

# The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, FEB. 4, 1911.

### THE RECORD OF FIFTY YEARS.

The Morning Oregonian today reaches and passes its fiftieth milestone. It has achieved a record in a momentous half century without a parallel among the important journals of the Nation, since it has been throughout its history under the continuous general direction of its founder, manager and principal owner. It felicitates itself and the public that at the end of a long half century the far-seeing and ambitious young publisher who brought forth the first issue of the pioneer daily is here at the helm in good health, his eye clear and his grasp firm, with undiminished courage and unexcelled optimism looking forward to a greater and more useful future for the child of his brain and labor.

If the Oregonian anticipates now only prosperous days, it is not unmindful of the mischance and losses of the past, the heaviest of which was the death during the recent year of its editor, long identified with its fortunes, and conspicuous throughout his life in the field of American journalism. It is duly humble, then, when it has occasion to reflect on the frailty of life and the mutability of all things human; yet it would buckle on its armor anew, close up its ranks for the forward march and continue undimmed and unafraid the struggle on behalf of the many people for whom it feels entitled to regard itself as both voice and champion. Another and yet another will drop by the wayside; but the progress of time and the advance of events cannot be halted. Come what may the Oregonian will go on.

The Morning Oregonian had its birth on February 4, 1861, amid the rumblings and contentions of approaching civil war. Its life has been closely associated with the eventual history of a primitive country grown now to a populous and thriving commonwealth. No other daily journal now published in the Northwest was in existence when the first issue of The Morning Oregonian appeared; and scarcely another in the entire West. No other surviving institution of any kind has been so prominently identified with the progress and development of the Pacific Northwest; none other has always been so truly the breath of its growth, the life of its life. It has been ever an observer and reporter of events. It has sought to be a friend of worthy effort and a foe of the unworthy, ignoble and traitorous. It has defended the Union and upheld the Federal power and sovereignty. It has fought secession. It has detected and denounced slavery. It has declared for the equal rights of all men, white and black, before the law. It has defined and approved reconstruction. It has opposed the greenback heresy, and it has made long and successful war on the greater silver heresy. It has preached sanity, taught reason and usually practiced moderation. It has never forgotten, and has admonished its readers never to forget, the fruitful lessons of history and experience. It has not hesitated to challenge public opinion when it appeared to be vacillating or wrong. It has gone into the partial eclipse of popular disfavor through its persistent presentation of correct principles and rational policies, but it has in due time emerged into the bright sunshine of general approval. It has made mistakes and suffered lapses, but it has sought always the straight way and, we hope, has kept the faith.

Of its errors The Oregonian has been keenly conscious—not less conscious, indeed, since it has been always, and is today, reminded of them constantly by its vigilant friends and sensible critics. But it begs to assure them and others that it welcomes their suggestions and frequent animadversions; for it benefits much by the counsel of perfection and achieves humility through the daily contemplation of its own shortcomings. Yet it would say for itself that The Oregonian is what it is because it has practiced journalism always for its own sake, has avoided entangling alliances with any other interest or influence, and has given exclusive and impartial attention to the difficult business of daily newspaper making.

For nearly two full generations The Oregonian has striven and wrought in its field—from that long-ago day (December 4, 1859,) when The Weekly Oregonian first made its appearance, down through the doubtful struggles of the early time to that other day, ten years and a little more later, when The Daily Morning Oregonian made its bow, and on, through many memorable experiences, to the present period. It is proper here to record that Mr. Pittock's connection with The Oregonian began November, 1883, following his weary journey by ex-team across the plains, when he entered the office as apprentice and at the printer's case began his long life-work. In all the intervening time he has been with The Oregonian—a record of more than fifty-seven years of patient and faith-

ful endeavor. Where is there another story like his? What other hero in Oregon can look back over the traveled road and find in it no turning or deviation to right or left? Where is there such another example of a fixed mind persistently and consistently pursued? Where is there such another monument of a life well spent as he, living, now sees? These words are, of course, written by another hand; they are penned through a sense of loyalty and duty to the quiet and modest man whose spirit and temper have so long pervaded The Oregonian and have been so fine and worthy an inspiration to his fellow-workers.

