warburton was right, but he failed properly to distribute the blame for this sowing, and when all of the inside history of the last political campaign of the State of Washington becomes known it will be found that while the anti-commission men were sowing with an old hand seeder the commission men were using a broad-gauge steam drill, and the whirlwind will be reaped accordingly.

A MAN OF SORROWS.

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PHILADELPHIA RECORD.

During the last contest for Mayor in New York the Republican organs in Philadelphia were lavish in their applause of the conservative Democrats and independent candidates who opposed Edward M. Sheppard, the Tammany candidate.

THE BOSTON LEARNING A LESSON.

For almost two months the crowded galleries of the Senate have had eyes for no Senator but Quay. At peculiar junctures the temper of the Senate has been at the boiling point.

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BLOW TO NEWS PIRATES.

Illinois Court Establishes a Notable Precedent.

CHICAGO, Oct. 28.—An important principle of law was established today when Judge Baker, Grosscup and Burr, of the United States Court of appeals, handed down an opinion to the effect that the Western Union Telegraph Company has a right of property in the news which it gathers, and that such right does not cease when the news is published on the tickers rented to its patrons.

The business of appellation is that of a carrier of information. The gist of its service to the patron is that by such carriage the patron acquires knowledge of the matter communicated earlier than those not thus served.

The immediate business of appellation brought to our attention cannot arouse any great solicitude. It relates to the gathering and distributing of news not looked upon perhaps in all quarters as essential to the public welfare.

EUROPE AND AMERICA.

Neither Great Britain, Germany, nor France should lack for definite information now on matters of interest on this side of the water, or as to American sentiment relating thereto.

THE ORIGINAL INTERVIEWER.

It has been said that the father of the newspaper interview was Henri Georges Stephane Adolphe Oppert de Biowitz—not a single name in French, but a name of truth.

NEXT NEWS FROM GERMANY.

Several German statesmen of prominence have expressed the opinion that they have a constitutional right to criticize the Government on any matter of political activity.

DOING AWAY WITH CORNERS.

Senator Elsborg's bill abolishing corners and providing for medical examinations of the stock market will sensibly effort to bring an important branch of our legal machinery in line with modern conditions.

JUST THE SAME OLD STORY.

Savannah, Ga., News. Mr. Bogie, head of the Indiana coal operators, says that any increase in the price of coal miners must come out of the consumers.

THE GOURMET.

When Milly looks in cooking books she always finds the recipe for the And thind seen the frying pan. Watch chafing-dish's bubbling. It smells like I'm not looking.

HE DIDN'T KNOW.

Then pitv Kaiser Wilhelm, for how was he to know that a silliness with Britain 'gainst the Doc. Would arouse in Rudyard Kipling such a wild vindictive vim.

BOWEN'S SHARP REPLY.

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PRINCELY GIVERS OF LAST YEAR.

Chicago Inter Ocean. Twenty-three persons in the United States contributed by will or gift, in 1902, \$7,292,000 to educational, charitable and religious institutions.

The gifts of other persons in 1902 amounted to \$20,001,067, making a total of \$27,293,067 for the year.

THE PADGETT BILL.

What is the meaning of the presentation of the Padgett bill as a substitute for the Fowler bill? Mr. Padgett, the author or sponsor, is a Tennessee Democrat, who has not been in Congress long enough to have a record for the supporting of the House committee on banking and currency.

A BILL TO BE PASSED.

Philadelphia Inquirer. It is to be hoped that the Elkins bill to increase the efficiency of the interstate commerce law which has just passed the Senate unopposed may meet with a similarly favorable consideration in the House.

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NOTE AND COMMENT.

Every crimp has his sailor. School's not half 'bad fun, anyway, boys.

Mr. Baer is certainly not trying to bull the labor market.

Professor D. Cupid's course is the most popular at Eugene.

Say, little messenger boy, what are you going to do now?

What tricks the street laddies will show their teachers!

We wonder whether Mrs. Sparks will dare give a freshman yell.

We know two people who believe co-education is not a failure.

They do say the teachers lobbied against the child labor law.

A Kansas City wife has sued her husband—worth \$100,000—for divorce, because he wouldn't pay her postage stamps. Maybe he thought she'd write and send for minims.

