

The Oregonian

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Portland, Saturday, April 1, 1911.

OUR FRIENDS ALL AROUND US.

If the United States makes an arbitration agreement with Great Britain, for the determination of all questions between them, Germany will not be entirely happy, and will go right on building her dreadnaughts and super-dreadnaughts, and feeding her armaments...

PROTECTING THE DEPOSITORS.

A correspondent writes to ask The Oregonian whether it "would not have been far better for the general welfare, and a measure of justice, to have perhaps a more liberal and unfortunate depositors if we had a state bank guarantee law which the losses in the recent failures at Mount Scott and at Stanton might have been evenly distributed...

AN OPTIMISTIC FINANCIER.

President Vanderlip, of the National City Bank of New York reports "an extremely sound business situation" in the country, and has "every reason to believe that we have a better condition confronting us than we have had for some time past."

THE PESTIFEROUS CUP.

The Health Department of New York City has undertaken to put in force after October of this year that section of the sanitary code which prohibits the use of a common drinking cup in any public place or institution, hotel, factory, theater, public school or in any railroad station or ferry-boat in the city of New York...

THE LITTLE FLEURY AT SALEM.

Mayor Lachmund, of Salem, and his little midnight indiscretion in a bar-room ought not to be taken too seriously, though the episode has aspects that are somewhat amusing. The recall of a few of his choice friends were celebrating the return of a convivial soul from abroad, and neglected to look at the clock when its moving hands indicated the hour of lawful closing. When the Mayor was reminded that it was time to put up the shutters he drew himself up haughtily and warned the venturesome meddler that he was the Mayor, and the time in Salem was whatever the Mayor said it was.

pretty confident that he would sign a bill reducing the taxes on wool, cotton materials and sugar. If he did so, he would again cut the laurels which the Democrats would prefer to wear on their own brows, and they would not reach much party advantage after all from the special session.

All this assumes that reductions made in the House will be accepted by the Senate. It is fair to suppose that they will. The Democrats, as we have said, need only nine more votes to command a majority in the Senate, and their ranks may be strengthened any day by an election in New York. The insurgent Republicans will help them to cut down sugar and cotton duties and especially those which keep up the price of farm machinery so that the reductions may look for easy going in the Senate.

There will be alluring temptation, naturally, to set about a wholesale revision of the tariff, but we do not believe the Democrats are silly enough to yield to it. They must understand the working of that trap as well as any politician, even a very small supple of sense ought to keep them from stepping into it. Nothing would delight the Republicans more than to see them bring ruin upon themselves by this piece of folly, and there are plenty of Democratic Councilmen in the interest of prolonged extortion, hope for the same thing, but upon the whole, the party is likely to pass by on the other side.

From the revision of two or three especially hateful schedules, which Mr. Taft will accept, they cannot expect anything brilliant for their party, but they will gain something, and better yet, they will not throw their cake, which looks so luscious now, into the ashes. To come out of this special session with a few bills of special session, even a very small supple of sense ought to keep them from stepping into it.

THE COUNCILMAN MISTAKE.

These revelations our excited Councilmen are making about one another are more than interesting. They are highly instructive. Perhaps they are all true. We hope not, and are willing to admit that we think not. Yet that is to say that some Councilmen have lied, at least in part, about others, and we are as reluctant to impeach the veracity of any Councilman as we are his record for correct and straightforward conduct in office. It is a very serious matter.

THE "SPORT" INDULGED BY CERTAIN STUDENTS.

The "sport" indulged by certain students of the Agricultural College at Pullman, Wash., which was characterized by the recent invasion of the girls' dormitory in the dead of night and overturning the beds where the inmates were sleeping, is of a type that might be repeated by the ship-owners or Australian bushmen. Passing all limits of propriety and trenching boldly upon decency, the conduct of these students is utterly inexcusable. It may be hoped, for the sake of the college, that they have this disgraceful deed behind them, and that they are now being promptly expelled.

REASON FOR "PIN MONEY."

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Phases of Homestead Law.

Portland, March 29.—(To the Editor.)—Has a homesteader the privilege of leave of absence in the 14 months' period? What improvements must be made in the commutation period? Are there any marsh land homesteads in Oregon, and if so, what conditions may they be taken up? Can the wife live on a homestead and the husband work in the city to make ends meet, so long as he never leaves the homestead?