If we should undertake to define the position of The Oregonian today before and with its public, the task would not be hard. It is not a creature of chance or fortune or circumstance. It is a growth, a product, a reflection of the times in which it has lived, the opportunities it has met, and the obstacles it has overcome. It is here today because it has always supplied a public need, and in a permanent sense has fulfilled public expectation.

When The Daily Oregonian was started The City of Portland, with about 3000 people, had three other daily papers. But they dropped out one by one before the steady progress of The Oregonian because they failed to print the news, or because their proprietors and editors were not in accord with the patriotic sentiment of the people of Oregon; or for both reasons. The Oregonian from the first realized to the best of its ability its function as a purveyor of news, for it toiled and searched for the latest and best information of all events worth chronicling, particularly of the mighty conflict then raging between North and South, while others waited for what luck or the slothful mails might bring them. In the early '60s, there was no telegraph line nearer than Yreka, California. Mr. Pittock at the outset arranged to have the latest news wired from San Francisco to Yreka and relayed by mail to Portland. Here was genuine enterprise rewarded by the instant favor of the reading public. Later, when the telegraph wire was put through, he brought here an enlarged direct service and printed all the desirable news he could get. The policy thus early inaugurated has been throughout traditional with the paper, and is pursued now with more diligence, elaboration and completeness than ever. If anything is worth printing it is worth telegraphing; as one fixed motto of The Oregonian, so that the news is carried by wire from all quarters of the globe in copious volume and variety. The Associated Press brings 18,000 to 20,000 words nightly and the special service increases the average daily quantity to near 30,000. But the latter has become far more costly. The prime effort, however, has been always to print everything obtainable about Oregon and the Northwest, and to cover and expound every phase of life, industry and thought of the great Oregon country. If The Oregonian has brought the outside world to Oregon through the electric telegraph and the daily mails, it has no less done its full duty in carrying the message of Oregon, Washington and Idaho to the attentive millions of East and Middle West. So it is everywhere regarded as the beacon and prophet of the mighty land on the North Pacific shores. Its lights have never been dimmed through their failure to shine for all Oregon nor has its voice been silent when the Northwest States' needs were urgent or their fortunes in jeopardy. The Oregonian, being of Oregon, has understood and interpreted the Oregon country.

Doubtless much that is here recorded will appear to savor of pride and boasting; yet there is nothing that can or will be disputed. The Oregonian would remind its readers again that it is fifty years old today. It has therefore given way to a natural desire to talk of itself and even to proclaim its own merits—a task it prefers to assume for itself rather than assign to its contemporaries or beneath to its biographers. The role of autobiographer is pleasant and may indeed be profitable. None knows better than The Oregonian the reasons of its being and none is so well qualified to state them. The consciousness of duty to the whole public discharged with fidelity through the years deserves to find here an "now, we think, its fit expression, and The Oregonian does not hesitate to say it for itself. The rewards have been abundant and satisfying.

**MR. GALLINGER'S SWAN SONG.**  
 Regret over the passage by the Senate of the Gallinger subsidy bill will be softened by the announcement of Senator Gallinger that in the last effort he will make in this direction. Further cause for complacency will be found in the practical certainty that the bill, when it reaches the House, will meet the same painful death that has overtaken its predecessors. Senator Gallinger, however, is in error when he says "if this legislation fails, it will be a long time before anything more will be done to place our flag upon the seas, and to restore the prestige of American shipping." The ship subsidy bill, which has appeared as a point-blank demand on the Government for arms with which to make profitable an alleged unprofitable business, or whether it has sailed under false colors as a mail subsidy or "subvention" has displayed tenacity and vitality akin to that of the traditional cat of nine lives. The cat seems nearly ready to give up her ninth life, but if the obsequies are made final and conclusive in the House there will be an opportunity to "place our flag upon the seas" and "restore the prestige of American shipping."

