

The Oregonian

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doubtless rally to the support of their old leader. East of the mountains this strength of McBride's may be divided with Hon. S. G. Croswell, as well as with Governor Mead, who, with all the prestige of possession of the office and a clean administration, will make the contest a hard-fought battle. The gubernatorial fight will quite naturally at times become entangled with the Senatorial fight. Even the Congressional contests, which are always the same affairs in Washington, politics, will have important bearing on both the Senatorship and the Governorship. For Senator, Ankeny, the present incumbent, and Representative Jones are the chief candidates. Both men in their respective positions have worked to good advantage for the Columbia River, and that portion of Washington in which this city is specially interested. With Ankeny in the Senate and Jones in the House, the Columbia River and its interests have been well looked after.

TRUSTING THE PEOPLE. "Why not trust the people?" somebody asks. "The Oregonian does not trust the people." But the Oregonian trusts the people. The question arises, Who are the people? It is the same judgment of the people that must be trusted. To arrive at that same judgment is often a matter of infinite difficulty. The Oregonian confesses that it is the Oregonian of the cheap that it distrusts the people, but it trusts the people, and has the highest confidence in their intelligence. The great majority in the long run will act intelligently and do right; but they are so beset and bedeviled by charlatans of one kind and another that many of them are a difficult one, and much contention ensues.

The Oregonian has no contempt for the intelligence of the whole people; but many times it has contempt for the intelligence of part of them. It had contempt for the intelligence of such as supposed they could extend the franchise to every one, and divide the American Union—and for all who sympathized with the idea or purpose. It had and has contempt for those who supposed and insisted that Treasury notes, which are but promises to pay money, are money. It had and has contempt for such as insisted on the free coinage of silver and professed to believe that an ordinance of the United States, declaring that silver and gold at 16 to 1 were of equal value would make them of equal value and cause them to circulate under free coinage on equal terms. It had and has contempt for all who suppose they can set aside the constitutional method of electing Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States. And for the ten thousand other follies associated with these various fundamental errors.

But the Oregonian trusts the people. It trusts them to turn down all fundamental errors and follies—such, for example, as the Democratic party of the United States has stood for these fifty years and more. Often it is out of patience with the Republican party for its stupidity and for its lack of nerve and purpose; and for many reasons it is out of patience with it now, and for the present wishes to disclaim responsibility, even as an adviser, for its errors.

THE UNDESIRABLE ALIEN. Foreign labor departing from the United States during the first two months of 1908 reached a total of 109,151, while the entries for the same period were 22,240. The departure of this vast number of aliens is not an unmixed blessing, for while they have perhaps improved labor conditions for the several millions who remain, they have taken back with them sums of money which in the aggregate will reach vast proportions and which is lost forever to this country. Some of them may come back with a general idea that the drain is quite perceptible, and it has provoked considerable discussion as to the value to the United States of this class of labor. Along with this type of labor which comes trooping in on the first wave of prosperity come the Madia, the Black Hand, the Herr Mosts and Emma Goldmans, and a lot more of Old World riffraff and scum. It is the presence of these undesirables and the impossibility of ever molding into citizenship shape the type that in order to increase the size of the herd, live like beggars while here, that has caused a view to be taken of the matter which has become a general topic of conversation in this city.

WASHINGTON POLITICS. Washington politics, always spectacular and strenuous, this year promises to be more exciting than ever. Three representatives in Congress and a Governor are to be elected, and members of the Legislature will be chosen, primarily for the purpose of electing a United States Senator and incidentally to attend to other needed legislation. Meanwhile fierce city elections have stirred the political bias to white heat in Seattle, Tacoma, and in nearly every other city throughout the state. The "line-up" for the battle of next November is already being made. The return of ex-Governor McBride to the political arena has injected into the gubernatorial contest an element that will cause some unrest among politicians all the way from Spokane to the sea. That to keep an observer and clever a politician as McBride should at this time discern in the situation a possible opportunity for regaining the Governor's chair is a striking commentary on the change of sentiment in Washington voters.

