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PORTLAND, SATURDAY, SEPT. 16, 1911.

That the official recognition of his special talents is necessary to the welfare of the state and Nation. In this day and age of self-commissioning self-appointing statesmen, the proposition of the Senator from Idaho will meet with scant support. He doubtless means well, but the trouble will be to get "lame ducks" from the "Great Commoner" down to the lowly aspirant for the office of village dogcatcher.

BACK TO THE LAND.
There is a great deal of truth in James J. Hill's remark that nothing but empty stomachs will drive the people back to the land. Still there are other influences which will help a little. If good roads existed in all parts of the Northwest Valley, the problem of inducing settlers to improve small farms would lose much of its difficulty.

Suppose La Follette should win the Republican nomination for the Presidency in 1912. Suppose that radicalism—pure, unadulterated, militant and uncompromising radicalism—represented by the Wisconsin idea should thus control the Republican platform and the Republican organization. Is there anyone so blind to the real conditions throughout the United States—political, social, economic, industrial—as to have the remotest opinion that he could be elected?

DR. WILEY VINDICATED.
As was expected by every person who has kept informed in regard to the struggle for and against the strict enforcement of the pure food law, President Taft has completely exonerated Dr. Wiley from all blame in connection with the employment of Dr. Rubby. In a discreditable conspiracy to thwart the man on whom more than any other, the public relies for protection against fraud in the sale of food and drugs has been defeated. Mrs. Kehler and Bigelow are given a mild reprimand for allowing their seal in the interest of the public to be used to cover up a discreditable device to retain Dr. Rubby's services, and Dr. Rubby is mildly criticised for the means he adopted to secure the services of an assistant.

CANAL STEAMER LINES.
All steamship lines are welcome at Portland, but those which are owned and operated by Americans like Bernard H. Baker, of Baltimore, are particularly welcome and when they are hampered by railroad control are still more so. The steamers plying through the Panama Canal will confer a double benefit, for not only will they afford cheap and quick transportation to and from the Atlantic Coast, but they will develop trade between Portland and Central America. There is no reason why bananas and pineapples should not come to Portland from Guatemala and Panama as well as from Hawaii. Portland furniture manufacturers can use mahogany and other wood from the tropics. Cottons might be imported from Guatemala and roasted here.

Senator Borah, of Idaho, is out with an unique plan whereby the National "lame duck pond" may be drained and its disporting cripples be turned out to grass, so to speak. He would close and lock the doors of the National crib to defeated candidates for political place, honor and emolument, thus, as he fondly hopes, filling the Government salary positions with competent men. This is almost always the procedure of the free-born American citizen whose name is multitude and who is firmly convinced

of the tropics and the temperate zone can be exchanged. Mr. Baker's line will be only one of several, and it could not be surprising to see a steamer arriving and another sailing every day at Portland to carry on the canal traffic.

FRIENDSHIP THAT DESERVES ACKNOWLEDGMENT.
Portland is to be the guest of honor at the festivities next Saturday on the occasion of the opening of the bridge across the Chehalis River by which the O.W. R. & N. and Milwaukee Railroads enter Aberdeen. The event is a great one in the history of the whole Grays Harbor country, with its 50,000 people, for it marks the completion of the new railroads and the binding together of the two sides of the river by a steel bridge which is to be used for both railroad and team traffic. The whole community is prepared to celebrate the day, when trains will first enter Aberdeen over this bridge.

THE ATTEMPT TO KILL STOLYIN.
The attempt to assassinate Premier Stolyn is a symptom of the fierce struggle which has been going on in Russia. Stolyn has been engaged in a conflict with the revolutionists on the one hand, whose designs vary all the way from a constitutional monarchy to a socialist republic and on the other with the standard element of the aristocracy, which would continue the despotic power of the Czar unimpeded but would also continue the practical exercise of that power by the Grand Dukes, an inner circle of the nobility and the bureaucracy which they control. Stolyn's declaration, we can only wish, that the Czar's power and for its exercise through the ministry and the Duma, keeping the latter body under his thumb. He has been trying to carry out gradually and in moderation the reforms demanded by the democracy, while savagely suppressing any effort to hasten these reforms and to make them more radical. He has ruthlessly assailed the autonomy of Finland and has expelled the Jews from Kiev and other cities.

STATE RIGHTS IN RATE-MARKING.
It would certainly be a unique proceeding for twenty-four Governors to unite in urging the Supreme Court of the United States to decide a pending case in a given way—but unique only in the source of the resolution or whatever form the proposed protest takes. The Supreme Court has been asked to decide upon the constitutionality of the Oregon State law which regulates the rate of communication and interstate rates and traffic have become so inextricably woven together that impotence has been created in rate regulation and advertising purposes, if for nothing else.

Having been advised by Hon. John Barrett that the people of Pacific Coast were ready to greet him, great welcome, the President climbed aboard his train yesterday and started for this side of the continent. Sale of 800,000,000 feet of timber in National forests in the Southwest is a reminder that there is considerable overripe timber for the National forests of Oregon, where sales are not numerous. The most ardent prohibitionist would not object to the kind of wet victory scored in Kittitas County, Washington, when the people voted to irrigate the valley.

