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Portland, Wednesday, Jan. 12, 1910.

FOR WHAT REASON AND FOR WHY?

"Conservation" on the Pinchot plan means, in effect, that there is to be no further practical use or development of the natural resources of the Western country. The policy of the United States will be to conserve the "natural resources." There is to be no more sale of timber, of mines, of water powers; but a bureaucratic superintendence is to be established, under which such trees may be cut, or such minerals lifted, or such water powers used, only on the "consent" of the government. The government is to allow—on payment of estimated values. An immense army of officials is to be supported by the scheme, eating up all the proceeds of forests and mines and waters. No scheme more impractical and more wasteful of public resources for support of an immense officialdom could be devised.

Cheap land, sale and use of lands containing or covering the great resources of the country, have given the country its immense development. The policy has increased our population by tens of millions, and our wealth by thousands of millions. It seems now that this was wrong. The country was better off, the average state. Who have we so disturbed the order of nature? The timber that was growing on the site of Portland—what a resource it would be had it been conserved! And the water power of Willamette and Clackamas—if there were no roads, no cities, no towns, it would be a great natural resource, indeed!

Do men know what they are talking about? Have they any conception of what they are talking about? Nay, verily, they have not. They are men, in love with the pictures presented in their own dreams. They never have been "up against" conditions presented in a new country, abounding in natural resources; which, however, are good for nothing until brought into use by the hand and energy of man. They are theorists, not only, but bureaucrats, subjects of officialdom, or aspiring to be its kings. Already they are absorbing the natural resources of the country and the minerals of the earth, in a year in salaries and in time will absorb them all. The appetite of "conservation" grows by what it feeds on; and cost of administration of the Pinchot system would presently devour the cause, flesh and fell.

Did not the country have some property before these modern bureaucratic conservators appeared, to change its policy and to introduce these thousands of new office-holders to prey on its resources, to stop its industrial development, to arrest the growth of its towns and cities and to prohibit the use of its timber and minerals and stones and ores and water powers? Yet the regulations and charges that would be prescribed at Washington would be virtually prohibitive in the new country. In the older states, where the ancient policy has always been in operation, they would not apply; for private ownership, necessary to development, there has always been in force. The lands and minerals and water powers of the new states belong only nominally to the United States. The equitable title is in the several states; and the just right of the United States extends no further than treatment of these lands in the new states by the means so long pursued in the older states. He is a traitor to Oregon, he is a traitor to Washington, to Idaho, to every new state, who desires discontinuance of the old policy, withdrawal of opportunity here—opportunity that the older states have long possessed—with payment of extraordinary tribute to the General Government for use of the resources of the country—use that other states have had without limitation and by use of which they have become rich and in prosperity.

PERSISTENCE OF TYPHOID.

Something seems to be wrong in the diagnosis of the conditions prevailing at Willamette, a village of a few hundred inhabitants, on the west bank of the river, a few miles south of Oregon City. Typhoid fever broke out in the settlement soon after the November freshet and has literally run riot there ever since. Consensus of expert opinion was that the spring from which the water supply is drawn had become contaminated by drainage from the swollen river. Samples of water were submitted to the proper health authorities and were found to contain colon bacillus. Corrective measures were at once applied and the people were warned to boil drinking water until further notice. Still the disease continued to spread and again the water both of the Oregon City and Willamette supply has been analyzed, with the result that no germs were found in the samples. The puzzled sanitarians of the city and state health boards who have been called to consider the matter announce, after nearly two months' close observation, that, as yet, no explanation can be offered as to the real cause of the appearance and persistence of typhoid in the community. Science has discovered the germs of typhoid and other deadly diseases, conditions under which they multiply have been determined and the manner in which they gain entrance into the human body has been made known. Yet here is a community situated in a healthful location, with ideal conditions for drainage, and with a water supply of great and moving volume, from a spring, the source of which is hidden away in the depths of the hills, that has for weeks been wrestling with

typhoid fever. Medicine, sanitarians, scientific expeditions, the assistance of health boards, have taken note of the situation, studied carefully the conditions and acknowledge ruefully that no explanation can be offered as to the real source of the disease, and the only remedy is to continue to consume conditions as distressing as they are baffling. They suggest, above all things, the value of prudence and vigilance in keeping what is known as filth diseases from obtaining lodgment.

