

The Oregonian

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ones suppressed. An investigation whose results can all be written out long before it is begun, an investigation skillfully directed from the outset to prove a desired state of facts, this is what Mr. Cannon and his standpatt allies prefer to a candid inquiry into the truth, and doubtless they have most excellent reasons for their preference. Twenty bills or more were introduced in the House of Representatives early in the session to repeal the duties on paper and pulp, which are the basis of the trust extortion. Not one of these bills has been reported. They have all been smothered in the committee. Why did this happen? If the duty does not affect the price of paper, then that price would not be altered by repealing the duty. The repeal would disturb nothing, while on the other hand its failure to produce results would beautifully demonstrate that Mr. Cannon knows the exact truth and tells it. Would not the experiment be worth while in order to add to his glory as a statesman and prophet? He says the repeal of the duty would accomplish nothing. If it would accomplish nothing it would harm nothing. Why not repeal it just to show that he is right? If it should happen to show that he is wrong the only sufferer would be the paper trust, which has planned to add \$60,000,000 to the price of paper this year, while every publisher and reader in the country would be benefited. Nay, the farmers who use roofing paper would save the two millions which the trust has planned to squeeze out of them, while those who write letters would save more than five millions. Is not the experiment of repeal worth trying, since according to Mr. Cannon it can do no harm, and since according to everybody else it is likely to do so much good?

FORGIVENESS FOR BOLLERS. Republican bolters of the past will be forgiven and their transgressions will be wiped out of the books. The future will be bright and clear and cast into outer darkness. Such is the warning sent out from certain political organizations in Portland. No longer is a professed adherent of the true faith to be suffered to consort with the reprobate and then to return to his original place of respect.

THE OREGONIAN. The Oregonian is a non-partisan newspaper, wishes the political clubs well in their work of keeping pure their political faith, whether it be Republican or Democratic. It will be forgotten, perhaps, by the Republican and by the Democratic, but it will be remembered by the people of this country, where Mr. Wu was a close observer of everything that was taking place.

ONE POLITE MAN IN NEW YORK. Tries to Relieve Bridge Jam and Lands in Jail. Louisville Courier-Journal. Wine, according to Horace, brings to light the secret soul. The Floridian who attempted, single-handed, to solve the Brooklyn bridge problem by politeness was evidently a gentleman of the first water, although he may have been over the top of the mountain of the north highway, as is contended.

GREAT GRAFT FOR RECEIVERS. How One Graft is Trying to Loot a New York Concern. Hartford Courant. The three receivers who hold the affairs of the Knickerbocker Trust Company of New York in their hands for five months are still having trouble in getting the \$5,000 apiece that they have demanded from the receivers. This pay is the rate of \$150,000 apiece per annum. They set in bills, it is reported, for a good deal more, but the court cut them down to the rate of \$150,000 apiece per annum.

LAW TO PRESERVE WATER POWER. Time is Ripe for Definite Action by the Legislature. GASTON, Or., April 22.—(To the Editor.)—I wish to second the motion made by Professor Young that we call a meeting of persons interested in framing legislation to enable the public to retain some right of control over the water powers of the state. The time suggested is also the proper one, soon after the return of the Governor and other delegates from the conference in Washington where President Roosevelt will introduce this subject.

COMPLAINT ABOUT STREETCARS. Writer Says New Method Will Be Menace to Public Health. PORTLAND, Or., April 22.—(To the Editor.)—I would like to see the City Council to enact an ordinance to forbid the proposed action of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company to have all cars stop on the near side of the streets beginning May 1. This dangerous and unhealthy practice was tried in the city of Baltimore, but public sentiment forced its abolition. It is particularly offensive here for the following reasons. In our wet climate the streets are frequently so muddy that passengers to get on the rear platform of the cars, would require the laying of walks from the curb to the tracks. This would spread the mud on the sidewalks, and the streets, would ruin the grass parking in our residence districts, and they are not authorized by law. To require passengers to enter and leave the cars through the front platform is inconvenient and offensive. In our raw, damp, rainy days this would require the front door of each car to be left open almost continually, thus causing a continuous draft, with a resulting crop of cold, rheumatism and pneumonia.