Just as a starter and method by which they can obtain immediate results, let Mr. Gallinger in the Senate and Mr. Humphrey in the House make a strong fight for American registry for the splendid steel steamships of the United Fruit Company. The American owners of this fine fleet of ships would like to change from the British to the American flag. As they have a fleet of about thirty-five of the finest modern steamships, Humphrey and Mr. Gallinger could thus secure

greater direct tangible results than they have ever obtained by efforts to sell ship subsidy gold bricks to a patriotic but not always credulous people. If Mr. Gallinger is sincere in his promise to abandon the subsidy plan, the decks have been cleared, and we are now in a position to take up the matter of reviving the merchant marine by the methods so successfully used by every other maritime power on earth.

The Standard Oil Company, owner of a steamer that rescued the disabled steamer Shna Yak from imminent peril on the Columbia River bar, is endeavoring to collect \$10,000 salvage for the service rendered. Since the O. R. & N. Co. and the Port of Portland have waived salvage claims against vessels in distress, there have been few claims of this nature brought before the public. The validity and propriety of salvage claims, however, remains unchanged since the early days of navigation. The average seaman, before the mast or behind the mast, is generally willing to risk his life to save some fellow-man-in-danger on another ship. He needs no salvage rewards or money offers to spur him to the risk. In the case of property loss, conditions are entirely different. The courts have for generations awarded salvage claims as an incentive for seamen to take risks which they would not otherwise take in saving property.

If the result of the Seattle election shall be that Mayor Gill is triumphant, it will be because the voters there will have thus protested against the method of his recall. The term of a Seattle Mayor is two years. Gill was elected a year ago, but the furor over his administration and the demand for his removal after the recall began shortly after and have continued for months. Result is that Seattle has been in the throes of a continuous campaign, conducted with great acrimony both sides, for practically a year. Of the merits of the charges against Gill The Oregonian ventures no opinion. Yet it thinks that not much has developed by recent investigations that was not well known when he was elected Mayor; and he has given the kind of administration that it voted for. It ought to have been possible to stand it for another year and recall Gill by electing some other for Mayor. The recall ought not to be applicable for short-term officers.

The Treasury statement for the month of January shows a deficit of nearly \$4,000,000. Under ordinary circumstances a showing of this nature might be regarded as distinctly unfavorable, but the fact that \$3,000,000 of the deficit is on account of the Panama Canal makes a satisfactory explanation. Not until the completion of the canal and the liquidation of the enormous sum which it has cost will it be possible to make fair comparisons of Treasury statements. The canal is an extraordinary undertaking. The money it is costing the Government must be regarded as an investment that for a long time will show a loss but eventually it will be absorbed in the guaranteed cost of the canal, the monthly statement will seem less imposing than at present.

There is a difference between the cost of burning garbage in the new crematory at from 40 to 60 cents a ton and \$1.25 a ton. The former figure is the cost of the fuel, the latter of combustion by the new plant, the latter the actual cost. The guarantee seems to be based on nothing more substantial than experiment that has failed and the assurance of contractors unbacked by coin. So it appears that the usual guarantee of Treasury statements. The canal is an extraordinary undertaking. The money it is costing the Government must be regarded as an investment that for a long time will show a loss but eventually it will be absorbed in the guaranteed cost of the canal, the monthly statement will seem less imposing than at present.

**WHERE OREGON STANDS.**  
 Oregon is not a single-tax state. The Oregonian reasserts emphatically that by fraud and subterfuge the voters were persuaded last November to enact through the initiative a law permitting counties to devise and enforce their own methods of taxation. It was a steady but a manner that its taxers looking to experimentation with their land in various Oregon counties. But their purpose was carefully concealed. There was not a breath of suspicion or shred of knowledge by the voters at large that the measure was "foisted" on them for it became this was printed on the ballot: "For constitutional amendment providing for the people of each county to regulate taxation and exemptions by local laws, subject to constitutional restrictions or state statutes, and abolishing the poll or head tax."