EASILY EXPLAINED.

There can be little use to stumble about the high cost of living, as certainly there can be no doubt about the main causes of it—namely, the general extravagance and the disinclination of increasing numbers to pursue productive industry. Secretary James Wilson, of the Department of Agriculture, said recently: "Too many people are engaged in the business of speculation. They are not farming. Too many persons are rushing to the cities, and there are not enough are staying in the country. There are many persons who, without work and without means, are in the business of producing something. One who is engaged in the business of producing where 20 are now engaged in it. That is the cause of the business being high and the people are complaining."

True, absolutely true. Yet not the whole truth. For, besides these reasons, there is general extravagance and luxurious living. The house furnishings of former times will not do now. Nor the table ware, nor the kitchen supply, nor the dress or clothing. Most people do not buy as carefully as formerly. They are more expensive, and the telephone itself is an additional cost. Then social expenses of all kinds—and musical instruments and music lessons, and tailor-made suits and gowns. Travel, too, is a big item for every family in the run of the year, and cost of amusements. The list is endless.

Add to the extravagance on the one side the disinclination to work at productive industry on the other—disinclination to get out of the farm and farm work and the practical impossibility of hiring farm labor—since men prefer to work in railroad and logging camps and about the streets of the city—and you have the explanation of the high cost of living in former times.

PANAMA PACIFIC EXPOSITION.

Enterprising residents of a number of California cities are engaged in a somewhat heated controversy over the best location for the proposed Panama-Pacific Exposition. The city of San Francisco is the favorite for peaceful settlement of the problem, a conference will be held in Los Angeles this week. With the Lewis and Clark Exposition, held at Portland, and the Alaska-Yukon Exposition at Sitka, California is not alone presenting to precedence in claiming dates for a great celebration in honor of completion of the canal. For this reason our California neighbors will have the unequalled support of Oregon and Washington.

Completion of the canal means more to Portland and Puget Sound cities than it can ever mean to California, as it will open a highway by which the practically unlimited supply of timber of these two states can be transported to the coast. California will supply a greater freight tonnage for the steamers that come into the North Pacific than can be secured from any other source, and the assurance of return cargoes of lumber will enable them to make very low rates on inbound freight. California will, of course, supply a large tonnage of fruit and agricultural products, but this traffic is small in volume when compared with the immense lumber business that will follow the opening of the short and economical trade route.

It is a matter of indifference to most of the people of Oregon and Washington which of the California cities is selected for the honor of holding the Panama-Pacific Exposition, but we are naturally desirous that the location should be agreed upon and the "family row" now on in California peacefully settled at the earliest possible moment. The Panama-Pacific Exposition will draw visitors to the coast from all parts of the world and no inland city should mar the pleasure of their visit.

REMODELING THE WORLD.

Twentieth-century genius, with practically unlimited capital at its command, is remodeling the physical structure of the world. It is opening new trade routes and clearing old ones wherever ships and trains are moving. The modern engineer may not have the "faith that moves mountains," but he has the men, the money and a dynamite that blows commercial highways through the one of the greatest of these modern undertakings in the Southern hemisphere is the building of a tunnel through the Andes Mountains, connecting Chili and Argentina. The east and west forces on this mountain, a few weeks ago, one of the early events of 1910 will be the running of trains between Valparaiso and Buenos Ayres, the two great ports of South America.

The building of this line, following the closely constructed Panama Canal, will be followed in the near future by completion of the Panama Canal, cannot fail to have a most important bearing on the trade relations of the two countries and also upon the world's traffic. The new highways between the two great oceans will have dimmed, indeed, destroyed, the prestige of the round-the-Horn route, which has been one of the world's great highways since Drake, Magellan and others of the old seaboarding days sailed the Pacific in search of plunder or glory, or both. The opening of this trans-Andean route will, among other things, mark the doom of the sailing ships, one of the few remaining trades in which it has thus far managed to make a fairly good fight against the encroachments of the tramp steamer.

