

The Oregonian

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland, Or., as second-class matter. SUBSCRIPTION RATES: INvariably in Advance. (By Mail or Express.) Daily and Sunday, per year, \$2.00

BY CARRIER: Daily per week, Sunday included, 30 Cents. Three months, \$1.00. Six months, \$1.80. Yearly, \$3.50.

HOW TO REMIT—Send postage money order, express order or personal check. Local bank, telephone, note of currency are at the reader's risk.

EASTERN BUSINESS OFFICE: The S. C. Beckwith Building, New York, Rooms 610-612 Tribune Building, Chicago.

KEPT ON SALE: Chicago—Auditorium Annex, Postoffice Building, 174 Dearborn Street, 200 Main Street.

PORTLAND, THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1905.

LAXITY IN PUBLIC LAND BUSINESS.

The trouble with the management of state lands has been that the officials in charge have not felt it incumbent upon them to start investigations when suspicious circumstances were presented, or to make any effort to prevent fraud so long as the fraud involved no direct loss of money.

Land officials have proceeded upon the theory that, if the legal price of \$1.25 per acre is paid, matters not having many illegal features there may be in the transaction.

This willingness to close the eyes to matters which injure the public only too prevalent in official circles. A County Treasurer who has reason to suspect, if not to believe, that the Sheriff is short in his payments of taxes collected, keeps his suspicions to himself and lets matters drift along until somehow or other the facts leak out.

What is needed is an awakened public opinion which will hold public officials strictly accountable for the fulfillment of their trust in spirit as well as in letter. The public servant who will let his employers' property be stolen and say nothing because he chooses to regard it as "none of his business," is in effect a party to the theft.

THAT GASOLINE MOTOR.

Residents in Hillsboro and Forest Grove, and other points on the West Side division of Portland on the Southern Pacific Railroad, will read with great interest the accounts of the designs of the gasoline motor which they expected to see in operation by this time.

alone, so that the general principles of the car have long since passed the experimental stage. Improvements in the new car which is to be built for the Portland-Hillsboro run, may be many and valuable, but even at the risk of not getting so absolutely perfect a machine as is likely to emerge from these prolonged trials, people in Oregon would like to have their hopes not quite so long deferred.

NORWAY AND SWEDEN.

An ominous item in yesterday's dispatches indicated that the differences between Norway and Sweden were growing more acute. Norway proposes to effect an internal loan of 10,000,000 kroner to modernize and perfect her armaments.

Perhaps the garment-workers, who began the contention, had a real grievance in the matter of the wages paid. It is a fact well known that shop work is performed in the great clothing manufacturing plants at wages that trench closely upon the limit of starvation.

Previously to 1814 Norway was united to Denmark in loyalty to a common King. But when the city of Kiel in January, 1814, ceded to Sweden as the price of adherence by the Swedish King, Bernadotte, to the European alliance against Napoleon.

A hundred years ago this month Nelson was cruising in search of the French fleet, which he brought to action on the other side of Cape Trafalgar. Today on the other side of the world watches and waits for Rojstevsky, and the clash between these commanders bids fair to be the greatest naval fight since Nelson and Villeneuve decided the fate of Europe.

A GREAT SEA DRAMA.

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urged by health boards of various states by requiring proper disinfection of cars on all important railway lines. It may be assumed that railroad managers will accede, after a time, to all reasonable requirements in this matter, and one way to insure this is not to impose unnecessary conditions upon them.

THE OUTBREAK IN CHICAGO.

The labor situation in Chicago will be viewed with keenest apprehension, not to say alarm. The forces that are arrayed against industry and business, if not made up of desperate, brutal men, contain a large number of men of this character—a sufficient number to make more mischief than the police force of the city will be able to quell.

In the month of March-April returns not yet completed—2,867,861 head of live-stock (573,091 cattle, 1,428,823 hogs, the rest calves and sheep) were unloaded at Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis and St. Joseph, from 51,834 cars. The March receipts of grain at Chicago and eleven other inland cities aggregated 65,424,084 bushels.

Mr. James J. Jeffries, a poor but honest prizefighter, retires from the ring because there is nothing in the game, he says. John L. Sullivan emerges from the sanctuary where he has been pursuing his literary labors and says Jeffries is a coward to get out when he (Sullivan) is just about to go back in.

Complete accounts of the great battle of Mukden show that 361,500 men were engaged on the Russian side, and 400,000 on the Japanese, making a total of 761,500. The Japanese troops were divided into five armies, which operated co-ordinately over a front of 100 miles, and were so ably handled that Kuropatkin did not even suspect the presence of Nogi and his Port Arthur veterans until they were already in a position which rendered the Russian lines untenable.

INFECTION IN TRANSPORTATION.

The National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis will meet in Washington, D. C., on May 18 and 19. The exhaustive character of the work of this association is set out in a long program for this meeting, the topics of which cover every phase of this dreaded disease, from prevention through early diagnosis and accepted methods of sanitary science, to cure by means of the Open-Air Sanitarium, with its enforced rest and generous diet.

