

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 1908.

MEER JUDGE PARKER.

Judge Parker has bowed his crest and head to the heart of fire. Lamblike in his meekness, he kisses the rod, which has smitten him and humbly takes his orders and his opinions from the peerless conqueror.

But Judge Parker might have been forgiven the company he kept for the sake of his high purpose. If he had carried out the plans which everybody knew he had in mind when he went to Denver he would have been respected as a fighter at least.

Judge Parker entered the convention armed with a set of resolutions which praised Cleveland glowingly for the virtues that Bryan most conspicuously lacks.

The beauty of it was that he seemed to relish his defeat and humiliation. To all appearance he enjoyed being trodden under foot better than riding at the head of the procession.

WHERE WILL HUMAN INGENUITY LIVE?

It is learned from the Literary Digest that an automatic violin player has been invented. The new device works so well, it is said, that Kubelik wept with envy when he heard it.

so that it will be within easy reach of most persons who give dances in bucolic municipalities. Reinforced by a graphophone, and perchance a hawkeye, this new auxiliary of the fine arts may completely dispossess the dancing man who plays the fiddle and divert his energies into some more uplifting occupation.

Among the many plans which are now hatching for the general betterment we can think of nothing which would happily the world more than the extinction of the rural fiddle, except possibly that of the dog.

NOT POLITICAL PROSPERITY.

The New York Evening Post, which is old enough to know better, discusses in a very serious vein a dispatch from Chicago calling attention to "preparations for a business boom for political effect."

Some explanation of this belief may be found in the fact that when the open season for octopus hunting was at its height last Fall it was openly stated that the wicked men of Wall street were encouraging the financial cyclone before which their fortunes were tumbling like a card house in a gale.

These things pointed out merely to assure the unhappy taxpayer, so far as The Oregonian can, that the burden of paying interest on a new municipal debt of \$5,000,000 is not at once to be added to his already heavy load.

THE ACTOR'S ART.

Nobody who had the pleasure of reading "Hypatia's" letter in The Oregonian of July 14 can deny that it is an excellent specimen and she who is admitted to see her own work with the admiration will mingle a desire to chide her for using her talent in a bad cause.

PEARY AND THE POLE.

While Peary in the good ship Roosevelt is steaming northward with high hopes of success in capturing what he terms "the last great geographical prize the world has to offer," a British Antarctic expedition is bucking the ice in an effort to reach the south pole.

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No other man, living or dead, has had the experience of Peary in the perils of the work in the polar regions of his life, and no other man has approached so close to the pole. On his last previous trip Peary reached latitude 87° 6, or within about two hundred miles of the pole.

and experienced a general disarrangement of his plans after taking to the sledges. On his present voyage it is his intention to follow the shore of Grant Land much further west than on the previous voyage. When he heads out from the land he will be far enough to the westward to offset the easterly current, and, unless unexplained ice interferes, he will be enabled to shorten materially the sledge journey.

With the passing of the long Arctic night the difficult part of the trip will commence, in February, 1909, and, if all goes well, the object of the voyage will be accomplished next Summer and the Roosevelt will be back to New York in October, 1909.

THE \$5,000,000 BOND ISSUES.

Through the State Supreme Court decision the City of Portland unexpectedly has authority to float bond issues of more than \$5,000,000 for various municipal projects. We say unexpectedly, because it had been taken for granted by the public that the decision of Superior Judge Cleveland invalidating the bond issues would be sustained.

There is much division of opinion as to the immediate urgency, and even the practicability, of some of these enterprises; but the public has said that it wants them and the courts have said in effect that the people are entitled to have and to pay for what they want.

No doubt the Congress of Mothers has correctly reported the unsanitary condition of the Fulton, Park, Glenoac and several other public schools. Admitting the facts, the main point is not grading, but the fact that the school is so overcrowded, as will be seen by referring to The Oregonian's Family Atlas, just issued.

Wheat which grades better than sixty pounds to the bushel has been reported at Pendleton, Walla Walla and Washuena. From all of these points have come some decidedly pessimistic reports of a poor crop.

