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A body of competent inspectors and critics, to see that the music is all right. A fine addition might be made here to the noble army of license inspectors, water inspectors, sewer inspectors, garbage inspectors, electric inspectors, charity inspectors, etc.

MORE NORMAL SCHOOLS WANTED. Our unhappy country is sadly lacking in the means and facilities of education. We are spending a lot of money on common schools and normal schools and various kinds of schools.

What is wanted and needed most of all is a school for the education of parents. Our schools can get along with the children all right and well enough.

Next thing needed is the normal school for education of members of the Legislature. Most persons who are sent to the Legislature are notoriously unfit for the duties of the position.

If we have normal schools to fit persons for teaching in the schools of the state, how much more necessary to have normal schools to fit persons to become parents and members of the Legislature?

ADAMS HAS BEEN EJECTED FROM THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR OF COLORADO. Peabody has been elected, but is soon to resign. When the Lieutenant-Governor, McDonald, will succeed him.

THIS IS A DISCREDITABLE ARRANGEMENT. It is based on no principle. Peabody isn't liked by the Republicans, or by a faction of them; and rather than he should have the office they would have permitted Adams to remain.

THE OREGONIAN SUPPOSES THERE WILL BE A Republican ticket for the city election in June. It is impossible to form any opinion as to who the nominees will be.

ALL WHO WERE PRESENT AT CONSUl H. B. MILLER'S LECTURES, who saw the photographs which he took, and listened to his explanation of the colored and colored with the personal interest of a partaker in and eyewitness of the stirring events, came away with a sense of having been taken into the presence of the scenes described.

THE LABOR COUNCIL OF SEATTLE JUMPS at the chance to institute a boycott on the Lewis and Clark Exposition. If the Portland labor unions propose to join hands with the labor unions of Seattle to injure the fair, it is their privilege; but it will not do the Portland labor unions a great deal of good.

THE CHANCE FOR THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT to kindly patriotism in the hearts of the people and make the further prosecution of the war appear to them as necessary is in the war taking the field in person. The appointment of his cousin, Grand Duke Nicholas, as supreme command, will not only fall of the desired effect, but will, since he belongs to the hated circle of Grand Dukes, make the war more unpopular than ever.

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snake, lizard, beetle, each in turn was put to flight, or else attacked and eaten where they showed fight. Nothing stopped them, they passed straight on and through. Kill some you could. Crush others you might. There were plenty to take their places and they bit. Where was character more strongly shown than when the City of Niuchwang fell into Japanese control? Consul Miller was in temporary charge waiting their arrival, and as an old official resident knew all the details of the administration of the city. To him came straight the Japanese administrator and his interpreter. Courteous but insistent, they proceeded to question and take notes. Till half-past twelve at night the scene lasted, and Mr. Miller, tired out, requested leave to go to bed. At half-past one the interpreter brought him out and woke him with a yard-long list of questions in his hand. Sleepy but kind, the Consul answered all and went to sleep. At three came another rousing, a fresh list of questions; so again at six. The next morning the Japanese questioners were on hand bright and early, and kept at it the livelong day. Late that night our poor friend got leave to go to bed, only to be stirred up the moment the information he had already yielded up was digested, and so on till the following evening came. "Don't you ever go to sleep?" said he to the interpreter. The officer, always smiling, said: "I have had but one hour's sleep in the last five nights." "What are you doing and directed to the end of fitting men for the Legislature—making this preparation indispensable to a seat in the Legislature—what results might we not expect?"

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due grows weary and forgets its mission. History furnishes many examples of the power of monarchs of a different mold. Of the late Czar of Russia, his present dilemma may well take counsel. Otherwise he is likely to go down in history as "Nicholas the Weak," to which the supplementary title "the last of the Romanoffs" may be added.

IT IS AN UNNECESSARY stretch of naval regulations that forces a cadet at Annapolis, who is otherwise up to the standard in physical and mental attainments, to resign from the Naval Academy because his teeth are defective. Dentistry has come to be an exact and indeed a wonderful and dependable science. There are few persons, young, middle-aged or old, at the present day who are not indebted to it, either in a preservative or remedial sense, or both, for the ability to masticate their food properly. Through its intelligent offices toothaches—the scourge of a past generation—has been banished to the backwoods or confined to the ignorant and careless. Any disability that might arise from defective teeth may be readily corrected. It is gratifying, therefore, to learn that three young men who were forced to resign from the Naval Academy a year ago because their teeth were defective have been reinstated. It is up to the National Dental Association—if there is such a thing as a National Dental Association—to send a vote of thanks to the Secretary of the Navy for his ruling in these cases—supposing, of course, that the cadets in question have been to competent dentists and had the disability removed.