Nearly a month earlier than usual the snow has disappeared from the Cascade Mountains where the wagon road crosses from the Willamette Valley into Eastern Oregon. The road from Lebanon, in Linn County, to Sisters, in Crook County, is now open from the East to the West and back again, if their strength holds out, every year. The discussion of this phase of the question is to be opened by representatives of transportation companies, who will be able to show to what extent measures are employed on railway lines most frequented by this class of travelers for the protection of the general public from infection.

We are ready to believe that much has been done in this direction, and anxious to be assured that all that can be done will be done to further minimize the danger from this source. The desire to proceed understandingly in this line is expressed in a letter that is to be given to representatives of transportation companies at the opening of this discussion before the above-named association. The question will be in charge of Dr. Bracken, of St. Paul, and there is every assurance that he will handle it wisely.

The Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, not unknown to fame, has his own ideas on what constitutes "tainted money." He has refused to allow the proceeds of a play given by Washburn College students to be used for increasing the Sheldon Hall fund because the play was presented in a theater that permits Sunday performances.

As one remedy for the inconvenience under which the department stores of Chicago are now laboring, let that municipality establish a system of pneumatic tubes for the distribution of parcels. An old saying declared that all Cretans are liars. The latest news from the island indicates that all Cretans are bandits.

Jeffries has retired from the ring. To accept the presidency of the Equitable? This is the open season for the closed town. A California State Senator who accepted a bribe has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment. The dispatch fails to mention what crime he committed.

Chicago will soon be known as the Injunction City. An enterprising candidate for the Mayorship publishes an admirable letter from a brother, who introduces some very apt allusions. What most strikes the reader, however, is the triumph of abbreviation with which the letter is concluded—"aff. bro."

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After having a woodtick in his body 49 years, a Connecticut man has succeeded in having his visitor extracted. If a man hadn't become chummy with a woodtick in half a century of companionship, it was certainly time for the divorce.

London has a monkey that can say three words, and Lloyd's has insured it for \$25,000 on the condition that the precocious animal be taken to the south of France during the four coldest months of the year. At last London challenges New York's supremacy in the matter of talking monkeys.

Why has Jeffries retired from the ring? Because his wife made him do so. Woman, woman, man has woes. But you knock him slap across the ropes. We are unable to decide which type of wife we most admire—Mrs. Jeffries, who compels the champ to retire, or the Mrs. Fitzsimmons who encouraged Bob with soft cries of "Knock his block off."

Probably the only persons who got any enjoyment out of the Chicago strike were the girls whom some of the stores employed to deliver parcels in carriages. Unluckily for the girls, the strikers soon got wise to the trick and stopped the practice. If a dog is entitled to bite a man in self-defense, as a Seattle court has just decided, we suppose that a mad dog could escape punishment for biting by setting up a plea of insanity.

This Queen of the May business should be postponed to July. Nobody can feel queenie in garlands of flowers and heavy underwear. In the naval game of hide-and-seek, Rojstevsky must surely be getting "warm."

Grand Total of Carnegie Gifts. New York World. AMOUNTS GIVEN IN 1905. Annuities to aged teachers, \$10,000,000. To University of Virginia, \$500,000.

Reflections of a Bachelor. No minister is as black as he dresses himself. The pleasure about getting out of debt is you can get in again.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

MINSK, May 2.—Order was restored here today. There have been many arrests. The "pax Romana" was a Sunday school picnic compared with "Russian order."

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JAMES HAZEN HYDE'S PERSONALITY

View of Character and Pads of Young Man Who Controls Equitable Life Assurance Society.

Lindsay Denison, in World's Work.

James Hazen Hyde's grandfather entered the life insurance business as an agent of the New York Mutual Life Insurance Company in Boston and was promoted until he was New England agent of the company. Henry H. Hyde, born in 1837, was the son of the New York Mutual Life, and within two years had suggested so many new plans of his own invention to the administration of the Mutual Life that it was deemed advisable to repress him. In that year, 23 years of age, Henry H. Hyde founded the Equitable Life of New York. One of the most insistent charges against James Hazen Hyde is that he is too young for his responsibilities.

Most young Americans who go to Paris, more than plentifully supplied with spending money, come back with a certain lack of experience, no great intellectual attainments, and a number of new short-cuts in letter writing. It may be that a girl writing home from her boarding school will sign herself, "ly. lo. dau.," and that her mother's "reply" will end up with, "yr. aff. mor."

One who made a rather careful study of Mr. Hyde in his college days arrives at these conclusions: That James Hazen Hyde was quite without vicious tendencies or tastes; that he was sincerely and earnestly interested in the French language; and that he deliberately planned the use of that enthusiasm to make an important figure of himself in the world.

Has a Little Controversy With One About Marriage. New York Times, April 27. Andrew Carnegie, Mrs. Carnegie, and their little daughter Margaret sailed for Skibo Castle yesterday on the White Star liner Baltic.

Mr. Carnegie on that occasion said that he was glad that his niece had married a sober, moral man, without wealth, instead of a worthless duke. The Duke of Manchester afterward took the cudgel for dukes, and was quoted thus: "I was much edified by Mr. Carnegie's announcement that he preferred a coachman to a duke as a nephew."

