

The Oregonian

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who are blinded to the other side of the facts, has the greatest public danger in the United States today. In past ages, in distant lands, such inequalities in wealth and possessions have led to prescription, banishment or murder of the individual, or to insurrection in the streets. In free America the sharpest and the effective weapons appealed to are injunctions in the courts or prosecutions by the Attorney-General.

SEA-LEVEL CANAL PREFERRED. Much adverse criticism over the seemingly dilatory tactics and great secrecy maintained by the Panama Canal Commission has been met by the announcement of the engineering plans of the Commission.

WAR ON A GREAT EVIL. Kansas has received a great deal of attention from the press of the country, because of the war declared against the Standard Oil Company.

NOTE AND COMMENT. (Owing to a conviction that a large number of letters and telegrams of public interest would pass through the Portland Postoffice and telegraph offices yesterday, the editorial department of Note and Comment was used to obtain copies of the following communications, which were all addressed to W. F. Matthews.)

PORTLAND—Your retirement places one in an awkward position. I shall find it difficult to fill your place. W. B. AY-R.

PORTLAND—Duck! I have broken the awful news to Mills. S. B. L.-TH-C-M.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(Night rate.) What becomes of me, Jack? Or did you have your fingers crossed when you said it? T. N. W.-L-M-S-N.

BALTIMORE, Md.—I have put your name down as a member of the Choroform Club, although you are under the age of 16. No use living after opportunities for activity are gone. WM. OSLER.

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PORTLAND—With your experience around machines, could you put water wagon into good running condition now you are at leisure? I. H. AM-S.

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country annually when good roads become universal. If that estimate was true or approximately so, eight years ago, it is true now, with heavily accruing interest.

Supporting this estimate, arguments, old yet ever new, are thus presented by Professor Latta, of Purdue University. "A good road will economize time; enable the farmer to take advantage of market fluctuations in buying and selling; permit transportation of farm products and purchased commodities during times of comparative leisure; reduce the wear and tear on horses, harness and vehicles, and enhance the market value in real estate."

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ST. HELENS—Misery loves company, therefore I welcome you into temporary eclipse with myself, the only member of the family not holding an office worthy of my merits. Perhaps we shall emerge together from this obfuscation. G. W. MC BRIDE.

FROZEN GULCH ROADHOUSE, Alaska.—As one United States M-r-h-l speaker to another, I would inform you that a man doesn't have to skate on thin ice in this country unless he wishes to do so. T. C.-D.-P.-W.-L-L.

THE DALLIES, Or.—Does this include Williamson? M. A. M.-D-Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(Collect.) Notwithstanding anything that may be indicated by appearances, or what gossip the news of your retirement may evoke among certain circles in Oregon, I assure you of my unshakable belief in your innocence of any charges that may have been made or may be made in the future. J. H. M.

P. S.—Burn this telegram. PORTLAND—We take this opportunity of thanking you for the almost fatherly care you took of us during recent afflictions and trials and hope that our pleasant relations with you will not be disturbed by anything that may occur in the future. M. W.

P. S.—They couldn't get me into a conspiracy, could they? M. W. P. S.—Don't laugh at me for writing that postscript. Women just have to, and other people, as well. M. W. GRANT'S PASS—I don't want to butt in, but let me offer a suggestion. Join the Democratic party and make it three-me and George and you. R. G. SM-TH, of Josephine.

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ALL ABOUT SOUTH AMERICA

The Chilean government has raised the salary of the President of the republic to 50,000 pesos (\$18,250), and of members of the Cabinet to 20,000 pesos (\$7,000).

The Chilean Senate has been discussing the project of a railroad in the rich mineral desert of Tarapaca, from Iquique, one of the finest harbors on the Pacific Coast, to La Paz, the capital of Bolivia, a distance of 300 miles.

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President, has come into Peru from a convent in Ecuador to join his influence to that of the archbishop in his effort to secure the desired aid to the church. What a brother's influence may do, it is difficult to say, but the father had only contempt for the "brother's" of the church and the aid discredited among all respectable classes in South America, where no self-respecting husbands and fathers will admit their clergy to the society of their families, knowing them as notoriously corrupt and miserable debauchees.

One reads with a wondering amusement in a late paper of the Port of Callao that "in the traps placed for this service, there have fallen 23 female and 12 male rats, which have been burned to ashes."

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