A MINNEAPOLIS DISPATCH states that the mills of that city are "fairly swamped" with orders that have been received for flour to go to the Orient. The dispatch further says that orders have already been received for 200,000 bags of the product of the Minneapolis mills. These figures undoubtedly seem quite imposing at first glance, but we have a miller out here at Portland who could send 200,000 bags of flour in his own mill in four days. The reason for the present rush is a discriminating freight rate may enable the Minneapolis millers to get into the "Oriental flour trade," but if 200,000 bags "swamp" them, they had better stay out. That amount would not make an average shipment from Portland.

THE UNITED STATES SENATE, through courtesy of Senator Ankeny, has been feasting on a 23-pound Puget Sound sockeye salmon. From the reports received the repast was very much enjoyed. It is now up to Senator Fulton to invite his colleagues to luncheon with a royal chinook salmon for the centerpiece. The Columbia River chinook compares with the Puget Sound sockeye in the variety known as "chuck," and the junior Senator will miss an opportunity if he fails to demonstrate this fact in the most effective manner.

"STRIKEBREAKER" FARLEY is said to be on his way to the Pacific Coast, and the object of his visit is a mystery. The strike at the Fair grounds has about fallen of its own weight, and there are no other ripples on the labor pool just at present, except the clash between the union sailors and the union longshoremen. The services of Mr. Farley might be secured to settle the momentous question as to whether a sad sea dog has the right to come ashore and take work away from union landlubbers.

"Mrs. Chadwick selected enough clothing for twenty-five women," says Nathan Looser, trustee in bankruptcy, "which, in view of the way she has squandered her creditors' money, I consider very bad taste." Assuming that Mr. Looser knows how much clothing is required by a woman accustomed not to worry about bills, the Chadwick case has surely passed beyond the stage at which good or bad taste is of much importance.

Twenty-two Japanese warships before and no telling how many fishing smacks behind, the position of Rojestvensky, Vice-Admiral of the Russian navy, is indeed critical. The hope of the Russian Admiralty in this stress lies in the ability of the Vice-Admiral, as demonstrated after his hostile engagement of Dogger Bank, to vanquish the enemy by flight.

THE LABOR COUNCIL OF SEATTLE JUMPS at the chance to institute a boycott on the Lewis and Clark Exposition. If the Portland labor unions propose to join hands with the labor unions of Seattle to injure the fair, it is their privilege; but it will not do the Portland labor unions a great deal of good.

A significant feature of the Colorado contest was that "pledges that Peabody would resign were given by four large corporations which were active in his support." Now we understand why twenty-two Republicans declined to vote for Peabody under any circumstances.

John Branton is probably suffering the pangs of regret in that he did not learn to spell in his youth. A man may in a clumsy way disguise his handwriting, but when it comes to his spelling no disguise is possible.

THE DEMOCRATIC press is doing a great deal of unnecessary worrying about Mr. Cortelyou's resignation. Republican National chairman. What's the hurry? The election is over.

Andrew Carnegie drew \$64.40 as witness fees and mileage in the Chadwick case, about enough to pay for a tablet bearing his name over the next library to be founded.

The Grand Duke Nicholas had better take along an army as excess baggage, for there will not be much of Kuropatkin's left.

The California Legislature having killed the bill to prohibit prizefighting, San Francisco again thinks life worth living.

Oyama is still giving Kuropatkin a great chance to enhance his reputation as the most successful retreatist in history.

Says the Japanese General to the Japanese General: "It's an infernal short time between battles."

Perhaps Russia doesn't know the Japanese for "Nuff". Green grow the shamrocks, oh

NOTE AND COMMENT. The Mikado tells his troops that they have done pretty well, but that he looks for even greater exertions in the future. The Japanese are certainly out of the emotional class.

