

The Oregonian

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Portland, Wednesday, Jan. 29, 1913.

WILSON'S ANTI-TRUST BILLS.

Governor Wilson's measures for lifting from New Jersey the reproach of being the mother of trusts are of unusual importance, both because of the hints they give of the policy he will pursue as President and because they mark the abandonment of the "widespread" policy of corporate control by the state which first adopted that policy.

He places foremost the principle that guilt is personal by providing that directors of corporations be held personally guilty. He has adopted Bryan's slogan, "Send them to jail," by providing for either fine or imprisonment or both as the penalty for offenders.

One of the bills attempts a more exact definition of restraint of trade in order to gratify those who complain that the Sherman law is so vague that they cannot know whether certain acts are lawful or unlawful. The penalty is fine or imprisonment for a year or both, or revocation of the company's charter.

This is the definition: Any combination or agreement between two or more corporations, firms or persons, to create restrictions on the sale of goods, to increase prices, prevent competition in manufacturing, transporting or selling any commodity, to make any agreement or understanding which is in restraint of trade, or to make any agreement or understanding whereby the same thing is accomplished.

Watering of stock is forbidden and exactly defined by a provision which would prevent such operations as that by which John W. Gates transmuted \$24,000,000 of stock in a corporation he controlled into \$90,000,000 of stock in a new corporation, of which \$26,000,000 mysterious, of which \$26,000,000 mysterious.

One of the bills makes it a misdemeanor to organize a corporation with intent to promote or conduct any unlawful object or intended to restrain trade or acquire a monopoly. Also between sections, communities or cities with intent to secure a monopoly or to drive out a competitor.

As to the chief difficulties surrounding trust organization and control, the bills, of course, constitute no new laws (and they cannot be) there would be differences in enforcement and interpretation that would make a complete picture of the trust situation late there must in some form be National incorporation.

It is hopeless to expect that any state will do this. It is long as one state remains open to trust organizers, state action will be powerless as a remedy. Federal incorporation would encounter such general opposition from the states, hungry for fees, that its adoption is not possible. The alternative is a Federal license to state corporations engaged in interstate commerce. This would allow the states to keep their fees, but would in effect nullify the laws of those states which bid for trust organization.

HARMONY.

Mr. Davey sends from Burns a loud call for the Republican party to get together on a platform of progressive-reform and of explicit and unquestioning adherence to the Oregon system. We would not discourage Mr. Davey in his laudable purpose; but, if the Legislature is to be used as the basis of the new harmony movement, it would seem to be plain that the Republican majority is doing a first-rate job of getting together and staying together.

MR. SHEEP AND HIS FRIENDS.

The woolen manufacturers are in tears before Congress over the proposed reduction of the wool tariff. The industry will be ruined, if you touch one brick or stick or straw of the wool tariff edifice, they say. All we want is to be let alone with our cheap foreign labor and our easy profits. But if you've got to reduce something, reduce the tariff on raw wool. That is what Bryan says ought to be done, and so it is sound Democratic doctrine.

Incidentally, the cheaper the wool the more profit for the manufacturer of the suit. The Western woolgrower ought to be satisfied to make a further sacrifice for the benefit of the Massachusetts men who buy his wool, and pay him sometimes almost as much as it is worth.

We guess the woolgrowers of Oregon now understand that the Eastern manufacturer believes in a wool tariff on the manufactured product for their own benefit and on free wool, also for their own benefit. It is strange that their only protection is a Democratic house which proposes a 20 per cent tariff; but it is not strange that the same Democratic house through its leader, Mr. Underwood, has intimated that if the tariff were removed, they would be satisfied to make a further sacrifice for the benefit of the Massachusetts men who buy his wool, and pay him sometimes almost as much as it is worth.

WOMEN AS JURORS.

The philosophic mind is moved to melancholy reflection by one of the objections made to women jurors in the Colorado Legislature. A bill came up that would allow women to sit on the jury, but it was defeated by a vote of 10 to 10. The bill was introduced by a woman, and she was the only woman on the jury.

The custom of treating women as jurors is a relic of feudal barbarism. We inherit it from the days when it was assumed as a matter of course that every man not of aristocratic connections was a liar, a perjurer and eager to sell himself to the first bidder.

These bills are received with approval in most unexpected quarters. The New York Sun, for example, says: Generally speaking, the proposals of the seven bills will strike the impartial eye as meritorious. They are in the line of progress by the proper road.

Opposed to the Eagle's view is that of the New York Globe, which, while praising the New Jersey bills, though doubting whether the prison penalties will be enforced, says: As to the chief difficulties surrounding trust organization and control, the bills, of course, constitute no new laws (and they cannot be) there would be differences in enforcement and interpretation that would make a complete picture of the trust situation late there must in some form be National incorporation.

tion of the ideas of either side has been secured. It is an unhappy side-light on human nature and present-day civilization that the two sets now plan to proceed to settle their differences of opinion through the medium of horrible slaughter upon each other. Steel-jacketed projectiles, destructive explosive shells and inter-state bayonets will be employed to supplement logic. Each side contends it is right, and so might must decide. Eventually one side or the other, weakened, wounded, humiliated, devastated, will reluctantly yield. But even then the question will be settled only tentatively.

