

The Oregonian

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Portland, Saturday, Dec. 16, 1911. A WORD FOR THE GRUBSTAKER.

Gifford Pinchot's article in the Saturday Evening Post, in which he gives his conclusions from what he saw and heard in Alaska, is an attempt to make the best of a bad case. He went to Alaska in search of evidence to support his own attacks on the Administration and bolster up his own policy of putting Alaska in cold storage. The remedy for whatever he found amiss has already been announced by the Administration through Secretary Fisher. The greater part of his case against the Government has been destroyed by the mass of irrefutable facts stated by Mr. Fisher in his speech before the American Mining Congress.

There is one class of men whom Mr. Pinchot regards with particular aversion. That class is composed of the men who have furnished the capital without which Alaska could not have been prospected and cannot be developed. In order to punish them, he would repeal the legal provision for location of mineral claims by power of attorney. No doubt the power of attorney has been abused in Alaska more than in any other Western state or territory, but if its use in filling on mineral claims should be entirely abolished, a paralyzing blow would be struck at the mining industry.

A power of attorney is given to a prospector by the man who supplies him with means for an expedition in search of mineral and for that preliminary work which is necessary to determine whether a claim, commonly called a prospect, will make a mine. Such a man is called a grubstaker, and in return for the capital the prospector locates a claim in his name, the two men usually being equal partners in two adjoining claims. The history of the West is full of heart-rending stories of penniless prospectors, whose strong arms, stout hearts and sterner will have been able to do more than any other Western state or territory, but if its use in filling on mineral claims should be entirely abolished, a paralyzing blow would be struck at the mining industry.

When the news of the Klondike discovery reached Seattle in 1897, the city was swarming with men out of work. They called on their more fortunate friends who had money to grubstake them for a trip to the Klondike. It was a long, costly journey, and it was not safe for a man to enter that wilderness with less than a year's supplies of all kinds. Men with enough money to grubstake a prospector unaided were few in those hard times, and it was necessary for prospectors to travel in twos and threes. Several men, therefore, clubbed together to outfit a party, and each one of the grubstakers as well as the prospectors became entitled to a claim.

The grubstakers had worked hard for the money they had thus invested, they had denied themselves in order to get their claims, and they were entitled to their reward. Without them the prospectors could have done nothing and the development of Alaska would have gone forward with painful slowness. The large returns that the few realized were justified by the risks of capital, and the fact that Mr. Pinchot considers their conduct highly reprehensible. He calls them "armchair muckers and parlor pioneers." He accuses them of squeezing tears from their eyes over the hardships of the prospectors, though their sole interest in the prospectors "is to take over the results of his labor with the least possible trouble and at the smallest possible expense."

These men furnished the capital, in large or small quantities, with which Alaska has been developed. Mr. Pinchot condemns them for remaining at home in comfort while the prospector went into the wilderness to endure hardship and privation. The prospector did not condemn them when he gave them the grubstake; he was probably very grateful. After all, it is a trait of human nature that a man does not endure hardship unless necessity, desire for riches or love of adventure impels him. The prospectors' object in going to Alaska was to acquire riches, and they should be commended, while some other man who had nothing did the hard work—in fact, that he might do just as the grubstaker has done.

wood and Marshall next, and a scattering support for Kern, Polk, and Foss. A large number would be satisfied with "any good progressive Democrat." Among the Wilson boosters are Senator Chamberlain and State Chairman Sweek, of Oregon, the latter saying that both Wilson and Harmon have strong followings in this state, with Wilson strongly in the lead. Harmon has the support of many Ohio Congressmen, but there is division, even in his own state, for National Committeeman Garber plainly hints in these words that Bryan would knife Harmon:

The Bryan influence in the State of Ohio is so great and universal that no man can be elected who has not Mr. Bryan's active approval. The fact that Mr. Bryan would oppose such candidates in the convention would preclude his nomination, even.

Tariff and trusts are put first as campaign issues by the Democrats, and they probably will be by the Republicans. The old-line Democrats pin their faith to tariff for revenue only as the winning platform plank. Railroad regulation is mentioned by few. That good old stand-by, economy in administration, is made to do duty again. Initiative, referendum and recall receive a liberal sprinkling of endorsements as good vote-getters, but there is lack of unanimity on the recall. Governor Cruce, of Oklahoma, denouncing it as a "Democratic" but thoroughly socialist. Republican Carter, of the same state suggests the planting of bait for Republican votes, saying they must be captured from the progressive wing. All profess desire for a progressive policy, but many specify a policy which is no more progressive than the platform adopted in the last twenty years.

The almost equal division of strength between Wilson and Harmon presages a strong contest in the convention between progressives and conservatives with a third party, the Clark to slip off the nomination, or, if he should fall, any one of the tail-enders to seize the prize. Whoever may win, the battle appears likely to be fought on the issue of scientific revision of the tariff with moderate protection as defined by the tariff act for revenue only, as well as on the issue of control of corporations as defined by the Democrats as against the Republicans. The definition of the rival policies will be made clearer by the debates in Congress.

