

The Oregonian

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UNITED STATES, CANADA AND MEXICO... EASTERN BUSINESS OFFICE...

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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, JAN. 5, 1905. THE MERCHANT MARINE BILL... The report of the Merchant Marine Commission, and the bill which it carries...

PRODUCTION OF PLATINUM... Platinum is worth about an inch per ounce as gold. It would be used very extensively, were it more abundant...

GOOD ROADS OUR FIRST NEED... The hackneyed argument of the philanthropic gentlemen who are seeking to relieve the United States Treasury of many millions for a ship subsidy...

THE COLORADO CONTEST... The Colorado contest has reached a stage when it is no longer a matter of abstract principle, but a contest of real politics...

NOTE AND COMMENT... No one would expect to find the gentle editor of the Critic doing the spitting in the January number we discover Miss G.H.M. saying: "Mr. and Mrs. Aldrich came from Boston to again see Miss Nance O'Neil in the poet's drama..."

WOMAN'S WAY... Some presumably cultured woman of Boston has sent Nan Patterson a touching letter... "The safe, right, sane thing to do is to give Governor Peabody the seat, letting his opponent bring the contest and we confidently believe that the Legislature will favor the wise and just course by a majority of two to one."

different aspect abroad from that which it wears at home. Major Williams, it is said, has not enforced the law against gambling. He has done his duty as he sees it. Why are there no indictments against Sunday saloons and houses of ill repute? Has Governor Chamberlain done his duty, or tried to do it, for enforcement of the law against destroyers of life and property in the livestock country? Why isn't he indicted? Some things are absurd, and even grand juries may be very fallible. It is not charged that Judge Williams has used or misused the public service for private ends; yet the whole theory of malfeasance in office rests on the assumption that this has been or will be done. It is well, and even necessary, that the Tanner-Creek sewer should be investigated; and presentment by the grand jury may be the best way of reaching it. But indictment of the Mayor for alleged malfeasance, on the ground that his method of administration or enforcement of the law doesn't suit somebody else's idea, is a proceeding peculiar to the present grand jury. It is not within human probability that there will be another grand jury like it.

BEYOND SOLUTION... Professor Triggs, of the Chicago University, who says "Weller would call a "run" on," is a very good questioner of industry and sociology by methods short, agreeable and decisive. In a recent address the professor maintained that the true way of settling the labor problem is "to arrange that every man shall have the work that he deigns in doing." That would be fine, indeed. A bod-carrier on a hot day was tired. With one hand on his back, and with the other dashing the sweat from his face, he was endeavoring to bring his bent and weary form into an erect position. Just then the bishop was passing by. The bishop greeted him with kindly inquiry as to his health. "I'm well enough, yer reverence," was the answer, "but it's meself that's tired of packin' the hod. I'd like a good,aisy job. I'd like to be a bishop."

THE HAZING SPIRIT... Whatever New York Globe... Outside world the young men of Columbia's sophomore class are firmly convinced that to attempt to catch a freshman is not a punishable offense. From time immemorial collegians have made laws for themselves. They have evaded laws and broken them, they have quirked and turned. A freshman has few rights which a sophomore is bound to respect. This rule is established, we are told, for the satisfaction of the sophomore, but for the benefit of the freshman as the only way to reduce that swellness of chest which so many youths bring to college; as the only way to induce that meekness and docility which is an ornament to youth and the beginning of wisdom.

HARRIMAN'S TEMPORARY DEFEAT... The temporary defeat of Mr. Harriman in the Northern Securities suit is a matter for regret. It does not follow from this decision that a higher court will refuse to return to the Harriman interests the Northern Pacific holdings which they contributed to the "pot" which originally made up Northern Securities. At the same time the delay in adjusting the differences is seriously retarding a number of very important railroad enterprises in the Pacific Northwest. So long as the courts hold that the Harriman Northern Pacific stock is not to be returned to the men who held it prior to the merger, and Mr. Harriman continues to fight, neither side of the controversy will feel inclined to go ahead with any new feeders to their lines.

