

The Oregonian

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MOSSBACHISM IN THE NAVY.

Recent events in the German submarine campaign against British commerce add weight to the Navy's criticisms on Secretary Daniels' policy regarding that type of vessels.

Recently, however, submarines have shown ability in attacking liners, the Falaba having been run down and sunk after a long chase, a ship having been sunk off the coast of Galway, far north on the west coast of Ireland, and another off Cape Finisterre, 800 miles from the nearest German base.

In the face of these plain lessons of the war, Mr. Daniels is unwilling even to consider the building of a seagoing submarine with a surface speed of twenty-five knots.

Neither could Patton's engine drive an ocean liner across the Atlantic, but it has a potential power lay out and awaited only its development by the hands of man to produce a submarine engine.

Mr. Daniels displays the same kind of mossbachism which, again to quote The Navy, "delayed the introduction of steam power for the propulsion of warships; that nearly prevented the building of the Monitor by Ericson; that delayed the development of the submarine in the late 1800's; that prevented the development of aeroplanics in the Army and Navy; and that was responsible for England, instead of the United States, building the first dreadnought."

There is good reason to expect that as a result of the experience gained in the present war submarines will supplant cruisers as commerce-destroyers and will be a terror to battleships.

The best means of combating the submarine appear to be destroyers and aeroplanes. The former can spy out and ram a submarine, or ram it from above. It has time to dive, and can by speed and rapid evolution evade its attacks.

Mr. Daniels in his annual report admits the importance of aircraft, says "The Department will develop this important branch of the navy service steadily and rapidly," and that "their steady increase on a large scale is a fixed policy of the Department," yet he asks for no specific appropriation.

Mr. Sheridan's downfall conveys a warning to men, both in his position and in his victims. The very fulfillment of the confidence reposed in him should have made him the more scrupulously faithful to his trust.

Water powers in states that have adopted through methods of the "water trust" for the benefit of the consuming public are in effect bottled.

neglect proper business precautions, in whom they have the utmost faith.

It is not our purpose," says Mr. Smith, of the Labor Council, "to force a minimum wage by threats, but we will vote and work against the \$1,250,000 road bond issue because of the action of the County Commissioners just as we would if we knew an inferior pavement was to be laid."

The parallel is not perfect. It would be, however, if Mr. Smith had notified the public that organized labor would vote against the bond issue unless the County Commissioners would agree to pay, say, \$2 per square yard for paving when the current price for standard pavement is \$1.25 per yard.

Or suppose the paving companies, popularly known as the "combine," had through their representatives boldly informed the County Board that unless they could get \$2 per yard for \$1.25 pavement, they would throw the bond issue, undoubtedly the public, including Mr. Smith and his colleagues, would have risen in its wrath to say it was a threatavoring of a deliberate hold-up.

Now Labor Leader Smith sounds the doom of the bond issue, because the proposal of a minimum wage was rejected. Possibly, but we hope not, it is quite certain that if it had been agreed to, however, the people would have voted down the bonds.

The plan for \$1,250,000 bonds means good roads for Multnomah County, but it distributes the burden of at least \$1,000,000 in labor. The opposition of Mr. Smith and his sympathizers, if successful, means poor roads, and no money for labor. It is a losing scheme for the public and particularly for the class he professes to represent.

MARRIAGE IN OREGON.

The recendite marriage statistics which Mr. Wembridge has industriously collected and which he publishes in The Oregonian today possess more than a merely curious interest.

The fact, for example, that the average age of marriage for men in this state is about 26 years encourages us to believe that our population treats this important matter with great good sense. The best authorities upon etiology assure us that the age of 26 is the best time in life for a man to make his first matrimonial venture.

We learn again from Mr. Wembridge's statistics that Oregon women marry, upon the average, at about the age of 25, which again is exactly what suggests itself to the wisest of men. It is extremely early marriage is not recommended by scientific men either on the score of economics or eugenics.

The fact that farmers find their wives somewhat earlier in life than men of other callings throws an interesting ray upon the economic situation here. It shows that farmers are, as a class, able to support a family several years before the lawyers, doctors or merchants can hope to do so.

What Mr. Wembridge tells us about the matrimonial preferences of widows and widowers has at least a poetical value. It indicates the vagaries of romance in the mind of the bereft adult. The reason why a large majority of the widows choose young men for their second mates may be discovered by the discerning reader in Tom Jones' London Adventures.

It is the belief of the official publication of the American Mining Congress that the state of Washington wants to do the right thing by the West. The support given the leasing and water-power bills was with the thought that the people of the states concerned desired the legislation.

As between the two bills Oregon's chief concern is in the water-power question. This state, through its Legislature, has shown its wakeness by inviting the Western public land states to send delegates to a conference to be held in Portland next Fall.

use of that which is going to waste. We believe that there is a lively realization throughout the West that any leasing plan which embraces the policy of exacting Government revenues from natural resources is but a charge against the consumer and a boon upon the West.

The so-called water-power conference is not likely to be a stickler on credentials. It will doubtless welcome to its councils all elements that Western welfare at heart. Its chief purpose is to formulate a policy as to the public land issue on which all Western States may get together.

MODERATE PRICES AT THE EXPOSITION.

Effective arrangements have been made by the Exposition authorities at San Francisco to keep visitors of small means from being inconvenienced by the high prices of the hotels.

There is no reason to believe that prices at the Exposition have been seriously inflated. Visitors will not be robbed either in the city or on the grounds unless they willfully expose themselves to imposture.

FOOD AND MONEY.

