

The Oregonian

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of their superiority to the "pure Caucasian breed." The third is their centralized form of government, which combines the maximum of executive force and celerity with the maximum of individual liberty.

Is the Japanese claim of superiority to the Western nations wholly unfounded? In the competition between the east and the west which has just begun and which will continue until one or the other has won a decisive victory, will our heritage to religious and economic tradition help or hinder us? If it hinders, have we the force of character to emancipate ourselves before it is too late?

THE CASE OF MR. CONOVER. So far as one can discern, the charge against Mr. Conover amounts to the fact that Mr. Wittenberg disliked him. That he is a competent, even a superior, teacher is not denied, but he has had the misfortune to displease Mr. Wittenberg and he must go.

Mr. Ripley's part in the affair is more or less exculpated. Of course he had to do what he was told. When Mr. Wittenberg ordered him to find some plausible ground for Conover's discharge, he had to do his best to obey. Undoubtedly he sought faithfully, but his success was not brilliant. He must have been ashamed to commend the dismissal of a worthy colleague on the flimsy pretext which he enumerated.

There is something about an automobile that generates a dangerous kind of speed madness. There are entirely too many Portland chauffeurs, professional and amateur, who are more fit for examination by a lunacy commission than for the care and control of a motor vehicle.

It is not the way to conduct the public schools. It is not what the people of this city would expect of their school officials. The places where his duty ought to find better use for his office than to employ its power to gratify petty spite.

Men and Horses. In excessively warm weather, such as we now enjoy or excrete, according to our several dispositions, the lot of the workhorse upon the streets is singularly hard. The places where his driver may drink are frequent, but water for a horse is almost as difficult to obtain in Portland as in Sahara.

Down in the wholesale region there are drivers who, at noon, pour the barley for their horses' dinner in a heap in the mud. The starved beasts manage to gather up part of it; the rest is wasted. The owners are not to blame.

What promises to be a record wheat crop in the Pacific Northwest is now being harvested, and quite naturally the weather for the next fortnight will be the subject of considerable anxiety, not only on the part of the farmers, but in all lines of trade and industry in the Pacific Northwest.

Some of the "inspiration" which will begin with the cutting will begin within a fortnight, and the danger for winter wheat will be over in a few days. In the later districts and in the Spring wheat fields there is still plenty of time for enormous damage to be wrought by hot winds. There have been few such seasons in the past.

In some respects a bumper wheat crop, which is now almost assured, means more to the Pacific Northwest than it ever meant before. There have been years in the past when the financial condition of the Pacific Northwest has been such that it is now, and a big crop was for that reason most welcome.

As to our religion, the Japanese smiles at our Bible stories much as we smile at the legends of the Greeks and Romans. He thinks of the legends of mental weakness in us to reverse them. What we call "inspiration" is to him an absurdity. "If the Bible is true," he says, "inspiration makes it no truer."

Our economics is no better than our religion. It is still enslaved to tradition. We permit the proceeds of industry to go to the biggest hog; Japan distributes them throughout the nation. Our public utilities are made to exploit the people; Japan makes her contribute to the welfare of the state.

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be made up elsewhere, and a continuation of present prices and possibly a heavy advance is reasonably certain. Another fortnight of good weather in Oregon, Washington and Idaho and the premier cereal will this year add \$25,000,000 to the wealth of the three states.

WHERE ARE THE POLICE? The Chicago Tribune reports that during the year 1906 there were 209 persons killed and \$50 more or less severely injured in so-called "automobile accidents" in the United States.

The automobile is all right. So is the shotgun, if it is properly and discreetly handled. But the automobile, like the shotgun, in the hands of a reckless or heedless operator, may easily be made an engine of death. It is proper enough to own and run an automobile if you have money and sense.

They have had a big potlatch among the Indians at Alert Bay, and Indian girls were sold freely there at prices ranging from \$2000 down. We may not have had a potlatch in this twentieth-century slavery, and perhaps they have a throw coming. It should not be forgotten, however, that any number of girls fathered and mothered by the "Indians" along Fifth avenue and other select neighborhoods in the East are sold to European buyers for a title which an Alert Bay Indian would regard with scorn.

"Billy" Ayers, who was killed at Seattle Monday, was gambler, and was never accused of being otherwise than a "square" gambler. He ran games of all kinds at race meetings, and, like all of his fraternity, sought to take from the public something for nothing.

Water transportation between Portland and Puget Sound is to have another trial, and with the congested condition of the railroads, it would seem that there was an opportunity for a fair degree of success to attend the enterprise.

