

The Oregonian

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Portland, Tuesday, Feb. 19, 1907.

Muzzling the Press: Two or three obtuse State Senators at Olympia are engineering a legislative scheme to muzzle the press.

As much sugar as we received from the Philippines. We are asked to spend millions of a ship subsidy for the alleged purpose of increasing trade with a foreign country, while we shamefully neglect one of our own dependencies, whose growth we have stunted by an iniquitous and arbitrary tariff law.

The friends of this bill are legion. They comprise every buyer of food supplies in the state, most of the retail grocers and many of the wholesale dealers. A few of the latter, however, have raised the cry that it will injure the Oregon market in the great food manufacturing centers.

The drastic effect of this competition can be understood by the official figures, which show that of the total sugar consumption of the United States last year only a scant tenth was being supplied from the Philippines.

It must, of course, be pleasing to the struggling Filipino to observe that, while our flag flies over his former possessions, we are not inclined to aid him in developing the resources of the land.

It is matter of regret that the Seattle Exposition bill is encountering so much opposition in the National Senate.

The modern commercial organization is a great power for development, which all enterprising cities, large and small, recognize.

Another butter and cheese plant of Tillamook County has made its annual report, the business showing a dividend of 10 per cent to the stockholders.

The earnings of the Standard Oil Company in 1906 were more than \$65,000,000, and in the last nine years reached a total of more than \$400,000,000.

This latest disaster is like unto the boys' game of "snap-the-whip." Light cars attached to heavy engines, going at sixty miles an hour, are liable to leave the rails on a sharp curve.

The people expected more from this Legislature than it has from any other, for the reason that the members were nominated by the people and were under obligations to no bosses.

The appropriations made by this Legislature will not be limited to the amounts mentioned in appropriation bills.

There are those who are interested in bird life—a constantly growing throng—look with apprehension toward the possible passing by the state of House bill No. 367.

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seem, take its regular course through the legislative body without opposition and become a law without needless delay. Not so, however, in this case. Wholesale dealers in groceries and canned goods, and in package goods of all descriptions of food, flocked to Salem and with the wiles known to the lobbyist so harried the measure that it seemed for a time that it had been successfully throttled.

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the bird-lover seeks to protect from overzealous lawmakers, urged on by farmers who do not know the value of their feathered friends. The proposed bill permits the indiscriminate slaughter of swine—the most harmless and unobtrusive of birds, and withal one of the most useful. To be sure, these birds occasionally visit a henroost in order to supply the clamorous owlets in the nest with a taste of chicken, but they kill hundreds of moles, rats and mice to one chick, and are Nature's check against the overmultiplication of these pests of the root crops and of the granary.

Any farmer knows what pests moles often prove and how difficult it is to destroy the burrowing creature. Owls find the task a congenial one, and one suited to their own nocturnal habits, as the mole is himself a night-feeder.

The plea of Mr. Finley that House bill 367 be not passed by the Senate is based upon these facts and others which attend to the burrowing of home rule.

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ASQUITH STANDS BY IRELAND: Defend's British Cabinet's Design to Give Greater Liberty. LONDON, Feb. 18.—The Irish question played a prominent part in the House of Commons tonight the opposition leaders accusing the Ministers of breaking the election pledges by the endeavor to give Ireland an installment of home rule.

Mr. Asquith replied, declaring nobody inside or outside the House was yet in possession of the details of the government's resolution, but contending that there was nothing novel in the declarations made by the Premier and Mr. Birrell and that ultimate solution of the Irish problem would be found only in some form of home rule.

"Who then," asked Mr. Asquith, "are those guilty of political perjury? Am I to be held responsible for the government's scheme is produced, it is found to be anything in the letter or spirit inconsistent with or in violation of any pledge assurance I have given either before or during the election, I will immediately resign."

Mr. Redmond in the late House in favor of a resolution which condemned the political system of administration in Ireland, and I am not going to recede one whit from that position.

Mr. Birrell, who raised the question concerning the House of Lords by expressing regret that urgent social measures should be postponed in favor of making changes in the constitution, was rejected by a majority of 252.