Why the Sheriff Was Knocked Out. Sheriff Smith was not a little dismayed the other morning when he picked an envelope from his mail, tore it open and read the following astounding statement: "I repeat it, but I say nothing which might apply to the Duke of Manchester. Why should not an honest, worthy, educated man, even though he be a coachman, be better than a worthless profligate, even though the latter be a duke?"

Wed by Wire. Bowling Green (Ky.) Dispatch to N. Y. World. Mary C. Slaughter, of this city, and James Murrell, of Fort Mackensie, Wyo., although separated by 1900 miles, were tonight united in marriage through the medium of the Western Union Telegraph Company. A clergyman was at each end of the line. The telegraph company's bill was \$2.70. The bride was attired in a white wedding gown and the usual veil. She was accompanied by a bank clerk, witnessed the novel ceremony, Murrell's regiment will leave in a few days for the Philippine Islands. His wife will leave home immediately to accompany him.

He Won Easily. Mr. Subbubs—You know you're only talking nonsense. What do you want a couple of new gowns for? Mrs. Subbubs—Why, Mrs. Fyazne has got two new gowns, and she's a handmaker than the two or three that I've got. Mr. Subbubs—Yes, I know, but a home-baked pie is better about a hundred times in order to attract attention from the face. You don't.

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estimates in mind, the Cambon banquet, which has been so variously stated, was paid for by Mr. Hyde, was paid for by the advertising department of the Equitable, was intended for the advancement of the company's interests. France (but was finally paid for by Mr. Hyde), and which cost somewhere between \$1000 and \$2,000—may be less puzzling.

Mr. Hyde's Long Island home is in a country of melancholy grandeur. It is a sort of old-fashioned wooden chalet built in Colonial style. Here he keeps the greatest number of his horses. He is reputed to have the most splendid stables in America. There is a special room devoted to the harness, spotters and shining, as table silver, in a case are curbs, bells, bitstraps and whips. There are carved wooden cases, containing a veritable museum of the company's trophies, from whips and hunting horns and a great hall for carriages. Mr. Hyde has his office in the stable—a room full of telephones and electric bells, furnished with the latest improvements in furniture, sporting photographs and prints. Next to his office is the kitchen, which permits him to have his guests to dine when the whim seizes them and have supper in the stables more freely and gaily than in the chateau.

It may be gathered from what has been said of Mr. Hyde that he is not without a certain pride of reputation, amounting possibly to vanity. That same pride extends to his dress, to his appearance. Mr. Hyde's manner of arranging his hair, the cut of his clothing and the colors of it are all of a sort to make his fellowmen turn their heads to look at him. It is inconceivable that one should desire to be looked at unless one has a good opinion of one's self; it is still more inconceivable that one should desire to be looked at in an excited Equitable morning, behind a cab horse decorated with violets, can spend much time in trying to understand the point of view of others.

To a young man of whose mental attitude these are the outward symbols, the appeal made by the proffer of friendship and co-operation from some of the most experienced and most seriously regarded men of financial affairs in this country was one of the most vain of us andy. When J. H. Schiff, of the Kuhn-Loeb banking house; August Belmont and E. H. Harriman volunteered as friends and counselors to Mr. Hyde—is there great wonder that the transaction of the Equitable and guardianship of Mr. Alexander (which could not but be irksome to one of Mr. Hyde's high and independent spirit) have been so long in coming? Mr. Hyde seems to have committed his battle quite thoroughly to the hands of these gentlemen. But there are other reasons for the council chambers that he now and then rebels even against their direction.

Turned White From Fright, Perhaps. Elgin Recorder. John Shelton, Dan Graham and Jap Christensen, who have been trapped and hunting in the Blue Mountains north of this city, killed a bear Thursday of last week that has caused considerable speculation as to the kind of animal it is a yearling and almost white, its color being between that of a polar bear and the cinnamon bear. Its fur is of the finest, being extremely thick and long.

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All in Mere Pleasantry. Mitchell News. Last Saturday evening, Lark Gage, who had limbed too freely of the contents of the flowing bowl, proceeded to carve two men in a manner befitting a chisel. He cut the breast of Alfred Hamilton, lengthwise on the breast and once on the left forearm. He next turned his attention to the city marshal, David O'Brien, cutting a deep cut in the upper muscle of his left arm. At this stage of the proceedings the marshal floored his assailant with his billet and took him to the city hall, where he remained until Monday morning. Upon being arraigned for examination the defendant pleaded guilty to assault and battery and was fined \$100, which was promptly paid. The prosecuting witnesses refused to prosecute, hence the pleas entered.

Scaring the Scot. Kobe Chronicle. At St. Andrews some years ago an old farmer and his ploughman were carting sand from the seashore. They were being targeted on the rifle range, but hidden by the sand, the ploughman fired the novel ceremony. Murrell's regiment will leave in a few days for the Philippine Islands. His wife will leave home immediately to accompany him.

More Than One Better. Indianapolis News. Friends of Senator Spooner are now claiming he is the "logical" candidate for the Presidency in 1908. We don't care if he is. His friends at Mr. Fairbanks can get them one better and show that he is the "meteorological" candidate for the same job.