Even in so favored a spot as Western Oregon, disease heart outbreaks from an anonymous psalmist will strike a responsive chord. O, for a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, O, for an iceberg or two at Control, O, for some valve up at moonlit the dew, O, for a pleasure trip up to the pole.

Judge Loving, of Virginia, was continuously drunk for years, yet he killed the man that got his daughter drunk. The judge was a fine old gentleman with chivalric notions about correct conduct in others.

Oregon cherry growers are furnishing the cherries to make 15,000,000 cocktails. Now if each of those cherries carried a message, Oregon brand, wouldn't we get wide advertising?

It would be interesting to learn what proportion of the United States Express Company's \$21,000,000 assets is due to Santa Claus.

Portland's garbage cart combination boosting prices 50 per cent is another illustration that trusts move in only one direction.

Why hasn't General Killfeather been asked to answer the conundrum "What is a Democrat?" Also George H. Thomas.

Presumably the 1500 Londoners had their vest buttons adjusted before they sat down to listen to Mark Twain's stories.

There have been 14 deaths from heat in Pittsburg since Sunday. That always was a warm sort of town.

In San Francisco, Mayor office, City Jail; office hours, when the jailer is in a good humor.

When you start on your Summer vacation, leave all your grouches at home. Mark Twain is one contemporary writer who doesn't need a press agent.

Don't complain of the heat; this is having weather.

for labor and material fall harder on the new roads than on the old. One of the roads now heading for the Pacific Coast recently called for bids for a long and expensive tunnel, and the best figure obtainable was exactly 75 per cent higher than the cost of a tunnel of similar size built by a competing road twenty years before.

There have, of course, been many economies effected in construction and operation; otherwise it would be impossible for the roads to meet the demands for lower freight and passenger rates and at the same time return dividends to the stockholders. This uncertainty regarding the future of railroad investments will not easily be removed so long as present conditions in the labor market and the employment of women prevail.

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FORCE GOVERNMENT INQUIRY

Small Says Operators Will Continue Struggle to That Point. OAKLAND, June 26.—At Sunset Hall headquarters of the telegraphers, President Samuel Small said this morning: "I am hopeful the present strike will not be prolonged. We are anxious to avoid any kind of trouble, but, when forced to it, we will of course fight. That is only natural. Should the telegraph companies refuse to meet their operators in order to adjust the differences now existing, there is no doubt in the world that the struggle will continue until we can force a Government investigation. We are willing and anxious to do anything in reason to adjust the present trouble. The union need not appear in the adjustment at all, and, as often stated before, the Government employers of the telegraphers will deal honestly and honorably with their operators; they will never hear of the union."

It is said that Mr. Small has threatened to call out the Chicago telegraphers.

LOCAL MEN ARE ENCOURAGED Think Strike in San Francisco is Making Progress. "News from San Francisco regarding the telegraphers' strike continues satisfactory," said a prominent local operator last night. "We are encouraged by the fact that the strikebreakers now at work in San Francisco are exhausted. The employment of women at least the strikebreakers can hardly form the Morse characters, and show plainly the effects of their long hours and the strain under which they are laboring. This hardly indicates a rush of strikers to get back."

"The Western Union has eight men at work in Oakland instead of 66, as the proportion yesterday. The fact that at a meeting of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers in Chicago last night, steps were taken through the Health Department to compel the Western Union to remove 1000 cots placed in the company's building in anticipation of trouble. The Western Union at Seattle is turning over Eastbound business to the Postal Telegraph route via the Canadian Pacific is swamped with business."

"Both companies are having wire trouble between New York and Chicago, over the wires which were lost this afternoon. Chicago is over 1000 messages behind to New York."

TO IMPROVE TRAIN SERVICE Pendleton to Have Connections With North Bank Road. PENDLETON, Or., June 26.—(Special.)—That Pendleton is to have better train service over the Washington & Columbia line, which is to be completed by a branch of the Northern Pacific after July 1, was announced yesterday afternoon by a member of President Howard Elliott's party, which was here on a tour of inspection. It was also definitely announced that all the present officials and employees of the road would be continued in the service, and that J. E. Cutler, who is now the general superintendent of the Washington & Columbia Railroad, will hereafter be known as the general superintendent of the Northern Pacific with jurisdiction over this branch, making his duties practically the same as at present.

Medford, Or., June 26.—(Special.)—Service was inaugurated on the Pacific & Eastern Crater Lake route today. Manager E. J. Hueston and 75 riders made the trip to Eagle Point, where they were royally received by the people of that long-isolated village. The trip will be served by the citizens of Eagle Point upon the arrival of the first regular train tomorrow. The road has been placed in first-class condition and its extension to the lumber region, near Butte Falls will be immediately.