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seating "teas" that they were compelled to swallow to "bring the meal-pudding" the bitter decoctions of honest and wormwood with which they were dosed for whooping-cough; they took for weeks, lying in a stuffy, and its aftermath of glandular swellings and eye and ear troubles led him in thrall.

Good old days are we wont to call the time when our pious forebears took all of these things and many more as visitations of Providence, struggling meanwhile to mitigate their misery by the use of pills and potions and by withholding water from the fever-stricken and fresh air from all who ailed. But a little reflection will suffice to show that the old-fashioned time wherein the school district was an active disseminator of what is now known as "filth diseases" and we are in touch with these days only in memory, though truth to tell the pestiferous drinking cut still survives to mock at enlightenment and scoff at the warnings of modern sanitary science—even in up-to-date New York City, with its costly equipment for the prevention and control of contagious diseases.

Advice from the Orient state that the Chinese government has ordered the construction of a number of merchant steamers in Germany.

These vessels are intended for the Trans-Pacific trade and for Australian service, but could not find any work to do here. The Chinese government has ordered the construction of a number of merchant steamers in Germany. These vessels are intended for the Trans-Pacific trade and for Australian service, but could not find any work to do here.

Small colleges in the Central States will receive from Dr. D. K. Pearson...

Small colleges in the Central States will receive from Dr. D. K. Pearson a check for \$10,000 in honor of his 91st birthday. Dr. Pearson is not more noted for his generous donations to religious and educational institutions, in need of help, than for his devotion to philanthropy that makes a man of wealth his own almoner. His gifts have aggregated about \$5,000,000 all told, most of which has been given to small colleges. These gifts have been in the nature of pledges made from year to year, and he has regarded in the nature of debts, the last of which will be discharged April 14, his 91st birthday.

The apparent difference of two-thirds of a cent a pound in potato prices at Seattle and Portland is accounted for this way: Seattle quotes the selling price for jobbers and Portland quotes the buying price for the grower.

A postoffice clerk who stole much money from letters passing through his hands, and who should have known and did know better, received a year in the County Jail.

For a region with a reputation like Oregon, there is an appalling deficiency shown in rainfall statistics, but old reliable Bull Run is supplying it locally.

Perhaps the campaign of education will come from the South. Arkansas bars free lunches in saloons and Missouri says "no seat, no fare."

Once there was a man who would not pick up a pocketbook full of money on a day like this because he feared it was a joke.

The vacuum cleaner is suggested as a ready and efficacious means whereby the average man may clear the cobwebs from his brain.

There are as many styles in automobiles as there are in women's hats. The similarity does not end, there. All cost big money.

This is undoubtedly a sporting Nation, for even women with children in arms stop to look at the baseball bulletins.

There is a lot of good eating in the local markets and some of it is within reach of people not millionaires.

Developments show the Pullman hoodlums were more or less drunk. That makes the offense worse.

The Skagit County rancher who ran amuck is entitled to credit for one good deed. He committed suicide.

These Councilmen will tell something if they continue.

There is no April foolishness about this weather.

Watch the "wise guy" bite today.

Even the trout get fooled today.

USE OF OIL ON COLUMBIA BAR.

Pioneer Tells How Breakers Were Quelled in Days of '60.

ALBANY, Or., March 28.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian of March 28 in the items of "Half a Century Ago," appears one giving an account of the good work of the little steamer Santa Cruz, and it brought to mind a little experience of my own on the same steamer during the Winter of 1859.

I had received word from Victoria, B. C., that times were very lively there, and that the mechanics and laborers were very good. I told this news to Bruce Smith, a young printer, whose father, Sheriff of Linn County during the early days, and we concluded that Victoria would be a fine place for us to go to. We took a steamer to Victoria, and I am not sure whether it was the old Pacific or John L. Stevens, but Connor was the captain.

We arrived at Victoria after a very rough passage, and much to our disappointment found that we were too late to get employment, every available place having been filled by the Cariboo miners who had come down from the mines to Winter in Victoria and wished to make expenses during their stay.