Henry W. Smith, "German Catholic and showman," of La Cresent, Minn., wants a wife who will take an interest in the show business. Mr. Smith professionally and better known as Hank, the Handy Man, is 48 years of age and has a warm heart. His appeal for a loving wife, who will take interest in the show business, Hank has cast into rhyme. Hank's ideal must be able to sing and to double in brass; to cook and to wash; to lustre and to dress neatly. Other specifications are set forth in the showman-poet's own rousing words: "Who'll care a fig for me, and who hasn't too cold feet? If you know of such a gal, she's the one I'd like to see. But I don't care a rap for any rattle-trap who'll care a rap for me."

These are modest requirements. A wife that couldn't get a bite to eat would be a poor specimen and one fond of snoring would be an impossibility in any speary household. As to the ice-cold feet, the Winter is over and gone, and in the sultry nights of Summer the application of ice-cold feet to the back would be no more than gently stimulative. But it is in the last line that the true agitator of Hank, the Handy Man, manifests itself. "But I don't care a rap for any rattle-trap who doesn't care a snap for me." It is a heartier repetition of "If she be not fair to me, what care I how fair she be."

The Rutland (Vt.) Herald says: "If we were asked to write President Roosevelt's biography, we should be inclined to do it in one phrase, 'Born in captivity.'" and Harper's Weekly recommends this interesting example of subtlety to students of literary expression.

John Jove, and Mayor Williams, in the announcement of his candidacy, spells "Mayor" with an "e." Instead of an "o."

"The wasp waist" is once again fashionable. Look out for the red nose that goes with it, sign of impaired circulation or indigestion or something of that kind.

Rojestvensky is a discouraging sort of fellow; he won't meet the Japanese advances half way.

Some anonymous and agitated correspondent writes to protest against blazoning Ernest Thompson Seton as author of "The Call of the Wild." We agree with the correspondent that such action is very wrong. Mr. Seton would never descend to the level of writing such savage stories as Mr. London's. Buck was too uncouth a hero for a refined pen. Mr. Seton's animals are one and all highly intellectual and absolutely respectable. They don't pick up acquaintances with strangers who have not been properly introduced, and they never fail to observe the nicest rules of etiquette.

Russia's credit is about exhausted and she hasn't got much to hock.

Some New York dogs now have golden bands, engraved with their monogram, placed around their fore-paws. It must be an awful thing to be a rich New Yorker's dog.

An exchange says that just as a Páston Play was about to begin at Forbach, in Alsace-Lorraine, the man who represented Judas Iscariot levanted with the box-office receipts. There's nothing like entering thoroughly into the spirit of one's role.

American Medicine publishes a circular letter, which it says has been mailed to some of its subscribers by a sanitarian physician. The circular shows that physicians who treat cases that become chronic, and since they "require appliances and means that cannot be employed in ordinary practice," pass out of the physician's hands into a sanitarium, thereby reducing the income of the private practitioner. Consequently, the sanitarian company offers a "take-off" for patients. "If you care to send us in this enterprise, we will send you a list of prospective patients, and their maladies, and we will start after them with literature, and render you all the assistance in our power to land them." Medical journals, when not too technical, are full of interest to the layman.

Paraguay must be a Utopian sort of place. The proportion of women to men is as 7 to 1, and all the hard and unpleasant work is done by the more numerous sex. The longshoremen are women, the motormen are women, the pick and shovel men are women. All that is left for the few men to do is to lie in the shade and hatch revolutions. If our authority tells the exact truth, there should be a rush of wood-splitting, fire-lighting and baby-walking husbands to Paraguay.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox's advice, "Do not hug delusions," has been widely commented upon. Most of her critics agree that the advice is good, as hugging delusions is a clear waste of time and effort. Still, we don't see what is to be done about it; most girls are delusions away.

Winston Churchill—Not "The Crisis" Churchill, but the English one—is only 30 years old, but an admirer has already published a biography of the young man who, in the words of the biographer himself, "weds himself to be the instrument of some great purpose of nature, only half disclosed as yet—a cell charged with some tremendous voltage of elemental energy." Most persons who felt like that would chew some Casarca bark.

Marconi is married. Wireless messages from an Irish girl did the trick.

Kuropatkin. He who fights and runs away, Will live to run another day.