THE HAZING SPIRIT... Many deeds of heroism have been reported from Port Arthur, but there is one that outshines all the rest. When a Japanese envoy approached the fort a month ago he was met by a Russian officer, who signified by every means in his power that Port Arthur was doing very nicely, thank you, and that its defenses had all the luxuries of life, to say nothing of the necessities. To carry out his deception, this officer produced the last bottle of beer in the city and carelessly gave it to the Japanese to drink. Think of that! The very last bottle of beer sacrificed for the credit of the fortress! Is there a more pathetic story of heroic self-sacrifice in history? We know not.

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for the rest of the country, for Mr. Brigham estimates that it costs \$1,000,000 per annum to haul the products of the United States to market, and of this sum more than one-half is wasted on account of poor condition of the roads. In providing facilities for its producers to reach the market with their products France has probably made greater progress than any other country. Throughout that country is a network of canals which offer economical carriage by water of the products of the country, and where the canals do not reach remarkably well-constructed roads extend by easy grades to all parts of the country.

THE HAZING SPIRIT... A Pacific Coast girl has been distinguishing herself in New York. Annoyed by a "maaher," she tripped him up and sent him sprawling in the mud by means of a trick she had learned at school in San Francisco. The incident says much for our Western girls and for co-education.

THE HAZING SPIRIT... There are persons who dream of universal peace. There always have been. They would bring the human race down to a condition where there would be nothing to fight for, and nobody to fight for anything. Then, when you have general and complete emasculation of the human race, the strain of man will have been bred back into baboon and monkey. In this world man is a fighter, or he is nothing. Moral forces at all times come into play; but no morality, no ideals, no backed with arms, can be worth anything. A story is told in Herodotus. King Croesus was showing his stores of gold, of which he was justly proud. "It is very well," said a visitor, "but some men presently will come up with better iron than yours, and will take all this gold." They who can't fight can't live, except in subordination and subjection. So it has always been; and so it will be always, and forevermore.

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PASSING OF THEODORE THOMAS

Methods of America's Greatest Orchestral Conductor—How He Inspired His Players—Chicago's \$750,000 Temple of Music

News of the death of Theodore Thomas will be received with genuine regret throughout the whole Nation. For 20 years past he has done more than any one to inspire love of good music, and to lead the way in the American people. He was a leader in every sense in this good work. The confidence and affection which this man inspired have been proved in the eyes of the world. Of him it is truly said that his works do follow him. In the sphere of music pure and simple his name will take its place in three catalogues: in his younger days as a violin virtuoso; in the first class; as a completely trained musician, especially in orchestra work; and in the adaptation and arrangement of music for the orchestra; and as a conductor, whose place at the head of the Chicago Orchestra it will be very hard to fill. But there have been other musicians and conductors of probably equal force. To think of the character of Theodore Thomas was so inspiring and commanded such individual personal respect that to carry on that work his Chicago supporters were content to bear his losses, and to make up to fill the deficit on the Auditorium orchestra season expenses. More than that, when the time came to elect their perpetuals or to allow the conductor to resign, they were prompt to fill the place at the head of the orchestra with all classes of her citizens, who loved the man and his life work, raised in an instant the splendid fund of \$750,000 that the Theodore Thomas fund was beautifully housed, permanently provided for, and that the city should not lose the influences of the noble art of music as he inspired in and upheld through the coming years.

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Extraordinary Hand at Whist... London Daily Mail... A wonderful hand at whist was played at the St. Paul's Institute, Gresham, yesterday. The cards were shuffled and dealt in the usual way, but when the players looked at their hands they found that one of them (the dealer) had 13 spades, another 13 hearts, the third man 12 diamonds, and the fourth 11 clubs. Spades were trumps, and the lucky dealer, who in his hand had claimed the 12 tricks, was the victor.