NEWSPAPER WAITS. Son—Father, what's a music critic? Father—He's a fellow that all music seems to irritate—Judge. Rance—Your son says you show signs of his college training. Robert—Oh, yes, he's quite lame from an injury he received on the football team—Yankers Stateman. "Why don't you watch the game, Laura?" "What's the use? You told me the umpire man was paid to watch it. Let him look after it. You're long, don't want the job—Cleveland Plain Dealer. Seldum Fidd—Me and my frist, ain't no tramps, Moddiss; we're a couple of wealthy chubbens, walking across the continent on a cater. Mrs. Flint (coldly)—Murry along, then, or you'll lose your bet—Puck. Actor—I have persuaded that critic who adds so much power with his pen to the dinner with us. Wife—What shall I give him? Actor—Well, for one thing, a good plain coat. Wife (timidly)—But dear, would that be tactful—Baltimore Evening Can.

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small occasion for regret. The trick is but a passing fad. It is too cumbersome to be popular for a great while, though it may deplete the pockets of the simple-minded for a few days. Systematic gambling is not likely to be carried on otherwise than with the few and comparatively simple instruments which have served the human race for that purpose ever since man began to live together in communities. Cards, dice and such devices as roulette wheels are all very ancient. No tribe or nation has ever had more than two or three popular methods of donating its money to gamblers, and those methods which once became popular have never been known to yield permanently to others. There is nothing new as to the gambling principle which they involve, in the slot machines.

Consisted by such reflections as these we find not far that the trick of gambling with the city directory will become very popular or last very long. What amazes one in the sordid business is the persistence of some men's desire to "beat" each other, no matter if they have to break the law to do it. If this custom were abolished, half the evil of the American saloon and gambling hell would disappear at once. There are a few ways in which sensible people can aid moral reform more simply and effectively than by setting their faces resolutely against treating.

The Oregon Audubon Society has adopted the most effective method of protecting the wild life of the state. Its plan is to set aside breeding grounds where birds may not be killed or disturbed. All who have studied game protection are unanimous in the opinion that there is no other way than this to prevent the extermination of our wild life. Upon the breeding grounds there should be protection not only from slaughter by men, but also from "ferm," which as a rule kills many times more game birds than hunters do. If birds were adequately protected in breeding, it is not too much to say that all law restricting shooting during the open season might safely be repealed. Women might even be permitted freely to indulge their queer fancy for wearing feathers and dead birds on their bonnets if the species they prefer were allowed to breed in peace and safety.

Mr. Wu Ting Fang, clad in a "feeling brown polonaise with salmon-hued sleeves," etc., told the American Asiatic Association at a banquet at Delmonico's that he was not guilty of starting the boycott against American goods, but, on the contrary, had done all in his power to stop it. Mr. Wu has secured a reputation for his ingenuity with which he is proud to be content, and at the same time means something else that his disclaimer of complicity in the boycott will be taken with the customary discount. Wu is perhaps friendly to the United States, but he also has a very high regard for the country which supplies him with the peacock feathers and spending money. It may have been only a coincidence that the boycott began simultaneously with the return from America of Mr. Wu, and it might also have been only a coincidence that it was conducted on lines which have secured for the country a success in this country, where Mr. Wu was a close observer of everything that was taking place.

A dispatch from Ottawa says that the total wheat acreage in the Alberta country and other new districts in Western Canada is 26 per cent larger than that of last year, with climatic conditions so far so favorable that a record yield is promised. The acreage forecast may be accurate, but judging by "past performances" of the Western Canada crop, it is still very early to begin counting on a record crop, or even a large crop. Cheap land and good railroad facilities have worked wonders in settling up the new wheat region just over the boundary line, but it has as yet failed to demonstrate that it is even approximately as good a wheat country as the Columbia Basin.

