

The Oregonian.

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YESTERDAY'S WEATHER: Maximum temperature, 45 degrees; minimum, 33. Precipitation, 0.62 of an inch.

TODAY'S WEATHER: Occasional rain; southwest winds.

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, FEB. 11, 1904.

EXAMPLES OF NEAL PROGRESS. In many sections of our Pacific States, not the least various parts of Oregon, there is witnessed the application of new method and new spirit to the cultivation of orchard and farm.

There is no exact precedent for any situation in war; and yet there is one example of history which resembles the Russian relation to Manchuria. This is the enterprise of the great Carthaginian General against Rome.

It was the Roman control of the sea which forced Hannibal to that long, perilous march through Gaul in which more than half of his veteran troops wasted away.

At the critical moment the two Carthaginian armies in Italy were separated, and the Roman General was enabled by combining against one of those armies to defeat it. It is clear that some such disadvantage as this, which Captain Mahan explains in his book on "Sea Power," will inure to Russia in her operations in Manchuria.

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with cordage, and similar articles. Japan will, no doubt, declare coal and food supplies to be contraband, and to the event of Port Arthur's standing a long siege there may be some blockade-running of interest.

A government is not required to prevent the export of contraband goods, and it is not permitted to be intended for fighting on the side of a belligerent to leave its shores. It will be remembered in this connection that an American vessel was held inactive in a west of England harbor during the Spanish War, and, of course, the Alabama is another example.

As to ordinary trading vessels, the rule of international law, subscribed to by all nations, except the United States, Spain and Mexico, in the declaration of Paris, 1856, is that (1) a neutral flag covers the enemy's goods, and (2) neutral goods are safe under the enemy's flag.

It is in the first of these rules that America is interested, since there are practically no American goods likely to be found in Russian or Japanese merchant vessels. In the case of United States vessels trading to the Orient, Russian or Japanese goods—contraband of war—are exempt from capture by the other side, so that little disturbance will be caused on that account.

Little opportunity, indeed, will be afforded for the observation of the effect of modern fast cruisers upon maritime commerce. The latest available figures show the Russian mercantile marine exclusive of sailing craft, to number 544 vessels, with a tonnage of 555,102.

The same authority—Lloyd's—gives the Japanese steam fleet as 555 vessels with a tonnage of 555,102. The Russian vessels, too, are safe, for the reason that practically all of them are in European waters. The volunteer fleet is a naval auxiliary, and is now on the same footing as the other ships of war.

Admiral Alexieff has reported that the battleships Carewiteh, Retzivan and Poltava, and the cruisers Pallada, Diana, Askold and Novik have been damaged at Port Arthur. In addition the cruisers Varieg and Korietz have been destroyed at Chemulpo. The importance of this is seen when it is remembered that the Carewiteh, 13,110 tons, is the biggest Russian battleship, and the Retzivan, 12,700, the next biggest.

Of the cruisers, the Varieg, 6500 tons, built at Cramps in 1893, and the Askold, 6100, were the heavily armed of the protected class. The Varieg mounted twelve 6-inch and twelve 3-inch guns. The Diana, 6530 tons, mounted six 6-inch and twenty 3-inch guns. All these had a speed of over twenty knots, and this, as well as their heavy armament of quick-firing guns, rendered them admirable cruisers for work in the waters where they were stationed.

The Navy's main battery was composed of 41-inch guns, very useful weapons in cruiser work, and their trial speed is given at twenty-five knots. With these vessels disabled, Russia must take the count, so far as sea fighting goes.

SECRETARY HAY'S NOTE puts a final quietus upon the contention of the anti-Asianists that the United States has no influence in the Western Hemisphere. We are a world power, an Asiatic power, and we have purposes in China which we propose to assert and support.

It will not be without misgiving that we find ourselves in that concert of the world to whose arbitrary, unjust and often injurious conclusions we have hitherto been a stranger. The congress of Berlin in 1878, and the Japan-China settlement at Chefoo in 1895 will be repeated at the close of this war; but, unlike those earlier undertakings, to this one we shall be an actual if not nominal party.

