

The Oregonian

Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as second-class matter. Subscription Rates: In Advance: (By Mail.) Daily, Sunday included, one year \$8.00...

forgot. Nine Americans out of ten feel kindly to England and do not want her empire shattered.

OUR PLEASE-DON'T POLICY. The New York World, which is for President Wilson, but against Secretary Bryan, finds itself out of accord with the strange naval practices of Secretary Daniels.

and all pupils would be on the same level. None need fall behind the class for want of books. Most of the changes of textbooks are senseless.

rule of any nation large territory, a considerable majority of the population of which remains subject to that nation against its will, there will be danger of further wars.

Twenty-Five Years Ago. From The Oregonian, December 23, 1889. Carl Abraham has been appointed postal agent between Portland and Astoria.

GARDNER ON NATIONAL DEFENSE. Excerpts From Representative's Speech in Favor of Public Inquiry. Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt advised the American people to look carefully into the system of compulsory military training which the Labor party in Australia has organized for all Australians.

Half a Century Ago. From The Oregonian, December 23, 1864. Opita, Shurt & Co., of the Oregon Bakery, announce to the public that they have installed their new cracker-making machine and are turning out crackers by the millions.

THE BOUNDS OF NEUTRALITY.

Some persons inspired, consciously or unconsciously, by partiality to one party to the present war and other persons inspired by an excessive anxiety to preserve the neutrality of the United States are endeavoring to put a strained construction upon the term neutrality. The class first named sees war material exported almost exclusively to the anti-Teuton powers, and charges partiality because Germany and Austria receive little or nothing from this country.

THEY STRIVE TO PLEASE.

During the stirring days of free-liver agitation, back in 1896, when Oregon recovered its balance from its indebtedness to the world, a Republican convention to nominate a Congressman was held at Albany. In the height of its deliberations a prominent candidate, who had raised his voice for silver, but who had made the calls of any American citizen who is abused or outraged in a foreign land.

HOW TO WRITE.

An ambitious young reader asked the Kansas City Star what was meant by a "literary style." That valued paper did not attempt to answer directly. It contented itself with citing an example or two by way of warning rather than by way of instruction.

SMASHING AN IDOL.

It is agreeable to observe some bold attempts to smash the idolized four years' college course. President Hyde of Bowdoin, an advanced educational missionary, seems to have begun the new iconoclasm. No doubt he will soon marshal a band of followers.

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE IN CONGRESS.

Treatment as a National Question is Proper, Says Correspondent. PORTLAND, Dec. 23.—(To The Editor.)—The amendment which is generally known as the "Susan B. Anthony amendment" granting National equal suffrage to women, will be discussed in the House on Monday next.

CHRISTMAS EVE ON ROARIN' RIVER.

Christmas eve on Roarin' river! No use talkin' about it, it's just a "Nuff to start a streak o' music dancin' in through a feller's breast. Jest to think 'o' them old windys when the wind blows in from the sea."

A FEW WORDS TO STEPFATHERS.

They Should See That Children Have a Real Joyful Christmas. PORTLAND, Dec. 23.—(To The Editor.)—The orphan has been exploited with assurance that he will have a measurably cheerful Christmas. If he does not it will not be his fault, but of the man who has given of their time and means.

OUR OUTGROWN ARMOR.

Representative Gardner put his finger on some very sore spots in our system of military and naval preparedness for war in his recent speech. Excerpts from his address before Congress, presented in another column, indicate that his outburst was not one of mere oratory. He used facts and figures of a most accusing nature.

FREE TEXTBOOKS.

Some of the current criticisms on the public schools are well taken and some are not. It is perfectly natural to find fault with the schools for their shortcomings. Senator Day expresses a prevalent view when he says that "the schools have too many trimmings."

POSSIBILITIES OF PEACE.

Undaunted by the rejection of Pope Benedict's proposals, the committee headed by H. Van de Riviere, editor of the Provinciale Groninger Courant, have invited The Oregonian to join the other principal daily papers of neutral countries in "an entirely new and honest program of peace."

ACCURACY OF AUTHOR DOUBTED.

NEWBERG, Or., Dec. 22.—(To The Editor.)—In your article in which you refer to Professor William E. Dodd as the author of the statement that Seward was a slave owner you say, in connection with the Mexican war, that Jefferson Davis "exercised his influence upon the war while he was chairman of the Senate committee on military affairs."

MUTS PERFORMING NOBLE WORK.

They Are Demonstrating Practical Patriotism, Says Vice of St. Johns. PORTLAND, Dec. 23.—(To The Editor.)—Kindly permit me to say a few words in regard to the activities of that splendid, result-producing organization known as the Muts. While the name may be abbreviated, their efficiency in serving humanity certainly is not.

DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EARLY.

We refer, of course, to Christmas of next year. Watchful waiting seems to have been replaced by a policy of "please don't." The greatest problem of all is getting the children to bed this evening. However, Old Selfishness will get nothing refreshing out of Christmas.

AS YOU ACT SO DO OTHERS.

When you find a circular under your door, you throw it away. Yet you welcome your newspaper as an important and influential visitor. In a sense the newspaper holds a direct commission from you and every item in it is of greater or less importance.

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WHAT IF THE PURSE DOES LOOK TONIGHT AS IF A MASTODON TROD ON IT!

Santa Claus will be on the job in a few hours now. No one would object to a flurry of snow tonight.

PLAN OF "WORKING" FATHER.

Working father is the favorite employment of those who must work their way through school.

DEFINITION OF AN ESCUTCHEON.

"Papa, what is an escutcheon?" "Why?" "This story says there was a prot on a scutcheon in 1011, yet an escutcheon is a light-colored vest. It had probably been carrying a fountain pen."

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