LET REPUBLICANS GET TOGETHER.

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seems as if the college influence ought to predominate in any body which goes by the name of "Academy." The scholastic feeling is exemplified by the three college presidents who adorn the roll of immortals, Hadley, Lowell and Butler. Not one of these men is really distinguished as an educator in the same way as Dr. Charles W. Eliot. Hadley is an economist, Lowell a writer of some eminence on international politics and it would be a little difficult to say just how Dr. Butler has made himself immortal, but as thinkers and doers in the educational field Van Hise of Wisconsin and Jordan of Stanford are miles ahead of them.

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MORALS ANTEDATE CIVILIZATION. Even the Early Savages Had Their Codes of Morals. PORTLAND, Jan. 27.—(To the Editor.)—One may be pardoned, I hope, for expressing surprise at the letter of Mr. Cronise demanding the suppression of street speaking, after professing himself a believer in Jesus Christ, who is credited with saying: "Bless them that curse you, and do good unto them that despitefully use you."

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The Fan's Rubaiyat

Wake, for the Spring is fumbling at the knocker; Soon Winter furs are destined for the locker. Winks, baseball fan, the season speeds apace In which men think of basketball and soccer.

The Fan's Rubaiyat

Soon the warm sun, returning on its beat, Will touch the land in spots, with Springtime heat; And heroes of the diamond will adorn The pink expanses of the sporting sheet.

The Fan's Rubaiyat

Of winter snow may spread without the hall, Draw out thy dope sheet, limber up a bit And gamble on the future of baseball. For soon to California's land of drouth, Bound for the Springtime training camps down South, The Northern teams will ramble o'er the rail, And many rumors fly from mouth to mouth.

The Fan's Rubaiyat

And we shall watch them vanish down the track, The diamond artists of the subtle "Mac." Have you the Winter, and we'll try to guess, What sort of lineup he will bring us back. Of past transactions I remember well, Which, in the seasons now departed, fell— Say, manager, e'er buy a man One-half so precious as the ones he'll sell!

The Fan's Rubaiyat

Full early 'tis to cast a horoscope, And on the Beavers draw a line of dope; But it is easy at this time of year To open up a copious can of hope. Let, then, the records of past sorrows die, Begin to take a new slant at the sky, And in your visions over Portland's fields Behold the nineteen thirteen pennant fly.

The Fan's Rubaiyat

Fans, to the glowing future cast your lamp, For though the present month be dour and damp, Full soon the time is coming when you'll see Will hang expectant round the training camp. For Spring already fumbles at the knocker; The season soon will come—and none can block 'er— When we must eat and sleep and sweat, And scorn the feeble Winter sports, like soccer.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of January 29, 1863. The colored population of Victoria filled an artillery salute from Beacon Hill on the receipt of the news that Mr. Lincoln had issued his emancipation proclamation. For this they were fired, as the hill is used to fire signal guns on the arrival of ships, and a false signal by the colored people gave a false signal.

Walla Walla, W. T., Jan. 23.—Miners are moving for the mines, especially for the Boise Valley. There are now, it is supposed, 2000 there. There are 300 buildings already erected in Placerville. The Oregon Steam Navigation Company is going on with giant strides to connect the river navigation by railroads. The Cascade road is nearly completed. The Deschutes road will be completed in May or June.

A lot of stray Indians from the Siletz Agency are hanging about town. There are also some Spokanes in this vicinity, who have been working for citizens, making by the way, a very respectable means. Night before last the members of the two contending tribes engaged in a free and indiscriminate fight, characterized by a great deal of ferocity. The Indians on the Oregon Indian Reservation appear to be immoral, as the establishment of the reservations, none have died and doubtless many have been born. This appears to arise from the fact that rations are regularly distributed at the cost of the Government to these savages. Of course, they would not die for fear some agent would draw the cost of the rations the same as if they were alive.

Casual and Merchant Marine.—VANCOUVER, Wash., Jan. 26.—(To the Editor.)—(1) Does the act of Congress exempting United States coastwise vessels from tolls for passage through the Panama Canal violate the Hay-Pauncefote treaty? (2) Under the terms of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, is it lawful for the United States to charter merchant marine such as Great Britain and other European governments? (3) Where could one obtain a copy of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty? A. J. MILLS.

Playing the Joker.—IRRIGON, Or., Jan. 27.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly decide the following: In playing a "no-trump" hand in the game of 90, A claims that the joker may be played at any time regardless of suit. B and C take the opposite view. (2) Has the rule on this point ever been changed since the game of 90 originated? The Joker may be played only when suit is exhausted. Harper's Weekly. A man who was greatly troubled with rheumatism bought some red flannel underwear recently, which was guaranteed in every respect, and a couple of weeks later returned to the store where he made his purchase. "These flannels are not what you claimed them to be," he said to the clerk. "What is the trouble with them?" asked the clerk, "have they faded or shrunk?" "Faded!" shrieked the purchaser indignantly, "why, when I came down to breakfast this morning with one of them on my wife asked me:—'What are you wearing the baby's pink corset necktie for?'" —Richmond Times-Dispatch.

In the Mode.—She's slender as the graceful reed, A tight skirt vision rare, But where are all the padded coats That she's used to wear? —Richmond Times-Dispatch.