McBride was not the original Railroad Commission man, but he made that issue so prominent and gathered such strength behind him that the railroad interests were turned against him and he was defeated at the nominating convention. But his campaign of education on railroad commission lines had been so effective that it is extremely doubtful whether it would have been possible at that time to elect any man not committed to some kind of a railroad commission policy. When McBride was making his campaign for his measure he invariably mentioned the old Oregon Railroad Commission law as a "poor, weak, nerveless thing." Now that Judge Hanford in the joint-rate decision has removed the spinal column from the Washington Railroad Commission law, the most pronounced advocates of a stringent measure for regulating rates will

offer inducements for good, clean, healthy, hardworking foreigners. We can use millions of them if they will save their money while work is plentiful and wages good and use it in purchasing a little farm or a home. But he have had a sufficiency of the class that have no use for the country beyond the "opportunities it offers for them to make a "stake" to carry back to the Old World, where they can realize in idleness the benefits of the Spanish vessels as easily as if they had been wooden. Admiral Rojstevsky's fleet could hardly have made less resistance to the Japanese if it had carried no armor. Just how much the efficiency of warships has been increased by enclosing them in iron remains to be determined. Perhaps the race between heavy artillery and armor-plate protection will end like that between the breastplate of the feudal baron and the peasant's bullet. Is it quite certain that the ship of the future will not go into battle, as the soldier does, without any armor at all?

THE INDEPENDENCE PARTY. Mr. William Randolph Hearst, leader of the Independence party, which has shown in several elections that it has command of a great majority in New York, Massachusetts and elsewhere now makes it known through his New York American that neither his party nor himself will support Mr. Bryan. Further, that they will not support Governor Johnson, the Minnesota man, nor Theodore Roosevelt, one of our men of pretty wide fame. It may be supposed that Mr. Hearst, since he created the Independence party, has abundant authority to say what it will and will not. Now, therefore, having declared some things it will not do, Mr. Hearst's American states one thing it will do to wit: The Independence party is going to nominate its own candidate for Governor to vote for him with a strength and a heartiness of numbers that is likely to be a revelation to those who are not familiar with it. If it does not elect this candidate of its own in this particular election, it is going to lay the solid foundation for doing so in the next.

Mr. Stubbs informs the lumbermen that they are not losing any money by their inability to ship into certain markets from which the advanced lumber rates bar them. He bases his statement on the belief that the trees are growing fast enough to recoup their owners for the losses in waiting. The same kind of advice might have been equally appropriate had it been handed out to Vancouver, Gray or any of the other men who were first on the ground. What our lumbermen and timber-owners desire is the opportunity to spend a little of this money now tied up in growing trees. They are even unreasonable enough to wish to leave some cash instead of trees to their heirs.

Castro should choose a more opportune moment for making one of his periodical demonstrations. What show does his tuppenny republic stand for a first-page story with China, the oldest, and Japan, the "sassyest," country in the world, both striking up for a new class sensation? The Emperor in Emperor William and Lord Tweedmouth, not to mention the Balkan dispute and the trouble in Morocco. If the periodical revolutions of Castro's popery country ever amounted to anything more than a flash in the pan, they would be more seriously regarded; but so long as there are real wars in prospect, the world has but little time for the initiation article which thrives so luxuriantly on Central American soil.

THE NAVAL INVESTIGATION. If the vessels of the American Navy are defective in construction, there is nothing to be gained by concealment of the truth. It is better to let the facts come out in time of peace than to wait until war exposes them in spite of all efforts at suppression. It is one of the unpleasant results of actual battle to make rude disclosures of many delinquent organizations which are glossed over in time of peace. The shortcomings in our Navy which are so much discussed just now may be purely imaginary, and again they may not. The experts seem to tell different tales about them, varying all the way from enthusiasm to despairful criticism. What is the matter with them? We may not expect to know until the Senate committee finishes its investigation, and perhaps not then. Meanwhile it is just as well to maintain an attitude of suspicious receptiveness, for it is a common failing of both military and naval boards to gratify their pique and prejudice at all costs. Most of them would rather see a whole armada sink at the first shot than to admit that they have made a mistake or been guilty of negligence.