FRENCH CRISIS STAVED OFF: Clemenceau and Briand Agree and Cabinet is Again United. PARIS, Feb. 18.—As the result of a conference this afternoon between Premier Clemenceau, M. Briand and other members of the Cabinet, a semi-official note was issued announcing that a complete agreement had been reached and that M. Clemenceau would be able to report to President Fallieres that the cabinet had been united.

President Fallieres personally intervened today in the Ministerial situation in the hope of settling the differences of the Cabinet. He had a long conference with Premier Clemenceau, Minister Briand and other members of the Cabinet.

The followers of ex-Premier Combes are lined up against any new coalition as follows: "According to the action of parliament, in giving or refusing its assent to the contract negotiated by M. Briand, the Republic will be bound to Rome for 15 years, or free to it forever."

The bitter hostility to the government's proposed income tax law continues to be the dominant feature of the Ministerial crisis. The Moderate papers believe that some of the Socialist leaders are glad of the possibility of another struggle with the Vatican, because frightened at their own social programmes.

Notwithstanding the assurances that the Ministerial differences have been patched up, the cabinet session of the Chamber of Deputies is likely to be stormy and may bring forth sensational developments.

NEW FORM OF CHURCH LEASE: PARIS, Feb. 18.—The Echo de Paris does this morning announce the new form of church lease drawn up by Minister of Education Briand and agreed to by the cabinet is practically the same as an earlier one, with the following changes: "In the event of the parish priest refusing to exercise his functions, owing to death or his removal by the diocesan authority, his successor, in order to secure the enjoyment of the church edifice, must prove before the Mayor that he is acting with the authority of his predecessor, and must sign an undertaking to carry out the engagements entered into by his predecessor."

ALL READY FOR CASTRO'S DEATH: MACUSTO, Venezuela, Feb. 17 (via Willemstad, Island of Curacao, Feb. 18).—In spite of the daily bulletins issued by the government, announcing an improvement in President Castro's health, he has gradually weakened since he underwent the recent operation.

RAID ON RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONISTS: ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 18.—The Social Revolutionists have been holding meetings in the University building here under the cover of universal amnesty. The police, however, are determined to put an end to these gatherings and yesterday arrested 71 Revolutionists and secured 150 pounds weight of incendiary proclamations.

CHALLENGES WHOLE CLUB TO DUEL: ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 18.—A story is current here that Prince Paul Dolgorouki, leader of the Constitutional Democratic party, who was expelled by unanimous vote from the Imperial Russian Yacht Club, because of his anti-government teachings, has challenged every one of the members to a duel.

MAY LET INDIANS HAVE THEIR CASH: WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The Senate today passed a House bill providing that the Secretary of the Interior may select any Indian who may be deemed capable of managing his own affairs and place to the order of such Indian the amount of share of the tribal funds in the Treasury.

ROTHSCHILD REJECTS COFFEE LOAN: RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, Feb. 18.—The refusal of the Rothschilds to front the coffee loan has caused a sensation here. The Journal de Commercio says the rebuke should convince the government that the coffee scheme is a desperate adventure, which should be dropped.

LIBERAL WINS IN BANFFSHIRE: LONDON, Feb. 18.—The bye-elections of February 15 in Banffshire, for a successor to William A. Black, Advanced Liberal, who died from injuries sustained in a railroad wreck last December, resulted in the return of Captain Waring, Liberal.

SUFFRAGISTS RE-ELECT MISS SHAW: CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—Anna Howard Shaw was today elected president of the National Woman Suffragist Association.

GROWTH OF AUTO INDUSTRY: Production and Exports Multiply Two-Fold in Seven Years. WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The remarkable growth in the automobile industry is strikingly indicated in a statement issued today by the Census Bureau upon the manufacture of automobiles, bicycles and tricycles in 1906. The total production of automobiles in 1906 was 22,850, valued at \$25,843,064, as against 12,251 in 1900, with a value of \$4,475,030.

IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE TWO CENSUSES the number of establishments turning out the finished automobile as their principal product increased from 57 to 121; the amount of capital invested in these establishments from \$5,978,760 to \$20,553,247, and the number of wage-earners employed from 2299 to 210,235.

THE VALUE OF AMERICAN-MADE AUTOMOBILES and parts exported increased from \$24,328 in 1902 to \$248,243 in 1906. The greater part of these exports went to European markets. The exports to foreign countries of North America increased from \$7,891 in 1902 to \$62,509 in 1906, nearly nine-fold.

