

The Oregonian

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question, which far fewer people would answer, probably in the affirmative, "for our railroads are under rigid regulation, are 'incontestably a natural monopoly,' and therefore are on all grounds to be placed in public hands."

THE MERGER DECISION. Marked progress in responsiveness to public opinion is seen by the newspapers generally in the Supreme Court decision dissolving the Harriman merger.

CONSERVATION WORKS BACKWARDS. The admission of the Forest Service that the National forests yearly produce more than ten times as much timber as is being cut in them is an implied confession that in them is an abundance of timber.

A HINT GIVEN THE DEMOCRATS. In his general message to Congress President Taft conveyed the hint that he will turn the country over to the Democrats in a sound business condition and on the eve of a period of prosperity.

COMMON SENSE AND PHILANTHROPY. Whenever a rich man has a surplus of money and wishes to give it, it is best to give it in a way that will seem to open to him charity and education.

WHAT ROOSEVELT DID IN THE SOUTH. Professor Hart, of Harvard, tries his best to draw some comfort and hope for the Progressive party from the election returns of the South, but the New York Evening Post dispels his visions by citing his own figures against him.

Grand Duke Michel is more human than royal. The statement of the Balkan war is gravitating toward the money-lenders. Assay offices in the mining states are comfortable berths, and the Democratic majority may reconsider their abolition.

But Medical Experts Await Confirmation of Tuberculosis Discovery. The report that a serum has been developed for the treatment of tuberculosis, which will cure all cases with a single injection, cannot be accepted as true without confirmation by men who are experts in this particular line of work.

QUESTIONS FOR MAN TO ANSWER. Splinter Counters on Bachelor With Additional Marriage Certificate. The letter from "A Bachelor on the Fence" in The Oregonian is interesting, particularly his statement in the last paragraph that many men who would otherwise marry are prevented by the fact that their environment does not give them to meet women who impress them as possessing qualities to make desirable wives.

TAFT WILL RETIRE UNSCARRED. Correspondent Believes Campaign Abuse Not Now Taken Seriously. I notice a correspondent from Ontario has just "broken out" with a kind of political "raah," which, by the way, was recently epidemic.

LOOK CAREFULLY INTO FUTURE. Marriage Should Be Considered From "Happy Home" Standpoint. Portland, Dec. 6.-(To the Editor.)—Discussing the marriage as an institution it seems that the mind should be directed more toward the making of a happy home than simply to the securing of a wife and children.

HALF A CENTURY AGO. From The Oregonian of December 9, 1862. Marion Moore, the Councilman from Bolshone County, has returned to Oregon and communicated the following news to the Statesman: "The mining region, as far as prospecting, extends east and west some 15 miles and north and south 15 miles. The findings are on the north branches of the Boise and are drained by three creeks, known as Grimes Creek, Moore Creek and Picher Creek. Nearly all the small gulches and banks along these creeks pay from \$5 to \$50 per day."

IDEA COMES ORIGINALLY FROM CHARITY STAMP OF CIVIL WAR PERIOD. "How did the Red Cross Christmas Seal originate?" is a question that is being asked by many during this holiday season, when millions of Red Cross stickers are being sold all over the United States.

PUNISHMENT AS CRIME DETERRANT. Must Be More Severe When Degree of Certainty is Low. PORTLAND, Dec. 8.-(To the Editor.)—It is apparent that an effort is to be made to have Governor West cancel the five-year suspended sentences of men now confined in the penitentiary at Salem.

ADVANTAGES OF PUBLIC MARKET. PORTLAND, Dec. 7.-(To the Editor.)—What would a public market do for Portland? That would depend almost wholly upon its location.

INDIAN WAR VETERANS TO ACT GRAND COMMANDEER. Effects of Obsolete Pension Increase. ALBANY, Or., Dec. 7.-(To the Editor.)—Today I am 71 years old as an Oregon native son and I am celebrating the event in the pleasant task of writing this letter and also writing to the United States Senators and Congressmen from Oregon, Washington and Idaho, in behalf of the Indian war veterans of the North Pacific Coast, including those in the above states or residing elsewhere, who fought in our Indian wars of 1847-48 and 1855-56.

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