THE GRATINGS OR WINDOWS OF THE women's jail on the seventh floor of the new Courthouse are designed to prevent egresses in aeroplanes. Having squeezed all the saccharine from the "velvet," the sugar people say the price will fall next month. An extra session will entail a big election bill to choose a successor to Representative Clyde.

THE NEW WESTMINSTER BANK-ROBBER showed their contempt for silver by leaving it. Building restrictions in a well-known suburb of this city debar castles in the air.

BLOCKADES ON BRIDGE DRAWS.
Objection Made to Delays in Rush Hours for Benefit of Towboats.
PORTLAND, Sept. 14.—(To the Editor.)—Some time ago, the people of Portland were agitated because of the opening of the draws on the bridges during the rush hours. To obtain some relief from the then existing conditions the County Court without authority of law courageously adopted rules providing for certain closed periods. The members of the County Court were thereupon arrested and tried in the Federal Court for acting in defiance of the Federal laws. With the people anxiously awaiting the outcome, the jury brought in a verdict of acquittal—but the court laid down the rule that the County Court had acted without authority and that the draw bridge question was not within their jurisdiction.

Such a condition is so manifestly unfair that this city should not rest until a remedy is found. The County Court was formed by the Legislature. If the people were properly and vigorously presented to the War Department, relief could be had, at least as against these towboatmen. It is not a matter of justice that might well be taken up by the commercial organizations of the city. If direct dealing with the War Department is not possible, the matter might be urged through our delegation at Washington. At least agitation should not cease until results are obtained.

GERMAN PRINCES AT THE FRONT.
Countrymen Declares They Have Been in Thick of Great Conflicts.
PORTLAND, Sept. 12.—(To the Editor.)—In the Oregonian of September 11 there appears a clipping from the Washington Herald, which refers to the situation in Europe. It goes beyond one's comprehension that a paper of the standing of the American Banker can print such silly rot and so thoroughly misstate the facts. The article says that since 1780 no Prince of the House of Hohenzollern was at the front in war time. It might be well to keep him away from the front if he is not a soldier, but the Princes of the other German houses were not at the front. If history corrects the article, the Princes were at the battle of Sadowa and had to be prevented by Bismarck from leading one of his regiments into the thick of the firing. His son, Prince Wilhelm, was killed at the battle of the Red Prince, were commanders of as big armies as were together in the French-German war and were at the front, were almost every Prince of Military age.

My father fought at Dusseldorf, at Sadowa, at Gravelotte, and has often told me that no German Prince shirked his duty to keep him away from the front. Therein lies the reason for the affection the people have for the dynasties. I may as well add that Prince Frederick of Hohenzollern fell on the battlefield of Jena. I venture to say that the staff of Emperor Wilhelm will have a mighty task to keep him away from the front line should war break out. As to the statement that Germany was not prepared for war, that is some more silly rot. Germany was never better prepared for war than she is today. That is the statement of American officers of high rank. Germany surely does not want war any more than we do. If it should come, there is not much chance of her being reduced in size. Were this to come, however, the world at large would be the biggest loser. KARL HEIDELBERGER.

It is refreshing to note the progress of "practical" studies in the Oregon schools. Hillsboro is one of the many towns which have lately made manual training a compulsory part of their curriculum. Persons who worry lest these studies drive out algebra and grammar may calm their fears. Nothing of the sort will ever happen. There is plenty of time in school for the practical and the cultural. All that is necessary is a wise division between them.

There has not been so much suspense in regard to an election since the Blalpe-Cleveland campaign as there is regarding the prohibition vote in Maine. The Pine Tree State has kept in the political limelight since "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" campaign. Prohibition is good for advertising purposes, if for nothing else.

Divorce and Alimony.
PORTLAND, Or., Sept. 14.—(To the Editor.)—A woman applies for a divorce from the State of Washington and is given a decree with alimony, the stipulation being made that the parties in that action shall not marry within six months. Is that an absolute decree? If the husband leaves the state, can the plaintiff have the decree set aside because the husband fails to comply with the condition? SUBSCRIBER.

Yes to the first question. No to the second.
There are several divisions in the fire service. Qualifications depend upon which division one wishes to enter. Blanks are furnished upon application at the office of the Civil Service Commission, City Hall.

Attorneys and Witness Fees.
PORTLAND, Sept. 15.—(To the Editor.)—When an attorney secures a judgment and the costs are paid to him, if he retains the witness fees and refuses to pay them, has the witness no recourse? A VICTIM.
Cases are on record where attorneys have been sent to the penitentiaries for this.