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Under Peter the Great the Russians, beaten at Narva, finally defeated Charles XII of Sweden at Poltava. In the "Seven Years' War" Frederick the Great suffered a terrible defeat at the hands of the Russians at Koenigsberg. The Russians under Suwarow in 1799 defeated severely the French under Generals Moreau, Joubert and Macdonald in Italy in three great battles.

France was saved from invasion by General Massena, who defeated Suwarow at Zurich. Napoleon, who fought the Russians at Austerlitz, at Eylau, Friedland and Borodino, said at St. Helena that the Russian was the most stubborn fighter in Europe except the English, but that he lacked individual intelligence. In the Crimean War the Russian soldier was no match in close fighting for the English or French soldiers. In his wars with the Turks from 1829 to 1878 the Russian has been successful, but the Turks in those days were not armed, disciplined and drilled after the European fashion, as they are today.

The Russian soldier is stalwart, patient, brave and resolute; but he is ignorant and slow-witted. Man for man, the Japanese soldier is a match for the Russian, but Russia's resources in men are only limited by her financial ability to organize and support her armies. The Russian fights for his Czar and the Greek cross as religiously as the Turk does for the crescent, and in this kind of military courage and superstitious devotion the Russian and the Turk are about equal, save that the Turk is sober, for the Koran forbids the use of alcohol, while the Russian is a great consumer of ardent spirits.

In the recent elections in Australia the newly enfranchised women of the commonwealth exercised the right of suffrage for the first time. Nearly 20,000 women registered, but it is not yet known just how many voted to the polls and for whom they voted. The women's vote in Melbourne was cast largely for labor nominees, but the women of Sydney cast their votes largely against the labor candidates. In Melbourne the women voters were divided by politicians into "women" and "ladies." The "women" went to the polls armed with the "lady" vote. In such cases the parties are apt to be unknown beyond a small circle of their own friends.

Chicago wheat continues to soar, and every option on the board yesterday scored the highest point of the season, with July wheat selling at 88 cents and September at 83 1/2 cents. War news was given out as the controlling factor in the wheat market, which all others should have been sensitive to war rumors, refused to budge except for a fractional gain in the May option. This shows to what a large extent well-directed manipulation is dominating the Chicago market. As the option market has been pushing cash wheat right along with it, the farmers who still hold wheat in store are not so sure whether it is manipulation or the result of natural conditions that is causing the bulge.

Meanwhile the Argentine and Australia have under charter to load wheat for Europe the largest fleet of ships ever chartered at a similar period, and the shipments from both of these countries promises to break all records. They are not receiving Chicago prices, when the settlement of the Japan-Russia war of 1904 comes up for census, our place will not be in the jury-box to weigh the evidence, but along with the other defendants at the bar. And as a principal; for the events of the war can never obliterate the fact that in the agreement as to the conduct of the war itself and as to restrictions upon its operations at Washington, the Government at Washington was the first to act. In the concert of the powers Mr. Hay has selected for us without being asked, the first violin.

It is doubtless unavoidable, but it is open at least to the suspicion of being unfair. If Japan closes up Russia by sea and drives her from Corea and Southern Manchuria, her natural and necessary recourse will be to Chinese mines and storehouses through Mongolia. Secretary Hay says she cannot go there. If on the other hand the Japanese propel their conquering arms to the verge of Mongolia and in the hour of triumph fix their ambition upon domination of China—an ambition they have shared in competition with Russia from the beginning—the Secretary Hay says they must stir hand or foot to help either Russia or Japan in the hour of need, reserve the right to step in after their triumph has been won at fearful cost of blood and treasure and set limits to the scope of their victory. This sort of thing was had enough for Europe; it is worse for us.

