

The Oregonian

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Portland, Monday, April 29, 1912.

THE ONLY WAY OUT.

The fact that we are being excluded from foreign commerce and that our flag has become a stranger in foreign ports by our restrictive navigation laws has been so impressed upon 191 American tourists as to convince them that only by throwing open the American market to foreign-borne ships can we hope to secure our proper place in the world's commerce.

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Most of the Latin American people and their 30,000,000 souls are now being kept in a state of semi-starvation by the tariff on sugar. The tariff on sugar is the only tariff that is not being removed.

Let us open our eyes to the fact that we are being excluded from foreign commerce and that our flag has become a stranger in foreign ports by our restrictive navigation laws.

Our present policy was adopted for the purpose of encouraging the building of ships in the United States. It has failed for that purpose, but has prevented us from engaging in foreign trade except on a very small scale.

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convince a court of lunacy that he is in his right mind and entitled to his freedom. His early years were spent in the demoralizing influence of wealth without moral sense and personal responsibility. That of Vincent Astor, as showing an unpreparedness for his responsibility and station in life, presents a young man, as little knowing how to turn or how to support the great weight that has fallen upon him as does the miner's widow—the mother of six or ten—who kneels at the pit's mouth after a disaster that has entombed her husband, wringing her hands and wailing, "What shall I do? What shall I do?"

The load that has fallen upon young Astor is a heavy one, because he has not been trained to carry it.

UP TO THE OLD TRICKS.

Success with the poll tax fraud in the last election may have convinced the warriors paid from the Fels single tax chest that the Oregon voters can be fooled all the time, but we doubt that the warriors of this opinion, even by implication, the "graduated land tax" presented by Mr. U'ren and others for signature of the voters is a single tax measure under a less notorious and alarming name.

The single tax feature is a modification of the old scheme. It is inserted in the body of the act and phrased as though inconsequential, while the introductory remarks "feature," to use a newspaper term, the graduated tax on large land holdings.

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back on a wasteful enterprise. It cites the high rates charged on the Panama Railroad as ground for this fear. But the Panama Railroad was bought and is being operated only as an adjunct to the construction of the canal, and it is, therefore, not policy for the Government to invest in it. Our money is being used in building the canal has proved the ability of Army engineers to do such work when given a free hand and ample funds. There is no reason why they should not have equal success in Alaska. A large part of the plant for the Isthmus could be transferred to Alaska and used in railroad construction. We are already equipped with the men and the machinery. Alaska cries for development, which can be obtained by building a railroad. Then why keep its immense resources of coal and copper longer in cold storage?

THE NATIONAL GAME.

The great National game is baseball, and why it has become our National sport is not difficult to understand. It is a sport that calls for quick action not only of the muscles but of the mind.

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adult minds to gain information from print. For children, as school results show pretty conclusively, it is almost impossible. Mr. Edison thinks, too, that moving-pictures would be of the greatest advantage in laboratories. The time which boys and girls spend in making "experiments" is commonly wasted. They gain very little knowledge of scientific principles in this way and the experiments are almost always badly performed. The net result is the intensification of ignorance rather than scientific attainment. Much better would it be to prepare a neat and elaborate film of the experiments and exhibit it to the children. In this manner the child might be made an attractive reality to them instead of the hideous specter of weariness and confusion which it now too often is. Even the growth of plants and their germination from the seed can be shown with film. Views of the developing rosette, for example, taken at intervals of twenty minutes and then passed over the screen "14,000 times faster than reality." Thus treated the rosette appears to move swiftly down into the soil while the seedleaves pop up as if by magic. The motion picture process of nature are so magnified that they cannot escape the observation of a bright child.