MORNING FIRE AT CAZADERO Workman on Salmon Hatchery Has Narrow Escape. OREGON CITY, Or., June 26.—(Special.)—Fire early this morning destroyed the quarters at Cazadero of W. W. Smith, Henry Hueston and Edward Hueston, who were working erecting a dam for the establishment of a state salmon hatchery on the Upper Clackamas River. Hueston was sleeping in a tent, when they were aroused by the cries of Hueston, who was in the house, and who had a narrow escape. The men were compelled to borrow clothes in order to reach their homes at Parkdale.

TENINO PLANT BURNS WITHOUT CENT OF INSURANCE. CHEHALIS, Wash., June 26.—The sawmill of T. F. and C. A. Mentzer, near Tenino, burned yesterday, with 2,000,000 feet of lumber. It is supposed the flames originated in hot boxes under the mill. The loss is \$75,000 and there is no insurance, as the plant had no water protection. The owners will rebuild at once. The mill was on the Northern Pacific main line and the fire started so that travel had to be diverted to the Olympia branch.

CARDS LEAD UP TO SHOOTING Roslyn Miner Wounds Bartender and Kills Himself. NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., June 26.—(Special.)—Following a dispute over a game of cards a miner named Sam Hill yesterday shot and probably fatally wounded John Crofton, bartender of Ferandi & Bernardo's saloon at Roslyn, and then shot himself. The miner was a volunteer on himself and fell dead with a bullet in his brain. Crofton is in a very critical condition in the Coval hospital. The crime was witnessed by a number of bystanders.

BULLET WOUND PROVES FATAL Sidney Dundas Dies One Week After Shooting. TACOMA, June 26.—Sidney Dundas died at noon today. He was proprietor of the Dundas saloon and hotel and was shot last Wednesday night by the man Jones, an instance frenzy, followed by Jones in shooting himself. The bullet lodged in Dundas' brain. He leaves a widow and infant child.

HARRIMAN FEARS CRITICISM

Lends Alton Money to Enable It to Pay Dividends. CHICAGO, June 26.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Washington says: E. H. Harriman has adopted a new attitude toward the Chicago & Alton Railroad different from the predatory policy which members of the Interstate Commerce Commission alleged he observed toward that property. Authoritative information has reached here to the effect that in order to prevent the passing of a dividend recently on Chicago & Alton, Mr. Harriman made a loan of \$1,000,000 to that line, to be used for improvements. At the last meeting of the parties to the agreement in New York, it was announced by representatives of the Rock Island that the surplus for the year aggregated \$4,000,000 but as the road needs improvements, it would waive the dividend and use the money for additional equipment, repairs, etc. Mr. Harriman instantly objected, insisting that the dividend should be issued. To practical financial men, who listened to him, it was evident it was against the interests of the president of the Union Pacific to permit the passing of the dividend because of the criticism that would follow. Then Mr. Harriman proposed to make a personal loan of \$1,000,000 at 6 per cent, to be paid in 1908, if the board would declare dividends. The proposition was accepted.

EXTENDING LINE TO COAST Right of Way Being Purchased on Gray's Harbor Line. TACOMA, June 26.—Purchases of right of way for a railroad to extend from Kelso to Ilwaco are being made by representatives of the Washington & Gray's Harbor Railroad. This line is believed to be a Northern Pacific extension and it is said that as soon as the North-hank road is completed, grading crews now employed in that work will be put on the construction of the Kelso-Ilwaco line.

Will Argue Spokane Case Today. WASHINGTON, June 26.—Argument of the Spokane case before the Interstate Commerce Commission, set for today, has been postponed until tomorrow. Attorneys present to argue the case are W. E. Hunt and Charles D. Denny, representing the Northern Pacific Railway; L. C. Gilman, the Great Northern; W. W. Cotton, the Union Pacific; and D. R. N. Brewster, Adams and H. M. Stephens for the City of Spokane. It is expected two or three days will be given up to argument.

ALBERT SOUGHT NO WAR Winegrowers' Leader Declares Sole Object is to Save Industry. MONTEPELLIER, June 26.—During the first interrogatory by the examining magistrate, Marcelin Albert, who has surrendered to the government, said he had never sought to war on laws or men. His sole object, he said, was to save the wine culture, especially of the smaller growers. The court hearing was postponed until tomorrow, when consideration will be given to the plea for the temporary release of M. Ferroul and other prisoners.

