

The Oregonian

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. INvariably in Advance. (By Mail) Daily, Sunday included, one year, \$4.00...

of this is pretty serious for such a state. For Kentucky, though it hasn't been consuming more liquor in proportion to its population than its neighbors...

It is not to be supposed that prohibition will carry in Kentucky. But it may become a matter of National importance. The signs are that it will take Kentucky out of the Democratic column in the coming Presidential election...

Exceedingly subtle and strange, and beyond power of forecast or divination, are the action, interaction and reaction of the multifarious forces of human society...

But it is not the first time a Republican Senator has been elected by Democratic votes. Simon Cameron was so elected in Pennsylvania in 1856. Three Democratic members of the Legislature, declaring themselves unalterably opposed to extension of slavery...

PORTLAND'S REMARKABLE GROWTH. The Swift Packing Company is still adding to its already large holdings in this city, and the elaborate plans for the big plant are becoming more known...

POINTS OF POLITICS.

An extraordinary thing has occurred in Kentucky. A Legislature which contains a Democratic majority—though the majority is but six—has elected a Republican Senator. The event is not much in itself, but in its suggestions it is almost astounding.

Jefferson County is situated, in nature, in a Democratic county. Conflicting interests in sentiment during the war, and gave no vote to Lincoln at all. Through the whole period of reconstruction it was almost solidly Democratic.

The showing for the first week in February was all more favorable and returns for the last half of the month show Portland with a decrease of 22.1 per cent, while the average decrease for Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle is 28.3 per cent.

The project for a billion-dollar navy is said to have originated with the czar and a few of his intimate advisers. It is a project which has resulted in more bomb-throwing than would otherwise have been in evidence.

FRUIT-PACKING PROJECTS.

Reports of the number of fruit canneries to be erected in the Willamette Valley this Spring are gratifying in the extreme. These canneries will provide a market for much fruit that now goes to waste and for the product of new

orchards and berry patches. All possible encouragement should be given to enterprises of this kind, for they help to advance productive resources. At the same time, a word of caution is needed. Those who are going into a business of this kind, especially if on the co-operative plan, should remember that it takes a lot of money to pack a fruit crop.

While the financing of an enterprise of this kind does not present an insuperable obstacle, the task is difficult enough to call for some thought and planning before the season for active operations arrives.

PROGRESS OF ENGLISH.

Mr. E. H. Rabbitt, in a recent magazine, emphasizes the fact that the English language, though not spoken by a greater number of people than any other, is certainly the most widely-read language in the world.

What's the constitution, anyhow? The constitution of Oregon was adopted when there were 100,000 people in the state. There are 600,000 now. Why should 500,000 people, most of whom are dead, be allowed to control the state?

POINTING THE GUN.

There is a law upon the statute-book which makes it a misdemeanor for one person to point a gun at another. While the purpose of the statute is a good one, it is not so effective.

Quite likely an unwise law would be an effective remedy in cases of this kind. If men at whom guns are pointed are given a good drubbing, perhaps other would take warning and cease the idiotic practice.

RUSSIA AND ITS NAVY.

The Russian plans for a re-creation of the navy at an expense of \$1,078,000 have given rise to a great deal of discussion. Instead of four battleships as a starter this year, one big fighting machine is about all that can be expected.

Prior to Russia's defeat by the Japanese, the most powerful argument at the command of the Russian government, when it was seeking appropriations, was the necessity for strong naval power and to enforce its desires in the Pacific and to enforce its desires to keep the Manchurian door closed against all comers.

No American citizen, whether a National, state, county or city official, can be properly called a "mediator" when he makes an effort at enforcement of the law. The man who defies the law and persistently violates it is little better than an anarchist.

This is taxpaying time for 1907, but whatever property you possessed immediately after 12 o'clock last night must be assessed for the next collection of taxes, and the Assessor must now begin again. Two things never sleep—Interest and taxes.

is hearing continued reports of famine and hunger throughout the land of the Czar. A famine-stricken people can hardly be expected to make heavy contributions in the way of taxes for such a purpose, and the alternative of borrowing might not be an easy matter.

Mr. Bryan says the Republican party is dying. Perhaps it is. Parties do not last forever. For example, the party of Caesar and the party of Pompey, that tried it out on the field of Pharsalia, are dead.

