

The Oregonian

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fortunes of an insurance company opinion means everything. Investors would prefer somewhat less ability in the president of the Equitable and a more pronounced character for resolute obedience to the law, if both qualities could not be found united in the highest degree in the same man.

It is a fair statement of the present trend of public opinion. The people simply will not trust a man with Mr. Morton's record, no matter who vouches for him or what his abilities may be; and it is useless to ask them to do so.

It is best to state plain truth about these matters, for nothing else will restore the waning confidence of the public in life insurance investments. And when all these disagreeable facts are admitted, it still remains that no policyholder in the Equitable Society has anything to fear except from his own folly.

A reasonable degree of patience, a calm and resolute reliance upon the logic of facts, are all that the circumstances require. Resort to the courts is both absurd and dangerous.

WHEAT PLentiful, TONNAGE Scarce. The farmers of Oregon, Washington and Idaho are now harvesting what promises to be the largest wheat crop in the history of the Pacific Northwest.

As so thrashing returns are yet available on Spring-sown grain, it is impossible to make anything like an accurate estimate at this time; but, roughly speaking, there appears to be a crop of 45,000,000 bushels of wheat in the three states. By including the carry-over from last season, it is reasonably certain that there are 50,000,000 bushels of the cereal to be taken care of.

California is already making heavy demands on the comparatively scanty supply of old-crop wheat, and is also making liberal arrangements for taking an unusually large amount of the new crop.

But the California demand at its best can hardly be expected to absorb more than 4,000,000 to 5,000,000 bushels of wheat in the current season.

they press forward in the eager quest, an elbowing, pushing, hungry, thirsty, dust-begrimed crowd, each intent upon winning a stake.

Further comment upon an event that has grown familiar through many reservation openings in the West is perhaps unnecessary. The potency of the element called "chance" is well known and receives in a situation of this kind an impetus that sends simple-minded folk quite out of their wits for the time being, while it gives the cool, calculating, speculator, the gambler by profession, as are all men, more or less, by nature, an opportunity for which he is ever on the alert, to manifestly a "deal" to his own advantage and the discomfiture of the unsophisticated.

It was to thwart the purpose of the speculator and give the unsophisticated man his chance that the Government entered into this lottery scheme, and it is but fair to say that this purpose has been to some extent realized.

WAS NOBODY TO BLAME? A wretched human creature, suffering from acute alcoholism, is an object of once of revulsion, and of pity. While death is the most merciful ending of such a creature's misery, it is a relief to common humanity—even to the sympathy that has been hardened by daily contact with the seamy side of life—when no effort is made to alleviate his sufferings.

Against disclosures in high finance; against the cry of tainted money, and the proclaimed extravagance of a great life insurance company; against the bold measures of the trust and the fraudulent practices of land-hungry politicians, the thrift, the economy and the resultant accumulations of the plain people stand out brightly and with striking effect.

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accommodations do not serve as effective advertising. A tourist seeing the Pacific Coast under favorable conditions is the very best advertisement, because he exploits its charms among those who are in the notion of going to the coast for business immediate results.

All previous records for immigration to this country were broken during the year ending June 30 last. In the twelve months, 1,277,421 aliens entered the United States, and of that number nearly one-half were from Austria-Hungary and Italy.

Japanese emigration companies object to sending laborers to the Panama Canal account of the unsatisfactory sanitary conditions and the lack of facilities for caring for the sick. A generation ago such reasons, coming from the half-civilized Japanese of that era, would have been regarded as absurd.

Perhaps there is not, and in the nature of things cannot be, an opportune time for a telegrapher's strike. Certainly the present strike on sections of the Northern and Great Northern railways is most inopportune. It may be hoped that the difference between the contending forces will be speedily adjusted, to the end that normal conditions of travel—at best scarcely sufficient to accommodate the demands that are being made on account of the Lewis and Clark Fair—may be restored.

The Puget Sound salmon are again demonstrating the truth of the four-year run theory. After three years of poor runs and corresponding empty packs, the sockeyes as well as other varieties are coming into the seines and traps in such numbers that it is taxing the facilities of the canneries to handle them.