When the households of the poor are pinched by hard times they economize first on food. The quantity is diminished and the quality debased.

It is idle to devise schemes of efficiency for the human engine unless it can be fed with sufficient fuel to keep it in working order. Nor should we expect the children of the poor to be of the best human material unless their parents are well nourished.

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Science has been invoked to secure nutritive value at small expense. For example 5 cents' worth of bread furnishes "the same nutrition as 15 cents' worth of apple pie or 18 cents' worth of pork and beans or 61 cents' worth of club sandwiches."

The phrase "fighting whisky" is becoming obsolete. Mars is so disgusted with the inefficiency of its votaries that he is dragging them on the water wagon.

In the process of cleaning the German language of foreign words the Teuton must remember that the classic is American, not English, and go ahead.

Some Berliners are taking the hint given by that French princess when the Paris mob rioted for bread. She said: "Why don't they eat cake?"

The sensible young women at Month will graduate in gowns to cost less than \$5.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian, April 3, 1890. Washington—The anti-trust bill was reported yesterday from the Judiciary committee and is signed as all manner of monopolistic combinations, etc.

Russia seems to be in a ferment. The common people have joined the students in the general revolution-like spirit and are demanding a reduction of admission fees, general admission of Jews and an equality basis for male and female students.

London—The London press is generally against the Entente Cordiale for entering the German service and organizing an expedition to return to the equatorial province he formerly governed.

Walter R. Vivian, the popular engineer of Engine No. 4, Portland paid a visit to the new brand of first-class cigars "The Portland."

Cy Gunst, the popular cigar dealer, has paid the new Portland Hotel a pretty compliment. The compliment consists of naming the new brand of first-class cigars "The Portland."

CURIOS FACTS ABOUT MARRIAGE.

Majority of Widowers Wed Widows, but Widows Prefer Inexperienced. PORTLAND, April 2.—(To the Editor.)—What is the average age of marriage in Oregon? The best statistics that can be gotten to answer this question are the reports made to the State Health Bureau by the preachers and legal authorities who do the marrying.

Because the chimney sweep is a rather disreputable-looking person is not reason for thinking him good, and the effort to place him in such standing by city ordinance and license fee is commendable, especially the fee part.

J. P. Morgan's collection of art is to be taxed and announcement is made that the treasures will be sold. There are a few things Mr. Morgan did not inherit.

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OREGON GREAT ON PRECEDENTS

Latest One In 50-Cent Democratic Banquet on Good Friday. PORTLAND, April 2.—(To the Editor.)—By tradition long observed April 1 is the day set apart for the unmitigated anti.

Well, there are some Democrats as well as some Republicans who don't know Good Friday from a bad Friday and they also make a mistake in calling over Republicans' brought the Bull Moose into the world and they might at least let us take care of our goat-pup democracy.

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Year of Taxes.

PORTLAND, April 2.—(To the Editor.)—For what year are the city taxes that become delinquent today? Last year's tax statements says that city taxes were for year 1914, this year's statement says the total amount of taxes are presumably for year 1914.

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Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of April 2, 1860. The cause and condition of the Christian Commission was presented to a full house at the union meeting at the Presbyterian Church last evening by Mr. Atkinson and at the close of the services a collection was taken up to aid the fund, which amounted to \$1178 in currency.

Mr. Atkinson has brought an elegant shell-decorated table from the bark Almatia and will sell it before he sails away.

Yesterday Mr. Atkinson delivered his last sermon previous to his departure for the East, at the Congregational Church.

An unsuccessful attempt to rob the hardware store of E. J. Northrup was made Sunday morning. The burglar attempted entrance through the side door on Yamhill street, but was turned back by an iron door.

The new and extensive book-binding establishment of our friend William Siebert in the Oregonian block is really one of the best institutions of the city.

Mr. Moulthrop, of this city, has shown us a mousetrap in the shape of a chicken with three legs, two bodies and one head.

The following letter was thrown over to our (Union) men on the line of battle.

What makes you rise so early? My neighbors, today my chickens! Oh, you chickens! Oh, you chickens! Is all I can reply.

What makes you look so sad and blue? My neighbors all outcry; Your chickens! Oh, you chickens! In sadness I reply.

What makes you cry so sorely? My neighbors, today my chickens! Oh, you chickens! Oh, you chickens! Is all I can reply.

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TERRORS OF THE FROZEN NORTH

in the Sunday Oregonian. Fear now is expressed among the students of the Arctic regions that two more lives have been sacrificed in the quest for information of the frozen territory of the North.

Members of the Franciscan order of priests observe annually in their monastery near Washington, D. C., religious rites precisely the same as those performed each Easter by their brethren in charge of the holy places in Palestine.

At this season of the year a story telling something of the lives and the works of three of the best-known women hymn writers is of peculiar interest. The three subjects selected for this theme are: Fanny Crosby, Annie Sherwood Hawkes and Alice Holmes.

In less than a year the United States will have the first dreadnought submarine ever constructed. A brief sketch gives some of the details concerning it and tells of its possibilities as a fighting unit.

Frank D. Casassa, lieutenant of detectives of the New York City police department, tells The Oregonian readers some of his experiences in using the third degree, which has been so much criticized and concerning which there is so little general knowledge.

Of those persons who married a second time, 61 per cent of the women preferred single men, while 55 per cent of the men who had been married before chose widows.

It was found that in the city women tend to marry over a wider stretch of years than do the men in the country. This tends to show that as the country gets past the customary age of marriage, which is 24.3 years, she has slightly less chance of getting married than a woman in the city.

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