Abolishing the poll or head tax! There is no poll tax in Oregon and the dishonest framers of this dishonest measure knew it, undoubtedly; but they put it in so as to sugar-coat the single-tax pill. It misled thousands of voters and they supported the measure. It passed by a small plurality.

The real attitude of Oregon on a single tax is shown by the vote in 1908 on that identical question. A single-tax measure was put before the voters frankly and without evasion or disguise. It was defeated by a slim margin—2,065 yeas to 69,871 nays.

The Oregonian deems it worth while, in view of the widespread advertisement the state has had in connection with this pernicious and harmful doctrine, to show plainly where Oregon stands. The state is quite sure it will vote down single tax again next year, as it did in 1908, by a decisive and final majority.

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### THE OREGONIAN—1861-1911.

Every successful battle, said Napoleon Bonaparte, is fought upon an idea. So of every human enterprise. Without the guidance of definite and resolute purpose nothing goes a straight course, finds the powers to overcome or plow through difficulties, the faith, the force, the restraints which lie back of all great and especially of all continuous achievements.

This newspaper, whose career of half a century is celebrated today, had at the cornerstones of its foundation the idea of simple honesty and good faith. Set down in words this is a mere platitude, but translated into practice, applied to the conduct of a public journal and carried consistently through fifty years of struggle and success, it is a thing most rare, most precious.

There were no rainbow tints or other forms of self-consciousness in Mr. Pittock's plan as he took concrete form fifty years ago today. His idea was to give to Portland and the Northwest region, then little better than a wilderness, a daily newspaper that would faithfully report and intelligently explain the news, exploit the interests of the country and sustain the general motives and aims of civilized life under a high standard. It was a simple conception and yet a noble one, for in that day—in any day, for that matter—there are few journals so single-minded, so right-minded. Few then and few now are the newspapers which owe no favor to some commercial, political or social ambition. Few then and few now are inspired with simple and consistent honesty in support of the essential purposes of legitimate journalism and no other.

In a sense The Morning Oregonian has been and is a commercial business. But it has been and is much more than a commercial business. Never a day in its career has the commercial interest been the only or the main interest of the man who founded it or those who in relations great or small have cooperated with him in building and sustaining it. I speak with knowledge, for I am a son of The Oregonian, minded of its kind, formed and schooled and drilled in its spirit and discipline. "Get the facts," "State them plainly," "Show their meaning and application," "Pledge us to what is right"—these phrases summarize the instructions given to all who in my day wrote for or reported to The Oregonian. There are few newspapers in this or any country whose scheme of instruction to its staff is so brief. I doubt, indeed, if there be one other in which the idea of social and moral responsibility has been more highly or faithfully regarded.

It is a noble and a praiseworthy, however noble, have small power of self-enforcement. Honesty and good faith, high qualities though they be, could not alone have made or sustained The Oregonian. Resolution, courage, faith and labor piled upon labor—these have been essential and they have not been lacking. And to these have been added practice in all things, small and great, and a self-denial knowing no limits. There is in the application of even fixed principles a certain working elasticity, but there is rarely found in one man—still more rarely in two working together—the capacity to respond promptly yet unerringly to changing and shifting conditions. The men of small things are not always or often the men of large things. But just this was requisite in the development of The Oregonian. In the long creative period which some of us so well remember there had to be prudence to stoop not meanly but nobly to small things, and that means might be unstinted for large and liberal uses. Thrift was essential to the right hand that the left might be lavish. How faithful to these severe requirements the management of The Oregonian has been those who have observed the walk of Henry L. Pittock and of Harvey W. Scott this long and fruitful half century well know.

