

The Oregonian

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TURKEY AND GERMANY.

From the days of Peter the Great, Russia has taken an acquisitive interest in the affairs of Turkey. That great monarch was ambitious to conquer the Ottoman empire and thus gain the right to style himself Emperor of the Russians and Greeks, but he never achieved his heart's desire. His successor, Catherine II, longed for the same title, but she died before she had time to carry out her dream of the conquest of Turkey and the hope of establishing her capital at Constantinople had always haunted the Czars. The fact that they professed the ancient religion of the Greek Emperors seemed in a way to entitle the Russian autocrats to inherit their dominion and succeed to their pomp upon the narrow straits between Asia and Europe. Hostilities have always either smoldered or flamed between Russia and Turkey. At the outbreak of the Crimean war, Napoleon had finally been disposed of, nothing but the idealism of the Russian Czar, Alexander, prevented an explosion. Like so many of his house, Alexander was an idealist. His wars upon Napoleon had been waged not so much for national aggrandizement as "to put down the tyrant of Europe."

Alexander, notwithstanding his despotism within his own realm, really looked upon himself as a liberator. He cherished the idea of an empire for evermore, and his projects for that noble end were not dissimilar to Colonel Roosevelt's. Alexander dreamed of a "Confederation of Europe" with a police force back of it strong enough to put down any rebellious power that might wish to plunge into war. This is a favorite dream of other modern pacifists besides Colonel Roosevelt. Almost all our schemes for making the world happy are very old. The Czar Alexander died before his dream of a world without war had time to cool in the refrigerator of circumstances, but the Confederation of Europe is as far from realization today as it was in 1815, perhaps farther. Turkey was not included in the treaty of Vienna which arranged the affairs of Europe after Napoleon's defeat. It was rather looked upon as being without the pale of civilization. The country was even more miserably governed than most European states. Religious persecution was rife within its borders and taxation devoured the resources of the people.

Five years after the treaty of Vienna the Greeks, who were then included in the Turkish Empire, rose in rebellion. The sentiment of the world was everywhere against them. It was thought scandalous that the land of Pericles and Homer should be subject to the debased rulers of Constantinople. Diplomacy as well as sentiment favored the Greeks in many instances. England, France and Russia were ready to help the rebels without at first opening hostilities against the Turks, but Persia and Austria were against them. Thus at that early date we have the modern alignment of the nations exactly prefigured. England, Russia and France were more or less constantly both with her fleet and with volunteers. It was in this petty war that Lord Byron lost his life. Filled with classical memories, he had devoted himself to the cause of the rebels and neither of them were to be longed for. Greek independence was virtually established by the treaty of Adrianople in 1829, at which time the Balkan states also broke away from their servitude to Turkey. Thus the dissolution of the Ottoman empire was already well under way. It has progressed lingeringly ever since.

The weakness of the Turks has always lain in their miserable administration. From a military point of view they are among the foremost nations of the world. Their military history has not been able to hold its own against the disintegrating effects of graft and oppression within the state. In 1839 the Turks began to understand this for themselves and a reform party arose which seemed at one time to have accomplished something genuinely beneficial. The Oriental courts were reformed. The army was modernized and even an educational system was instituted. The preparatory schools were open only to the children of Mussulmans, but the highest educational institutions admitted students of all religions. This was a promising beginning, but the blight of fanaticism prevented it from maturing. Turkey is almost an illiterate today as it was before the schools were put on paper. The only real education in that part of the world has been effected by Christian mission schools and colleges.

Russian encroachments between the Black and Caspian Seas and along the southeastern shore of the Black Sea brought on new troubles for Turkey in the middle of the last century. France also feared for her prestige in the East. By an old convention with the Sultan, which had been made protector of the holy places in Palestine and elsewhere, which the Czar now threatened to capture, English interests were involved in the difficulty and the consequence was the Crimean war which broke out in 1854, ending in a defeat for the Russians, but it did not bring any particular benefits to the Turks. Their slow decay went on much as before. Egypt, which had long been a part of the Mussulman empire, was lost by financial extravagance. The Turkish Viceroy of Egypt was encouraged from Constantinople to spend money prodigally. Foreign loans were contracted recklessly. Then foreign troops were admitted to protect the bondholders and thus the

great province was lost. By gradual steps it fell into the hands of England, where it is likely to remain.