Finding no work in Victoria, and hearing that Port Townsend needed workmen, Bruce and I took passage on the steamer Eliza Anderson and went to that place. When we arrived at Port Townsend our combined bank account was rather low. After we had counted it over three or four times it must have amounted to being \$1. Bruce had a printer, found employment on a paper at very small wages. I remained in Port Townsend seven days, but could not find any work to do. Bruce's wages were too small to keep both of us very luxuriously, though up to that time we had not missed a meal at a boarding-house. We were there a week and had eaten 21 meals—each meal was just like the other, and consisted of bread, coffee and champagne. The evening of December 31, 1859, Bruce and I were very much rejoiced to see the little steamer Santa Cruz land at the wharf. We learned that the steamer was to go to Victoria among her passengers I found my friend, Joe Bachman, an old-timer of Portland, who had been to Victoria with a lot of men, and he was much surprised to see me and wanted to know what I was doing there. I replied that I was there for my health, and for the sake of my family. He was very beneficial to me, and I was very glad to see him.

The morning of the 23d, as we were approaching the bar I was talking to the first mate, when Captain Stevens came aboard. "Now, Charlie, you had better get a good oil and stand ready to use it when we go into those rollers." Charlie got a can of oil, which did not hold more than a half-gallon, and lashed himself in the stern of the vessel. As I was very anxious and nervous the captain told me to take a rope and do as he had done, which I very quickly did. When the rollers came we were caught between them, and I was thrown about as though I were a ball of lead. But I was not hurt, and I was very glad to see the captain and the crew.

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PORTLAND SPIRIT COMMENDED.

Visitor Gives Up California Trip and Decides to Remain Here.

PORTLAND, March 29.—(To the Editor.)—I am glad to be able to give testimony to the "Portland spirit" of which a great deal is spoken in the East.

On my way to California I stopped over here for a few days, and the courtesy and good feeling prevailing in this beautiful city have so impressed me that I have given up my trip to California and will locate here.

Everyone it has been my good fortune to meet in our city seems absolutely confident of the progress and continuous prosperity, not only of Portland, but of the entire State of Oregon. One gentleman, after being introduced to me, insisted on taking me to see several mines in town whom it would be to my interest to know, summed up the local feeling when I protested against his taking any time from his business by saying, "We here in Portland consider your duty to make the new country flourish and to feel at home," and I can truly say that in an experience covering several years in California and a number of years spent in the West, I have never seen a more courteous, good-will and apparent prosperity than here.

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TIMELY TALES OF THE DAY

Passers-by on Second street one day last week were puzzled by the sight of a business card tacked to the door of a store with a crane bow above it. On the card were the words:

"Back in 27 minutes." A little crowd of people gathered in front of the store and speculated on the meaning of the card and the bash, which they naturally connected. The first question which agitated the mind of that portion of the public was to which place the man who would be back in 27 minutes had gone—the one symbolized by white wings, a harp and a wet cloud or that other place symbolized by a pitchfork, horns, hoofs, red paint and a leering smile.

"Why did he wish to come back?" the departed one was by general agreement a good citizen, a good husband and good father. Therefore the odds were greatly in favor of his having gone aloft instead of below. This made the problem why he should wish to come back all the more knotty; if he had gone below, the answer would be simplicity itself. One man suggested a "hay-burner" and another a "barn-burner." "Perhaps he would rather live in Portland than in heaven and made up his mind beforehand to fix St. Peter for a return."

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BEST FICTION IS SECURED FOR THE SUNDAY OREGONIAN

In tomorrow's Oregonian there will be stories by two of the greatest of short story writers—Jack London and E. Phillips Oppenheim.

"A Thousand Deaths," a weird tale written in the compelling London style will be the first of several stories from London's pen that have been secured by The Oregonian.

This will mark the beginning of a great new series, the list of contributors to include Rupert Hughes, John G. Flower, George Randolph Chester, Charles Battell Loomis, John Kenneth Turle, Frank, Lillie Pollock, Cleveland Moffett, Frank Bailey Millard, Sewell Ford and many others.

By way of special articles there is a strong and absorbing account of the last roll-call of the Forty-niners, a page study of our military resources, an article on modern methods of identifying criminals and a number of others.

It is really true, as military pessimists aver, that the United States is helpless even against invasion? An optimistic answer is presented to that question and some disconcerting facts are presented to detractors of our capability for war.

Davenport's "Country Boy" serial is completed. "Cap." Anson unveils another chapter of his hash-hal experience, Sambo, Mr. Twee Deedle and the Widow Wise all do new stunts.