

The Oregonian

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Portland, Wednesday, June 16, 1909.

FAST AND PRESENT.

The progress of Oregon has been slow, but it has been sure. We could wish it had been faster. It is becoming quicker now. There was a long night. None understands or knows it so well as those who have witnessed it from the early time.

The remarkable sea basin of Western Washington, the great estuary of Puget Sound, has long been a source of pride in the early time. Agriculture, cattle, grazing, were all in all. The valleys of Western Oregon from the Columbia River to the Siskiyou Mountain furnished these opportunities.

But after a while—it was long years—the idea of transcontinental railroads got into action. First, for California; and San Francisco was the center of everything for the Pacific Coast. Then, for the Oregon country; and connected with the north from the east with the open country, carried the thoughts of men to Puget Sound.

Two things have pushed the State of Washington into the foreground of Oregon. First, the rush of the railroads to reach Puget Sound. Second, the transformation from pioneer and agricultural conditions to commercial conditions, the more rapid submergence in Oregon and the outlet of Alaska.

When the book appeared it translated into English the thought of the early settler in Washington that the product of human evolution which has no stopping place. It must be admitted that Oregon, founded on old ideals and established on old foundations has been behind hitherto in this movement.

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A pioneer woman of the Palouse country aged 88 was recently married in Garfield, to a man of 38. The in-

centive of this marriage from the man's standpoint is not far to seek. The elderly bride is wealthy. Not so recently with a singular marriage in Hillsboro in which the bride was 80 years old and with small property...

THE REGISTRATION AND THE VOTING. It is not true, as so often asserted, that the vote of Portland in the recent election was "20,000 short." The total registration, including the recent registration, was 33,041. Most of this registration had been carried more than a year.

THE BRANDENBURG FABRICATION. The Broughton Brandenburg article of a year ago, attributed to Grover Cleveland, had a sort of fame, but it was a fabrication. It is a part of an expression of the judgment of Mr. Cleveland on Mr. Bryan.

THE CASE AGAINST MARK TWAIN. When Mark Twain's book, "Is Shakespeare Dead?" first came out the Oregonian made some comment upon it. We noticed the prominence he had given to the legal argument which to many minds tells strongly against the Shakespearean authorship.

SOME SEATTLE OPINIONS. The Seattle Times devotes a couple of columns of its valuable editorial space to an elaborate dissertation on the merits of the Portland and Seattle real estate transactions.

AS OTHERS SEE US. Remarks on the Recent Election in Portland and Its Significance. Oregon seems to be rapidly recovering from the depression which has been its lot since the gold boom.

WHEN OREGON LIVED SIMPLE LIFE. There was no complaint then about the high cost of living. Portland, June 14.—(To the Editor.)—There are many good and plain reasons why thinking people should offer an offer about most of the current problems which are under discussion.

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French newspapers have opened an attack on the proposed plan for listing American securities in the Paris Bourse. They charge that introduction of these securities is purely for speculative purposes, and intimate that legal steps may be taken to prevent them from being listed.

Mayor C. Gardner Johnson, of Vancouver, B. C., is to visit Portland to investigate the methods of handling wheat at this port in order that he may know how properly to equip his own grain dock at the Canadian port.

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, who ought to know, opines that most women over 18 years of age hate the men. This fact contrasted with the well-known fact that all men over 18 years of age love the women raises an interesting question.

Aldrich and Payne, standing for high tariff, assume that the consumer is the victim. So he is, if you attempt to distinguish the consumer from the non-consumer. Some may produce nothing as the idle rich. But they are the greatest of consumers. They are wastrels. Is anybody worrying to make goods cheap for them?

All the Democratic Senators except Chamberlain of Oregon seem to have known for a long time that the vote of the Times in opposing some carefully selected figures with a quiet explanatory note, similar to the one quoted, that The Oregonian refrains from intimating that "monkey business" could be performed in the matter of bank clearings.

Mrs. Gould's attorney denies that Mrs. Gould was drunk, but, if she was drunk, her husband should have taken her to the bottom. But Mrs. Gould appeared to prefer to get drunk with some one else's husband.

The heaviest slugs in either of McCredie's teams will have to do a lot better at the bat before they are eligible for a personal introduction to the patron of the National game now occupying the White House.

It is said that the states of the great Middle West will revolt against the Aldrich tariff. Possibly. But will the states of the South, where Aldrich is getting his necessary votes, revolt against it?

One member of an African party has been fatally wounded by a lion. That would appear to dispose of the slander that the African lions is about as exciting as shooting grandmothers.

All those in favor of a safe and sane Fourth will please signify the same by refusing to buy dangerous explosives.

Reference to the latest edition of the Century Dictionary will show "chauffeur" pronounced sho-fer (accent on last syllable), which hardly rhymes with "gopher." By the way, does The Oregonian sincerely believe common usage to be authoritative? It does it justly. Expressions such as "I seen it," "he done it," "CHARLES M. WERNER."

The 1908 edition of Webster's unabridged dictionary (Supplement, page 29) gives "chauffeur (sho-fer)" fr., literally a stoker; one who manages the running of a boiler under discussion. Mr. Werner, whom The Oregonian has so highly esteemed, would better look at his brand new Webster's unabridged again.

Now, as to accent: It is true that the accent in chauffeur is placed on the last syllable, but that is the French of it, so far as the French is concerned. Accepted usage (not common usage, which may be a different thing) has made the English of it sho-fer, for no real American can give the peculiar French pronunciation to the terminative "fer" and he will not try. Therefore plain sho-fer, which rhymes with gopher, goes.

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