The Morning Oregonian is what it is today because it sums up and represents all that has been put into it during the 50 years in which it has singularly been the guide, friend and philosopher of the Northwest. If the high purposes and high purposes have been behind it. If it speaks for efficiency, there have been energy and diligence in its making. If it stands for good faith it is because good faith has been put into it. If it commands public respect it is because integrity, sincerity and all honorable motives have been forged into its being, and its conditions, small and great, have been behind it. This anniversary is peculiarly a day of glorious memories for Mr. Pittock, for it was he who conceived and founded The Morning Oregonian. Upon him every day of its life has securely rested the responsibility of its material fortunes. But Mr. Pittock would be the last to claim for himself the whole honor of an achievement which in the minds of all men is stamped indelibly with his name and with one other. Mr. Scott, whom only just now we have borne in honor and love to his final rest, came to The Oregonian as its helper and partner in the career and labor of nearly the whole half century represented in the life of this paper. The two, Mr. Pittock and Mr. Scott, as right hand and left hand, wrought together in a single aim and to a common purpose, the one forging the sword of power, the other wielding it. Honor and reverence to the great writer who sleeps! Honor and reverence and length of years to the great organizer, financier and administrator who abides!

**ALFRED HOLMAN.**  
**Death Rate in States.**  
 SPRINGFIELD, Or., Feb. 3.—(To the Editor.)—Please state in The Oregonian which is the healthiest state in the Union, the one with the lowest death rate.  
 There are so accurate statistics on the death rates by states. Eighteen states, only, have mortality registration laws, covering but little more than one-half the total population of continental United States.  
**Boys Scouts of America.**  
 CHEHALS, Feb. 1.—(To the Editor.)—Will you please give an address, where one can write for information regarding "The Boy Scouts." MRS. C. MILLS.  
 John L. Alexander, secretary Boy Scouts of America, 124 East Twenty-eighth street, New York City.  
**A Suggestion.**  
 Why doesn't someone proceed against politics as a monopoly in restraint of trade?—Cleveland Leader.

### The Morning Oregonian at the End of Fifty Years

William Lair Hill, Former Editor, Contributes a Sketch of Early Day Journalism in Portland—Why The Oregonian Succeeded Where Others Failed. Methods and Characters in Newspaper Making.

PROMPTED by deep and sincere affection, based upon unusually intimate acquaintance from the day of its first issue fifty years ago, and close personal relations with its management during a part of that long period, I am about to essay the difficult, but not impossible, task of condensing into a single short article the story of one of the great institutional newspapers of the country.

In its methods the newspaper of today is vastly different from the newspaper of fifty years ago. But not in its functions. Its chief function, aside from its character as a business venture—which is of so small importance to the world at large as to be merely incidental and negligible—was then, and is now, twofold: the gathering together of facts with respect to current events and communicating them to its readers, thus making common and general knowledge what would otherwise be individual and local; and the presentation of well-considered opinions and suggestions as appear to the editor to be worthy of public consideration. But to the newspaper of the old time the gathering of fresh news was so limited as to field and restricted in method that the newspaper of today was impossible in fact and inconceivable in the imagination. Information came to the office by mail, generally from persons who were moved by personal interest or inclination, special arrangement for prompt news being resorted to only in case of pre-arranged public events of unusual importance and not at great distance.

The editor, or, in the case of the section journal, a special assistant, condensed the mass of irregular correspondence into reasonable limits and readable form, and gave it to his readers, sometimes incorporated the body of his comments, sometimes in a separate summary.

Later came the formation of combinations or associations for the collection and distribution of news, and with them the general employment of the telegraph as the means of transmission. Instantly the face of the world of journalism was changed, the function of the newspaper as a purveyor of knowledge expanded into every part of the civilized world. It was now more than a mere news revelation. No class of newspaper escaped its influence. The metropolitan papers, able to meet the additional expense of the new system, passed at once into pre-eminence, and the smaller and local sheets—those of them which, by reason of local conditions or special interests represented by them, were able to maintain themselves in the field—were enabled to give their readers vastly better news service by clipping from those in the combination as soon as they were issued. This was an incalculable benefit to the public. It placed every home in every part of the country in rapport with the activities and social progress of all other parts.

