

The Oregonian.

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are so blinded by their commercial jealousy and hate of Germany that they give no weight to Balfour's explanation. It is now regarded as settled that the Bagdad railway, as well as the Bagdad railway that is to be constructed from Konia, near the eastern end of Asia Minor, to Mosul, and thence southward to Bagdad and Basora.

PROTESTS FROM WALL STREET. From the New York Financial Chronicle one may look for a fair reflection of capitalist impression of the merger decision. And the Chronicle is much more than ready to find fault with the decision. Where we had looked to find some measure of satisfaction with a ruling obviously in accord both with the law and with public policy we find only grunts and growls.

Though the Chronicle does make a very plausible showing. The decision is, it says, that while no restraint of trade has been practiced, and while the merger's motives are entirely laudable, its effect is to place the power to establish unreasonable rates, and the Chronicle submits that a man might as justly be divested of his razor on the ground that it "confers the power" to commit a felonious assault.

Why, then, was the merger dissolved? The Chronicle says it was because the court yielded to public opinion. The anti-trust agitation "has reached the proportions and symptoms of a mania," and the Chronicle would fain "let the Supreme Court have time to get out of the atmosphere" of the St. Paul decision.

The answer to this complaint is that no court in any country, least of all under a popular government, can be regarded as infallible. Slavery and railroads, to go no farther, show in their history how courts as well as Legislatures reflect the changing public policy of the time.

Anti-trust sentiment may be a mania, and it may not. The question is one of fact, and not of mere sentiment. The National general conviction that monopoly is a deadly thing, however eminent its representatives and beneficent its immediate purposes. If we have to be saved by monopoly, it will be a public monopoly, and not the trust in private hands.

More specifically and pertinent to the Chronicle's reductio ad absurdum, it is to be noted that the public interest in the case of the public sentiment behind the St. Paul decision is the pernicious activity of the trusts. If they are reaping the whirlwind, they have sown the wind. They have contravened the spirit and the letter of the Sherman law, and have thought to defy the courts as they have defied Congress.

Mr. Morgan may be wiser than the law, but he is not the law. His may know better than the courts what is good for the country, but the judicial function is not vested in him. It is the province of Congress to determine what is best for the country; and it is the province of our magistrates to study the law to obey, and not to break. Nothing needs the support of the law so much as property, and if property is wise it will not be found setting examples of lawlessness. The best of the custodians have no more right to select what laws he will obey than has the magnate of Wall Street.

It seems superfluous either to explain the Olmsted plans, which were printed yesterday in detail, or venture an approving verdict on a matter of so technical a character. But it is perfectly clear, whatever may be thought of the Olmsted plan, that it is a masterpiece of the architect who constantly had in mind such practical matters as convenience and profit as well as the more artistic things relating to architectural effect.

The termination of a long and useful life of versatile public service in seeming official disgrace is illustrated by the removal from office of Assistant Attorney-General Tyner. Tyner is 77 years of age, and a paralytic. Probably his removal is due to the fact that he is unable to perform his duties, and it is fitting to remind ourselves that the title will be central. It is not central now, but Portland in 1906 and succeeding years will not be the Portland of 1903.

James Freeman, of Washington, N. J., has become a father of the twenty-third year. He is 63 years of age, and a colored war veteran; he had fourteen children by his first wife, and fourteen by his second wife. The first fourteen were all boys, except one; his children by his second wife consist of eight boys and six girls, including two sets of twins. This colored war veteran has certainly not been guilty of "race suicide," and is clearly a happy father.

RUSSIA INVITES WAR. The action of Russia in making demand upon China for the cession of Manchuria is important, as it invites war with Japan, which would mean probably war with Great Britain, for Manchuria is of vital consequence to the Japanese, considered as a market for their manufactures and as an outlet for their surplus population.

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YOUTH TURNING TO CRIME. The startling statistic is made in Minneapolis that of the 41 prisoners in the Hennepin County Jail not one is below 18 years of age. The condition that brings about this state of affairs is worth inquiring into. A Hennepin County Judge commenting upon the situation says that the bulk of the crime among young men is due to their being forced out of many sources of employment by the one thing certain is the fact that there are more young men occupying cells in jails and penitentiaries than there were a few years ago and it behooves those persons who interest themselves in criminology to inquire into the conditions that have brought about this increase in the criminal tendencies of young men.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRE. The New York Society for the Prevention of Tuberculosis has determined to build a sanitarium for consumptives in the Adirondacks, with accommodations for nearly 500 patients. Thus the work of the Society will be to furnish a place which is the greatest foe of man is progressing, and there can be no doubt that the time is coming when consumption will be practically stamped out.

