

The Oregonian

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Portland, Tuesday, April 30, 1912. A WRECKED FRIENDSHIP. Whatever may be the political outcome of the present controversy between Taft and Roosevelt, no man of healthy mind can help regretting that it has sundered a friendship between two strong men which it was a delight to contemplate.

But the beginning of coolness dates almost from Taft's election. The first sign of it came when Taft gave the chief credit for his election to his brother, Charles, and the Hallager-Pinchot matter, according to what he expected first place. Then came rumors of quarrels over Taft's refusal to let Loeb in the cabinet and to make Kellogg Attorney-General.

Crime and Anarchism. The crime of the French automobile bandits and the great force required to capture them, impress upon the effectiveness of criminals as well as of honest men. Riding in an automobile at a speed which shows no regard for legal limits, armed with automatic pistols, repeating rifles, skilled in the use of explosives, two men, one indifferent to the lives of others as to their own, Bonnot and Dubois, committed crime after crime marked by unequalled audacity, dashed away at incredible speed, evaded capture by the celerity and secrecy of their movements.

Samuel de Champlain was the greatest of those French pioneers and explorers who laid the foundation of an empire in the American forest. The son of a ship captain, he began his career in the army, where he was 22 years old in 1599, he was appointed to the command of the ship St. Julien, by King Henry IV, and sailed for Spanish America.

Italy and the Triple Alliance. Will the triple alliance of Germany, Austria and Italy, which expires this year, be renewed? This is the question which now occupies the minds of observers of European politics. There is some community of interest between Germany and Austria that there can be little doubt of their remaining allies, but the motives which induced Italy to join them have passed away.

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Warships of all nations are to feel of Mexico at long distance, it seems. Make a memorandum to buy that straw hat today; also an umbrella.

to the trusts in which Perkins was "interested." He pretends that resignation of the Illinois tobacco companies in a lawful manner has enhanced the value of their stocks that other trusts would naturally welcome suits and compulsory organization.

The irrigated homestead bill. The provisions of the Borah irrigated homestead bill are so reasonable and fair, both to the Government and the settler, that there should be no obstacle to its passage. The bill places the Government lien for the cost of the city places a lien on a lot for the cost of street improvements.

Man's right to rest. A story comes from Walla Walla, Wash., of an irate physician who, becoming distracted at piano practice in an assembly hall, stepped on the young woman who was pounding out the "Maiden's Prayer" with improved variations at an hour when all well-regulated persons are supposed to be asleep.

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The unlucky experiences of the babies who were placed in Mrs. E. Miller's "home" seem to indicate that an enterprise of that sort ought to be licensed and regularly inspected. We have passed by that stage of civilization when it is deemed proper to starve and poison the babies.

Presence of women as delegates at the Republican convention of Clark County, Washington, is a matter which marked the state conventions of Michigan and Missouri. Decorum in conventions will be a welcome innovation, though some may complain that it makes them insufferably dull.

Those who have assumed that the adoption of woman suffrage will be quickly followed by a log cabin, by adoption of prohibition will be undecieved by the vote which made Sacramento's annexed district "wet." There is as much difference of opinion on prohibition among women as among men.

This is Rains day and to give the event proper respect of local color, Portlanders should devour an extra ration for that sterling old Oregonian, Mr. Joe Levinson, who is editing and owning a daily paper at Fresno, where they make the best kind in all the world.

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eral union, it nevertheless so far surpassed the wild savagery of the surrounding tribes in military efficiency, that the Iroquois were well on the way toward extending their power over the whole of America east of the Mississippi and North of the Ohio. This, of course, was not at all to the liking of the French and they sought to prevent it by enlisting the other tribes on their side.

In the year 1669, while Champlain was leading a band of allied Indians against the Mohawks, he incidentally discovered the lake which bears his name. We quote a few sentences from his description of it: "The lake is of great extent, say eighty or a hundred leagues long, where I saw four fine islands, ten, twelve and fifteen leagues long. There are also many rivers falling into the lake, bordered by many fine trees of the same kinds as those we have in France, with many vines finer than any I have ever seen in any other place."

We recall a similar case of distraction years ago, when cows still had the privilege of roaming and browsing upon East Side streets. An old German, who wished to be able to locate his cow at any time without the usual effort, strapped an old-fashioned bell to her neck. Every summer morning about 4 o'clock the creature, in nibbling the short grass by the roadside, found her way to the locality in which this long-suffering, hard-working woman had her abode.

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QUESTIONS ASKED ARE NOT FAIR. Mode of Senate Inquiry Into Titanic Disaster Criticized. INDEPENDENCE, Or., April 28.—(To the Editor.)—I have followed closely The Oregonian's accounts of the Titanic disaster. You are to be congratulated on the thoroughness and at the same time the conservatism of the accounts you have furnished the public.

Why then should not the British authorities conduct an investigation at least questions asked British seamen that are not only unfair and biased, but frequently more than that? The British seamen are the most part absurd and ridiculous and founded on absolute ignorance of the subject in question? If there are any good reasons why the seamen should not be "investigated" by naval men or at least men who have some knowledge of the sea? Although Senator Smith may have the best intentions in the world, he is too good a politician to not realize the effectiveness of the "spotlight" and to hold it as long as possible. Yet I doubt if he would know a belaying pin from a bob-stay or a spar buoy from an anchor.

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INCREASE IN RATES DEFENDED. Modern Woodman Combats Criticisms Made by Correspondent. PORTLAND, April 28.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian, April 27, I find an unsigned article from Eugene, Or., concerning the new rates recently adopted by the Modern Woodmen of America.

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Half a Century Ago. From The Oregonian of April 30, 1862. The steamship Julia, which arrived last night, brought from Walla-Fargo & Co's express from the Salmon River mines and \$75,000 in gold dust. The steamer Tenino has made a successful trip to Walla-Fargo, bringing back to Walla-Fargo some 30 passengers, who had in their possession over \$50,000, making in all about \$125,000 which came down last night.

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Washington, April 18.—A letter received from the United States Navy and Harper's Ferry reported the total value of the property taken at Norfolk at \$74,000. The number of guns captured, 200, and a long review of the matter, censure the Buchanan Administration for gross neglect of duty, and say that Lincoln's Administration were so stupidly careless, for 37 days elapsed without any effort to defend the yard.

Washington, April 18.—General Sheridan's division occupied Mount Jackson yesterday morning. At 7 o'clock the enemy appeared in force in front of the fort. In order to obtain vantage ground, the fort was ordered to burn the bridges, locomotives and cars which would accumulate at the terminus of the railroad. The movements were so sudden that we were able to save the bridges, two locomotives and several cars.

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