The vast expansion of the news-giving function also profoundly affected that of the editorial. Possession by the reader of the wider information which the news pages of his paper brought him placed him in a better position to form opinions for himself, and left him less need of suggestions from the editor. But the editor was not thereby "reduced to the ranks"; he was lifted to a position in which higher abilities and better work were demanded of him.

In the light of the foregoing tedious introduction the story of The Oregonian is readily understood.

On the 4th day of December, 1859, Thomas J. Dryer issued at Portland the first number of a little four-page weekly newspaper with the title "The Oregonian." Portland was then a tiny village, consisting of a few houses on the bank of the Willamette River, and backed by a dense forest of fir timber coming down to the line of First street—a little nearer the river's bank at places. There was not much besides ambition and hope to build a newspaper on, but Dryer had both of these. He was by nature a violent partisan, loved a bitter personal controversy better than a dinner, could write without the restraints of editorial courtesy or extreme delicacy, and possessed a peculiar aptness for the free ways of the frontiersman. These qualities fitted well into his work as editor, business manager, reporter and advertising solicitor—and he was all of these. He continued the publication of his paper till October, 1860, when he was nominated by the Republican party as one of its candidates for Presidential elector.

In the meantime there had come to Portland a modest, unassuming young man from Pittsburg, a printer by trade and a newspaper man by instinct. He was in charge of the printing office of the paper at the time of Dryer's nomination; and during the absence of Dryer on the political campaign he and Colonel Simeon Francis got out the paper. Col. Francis was an experienced editor, recently arrived from Springfield, Illinois; the other, the printer from Pittsburg, was Henry L. Pittock, now known everywhere as one of the few newspaper managers whose genius has proved requisite to meet every stage of the development of a great modern newspaper.

Upon the successful termination of the campaign, Dryer proposed to sell The Oregonian to Pittock. Terms were quickly agreed upon, and the paper and plant were transferred. Dryer retiring from the newspaper business, Colonel Francis became the editor.

The village had now grown into an ambitious city of 3900 or 4000 population. Early in December, only a couple of weeks after purchasing the paper, Mr. Pittock announced to the public that on and after the first of January, 1861, The Oregonian would be issued daily as well as weekly. There were already in the field three daily papers; The Daily Advertiser, edited by ex-Governor George L. Curry; The Daily News, edited (according to my present recollection) by W. B. Allison, and The Daily Times, owned by Russell D. Austin and edited by Alonzo Leland. The opinion was freely and generally expressed that Mr. Pittock was making a mistake; that in a field so narrow and already more than fully occupied by the issuing of a daily edition of The Oregonian would prove a failure, at least,

if indeed it should not prove disastrous to the weekly edition. Leland, the editor of the Times, for whom I was then writing articles occasionally, said to me, with a hearty laugh at his own wit or at his approaching victory, that The Daily Oregonian would never get on its feet. King Charles' apology for being "such an unseasonably long time dying." But Pittock's mind was made up, and the case was closed. He went at once to the proposition of enlarging his printing plant to meet its larger requirements. And here he met his first disappointment. There was no such thing as ready transportation to or toward Oregon. Everything had to be gotten into the country by sea, and there were long intervals between steamers. Storms added to the difficulties and when the first of January came the material for the new plant of The Oregonian had not arrived and the paper could not be brought out. This was a temporarily embarrassing situation, but the material came a little later and on February 4, 1861, the first number of The Daily Oregonian appeared.