Since the last Balkan war, the Germans have assiduously cultivated the favor of Turkey in opposition to both Russia and England. The Kaiser had evidently made up his mind that when the fruit should be ripe he was the right man to pluck it. German officers are numerous in the Turkish army and they seem also to be in command of the fleet. No doubt German influence is brewing trouble for England in Egypt, where religious sympathy with Turkey is very lively. Thus the affiliation of the Sultan with the Kaiser in the war now raging is the result of long and laborious preparation, dating back to the Greek war of independence.

THE RETURNING HOOP SKIRT.

Some inspired minstrel should arise to celebrate the return of the hoop skirt. To its reviving glories mere prose cannot do justice. It comes back modestly, without pomp or parade, and its return has begun in the days before the Civil War. The woman who first enshrouded herself in a network of iron hoops made them so inconspicuous that she hardly drew attention to herself from her skirts except in certain stiff dignity. But presently the hoop skirt lost its retiring grace and began to expand. It spread across the staircase. It filled the entry hall from side to side. It demanded three seats in the streetcar and a whole side of the table at dinner.

Our mothers in their hoop skirts were finally incited to wage a war of extermination upon another for space to move about in. And that ended the fashion. Either the hoops had to go or the women. Happily we kept the women. Now the fashion returns upon us modest, meek, unassuming. Let us hope that it will not return with all its threats of bloodshed and wholesale depopulation.

CALL TO THE LAND.

In 1910, according to United States census reports, only 7 per cent of the land area of Oregon was improved farm land. In one block this area would not be as large as the single county of Klamath, or Crook, or Malheur, or Lake.

The figures would be a more serious reflection upon the agricultural industry of Oregon were it not for the fact that 60 per cent of the land area of Oregon is under the plow, but they have been given an added significance by the current of events.

If the European war continues much longer the United States will be the main reliance of the world for food and the products of the soil for high prices to the producer of food crops and livestock. The opportunity for speedy returns from agricultural pursuits therefore never seemed to be better. On the other hand, production of a household refrigerator will advance its plain. Conditions demand not only speedy land development by those whose inclinations direct them that way, but forethought on the part of the consumer.

Not only farm lands await a coming of the consumer, but there are waste places within and adjoining the city that might be made to produce part of the living of much of its population. It is a good time now for the city and suburban dweller to think of the prospect before him next Spring if he has none already available. There was never stronger call for the home-owner or renter to prepare to make use of his backyard.

THE SOLDIER'S LOT.

Every now and then a brand new picture of some black horror escapes from the censor's grasp and is laid before the public with the graphic picture of men being operated on without the use of anesthetics. So many are hit in the maelstrom of combat that the army surgeons and their staffs are unable to give the wounded the relief they desire. There is no time for tenderness or luxury. The wounded man, if his hurts are severe, is snip speedily treated, based on a snap diagnosis, and if he recovers under such treatment probably the credit belongs more to his constitution than to the surgeon.

But in this respect the victims are no more unfortunate than those of past wars. Nor is this drastic treatment out of harmony with their own existence. Refinement has no place in the ranks. Luxuries do not flourish in the war zone. Only grim necessities are the lot of men who kill and get killed in these great struggles between National and racial units.

Enough food to keep body and soul together, enough rest to stave off utter exhaustion, enough warmth to prevent death from freezing and the thrust of a sterilized probe and a bandage of gauze when wounded are the things that make a soldier's life. Living such an existence, he becomes hardened to suffering and perhaps looks upon his harsh reception at a reserve hospital with less concern than would be exhibited by a civilian who was to face the surgeon under the very best of conditions.

JAPAN'S PART IN THE WAR.