That is the story of Tyra, of Carthage, of Greece, of Rome, of every ancient state. When they became rich enough to buy soldiers without stint, their practice had no far departed than the practice of the mercenaries plundered the state that hired them or helped barbarians push it into its grave. The story of Venice and Genoa carries with it the same moral. When a state breeds nothing but traders and money-grabbers it invites capture by an invasion of warlike barbarians by sea or land.

It is easy today to smile at the thought of what would have happened to the North if the cause of the Union had been beaten by the South; but if Lee had won at Gettysburg, as he came dangerously near doing, Baltimore, Washington and Philadelphia would have fallen into his hands, the Confederacy would have been recognized by all Europe as a nation, the whole South would have supported Lee's victory with intense energy and courage, and in that event terms of peace would have been enforced that would have made the Confederate bondholder look smiling and the holder of United States bonds look as melancholy as a miser whose stronghold had been robbed.

The Ottawa correspondent of the London Economist writes that journal that the general belief in the Canadian capital concerning the case to be heard before the Alaskan Boundary Commission is that the Americans will win. They believe that Lord Alverstone, Chief Justice of Great Britain, will be guided by the evidence, and the correspondent of the Economist says: "A weak feature of our case is that it has the appearance of being an afterthought. Russia claimed what is now claimed by the United States, and England had nothing to say to the contrary."

THE OLDEST PLANS. Mr. Olmsted's admirable landscape outline should serve the two-fold purpose of putting the undertaking at last before the people in concrete form and of arousing a direct and immediate interest in the constructive features of the enterprise. Hitherto the grounds and buildings have been baseless fabrications of the architect's imagination, and it is worth a good deal to have at length even a newspaper ground plan, widened streets, piazzas, terraces, building sites, wharf and railway sites, to the familiar features of Balch Creek and Guild's Lake.

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SPRIT OF THE NORTHWEST PRESS. Right Down the Line. Glendale News. This is glorious news for not only the First District, but the entire state, for his nomination is equivalent to election. In Oregon, it is understood so well, the needs of the state as does Mr. Hermann, owing to his long and valued experience as one of the Nation's most faithful and useful lawmakers.

WORKS BOTH WAYS. Rogue River Courier. "The rebuke to Roosevelt" is likely to be used very largely in the coming Congressional campaign and by both parties. This is the argument that failed to elect Furness for Governor. No President has ever been more popular in Oregon than Roosevelt, but the voters have their ideas as to what constitutes a rebuke to him.

WAS NOT THE Whole Thing. Corvallis Times. Because they did not support him for United States Governor, the Democratic members of the late Legislature "did not uphold the Mayors law." The difficulty with the ex-Governor's notion of things is that he was not the whole Mayors law. It is easy for a statesman to go wrong in his opinions. A Corvallis statesman insisted that his sick cow had hollered horn until the hired man reminded him that she was a milky.

THE DEMOCRATIC PLAN. Ashland Tribune. Ex-Surveyor-General Midrum says he was with the late Governor in Washington and got after that man Hitchcock. Of course, but will it be good policy for the Republican voters to send a man to Congress to fight a trusted man of an Administration which they commend for its splendor? If they oblige the Hermann "rooters" by helping him into Congress to shoot into Hitchcock, what can the President be expected to do for Oregon?

THE OMAHA ALL THING. The experience that the old State of Missouri is undergoing in getting rid of a gang of hoodlums demonstrates how difficult it is to undo political corruption when once it gets its hold and is at the same time entrenched behind a solid voting majority. For years the Republican papers of St. Louis have pointed out cases of state corruption, and especially the mismanagement of the state's school money, but the average voter voted his ticket just the same.

THE ARGUMENT FOR THE PERPETUAL. Corvallis Gazette. The Democratic talk nonsense when they ask the people of the First District to vote for a Democrat, a new, untried, and inexperienced man for Congress, because Mr. Hermann was in Congress for so long a time that he gained ability and experience that enabled him to give the people of his district better service than any other congressman was able to give his constituents.