ONE HEARST VIEW OF BRYAN.

Denounced as "Despot of Democracy" by One of Editor's Fastmen. John Temple Graves (at Denver) to New York American.

Whatever the fallure and shortcomings of the Democratic platform, now in travail with the committee, Mr. William Jennings Bryan must bear the burden of them all.

More Time to Finish Road.

EUGENE, OR., July 14.—(Special.)—The City Council has extended the time limit in which the Eugene & Eastern Railway is to complete the Eugene-Springfield line to November 1. The line will be completed before that time if there are no mishaps. Piles are driven over half way to Springfield and the trestle is complete for a good portion of this distance.

HEAR COMPLAINT OF FARMERS.

ALBANY, Or., July 14.—(Special.)—The State Railroad Commission held a session at Crabtree today to hear evidence in regard to a complaint filed by a number of farmers living in that part of Linn County to compel the Southern Pacific Company to resume through traffic on the Woodburn-Springfield line.

WASTED SPEECH IN EFFORT TO ELECT HIMSELF PRESIDENT.

It was a proud moment for Mr. Bryan when a visitor at Fairview preferred a request that the great man make an estimate of the amount of talk he had accomplished since the fateful day in Chicago when the free-silver slogan was proclaimed him for President. According to the visitor: The Democratic chieftain estimates roughly that each year he has delivered 250 speeches, traveled 25,000 miles, spoken an average half an hour each time and that his audience has numbered 3,000 persons. Totals that result from these figures are enormous. They show that including his trip around the world in 1906, Mr. Bryan has traveled 300,000 miles since his first defeat for President. He has spoken 2,500 times, has spoken 300,000 times and has talked 150,000 hours, or a little more than 62 days, which is two full calendar months.

How to Live Happily Ever After.

When the hardy son of Scotland arrives in Eastern Oregon he generally has a handful of "baubees" in his pocket. But after a few years he blossoms into a capitalist with a balance in the bank that would make your head stand on end. He then sends for the girl he left behind him, marries her and lives happily ever after.

Dog Has a Watch Charm Lench.

Kansas City (Mo.) Dispatch. A dog at Paola, Kan., swallowed a watch charm which contained a diamond of considerable size.

she spoke distinctly or not. Mrs. Fiske had several hundred in her audience and unless she enunciated with the nicest accuracy they could not understand her at all. It is not by any means safe for the actor to follow low nature slavishly. Such a course would bewray him into lamentable blunders. The stage resembles nature in many respects. The actor's first business is to make himself understood. He must look off whatever interferes with that purpose and not shed real tears in order to produce the effect of weeping.

Forest fires seem to be starting much earlier than usual this Summer. Last week a big conflagration was reported in Lewis County, Washington, and yesterday's telegraphic advices report the destruction by fire of 800 acres of timber and 2,000,000 feet of logs near Whatcom, with the fire rapidly spreading through several square miles of territory. It will be a few years before the country will appreciate or understand the immense loss caused by these annual conflagrations, but when our timber becomes as scarce as that of the Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan forests, the enormous extent of the loss will be appreciated. Our forest ranger system for the protection of timber is much more effective than in former years, but the material benefits attendant on the discovery of the pole may not be great, but the undertaking is one in which all Americans will join in wishing Peary success.

Melting snow in the mountains is sending another flood down the Fraser River, and a repetition is feared of the flood which swept over Sumas Prairie several weeks ago. The belated arrival of warm weather seems to be the cause of more trouble than usually results from undue "lingering" of winter in the lap of Spring.

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FAVORS DRAIN NORMAL SCHOOL.

Writer Says Institution Abolished to Please Politicians. DRAIN, Or., July 12.—(To the Editor.)—Having together with Mr. Bassett and Mr. Edwards had the pleasure of meeting the State Board of Normal Regents at their annual meeting at Salem June 30, little explanation of their attitude toward the Normal schools as it was made to appear to us might be of interest to the people of Drain and the entire section that is more directly benefited by the Drain Normal school.