International yacht races with Germany and America as contestants are now proposed, and Emperor William is reported to be taking a keen interest in the matter. As the Kaiser has no tea gardens, he can hardly be accused of entering the game for advertising purposes.

Secretary Wilson yesterday issued a statement denying that the employees of the forestry service had written articles for the matter in public reports. Nothing in the statistical information collected by Secretary Wilson would indicate that he was a busy man, but he denies and explanations that he has been making for the past month certainly indicate that he is very much overworked.

Mr. Harrison has visited the Omaha shops and approves the gasoline motors introduced by Vice-President Mohler. He ought to do a lot more visiting while he is out West. There is a vast territory in Oregon that he ought to see from an automobile or a buckboard.

OREGON OZONE

A New Prize Poet. One of the Eastern magazines has published the result of a contest for ten prize poems—magazine poems, of course. Among the winners is a poet new to fame—magazine fame. His name should carry him along; it is Kalfus Kurtz Gusting.

The Unofficial Autocrat. "It occurs to me," says the Unofficial Autocrat, "that our tastes in smoking are becoming entirely too hifalutin. When I was a boy I was willing to smoke a cigarette, if nothing else presented itself for the sacrifice, and a cornstalk cigarette was a luxury. But I soon got to smoking stogies—the three-for-a-nickel kind, strong enough to lift the lid of Hades or take the hair off the back of a porcupine.

Elsewhere very brief descriptions are published of Portland, Seattle and Tacoma, as the largest seacoast cities. These growths have been mentioned in the inland city of Spokane is a sort of miracle. It began its existence, being inland, as a pretty tough town, such as you would expect to find in a local newspaper.

The difference between a lawn party and a garden fete is largely a matter of locality. President David R. Francis, of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, is coming to pay an official visit to President H. W. Goode, of the Lewis and Clark Exposition. It is hoped that this will not seriously affect the price of photographic dry plates.

The Wichita Eagle reports that George E. Laughed has started for the Lewis and Clark Exposition. Let us hope that Mr. Laughed may have a jolly time. Governor Folk, of Missouri, with six Generals and nine Colonels of his staff, will be among the glittering generalities of the Exposition early in September.

The city detectives' pay has been raised to \$15 per month. We hope "raised" is the right word. Mr. Bryan is going around the world. He wants to confirm his suspicion that somebody else owns it.

The New York Legislature intends to whitewash the Equitable. Well, somebody got to do it. One of the chief troubles of New Orleans is that she didn't clean house often enough. The waters of Crook County continue to be salubrious for several kinds of "big fish."

People Who Blush. New Orleans (La.) Times-Democrat. The habit of blushing is almost invariably a cause of great annoyance to its possessor. Very frequently it seriously hampers them in the ordinary affairs of life.

THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE

World's Work (Lewis and Clark Exposition Number). A distinguished student of geography and of men has declared that the Northwest—meaning Oregon, Washington, Idaho, a part of Montana and a part of Canada—is likely to be the home of a better stock of men of our race than has yet been developed elsewhere in the United States, or in England, or in any of the British colonies.

You cannot study this region long without feeling the probability of such a prediction. Surely there is nothing in the Northwest in itself that is so important as the truth of it. Not the least interesting hint of such a destiny is the universal belief in it by the people themselves who live there. They are sure that they have for a home the most advantageous part of the earth; and this feeling is shared by the people themselves who will find almost everywhere. It is a well-reasoned conviction, based on study and on personal experience. It crops out in their daily conversation; it is the reason for their actions. They have planned their lives on it.

The miner, the farmer, the fisherman, the sailor, the stock-raiser and the railroad-builder—every primary and productive man—sees before him an endless chance of profitable work for himself and for his successors under favorable conditions that nothing can change. And everywhere the call is for men—more men. They do not fear competition; they are glad to see it. They want that every desirable newcomer adds to the total wealth and benefits everybody. The best evidences of the high standard of living in the Northwest are the cheerful work toward it which they are doing, are such brief glimpses of their towns and industries and careers as I shall now venture to give.

