

The Oregonian

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Portland, Saturday, Jan. 22, 1910.

TANGLE OF BRITISH POLITICS.

There is a growing probability that the Liberals will not have a majority in the House of Commons that they can call wholly their own. They will be forced to rely on combinations with the Labor party and the Irish party.

The popular vote thus far for the Conservatives is much larger than that for the Liberals, and probably will be still larger by the time the voting is ended. It is clear that nothing can be done that will radically change the present conditions.

The House of Peers usually is indolent. Its members do not like a contest. They will not have a majority in the House of Commons that they can call wholly their own.

In the new Parliament the debates probably will be even hotter than in the old. The course of the present elections seems to be opening the way to a coalition of parties.

It will probably be disappointing to the "uno-ged" critics of President Taft to note that the suit against the railroad merger will be vigorously prosecuted.

With these bright and shining examples of merging of railroad properties right under the eye of the Government at Washington, it has always seemed strange that the Government should make a fuss about the "railroad merger."

In ignoring the existence of merged lines nearer at hand, and in which the evidence was stronger than in the Union Pacific-Southern Pacific case, the retiring Administration put over on the Taft Administration a case in which conviction could hardly be obtained.

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complishments lack some of the spectacular, brass-band methods to which the country had become accustomed, but they are none the less effective.

NORMAL FEUD AGAIN.

The second of the Normal School business in Oregon is yet to be written. It may be almost as strenuous as were the chapters ending with the Legislature's refusal last year to grant life-giving money to the four institutions that have taken active part in legislative matters for many years.

It ought to be possible, however, to put normal schools on rational basis and to build up proper institutions. The institutions that have been burning along on short rations, in places distant from population centers, served the purpose of their existence in sorry fashion.

A spirit of amity is needed, first of all, and if that is not possible, then extermination of all the forces that have been upholding the old system. Normal education should no longer be a state-wide matter, to be managed in accord with state-wide requirements.

SIMPLICITY IN A NEW PUMP.

The invention of a pumping process by the explosion of a gas, as we learn from The Literary Digest, affords a new and probably a practical way of raising water in large quantities cheaply.

Nothing is more fascinating than to observe the progressive industrial application of the energy of high explosion of water in large quantities cheaply. A fresh supply of combustible material is then quickly introduced, which is compressed by some of the water flowing back down the pipe.

The project of adding a "House of Government" to our National Government machinery does not wholly commend itself to a reflective mind. The motives of those who argue for it, as summarized by William George Jordan, of New York, in his little monograph, are excellent, but their wisdom is questionable.

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It would depend on how much influence the Governor retained at home after his transformation into a Federal official. We suspect that his local influence would lose its practical value and degenerate into a mere machine building intrigue.

These recent statements of the showing made by the foreign trade of the country are interesting, when taken in connection with the freight space which we buy from the foreigner. The value of American exports for 1909 was \$1,727,383,128.

Moreover, complete uniformity of local laws is not necessarily a desirable consummation. If all the states had exactly the same laws, they have separate states. The distinction between them would become illusory.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company is said to be contemplating establishment of a line of steamers between Seattle and the Orient in connection with the proposed Union Pacific system to Puget Sound.

Washington's Bourne. Miles Poindexter, Representative in Congress from Washington, is insubordinating alone. He doesn't agree with anybody about this Ballinger-Pinchot business.

That expected flood of wheat with which the Argentine was to deluge the markets of the Old World has apparently been delayed in transit. Shipments of the White House brand wheat were but 594,000 bushels, compared with 2,704,000 bushels for the same week last year.

A considerable number of recently invented airplanes which were intended to make their initial flight at Los Angeles were destroyed yesterday when their inventors were very much downhearted over their failure.

Seattle attorney announces that he will deliver messages from John Wilkes Booth to the people of Seattle, telling them he is and what his spirit is now doing. Having established communication with the spirit world, it would be a great stroke of enterprise for the Seattle man to get in communication with the late Daniel Green and get his views on flying machines "over yonder."

Charles Messener, of Chehalis, who contributed to the death of his invalid wife by brutally abusing her and was placed under arrest, whinnily attributes her death to his present plight to "drink." Drinking, he means.

News from the Orient is to the effect that Japan is discouraging emigration, except into near-by Asia. In the Spring the Japs may go into Russia and get his views on flying machines "over yonder."

It is said that after the trial jury finishes up, Ringer Hermon will desire to refer the question to the people. But, of course, that depends.

Elimination of the rear handrail will decrease streetcar accidents until all women become left-handed.

\$200,000,000 was a dead loss to the country, and that we were receiving nothing in return for it.

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THE TAFT REFORM PROGRAMME.

Legislation That the President Will Ask of Congress.

From Washington Dispatch to New York Evening Post. It becomes possible and permissible to outline the Winter's executive programme which President Taft will ask the two houses of Congress to enact into law.

A law providing for the voluntary Federal incorporation of corporations. A law putting upon the statute books the so-called Roosevelt policies on the conservation of natural resources.

A law creating a postal savings bank system. A law for the reorganization of the government of Alaska.

Drastic reductions in appropriations and economy in Federal expenditure. A statehood law for the territories of Arizona and New Mexico.

The President has conferred fully and freely with the Republican party managers and they have agreed to support him. He will continue to urge his plans by personal solicitation upon all Republican Senators and Representatives.

Philadelphia Inquirer. Amon's recent decision that billboards was that by Justice Seabury, of the New York Supreme Court, in a case in which the authorities of Manhattan Borough were the defendants.

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WISHES TO BE ON TRUTH'S SIDE.

Dr. Funk Gives His Views on the Question of Immortality.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—(To Editor.)—Kindly permit me to set myself right in the Oregonian. Within the past three weeks I have received many letters and a score of newspaper clippings touching matter in supposed interviews with myself, which seem to have been given unscrupulously.

That telescope picture is a fake. It is a picture of a man in a suit and tie, with a telescope to his eye, and a sign that says "Dr. Funk's Telescope." It is a picture of a man in a suit and tie, with a telescope to his eye, and a sign that says "Dr. Funk's Telescope."

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GREAT RECORD OF SINGLE YEAR.

Review of 1909 From the Angles of Finance and Industry.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—(To Editor.)—The various reviews of the past year in the United States reveal many angles from which its events may be surveyed. Of greatest importance to the general public, perhaps, is the fact that it was a year of financial and industrial recovery.

The year witnessed the re-employment of much idle capital as well as much idle labor. "Although it will probably be classed as a boom year," remarks Bradstreet, "its many records of financial and industrial achievements exceeded."

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