ON LIVING TO BE OLD. A French man of science, Dr. Legrand, has published some investigations regarding the longevity of human beings in the various walks of life. His statistics relate to all times and countries from which facts can be gleaned and his examples of longevity or the reverse present all phases of existence from the king to the peasant. Dr. Legrand preferred, however, to study the vital statistics of celebrities and for that purpose he selected the names of kings, emperors, and statesmen as well as those of the great artists of the world. From the facts of their careers he draws some instructive conclusions. For one thing, he has made up his mind that upon the whole intellectual work is less injurious to the physical frame than too much use of the muscles. It is not surprising, therefore, that the great artists of the world have lived to a good old age, while physicians, who have to undergo a good deal of physical hardship, die young as a class. Kings are not likely to reach old age because their circumstances are too exacting. That is true, but it is more readily to man than to a king.

Besides that, kings and queens as well as emperors, Dr. Legrand gives a long and portentous list of monarchs, including both sexes, who have shortened their earthly careers by indulging in their palates. King Edward VII was one of them, though his mother, Queen Victoria, was one of the few royal personages who have lived to the age of 80 years and more. The Emperor William I of Germany was another. He died at the age of 81 years old when he died. But as a rule kings and queens hardly live out half their appointed days, and the reason for it is overeating. Queen Wilhelmina, of Holland, is an awful warning in this respect. That indigestible young woman always ate a breakfast of pumpernickel and coffee. She then proceeds to a 10 o'clock repast of cheese, hot biscuits and wine, which is followed at 2 by a solid lunch. Thus her day opens. It ends with a substantial dinner, a luncheon and a luncheon at 10. No wonder she is fat. Very likely she has a doctor with her every day or two to tell her how to grow thin and takes any quantity of medicine for that purpose.

Dr. Legrand adds that men of good habits lived as long as even emperors, in antiquity than they do now. The annals of Greece and Rome abound with instances of philosophers and politicians who died at the age of 80 or 90 years. Cato had so much vigor at 80 that he took up the study of Greek. Socrates would have passed the century mark if he had not been judicially murdered. The rules of hygiene were pretty well understood in the cities of old and personal habits were good among the intelligent classes. Hence as the confidence of mankind in science has been gradually restored the length of life has increased until now it is nearly back to the ancient figure. This remark applies only to the comfortable classes. Poor people live now a great deal longer than they did in ancient times for manifest reasons. They have more to eat and are not driven by slave-masters. The average length of life would increase still faster if there were not the almost universal habit of eating too much when we can get it. Next to eating too much, our most deadly practice is eating too little, but that is usually involuntary and will cure itself when circumstances improve. Overeating produces fat, which is about the worst enemy we have. Dr. Legrand says that it is not what we eat, but what we digest that nourishes us, but his statement ought to be modified a little. A goodly portion of the food we digest does not nourish us. It is deposited round about our feet in the form of fat, which swatches the abdomen, creeps into the muscular tissue of the heart, and clogs the brain cells.

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Everything would be gained to which the corporations are justly entitled. Mr. Taft says, in effect, that, if with all these aids to doing right, any corporation or its officers should nevertheless do wrong, they should be prosecuted. Their complaint hitherto has been that the distinction between right and wrong is not clear. Mr. Taft proposes to make it clear and to pro-

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LACK OF GUMPTION IS DEPLORED

L. Samuels Blames Citizens for Loss of Portland, Dec. 14.—(To the Editor.)—A brief announcement in The Oregonian 10 days since informed the public that the Pacific Monthly had consolidated with the Sunset Magazine and that the office of publication would be moved to San Francisco. The notice in itself does not really convey the information of the great loss which Portland sustains by this so-called consolidation. The editor, artists and other employees of the Pacific Monthly who are residents of the city of Portland and who spend their evenings here, are shelved because the work will hereafter be done by the Sunset force, who live in San Francisco. Oregon printers will no longer do the composition or press work. Oregon engravers will no longer make the plates. Portland trucks will no longer do the hauling, and the thousands of dollars hereafter paid for postage will no longer assist in sweeping the Portland postal receipts. Even a large money-making enterprise has ceased to designate Portland as its home city.

It is so regrettable that this splendid publication, which has grown in stature for lack of loyal support. We go on organizing booster clubs, developing leagues and spend hundreds of thousands of dollars in getting out advertising pamphlets about Oregon, when for a fact, good as all these things are, we could better afford to dispense with them than the Pacific Monthly. Our hotel men just announced that \$10,000 will be spent by them in putting up pamphlets to attract tourists. The Pacific Monthly is the work that the Pacific Monthly has done for Oregon hotel men in the past year. The Pacific Monthly is the work that the Pacific Monthly has done for Oregon hotel men in the past year. The Pacific Monthly is the work that the Pacific Monthly has done for Oregon hotel men in the past year.

