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PORTLAND, MONDAY, APRIL 28, 1913.

OLNEY JOINS ISSUE WITH ROOT.

The most powerful intellect arrayed against exemption of coastwise ships from Panama Canal tolls is now matched with one of equal power. Senator Root has taken the lead in opposition to the provision in question, but he is now opposed by Richard Olney, who was the best brains of both Cleveland Cabinets, first as Attorney-General later as Secretary of State.

Not only does Mr. Olney uphold the right of the United States to exempt coastwise vessels from payment of tolls, but he takes a most advanced position. Exemption has been defended on the ground that, foreign vessels excluded from our coastwise trade, we pledge of equal treatment to ships of all nations contained in the Hay-Pauncefote treaty is not thereby violated.

Mr. Olney's expression of opinion is important because it will impress on the minds of the opponents of exemption the fact that they have not things all their own way. They have rather arrogantly assumed that there was no room for argument on this point, and that exemption was advocates of brazen violation of the treaty; and that the only honorable course open to us was to repeal the exemption clause of the canal law.

As the San Francisco fair of 1915 is to be held in celebration of the opening of the Panama Canal, it is most fitting that the means by which that great achievement was made possible should be the subject of special exhibits. The most important of these means was sanitation.

In June, 1905, there were sixty-two cases of yellow fever on the isthmus; in December, 1905, there was only one. In the whole year 1906 there was but one case, and since that year there has not been a single case. Yellow fever has been practically exterminated. In 1904 the number of patients per month treated for malaria in the hospitals was 6.83 per cent of the working force; in 1911 it was only 1.53 per cent.

A complete exhibit of the means by which Colonel Gorgas won his triumph over disease will equip visitors to the San Francisco fair for applying in every state and country of the lessons his work teaches.

human life and energy. We shall then be less niggardly in appropriations for the health departments of city, state and Nation. The medical profession everywhere will advance, as it has done at Panama, from healing the individual sick man to removing the cause of disease. In a large sense, the healing of the individual is but treatment of symptoms; in order to treat the disease we must seek out and destroy its cause, as did Colonel Gorgas. The work of the physician will thus develop into prevention, not cure, of sickness.

Sanitation is intimately associated with that of development of the waste places of this country. In fact of all countries, as disease has been one of the chief causes of delay in constructing the Panama Canal, so improvement of the swamp lands and drainage of the swamps, which have produced nothing but malaria and wild beasts, would when drained produce food in abundance. The great valleys and deltas of the Mississippi, the Amazon, the Orinoco and others have been made to multiply their products manifold and become homes of healthy, happy, prosperous millions.

There is one thing that will not accomplish this, and that is for the patrons—the "bugs" and the "fans"—continually to knock the players and find fault with the management. Such a course will augment and not lessen the quality of the team. It is for the best thing we can do is to stand by the club and by the management, to await with patience the day when the "hoodoo," or the "jinx," or whatever it is that is at the bottom of the trouble, is laid, and then the players will give us the sort of ball we want—the sort of ball that in them we have one of the best teams we ever had, and they will almost assuredly round into form—perhaps the coming series will show us the end of their slump and the beginning of their rise.

Very likely we shall one day have in our midst a bureau of household research. It may await the perfection of all municipal governments, but there certainly should be hope that when the larger dangers that menace us unawares are corrected the counsel of some distinguished expert will help us mend the smaller affairs of everyday life.

When that happy time arrives the head of the family may hear that there is waste in his household expenditures; that his wife can't cook a respectable meal; that the babies are not properly fed; that the pictures are hung wrong; that the draperies don't match the floor coverings; that the cellar drain is a menace to health; that there is arsenic in the wall paper; that the roof is sure to cave in if an aviator falls on it, and that the only relief will be found in getting another helpmeet and building a new home.

There is but one comfort left and that is that the same bureau has discovered a long list of evils and shortcomings in the present official services. It seems, however, in wide demand and it is said to be an authority on efficiency. We doubt not that the bureau has offered some valuable suggestions for reforms in municipal departments and activities wherever it has conducted investigations. Still it seems that the bureau's conducting surveys only at such times as its reports are not likely to be suspected of political coloring.