It is exceedingly funny to find the New York Evening Sun taking with it a special issue of the Oregonian that Supreme Court decisions should be subjected to revision through the referendum, and even the popular initiative employed in cases at law.

What has caused this eclipse of humor, which of course is but temporary, in the office of the New York Evening Sun? Candidates for the Senate are publishing their "platforms." But nobody pays attention to them.

There can hardly, it seems to me, be much doubt as to the meaning of the Pope's expression "Modernism." From the days of Abelard and Arnold of Brescia to those of Wycliffe, from the days of Luther and Calvin, and from those of Luther and Calvin to the present time, there has been a constant struggle between Papal and political power.

Mr. O'Ren says that when he paid Mrs. McGrath \$300 out of \$1400 due he paid it that he ought to pay. It is not a matter of opinion or of simple fact, but of a contract surety.

The spirit of insubordination seems to be prevalent among college students these days. At Pullman the students are warring with the faculty over athletics; at the University of Washington the students are talking of dropping two members of the faculty from the students' association board of control.

Jacksonville has joined the "booster" brigade. It is an old town, and, like most of the old towns, very conservative. It is a town that has a long record of being off the main line of the railroad.

Robert Nixon, known generally to newspaper men of the Pacific Coast, died at Yreka a few days ago, at the age of 77 years. He had conducted the Yreka Journal forty-six years, and had lived at Yreka since 1855.

Mr. Harriman collected hundreds of thousands of dollars from the shippers of Oregon and spent it on improvements and extensions elsewhere at the same time that his Yamhill and Sheridan line was unsafe and becoming more dangerous every day.

With a total population of 4,660,121, the United Kingdom expended for liquors of all kinds during 1906 the sum of \$68,811,829, or an average of \$18 per capita. Of this amount \$46,137,418 was spent for beer, the quantity consumed being 22,891,191 barrels; \$22,922,913 for wine, or 22,828,811 gallons; and \$19,751,500 for spirits, or 2,600,000 gallons.

WOMAN'S STATUS AND STRENGTH.

Observations on the Recent Opinion of the Supreme Court. New York. The Supreme Court of the United States recognizes a difference between man and woman which some state courts have been slow to comprehend.

Does this not sound like elementary sense? And does not the statement that such limitations upon woman's contractual powers are imposed not solely for her benefit but "also largely for the benefit of all" establish a self-evident truth and remove the question so far from the region of contention and debate as to make attempts to drag it there again seemingly impossible?

And yet there has been such confusion and such difference of judicial opinion respecting this matter that a decision even by our highest court is not likely to induce uniformity of opinion all at once. There will still be some who will insist that the contract law is not to be applied to women as it is to men, and that it is an outrage and an insult to the woman to attempt to attempt by one iota to make the contractual powers of one inferior to those of the other.

Goldwin Smith in N. Y. Sun. There can hardly, it seems to me, be much doubt as to the meaning of the Pope's expression "Modernism." From the days of Abelard and Arnold of Brescia to those of Wycliffe, from the days of Luther and Calvin, and from those of Luther and Calvin to the present time, there has been a constant struggle between Papal and political power.

Once more let me say that I have spoken against Papal autocracy, not against the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church, which is a Christian ideal, a character embodied in its Anselms, in its Pascals, in its Fenelons, with its missions, its charities, its ritual, its church art, would, if the Pope were not a creature with the heavy ponderousness of the permanent marcelle waves, do you think that a girl is justified in taking advantage of his age and proposing to a young man?

Doesn't Recognize Webster's Speech. Luther B. Little, secretary and treasurer of the Republican State Committee, is now known as Daniel Webster No. 2. Perhaps he hasn't the forensic talents of the great Daniel, but in another way he has carried the name.

Some Interesting Facts. The imports to this country of tropical and subtropical products amounted to at least \$600,000,000 during 1907. The population of Oklahoma is about 1,500,000, and the increase in Oklahoma City, the metropolis, which now has 462, has been 23.2 per cent in seven years.

Britannia's Liquor Bill. London, Consular Report. With a total population of 4,660,121, the United Kingdom expended for liquors of all kinds during 1906 the sum of \$68,811,829, or an average of \$18 per capita.

OLD AGE PENSIONS IN ENGLAND.