The exact measure of discipline to which a wife can be subjected in Tacoma has not been ruled on, but the Superior Court of Pierce county apparently thinks that tying her up in bedpost, handcuffing her and whipping her are improper measures. Mr. Gandy, who established and followed the code mentioned, has been sentenced to one year in the County Jail.

It would be interesting to know whether or not the Portland city property was included in that \$1,000,000 which Mr. Poulsen testified his firm had made in the lumber business in the past five years. If the remainder of the million came as easy as the eight city blocks, it is small wonder that Mr. Poulsen might prove a profitable concern.

The third-term boomers say no Republican can be elected President against Bryan but Roosevelt, and the New York Democratic newspapers—all of them—say Bryan can't be elected President against anybody. Get somehow we can't believe that both will be beaten.

State Treasurer Steel as a witness succeeded in demonstrating to the Ross jury that there was much in his dealings with Ross that he feared to tell. Is that the way to vindicate a really good man?

Where did the New York World get its information that Oregon will send an "uninstructed" delegation to the Denver convention? It's a regulation Killfeather joke.

The Democratic party of the United States is doing a splendid job, as many factions as the Republican party of Oregon.

Portland's deep-draft water on the bar seems insufficient without deep-draft pull at Washington.

Queer what a big fight many of these San Francisco folk are making to keep their grafters.

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NEW YORK FIGURES ON BRYAN. There will be 100 delegates in the Democratic National convention, with 605 necessary to a choice under the two-thirds rule and 225 necessary to prevent a pro-Bryan vote. The delegates thus far chosen or promised are divided as follows: INSTRUCTED FOR MR. BRYAN. Oklahoma, 14; Kansas, 15; Nebraska, 16; South Dakota, 17; North Dakota, 18; Iowa, 19; Missouri, 20; Arkansas, 21; Louisiana, 22; Texas, 23; Wisconsin, 24; Illinois, 25; Indiana, 26; Michigan, 27; Ohio, 28; Pennsylvania, 29; New York, 30; New Jersey, 31; New Hampshire, 32; Vermont, 33; Maine, 34; Maryland, 35; Delaware, 36; North Carolina, 37; Virginia, 38; West Virginia, 39; Kentucky, 40; Tennessee, 41; Mississippi, 42; Alabama, 43; Georgia, 44; Florida, 45; District of Columbia, 46. Total, 448.

JUST WHAT DOES BULL RUN MEAN? Standard Dictionary Challenges Definition Given by Mr. McKenna. PORTLAND, April 22.—(To the Editor.)—In a recent issue of the Oregonian I read that Mr. McKenna, with admirable persistence, is about to renew his fight against Bull Run. If some early English pioneer had given our mountain stream the classic name of Oxford River, I venture to affirm that few members of the Initiative and Referendum would have discovered the bovine taint.

NEW STREETCAR METHOD. Many persons in Portland are stirred up by the new method of running streetcars. Abolishing dashboard signs, and stopping cars on the near side of cross streets. Even the City Council yesterday paused from its weighty affairs to adopt a resolution asking that the signs be restored. Now comes a well-known citizen declaring that the stopping of cars on the near side of cross streets "would be a menace to public health."

WHITENASHING A TRUST. Aided by his dauntless bodyguard of standpatters Mr. Cannon has bullied the House of Representatives into voting for a resolution to whitewash the paper trust. The whitewash is to be applied by means of one of those "investigations" which are so useful in the present time.

AN OVERDUE EXPLANATION. If the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor has any regard for the accuracy of its figures, it would do well to call to account the employe who is responsible for misleading and untrue statistics on Puget Sound wheat shipments.

A TWO-OCEAN COUNTRY. It is refreshing and gratifying to find at least one newspaper in the West with sufficient patriotism to take the side of the United States in the demand that the battleship fleet be retained on the Pacific, where it is most needed.

INGENUOUS GAMBLING. Some men are astonishingly ingenious in contriving ways to injure themselves. If they spent half as much intelligence in making money as they do in fooling it away they would all become millionaires and endow divinity schools instead of enriching gambling stands.

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