As to the investigating committee, its anxiety to know the truth appears to be kept under a firm rein. It has a way of snapping up the witnesses just when they are on the verge of saying something interesting that does not augur well. The controversy over the state of the Navy is one of those where it is much better to forget the common-law rules of evidence and let the witnesses tell their own story in their own way. When all is said by everybody who wishes to talk, then the committee can sift it and make a fair guess at the truth. Admirals and commanders and people of that ilk have their little private vanities and self-admirations, which are apt to be wounded by an order to hold their tongues, such as Senator Hale issued to Commander Kay. Once on their dignity, men of this stamp are likely to hold their tongues more strictly than the committee desires.

An abler man than Senator Hale would conduct the investigation with less pomp and probably with better results. From the admirable proceedings on the committee one cannot avoid the suspicion that Mr. Hale is much occupied with the contemplation of his own greatness and forgets that the committee was appointed to find what condition our ships are in rather than to provide him with a platform to pose upon. Still his admirable proceedings with his private perfections cannot keep some interesting things from coming to light. For example, it must be evident to everybody that the naval administration is honeycombed with suspicion, jealousy and cross purposes. Each officer seems to crave an opportunity to tell terrible tales about his colleagues. It crops out that most of them think all the rest are incompetent and perhaps none of them are wrong. It seems that the speed tests for the vessels are deceptive. The armor plate may not reach far enough above the water line, and the apparatus for conveying powder from the magazine to the guns is unsafe.

The vessels are tested for speed without either armament, crew or stores on board. To a layman this looks absurd. Nobody cares how fast the vessels can go when they are stripped bare. The important question is what speed they can make with the load they must carry in action. In particular an incident theory has probably been permitted to triumph over common sense. Of course also if the armor belt is placed "around a fictitious water line," as one witness alleged, its value is fictitious. It is more comfortable for the construction officers to locate armor belts by theoretical rules with the aid of their armory chairs than to go out upon the water and actually look at the ship, but it can hardly be so well for the Navy. If the armor belt sinks under water when the vessel is laden, then it affords no protection. When a ball penetrates at the water line the ship must be driven even in the calmest sea. On a rough sea a hole a long way above the water line might prove fatal. Some of this distressful wrangling in the Navy Department may be attributed to the fact that the rules of naval architecture are in continual flux from change to change. Ever since the Monitor was invented by Captain Ericsson the construction of warships has been experimental for the most part. There has never yet been a naval battle between two fairly matched modern fleets and it is only a slight exaggeration to say that the merits and defects of armored vessels are all guesswork. How they will behave in strenuous action is problematic. Our fleet disposed of the Spanish vessels as easily as if they had been wooden. Admiral Rojstevsky's fleet could hardly have made less resistance to the Japanese if it had carried no armor. Just how much the efficiency of warships has been increased by enclosing them in iron remains to be determined.

CRIME IS RIFE IN ROSEBURG. ROSEBURG, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—The "Smokehouse," a cigar store owned by George Culver, was this morning robbed of \$750, the thief picking up the coin, which was lying loose. A suspect has been arrested, but no evidence found as yet to connect him with the crime. A hold-up was also reported to the police. Andrew Holmrich, a farmer of Roseburg, reporting that he was held up and only by putting up a hard fight was able to escape. He had \$600 in his pocket from the sale of some hogs. His face was considerably battered and cut.

