

The Oregonian

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Portland, Thursday, Oct. 7, 1909.

THE ORIENTAL PROBLEM.

While the full text of the instrument has not yet been received in this country, evidence accumulates that Japan has wrung from China a treaty that may prove highly detrimental to American trade interests in the Orient.

It need not be assumed, however, that the United States will sit idly by and permit the ratification or enforcement of any such treaty. The diplomacy of Minister Crane, even without the assistance of the Pacific fleet now hurrying toward the Far East, should be sufficient to impress upon the minds of the Orientals, both Japanese and Chinese, that there are treaties which are not to be trifled with.

Long before Mr. Taft became President he announced in a speech at Shanghai that China had no territory Americans desire, no prosperity Americans begrudge, and no political power or independence, justly exercised, Americans would resist. But the United States, with good reason there for, views with misgivings the rapid ascendancy of the Manchu influence in Chinese politics.

That the new treaty, which is intended to convey to Japan exclusive rights in Manchuria, was framed up by the Manchus and the Japanese for the purpose of eliminating the Manchu influence or interference in that territory seems certain. It seems equally reasonable to believe that in securing the vast concessions carried by this treaty Japan, with a higher degree of diplomacy and finesse than was possessed by the Chinese, may have deceived China into signing an instrument, which, in the long run, will be a source of weakness to the Manchus and a source of strength to the Japanese.

For all that, the United States will not remain passive and permit the country to be interfered with under the sway of Japan or any other individual power. The open door in China must be kept open, even if it requires the presence of half the fleets of the world to keep it from closing.

Inspection of banks and presentment and punishment of wildcat bankers are not the only functions of government. If those functions were properly exercised, there would be few failures and no big losses. When government goes into the guarantee business it makes big mistakes.

They go to the very heart of the disputed subject. French law permits the executor to judge to listen to the apparently irrelevant wanderings of the witness and give them whatever weight they deserve.

The writer in "Bench and Bar" makes much of the point that Cook's Eskimo witness was "his servant." A rule of evidence warns us that a servant testifying in behalf of his master is likely to lie.

In the midst of the most prosperous times imaginable, with enormous crops selling at high prices, and prosperity every branch of industry thriving, every branch of industry was overwhelmed with a \$100,000 bank failure.

It is not necessary to abolish any gear for benefit of others. Best way is to regulate all. This solution of a vexed problem is vindicating itself after long, obstinate struggle.

The complaint that the Young Men's Christian Association is not so religious as it ought to be does not appear to be very well grounded. There are two sides to religion.

The expectations that some day the world will come to an end should not be dismissed as an idle superstition. The subject deserves more respectful attention.

The splitting of a frog, a landslide, a thick fog and a head-on collision were the respective causes ascribed yesterday for the wreck of the Portland and Astoria.

The question is not "Did George Meyers kill Pollock Eckhart?" It is made out for Meyers' arrest when the killing occurred. This simplifies matters.

Conservationists are missing a glorious opportunity of storing up timber and water and soil resources in a part of the United States that needs these efforts most.

considerable degree of success in agricultural pursuits, to a bare living—as represented by insufficient housing, cheap clothing, abundant food and absence of luxuries—will fill the measure of the farmer's ambition and keep his family contented on the farm.

But the farmer of today, who wants luxuries, and the farmer's family that will have them on the farm or leave it, are factors in rural life. They must work their brains, as well as their muscles, and working these in conjunction, why should not be entitled to every luxury that intelligent endeavor can wrest from the soil?

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ests matured, two or three generations hence, and Uncle Sam could devote the proceeds to paying rural mailcarriers or Indian War fighters in Oregon.

Of course, it is not expected that Atlantic folk will fall in with this idea. They will not invoke the sovereign power of their state governments to accomplish this laudable purpose.

Portland property has a deserved reputation for its intrinsic value, but a transfer made yesterday, together with a mortgage filed, makes an exceptionally fine showing.

The Spanish government continues to drift steadily toward that unpleasant position sometimes described as "between the devil and the deep blue sea."

One of the newspaper men in President Taft's party, speaking of Portland's reputation for the quality of its citizens, loyal and public spirited as they undoubtedly are, do not take kindly to the idea of adding color to buildings.

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WANTS WATER-POWER USED NOW Not Kept Idle for Dim Future, Since Monopoly is Sure Anyway.

The matter of withdrawing several thousand acres of power sites along the Klaskan River by the Secretary of the Interior is done, it is said, to preserve the sites for the Government and to prevent monopoly.

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SAYS JAPAN SEEKS FAIR PLAY. Consul Numa Avers Recent Treaties No Menace to Open Door.

PORTLAND, Or., Oct. 6.—(To the Editor.)—That Japan is strictly adhering to its long-established policy of the open door in China hardly needs any insistence at my hands, as it has been so often reiterated by Japan. But as the news from Washington, which appears in this paper, has recently reported to the effect that Japan is threatening to close the door by obtaining Japanese monopoly in Manchuria.

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Life's Sunny Side Prouf Papa—That boy of mine is a wonder! Very smart child for his age.

Disgrunted Neighbor—Haven't a doubt an sure he would be holding an office for which he seems eminently qualified.

Prouf Papa (suspiciously)—What office do you mean? Disgrunted Neighbor—Town crier—Baltimore American.

Doctor—What seems to be the trouble? Patient—My train of thought keeps jumping the track.

Emeralda—How many times do you before you say yes? Gwendolen—If you have to make him propose, you'd better say yes the first time.

Her Father (sternly)—Genevieve, you are engaged to some young man. Herself—O, father, how did you discover my secret?

Miss Antiqua—Yes, ours is a very old family; you know we came over in the Mayflower.

A New Jersey farmer, whose farm is not a school for boys, was greatly annoyed by the depredations of the youngsters.