Whatever good has been offered in Portland will be subject to political discount. Moreover, the tone of the reports is hypercritical. We yearn for a single good word about some branch of the city's government. We imagine that the household whom our fancy called into being in the beginning of this article would become resentful. That, it may be feared, is the feeling that is growing among the citizens of Portland.

McCrede and President McCrede have propounded to themselves a million times, more or less, in the past two weeks, but they have no answer—there is no answer. The boys surely have not been playing the game their talents justify us to expect of them—the sort of ball they are able to play and try to play. Nobody, managers or attendants at the games, accuses any one of them of trying to do anything but the very best in him, but they don't play a winning ball.

There were six clubs in the Coast League, five in California and the Beavers here. Each club has a manager and an owner or owners. Each manager undoubtedly endeavors each season to have the best club in the league, for the reason that it makes a difference in the season's receipts of perhaps \$50,000 whether a club reposes in the cellar or roosts at the top of the first division. Hence perhaps today the Portland owners would pay many a man or any set of men a fortune to lead their team into a winning streak to run the season out and land them a top. They would undoubtedly pay a large sum to any one who will tell them how they can strengthen the club and keep it as one of the first three, or, as we say, in the first division.

It is, of course, an error to explain the delay in the steamboat transportation on the upper river by the difficulties of the navigation. As long as there was sufficient incentive to keep traffic going it throve in spite of obstacles. Captain Lon White had troubles in abundance with the rapids which beset the current of the Columbia, but he gave his men the good word about some profitable trip with great quantities of goods on board. But the time came when the railroad could do the business more cheaply and rapidly.

An old-fashioned medicine, administered with a slipper, might prove beneficial to Mrs. Romona Borden. The girl, who is a serious invalid, she will not need to "recuperate from physical and nervous strain" at a sanitarium.

After only seven weeks in office, President Wilson needs absolute rest. If that is the case after only the preliminaries of the tariff struggle, how will he stand the strain of all the other problems which are crowding for solution?

Let the Republicans nominate their best man, the Democrats theirs and the Progressives theirs. Then vote for the best man of the three," says ex-Senator Bailey. That means Bailey, of course.

Organization of a State Woman's Republican Alliance is a hopeful sign of redemption of the party from the evils that have overcome it.

China hasn't objected yet in the anti-alien matter. Will we hear her when she does, do you imagine?

As usual, Austria asks the other powers to back her in her despotic work against Montenegro.

Trades school doing good work. Mr. Hart Commends System to Attention of Parents.

Portland, April 26.—(To the Editor.)—Having visited the Portland Trades School and especially many courteous members of the faculty and students of the school, I feel that I should express my appreciation of the splendid work the school is accomplishing.

Another feature which should appeal strongly to the average man or woman is the respect which the trades school teaches children for work done with their hands, for school children are keenly interested in useful tasks and away from the streets and mischief.

COMMISSION GOVERNMENT DEFINED. Writer Insists Proposed Charter Varied From Standard Only in Details.

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Building Trades Committee Gives Workmen's View of Effect.

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Twenty-five Years Ago. From The Oregonian of April 27, 1888.

New York, April 26.—In the May number of the American Review, W. E. Gladstone defends the Christian faith against Colonel Robert Ingersoll's attacks.

Yesterdays the nineteenth anniversary of Professor I. W. Pratt's connection with the Harrison-grade school as principal, and the teachers and pupils indulged in a little celebration.

Half a Century Ago. From The Oregonian of April 28, 1863. We are sorry to learn that the commissioners who were appointed at the...

OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD JAPANESE. One of Them Tells of Desire to Gain Good Will of Americans.

I thank you for your editorials every morning, with your righteous expression. Nothing more to feel overjoyed than to have things looked at from right of way. I have been reading The Oregonian ever since I came to this country in 1908, and always find your paper as instructive as it is pleasant.

FRANCHISE SECTION OF CHARTER. Writer Criticizes What Seems to Him Attempt to Prevent Competition.

Portland, April 26.—(To the Editor.)—Talk about "jokers" in the new charter. I would like to ask those who framed it and those who are so enthusiastically supporting it, what they think of the requirement of many words in the charter sent out to the Auditor.

As for the California "alien land law" question, I don't know much of their situation, for I never have been in California. I am the "Oregon kid," if so you can call me that, but I took state dental examination of Washington and passed, then went to Seattle, but did not like it there and came back to Portland again.