

The Oregonian

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YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 80 deg.; minimum, 52.

TODAY'S WEATHER—Fair and slightly warmer; northerly winds.

PORTLAND, SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 1904.

JAPANESE WRITING. Since Japan has come so prominently to the front, in the category of nations, everything that relates to her history and to her people is invested with new interest.

The Chinese characters are symbolic; the words monosyllabic. A written character stands for a word, and a word often for an idea. In this respect the Chinese characters are like the pictures on the back of a screen.

But, at base, the writing of Chinese is picture writing; just as the writing of ancient Egypt was; and it is an interesting fact that the Japanese have dealt with the Chinese system of writing precisely as did the Phoenicians with the Egyptian hieroglyphs.

The Japanese have chosen forty-seven signs from the thousands employed by the Chinese, and these they used phonetically only; that is to say, as true sound-carrying letters. They have taken Chinese characters that have certain sounds, when pronounced, and use them alphabetically, or syllabically, rather, as sounding signs.

The most important human invention is the alphabet. It was made by selection from Egyptian characters certain ones which seemed to be as sounding signs, and their combinations gave the desired results.

It is not pretended that, if the Republican majority in Oregon on Monday is not large, there will be danger that the state will not vote for Roosevelt in November. That is not at all a statement of the case.

that. It is the Republican vote now that will tell in his favor. And those who will vote against Roosevelt in November know it, and for this reason want to hold the vote down now.

Certain Democrats of Portland, notably C. S. Jackson, J. N. Teal and Thomas N. Strong, have collaborated on an enterprise having for its object the defeat of a certain portion of the Republican Legislative ticket in this country. They have done this under the guise of defending the charter from amendment, although this ostensible movement against charter amendment is promoted by those who have their own amendments.

The Oregonian has said that it was impugned in those who mean to oppose a ticket in any event to make certain demands upon the component membership of the ticket. This has been reported, but the justice of the charge is now fully apparent.

There are no such postal cards. There is no appeal for help to the Republican friends of the charter. The insincere and dishonest nature of this movement against the Republican ticket is stamped on its very face. The question is, how will Republicans meet this assault upon the integrity of the Republican column?

That is, in fact, the whole question at the polls tomorrow. What kind of Republicans have we in Multnomah County? Will they co-operate in Democratic conspiracies or repel them as they ought to repel them?

The Philadelphia Press fought the late Senator Quay all his days with unrelenting vigor and courage, and it confesses that he was for more than thirty years the absolute ruler of Pennsylvania politics. He began his career as an insurgent against the sway of the Cameron ring.

There is a well-defined movement in progress in this city the object of which is to secure an increase in the salary of teachers in the public schools of Multnomah County. The demand appears to be held by bonds of personal affection, like Duroc and Bessieres, and when he found a restless military malcontent, like Kleber, Moreau, Bernadotte, a man that could not be won by military honors, money, flattery or friendship, he got rid of him at the first opportunity.

Quay succeeded in Pennsylvania because, while it is the second greatest state of the Union in wealth and population, it is a comparatively dull and stupid state. It is the home of the "Morning Call." Outside of Benjamin Franklin, who was born in Boston, and Thaddeus Stevens, who was born and grew to manhood in Vermont, Pennsylvania has contributed no statesman of permanent consequence to the annals of the country, unless we rate James Buchanan and J. G. Blaine as statesmen of superior distinction.

Franklin, who was born in Boston, and Thaddeus Stevens, who was born and grew to manhood in Vermont, Pennsylvania has contributed no statesman of permanent consequence to the annals of the country, unless we rate James Buchanan and J. G. Blaine as statesmen of superior distinction.

This is manifestly unjust. Not before in many years has it cost so much to live in Portland as it costs now. To save anything—even the merest pittance—from a salary of \$700 or \$800 a year requires economy amounting to absolute parsimony in expenditures.

No memorial day since 1897 has roused the American people with such universal enthusiasm as the American soldier. Patriotic fervor that is ordinarily unrestrained by political considerations has been harnessed ever since Dewey sailed into Manila Bay in 1898.

Republicans of Multnomah County and of the State of Oregon have long looked forward to the day when party harmony could be restored here and the party management intrusted to hands that would justify their tenure by broad and statesmanlike policy.

