

The Oregonian

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as second class matter, August 11, 1881. Subscription Rates—Invariably in Advance: (BY MAIL) Daily, Sunday included, one year, \$2.00...

How to Remit—Send postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your bank, payable to order of The Oregonian at Portland, Ore. Give postoffice address in full...

PORTLAND, SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1913.

PREPARING TO ATTACK TRUSTS.

Attention has been so concentrated on the Democratic policy with regard to the tariff and the currency that the anti-trust issue has dropped into the background. It is practically certain that it will be brought to the fore...

The Administration is evidently preparing itself to meet just such arguments. In the Commissioner's review of the work now being done by the Department of Commerce, evidently based on authoritative information, there is no mention of trusts.

Why should Senators be expected to be bound by the hasty decisions of a secret caucus on details of the income tax? Why should they be expected to vote down every amendment, however good, simply because it comes from the other side of the chamber?

One might suppose, from reading this defiant and spirited vindication of a Senator's right to vote his convictions, that it came from Senator Chamberlain, non-partisan and Roosevelt Democrat. It is a resounding echo of the Oregonian's speech of July 21, when the Oregon Senator stood on his own feet and told the Senate that no master's voice controlled him.

Believers in conservation of natural resources have been alarmed by a movement among some Democrats to break down that policy and return to the opposite policy of alienating those resources from public control and selling them to individuals to do with as they will.

Mr. Myers did not lose any time about showing his colors. In June he had introduced a joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to sell or lease a tract of coal land in Montana to the Republic Coal Company, a subsidiary of the Milwaukee Railroad, which furnishes its output to the road.

There is an ancient constitutional guaranty of the right of petition, but obviously Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo has never heard of it. He invites certain Portland architects into competition for plans of the new Postoffice building, and, after they and other intending competitors have devoted some weeks of labor and considerable amounts of money in preparation for the contest, he notifies them that the invitation is withdrawn.

The reasons for the summary exclusion of the Portland architects from the competition is not known. It is suspected, however, that those venturesome worthies have committed something akin to the crime of lese majeste in asking for a personal interview with the Secretary for the purpose of discussing the terms of the competition.

enlightened public opinion holds should only be leased. The Oregonian is as firmly opposed to the further sale of coal, oil, gas and phosphate land and waterpower sites as it is to the policy of stagnation brought about by the Pinchot policy. Such land should be leased on terms so liberal as to encourage its development, but under such restrictions as to prevent its speculation and to prevent the sale of the product at excessive prices.

The Portland Postoffice bill explicitly provides for competition by architects. What kind of competition does the Secretary expect to get if he chafes the best talent for having ideas of their own?

At the beginning of the program, remarks the Pendleton East Oregonian, "The Oregonian bemoaned the harsh kick that John Lind would receive from the boot of Huerta. But Lind was treated courteously and Huerta has been so thoroughly smoked out that he must come down or fall down."

Thus we have the complex and doubtful Mexican situation from the viewpoint of undiscriminating partisan prejudice, with some incidental criticism of The Oregonian for remarks it has not made. Confidential Agent Lind is not mentioned, and Huerta is not mentioned, and he was not kicked out of Mexico. He had a here's-your-hat-whats-your-hurry reception, and it is all what's-remembered from Pendleton as a great triumph of Democratic diplomacy.

The ultimate result in Mexico ought to be the great object of our diplomacy. If the consequence of our interference shall be merely the regime of the present Mexican regime, the ground that they promote economy in production.

Why should Senators be expected to be bound by the hasty decisions of a secret caucus on details of the income tax? Why should they be expected to vote down every amendment, however good, simply because it comes from the other side of the chamber?

There is more of the Hitchcock assault on gag rule. "Caucus rule," he says, "makes public debate in the Senate farcical. Caucus rule kills the very spirit of legislation."

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At twenty-five or thirty years of age they are not to be commended. But these fortunate girls are to make astonishing progress. At seventeen they will read Latin, French and German at sight. They will have finished their algebra and geometry and be able to write good English, and we suppose will be able to read the Bible at sight.

Congress will probably take up and dispose of the whole subject of land legislation at its next session. The Milwaukee road can surely wait until then for its additional coal supply. The inconvenience and extra expense it will suffer will be as nothing in comparison with what the Alabamians have endured for several years. It is better that a sound general policy should be maintained than that a single corporation should be accommodated.

The convention of the Columbia Highway Association to be held at Gearhart Park tomorrow and Monday should be attended by all those who desire good roads or by their representatives and should materially advance the cause of the highway along the river. It will be held under excellent auspices which guarantee that it will result tangibly in results.

Charles J. Bonaparte scolds New York Republicans on the ground that they opposed Henry L. Aldrich and C. S. Starnes for Governor simply because Colonel Roosevelt supported those candidates. That is an admission that the Colonel's aid was a hindrance instead of a help, which is not much of a boast for the Colonel. Yet Mr. Bonaparte writes as though he were an admirer of Mr. Roosevelt.