We found the same old prejudice, and the same old warring, viz., "The people are clamoring to be relieved of the terrible burden of a Normal school. The Normal schools" still in existence. The board passed a resolution by a vote of seven to two recommending that the State Legislature abolish the Drain school. Month after month has saved by only one vote. The only two out of the entire board of nine that was in favor of the Drain school were Benson of Roseburg and Hofer of Astoria.

In passing I beg to say that during the state political campaign, it was currently reported in this section by those far from Drain, that the Drain Normal school was in favor of retaining all four schools, thereby prevailing on many to cast their votes for him. It is not difficult to determine his attitude toward the entire Normal school system.

The only possible reason for his stand in the matter is one suggested to us by a stationer, and that was a probable candidate for the office of Governor and evidently believes it the proper course to pursue, judging from the evident popularity of the present incumbent of that office.

Let us see how the course of this ring of politicians is benefiting this state. It will give you a few statistics, for which I am indebted to Mr. Edwards, of Drain: The entire territory of Lane, Douglas and Coos Counties, that form the location of the Drain Normal, would be almost directly benefited by it, has taxable property of \$55,676,393; has a population of 44,483, and comprises a territory of 10,818 square miles. This is more than twice the territory of the State of Connecticut, five times that of Delaware, one-fourth more than Massachusetts, about one-fifth more than New Hampshire, one-half larger than New Jersey, more than eight times larger than Rhode Island, one-third larger than Vermont, and has a population larger than the State of Nevada.

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This is the territory that political influence is trying to deprive of its Normal school. In the face of the fact that the state is obliged to import normal graduates from outside to teach our schools. The people recognize the fact that the Normal schools are the best adapted for those of moderate means to educate their children, and that the state needs the graduates for its teachers. Will the people lay down and give up their school to gratify a few politicians? We think not. N. D. COOL.

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ALBANY BOY'S BAD RECORD.

Will Serve Term in Reform School for His Many Misdemeanors. ALBANY, Or., July 14.—(Special.)—George Ballard, the 11-year-old lad who stole a horse and buggy, drove it 25 miles and then turned it loose, was taken to the State Reform School this afternoon by Sheriff Smith. The order of commitment was made by County Judge J. N. Duncan, sitting as a Juvenile Court. Young Ballard is probably the youngest person who ever committed a similar crime in Oregon. He has committed other offenses and was once committed to the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society, but escaped from the home of that organization in Portland. Since his arrest the lad has confessed to stealing a tin snuff can pipe from Peter Paulus, a local tailor, and after smoking it throwing it in the Willamette River.

VAGRANT GIVEN FIFTY DAYS.

Robbery Charge Fails to Hold and Harrison Goes to Jail. OREGON CITY, Or., July 14.—(Special.)—Charles Harrison, alias Amidon, was today sentenced to serve 50 days in the city jail for vagrancy, simply because the evidence connecting him with the robbery of the Log Cabin saloon on the night of July 5 was not conclusive. Harrison is a hobo, and on Sunday following the Fourth of July was hired to assist in cleaning the saloon. The same night the place was entered through a rear door and robbed of \$9 and a bottle of whiskey, that was broken while the thief was making his exit and the liquor spilled on the floor. The man disappeared, but last night he came back to town and was taken into custody by Officer Cooke.

REGENTS PLAN EXTENSIONS.

Important Announcements Expected from University of Oregon. UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, July 14.—(Special.)—The Board of Regents of the University of Oregon will meet in annual session here. The meeting will be held in the most important ever held. Plans for the future are extensive and when the board has adjourned it is expected that some very definite and gratifying news will be made public in the way of improvement of the State University. The conditions demand the addition of instructors in some departments. President Campbell will go East shortly in the interests of the institution. Improvements and enlargements will be made in several departments.

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Titanus—I pray thee, gentle mortal, sing again; Mine ear is enthralled to thy shape; So is mine eye enamoured to thy nose; It is mine eye enthralled to thy shape; And thy fair virtue's force perfume my sense; On the first view to say, to swear, I love thee. —From the New York American.