What a strange coincidence that the Mayor and Councilmen of Baker City should arrive in Portland to study municipal conditions on the day of a prize-fight!

No child under 14 years of age shall be employed in any factory, store, workshop or mine, or in the telegraph, telephone or messenger service. No child under 16 years of age shall be employed before 6 A. M. or after 7 P. M.—Extract from child labor law passed by the Legislature.

And with one fell swoop the Legislature has solved that momentous problem, "What shall we do with our college graduates?"

Much opposition has developed among the students of the University of Wisconsin against having Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, speak before them. Tillman was engaged by the Student Oratorical Association as lecturer. Under the caption, "Mr. W. Warren Tillman," the Carolina university daily, says: "We have no quarrel with Mr. Tillman, and if he came he should have a respectful hearing, but the propriety of having the fiery Southerner promulgate under university auspices his well-known ideas of Southern problems is doubtful."

The statue of Liberty, which "enlightens the world" from a small island in the upper New York Bay, is not so popular as she was in the days of her youth. A dozen years ago 8,500 visitors made use of the small steam ferry-boat that piloted between the Battery and her resting place, while the past year saw but 40,000. The men in charge of the statue and the boat—a private corporation—have become weary of their task and have requested the War Department to take it over.

John L. Wilson, defeated candidate for United States Senator, was in Spokane a few days ago, and the Chronicle published an interview with him, in which the following statement occurred: "It is my estimation," said ex-Senator Wilson, "a better man than Levi Ankeny could not have been chosen to represent the citizens of Washington in the Senate. Ankeny is a politician of great merit, and a statesman who is thoroughly capable of directing the affairs of our country. We will learn that no mistake has been made in electing him as our Senatorial representative, and the Republican party especially will be proud to have him represent us."

It is almost needless to say that Mr. Wilson lost no time in denying the interview.

Robert W. Chambers, the well-known author, tells a good joke on a certain eminent ornithologist with whom he spent some time in Florida. Mr. Chambers has a pretty good knowledge of birds himself, but he had no pretense to equaling his scientific friend, except in native powers of observation. There was a friendly rivalry between the two as to which saw the most bird specimens. One day Mr. Chambers announced having seen a crested grebe. The eminent ornithologist was immediately filled with envy. They took daily tramps by separate routes, and, though they walked over each other's tracks day after day, while the ornithologist confessed his failure, it finally transpired that Mr. Chambers had seen the bird under the very plazza where they took their daily smoke, and which was situated near the water's edge. Every day the grebe had come from the water to the plazza, and Mr. Chambers, chuckling over his find, had allowed his scientific friend to follow a will-o'-the-wisp over miles of Floridian land and water.

DISTURBANCE ON MOUNT HOOD.

Salmon, O., Feb. 10.—(To the Editor)—As I was walking in the Barlow Road today in search of a Lost Lamb I see a strange disturbance on Mt. Hood. I see three streaks of smoke ascending from the Mountain's side as if I look again and see three fureurs out in the Mountain. Can you explain this? I will learn that no mistake has been made in electing him as our Senatorial representative, and the Republican party especially will be proud to have him represent us.

No, the strange disturbance was not caused by a volcanic eruption. White and German on their skins. Yes, if we saw those three streaks coming our way we would surely move. If you find a tree handy next time, climb it.

A SAILOR'S LAMENT.

O, 'ow we live the boundin' sea, 'On 'er we live a life so free, 'But in town the crimps don't do a thing but 'awl blows to beat the band.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS.

White Horse—I hate to eat dry hay. Brown Horse—What's the matter with you? You have to eat health food.—Chicago Daily News. Mr. Bacon—When all the fools are dead, I don't want to be alive. Mrs. Bacon—Well, you'll be off at Newport by—Philadelphia Press. "Sincerely, the actor," is a great believer in higher criticism. "I didn't know that." "He is though. He says he'd rather get a lead hand from the actor than a lead hand from a box of soap."—Baltimore News. "My dear sir," wrote the editor to the persistent young author, "in order to simplify matters somewhat, we are inclosing a bunch of letters with thanks notices. If you will put one of these in an envelope with your manuscript, and mail it to yourself it will make it easier for all of us, and you will be saving something in postage as well."—Chicago Evening Post.