

The Oregonian

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Portland, Tuesday, July 25, 1911.

PROHIBITION IN TEXAS.

The vote in Texas on state-wide prohibition last Saturday closed a campaign that had been in more or less active progress for several years. The prohibition issue entered into the sessions of the Legislature of 1909, with the result that an advisory vote was requested in the primaries of July, 1910, as to whether the succeeding Legislature should submit a constitutional amendment to the people.

Colonel Colquitt, like many others who condemn the saloon, believes that prohibition forced on a community that does not desire it will not be effective. Rather he is a devotee of the "dry" option. Democratic state convention declared for prohibition, while the Republican convention declared for local option, with the result that rock-ribbed, Democratic Texas elected a local-option Governor on the 12th of January, 1911.

Persons who believe that the public service corporations can learn the lesson from experience might have their minds fixed on the present attitude of these companies toward public regulation with that of ten years ago. We used to hear in those good old times that it was the "right of every corporation to run its own business as it saw fit."

It is a pity that nobody asked the name of the fisherman who went to the rescue of the sinking steamer Samson last Saturday. Fame ought not to overlook him, nor should his price be forgotten.

It would be interesting to know how many straw votes have been confirmed by the actual result. So many of them depend on the selection of the straws.

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at the show in New York City, and the nearby states will probably have fine displays. So it will be necessary for the West to get up as fine exhibits as possible. We have no money for such purpose in our public treasuries, so we must depend upon the various communities to get the exhibits together for the railways, and the railways will see that space is provided and the products transported without charge.

This matter should be taken up at once by the various communities and the result made known to the Portland Commercial Club, which in turn will consult with the railway officials. It may not be expedient to attempt to cover all of the shows. Indeed, there is some friction between the various managements, and Oregon should figure in dates.

There has been many such scenes in the tempestuous life of the House of Commons. There was the struggle between Parliament and King Charles in 1641-3, in which Pym led the popular forces and was impeached for so doing. There were the struggles caused by the plots in the reign of Charles II and by the expulsion of James II and the adoption of the bill of rights in 1688.

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the ingenuity of their lawyers could hit upon. Time was when the corporations argued that the Legislature had no right to delegate its authority to commissions. Now the commission is welcomed as, upon the whole, more desirable than the legislature acting directly. The corporations have discovered that they were more frightened than hurt by public regulation.

It is the ruler in the long run and safety lies in conciliating the public in this country is to have no secrets from it and deal honestly with it. The American people do not want to rob anybody any more than they want to be robbed. Fair play between all parties will pay best in the end.

Many farmers feel toward reciprocity very much as a man does who is about to step under a cold shower. He shivers and shirks, but after all he knows that it is good for him, and when once the drops strike his back it is pleasant. A sort of terrible agreement is predicted from the agreement with Canada.

When the farmers find that they can live and flourish without the help of contributions extorted from other people they will naturally ask why the Wool Trust and the Coal Trust and all the other infant industries cannot do the same thing. The feeling of their own exuberant strength when left to themselves, will convince them that other people also are a great deal stronger than they are.

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Gleanings of the Day

James J. Walsh, in Harper's, reminds the world that the Irish brogue is much like the English of Shakespeare's day. The better is that the pronunciation of the sixteenth century has survived in Ireland, but died out in England. Says the Springfield Republican:

Similar survivals are found to a limited extent in the rural speech of New England, and it is well known that Canadian French preserves not a few archaic traits, just as French, and still more Spanish and Portuguese, reflect an older type of Latin than Italian. Colonies are apt to be conservative. Several changes will be necessary before scientific management can be generally established.

Infant mortality during the recent hot spell in New York has not been so great during the last hot spell as in former years. This is due to the increasing efficiency of the public and private efforts made to help save babies. The New York Diet Kitchen Association has more than doubled the work done a year ago.

The United States Brewers' Association, in a circular letter to the newspapers, implies that prohibition hurts the beer trade but helps the whisky trade. It shows that in the year ending June 30, 1911, the sales of fermented liquors were \$1,180,993 barrels against \$1,548,116 in the preceding year, an increase of 6.21 per cent.

A death from cholera in Boston increases the prospect of a panic. The infection seems to come from Naples, where hygiene is unknown and poverty universal. Queer, is it not, that social misery in Italy should threaten America with a cholera epidemic?

"Repairs to Goddess of Liberty" may become a regular item in the expenses of the Army in New York. Even though made of bronze, the fair lady shows the wear and tear of time, as do the many statues that are scattered about the city.

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Rules for the Use of Guns.

Portland, July 24.—(To the Editor.)—The recent horrible blunder, not an accident, by which a Seattle man shot his hunting companion twice and was about to shoot him a third time, demands attention to laws that mean something against the use of guns. Here were two men, one a prominent lawyer, the other a prominent Superior Judge. They went into the woods and counseled each other against an accident of that shocking blunder the worst that could befall a hunter.

What is needed is a code of rules, and these should be supplied in every cartridge. The license, they should be pasted on the gun stock and also printed on the back of the license, and they should be read to the person buying the license at the time of its purchase, and he should be required to answer certain questions propounded thereon.

The writer sent, two years ago, a set of rules, and proposed to a member of the Legislature that they be enacted into law. His intention, but no results. This plan would make it a criminal offense for any person to be found at large with a gun without this code of rules. The license fee should be, "Never permit a gun to be pointed toward yourself or anybody else."