MYRTLE CREEK SCHOOL CLERK FORGOT TO SEND IN THE LEVY. ROSEBURG, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—The Myrtle Creek School District is in somewhat of a quandary to know how to raise money. The trustees of the school district at that place neglected to make the proper levy last Fall. Finding out his mistake, he immediately sent to the County Clerk the levy, but it was too late, the taxrolls being closed, also the extended time. Just what arrangements will be made in the matter is uncertain, but it seems probable that the Myrtle Creek district to raise money except by bonding the district or by popular subscription.

CHARITIES CONFERENCE DELEGATES. OLYMPIA, Wash., March 11.—(Special.)—Governor Meade has appointed the following delegates to represent the state at the National Conference of Charities and Corrections, which will be held in Richmond, Va., from May 6 to 12: Dr. J. M. Temple, superintendent of the Eastern Washington Hospital for the Insane at Medical Lake; Dr. A. P. Callahan, superintendent of the Western Washington Hospital for the Insane at Pullman; Dr. W. M. Kellogg, superintendent of the State Medical Association; Superintendent F. S. Thompson, of the State Training School at Chehalis; Superintendent L. J. Irwin, of the Reform School at Monroe; Dr. C. H. Huttor, of Walla Walla; Rev. J. A. Covington and Rev. J. L. Covington, president and secretary of the Washington Children's Society; Dr. C. A. Smith, Seattle; Dr. E. E. Heag, secretary of the State Board of Health; Secretary United States Senator S. H. Piles, Seattle; Dr. J. R. Yocom and Judge W. H. Snell, Tacoma; Dr. George T. Spokane; Hon. J. W. Right Rev. F. W. Keator, Bishop of Olympia.

SKYLARKS TO BE RELEASED. TACOMA, Wash., March 11.—(Special.)—The Department of Agriculture has rescinded its order relative to the liberation of the skylarks in this county. McCutcheon imported to release in and about Tacoma. This morning he received permission from Secretary James Wilson to liberate the skylarks tomorrow. Dr. McCutcheon will release the skylarks, which are now at the Fannie Padlock Hospital. Some of the birds will be taken to McNellie's Island, others to Point Barrow, and the remainder will be turned loose at Browns Point.

STATE GRANGE DELEGATES. OREGON CITY, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—The Patrons of Husbandry held a county convention and elected delegates and alternates to the state convention at Portland, March 12-14. Delegates: James and Mary Shibley, Springfield; A. J. and Ella Thompson, Oswego; L. L. and R. E. Irwin, Barlow; T. F. and Inez M. Ryan, Oregon City; W. W. and Anna Eveschardt, Hillsboro; Alternates: Edwin and Sarah Bates, Currieville; C. T. and Mrs. Dickerson, Oswego; J. and Sarah Andrews, Barlow; R. S. and Mrs. F. O. Coe, Canby; J. W. Thomas, Malheur.

CATTLE BRING GOOD PRICES. CARLTON, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—A largely attended auction sale of blooded stock was held at the Draligan farm, near this place, today. About one hundred registered cattle were offered at prices ranging from \$19 to \$38 per head. Many of them were blue-ribbed animals that were exhibited at the Lewis & Clark and St. Louis Expositions.

WHIPPED TO HIS DEATH. MARYSVILLE, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—George Goodrich, an employe in the Coquille lumber mill, was caught in the shafting and whirled to his death. He had been working on the mill for some time, and was engaged in repairing the machinery when he was struck. The dead man was well known here, and his death caused a great shock. He leaves a wife and ten children.

POOR EVELYN NESBIT THAW CANNOT BE HAPPY WITHOUT SEEING HER NAME IN THE PAPERS. How it gets there is not important. Her glory as a martyred victim of Stanford White has burned out and now she appears with a new hold in the divorce court. What Evelyn really needs to satiate her appetite for notoriety is an application of her mother's rubber shoe. It is not we all remember from childhood.