By the new route it will be possible to ship the vast tonnage of nitrate, which is Chili's most important export commodity, by rail to Buenos Ayres and thence, by steamer, to Europe, at a great saving of time and expense over the present sailing route. While Valparaiso and other Chilean ports may lose some prestige by the new road diverting export business to Buenos Ayres, completion of the Panama Canal may more than offset this loss by bringing the west coast port so near to American ports in the North Atlantic that a fine business may be developed with Valparaiso, a distributing center for

business entering and leaving the Argentine on the west by way of the trans-Andean railroad. European shipping will also find it most advantageous to use the Panama Canal in handling the Chilean trade.

The extent to which the United States is necessary to consume all of our wheat at home in order to maintain present prices.

A dissolution of the Harriman merger of railroads is reported to be under consideration by the New York interests in control of the Harriman lines. Economy of operation, and in some cases elimination of competition, were the principal reasons for the merging of the Southern Pacific, Union Pacific and other Harriman properties. While the lines for the greater part of the distance across the continent were physically unable to run into such close competition as would be possible on the Harriman lines which escaped Government attention, under separate ownership they might have presented advantage to their patrons. It is not clear, however, that a dissolution of the merger would be profitable to the public, unless there is a change in the owners of the stock. An individual who owns both Union Pacific and Southern Pacific stock, and there are many such, will hardly sanction any plan of competition between the two roads. Just where the profit will go by the change is indistinct.

"A large percentage of them are non-residents, many of them are foreigners, and no small percentage absolutely foreign," is the statement of Governor Hay, of Washington, regarding the Industrial Workers of the World, who have been conducting a law-breaking campaign at Spokane. This description would, undoubtedly, fit an overwhelming proportion of the alleged "citizens" who cluster up street corners and rail against the Government and the efforts of hard-working, respectable people to maintain a system of law and order. Perhaps the weakest point in the argument of the "workers" of the rest of the world is the fact that the shortcomings of the American form of government have never proved so unattractive as this foreign trash is willing to abandon it in the arms of the land from whence they came.

Great concern among the Democratic politicians and newspapers of Oregon about the course of the Republicans of the state—whether they are to hold assembly-conventions, or not. Probably the Republicans of the state will do as they think best, without consulting the Democratic politicians and newspapers. These, moreover, are non-committal, and it would be long run to mind their own business, since they are likely to have troubles of their own.

A Portland firm, through lowest bidder for delivery of 2,149,000 feet of lumber to be delivered at Manila, couldn't get the contract. There was an opposite "pull." Portland has two Senators at Washington; but all their efforts are devoted to Statement One and the rights of the people. No time to attend to the vulgar details of commerce and business; and no influence, if they had time.

Farmers of California, especially those growing fruits and vegetables, oppose exclusion of Japanese. The Japanese are especially anxious to get the work to be performed, while our people are little content with rural employments and can obtain better wages in other lines than fruit-growing and market-gardens can afford to pay.

A good many illicit elopements occur these days, and lovelick weeklings are lured into forbidden paths. "Society" seems not to have removed enough temptations. The first "affair" was in the Garden of Eden.

Americans touring Europe, who object to the time-honored charge of two bits for a cocktail, are in the "cheap skate" class. There should be no limit to patriotism when abroad.

The system of allowing twelve men to try a servant of the people for fraud will probably be abolished when the people come fully into their own. All the people will then judge.

Prophets who predicted a cold winter are saying "I told you so," but they are probably the same persons whose predictions in other seasons didn't "make good."

We think our own John Barrett could have handled the Nicaragua problem in a way that would have enhanced the dignity and glory of all parties concerned.

If the differences between San Francisco and San Diego over the Panama-Pacific Exposition are irreconcilable, why not compromise on Los Angeles?

Secretary Knox, jubilant over "regulating" Nicaragua, would try his hand on Manchuria. But the little brown man will stand for no philanthropy.

Price of logs is very high, but persons who complain could produce them on the farm just as cheaply as ever—if they knew how.

Miss de Japon avers that she persuaded the water Cohen to run away with her. These be parolous times. No man is safe.

season without any pronounced scarcity of supplies in the foreign market. Then, if Russia should come to the front with another crop of the size of that which, for the past four months, has been dumped on the market in record-breaking quantities, it might become necessary to consume all of our wheat at home in order to maintain present prices.