If Japan should send troops to the aid of the allies in Europe, that country would be gratified beyond measure. It would bring "the yellow peril" right home to the Kaiser and would be welcomed as an ally by the Russians, whom it fought so valiantly ten years ago. Germany would have an opportunity to make slurring remarks about calling in Asiatic hordes to fight modern culture, but the allies would not be disturbed. What they want is good fighting men, and lots of them, regardless of color.

As Japan is Great Britain's ally in particular, she might send troops where that country most needs them and where they can be put into action quickest. That might prove to be Egypt, Turkey, or Egypt. They must be saved in order to keep the Suez Canal open as the route to India, and, if Turkey is to be carved and divided, Great Britain and her special ally, Japan, must help at the expense of the Crimean war which broke out in 1854, ending in a defeat for the Russians, but it did not bring any particular benefits to the Turks. Their slow decay went on much as before. Egypt, which had long been a part of the Mussulman empire, was lost by financial extravagance. The Turkish Viceroy of Egypt was encouraged from Constantinople to spend money prodigally. Foreign loans were contracted recklessly. Then foreign troops were admitted to protect the bondholders and thus the

hizing the pseudo-republic over which Yuan Shi Kai presides and it refused to participate in the schemes of dollar diplomacy.

But the Kaiser was the German permit China to be handed over to Japan to work her will without entering a protest.

CONSERVATION BILLS PASS.

While the attention of the country was fastened upon the war and events growing out of it, the House of Representatives passed bills of the first importance to the country, especially to the West. These are the bills providing for lease of water-power sites and of coal, phosphate, oil, gas, potassium and sodium land on the public domain, commonly known as the conservation bills. Passage by the Senate and approval by the President of the law providing that Alaska coal land be leased proves their acceptance of the leasing policy. Hence we may expect the Government to begin in December, if time permits. The Government will then be launched on a new career as a great landlord, and the Secretaries of War and of the Interior will begin the largest rental business in the world.

There are two water-power bills, one relating to construction of dams on navigable rivers and the other relating to power sites on public land and navigable rivers. Germany is promising herself that one day she will expel the intruder Japan from the Chinese berry patch. Germany admits years may elapse before the day, yet the grievance is entered in her foreign book for reference at the proper time.

With the brutalization of the human family through the present war, with the differences that will be aroused in the final settlement, with the realization of the balance of power in Europe we are rather inclined to draw the very opposite conclusion from that reached by the peace propagandists.

If the Panama Canal becomes popular with dreadnoughts, it will be the women of Oregon who will be displaced. At 50 cents per ton of displacement the toll for a dreadnought of moderate dimensions must come to a modest fortune. We may therefore hope that the zeal of the billerents to one another through the canal may keep at white heat.

"Cold commercialism" requires the United States to get as high prices as it can for food products sold to Europe. Sentimentalists advise us to cut prices and take no advantage of the war. The latter is the more sane. The cheaper they buy food the longer they can fight. Hence low prices now are an actual encouragement to war.

A memorial tablet to Pocahontas has just been unveiled at Jamestown, Virginia. The story of her adventure with Captain John Smith is pure fiction, but it has made her famous. She deserves a monument for what she did not do a great deal more than many another celebrity for what he did do.

The French seem to enjoy their experience with prohibition so well that they want more of it. Absinthe first felt the ax. Now other trembling limbs of boozey ruin march to the guillotine. If the law makes France a country of teetotalers it will have something to its credit.

These young footpads who rob women homeward bound from church are not astute highwaymen. The contribution box gets in ahead. They would better tackle young men, ship, observation shows, seldom honor the invitation.

Wilson has many prizes in shape of appointments to aid in carrying states in 1916, and will do better elsewhere than in Oregon, which has a United Republican party that will stay united.

The Attorney-General of Oregon has ruled that a teacher may keep a delinquent pupil in school after hours. This is not much punishment, and the boy is lucky if not whipped.

The way for women to secure admission to exciting trials is to elect some of their number judges, sheriffs and so forth. This will bring results sooner than the recall.

Germany looks ahead to a chance to punish Japan. Germany might do well to finish her present little argument before nursing fresh grievances.

