

The Oregonian

Published at the Postoffice at Portland, Or., as second-class matter. REVISED SUBSCRIPTION RATES. By mail (postage prepaid in advance)...

POSTAGE RATES. United States, Canada and Mexico—10 to 15-day paper... 15 to 30-day paper... 30 to 45-day paper...

EASTERN BUSINESS OFFICE. The S. C. Beckwith Special Agency... Chicago—Addition—Amex: Postoffice News Co. 178 Dearborn street...

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, JAN. 7, 1905.

LEADERSHIP IN THE ORIENT.

In Europe the opinion is expressed that it would be serious business if Japan, victorious over Russia, should take the leadership of Asia and adopt a Monroe Doctrine for the Orient.

Such position, achieved and maintained by Japan, would prevent the partition of Oriental countries among the powers of Europe. It would start a new civilization in the Orient, which would make a balance to existing conditions in Europe.

It is not probable, nor to be desired, that the United States would suffer as a consequence of the ascendancy of Japan in the affairs of the Orient. Japan is sufficiently enlightened to desire the development of trade.

PORTLAND'S STREETS. In Portland the principal streets are now in very good condition, and are kept reasonably clean. In fact, the only really decent streets in Oregon are in Portland.

GOOD YEAR FOR KING CORN. Corn is king by a good safe majority in this country, according to the final report of the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Agriculture...

It is free from military technique and is just such an article as will bring back vividly the principal events in this unparalleled contest. General Anderson's review commends itself to every one interested in a war that included the bloodiest battles in all history.

FRAUDS AND LAND FRAUDS.

The Philadelphia Record assumes a virtue. It discusses the land frauds under investigation in Oregon, and proceeds to say: In regard to the indictment of Senator Mitchell and Representative Haggan...

Some frauds have been perpetrated in Oregon and in other Western States, no question. The authorities are pursuing them vigorously, with the help of all the people. It has been the policy of the Government to give its lands in the West away; else there would be no settlers in the West.

STATE WILL BENEFIT.

From the statement of the plans of the Government engineers concerning the reclamation projects in Klamath County it appears that Oregon has everything to gain and nothing to lose by granting to the United States all lake-beds lands that may be uncovered by drainage.

In their present condition the lands in question are of no value whatever to the state or to its industrial interests. If reclaimed by the Government, 100,000 acres of productive land will be added to the tillable area of Klamath County, furnishing homes for 2000 families.

The lowering of the water in Klamath and other lakes in Klamath County will not only uncover a large area of land, but it will drain another large area of swamp land now of comparative small value.

It does not necessarily follow that one who advocates marriages by wholesale is also in favor of large families in each and every case. Still, in the view of this writer, if we could get this generation of calloused single people...

The arraignment of a bachelor men throughout the article is sharp—that of bachelor women pathetic, with a dash of sarcasm at their enforced claim to independence bravely assumed and desire for "development."

LITERATURE OF THE OUTDOORS. How country life is attracting a greater number of Americans every year is shown in no clearer way than by the increase in periodicals devoted to its various phases. Country Life in America, with its superb photographic reproductions, has been so successful that its publishers will issue a new magazine devoted to aspects of gardening...

An increase in the home consumption due to the short crop and high prices of wheat, the decline in corn shipments was far from being so pronounced as that of wheat. American corn shippers...

In Oregon such a change has not taken place, for the reason that the outdoor life has never been abandoned, and with summer climate of which the hills cannot be resisted, in no state is there more of the open-air spirit.

"CHAP UNMANLINES." Mrs. L. H. Harris, a Southern woman whose breezy thoughts on plain, everyday matters and conditions of life have found their way into our current literature, has an article in a late number of the Independent upon "Old Bachelors in New England."

Charles M. Harvey, writing of the events of 1904 in Leslie's Weekly, says: "When Disraeli, in 1855, in connection with Lincoln's death, said 'Assassination has never changed the history of the world' (implying that it never would), he did not foresee the consequences of the taking off of Von Plehve, Russia's reactionary minister of the interior, in 1904."

