

The Oregonian

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Portland, Saturday, June 11, 1905. This is strange indeed. What can the Salem Statesman mean by this?

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The value of the association, admitting them to the unwritten history of early days. Less than the usual number, as it seemed, was missed from the gathering.

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and it may be well enough for outsiders to keep their hands off and allow the war to proceed to this point, which Japan cannot be blamed for thinking is close at hand.

All railroads doing business in the State of Missouri have brought suits to enjoin the State Board of Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners from enforcing the maximum freight law enacted by the last Legislature.

There is a growing tendency in American politics toward lengthening the term of service of executive officers, both in state and municipal affairs.

A fair visitor in a communication today gives his experience in Portland. He has been here ten days, and he is satisfied.

Skagit County, Washington, in a little deal in high finance, has apparently bunched the state out of about \$4000.

Pacific University (Forest Grove) has a catalogue of rare books on exhibition at the Lewis and Clark Fair.

It is gratifying to note the generally friendly tone of the California press toward the Lewis and Clark Exposition.

When the various European powers, each with a big assessment of "yellow peril" to dispose of, get through with the statement of what Japan's terms of peace may, might, could, would or should be, the waiting world will probably hear from Tokio.

Exposure of public and private grafts is getting epidemic. Closely following the sensational developments at Philadelphia, come startling disclosures involving a high leader in Chicago.

William P. Smythe, of Missouri, has been appointed American Consul at Bremen, England. When he comes under the notice of Bill Smith, he will wonder how any man named Smythe could get along with such a prosaic front name as William.

If Grover Cleveland is going to be active as director of the Equitable, all hands are to be congratulated. He was faithful eleven years ago to a much larger trust when he earned the confidence and gratitude of a Nation.

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It is the last few applications of the shingle that brings the obdurate offender to terms, and it is both wise and merciful to bestow them when the few strokes will finish the job.

It is reported that large numbers of young Americans are applying for work in Panama. Perhaps they hope to save hat money.

Miss Peralonias Garrison, of Canton, Ga., is a beautiful Southern belle. Now let Oregon come forward with her Miss Sackajaw Johnson.

"Life being as a tale that is told," remarks the Punk Punter, "a cat must be a sort of cat-o'-nine-tails."

A new form of torture has been invented by a party of Baltimore young men. They invited an acquaintance to the guest of honor at an elaborate dinner and read several chapters of the Bible to him.

A hundred thousand Norwegians in the United States have petitioned President Roosevelt to recognize Norway as an independent nation.

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point was offered recently at Palm Beach. One day in the height of the season there appeared a bathing pool of strikingly handsome woman in a much disarranged bathing suit. It was made in one piece, much like a man's suit, and there were no stockings. There surrounded forthwith a scandalized chorus from all the ladies present; they were quite horrified and protests were made to the hotel manager.

"Well," sighed one of the ladies who had been most strenuous against this immodesty, "if I could swim as well as she could," "I suppose I should do as she does."

And the hotel manager, knowing the ways of the world, declared that Lady "might wear any old bathing suit she wanted to, or none at all," since being rich and a social power, she could do no wrong.

Wherever we follow our spectacular rich the newspapers follow to follow them; we find them pandering like eccentrics, taking off shoes and stockings in Baltimore after a fashionable gathering to wade in a public fountain; playing leap frog in Washington (men and women), after a smart dance wandering off for hours in the Florida Bungalow offering a brilliant Paris dinner; watching the confessions of a young woman and a boy constricted in New York before a company of men; applauding unmeaning features of the stupid Uncle Remus; gambling, gorging, drinking, gallivanting, in short, chatting and chattering, or flapping for their ladies' sakes! What wonder if the unapproachably West is yielding to this contamination, as appears in recent Bostonian observations on the "entertainment in Minneapolis where 300 men gathered to enjoy the dancing of a nude artist's model!"

All which is to say, that we know of nothing that a powerful element in our "best"—that is our richest—society is setting a profligate example in this country, an example that threatens the stability and ability of our nation's homes. Pleasure and show and money! Dress for the women! Gems for the women! And a rich husband! There's our motto. Pleasure and show and money!

In conclusion, I reply to those who rail that in censuring extravagance I am striking at the effect, not the cause, and who urge consideration of the whole, that the greater question, how the rich get their enormous fortunes. No doubt many of these fortunes were obtained by unfair means, by unjust discrimination of laws, by trickery and fraud, by steeply lured and lured, by the use of Michigan Island, and, no doubt, such fortunes should be made impossible by law, by a graduated income tax or a graduated inheritance tax. Nevertheless, it is not the wrong done to the people by the rich in getting their wealth is less than the wrong they are now doing in squandering it. It is better to steal a man's money than to let it go to waste. Let American people may mourn the usurpation of their oil wells, coal fields, railways, most supply, etc., there would be deeper cause for mourning if they had lost all the honesty, their integrity and their peace of mind. In these homely qualities, not in material possessions, lies the real strength of this Nation, and our profligate rich are doing a wicked thing when they squander it. Let us know the cause of our glittering example, they debauch our sound and sane middle classes, when they teach others to do as they have done, and spread through the country the seeds of the leaves of dishonesty and discontent. That is a crime never to be forgiven, for it would work the political ruin of the state through the moral ruin of the people.

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The value of the work rests indeed on what might be regarded as its defect, as a historical narrative. For it is full of original matter gathered by the author's own research among the pioneers of Oregon, few of whom survive.

These volumes, therefore, are not a compilation, written from books—though the text shows that many books have been consulted. In their main character they bear their main value. Details that the author obtained from experiences of pioneers, through a long period, and set down by him with painstaking industry from year to year, are brought into service; and though there might be undoubtedly a more commodious arrangement and distribution of the matter, with clearer historical outline, yet these volumes are highly interesting and valuable, and the author has reason for satisfaction that he has been able to complete and to publish them, and thus to leave a record that will be consulted through all coming time—for there is much in these volumes, gathered by the author from his personal inquiry among the leading actors in the drama of Oregon, who long since have passed away.

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LUXURY OF THE RICH A MENACE

They set a Profligate Example That Threatens the American Home—Have Done the Masses Less Wrong in Getting Wealth Than in Now Squandering It.

Cleveland Moffett in Success. It is well to observe what luxurious example is doing for the masses of our people. And I say as our country with all possible emphasis that I believe it is doing serious and increasing harm, changing the old standards of simplicity and honesty, demoralizing many women, and acting as a potent cause of far-reaching discontent.

Let us look at certain phases of American life and see if there is reason for so sombre a judgment. Take the example of women in the rich smart set and consider its influence on other women neither rich nor poor, on ordinary American women.

Remember that for years our newspapers have devoted pages every week to the doings of these wonderful ladies in their city and country newspapers, village newspapers, all the newspapers, have told about their gowns, their baits, their grand dinners, their parties, their social life, their departures for Europe, their returns from Europe, their follies and their extravagances—always the same names over and over again in pompous caustic logs until the hamlets in Idaho and the swamps of Florida know them better than the saints of sacred story.

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