The only objection made to moving-pictures in school, besides their expense, is that they render knowledge too attractive. The pupils learn, not as they should, by the "mental discipline" which is sacrificed. This objection comes, of course, from that class of educational men who value their own private fetishes more highly than the welfare of the pupils. The hideous old dog named "Latin" has been made a fetish of some harm to school children that some way ought to be found to lay it to rest. The pedagogues of the past were so fearful lest children's minds should not be properly disciplined that they forgot to teach just as well. The pupils, any one who has observed the pupils of a fanciful hypothesis they missed the real values of education. Their supposition was that by teaching mathematics, for instance, a pupil could be trained to think accurately on other subjects. This has been proved a fatal error. The pupils who are still worshiped in our schools and colleges. As a matter of fact, the more easily a branch is learned the more and better it disciplines the mind.

The old doctrine that difficult studies are especially improving of the mind, and that the more difficult the study the more it will improve the mind, is a fallacy. The pupils who are still worshiped in our schools and colleges. As a matter of fact, the more easily a branch is learned the more and better it disciplines the mind.

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PROPOSED GRANT IS ANALYZED.

PORTLAND, April 28.—(To the Editor.)—The North-West Electric Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Washington, has before the City Council of this city for consideration and adoption a franchise giving said corporation a valuable franchise for the installation and operation of a light, heat and power system in this city for a term of 25 years. This franchise is to be considered by the street committee of the Council at 2 P. M., Friday, May 3, 1912. After being passed upon by the street committee it will be referred back to the Council and by them to the Executive Board for appraisal and valuation. It will then be referred to the City Council, and by the vote of 10 members and the approval of the Mayor will become a law.

The interest of every taxpayer in this city most carefully to consider the terms and conditions of this franchise before it is finally granted. We have seen franchises and rights of an untenable value sold for a song; we have been tricked and deluded into giving valuable franchises with the idea that competition would result. We have seen franchises and rights of an untenable value sold for a song; we have been tricked and deluded into giving valuable franchises with the idea that competition would result.

First—That the city on its part gives a complete franchise, good throughout the city, for a light, heat and power plant for a term of 25 years. The monetary consideration for the franchise can hardly be expected to be adequate or commensurate with the value of the same.

Second—That the corporation is only obligated to spend \$250,000 on this plant, of which only \$50,000 must be paid in cash. The balance of \$200,000 is to be raised by the sale of bonds. The proposed expenditure of only \$250,000 does not look like good faith.

Third—That the corporation is only obligated to spend \$250,000 on this plant, of which only \$50,000 must be paid in cash. The balance of \$200,000 is to be raised by the sale of bonds. The proposed expenditure of only \$250,000 does not look like good faith.

Fourth—That the maximum rates permitted under the proposed franchise would be naturally at the minimum rates, and as the franchise now reads the Council does not retain the right to regulate rates. A comparison of the rates in other Coast cities where the physical conditions are practically similar, shows that the rates in this city are exorbitant.

Fifth—A rate of 2 cents per kilowatt hour is offered to the city for electricity to be used in lighting the city. Private consumers in the city are paying a rate of 10 cents per kilowatt hour. This is in no way a partial consideration for the proposed franchise.

The foregoing statements would seem to warrant the following deductions: First—That no franchise should be granted except under satisfactory guarantees to the effect that the amount guaranteed to be expended in the construction and installation of the plant is entirely adequate to provide a complete, modern, competitive plant. Any amount under \$1,000,000 would surely be inadequate.

Second—That the possibility of the sale of the plant or franchise to any competing company at any future time should be absolutely eliminated. Third—That the maximum rates to be charged to the public be reduced to the level of the rates current in other cities where the physical conditions are similar, and the right to regulate rates be left in the hands of the Council, as is the case in San Francisco. Otherwise, why grant a franchise?

Fourth—That the company furnish a certain amount of electricity free to the city, charging for any excess at a rate not over 1 cent per kilowatt hour. If the rates of this city show a profit in this matter, are acquiescent and indifferent, and the franchise is granted essentially in the shape it is now in, then the city is not only being burdened with another burden of watered stock and capitalized franchises will be laid upon the already suffering taxpayers of this city. It is proposed to franchise and in a short time to come the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company will be issuing bonds and stock against the same, and the citizens of this city will be paid by you and me without any resulting good.