Then there began in earnest. Four daily papers in a city of 3900 people! Competition was strenuous, rivalry extreme—and newspaper rivalry in the pioneer days was certainly "the real thing." It was clear that one or more of the competitors must go to the wall, and the chances of survival were naturally assumed to be against the newcomer which had entered latest. But one after another the older dailies died, till at last The Oregonian had the field—such as it was. By the end of the year it had soon gained general recognition as the leading paper of the Northwest, a position it has maintained to its 50th birthday.

But let it not be supposed that in maintaining the leadership, which it had in its early years, the Oregonian was without rivals. Numerous rivals entered the field from time to time, and some of them fought the Oregonian to a bitter and sanguinary opinion became very general that The Oregonian must fall back to a subordinate position in the newspaper world. Those who thought so did not know Henry L. Pittock. He met the money king with the same plain and smiling self-possession with which he had met and vanquished lesser foes. The conflict was long and bitter. But in January, 1874, Pittock played the winning trump which he had long been holding in reserve. The Oregonian procured membership from Oregon in the Associated Press, the great combination, which had been formed in 1852, and which had long since won a reputation for its sound news. It cost money to pay the big bills for sending in news from all over the world by wire. But Pittock had the money. He did not hesitate. That move ended the Bulletin. After lingering on some months, struggling against the competition of the great men of its predecessors, the position of The Oregonian was now secure and, with its triumph over its most formidable rival, it was certain that it would upon its splendid career as one of the greatest among the great modern newspapers.

Simeon Francis was the editor only about a year, being appointed paymaster in the Army in December, 1861. He was a born editor, and a most successful one of the old-time newspaper—possessed of sound judgment, moral courage that never flinched from legitimate discussion, and an intuitive recognition of popular sentiment. After him came Henry Miller, a brilliant but erratic writer, too impetuous and combative in his methods of editorial control. He lasted but a few months.

Miller was followed by Ambory Holbrook, a lawyer who came to Oregon from Massachusetts. He was an accomplished scholar and a most graceful writer.

Holbrook retired after two or three years, and was succeeded by Samuel A. Clark, an early pioneer of Oregon. A writer of very fair abilities and of considerable experience in editorial work.

Harvey W. Scott succeeded Clark about 1885 and continued to be the editor until his death, except from March 1887, during which time the editorial chair was filled—or at least occupied—by the writer of this sketch. Mr. Scott was one of the great men of modern journalism. As an editorial writer he occupied a position of unequalled distinction among the greatest editors in the Northwest. He raised questions of National importance, his intrepid championship of whatever cause he espoused, and the wonderful resources of his mind, all in accordance with his command, made the influence of The Oregonian a great power for good government, commercial progress and clean social conditions.

His editorial career opened just as the new conditions of journalism appeared as before described, and his ideal of his profession was formed in accordance with the higher demands of these conditions. None could have better performed the public service which destiny laid upon him. His death, which occurred only a few months since, was noted throughout the country, east and west, as a distinct loss to higher journalism.

The Oregonian is no longer a business enterprise; it is an institution. Its history is the history of the American Northwest, the story of steady, healthful growth from the feeble settlement in the wilderness to the conscious strength of an empire. Henry L. Pittock is still at the helm as business manager. Of the succession of editors of the paper who have been associated with him as stated above, all but one were of high ability and achievement. For a great newspaper, with such a career for the background of its past, has already grasped an indefinite series of great responsibilities, and has met them itself automatically into the years that are to come. It is an inseparable part of the civilization of the country which has created it, and which it in turn creates; which has led it and which it has led. Its vitality is the spirit of the age in which and the people among whom it circulates; its life, the life of the whole community. Its leadership is not in commands but in the formulation of the sentiments and aspirations of the country. In giving body and tangibility to the ideals of the world around it; in receiving from the people their sentiments, through all the thousand channels in which they move, and giving them back harmonized, concentrated, vivified and energized. Such is the form of force by which the great newspaper impels the world forward along the highway of progress that is worth making.

W. LAIR HILL.