By the time the Germans meet the vari-colored troops of the allies, they will believe they are viewing a moving picture of the human race.

The President is expected to take care of defeated Democrats. Which must be welcome news to them with a Democratic Winter ahead.

New Year revelry is to be forbidden in Portland this year. It is well. The people have just spoken their minds on this subject.

old-fashioned cobbler if suddenly appointed manager of a modern shoe factory.

Rumblings of future strife, heard even above the din of the present conflict, must be rather disconcerting to the peace propagandists. No longer able to persist in the claim that a great war is impossible, the peace disciples now assert that this is the last war. The armies will destroy themselves, the human family will have a reawakening when the present spasm of bitter passion has run its course. So the logic of the peace propagandists runs.

But the rumblings of reality in a world of cold, hard facts do not give color to the pretty dream of the idealists. Already Great Britain is uneasy lest Russia take Constantinople. Even with every energy engaged in the war for existence, Germany is promising herself that one day she will expel the intruder Japan from the Chinese berry patch. Germany admits years may elapse before the day, yet the grievance is entered in her foreign book for reference at the proper time.

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Japan is promised a free hand in China if she will send troops to Europe. What will prevent her having a free hand anyway?

Blindly hunting will become a favorite sporting pastime in Oregon anon and no quarter should be shown this vicious pest.

With all the officials preaching economy and a sane Legislature elected, the outlook is brighter for the taxpayer.

Election and State Press

Sumpter American. One consolation, the bull moose was turned to pasture November 3.

Mr. U'Ren Now Informed. Tullamook Herald. Surely U'Renism got a good trouncing on Tuesday. The people of Oregon are sick and tired of it. If ever a man met with a frost it was W. S. U'Ren. Well, he knows now what the people of Oregon think of his fallacies.

Lesson for Thinkers. St. Helens Mist. The rebels given the theorists and revengeful fat on last Tuesday's election in the defeat of nearly every initiative measure on the ballot should be a lesson for thinking and trying to fool the people.

Women Made Good. Lebanon Express. The vote was a surprise in many ways. Those who predicted that women would favor freak legislation are forced to change their minds. Those who thought they would refuse to vote when given the opportunity must admit their mistake.

People Good Swatters. Brownsville Times. The people of Oregon are learning not only to sweat the files with success, but also to sweat freak legislation. All of which leads this journal to think that Oregon is some day to settle upon a sane base and the state will take its place in the column of reliable and prosperous states.

Women Made Oregon Dry. Tullamook Herald. There is no mistaking the fact that the women of Oregon were one of the great factors in making Oregon dry. Let us give the women the credit which they deserve in this matter. Many of the women who voted for prohibition were not only sober, but they were also sane and their vote was a great boost for the cause of woman suffrage.

Truth Crushed Will Rise. Roseburg News. In spite of the calumnies and aspersions that were cast statewide about the condition of Salem and Roseburg under prohibition, both of those cities returned a large majority against the liquor traffic than at the previous election. Such a vote of confidence of the citizens most interested should refute the slanders stronger than any words of denial could do, and will go far in redeeming their fair names from the dishonorable dishonor that was sought to be heaped upon them.

Not Laboratory for Experiment. Rainier Review. One fact stands out conspicuously in the outcome of last Tuesday's election, and it is a gratifying one: that the women of Oregon have shown that they are not only capable of thinking and reason for themselves—they have awakened to the fact that Oregon is not a place in which to try every bill that may be framed in the heat of the fanatic or crank—that they will no longer suffer our state to be chloroformed, dissected, ripped up and torn to pieces by a party or a newspaper. Tomfoolery legislation equally as diabolical and dangerous to our progressiveness and prosperity.

It Was Triumph of Character. Corvallis Gazette-Times. No matter how Dr. James Withycombe may cause him to express himself, it is unmistakably a fact that his victory at the polls yesterday was a personal triumph rather than a party victory, or a newspaper success. It was a triumph of character, a clean and unassailable public life of service to the people without a single stain. Without these assets in the degree possessed by the Corvallis candidate, all of the work by the party and the support offered by newspapers, all the partisanship appeal, could not have elected him in the face of the amazing ridicule, the vicious cartooning, the thorough misrepresentation, and the outrageous distortion of his attitude toward the questions of state interest.