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JASON LEE, FATHER OF OREGON. His Claim as Such Contrasted With That of Dr. McLoughlin.

PORTLAND, Jan. 11.—(To the Editor.)—A recent editorial in the Oregonian contains these words: "Dr. John McLoughlin was a picturesque figure in the pioneer history of Oregon, and next to Jason Lee was the most important factor in its affairs up to 1843. It is true, very likely, that he was the first to settle in the better appreciated today than that of Jason Lee. In all fairness, the latter deserves to be called the 'father of Oregon' as well as the former, and perhaps better. He was destined to McLoughlin's suave accomplishments, but he had other qualities equally admirable in themselves and more useful in founding a commonwealth."

Oregon history is being rapidly revised, and revised, and ultimately every man will come to Britain, Dr. McLoughlin, chief factor for the Hudson's Bay Company, autocrat in a vast domain, towers majestic and picturesque, with a bearing of a kind of spirit, he charmed all who came within his influence. No brighter page than that of the pioneer is the oft-told tales of the pioneer, the great market, whence they were shipped to Cuba. From that department comes that wonderful fiction, which grows in 13 colors from white, through grays and pink to a dark red brown; a cotton not marketed till our Civil War forced English manufacturers to look all over the world for more cotton of its substance, and which was first known as vegetable wool, but now sold at a higher price than any other wool in the world, used both in England and the United States for the adulteration of woolen goods. In that department, too, grows the wealth of the region beyond comparison, in excess of any equal area of the earth's surface I have ever visited. Thence come the Panama hats, so-called because they were first made in that market, whence they were shipped to Cuba. From that department comes that wonderful fiction, which grows in 13 colors from white, through grays and pink to a dark red brown; a cotton not marketed till our Civil War forced English manufacturers to look all over the world for more cotton of its substance, and which was first known as vegetable wool, but now sold at a higher price than any other wool in the world, used both in England and the United States for the adulteration of woolen goods. In that department, too, grows the wealth of the region beyond comparison, in excess of any equal area of the earth's surface I have ever visited.

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I lived four years in the department, engaged in irrigation studies and as an instructor in the agricultural college, and spent a good deal of my time in the port, where I had a beach house and several American families for neighbors. I never saw a foreign vessel in the harbor without a foreign vessel. The English line of the coast has its ships visiting the port, but the American line of Grace from New York twice—all these in addition to sailing vessels visiting the petroleum fields, near the coast, and calling at Paika for their supplies.

ALFRED F. SEARS, C. E.

AMERICAN EXPOSITION IN BERLIN.

It Will Be Opened May 1; Chance for Oregon Exhibits.

ASTORIA, Ore., Jan. 11.—(To the Editor.)—An event of considerable commercial importance, in which Oregon may be interested, is the first American exposition to be held in a foreign country, which commences in Berlin, Germany, May 1. George Kabbott, of this city, is the accredited representative of the Government, by appointment of the Chamber of Commerce, and will leave in March for Berlin. He will take, or have sent to him, a small exhibit, representing the products of this county, and is anxious that every county in the state be represented. He has already secured a large amount of literature, and would be pleased to have products of various sections exhibited.

There has been little said in the newspaper press of the West concerning this exhibition, and few people are aware of its being held. It is possible that a few Oregonians, through the Oregonian might develop interest and result in various sections desiring to be represented. Several of our prominent citizens are interested in the matter, and something to show that Oregon is an integral part of this great commonwealth. It is a chance for Oregon in the future development of this section of the country.

C. J. CURTIS.

Ready-Made Corsets.

Recognizing that this is an age of hurry, the makers of corsets have just put on the market a new postcard, intended for correspondents who have not too much time to spare for letter writing. The corset is made of the finest materials, and all that the purchaser has to do is to put a cross against those which are appropriate to the occasion. The corset is made of the finest materials, and all that the purchaser has to do is to put a cross against those which are appropriate to the occasion.

Look Out Square-Toed Shoes Next.

