

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, MONDAY, AUG. 17, 1908.

A CHEERFUL ESSAY.

"The Economic Functions of Vice," by John McElroy, Washington, D. C., is an interesting essay. The postulate is that the economic function of vice in the human family is analogous to that of nature in the animal kingdom...

HERE IS TROUBLE, INDEED.

When Senator Bourne, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, and his campaign managers get to work in Oregon—if they ever do to fight for Taft for President and Chamberlain for Senator, they will learn something about the difficulty of fishing in troubled waters.

HIGHLY PROSPEROUS TIMES.

There is wonderful prosperity these days. No mark is so noticeable as the work. If you want man and wife to go into the country—even only a short distance—where they are to milk the cows and look after the sheep, and hoe the potatoes for their own table, and gather the apples and collect the eggs and eat them, and to look after the cattle and hens and crops, you will be disappointed.

TAFT FITTER THAN BRYAN.

It is a significant fact that the New York Independent, Collier's Weekly, the Outlook and the Springfield Republican have all stated editorially that they believe Mr. Taft would make a better President than Mr. Bryan would make.

BILLIONS IN GRAIN.

Six hundred millions is not an inconsiderable sum in a country like ours, where the average daily remuneration of the farmer is about \$24,000,000. It is a large sum, however, when it appears, as it does this year, as an increase in value of the grain crop alone, over that of the preceding year.

perpetuation or prolongation of anything like hard times an impossibility in this country. Anarchists and other brands of jawsmiths may rant and rave over the inequalities of the system which gives wealth to those who work for it, and withhold it from the drones who will not work, but effort of this kind cannot retard prosperity so long as Nature and honest labor collaborating can turn out \$3,000,000,000 grain crops.

The success of the Board of Trade in discovering between 6,000,000 and 8,000,000 bushels more wheat in the Pacific Northwest than could be located by the railroads, the exporters or any of the grain men who have had from ten years to forty years' experience in crop estimating, is gratifying to a certain extent.

STRENGTHENING OUR TRADE POSITION.

The American-Hawaiian Steamship Company has at last announced the establishment of a regular steamship service between Salinas Cruz, the Pacific port at which Atlantic freight is transhipped, and Portland, thus giving this city a direct shipping route to New York.

THE JAPANESE HAVE YET FAILED.

It was a rare discovery of "undeveloped resources" of the Pacific Northwest that was made by the Victoria men who a few years ago established a whaling station at Yuquot, on the west coast of Vancouver Island.

WE HAD THIS BY TELEGRAPH.

As a statement made by President Elliot of Harvard, the other day. It will bear repetition, viz: "Socialism has not a chance in this country, where wealth is so diffuse. If a man has \$100 all his own he loses all ideas of sharing it with anybody else."

EVERY BOY WHO IS GRADUATED FROM THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE SHOULD BE A ROAD-BUILDER.

Every boy who is graduated from the Agricultural College should be a road-builder. Though many of them do not take the engineering course and will never engage in roadbuilding as an occupation, a very large proportion of them some time will have occasion to use a practical knowledge of the most approved methods of construction.

THE RUSSIAN PEASANTS ARE FACING ANOTHER WINTER OF FAMINE AND CHOLERA.

The Russian peasants are facing another winter of famine and cholera in the country around the Caspian. On the other hand, India is suffering with a dearth of grain. The kind are not permitted to mar the pleasures of monarchs, emperors and kings greet each other with a couple or holy kisses, on an either cheek, and the royal festivities proceed as if there were no such things as misery, death and revolution.

WHEN THE OREGONIAN CALLS MR. BRYAN "HUMBUNG," HIS WORK "HUMBUNG," AND HIS WORDS "HUMBUNG," PROPERLY COME IN.

A primary law, it is found, splits a party up into factions and fragments; and no party, after a hot primary, in which its members contest with each other for control, will ever unite for the following election.

Reasons Why a Great New England Newspaper Prefers Taft to Bryan. Springfield (Mass.) Republican. In its first phases the campaign of this year is devoid of excitement as of fear. The voters are thinking and deliberating. Respect there is for both the leading candidates for the Presidency, and the disposition is to view them as candidates to the end that the man may be elected who seems upon the whole best fitted to serve the people, and to guide and protect their interests along the lines which are established by law of which the country approves.

It is a year when men are more than ever before determining and setting their own standards of conduct. They are not content to be taken as the will of the people. The thing which is already determined in our political situation—that which stands out and accounts for it—is that a majority of people of the United States are irrevocably committed to that safeguarding of the people's rights which has taken shape in the popular mind under the broad designation of the Roosevelt policies.

BETTER TIMES NEXT TEN YEARS.

Expert Statistician at Washington Makes Such Prediction. Washington Special to New York Times. Prosperity, better and saner than the United States has known before, is foreseen for the next decade by Professor Henry C. Adams, for 30 years in charge of statistics and accounts for the interest of the individual in business.

EDISON ON HALF-TIME.

Edison on Half-Time. Having been a prodigious toiler all his life, with heavy emphasis most of the time, in the commercial and applied fields of science, Edison, it is said, will now spend his time in the study of his own recreation, part in travel, and part in residence out of reach of his laboratory. When at home and near his apparatus, he will endeavor to do more into "pure" science. Edison, with scientific renown to the end of the earth, rich in memories of conquest and of service to mankind, he now may make his old motto "pure science" his motto and essence, and become a philosopher, sage in his example as well as in his utterances. For there is wisdom, worthy of emulation, in the motto "pure science" come for rest, for meditation, for "a gracious senescence."

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He Knew a Good Tallor. Brooklyn Life. Millionaire (to Tallor)—I'm told by my son that you have permitted him to run off with two years. I have therefore come to—Tallor—O, sir, don't trouble, I'm in no hurry. Tallor—I see that, and that's why I've come to tell you that for the future I wish to get my clothes from you, too!

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THE DIRECT PRIMARY.

Inquiry From Illinois Whether the Result is the Will of the People. It disappoints, everywhere. It nominates men who are not known, men who stand for nothing; men who push themselves, but who have scarcely been heard of, and have done nothing to merit the suffrages of the people. The candidate of a small party succeeds by a vote that is a petty plurality among the votes cast for others. There has been no debate or deliberation over his nomination. The system nominates nobodies, and of course they are beaten.

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PHRASE WORTH REMEMBERING.

Phrase Worth Remembering. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. In introducing Mr. Taft to an audience of lawyers a Virginia judge remarked that he had touched nothing that he has not strengthened. The phrase will be remembered because it is an exact fit.

LOOKING FOR A "GROUND SWELL."

Watterston Thinks History of 1892 Will Be Repeated This Year. New York World. "I am looking for the same ground swell this year for Bryan and Kern as we had in 1892 for Cleveland and Stevenson. Those things go in seasons and the Republican party is due for a beating. It certainly deserves to be beaten; and I believe it will be."

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