The great cause of gun accidents is lack of discipline—lack of bringing up the hunter about the code of rules. The major number of accidents come from a class of half-bred people. The law should make it a crime to attempt to make them understand what "yes" and "no" mean, for they are people who have never found out.

A code of rules should be that it is a state's prison offense to shoot at any object without knowing by sight what it may be. A burglar could be required to throw up his hands before he could fire. This would apply to a case of that kind.

To say that we cannot meet this case of law is to say no one is safe as a hunter. The writer's illustration shows too late how "it all happened." A man starts early in the morning or evening to the river bank. He sits on a log and waits for the trout to rise. He has a gun, and he has a dog. He has a dog, and he has a gun. He has a dog, and he has a gun.

The condition put on the residents of cities of certain hours for sprinkling laws—5 to 8 A. M.—is all wrong. As a matter of fact, every man who has any pride in his posies and wants to get a good many in Portland, should be so conditioned that each man pays a just price for what he uses, no more and no less.

Success of the system of hiring out convicts to the counties as road-builders is heralded by the Atlanta Constitution. There are 111 counties in Georgia working convicts on the roads, and of the result the Constitution says:

Following up the work under his immediate jurisdiction for the more rigid enforcement of the National Prohibition law, Controller Murray has sent a circular to all the clearing-houses in the United States suggesting thorough examination by them of all the banks in their district. More than half the clearing-houses have replied agreeing to appoint examiners and the acceptance of his suggestion is expected to be practically unanimous.

Advertising Talks

The Kewanee (Ill.) Boiler Company is doing some very effective, intelligent advertising in newspapers. Time was when a boiler company (if it did any advertising at all) would confine its publicity to trade publications and circular letters to possible purchasers.

But in these days the most effective medium of publicity is the daily newspaper, and manufacturers of all commodities are beginning to realize this fact. The advertising copy put out by the Kewanee Boiler Company is directed to people who rent houses, apartments or offices. It sets forth the merits of the Kewanee boiler in a plain, matter-of-fact, understandable way, and suggests the advisability of investigating the boiler room before signing a lease.

The distribution of garbage is a serious matter in all municipalities, as garbage is a great disease breeder. The Kewanee Boiler Co. treats on this subject in some of its advertising—tells how necessary it is for health that all garbage be disposed of quickly and thoroughly—the effect it has on the death rate, particularly among babies; and then incidentally calls the reader's attention to the garbage burner, a manufacturer, its good points, etc., and gives reasons why it should be installed.

Advertising of this character, making a direct appeal to all the people through the daily newspapers, will sell anything from boilers, tanks and garbage burners down to a paper of pins. The Kewanee Company's copy—it is called in their advertising copy—it is written over the people's heads; and their whole campaign illustrates the effectiveness of plain statements of fact, in language that everybody can understand.

When a man is punished for wrongdoing, his mind claims he was an innocent bystander. Don't tell a good story, even though you know one; its narration will remind your hearers of a bad one. A man was abusing a doctor. "He couldn't squeeze a boll for me," the man said. It is always funny to hear a man attempt to say nice things about his position; it is nearly as funny as to see a stinky man try to be liberal.

I have noticed that merchants who live over their store usually do well. I admire a man with a little enthusiasm. Plague take a man who is cold and listless. A man who has been in business for two or three years. Which would you rather be, a pallbearer or a jurymen? I have often wondered if the man who takes up the dead lions at church, puts in anything himself. After the average man reaches thirty, he gives up hoping for an easy time, and gets down to work.

Half a Century Ago. From The Oregonian, July 25, 1861. San Francisco, July 19.—The pony with dates to July 19 arrived here at half past 8 o'clock this evening, bringing advices for the Sacramento Union of the following dispatches of the Civil War. Hardly a day passes that we do not hear complaints by teamsters and other travelers who have had occasion to pass over the bridges on the road south of this city. The attention of proper authorities has been repeatedly called to their dangerous condition; but up to the present time the evil has not been remedied.

Brad's Bit o' Verse. (Copyright by W. D. Meng.) The men of the land of Shinar told in the clay and slime, will never know the glory that dwell in the heights sublime; busy with soil and furnace, content with their sordid gain, their eyes are turned from the stretch of the level plain. But the builders of dreams looked higher; for in mortar and mud and soil they could find no meaning apart from the drudge of toil. And they tower will reach the sky; we will mount to heights that no other can reach; but they of the heavenly dreaming knew the men of the land of Shinar, and caught a radiant vision unseen on the plains below—a promise to all the ages, a fire of divine glow. And the sons of the men of Shinar tell of the rises above the slime and the clay. Busy with sordid gaining, content with the things that they see, they scorn at the radiant vision and the thoughts that make men free. But the sons of the dreaming builders, oft cursed by the great men of the land of Shinar, saw the signs of the future with dreams of a better plan. They are the men who venture to sail uncharted seas; they are the men who stand in the face of the centuries; they are the men who see the vision, and because they have dared to climb, theirs is the laurel of time.

The Best Winter in English. William Winter in the Century. Viewed exclusively as a dramatic failure, "Othello" is not only the finest of Shakespeare's plays but the best play in the English language. No story could be more simple, direct, fluent and splendidly tragic, but with what marvelous skill the poet has told it, with what ingenuity of invention, with what vibrant vitality of continuous action, with what ample and superb drawing of character, what prodigious volume of feeling, what tumult of surging and conflicting passion, and what perfection of poetic style!

Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

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