The farmers in parts of Illinois, of Iowa, of Missouri and of Kansas have perhaps reached as high a level of efficiency as any of the states of the West. The farmers of Oregon and Washington have reached a large agricultural area. Taking their efficiency as a standard, there is much evidence to show that the farmers of Oregon and Washington have reached a large agricultural area.

The expense and personal trouble that the enterprising men and active commercial bodies in Portland, for example, put themselves to for the public good would be incredible in an Eastern city. It is not that the attention is about anything in Oregon; you can for the asking get accurate information that has cost many thousands of dollars elsewhere. The public good, subscribed for by private individuals. The helpfulness of the people is as noteworthy as the unequal and unjust assessment of corporate property.

The strongest impression made on one's mind by two months' observation and study of this whole region is the effectiveness of franchises and other corporate property so that some relief, if possible, may be given to the tax-eaten farmer, producer and manufacturer. In order to draft such relief, the committee asks the advice and assistance of all good citizens. The object of this committee is to make the best possible use of the taxation of franchises and other corporate property so that some relief, if possible, may be given to the tax-eaten farmer, producer and manufacturer.

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PUBLIC OPINION.

Its Overwhelming Power the Chief Lesson of a Great "Kick." From an editorial in the August Century. The most crying, shameful, and at the same time inspiring lesson of the reform movement in Pennsylvania is the revival of the public opinion of the people.

The effect of the tremendous kick recently administered by public opinion in Philadelphia on the system of political graft seems to have surprised the least that was not more than the great dead-in-earnest, though not unimpaired, public that administered the punishment. The event proves that there was a storage battery of indignation charged right on the spot and ready to be discharged; and that it might have been charged and made to do its vigorous work at any time these many years back.

This, however, is not the time for blame for what was not done, but of congratulations on what has been done, and upon the still more fundamental reforms that are now in the way of accomplishment in the redeemed city and in the state at large. But let every community in the United States that has not yet revolted against corrupt local government take both warning and encouragement. Let the reformers follow the example of the aroused and intelligent public opinion led by disinterested men against fortified corruption and a hardy cynicism.

Immense Service They Perform in Cleaning Up Cities. American Medicine. It is strange how slow men are to recognize that in all matters of practical hygiene the women are necessary. We shall never have clean cities until they undertake the job, nor shall we know how to be good National housekeepers until the private housekeepers of the Nation extend their beneficent function for a wider range of duties.

Every Oregonian of the Republican faith is convinced of the necessity of patching up old estrangements and presenting a united front. As a party we cannot afford to further hazard our success by internal differences and keeping old scores open. Shortly we shall be in the easy and profitable campaign of 1908, and we will be well grounded for the fray. We are saying nothing we expect to be taken as original, but so long as nobody seems inclined to suggest the movement, we will not initiate and offer something which has obtained good results in another state and which there is no reason to doubt would prove beneficial here.

In the Sucker State (Illinois) the State Central Committee adopted a plan some years ago for bringing together prior to the state or National election the leaders of the party, farmers, business men and professional men of the Republican persuasion, in a general conference calculated to bring the movement up to date and into close communion and to weed out differences and promote a feeling of need for concerted action. At this time, the State Central Committee holds an official meeting to arrange for matters pertaining to the campaign. This meeting is termed a "Love Feast," and the results obtained in this manner have been gratifying in every instance. The attendance is always large, as the convention is held at a time when most people can absent themselves from home without injury to their personal interests. Topics of general interest to the party's success are discussed by able speakers, factional prejudices are laid aside, everybody enters into the spirit of the occasion and all return home persuaded that the meeting has been productive of much good. These meetings are held some time during the fore part of January.

Increased Equine Labors. Pack. Farmer Jonas—Is your boss afraid of a pack? Farmer Heckin—Wal, yes; he's had the job of hauling 'em to town so often when he sees one a-comin'!

A Pacific "Lid" On. London Globe. (Liquor prohibition being enforced in the Cook Islands, the natives have taken to drinking Florida water all per se.) In the blue and bland Pacific. Where one's throat gets quite terrific. And on liquid one's own. Must be absent. Things are in a sad condition. Through a situation. And the natives are reduced to drinking stout.