

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1907. EASTERN AND WESTERN COLLEGES. President Hadley, of Yale University, has enlisted the aid of the Western colleges can never rival the advantages which are offered to students by their elder sisters in the East. Mr. Hadley sums up these advantages under the three heads of "National constituency, prestige and tradition."

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schools, without waiting for them to graduate. It is said that the faculties of the Carnegie Institute and the scientific department of Cornell find it difficult to hold their men after the end of the junior year, so urgent is the demand for them in the work of the world. But there is no such trouble at the literary colleges. Their graduates are as far from fitness for any genuine work as they were when they entered the portals of their alma maters. They are something, but it is not the power to do what the world cares for.

Their gain is in the realm of the ornamental. It is a sublimated species of the education which young women get in fashionable boarding schools. The Greek and Latin of the colleges corresponds to the French and Italian of the female seminaries. It is no more thorough and less useful. The literature and oratory of the young men size up very well with the plans and compositions of the young women. In fact, it is somewhat of a boast among the conservative colleges that their education attacks an aristocratic vagueness and leads to no soiling of the hands or sweat of the brain. As for Mr. Hadley's "traditions," there is doubt whether a youth is not better off without them than with them. In fact, the past and vastly overvalue it. They shy at the future where every life must run and nestle in sterile antiquity. Our older colleges prepare us for citizenship in the Middle Ages; they familiarize us with the medieval history, and the Roman and Athens; but we are doomed, however unhappily, to live in the twentieth century, and the municipal problems that we must solve arise in New York and Portland. Blind devotion to the past has played a calamitous part in American history, and the conditions are much to blame. In fact, it has held us paralyzed while the bonds of the social order have become fearfully loosened. One may well believe that it is to the State Universities of the West, where tradition is weak and where the bold forecast of democracy prevails, that we must look for the higher education that fits the youth for his time.

MR. KERR AND THE MORMONS. Credible information comes from Salt Lake City that the political hierarchy of the Mormon Church contemplates an attack upon the reputation of Mr. W. J. Kerr, the newly elected president of the Oregon Agricultural College. The motive for the attack is the fact that Mr. Kerr, while at the head of the Utah Agricultural College, declined to prostitute his office to the service of the Mormon Church machine. The method of attack will be to try to create a prejudice against Kerr by the history of his early manhood. It seems that Mr. Kerr was born and reared a Mormon; but in 1891, about sixteen years ago, he renounced polygamy and ceased his active relations with the church. He was made president of the Utah College on his merits, and it is admitted that his service in that institution was of the highest character; but the hierarchy has constantly conspired against him and last March they finally forced him to resign to the regret of every disinterested person in the state.

It is difficult to say how the plain disadvantage under which the candidates labor who are pharisees in the middle or at the bottom of the list can be remedied. Possibly some genius will arise who will be able to make new groupings on the ballot that will be fair to all. It is high time that he be heard from.

THE GRANGERS. The annual session of the State Grange at Hood River, May 24, will be an important event in the history of the Grangers in Oregon. It is important at any time and in any place for the members of this organization are among the best and most thoughtful citizens of the state. They are progressive without being radical; they are conservative without being immobile. They, more than any other body of people, seek to promote the welfare of all without fostering some selfish interest. They are careful in forming conclusions, but fearless in advocating the principles and policies in which they believe. While exerting a strong influence in politics, that influence is very seldom unwisely directed.

This particular meeting will be of special interest because it will be held in one of the most progressive communities in the state and on the day following the time when it will be known whether referendum petitions have been effective. Delegates to the Grange meeting will have an opportunity to study the methods in use in one of the best horticultural regions in the state. The members will also be able to discuss problems of state government with full knowledge of the status of past legislation. At that time it will be known whether the university appropriation, the compulsory pass law and the army bill are to be referred to the people. It is announced that the Grange will devote some time to the consideration of tax laws, a subject very appropriate for discussion by citizens who, like the Grangers, pay taxes on tangible property which never escapes its just share of the burdens of government. The meeting should be well attended and a very interesting and profitable session should be had.

FIRE INSURANCE IN OREGON. The annual report of the Oregon Insurance Commissioner for the year 1906 has recently been issued, showing, among other things, that during the year fire insurance companies wrote risks to the amount of \$108,553,094.62, for which they collected gross premiums to the amount of \$2,712,912.13. Premiums were paid to the amount of \$630,823.07 and losses paid to the amount of \$835,486.78, while the companies retained as net premiums the sum of \$1,876,602.88. Last year was the most profitable for the insurance companies in the history of the business in Oregon. While the total amount of risks written fell short of both 1905 and 1904 by \$2,000,000, both the gross and the net premiums exceeded the corresponding receipts for each of those years. These figures apply to business transacted by foreign fire insurance companies, and they indicate to the ordinary observer that the property-owners send away more than \$1,876,602.88 in a year, which will never come back and for which they receive no other service than the handling of the amount of money the property-owners put up to secure themselves against loss. The fire insurance companies collected over \$2,712,912.13 and paid back about \$1,450,000, leaving them \$1,262,912.13 as profit on the business.