And yet, as we have said, it is doubtless unavoidable. It does not suit Western civilization to see China brought under the dominion either of heathen Japan or barbaric Russia. The chief concern of modern government is the conservation of the economic powers of its subjects, and the protection of them in their rights. It is hard to enjoy the fruits of that labor. The partition of China in a coarse and brutally undisguised way we repudiate as unthinkable; but the trade privileges which a developed China will offer to our cupidity we have no notion of foregoing. The integrity of China, and the open door are not exposed by us, any more than frank occupation is contemplated by Japan or Russia, from any altruistic feeling for the poor Chinese. We are for the open door for what there is in it, and under the circumstances it is hard to see how we can avoid asserting ourselves, just as Secretary Hay proposes to do. If Russian domination of China menaces Europe, it is quite as clear that the same menace against Japan would be quite as much of a bugbear to the entire Western world, the United States included. It does not make much difference to us whether China is walled up by Russia or Japan or both together, or parcelled out among

the powers of Western Europe. Her territory we cannot seize; and we must seek betimes against her passing under the complete dominion of any one else. If we are to be an Asiatic power, we must act the part.

Under Peter the Great the Russians, beaten at Narva, finally defeated Charles XII of Sweden at Poltava. In the "Seven Years' War" Frederick the Great suffered a terrible defeat at the hands of the Russians at Koenigsberg. The Russians under Suwarow in 1799 defeated severely the French under Generals Moreau, Joubert and Macdonald in Italy in three great battles.

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Darkness as a Means of Grace. Aberdeen Bulletin. Cutting out the electric lights occasionally is a good idea to consider when we have an opportunity to stay at home.

No Honest Official in Portland. A Portland politician says: "It is often hard for a party to get a good honest, business man to run for office." His statement is too mild, at least as far as Multnomah County is concerned, for if it was ever tried it was found impossible.

Sufficiently Explicit. Coquille City Bulletin. R. D. Hume announces himself as candidate for the State Senate from this district. Mr. Hume is certainly a good man for the job, but he is not the man for the people (which from his point of view, includes nobody but R. D. Hume) at heart and, if nominated, will, no doubt, be elected to stay at home.

A Study in Nuances. Merrill Cor. in Klamath Falls Republican. One little skunk not so large as a rabbit can stink up a thousand sheep and then trot off with its tail over its back. One long-tongued lying gossip can stir up a whole town and bewitch the fairest character in it and trot off unharmed. Of the two I would rather be the skunk, for the gossip is sure to go to hell and all the skunk has to do is to die.

Klamath Falls Entry in the Giant Class. Klamath Falls Republican. In addition to having a sine band of sheep, Mr. Gerber has the distinction of having the two tallest herds in the state of Oregon. The McCall Bros. are giants. Claude McCall stands 6 feet 4 inches and his brother, Irve, stands 6 feet 7 inches. The combined height of the two is nearly 12 feet. Mr. Gerber says no danger but what they can look ahead for forage.

Democratic Focus on Manning. Eugene Guard. A very pretty state of affairs down at Portland, where the District Attorney kept arresting a gambling game and finding the proprietors till finally, after having remained closed a week, they refunded the \$15 of a woman's hard-earned money that her husband had gambled away. If the District Attorney could keep the game closed a week, why not permanently? It may be interesting to note that while this partying gambler was out of business the other gamblers were allowed to gamble to their hearts content.

It Has Gone Forward. Salem Statesman. In a fine editorial on the anniversary of the founding of its date edition the Oregonian says that over 40 years it "has been marking time." It is not quite clear what is meant by the use of that phrase, but it certainly has not been marking time in the military application of the term. When a military company "marks time" it goes through all the forms of traveling without getting anywhere, but the Oregonian has progressed faster than any company has ever known it depends for support. Instead of "marking time" for 40 years it has more nearly proceeded on the double quick. And we are all glad of it.

The Better Part of Valor. Castle Rock Leader. In large cities, when domestic troubles occur, the daily papers seem to take a delight in airing the troubles and great particular on the domestic side. In such cases the parties are apt to be unknown beyond a small circle of their own friends. When such troubles arise in a town like Castle Rock the details are known to every one, and people take sides. For the local newspaper to discuss matters, even from an unbiased point of view, is to be accused of taking sides. Therefore, we consider it best to merely publish the details of the courts without comment of any kind or report of proceedings.

Store the Floods by Forests. Lewiston Teller. The preservation of the timber covers the rainfall. It holds the snow in the higher altitudes and feeds it gradually into the streams below preserving the equable flow in the rivers and minor streams for the benefit of the mining and agriculture. The first duty of an army is to be able to shoot a rifle. The second duty is to be able to hit the target. The third duty is to be able to hit the target at which he aimed. Now, it is safe to say, most of the young men, especially those in the settled communities, have never fired a shot, and are not even equipped in an army equipped with anything but bludgeons.