St. Louis, Mo., Dispatch. Look out next season for the square topped shoe in shoes. According to a salesman for St. Louis firm which makes lasts, something entirely new is to appear. During recent seasons the toes of men's shoes have had a sort of upward bulge, giving a full appearance. Lasts are now being made for a square toe which will resemble the end of a box, with the corners well defined. "It's a freak shoe," the traveling man said, "but manufacturers are going to try it out and it may take."

Colorado Springs Garden of the Gods.

Denver, Colo., Dispatch. The famed "Garden of the Gods," by the city of Colorado Springs, has become the property of Colorado Springs. It comprises 180 acres, and is valued at \$200,000.

Other Varieties.

Nashville, Tennessee. "The Woman with the Tongue." To briefly state the poet sang. Inadequately it must be said with such a broad variety. For a lesser poet, might have said "The Woman with the Tongue and the Woman with the Heart." The woman with the tongue and the woman with the heart. The woman with the tongue and the woman with the heart. The woman with the tongue and the woman with the heart.

PAITA, A SOUTH AMERICAN PORT. Major Sears Writes About a Harbor Where He Formerly Lived.

PORTLAND, Jan. 11.—(To the Editor.)—The Oregonian of last Sunday contained the statement, probably on the authority of the captain of the vessel about sailing for Paika, that the port is a new one and has never been visited. It is a new one, and has never been visited. It is a new one, and has never been visited. It is a new one, and has never been visited.

In 1872 I located the railroad line from the port 60 miles into the interior. The line crosses the desert from Paika to the rich valley of the Rio Chira, in which continues for 20 miles and leaving that beautifully fertile zone recrosses the same desert to the valley of the Rio Piura. The wealth of the region is beyond comparison, in excess of any equal area of the earth's surface I have ever visited. Thence come the Panama hats, so-called because they were first made in that market, whence they were shipped to Cuba. From that department comes that wonderful fiction, which grows in 13 colors from white, through grays and pink to a dark red brown; a cotton not marketed till our Civil War forced English manufacturers to look all over the world for more cotton of its substance, and which was first known as vegetable wool, but now sold at a higher price than any other wool in the world, used both in England and the United States for the adulteration of woolen goods. In that department, too, grows the wealth of the region beyond comparison, in excess of any equal area of the earth's surface I have ever visited.

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Denver, Colo., Dispatch. The famed "Garden of the Gods," by the city of Colorado Springs, has become the property of Colorado Springs. It comprises 180 acres, and is valued at \$200,000.

Other Varieties.

Nashville, Tennessee. "The Woman with the Tongue." To briefly state the poet sang. Inadequately it must be said with such a broad variety. For a lesser poet, might have said "The Woman with the Tongue and the Woman with the Heart." The woman with the tongue and the woman with the heart. The woman with the tongue and the woman with the heart. The woman with the tongue and the woman with the heart.

LIFE'S SUNNY SIDE.

Mark Twain once approached a friend, a business man, and confided the fact that some of his thoughts were forming in his brain. The man said that they were even beginning to sparkle in his eyes, and that he needed the assistance of a stenographer.

"Can you see one, a fine young fellow," the friend said. "He came to my office yesterday in search of a position, but I didn't have an opening. I am sure you will find him a fine young fellow."

"Has he a sense of humor?" Mark asked cautiously. "Oh, I am sure he has—in fact, he got over one or two pretty witty things himself yesterday," the friend hastened to assure him. "Sorry, but he won't do them," the writer said, with a disappointed shake of his head.

"Why—why not?" was the surprised question. "The would-be employer assumed a confidential air. 'I'll tell you,' he said. 'You see, I had one once before with a certain sense of humor, and it interfered too much with the work. I can't afford to pay a man \$2 for laughing.'—New York Times.

In view of the almost universal complaint as to the United States customs service by returning Americans, it may be well to ask our citizens to justly their reputation for honesty. Quick as a flash the example of Mr. Labouchere in dealing with such annoying experts—namely, "Labouchere's" quick as a flash the German officers packed his trunk and Labouchere "went on his way rejoicing," and that each recalled the "morrow."—London Telegraph.

Senator Robert Love Taylor, of Tennessee, while Governor of that state, attended one evening