Part of this latter sum was, of course, paid as commissions to agents in Oregon, but the total almost 60 per cent of the amount of premiums paid, is heavy tax for the service rendered, even deducting the amounts necessarily paid to agents.

The large margin of profits exacted by the insurance companies brought this subject before the last session of the Legislature, and it was urged by some that, in order to secure lower rates, competition should be invited by repealing the law requiring a deposit of \$50,000 by each company to secure its policy-holders. This paper opposed such a change as unwisely, extremely dangerous and one that should be protected and yet new companies not barred if a graduated scale of deposits was provided, so that a company entering the state and carrying but a few risks would not be compelled to make as large a deposit as an older company carrying large amounts of risks. In insurance, to be of any value at all, must be sound. Policy-holders can be best protected by placing within the jurisdiction of the state courts property of the insurance companies sufficient to make good any probable losses. For every dollar paid for fire insurance in this state, aggregating from \$2,500,000 to \$5,000,000 in policies every year, with gross premiums of from \$50,000 to \$125,000, a deposit of \$50,000 is none too large. Quite likely it is too large for companies carrying small amounts of risks. If fire insurance companies cannot find in the Oregon deposit law a reason for excessive insurance rates. Neither should it be true that the deposit law results in directly maintaining excessive rates. Notwithstanding the deposit requirements, a sufficient number of companies are in the state to afford ample competition unless agreements not to compete have been made. If such agreements exist, there should be some way of getting at the offenders besides drawing upon the state treasury for who are unable or unwilling to put up a deposit sufficient to guarantee their policy contracts. The insurance toll is too heavy. To make it lighter without jeopardizing the policy-holder is the problem to be solved.

The Baker City Democrat declares that the Baker City, Oregon, edition of the special Tourist and Homeowner's edition of The Oregonian. The great Inland Empire was not given a line. Its dairying, farming, stockraising, lumbering, cattle-raising, sheepraising and great mining interests were utterly overlooked in the special Tourist and Homeowner's edition was not to write up localities, or counties, as the Baker City paper seems to fancy, but the larger opportunities and openings to the homemaker in the state's various industries and pursuits.

Julia Ward Howe was guest of honor at the peace conference recently held in New York. She it was who in her relatively young womanhood—

Read a very good story.

Write in a righteous war waged in the interest of union, liberty and humanity—

The glory of the coming of the Lord.

A champion of peace is this venerable woman, but not of a peace bought with National dishonor through weak compromise.

Get out of the open, gentlemen. Get out of the open, gentlemen. Get out of the open, gentlemen.

Eight Hurt in Train Wreck.

PERCY, Ill., May 7.—A fast passenger train on the Mobile & Ohio Railroad here last night. A number of persons were injured, but none seriously.

Give Back Their Coal Lands.

DENVER, May 7.—Through the instrumentality of the Department of Justice here, certain persons in a state farther East have surrendered to Assistant United States Attorney-General

Charge Police With Theft.

BUTTE, Mont., May 7.—Patrolman John Walsh was charged with burglary last night by Wah Chung, a Chinese merchant, who says Walsh stole a watch from him.

Ex-President Palma Very Ill.

NEW YORK, May 7.—Advices from Havana state that the report published there in La Lucha that ex-President Palma is seriously ill at his ranch near Guamo.

A "DARE" TO FARMER ECONOMISTS. Granger Proposes That They Fight Oregon City Locks Appropriation. EUGENE, Or., May 8.—(To The Editor.)—The last Oregon Legislature passed a bill appropriating \$300,000 for the purchase of the locks at Oregon City, providing that the United States Government would appropriate the same amount, or enough to complete the aforesaid purchase, which I believe was reckoned at about \$600,000. Not a few interested realtors and speculators go so far as to favor having the state of Oregon put up the entire amount of purchase money in case of Uncle Sam's failure to open his coffers.

It occurs to me that my grange brethren down in Linn, Marion and Clackamas counties, in their zeal to appropriate business and show their good faith in the cause they advocate by endeavoring to also knock it out. But they won't do it, and would vigorously resist from the river one else were to enter legal objections thereto. And why? Because a few miles of river front along the banks of the Willamette, between Benton, Polk, Yamhill and Washington would be directly benefited through purchase by the state of the Oregon City locks.

From Corvallis, the head of navigation on the Willamette, to the falls at Oregon City, we have only a few miles of river front, which traffic might be benefited by the aforesaid purchase. But the farmer or shipper doing business on the Willamette river would still without doubt continue to patronize the Southern Pacific Railroad or the projected electric lines.

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ONLY CHANCE IS IN ENGLAND. Russian Socialists to Meet and Decide Douma's Fate.

COPENHAGEN, May 7.—Two hundred Russian Socialists today left St. Petersburg for England, where they propose to hold a congress, permission to do so having been refused them in Russia, Finland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 7.—News of the doings of the Russian Social Democrats, who have been making vain endeavors to hold a congress in Sweden, Norway and Denmark and who are now on their way to England, where they propose to meet, is awaited here with the utmost anxiety, as it is generally recognized that the fate of the lower house of Parliament will depend on their decision on the proposal to force a dissolution of the Douma.