JAP SPIES IN RUSSIA. Romance and Strategy to Get Secrets at St. Petersburg. Mainly About People. Japs are scientific above all things. If you want proof of that, think of how wonderfully they have carried out their system of espionage. Their spies have taken employment in all sorts of disguises. They have been enlisted as navigators in building the Siberian Railway; they have been porters at the docks of Port Arthur. Some of the men who have been in the disguise of Chinese blowing up the bridges on the railway have been found to be spies and officers in high rank in the Japanese army.

Here is a recent story with regard to this system of espionage, which I find in a letter from St. Petersburg, published in one of the French papers. It is a vivid picture of what these wonderful soldiers are willing to do in the interest of their country:

"Toward the end of 1903 a Japanese agent named Kiu-Siu arrived in St. Petersburg and opened a tea warehouse on the Nevsky Prospect. Shops of this kind simply swarm in the Russian capital, but all the same the Japanese prospered exceedingly. In view of the big business anticipated at the Easter festivities during the following Spring the tea merchant got over five of his fellow-countrymen as assistants. These were all extremely agreeable, tactful young fellows, who quickly ingratiated themselves with the aristocratic clientele of the shop.

"But, despite the prosperity of their business, the Japanese did not seem happy. Their melancholy was noticed, and at last they confessed their secret. They did not in the least mind leaving Japan; they were delighted that Russia, which they did not like to see remain foreigners on the soil of their adopted country. Their dearest wish, they said, was to be converted into Russian citizens, and to be admitted into the Orthodox Church.

"The idea appealed to the aristocratic customers of the tea shop, and in due course they were admitted into the Orthodox Church and made Russian citizens.

"Shortly after this the five new Russians wanted to get married and found families. Once more their customers interested themselves in their behalf. Brides were found in the shape of pretty young Russian workgirls, dowries provided by subscription and the marriage ceremony duly performed. Time went on, the children were born, and everything in the various menages seemed to be most satisfactory, when suddenly the war broke out. Two days later the Russian-Japanese team had all disappeared, leaving their Russian families behind them in St. Petersburg. St. Petersburg society was flabbergasted. The confidences it had unfortunately reposed in the team went to Tokio in the form of private letters, and the Japanese general staff, while the heroes of the story, all captains or lieutenants in the Japanese army, went back to their respective regiments."

It is very clever, but it is also a bit ghastly.

WORLD'S FAIR BENEFITS. When the World's Fair was projected for St. Louis there were plenty of pessimists who predicted dire disaster as the reaction after the close, pointing to the experience of Chicago a few years ago. The men who were responsible for the Fair believed they saw only prosperity ahead as a result of the project. Their judgment seems to have been vindicated. Here are some figures of increased business since the Fair was projected:

In 1898 the taxable wealth of St. Louis was \$1,500,000,000. Now it is \$2,000,000,000. In 1898 bank and trust company deposits were \$102,000,000. Now they reach \$252,000,000. In 1898 the bank clearings of St. Louis were \$1,500,000,000. Now they reach \$2,000,000,000. In 1898 the wholesale jobbing trade of St. Louis was \$40,000,000. Today it is over \$60,000,000. In 1898 the retail dry goods business of St. Louis was \$14,000,000. In 1904 it was over \$20,000,000. In three months since the closing of the Fair, in mid-Winter and in a season of uncommonly rigorous weather, the general business of St. Louis has shown no signs of retrograding, even standing still, but has kept up the rate of progress and prosperity it showed six months before. Except for those lines directly affected by the crowds of visitors, there has been no diminution of business. The postoffice figures, even, are not materially affected by the close of the Fair. Inspector St. Louis seems to have reaped nothing but good from the Fair.

ODD BITS OF OREGON LIFE. Salvage at the Martin Fire. Long Prairie Corr. Tillamook Herald. The report was not entirely true about the fire in Mrs. Martin's house. One side was not burned.

New House Needs a Mistress. Maple Creek Corr. Florence West. Now, Winkle, I found a nice, new house and a clearing. What is going to happen? I am a good guesser. I know there will be a cake, and hope you will remember me.

Soon, Perhaps, There'll Be Two Reads. Haystack Corr. Madras Pioneer. Miss Galloway, of Madras, attended the Artisan meeting Saturday night. We don't know whether she had a bronco or not, but think she came in a buggy which had but one Read.