As a business community we individually and collectively need many chunks of genuine gumption. It is the south of us, Oregon, that grows in spite of everything and will continue to grow, nothing can stop the growth of Oregon. Its geographical position, picturesque location, backed by a beautiful climate naturally forces us on. If with these natural advantages we together—namely the Oregonians—prizes preference over those from the outside, we would grow as we have never grown before. The Pacific Monthly can grow without gumption. The artistic temperament of one of our prominent citizens caused him to make the Pacific Monthly a beautiful publication. It is said that he expended a good-sized fortune in this laudable effort and the people of Oregon simply forgot to support the Pacific Monthly. The Pacific Monthly is the work that the Pacific Monthly has done for Oregon hotel men in the past year. The Pacific Monthly is the work that the Pacific Monthly has done for Oregon hotel men in the past year.

When your children become so large that they call you "father" instead of "papa," you will begin to realize that you are becoming old. Do you remember that you once believed that if you could accomplish a certain thing you would be a happy man? And do you remember that without a few months' accomplishing it, you were as unhappy as a dog? It is not probable that you will be equally restless after accomplishing your next ambition. You can't realize how few dollars there are in a five-dollar bill until you break it.

Comments on Christian Science Declared to be by Congressmen.

PORTLAND, Dec. 15.—(To the Editor.)—Without wishing to prolong a controversy, I believe certain statements made in the letter of Dr. Doyt's published in your issue, should not be allowed to remain uncorrected. Rev. Willard F. Ottarson, whose sermon commending Christian Science as a religion is pastor of the Lutheran Congregational Church, on Third and Fifth streets near Tenth avenue, West, New York City. This is several miles from the Bowery district. I am advised of this both by telegram from New York City and by a gentleman of this city who has visited Dr. Ottarson's office in New York while living in New York and heard him preach. Dr. Ottarson is designated in the New York World's Almanac as pastor of this church and in a populous neighborhood. As to the testimonial of healing of cancer being discredited because the speaker was a physician, it is hardly likely that any one would refer to the healing of such a disease if it had not been known that there had produced a physical connection with the case, who had diagnosed the case as such. In fact the account stated that she (the patient) had said that she had been to various doctors and they had explained that there was no help. Dr. Doyt and your readers are again reminded that the extent of the circulation of this city is absolutely correct. Furthermore, the articles were not reprinted here, but in New York, the newspapers having exhausted their issues so it was not necessary to reprint it here for a circulation of 17 or 18.

The New York Herald and Sun are the only papers in New York which publish in a dignified way items of such interest as this one. In conclusion I will say that any church appreciates the well-intentioned sympathy of the public based on an understanding of its motives. The Christian Science Church is not alone in deserving this treatment. HOWARD C. VAN METER, Committee on Publication for Oregon.

Colonel Baker as Preacher.

AUMSVILLE, Dec. 14.—(To the Editor.)—I have inform me that in The Oregonian a little sketch of Colonel Baker's life under the heading of "Colonel Baker as Preacher." I wonder if it is generally known that Colonel Baker was at one time a preacher. My grandfather, N. Coffey, who came to Oregon in 1848, was well acquainted with Baker, and was converted under his preaching and baptized by him into the Christian, or what was known at that time as the "Methodist" Church. I do not know whether this occurred in Kentucky, where my grandfather was born, or in Illinois, where he afterward lived. He always spoke of Baker as being an eloquent speaker in the pulpit, and a good man, and I well remember his expressions of sadness and regret when he learned of Colonel Baker's death. H. C. PORTER.

Spanish War Penalties.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 15.—(To the Editor.)—I have inform me that Spanish War veterans receive pensions? Also if "Adjutant-General" is among the state officers of Iowa? 1. Yes; to invalids, widows, minors and dependents. 2. Yes.

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Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian, December 16, 1861. The following is an addition to that which we have already published, we copy from the Corvallis Union:

"The country between Irwin's Butte and Eugene City, a distance of 30 or 40 miles, has been one vast ocean of water, except here and there, where a knoll, a butte or a patch of timber stood out of the water like an oasis in a desert. The Willamette, Long Tom and Muddy, in Benton County, were commingled in one and presented the appearance of a vast lake 10 miles in width, extending far over into Linn County, on the east, and clear back to the mouth of the west. Several bridges in Benton County have been carried away, the fine new bridge across Mary's River at this place sharding in the general disaster. It was carried down the current on Monday with Mr. Dodge upon it, attempting to tow, but he failed, and he and his party which went to his relief in a skiff. We have heard of farms between the Harzibour and Willamette being swept clear of improvements as they were before a blow of an ax had been struck on them. The drowning of crops, the carrying away of improvements, the loss of wheat and corn in storehouses and in barns along the river's course have been immense. Hundreds of sheep, horses and valuable horses have been lost. Dead stock are found everywhere south of this city, jammed in among the drifts. Mr. Garner, a saloonkeeper of this town, was driven by the swelling of a boat while trying to save other lives. From Linn County we understand that several bridges and highways have been under water. Eugene City, we understand, partially covered but we believe the damage to property was not great. Eugene City, we understand, was high and dry above the water. "The Democrat says the loss of property at Albany was equal to \$20,000."