Good Job on Freak Legislation. Eugene Guard. The large number of vicious and unscrupulous proposals which were introduced to such an extent that many of them apparently went down the line voting no. The eight-hour law and the law extending the term of office of defeated by a three to one vote and the fact that the majority against them was so overwhelmingly great will possibly have a salutary effect on the proposals of their class, off of the ballot in the future.

There is a great deal of expense involved in the submission of bills to the legislature, and bills should not be submitted unless there is some real demand for them. If the result of this election is to have a ten-cent increase of the number of freak proposals in the future the returns will mean much to the State of Oregon.

Vote of Confidence Discovered. Creswell Chronicle. The re-election of Senator George E. Chamberlain by a large majority indicates that the people of Oregon have not lost confidence in the Democratic party and its National policies. During the six years that Senator Chamberlain has been in Congress he has held some of the most important positions on Senate committees. His drafting and the successful passage of the Alkali bill is one of the most important measures that have been passed during the Wilson Administration.

That could a Republican Senator in a Democratic Congress and during a Democratic administration accomplish for the people of Oregon? He could not do a position on any of the important committees and his vote on practically all bills would be counted with the minority.

Factors That Caused Results. St. Helens Mist. Aside from his Democratic policies Senator Chamberlain is a very successful man. Also, the Republican nominee, Mr. Booth, was not a strong man for the reason that he had been disappointed with large number of opposition and his company had been in the courts with reference to the securing of title to the lands. Many of the voters against him, and whether true or not, they had the effect of turning thousands of voters away from him.

One factor of fact it has been proven during this campaign to people who have studied the question arising, that Mr. Booth is a clean, able and conscientious man and would have been a credit to Oregon in the United States Senate. The campaign of abuse directed against Dr. Withycombe, without a particle of fact, it has been clearly intended it should. The fact that no word touching upon his integrity or honesty of purpose or suspicious character was ever mentioned in this state could be made cause the people to have renewed confidence in a man who is a very successful man in the state, with the exception of Columbia County, and met the people. He told them about conditions of the state and what he would do, never once maligning or throwing mud at his opponent or the people who were opposing him. This method of campaigning met with favor. Dr. Withycombe will make an excellent Governor.

Great Chamberlain Mystery. Joseph Herald. As a vote-getter Chamberlain has them all skinned to a frazzle. How he manages to run so far ahead of his ticket every time is a mystery.

OPTIMISM SHOULD BE KEYNOTE. Reimbursement May Be Necessary, but Business Improvement Is Sure.

Portland, Nov. 9.—(To the Editor.)—Two of the best states in the Union have gone dry, and, irrespective of what may be our personal opinion in respect to the justice of the cause, we, as good citizens, must abide by the decision of the majority. This majority was much larger than the most sanguine expectation of the drys, and as the same voters on all other measures showed the good judgment in voting down all unjust and drastic legislation, their opinions, therefore, must demand our respect, even though we may not be in accord with the logic that prompted their decision.

The fight for prohibition has been a long and stubborn one, and in late years has been one of economic efficiency in physical endurance and a better developed mentality. The subject of prohibition has grown in popularity through the exacting demands of sobriety of those seeking positions of trust and responsibility. This is demanded by railroad companies and all large corporate interests. In many cases splendid efficiency is subordinated to the less talented but more docile, and their conditions have been brought about, we are now facing them, and as loyal citizens must accept the verdict.

The country of Oregon is now in a political complexion. We are now living under a Democratic administration, and though many of us do not belong to the dominant party, we still hold allegiance to the President and our institutions. Without prejudice, assuming any responsibility for the success of prohibition, our only duty is to do the best of new condition and adjust ourselves to it.