THE THINGS THAT DRAW. Albany Herald. A case on trial in this city demonstrates the old saying that many people who stand high socially in a community are morally corrupt. For this reason, it is estimated that 100 or 200 people would sit on hard unwholesome seats for a full day to hear vulgar and obscene testimony in a divorce case, but such was done in this city the other day.

REMEDY FOR LYRACHINGS IS LAW. Whatcom Revels. The greatest responsibility for lynchings lies with the judges and the courts. Courts are dilatory and technical. The bar permits tactics that hinder the processes of the law. When justice miscarries so often, it is the fault of the courts. Then they take the law into their own hands. The people of portions of the South have been greatly aggravated. There is no disposition to rob them of their property.

SOME SLIGHT CONCESSION. Spokane Chronicle. At last something has been discovered that gives old Oregon some reason to compare athletics with Washington and brag real hard. By the census returns for 1900 it is shown that while Washington counts but 279 goals, Oregon has 167.5—about one-eighth of all there are in the United States. But the odds are two to one that Washington can count the most kids.

THE FREE LIBRARY. (At the recent jubilee of the Free Libraries in Manchester, England, the following poem by Lewis Morison was read.) "The Free Library." Where weary frame and throbbing brain May rest 'mid garnered sheaves divine And find a brief respite from pain, And care and sorrow and fell, The mill's loud whir and sizzling air, The din, the smoke, the dust, the soot, Which vex the workers everywhere.

CREDULITY'S WIDE RANGE. Baker City Democrat. The desire to get something for nothing and to get it in large quantities is as old as Jacob's ladder. But it never was so rampant as among the American people at the present time. The tendency to bet and speculate is the offspring of this overweening desire. The plentifulness of money, the small rates of interest, and the monopolies that prevent the profitable use of small amounts of money in many lines of business all tend to aggravate the evil and furnish a harvest for the get-rich-quick schemer. It makes little difference what sort of hook or what sort of bait is used. The hog mouths will swallow at a gulp anything from stock in an imaginary gold mine or a chimerical prospect to the promise of 100 per cent a week on alleged wagers upon horse races. So blind are they in their greed that they seemingly never see nor profit by the sad experience of others of their school who are made to suffer severely for their folly.

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THE GOLDEN AGE OF BRIBERY. Kansas City Star. Readers of Dickens who have noticed the recent revelations of bribery in Delaware, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New York and Missouri will recall the experience of Mr. Pickwick in the famous contest at Rassauville between Horatio Pickwick, Esq. of Plain Ledger and Samuel Slumpsey, of Slumpsey Hall. Mr. Pickwick, it will be remembered, descends upon the town one night when the celebration of its birthday is being made. He looks at a crowd of voters and this conversation ensues: "Fine, hearty fellows they seem," said Mr. Pickwick, glancing from the window. "The polling place seems a grand affair. The water at the Peacock has been a pump over the independent voters as supposed these last night."

"Pumping over independent voters" exclaimed Mr. Pickwick. "Yes," said his attendant, "every man steps out to school, dressed in a coat and cap, and they're in rag's last order now. Still! He abed the committee paid for that 'ere job. The polling place seems a grand affair. The water at the Peacock has been a pump over the independent voters as supposed these last night."

There are others. Granite Gem. To read some of the articles written about the "Sumner district" one would be led to believe that all the mines of Eastern Oregon were crowded directly around Sumpter, and that such places as Grants, Alamo, Whitney, Greenhorn and Susanville, if they do exist, are merely suburbs of which Sumpter is the hub. We are glad to see Sumpter grow and prosper. It is a good thing to get out of the point, and it grows, so will we. What we object to is claiming that mine which are from 20 to 30 miles from that city as being in a zone's throw of Sumpter.

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NOTE AND COMMENT. Again we celebrate. How long will it last? Are you married? If not, why not? For sale: Several dozen prize eggs left at this office.

Did you see the meteor? The war with Mars is on. Hurry up and marry before the license fees are raised. Leo Friede addresses the mothers' meeting. Good joke.

Miss Ware, also, must be vindicated to support the Administration. It appears that Mrs. Tryner was the real Postmaster-General herself. We might celebrate the day Teddy gets here by having a couple of hundred weddings.

There must have been a mothers' meeting on some other planet, and the ladies grew violent. Resolved, which is worse, the old maids or the old bachelors? Take that, some of you college debaters.

A recent arrival from California says "race suicide" nearly ruined him. He bet on the wrong horses. King Edward will soon have a few messages from Soumaliland the "I resign to inform you" character.