MARRIAGE AMONG THE DEFECTIVE.
Wedding of Persons Not Congenitally Deaf Held Not Unlawful.
EFFINGHAM, Ill., Sept. 7.—(To the Editor.)—I am a resident of Effingham, but not permanently. Am here for a while now. Occasionally I get copies of the Oregonian, which my folks take, and I have always delighted in reading the editorial page. One in the Sunday Oregonian of August 27 entitled "Preventive Charity" has tended to shake my belief in your seeming knowledge of things. You say, "It is beautiful . . . to build schools for the deaf, but it would be a great deal more beautiful to spend the same amount of money to prevent deafness." Do you mean to instruct that at schools for the deaf, marriages have been advanced before, but it is a travesty. A large proportion of the 80,000 deaf people in this country did not come into the world as such. They had all their senses like you, I did. But as they grew and grew and gave promise of developing into good specimens of humanity, sickness laid them low and when they got well they were deaf. That was sad. How about the other proportion? They were born deaf, but are here. Here is where your argument holds force, so I will not dispute it.

Closed draw periods have been authorized by the War Department for morning and evening rush hours. The bridge-tenders are permitted to use discretion in maintaining closed draws in these periods, and possibly make errors of judgment at times.

W. F. SCHNEIDER.
The writer of this letter argues with vigor and some logic but the whole is wasted because it misses the point. Persons who become deaf by disease or accident are not congenitally deaf. The slightest danger of transmitting their defect and the Oregonian was careful to make this clear in the article referred to. Our comments referred only to the congenitally deaf. For such persons marriage means the perpetuation of this misfortune.

Withdrawal of Pardon Suggested.
HILLSBORO, Or., Sept. 14.—(To the Editor.)—Oregon seems to be making a record in the darkest of crimes this year. The burning of human beings at Stake and the death of civilization and wild beasts during the dark ages are not to be compared with the unnameable crime committed at Seapoopee, considered the highest case of civilization and now. We cannot help but believe that the light penalty attached to the violations of law is largely to blame for the increase of lawlessness in this enlightened age. Hell is the only fit place for such a man who murdered that mother and child at Seapoopee, and he ought to be banished from this world as soon as found. We do hope that some member will get a measure through the Legislature which will deny the highest state officials the power to commute or pardon or retain a criminal in the state when he is wanted in another.

What nationality is a person born in the United States whose parents were born in Ireland but were naturalized on arrival here?
What nationality is a person born in China of American parents?
What nationality am I if I came from Ireland when a child and my parents were naturalized on arrival here? Am I an Irishman or an American? SUBSCRIBER.

Reforestation—An interesting half page on an important big task which the Government has taken up in Oregon. Illustrated with photos.
Muzzling the War Dogs—An illustrated article recording fully the progress and present status of the world-wide peace movement.

Time Times Mary MacLane—An interesting study of the woman who, as a girl of 19, wrote a book that startled, not to say shocked, the whole country.
Music—Another popular song hit, "The Bull-Frog and the Coon."

The Moran Twins—The diverting tale of an office boy and his perplexing "double."
Hunting—An illustrated half-page that every ninrod will want to read.

New adventures by Widow Wise, Sambo and Mr. Twee Deeds.
MANY OTHER FEATURES

Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe
(Copyright, 1911, by George Matthew Adams)
When a woman looks at her husband, she can't understand why he isn't president of a National bank, with big undivided profits, and a big surplus. But a man can understand it.

After a woman has passed her 35th birthday, she really ought to stop saying, "When am married," and say, "Had I married."

Half a Century Ago
(From the Oregonian Sept. 16, 1861.)
Yesterday morning about 4 o'clock the dwelling house of H. S. Jacobs, on the corner of Fourth and Morrison streets, was broken into by a party of men for the purpose of robbery. Mr. Jacobs was awakened by the opening of the doors and endeavored to secure his chamber as he came into his own chamber, but was unsuccessful.

At the last date the telegraph was finished from the East to within 400 miles of Salt Lake City.
A card is published in the San Francisco Bulletin signed by leading Republicans acknowledging the services of Union Democrats in securing the election of Stanford.

One hundred and ten thousand dollars in gold dust were brought down in the steamer on Friday night—a weekly contribution from the Nes Peros mines.

FOREST GROVE, Or., Sept. 12.—(To the Editor.)—Has Judge Taxwell, the municipal judge of the City of Portland, Or., jurisdiction to try a case of burglary? What cases come under his jurisdiction? A SUBSCRIBER.

George Ada and Sir A. Conan Doyle
Their Biggest Success in THE SUNDAY OREGONIAN
Fables in Slang—George Ada's newest and funniest fables are in many respects better than his first series, which made him famous. The 1911 fables of the collision between Stoves and the Sumptuary Legislation will appear tomorrow.

Sherlock Holmes—The celebrated detective character solves another profound and intricate mystery story, "The Adventure of the Yellow Face." Complete, with illustrations, in the one issue.
News Snapshots—Camera tales relating to people and events recently in the public eye.

Reforestation—An interesting half page on an important big task which the Government has taken up in Oregon. Illustrated with photos.
Muzzling the War Dogs—An illustrated article recording fully the progress and present status of the world-wide peace movement.
Time Times Mary MacLane—An interesting study of the woman who, as a girl of 19, wrote a book that startled, not to say shocked, the whole country.
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