Hours of Coal Miners' Labor Also Are to Be Shortened. New York. In the legislative programme which the Bannerman Government has determined to carry out during the present session of Parliament, so far, at least, as the House of Commons is concerned, there are two features of worldwide interest.

Let us take up these proposed innovations in their order and mark their significance. The first is the one which the bill shortening the working hours of coal miners will if it become a law increase the price of coal, already high, by at least 63 cents per ton.

Now let us glance at the old age pension bill, which, it is understood, will differ from the German precedent that makes working men and employers and the state contribute to a pension fund from which contributors alone may derive any benefit.

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Well, Well! Chicago Evening Post. "Mr. Githery, you are a fair young creature with the heavy ponderousness of the permanent marcelle waves, do you think that a girl is justified in taking advantage of his age and proposing to a young man?"

Making Men Vote Against Their Principles. Benton County Republican. There is certainly one bad feature about the proposed initiative and referendum that is asked to vote for a Democrat for United States Senator, and no Democrat should be asked to vote for a Democrat.

A FEW SQUIBS. "Don't you think my new suit is a perfect fit?" "Yes, it is. It's a perfect conundrum."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Back to the Ring as a Regiment. Colonel George Yorin has resumed command, with Majors Hammond and Hamlin as battalion commanders. It will participate in the American Lake maneuvers as a regiment.

A Meeting to Be Called Shortly by General G. W. Hamlin. A plan of campaign for securing the \$300,000 armory appropriation made by the last Legislature and held up under the initiative and referendum. An active fight will be made to secure the money, which is an important need. The campaign will be waged with the view of bringing voters throughout the state to an intelligent understanding of the matter. It will be shown that the purchase of armories with the \$300,000 in question is a good investment and that the state will ultimately save several times the amount retained to maintain the competition for grants work will receive through construction of suitable quarters for organizations outside Portland.

A Half Nelson. From Puck. Englishman (on Atlantic liner)—Well, old chap, well soon be engaged with those married Yankee customs inspectors. American—You bet! And remember, old man, that the United States expects every man to pay his duty!

Man Is Fined 50 Cents Per Oath. Dover (Del.) Dispatch. Edward George was fined in Georgetown, Del., 50 cents an oath for swearing the bill amounting to \$14,



NATIONAL GUARD

THE question of a rifle range in the vicinity of Portland has become one of importance to the local guardsmen, but to commercial organizations and business men. Strong pressure is being brought to bear for a suitable range, convenient to the city, and the entire Oregon delegation, at Washington, D. C., has taken the matter in hand.

The chief aim at this time is to attract the American fleet here for small arms practice. The men of the fleet must have some place for this practice during the summer and, of course, will be altogether unable to use an Eastern range. California has nothing to offer at this time, nor has Washington, although both states covet the prize which Oregon stands to win.

The local troops will benefit by establishment of a range near Portland quite as fully as if the range were a state institution, created for the sole use of the Guard, since the local soldiers are able to do their range work only on Sundays, while the regulars confine their range practice to weekdays.

The outcome of the present movement for the establishment of a rifle range in the vicinity of Portland is being anxiously watched for the outdoor season is not far distant and the old range is not greatly better than no range at all.

A movement has been started in the East for the organization of an "Army League" the purpose of which will be to secure the support of employers of labor in guard work insofar as it relates to their employees. The National League has already assumed National proportions and is to be taken up in Oregon shortly.

The organized militia of this country is assuredly being welded into such a shape as to become a most important part of the Nation's plan of defense. The tremendous force behind this movement was a revelation to the citizen who read of the recent demonstration of the late Governor's National Guard Association convention in Faneuil Hall, Boston.

Officers of the Third Regiment and battery attended the funeral services of Mrs. McCormack, yesterday afternoon. First Lieutenant McCormack, who has been in the line of duty for many years, has the heartfelt sympathy of the entire Guard in his bereavement.

Company K, of the Third Regiment, did itself proud at the annual inspection, Wednesday night, turning out an attendance of 109 percent. Not an officer or man was so much as tardy and the company made an exceptional showing, meeting every requirement with a high percentage. Company K is likely to stand at the head of the list when the comparative statement of the standing of the companies is returned by Colonel Jackson.

The Fourth Oregon Infantry is now back in the ring as a regiment. Colonel George Yorin has resumed command, with Majors Hammond and Hamlin as battalion commanders. It will participate in the American Lake maneuvers as a regiment.

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