James Gordon Bennett's View. New York Herald. The plat fact is that American and Russian interests do not clash, and American and Japanese interests are irreconcilable. As was pointed out in our editorial recently, European traders can no longer earn a living in Japan. Any increase of Japanese power means consequent diminution of commercial possibilities for the Western peoples, and for the United States. The first duty of an army is to be able to shoot a rifle. The second duty is to be able to hit the target. The third duty is to be able to hit the target at which he aimed. Now, it is safe to say, most of the young men, especially those in the settled communities, have never fired a shot, and are not even equipped in an army equipped with anything but bludgeons.

Thanks, Good Neighbor. Aberdeen Bulletin. The Portland Oregonian has entered upon its 44th year. Its first issue having appeared on the morning of February 4, 1861. The Oregonian has grown to be the greatest newspaper on the Pacific Coast, and one of the few really great papers in this country. It has grown from small beginnings, through many difficulties, to its present high standing is a matter of pride to every citizen of the Northwest, and congratulations will be many and sincere. Mr. Bennett, who has been United States Senator from Oregon, but he is something better—a great editor at the head of a great paper, and foremost among the valued citizens of the Pacific Coast.

Color Line at Dayton. Newberg Graphic. Rev. Daniel Drew, who went to Dayton a few days ago to assist Enos Ellis in a job of ditching, was met at the hotel and lodged at the hotel in that village on account of his color. In the best homes in Newberg the latch-string is always out for Rev. Daniel Drew, and he is welcomed as heartily as the average white man, but it is barely possible that we are not so blue blooded down this way as they are up on the Ya-hill. The Graphic asserts, however, without fear of successful contradiction that the Dayton hotel, unless it is conducted very differently from the rest of its kind, houses those every week, who, while they have a white skin are more likely to "contaminate" the sacred surroundings than this man Drew with a dark skin would be.

Hatcheries Making Good. Spokane Spokesman-Review. The report of Master Fish Warden Van Dusen of Oregon on the development of fish hatcheries is highly encouraging. With fishery in the hands of the State, the complete destruction of salmon could be only a matter of time unless a successful scheme of artificial propagation could be devised. This has been done in the hatcheries, which have been so successful that there is now no longer apprehension of exhausting the food fish supply. At one time it was thought that the salmon in the Columbia, that great est of salmon streams, were becoming scarce, and fears were entertained that a once great industry might dwindle into a mere relic of the past. The annual output of the Oregon, Washington and Federal hatcheries is 20,000,000 Chinook fish. As a result of this astounding gain and becoming more plentiful and the product of the Columbia river fisheries for the year 1903 shows an increase of 20 per cent over the previous year. Of course, good work similar to that done on the Columbia is possible in other waters frequented by salmon, and the State makes no mistake when it provides liberally for the hatcheries and the industry against a diminution in the supply of the most important food fish in the Pacific Northwest.

These Japanese fellows are as daring at sea as were Drake and Hawkins of yore. They slip into narrow places, where they have been known to make it lively for the adversary. These days the Japanese hornets are stinging the ears of the bear, with an effect that makes fun for the spectators.

"POPULISTS IN WALL STREET." New York Tribune. We never thought of them in just that way, but when we come to consider we must confess that there is a large kernel of truth in the phrase which Mr. Bede launched upon the House of Representatives on Tuesday. Mr. Bede is not the venerable Bede of blessed memory, but he is the Mirthful Bled of Minnesota, and if that phrase is a fair sample of his gift for epithet, he bids fair to enrich the language and divide the honors of a historic name.

A little bunch of Populists in Wall Street cannot dictate the nomenclature of either party. The idea might seem to be ridiculous at first. Wall Street has always fought the Populists. Their cheap money was Wall Street's pet aversion. What can "gold bug" financiers have in common with the long-whiskered man described by Bede? Bede says they have a love for flat values in common. That seems a rather hard thing to say about men whom we always think of as the very symbols of sound finance. Yet we read the stock list, hear all the talk about "queuing out water," and learn of "misrepresentations" and "important character" in the statements of intricate value on which the securities of a great corporation are floated, we begin to think there must be something in it.