Will Build Biggest Steamer. HAMBURG, June 26.—The officials of the Hamburg-American Steamship Company are in conference with the German government to order a steamer which will exceed in size the Cunard's new turbine liner. The liner will be commissioned in 1910.

Try Karl Hau July 11. KARLSRUHE, Germany, June 26.—The trial of Karl Hau, professor of Roman law at George Washington University, Washington, D. C., charged with the murder of his mother-in-law, will begin here July 11.

ARMY GROWS MORE MUTINOUS Anti-Military Propaganda Causes Resort to Stern Measures. PARIS, June 26.—The government is now apparently quite as much concerned about the insubordination manifested among troops as about the attitude of the winegrowers, for, in spite of the efforts to minimize them, new incidents are occurring daily. The government seems to have awakened to the necessity of dealing sternly with the demoralization generated by the Socialistic and military propaganda and the press comment on the decision of the government to extend the law of the 29th of March to the army and to postpone indefinitely the law providing for the abolition of the courts-martial in time of peace. The position of the Cabinet is increasingly awkward. M. Clemenceau's sole object seems to be to weather the storm until the summer vacation of Parliament affords a breathing spell.

Will Issue New Manifesto. ARGELIERS, France, June 26.—The wine-growers' committee called upon the delegates of all local committees to meet on Friday and draw up a manifesto setting forth their demands.

Test Case on Account Bill. NEW YORK, June 26.—Corporation Counsel Ellison obtained today from Justice Almet E. Jenks, of the appellate division of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn, a writ of prohibition forbidding Justice of the Supreme Court from acting under the new account bill. The order is returnable Friday afternoon, at which time argument designed to test the constitutionality of the law will begin. Clarence J. Shearn, representing W. R. Hearst, made an application Monday to Justice Maddox, in Brooklyn, for the appointment of commissioners to be the recount of the last majority vote in New York city.

Knox Smith to Investigate. OYSTER BAY, N. Y., June 26.—The telegram directing President Roosevelt to investigate alleged violations of the anti-trust law by the telegraph companies, received yesterday from the Washington Central Labor Union, was today transmitted to Herbert Knox Smith, Chief of the Bureau of Corporations of the Department of Commerce and Labor, upon instructions given Mr. Smith. This telegram is the only one the President has received on the subject.

DEGREE GIVEN MARK TWAIN

Oxford Students Give Humorous Oration and Chaff Him. OXFORD, England, June 26.—With 30 men distinguished in politics, art and science or letters, including Premier Campbell-Bannerman, Lord Chancellor Lothern, and the Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr. Lowther, and General Booth, Mark Twain received an Oxford degree today. The visitors included Ambassador Whitelaw Reid and numerous other Americans. Lord Curzon of Kedleston, Chancellor of the University, presided. Mr. Reid was cheered upon entering the theater, but a great ovation was reserved for Mark Twain, the lion of the occasion. Every one rose when he was escorted up the aisle, and he was applauded for a quarter of an hour. When the American humorist was presented, the students started a fire of chaffing about his books and their heroes, mixed with frequent questions, such as: "Where is your white suit?" Mr. Reid received the degree of doctor of civil laws, as did General Booth, the warmth of whose reception was only exceeded by that accorded to Mark Twain. The crowd waited outside the building to cheer Mark Twain as, wearing the scarlet robes of the University, he marched in procession to the Chancellor's residence, where those honored by degrees were entertained.

PUT STRAITJACKET ON LORDS Commons Vote to Curtail Power of Upper House. LONDON, June 26.—The three days' debate in the House of Commons ended at midnight when Premier Campbell-Bannerman's resolution in favor of curtailing the power of the House of Lords to veto bills passed by the Commons, was carried by 423 to 147 amid loud ministerial cheers. The amendment introduced by A. H. Anderson (Laborite from Durham) for the abolition of the House of Lords was previously rejected by 215 to 100, the majority being composed of Laborites, Nationalists and a few Radicals. The Unionists abstained from voting. Herbert H. Asquith, chancellor of the exchequer, winding up the debate, remarked that the opinion of the country was against a single chamber. The Premier on leaving the house was given a great ovation.

Victoria of China's Menagerie. EMPORIA, B. C., June 24.—Advices from Japan state that the German steamer Ferd Laeisz arrived at Tien Tsin on June 6 from Hamburg with a menagerie of animals and birds on board for the Emperor of China. The menagerie for Peking includes lions, elephants, tiger, panther, puma, wild boar, monkeys and American bison. A year was occupied in getting the collection together, and the cost was over \$200,000.

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THE ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT TRAGEDY



Find the young man who is next on the program and who has suddenly discovered that his memory has failed.