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LINN SCHOOL OFFICERS MEET Second Annual Convention is Held at Albany. ALBANY, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—The second annual convention of the school officers of Linn County was held in Albany today. Sessions were held both forenoon and afternoon in the W. C. T. U. Hall and there was a large attendance of school directors and school clerks from all parts of the county. The convention dealt exclusively with matters germane to the schools, with a view toward securing uniformity of methods and an improvement in school work. The programme of the day was carried out as follows: "Compulsory Attendance Law," Cyrus H. Walker, trustee officer of Linn County; "The Teacher," State Senator M. A. Miller, Albany; "The School Book," F. D. Corbett, Albany; "The School Board in School Government," J. W. Mitchell, of Bodaville, and C. O. Frensch, of Oregon; "School Libraries," Miss Corneilia Marvin, of Salem, secretary of State Library Commission; "Higher Education in the Rural Schools," President F. S. Thompson, of the University of Oregon, of Eugene; address by J. H. Ackerman, State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

FINDS PANTS ON BACK PORCH. Thief Had Removed \$80 From the Pockets, However. BAKER CITY, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—When Colonel W. F. Butcher crossed this morning he found that his trousers, which he had laid on a chair by the side of his bed, had been removed and a search disclosed them on the back porch with \$80 missing from them. A girl probably entered the house some time during the night, and after getting a pair of trousers from the Colonel's room and a pair from his son's room, went to the front porch and hid. He was evidently frightened and dropped them and ran to the back door, upsetting a rocking chair as he did so. He took nothing but the money and left the trousers on the porch.

SENIORS IN CAPS AND GOWNS Graduating Class at University in Annual Swing-out. UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, March 11.—(Special.)—Senior caps and gowns were in evidence on the campus today, as the class of 1908 made its first appearance of the year in full regalia. The pre-graduates, especially the men, were subject to some jolliving on the part of the graduates, who were greatly amused at the manner in which the masculine seniors endeavored to hold their skirts up out of the mud. The seniors marched in a body to assembly, led by the president, James Cuning, and the vice-president, Cora Cameron, where they listened to Dr. Schmidt's lecture on Goethe's "Faust."

DEAD OF THE NORTHWEST Mrs. E. D. Kelly, Pioneer. OREGON CITY, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—Mrs. Lucy Watrous Kelly, wife of E. D. Kelly, died at 1:30 o'clock of her heart failure at the residence of her son, Charles E. Kelly, at 6:15 o'clock tonight. She had been in feeble health for some time, and an attack of grip hastened her death. She was born April 18, 1831, in Livingston County, New York, and was married to Mr. Kelly in 1852 at Grand Blanc, Mich. They crossed the plains to Oregon in 1853 and in 1854 returned by way of the Isthmus, again coming West to California across the plains in 1855, and from there to Oregon, where they have since resided. Her children are: George, a student at the University of Oregon; Charles W. Kelly and Mrs. Maggie Burns, of Oregon City, and John W. Kelly, of Portland. Seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren also survive her.

Mrs. Eliza Kernes. OREGON CITY, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—Mrs. Eliza Kernes died this morning after an illness of three months. She was born in Harding County, Ohio, in 1835, and in 1855 came to Oregon, where she resided in the Willamette Valley until her death. She is survived by six children—James and George Kernes and Mrs. Sarah Woodward, of Oregon City; Thomas Kernes, of Kelso, Wash.; Mrs. Eliza Kernes, of Pullman, Wash.; and Mrs. Clara Niebecker, of Napa, Cal. She leaves two brothers—Warren Moore, of Manchester, Mo., and three sisters—Mrs. Sarah Wickham and Mrs. Mary Charles, of Oregon City, and Mrs. Sophia Hoskins, of Nebraska.

THOMAS J. SHIPLEY. HILLSBORO, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—Thomas J. Shipley, aged 74 years, and a temporary resident of Banks, was stricken with apoplexy at the Commercial Hotel, in this city, and died at 11:30 a.m. at the dining-room table today at noon. The dead man is a resident of McCool Junction, Neb., and had been here about a week. He was a native of Ohio, and leaves seven children, his wife having died some years ago. He was a native of Fayette County, Pennsylvania. The remains will be sent to Nebraska for interment.