It speaks well for the Oregon National Guard that its expert rifle shots beat out the infantrymen of the United States Army on the rifle range at Camp Perry, Ohio, last week. The Oregon marksmen, outshot every National Guard organization in the United States in the National team match and was only a few points behind the United States Cavalry and the Navy teams, which won first and second places, respectively.

Lebanon is a thriving city, but it has too many newspapers, and T. L. Dugger, who made the Santiam News famous by his keen writing, later selling and then buying the Tribune at Lebanon, is moving his plant to Sweet Springs, which will proceed to put on the map. It's a wise old warhorse that knows his best pasture.

A case of grapejuice would now be an acceptable present from Secretary Bryan to Emperor William, and when that beverage is served at diplomatic dinners given by the Secretary of State, the German Ambassador must loyally drink it.

Alton B. Parker has been stung by a hornet, but he may have enjoyed the sensation, so mild was it compared with the unforfeited sting Colonel Roosevelt inflicted in 1904.

Only the cavalry and Navy have better rifle shooters than Oregon. The Middle West, whose boys could hit a squirrel in the eye, is deteriorating. Undertakers will hold a convention. No, anxious inquirer, the purpose is not to devise new methods of stimulating business.

WORKMAN ON COMPENSATION ACT. Views of Mr. Cassidy Are Opposed by "Genuine Working Man." BRIDAL VEIL, OR., Aug. 28.—(To the Editor)—In a recent issue of the Oregonian of recent date, James Cassidy discusses the Washington Compensation Act and points out that under this law industrial accidents in Washington have increased to an alarming extent.

Mr. Cassidy's letter sounds like a voice from the inner sanctum of the insurance industry. It is not surprising that the Oregonian, which is usually so fair in its handling of the insurance industry, should be misled as to facts, secondly he is misled as to the real purpose of the act.

Using the absence of the Governor from a meeting of the Desert Land Board as a text, The Oregonian yesterday said that "most of our business is carried on during the frequent absences of the Governor from his post of duty at Salem."

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EVANGELICAL BODIES DEFENDED. Eugene Pastor Tells Why Fellowship Is Not Feared. EUGENE, OR., Aug. 28.—(To the Editor)—In your editorial entitled "Country Churches," you say, among other things, that the Unitarian and Universalist churches are in danger of being persecuted by the evangelical bodies because they do not admit them to fellowship, and state that these two churches cherish a feeling of injustice.

Why should these dear people harbor a sense of injustice over the fact that the Unitarian churches do not wish to act a lie, or stultify our conscience by even pretending to believe what we do not? We believe most reverently that the revelation of the Bible is a revelation from God, the creator.

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DISTILLED LIQUORS DANGEROUS. Elimination of Liquor Evil Not Improbable. McMENVILLE, OR., Aug. 27.—(To the Editor)—In a recent issue of the Oregonian of August 25, regarding liquor, "Strong men and nations do not cry for easy things to do, and often the difficult task leads added incentive to strenuous and determined effort."

Mr. Covert speaks of "uncompromising principle" as a thing of contempt. Has it not been brought home to you that "uncompromising principle" is what saves our American independence, and is what has made for the only real progress in affairs of state and Nation all these years?

Mr. Covert touches the heart of the whole matter when he says "Oregonians will not consent to let the top of the revenue." There the whole matter lies. Had it not been for entrenchment behind the revenue the liquor traffic would have been crushed long ago.

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Half a Century Ago. From The Oregonian of August 31, 1868. The-Hum W. T. Aug. 23.—Governor Semple Attorney General Metcalf Internal Revenue Collector Glen Hicks, Prosecuting Attorney Snelvy and Sheriff Packwood went to Roslyn this afternoon and endeavored to settle the trouble at the mines.

The stage last evening came in at 4 o'clock 15 hours ahead of schedule time. The time from the White House to this city, six miles, was 23 minutes.

It is proposed to form another steamboat company for the navigation of the Columbia River.

Work has begun on the eastern extension of the Corvallis & Eastern Railroad.

Yesterday afternoon the reservoir of the Albina Water Company, just finished, on Russell street in that town collapsed and fell. The timbers were ground and crushed into splinters and they scattered over more than an acre of space.

L. T. Barn, chairman of the Republican state central committee, was yesterday presented with a handsome gold-headed cane by Judge F. A. Moore, Senator from Clatsop, Tillamook and Washington Counties, on behalf of the Republicans of Columbia County.

Theodore Barber, chief clerk to the Lighthouse Inspector, returned yesterday from his vacation at Astoria and is now on duty in Okanogan County, W. T.

Deputy United States Marshal Furnish yesterday brought down from Pendleton Ruben Williams.

Work is being pushed with vigor on the exposition building, which will be finished by October 1.

Our Advice to Mexico. PORTLAND, Aug. 28.—(To the Editor)—President Wilson does not recognize Huerta. Still he sends an envoy to Santa Fe to tell him what Huerta shall do. President Wilson also sends "instructions" to Mexico to the effect that Huerta shall not be a candidate at the next elections.

Special Features of the Sunday Oregonian. Labor, a Giant—How machinery has brought enormous increase in productive power—Two men are now able to grow wheat to supply over 1000 with bread. A valuable page feature.