What important principle is there between putting off on the public for a dollar a piece of silver worth 50 cents and in putting off on the public as representing a dollar a stock certificate really representing only 50 cents? As it is more often the case, really representing nothing at all? Is watered stock any more honest than watered money? Are not both schemes for getting something for nothing? The Wall Street that has so scorned the financial heresies of Populism would do well to think of these things. The people are beginning to see through flat securities, and they are saying through their teeth, and if there is not a reform in the methods of high finance that characterization of Mr. Bede, "the Populists in Wall Street," will be likely to stick.

DUTY OF LEARNING TO SHOOT. As it is Regarded in Military Circles. Army and Navy Register. One of the important events in the administration of Secretary Root has been the organization of the board for the promotion of rifle practice, which has recently been in session in this city. The result of the recent delirious work of the board in certain recommendations for the conditions of the national match open to teams of 12 men from the army, navy and militia, and members of the national rifle association and affiliated clubs, military or civilian.

The importance of this programme, the place and date of the match, have not yet been determined, is largely derived from the opportunity it affords for rifle practice among a class of people who have hitherto ignored this useful work. The value of such practice from a military standpoint is in the training of the young men in the country in the art of shooting straight, an element which is bound to contribute materially to the efficiency of our volunteer armies in the future. Secretary Root said in his annual report that it is of small, if any, use to pay, equip, subsidize and transport a soldier to a battleside unless he can hit the enemy when he shoots at him. Without that accuracy in marksmanship an army might as well not be, and there seems no better way of accomplishing this than by the national match provided by the plans of the board for the promotion of rifle practice. Time was when it was a part of every boy's training that he should be able to shoot a rifle or shotgun and be able to hit the object at which he aimed. Now, it is safe to say, most of the young men, especially those in the settled communities, have never fired a shot, and are not even equipped in an army equipped with anything but bludgeons.

This deterioration of skill has reached such dimensions as to constitute a danger in this country and is likely to prove disastrous to the best-laid plans of strategy when it becomes necessary to employ a volunteer force, called suddenly into service. The present state of affairs, we would find its members willing enough in their patriotism, which leads them to offer their services for the firing line, but it is not the accuracy of the shot, but the capacity of the soldier. The first duty, as Mr. Root aptly puts it, is to be able to shoot straight. The board for the promotion of rifle practice, an important matter, therefore, and judging from the results of its recent session, it is proving itself equal to its far-reaching responsibilities.

While Alfred Austin has been inquiring the columns of the Times with the information that the years are moving onward, but the stars in the sky are the same old stars, his unofficial rival, Rudyard Kipling, has not been idle. During a period of silence he has had his critical eye trained upon the muddled oaf and the flannel-foot that he once impaled upon his pen. In a recent letter he comments on the fact that a strict form of conservatism is in force at most of the public schools in England. Mr. Kipling points out that no talk of "racial antipathies" or "Anglo-Saxon individuality" will save the schoolboy from compulsory participation in football or cricket, as the season may demand. Why, then, asks the poet of the line, should not 10 per cent of the time thus devoted to cricket and football be given to military drill? Calliope and Kipling are a very warlike pair.

WEX J. OUT OF THE GINGER JAR. Panama has an army, but only half of it is standing. The other three soldiers are permitted to sit down—Cleveland, Plain Dealer. Miss-Did Gladys have a fancy for wedding? Maude-Very. Why, her wedding dress was nearly torn off before she could get into the church—Judge.

"And she said there was worse to tell, but she wouldn't say what it was unless I don't believe there could be anything worse—if she wouldn't tell it!"—Puck. Name-Say, Jim, ain't she a stuck-up looking thing? Jim-Dill's wit. She's got a face like the nose of a dead mule, when you ask her to see something 'speak—Brooklyn Life.

"It's all right to talk about the divine affections," she said to the earworm poet, "but how do you expect to want to marry a woman who is nearly torn off before she could get into the church—Judge.

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