CUT DOWN RAILWAY MAIL PAY: House Adopts Reduced Graduated Scale of Rates. WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The House today adopted a resolution presented by Overstreet of Indiana authorizing the clerk to insert a provision in the post-office appropriation bill looking to the reduction of compensation to railroads for carrying the mail to take effect July 1, in accordance with the following schedule:

ON ROUTES CARRYING THEIR WHOLE LENGTH AN AVERAGE WEIGHT OF MAIL PER DAY OF MORE THAN 50,000 POUNDS AND LESS THAN 48,000 POUNDS, the rate shall be 5 per cent less than the present rate; and on routes carrying their whole length an average weight of mail per day of more than 48,000 pounds, the rate shall be 5 per cent less than the present rate on all weight carried in excess of 5000 pounds up to 48,000 pounds, and for each additional 2000 pounds in excess of 48,000 pounds, at the rate of \$12.24 on all routes other than grant routes and upon all land grant routes the rate shall be \$17.10 for each 2000 pounds carried in excess of said 48,000 pounds.

ON JULY 1, 1907, additional pay allowed for every mile comprising a daily trip each way of railway postoffice cars shall be at the rate of \$1.00 for each mile of 40 feet in length and \$2.50 per mile for 45-foot cars, and \$3.50 per mile for 50-foot cars, and \$4.00 per mile per annum for cars 55 feet or more in length.

THE BITTER HOSTILITY TO THE GOVERNMENT'S proposed income tax law continues to be the dominant feature of the Ministerial crisis. The Moderate papers believe that some of the Socialist leaders are glad of the possibility of another struggle with the Vatican, because frightened at their own social programmes.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE ASSURANCES THAT THE Ministerial differences have been patched up, the cabinet session of the Chamber of Deputies is likely to be stormy and may bring forth sensational developments.

THE BROWNSVILLE PEOPLE MADE THREATS ON NIGHT OF SHOOTING. WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—The first shots fired in the Brownsville affray of August 13 were fired from the rear of the post commissary and not from the town, according to the testimony of William H. Nolan, the Senate investigation committee today.

NOLAN IS A WHITE SOLDIER belonging to the hospital corps. He was in the hospital during the first of the shooting. He said the first of the trouble, he said. This was followed by shots from the direction of a negro saloon near the town.

JAPAN IS CALMLY RESIGNED: Senate's Action Announced With Mollifying Phrases. TOKYO, Feb. 18.—The passage of President Roosevelt's passport bill by the Senate of the United States was semi-officially announced this morning. The leading newspapers today explained that this action by the United States Government is perfectly legitimate and in accordance with treaty stipulations. It is also pointed out that the promise of success of the judicial procedure in the school question is lessening.

THE NEWSPAPERS THUS FAR HAVE REFRAINED from making comment on the latest news from Washington. It is believed that the emigration companies will combine to attack the Government's attitude. If an agreement is reached with America on the basis of legislation pending in Congress, the general public, while recognizing the solution of the San Francisco school question taking this form, will calmly resign itself to the situation.

FLINT OPPOSES AGITATION: But Fears Japan May Evade Passport Provision of Law. WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—Senator Flint of California had a conference with the President today about the Japanese question and legislation pending in Congress upon the subject. He expressed the opinion that the present agitation on the Pacific Coast was unfortunate, as the San Francisco school question committee now here was doing the best it could to settle the controversy and to get for the people what they want.

LET PEOPLE VOTE ON QUESTION: California State Senator Proposes to Block School Settlement. SACRAMENTO, Cal., Feb. 18.—In the State Senate today Senator Camblint introduced an anti-Japanese bill, which not only prohibits the provision of Senator Keane's measure giving the school authorities the power to segregate children, but goes further and declares that where separate schools have been established hereafter they shall not be discontinued until the matter of such discontinuance has first been submitted to the qualified electors of any district or city.

JAPANESE WATCH THE SURVEY. HONOLULU, Feb. 18.—Five surveyors are at work under the direction of the United States Engineer officer, Captain Ottwell, making surveys for the erection of the Diamond Shoals fortifications. Yesterday two Japanese dressed as laborers spent a considerable part of the day on the slopes of Diamond Shoals, and the Japanese surveyors through field glasses.