The moving finger writes, and having writ moves on; nor all your piety nor wit, Nor all your tears wash out a word of it.

A British army officer of the Intelligence Department, who is writing a brilliant series of articles on the war in the World's Work, gives a curious glimpse of Japanese methods. He tells of meeting a young Japanese officer in the Legion of St. Anne...

Tolstoy's son declares that France, Germany and Italy must realize at the conclusion of the war that their interests lie with Russia. It is possible that Germany may reach such a conclusion, but indications are that Italy and France will be more inclined to line up with Great Britain.

Governor Pennypacker, of Pennsylvania, continues his quarrel with the press. So far his muzzling attempts have resulted in little more than an increase in the amount of space devoted to him in the press of his state.

Representative Butler, of Pennsylvania, a member of the House naval committee, says that while in other departments of the Government real competition is allowed on bids, when it comes to building battleships "one or two bidders fix it up among themselves."

NOTE AND COMMENT. On Cook Books. Few books nowadays appear to be sold on their merits alone. The public must be attracted by some sort of combination offer, if trading-stamps are not given.

The development of the material resources of the United States since 1890 has been stupendous. As shown by the Baltimore Manufacturers' Record, the yearly output of our farms, mines and mills exceeds by about \$7,000,000,000 that of fourteen years ago.

There is an awful possibility that Russia may yet besiege Port Arthur, and that we may have to await its fall all over again.

"How to Retain Girlish Beauty" is the title of an article in a Sunday paper. We'd rather learn how to get one.

Bombs are being imported into Russia. The nihilists must be arranging a blow-out.

"Give us liberty or give us death," say the Russians. But the czar merely gives them—well, just raises Cain with them.

An ultra-religious carpenter in Spokane entered a neighbor's house, took two girls from bed and spanked them for not attending church. The apostolic laying-on of hands was not a marker to this.

"Evangeline" is too anti-British for British Columbia school teachers. They will send a mission to London to throw Longfellow's bust out of the Post's Corner in Westminster Abbey.

At last a scientific rule has been formulated to insure happy marriages. The man seeking a wife must divide his age by 3 and add 7 to the quotient, thereby ascertaining the age his bride should be. Thus, if a man is 39 years of age, half of 39 added to 7 gives 22, the age his wife should be.

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Postcards made from peep are now being manufactured at Colbridge, County Kildare, where paper-making from peep has been in progress for some time.

While the result, Alfred Collins fell as he was smoking when he was driving through a tunnel, causing blood-poisoning, which ended in his death, and a Hackney jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

While a lady was sitting in the dress circle of the Lyric, holding that all reasonable precautions had been taken.

The steamship Ben Ledi, which has arrived in London from Leth to complete a cargo for China, has 29 tons of old horseshoes on board. A Leth firm is shipping these to Hongkong; they number about 200,000 of shoes, all more or less worn smooth and thin.

An unexpected effect of the revival in the Metherly and Rhondda Valleys of Wales has been to check volunteering. A doctor at Aberfan, who is an officer in the Third Volunteer Battalion of the Welsh Regiment, said yesterday that the Free Churches of the district actually denied membership to men in the corps.

Several disturbances have occurred at the Knight's Deep mine at Johannesburg, between Chinamen and Kafirs. The latter turned out Sunday to avenge one of their number, who had been assaulted, but the police persuaded them to disperse.

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THE NEW YEAR'S OREGONIAN.

The New Year's edition of the Oregonian, issued Monday, was a wonderful presentation of the resources and possibilities of the West Coast. It contained every phase of every interest that this great region possesses, and did it so well as to leave little to be added in the way of supplementary information.

The New Year's number of the Oregonian is a great paper, depicting all former attempts at special editions, with all the same, but in a more comprehensive manner, and the Lewis and Clark Exposition in such an elaborate way as to attract the attention of the people of the United States toward the West.

The Oregonian on Monday morning issued a fine illustrated edition devoted to the Lewis and Clark Expedition. It has never before been attempted. As a newspaper the Oregonian leads all others of the Far West.

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