It is stated that Colonel Justus Steinberger, who arrived in San Francisco by the last steamer, has authority to recruit a regiment of Infantry in Washington Territory. In connection with the Indian War of 1855-6, in that state, J. S. Bineason, of Oregon City, will be Junior Major of the regiment—San Francisco Herald.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 9.—At 2:30 P. M. today the Supreme Court of the state of California held their first session in the city of Olympia, the seat of government of Washington Territory and that the act locating the capital at Vancouver was void, because it contained no enacting clause.

Country Town Sayings by Ed Howe

When your children become so large that they call you "father" instead of "papa," you will begin to realize that you are becoming old. Do you remember that you once believed that if you could accomplish a certain thing you would be a happy man? And do you remember that without a few months' accomplishing it, you were as unhappy as a dog? It is not probable that you will be equally restless after accomplishing your next ambition. You can't realize how few dollars there are in a five-dollar bill until you break it.

Read Bills Proposed.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 14.—(To the Editor.)—At the last meeting of the Linn County Pomona Grange the following was unanimously adopted: "To Linn County Pomona Grange—The undersigned committee, appointed by the Linn County Council to examine and report to this Pomona Grange on the bills proposed by Governor West's Good Roads Committee, respectfully report that we have carefully read and find them to be the same and are unanimously opposed to each one of the measures. Fraternally yours, "W. W. FRANCIS, "J. H. SHAW, "A. C. MILLER."

SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE SUNDAY OREGONIAN

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Who Knows?

BURNS, Or., Dec. 11.—(To the Editor.)—Please inform me where I can get a machine to teach canary birds to sing. A SUBSCRIBER.

She Is Not.

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MANY OTHER FEATURES

N. Nitts on Booms

By Dean Collins. Necluta Nitts, the chief sage, I presume, in Punkindorf's district, glanced over the room. And marked a brown moth on the wall—scot for doom—One shot, and 'twas sealed in a nicotine tomb. Then spoke the wise Nitts, at great length, on the boom.

"My granddaughter plays, with great vigor and soul. A plummy piece called the 'Turkish Patrol,' which starts imitatin' of far-away drums. And gets the more crashy the higher it comes. This boom of LaFollette's I watched from the first; it 'pears much like that 'Patrol' piece reversed. 'I' members how long 'fore convention year comes. The camp of LaFollette, it starts in to hum diggins. His face in the magazines everywhere blooms. And he is fair launched in the loudest of boom. But 'pears like the nisher the real test approaches. The fainter his boom on our hearing encroaches. 'This case of LaFollette reminds me a bit. Of the fight for election that J. Huggins fit. In '88, when he run agin Wiggins. Per office of May' round the Punkindorf diggins. He comes out as candidate—honest and true—A full year, almost, 'fore the 'lection was due. 'His boom started well, and for months no one heard. In all of the Station a dissentin' word. And Huggins; well, he was the only man mentioned. As runnin' for May', or at least, so in the 'lection. And so, for ten months and a half, I presume, All Punkindorf rang with 'em Huggins' boom. 'But when the election drawed closer and closer, Why, Wiggins come out and began fer to speak. And several others, they rise up and spiled. In what had been theretofore 'em's 'clusive field; 'Til last, in the face of the rest of the boys. His boom doesn't make scarce a half of noise. 'It seems a regrettable thing, so to speak. To start in so strong and to end up so weak; To stir to a buzz after startin' at first So loud—jest like this here 'Patrol' piece reversed. This shows there's one truth you are safe in assumin'—that when 'em's boom booms the loudest when 'em's else is boomin'." Portland, December 15.

Testimonial From Beale Woods' Home. ASHLAND, Or., Dec. 13.—(To the Editor.)—We, the W. C. T. U. women, embodying nearly 100 Ashland women, desire to thank The Oregonian for its stand on the "Beale Woods" case. She is an Ashland girl, having lived here for more than 16 years. She was a high school pupil, and was never in the least wild, nor ever had a breath of slander on her name. Her mother is highly respected. We desired to write these facts, which our best citizens would verify, and hope when the trial comes, you will give the villain who was her undoing a taste of your pen. W. C. T. U., ASHLAND, OR.

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