Procedure in Presidential Elections. ESTACADA, Or., April 27.—(To the Editor.)—A and B had an argument in the morning over the election of a delegate to the Electoral College to sell the vote of the people to the opposing Presidential candidate, thereby securing the election of a President not chosen by the people. B contended that the electoral delegate was merely a messenger carrying the vote of the people to the Electoral College, and that he was not invested with power or authority to change it.

Whereas I learn about the procedure in Presidential elections. ESTACADA, Or., April 27.—(To the Editor.)—A and B had an argument in the morning over the election of a delegate to the Electoral College to sell the vote of the people to the opposing Presidential candidate, thereby securing the election of a President not chosen by the people.

DEBS IS NOT A SYNDICALIST.

Socialist Writer Condemns Violent Policy of New Movement. PORTLAND, April 27.—(To the Editor.)—An editorial on syndicalism this morning quotes Debs in such a way that the careless reader will think he favors it. Debs is a socialist, not a syndicalist. Enclosed clipping may be regarded as fairly representative of the syndicalist position regarding I. W. W. and syndicalism. We read your editorial, please read this one.

The clipping to which Reader refers is too long for complete reproduction, but it confirms the statement of "The syndicalist" and "The syndicalist" in its author, A. M. Simons, says the "new revolutionary organization" has played the part of the small boy who is around sitting in people's faces and then yelling for his big brother to come and do the fighting.

But there is a danger to the socialist movement in the "new revolutionary organization" which will rally half-baked socialists to the support of a clique of would-be leaders. It is a danger to the socialist movement in the "new revolutionary organization" which will rally half-baked socialists to the support of a clique of would-be leaders.

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The Merciful Judge

By Dean Collins. The Judge looked sternly from his place Upon the shrinking prisoner. "The Jury finds you guilty, sir. You're charged in the indictment, sir. Now what have you to say before the Prisoner opens its yawning door. And you are sent, ten years, to stay. For swiping hens the other day?"

The prisoner turned white, and fell At once upon his knees. Although his joints were stiff and he Could scarcely kneel with ease "Oh, Judge," he cried, "it can't be true That I have rot ten years to do. Marching the clogged prison steps." The august Judge responded, "Yes."

The prisoner burst into tears. And wrung his hands in woe. Then thrust a paper toward the Judge. "Oh, Judge," he cried, "I know. The dose you're mixing up for me. For here in this dispatch you'll see That convicts are the favored gents For dentistry experiments."

"Oh Judge, read well; it tells you there Shall issue license from the state To fix the human tooth. On convicts' teeth he'll prove his art. And if they still exist in part— And if they are not through, then he will be Licensed to practice dentistry."

"Consider, then, your sentence, Judge— Ten years, each day bested By building dentists prying round The molars in my head. Ten years, each day a faithful round Of drill and buzz with fretful sound. And gums reduced to tender pulp— The stern judge gave a fearful gulp."

"Oh stop, young man!" he cried at last. "Your forecast wrings my heart! For ten long years subject you to The dental student's art? No! And he gave his desk a bang. 'I sentence you instead to hang!'" "Saved!" cried the prisoner in tears. Of joy, the Judge sighed, "Gosh! Ten Portland, April 28.

Half a Century Ago. From The Oregonian of April 29, 1862. Washington, April 12.—The Secretary of War has received information that Huntsville, Ala., was occupied yesterday by General Sherman's division without much resistance. Two hundred prisoners were taken.

Baltimore, April 15.—The Savannah, Ga., Republican of the 12th announces the unconditional surrender of Fort Pulaski on the 22nd. The rebel commander, signalled the day previous to the surrender that our fire was so terrible that he no longer had any hope of our shells exploding in the fort.

St. Louis, April 15.—General Halleck arrived at Pittsburg Landing on Friday. General Grant, in his official report of the battle, estimated our loss at 13,000 men, including 1,000 wounded. The loss of the enemy in killed and left on the field is greater than ours.

Washington, April 5.—The brig Adelaide and Mary Wright arrived at Liverpool on the 3d, having run the blockade at Charleston.

