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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.

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.

FRUITS OF THRIFT. 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.

THE PERFECT POLICY-HOLDER. The action of those policy-holders in the Equitable Life who have petitioned the Federal Court for a receiver and an accounting comes little short of insanity. They may be merely victims of ignorant panic; they may be tools of some designing genius of finance who is planning to ruin a great property and enrich himself with the wreck.

A LAND LOTTERY. Provo, Utah, is the scene of a scramble for Government land on the lottery plan employed for securing homestead tracts to settlers in a limited number on the public reservation lands.

None denies Mr. Morton's distinguished ability as an executive officer, but he has not the confidence of the American people. Millions of his countrymen today believe that Mr. Morton ought to be standing trial for breach of a Federal statute in his own name, but their opinion is as it has been and

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 manfully play a "deal" to his own advantage and the discomfort of the unsophisticated.

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 upon common humanity—even of humanity that has been hardened by daily contact with the seamy side of life—when no effort is made to alleviate his sufferings.

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.

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 the denials 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. Closer acquaintance with us cannot help but profit his railroads and the regions they imperfectly ramify.

Announcement comes from San Francisco that the Southern Pacific Company has set aside a fund of \$100,000 to be expended in the next six months advertising at the East the Coast railway routes extending from Portland to Los Angeles. This is well. The investment is certain to pay good dividends, but just at this time it seems to be an interested onlooker as if a part of the \$100,000 would be more advantageously applied by taking better care of the multitude now on the Pacific Coast who are eager to witness the mountain scenery and behold the many fertile valleys to be seen along this 1900 miles of "God's country."

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. His praise brings immediate results. Those whom he influenced, upon their return home, do just what he did. This is what agents call cumulative advertising. Every visitor attracted by the Lewis and Clark Fair, who journeys south, would be a walking advertisement for the Southern Pacific if normal accommodations were provided.

All previous records for immigration to this country were broken during the year ending June 30 last. In the twelve months, 1,827,421 aliens entered the United States, and of that number nearly one-half were from Austria-Hungary and Italy. The latter country, for the first time in six years, dropped into second place with 221,479 immigrants, while Austria-Hungary was first, with the enormous total of 872,822.

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. The American yachtsmen will undoubtedly bring home his cups with the same degree of ease that has accompanied their former efforts with those captured from Sir Thomas Lipton and his Shamrocks.

The Chicago Tribune succinctly remarks that another step toward mutual life insurance companies should be the reduction of premiums. And Senator Platt declared last winter that it would be fatal to the interests of the Republican party if Depeu was not returned to the Senate.

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.

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.

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. Then I got up to the 5-cent cigar, and that was my old stand-by for many years.

Elsewhere very brief descriptions are published of Portland, Seattle and Tacoma, as the largest seacoast cities. 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 the inland West. A visitor this year, who had last seen it ten years before, walked the clean streets of solid business blocks and asked what had become of the "rough order of things" of earlier visit. Nobody remembered it. A beautiful, prosperous city it now is—beautiful, mind you, in spite of its newness.

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.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 3.—(To the Editor.)—During many years past the common people of ordinary taxpayers have sought in vain relief through the Legislature from the intolerable conditions existing in this state, particularly in the matter of equitable taxation. They have seen rich men, of pious pretensions and corporations owning valuable franchises for operating railroads, street railways, telegraphs and telephones, paying nominal taxes, while the small man, manufacturer and farmer have been compelled to contribute practically the whole expense of government.

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.

The miner, the farmer, the fisherman, the sailor, the lumber-builder 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 not afraid of the fact that every desirable newcomer adds to the total wealth and benefits everybody. The best evidences of the high character of the people themselves and of 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.

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The farmers in parts of Illinois, of Iowa, of Missouri and of Kansas have perhaps reached as high a level of efficiency as any have reached in any 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 level of efficiency in methods and in the great wheat fields and on the large cattle ranches, agriculture in Washington and Oregon is more intensive. The best land is in relatively small valleys, a valley here, a valley there, with mountains between. Farming, therefore, has to be intensive. It is fruit culture or the growing of vegetables over foot of land, or the raising of fruit. Or, it is an irrigated valley, every foot of which is still more valuable.

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. If you wish to find out facts about anything in Oregon, you can for the asking get accurate information that has cost many thousands of dollars elsewhere. It has been a splendid thing for the public good, subscribed and spent by private individuals. The helpfulness of the people is as noteworthy as the unequal and unjust assessment of corporate property, such as franchises, etc., and to compel railroad, street railway, express, telegraph and telephone and other corporations to bear their just proportion of the public burdens.

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 a study 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. 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 a study 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.

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 revivification of the government by public opinion. We all know academically, that public opinion rules the world—the whole world—not only the civilized, but the semi-civilized and barbarous world alike. In the history of the world, of course its rule is more free and evident in free communities; but recent events in Russia have shown that the most absolute monarchs in the world have to give way when their peoples change their opinion about them and about things in general.

The effect of the tremendous kick recently administered by public opinion in Philadelphia and the glorious 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 reformer fully understand that the earth can withstand the besom of an aroused and intelligent public opinion led by disinterested men against fortified corruption and a hardy cynicism. WHAT WOMAN CAN DO. 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.

Every Oregonian of the Republican faith is convinced of the necessity of patching up old estrangement 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 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 give initiative 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 into the open 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. Farmer Jonas—Is your boss afraid of a horse? Farmer Heckin—Wal, yes; he's had the job of hauling 'em to town so often when they break that he fairly shudders 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 day long.) 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. It's "Push about the brilliantest! Don't let the bay rum stop. He circled the water. And drain it. What matter though twice two-and-six goes bang at every pop? If a fellow meets a crook. Then with water from Cologne he fills a beaker, eye, and drains it. Not a man with a bad doc, shuns. They don't care for such concoctions. Now before an owner's allied. Myself, the B.