M. Golovin, President of the Douma, who is thoroughly cast down as a result of the conflict with the Social Democrats and charged at the hostile criticism of members of his own party, was last week strongly inclined to resign.

LEAVE IT TO ARBITRATION. Guatemalan Minister Suggests Way to Settle With Mexico.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The Guatemalan Minister, Senor Toledo Herrera, has suggested to his government by cable that it would be wise to offer to submit to arbitration the differences between Mexico and Guatemala. The Minister was at the State Department this afternoon and had a long conference with the officials in charge of this issue between the two countries.

DEAD OF THE NORTHWEST. Father of 15 Children.

CENTRALIA, Wash., May 7.—(Special.)—Moses of Chehalis, died here yesterday at the residence of his son, M. C. Moses, of Bright's disease. Mr. Moses was born in Connecticut in 1831. At an early age he moved with his parents to Ohio, and from there to Wisconsin. At the age of 12 he started out to earn a living for himself. Mr. Moses was married twice, the first time at the age of 20 to Miss Jane Bird. Five children were born to this union, two of whom are dead. The three living are: B. M. Moses, of Chehalis; Mrs. J. W. Kelley, of Dryden; and James McGuire, of Bucoda. After Mr. Moses' first wife died and before he left Wisconsin he married Miss Marjorie Shores. Ten children were the result of this union, two of whom are dead. Those living are: Mrs. J. R. Sullivan, of Chehalis; Mrs. Leonard Vogel, of Kelso; M. C. Moses, of Centralia; Mrs. Owen Williams, of Chehalis; M. W. Moses, of Chehalis; Mrs. A. R. Parrish, of Chehalis; Mrs. George Estes, of Aberdeen; Bert Moses, of Chehalis. His wife also survives him. Mr. Moses moved with his family to Chehalis in the Fall of 1887.

COURT DEMANDS REFERENDUM. Bill Giving Sheriff Exclusive Control of Prisoners to Go to Vote.

SALEM, May 7.—(Special.)—County Road Supervisor H. B. Chapman, of Multnomah County, today filed a petition with 600 signatures demanding the referendum of a bill which would give the legislature giving Sheriffs control of county prisoners at all times. The referendum petitions were prepared and circulated under the supervision of the Multnomah County Court. The signatures have not been checked up, but as only 4669 are required it is quite certain that there are more than enough. This means that the act of the legislature will not go into effect until July, 1908, and not then unless it receives a majority vote at the June election of that year. For all practical purposes the bill relates to Multnomah County only, and was intended to prevent the County Court from interfering with Sheriff Stearn's right to control and feed the prisoners.

BLOWN UP BY DYNAMITE. Three Laborers Lose Their Lives in Explosion at Cheney.

CHENEY, Wash., May 7.—(Special.)—In the camp of F. Welsh & Company, located at Fish Lake, three miles east of this place, three railroad workmen lost their lives by the explosion of dynamite today. A shot had been fired and they were drilling the hole deeper when the explosion occurred. It is believed some of the powder had fallen into a crevice in the rock and that the drill caused it to explode. The bodies of the men were blown into the lake. Their names could not be learned.

COAST CLUBS WILL COMPETE. Golf Tournament May 17-19 at Del Monte, California.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 7.—A golf tournament under the auspices of the Pacific Coast Golf Association will be held at Del Monte, May 17, 18 and 19. Invitations to compete have been extended to clubs in Victoria, Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco. A large attendance of the best players on the Coast is expected.

Indians to Make Protest. VANCOUVER, B. C., May 7.—When Sir Wilfrid Laurier returns from London he will be waited upon by a delegation of the chiefs of the coast tribes of Indians who will protest against the miscellaneous appropriation of Indian lands by white men.

"WHERE DO I STAND?"

NO PERMISSIBLE EXCESSIVE HONOR WITH HONORABLE INTENTION.

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HUNTINGTON BEHIND ROAD. Astoria Will Aid in Getting Right-of-Way for New Railway.

ASTORIA, Or., May 7.—(Special.)—Last evening J. S. Talbot, right-of-way agent, and J. T. Whalley, attorney, for the Portland, Oregon & Seacoast Railway Company, appeared before the Chamber of Commerce and asked the assistance of that body in securing rights-of-way for a railroad from Clatsop City along the line of the old Ried grade up the Lewis and Clark River and into the Nehalem Valley.

The rights-of-way asked for are on condition that the first 18 miles of the line are in operation before November 30 of this year. The railway representatives stated that the line is to be extended to Portland via Forest Grove, also that track arrangements into Astoria had been made over the A. & C. line, this being necessary because the legislature at its last session had failed to grant the new company the right to build a bridge across Young's Bay.

A committee was appointed to investigate the matter and at today's meeting of the committee it developed that the company is financed by H. E. Huntington and his associates. Telegrams have been sent inquiring as to the financial condition of the company, and if the answers received are satisfactory the Chamber of Commerce Committee will probably assist in securing the rights-of-way.

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