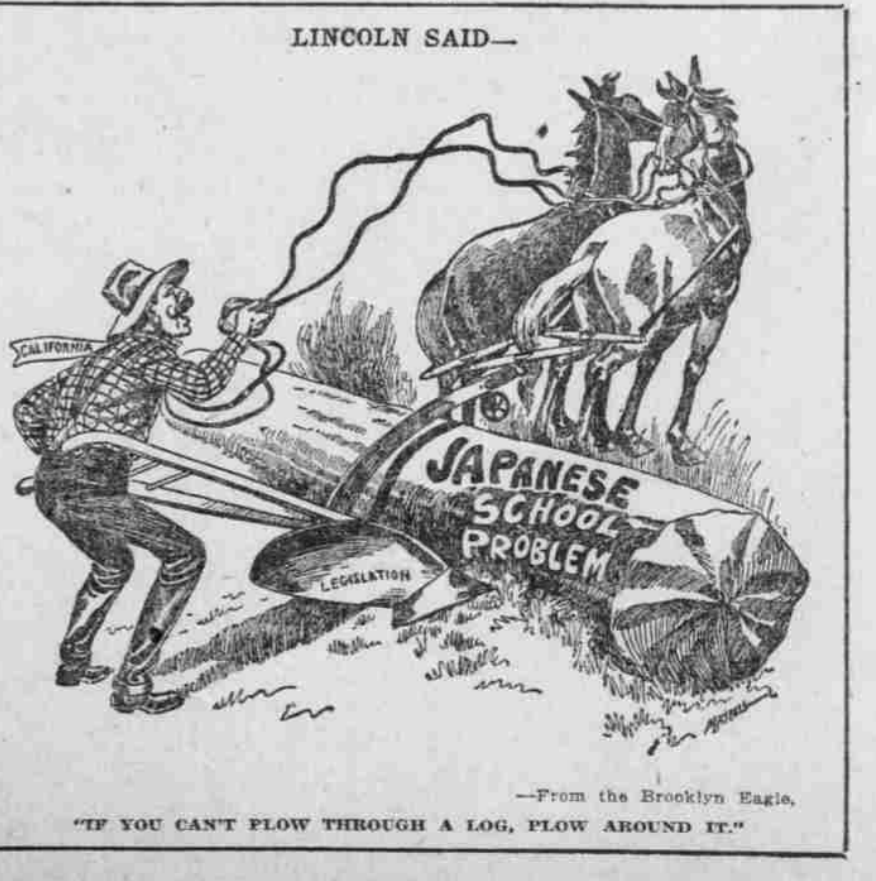
TEST CASE ON SCHOOLS POSTPONED. SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 18.—The application of Kolklehl Aoki for a writ of mandate to compel the school authorities to admit him to the public schools was called on by the Supreme Court this morning and postponed to March 4.

PUT HENEY ON THEIR TRAIL: Nevada People Will Expose Sins of Railroad Lobbyists. RENO, Nev., Feb. 18.—Should the railroad bill now before the Legislature be defeated, Francis J. Henevy, of San Francisco, will conduct an investigation into the part of the people of Nevada against the railroad lobbyists. A fund to pay all his expenses has been raised by private parties, and he has consented to carry on the investigation.

HAS BOUGHT THE COTTON BELT: Harriman Adds Another Railroad to His Big Merger. MEMPHIS, Feb. 18.—The News-Sentinel today says that practically authoritative information received here is to the effect that E. H. Harriman has secured control of the St. Louis Southwestern Railway. Known as the Cotton Belt.

EXPLOSION IN COAL MINE: Thirty Foreigners Meet Sudden Death in Mexico. LAREDO, Tex., Feb. 18.—Word reached this city late tonight through telegrams from Monterey, Mexico, of a disastrous mine explosion in LaConquista Mine No. 2, of the Las Esperanzas district, in which 20 miners are known to have lost their lives. The dead and injured, however, may be increased to 25 when full details are received.

According to meager reports, the explosion occurred at 7 o'clock tonight, shortly after the night shift had commenced work. The explosion is thought to have been caused by gas, which ignited from a defective lamp carried by one of the miners. It is thought that no Americans were injured, as, with the exception of mine bosses, all the employes are foreigners.



—From the Brooklyn Eagle.