In states with so many varied interests as have Oregon and Washington, the elimination of one interest of such doubtful value should cause us any particular anxiety. Our first endeavor should be to assist in the establishing in other industries those upon whom the burden of this law is the most severe. It is hardly possible that we should have our varied resources dependent for our prosperity and development, industrial and social, on a business of such questionable value as the sale of liquor.

War scarce, business dull, prohibition the only thing to be depended on to do about it? Are we going to lay off our salesmen and acknowledge defeat, or are we going out for a better thing than we are getting? We may have the same number of customers. They will all eat three meals a day. They are buying the necessities and luxuries of the just the same, and the live business man is going to get his business just the same and more of it, so don't worry, but push. Be cheerful, and your business will flourish.

W. H. BEHARELL. A committee consisting of A. C. McAlpine, B. Bowman, Mr. Judge, Dr. Newcomb, Charles Sterling and A. J. Reilly was appointed to solicit membership at a meeting of the Portland Athletic Club last night.

New York, Nov. 7.—The "trust clause" in the will of the late Samuel J. Tilden, which was intended to give the Hayes was reversed by Justice Lawrence today. The clause provided for the establishment of libraries in this and other cities.

Washington, Nov. 7.—Ex-President Cleveland and Mrs. Cleveland, after a visit to Charles Sterling's wedding today, drove to the White House and paid their respects to President and Mrs. Harrison.

Half a Century Ago. From The Oregonian, November 9, 1864. Yesterday morning an active little fellow, Charles Sterling, offered a "hurrah" for Mick Lillian's "addiction." The effect was overpowering, especially the "addiction."

We were surprised a few days since at the intelligence that there is an organized band of desperadoes in our midst, who are ready to take any time to fire the city in different places for purposes of plunder and theft. The police have been notified and are alert for any emergency.

As usual in Oregon, yesterday was a decidedly wet day. The operations of order prevailed everywhere throughout the city, however, and items were decidedly dry.

E. W. McGraw, Reuben Weeks, Theodore Silver, H. E. Rountree, W. H. Brooks, Charles Sterling, Dr. Pardine, Rev. T. E. Sanderson and Mrs. A. G. Reek were among the passengers of the Cambridge, which sailed for Honolulu yesterday morning. The cargo consisted of lumber, 50,000 pounds of oats and 200 barrels of salmon.

Oregon City, Nov. 8.—Oregon City, 134 for Lincoln and 55 for McClellan. Canemah, 46 for Lincoln and two for McClellan; Linn City, 27 for Lincoln and seven for McClellan.

New York, Nov. 7.—General Butler has assumed command of the military forces of the state to keep order during the election.

Joseph Bunting, of Olympia, Washington Territory, hears that persons of that name have crossed the plains this year, and if they are any relation of his, wishes to hear from them.

The bark industry will be ready to take cargo for San Francisco tomorrow. The cargo consists of lumber, sufficient for a full cargo, and three vessels could find freight ample for an outward voyage. The past has been a very successful one for the farming community, and all the rest besides.

New York, Nov. 6.—Rainy weather has assumed command of the military forces of the state to keep order during the election.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian, November 8, 1889. Lord H. A. Brassy, of London, passed through the city yesterday. He is said to be simply "viewing the country," a process which he accomplishes through a dazzling pair of eyeglasses.

The main floor of the Portland Hotel presents a busy scene now. The large dining-room is littered with piles of the hardwood finish for the room. Carpenters are working down towards the main floor with the woodwork.

D. M. Dunne left yesterday for an eight-day business trip to San Francisco.

The premises at Fourth and Oak streets, vacated by Major John United States Engineers, are to be occupied by Major Hanbury and his force of clerks.

The scarcity of apples has caused a sharp advance in prices. A lot was sold to ship to Sitka at \$1.25 per box, and a lot for shipment to China at the same price.

When Captain Parker, of the Hermonie, now in port and loading for England at the Flouring Mill dock, looked at the chart of his voyage from Newcastle, he noticed that the track of his ship in the ocean had described the lineaments of a woman's face.

The electric road to St. Johns is in operation and conveying passengers. The road passes through the Peninsula Addition, giving all the residents of that district a 5-cent fare to Portland.

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