FRANK BURL, LAND LAWYER. CENTRALIA, Wash., March 11.—(Special.)—Frank Burl, probably one of the most noted land lawyers in Western Washington, died at his home in this city today at 11:30, after an illness of only two days. The cause of death is given as congestion of the brain. The funeral will be held Friday afternoon from the residence of Mrs. Burl, 1131 N. 1st street, at 2 o'clock. He was a resident of this city for the past nine years and during that time has made a specialty of land cases, in which he has been successful. He was a native of this city and two brothers and four sisters in South Dakota.

W. H. MCCOMAS, VETERAN EDITOR. UNION, Or., March 11.—W. H. M. Comas, a pioneer Union, and a well-known newspaperman of Eastern Oregon, died at the home of his sister, Mrs. S. A. Purcell, of this city, this morning. Mr. Comas was editor of the Mount Union Sentinel, the first paper published in Union County. Later, and after the death of Amos K. Jones, he edited the Oregon Scout for three years. He was 65 years of age and was associated with the Haines Record, and at the time of his death was connected with the Wasco News. He was born in Iowa in 1855.

SILHOUETTES BY ARTHUR A. GREENE. Former Inspector Bruin appears to be the Retardation of our municipal ship of state. The proposition to annex Milwaukie to Portland in order that residents of that suburb may secure a 5-cent fare on the trolley cars seems to be fair enough. Most of us are rudderless craft, tossed hopelessly about upon the waves, without chart or compass or anchor, and always within hearing of the breakers, until the silent boatman, whose name is Death, puts out from the shore and comes to our rescue. Another distressing eventuality of a prospective war in the Orient would be the recrudescence of Richard Harding Davis. The average woman tender her friendship as indifferently as she gives aims. Time drives a hearse. No one will accuse you of being angry, even though you do keep your troubles to yourself. When a woman ceases to be attractive, you may depend upon her constancy. No matter how small the flat may be, there is always room for domestic jars. He who is overzealous in protesting his innocence is already half convicted. Did you ever stop to consider what a wrinkled old heart John D. Rockefeller must have? Great respect is due gray hair—particularly if it be premature. Those who hear amonities confess their own defeat. A happy young chap had a snap. Living off his father. But father bust—now chappie must go to work—oh, bother! The greatest loss we suffer is the loss of our illusions, and not all the experience of all the years that follow can compensate for them. The early coming of fair weather has averted neighboring gossip. People will have no chance to make remarks about Winter lingering in the lap of Spring. One really never realizes to what heights a mere human being may attain until he has heard an actor talk about himself. The Rev. C. E. Cline should remember what the brethren have said about Dr. Day and stop speaking his mind. It's bad churchmanship. Call Vice by the name of Folly and the world smirks good humoredly. Call Vice by his real name, and up go the hands in holy horror, yet always the first is the worse.

Hatcheries Operations. OREGON CITY, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—The United States Bureau of Fisheries has arranged for the commencement of steelhead work at the Eagle Creek station. Eggs will be taken and eyed, and then transplanted to the Clatskanie Station for hatching. Superintendent O'Malley has gone to White Salmon on an inspection trip. George H. Talbert, who has been in charge of operations at White Salmon, has been transferred to the Potomac River, where he will assist in the propagation of shad in the East.

NATIONAL DECORATION FOR BRAVERY. Daring deeds in the saving of life on railroads now recognized with medals and with personal commendation of President Roosevelt. THE TRUTH ABOUT OREGON'S BIG CATS. B. A. Childers writes from his experience with treacherous panthers during a lifetime, including his first glory as a boy. DIVINITY OF THE ARABIAN HORSE. Homer Davenport's sister tells of the perfect animal worshipped by men of the desert. TAFT, THE IMPOSSIBLE. Picturesque incidents in the life of a man who upset every prophecy made concerning him. ORDER EARLY FROM YOUR NEWSDEALER.