William K. Vandervilt is having a hard time getting his license. Come to Portland and get one free of charge. A correspondent asks how longlinger Hermann has held office. The Oregonian does not know. It thinks about 75 years.

If the battle is between the mills and the unions, where do the contractors come in? Have they signed away their status in court? So Colonel Ricker, immortal originator of the gin rickie, committed suicide! Alamo! you deserve a better fate! Reach me the Old Tom!

What with losing thousands daily through inability to find cars enough to slip away their enormous surplus, and a simultaneous deficit for the home demand, the millmen are certainly in hard case. Pierpont Morgan, who celebrated his 64th birthday last Friday, achieved his greatest business successes since he reached the three-score mark. He first became prominent in the financial world about 20 years ago, when he went to Europe and successfully sold \$25,000,000 worth of New York Central stock. This made the old financier a gasp. By this piece of work Mr. Morgan won the lasting friendship of the late William H. Vanderbilt, and incidentally cleared \$1,000,000 for himself.

David Bennett Hill used to be a confirmed baseball "rooter" when he was in the United States Senate. Senator Spooner, of Wisconsin, is similarly afflicted—or gifted. He and Mrs. Spooner attended a game in Washington recently, and when the home nine won in the tenth inning, the Wisconsin statesman discarded all Senatorial dignity and yelled with the best of them. He acknowledges with pride that he is fond of the National game, and he likes a horse race, too, but he never bets.

At a dinner Chancellor Von Bulow gave before his recent departure for Italy, Emperor William met Professor Delitisch for the first time since His Majesty criticized the professor's lecture on the Babylonian origin of the Bible. The professor is hard of hearing, and the Emperor's part of the dialogue was consequently in a rather high voice. His Majesty greeted him with: "Well, sir—Professor, we have broken a lance together since I saw you." "Only one lance, Your Majesty," responded the professor, referring to the fact that he had never replied to the Emperor.

Justice Buckley, the English jurist, who reversed the Attorney-General's decision and ordered the extradition of Whitaker Wright from New York, is fast becoming a terror to the officials of all kinds. In London recently the duties of company directors he laid down this standard of conduct: "A man cannot accept office and then say he is not responsible for the duties of the office. It is, in my opinion, the first importance that it should be understood that a director, whether paid or elected to serve without payment, owes duties which he cannot in honor and honesty and legal liability disregard."

Egg Competition No. 6. In the absence of the hen editor, we have taken the liberty of opening one of his letters marked "Egg Competition," and herewith append the inclosed communication: "Spray, Or., April 15.—(To the Editor.) I feel like some of our neighbors about bagging. I have a pullet that was hatched last Fall, and I can beat O. Andrews or T. A. Porter. My pullet has laid several eggs, and I have now in the house that will measure 9 1/2 inches lengthwise and 9 inches around. I have sold 71 dozen this Winter, besides having cake and custard pies and puddings, and I only have 14 hens, Plymouth Rock crossed with Bantams. The Plymouth Rock hens lay red eggs. I get 5 cents more a dozen than a good many other do.

If it were not so inconvenient, I would send the editor one-half dozen, and he would have one dozen, for they are two in one. P. S.—This may seem fishy, but call and see me, and I will prove it by my landlady that keeps the Spray Hotel. W. A. ROBINSON.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS. "Why, ain't you at school, little boy?" "I stayed away on account of sickness, str." "And you is sick, if I may ask?" "The treatst of school." "Did you get a letter after the theater last night?" "Hardly. It was so long coming that I considered it an early breakfast." "Washington Free Press." "What do you think of my poems?" asked the young author. "Well," answered Miss Cayenne, "they are bewick and between. They're not so sensible for nonsense, and not nonsensical for sensible verses."—Washington Star.

"Who was it said 'cleanliness is next to godliness'?" "That's correct. But he wouldn't have said it just that way if he had lived in Chicago." "What would he have said in that case?" "Cleanliness is next to impossibility."—Chicago Record-Herald. "I recall a remark that General Grant made to me once at dinner," said Wooddy Grant, "which was most characteristic of the man." "What was that?" "Keep the change for yourself, my man."—Philadelphia Press. "I supposed you turned me down because of my manners in the restaurant." "No, but you should remember that it is possible to have plenty of money and still be unhappy." "True," replied she, "but I would rather have a little money than without it."—Chicago Daily News.