At Copenhagen on the 2d the Minister of Marine stated in Council that he would seek large credits for the construction of iron plated ships and said no more wooden vessels would be built. The declaration was received with great satisfaction.

Baltimore, April 16.—Success syndicalismers equal to the Merrimac, completed at Richmond and ready to sail down the James River in a few days.

Kansas City, April 16.—A mail from Fort Union confirms the news of a battle at Apache Pass. Our forces numbered 1,000 men, the Texans 1,300. Our loss is 150. The enemy acknowledges a loss of 340 or 400. The Texans attacked our camp in the morning with 40 of our guns, but were repulsed with great loss.

Washington, April 17.—The War Department advertises for a proposition for the construction of one or more of the following: a battery of 100 4.2 inch guns, for service on the Mississippi and the Gulf.

Washington, April 17.—The rebels have for several days been building large fortification on the north side of the York River, about two miles from Yorktown, and within sight of our guns. Yesterday morning the Rebels were 100-pounder rifled guns, at once opened fire, and the rebels were so well aimed that they could be seen falling in their midst, exploding with fatal effect. The course of two hours the work was entirely repulsed.

Several fine pack trains, destined for Salmon and Powder Rivers, crossed at the ferry yesterday.

Our friend George Hoyt, at present the gentleman assisting clerk at the Steam Navigation Company's wharf, received and measured no less than 120 tons of freight during yesterday. From this quantity of merchandise going up the Columbia River.

The Julia, from the Columbia River last evening, brought \$60,000 in gold dust from Wells, Fargo & Co. The gold dust was in the hands of passengers and about \$40,000 in the hands of the Columbia. The Snake River and the upper reaches of the Snake River are being rapidly and the steamer Tanager, having succeeded from at Walla Walla, having succeeded in getting within 12 miles of Lewiston.

As "Ed" How Sees Life. In Mexico, a day's work is a half hour's practice with a pistol or rifle. I have noticed that an old soldier, who has seen a good deal of real fighting, and lost an arm, or a leg, or an eye, can usually be convinced that peace is a good thing. A slender, pretty girl of 15, with fat ancestors, cannot realize what is ahead of her. As a rule, if you give a whipping, you must take one. This "Modern Efficiency" you are hearing of, when such man takes what he knows he is entitled to. Don't be a Joke on yourself. A man of sense does not require a policeman as his show constantly; a sensible man is his own policeman, and knows it doesn't pay to violate the ordinances. When I hear of a quarrel, I know what it means; two men are trying to get the best of it; and the quarrel will be settled, when each man takes what he knows he is entitled to in the first place. A country doctor is celebrated who was called to see a man very ill with an unknown disease, whereupon the doctor tried to throw his patient into the water, when the man awoke and knows it doesn't pay to violate the ordinances. The people today are trying to throw business into politics, although we know from long experience that politics is a costly and incurable disease.

Wood Hats and Woman Suffrage. WOODLAND, Wash., April 26.—(To the Editor.)—In the Oregonian today it is stated May 3 is to be straw hat day. Let me state Washington is a hatless city. The women of this state are in fashion since a week ago. I'm an old Oregonian, but now in Washington, and I don't see how the women of this state are behind. But "better late than never." OLD SUBSCRIBER TO OREGONIAN.

School Election in June. PORTLAND, April 28.—(To the Editor.)—Will an election be held in Portland this June? If so, for what offices? TEACHER OF CITIZENSHIP.

Treatment of Steerage Passengers. MOODY, Or., April 27.—(To the Editor.)—Would you kindly publish just how the steerage passengers are handled by the ship's captain in case of disaster, such as the Titanic? I have seen no account in the papers of what became of them. WILLIAM STAMP.

No discrimination was made between steerage women and the women cabin passengers in the wreck of the Titanic. The newspapers have published a long list of steerage passengers who were saved.

Tacoma really has a ten-story building that cost half a million. Tacoma is to be congratulated.

Only a candidate with sense of humor can tolerate the stable bill of a "dead horse."

The single-taxer is sly and insidious.