It has been so in the campaign. The county committee has done its best for the whole ticket, regardless of the previous affiliation of nominees, and if it has been more active at one point than at another it has been because that point needed more help.

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SIGNIFICANCE OF OUR ELECTION

Providence (R. I.) Journal. Like Rhode Island and Montana, Oregon is a Northern state with a Democratic Governor. There will be an election there on Monday, June 7.

Of the men primarily responsible for turning the sudden results that came to James Abraham into a church building fund through flattery an old man's vanity on playing upon an old man's conscience, many have passed on. The church, between heroic self-denial on the part of its laity and persistent begging from its officials, sees the beginning of the end of its long struggle with debt, and Jane Abraham, robbed alike by pretended friends and enemies, awaits a help furnished by charity, the end of a sad chapter, already too long delayed.

Dr. Silverthorne, of Toronto, gave, in a recent issue of the Canadian Practitioner and Review, a paper on the identification of blood stains with the aid of medicolegal testimony recently given in a criminal case in this state, is interesting. He says that until two years ago the medical expert was given a blood stain and he was to give a blood stain to say that it was mammalian blood, and that from examination and measurements it was conclusively human blood.

JONAS OF MUNICIPAL LIFE.

Chicago Journal. The greatest fault of those who assume to be "civic reformers" is that they are not reformers, but "knockers," pure and simple. This is true in Chicago as elsewhere. The men and the so-called reform bodies that are engaged in the work of exposing corruption in official places and who see no virtue in any municipal policy that is not measured by their own standards, are apt to lose sight of the fact that it will require something more than a chronic bewailment of civic corruption to bring about an era of civic honesty.

Another "Most Wicked" City. Philadelphia Inquirer. It has been the custom, owing to the very strenuous political campaigns that have marked the past few years, to hold Philadelphia up as the example of municipal wickedness to be shunned. It places other cities to call it unclean and a victim of the worst elements of society. The other day the Law and Order Society had much to say and scathingly arraigned the authorities for permitting the lowest forms of vice to exist and to flourish broadcast. Now comes a clergyman—Rev. Madison C. Peters—to object to such a charge. He believes it to be unfounded, and declares that in 20 years he has not known vice to be so hidden and veiled and frightened as it is today.

Gambling "Closed" at Seattle.

Seattle Argus. While gambling has been stopped in Seattle, Seattle people have not been stopped from gambling. Since the poolrooms have been closed in Seattle they have been removed to Georgetown, where they are apparently doing as much business as ever.

There are some notes on the history of Oregon fifty years ago on the 26th page of this issue, that will interest the reader. No reader concerned with the history of Oregon should overlook them.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

A Sonnet to Mount Hood. Mount Hood seems I do not hold with those who'd cheapen one of Portland's fairest sights. By greeting thee as Nature's Slack of Whites, Nor when the sunset flushes thee with rose, And turns to pink the Summer Daisies of snow, With green meadows, shall this pen that writes Compare thy blush to that faint blush which lights The tall-tale tip of some young Drinker's nose.

Answers to Correspondents. WINSOME WILLE—No, the headquarters of the Elks Club are not at Second and Oak. A. K. K.—You had better buy a bottle this evening. All closed tomorrow. FLOESIE—Ask Beatrice Mestiva. Our own idea would be to land him one in the state if he goes out with the other girl.

Money talks. Some is being wagered on more than one candidate for Sheriff, so it doesn't always tell the truth. The Liberty Bell is on another jaunt, although one would think it had earned the right to rest for the remainder of its days. Both the busy candidate, in hopes of gaining place, and the slow candidate, in hopes of advertising space.

The Interurban line between Seattle and Tacoma is said to have put on an extra car for the convenience of Seattle men that want to gamble and must go to Tacoma to find a place with the lid off. And yet some people were foolish enough to say that the law making gambling a felony would benefit nobody. Just look at the benefit to the Interurban.

John Fisher, a Pennsylvania youth, came home from his work in Milleville one day last week, and found that his supper wasn't ready. He flew into a rage, and whilst under the influence of passion abated himself. Perhaps it was just as well, for if a boy of 19 gets so mad at having to wait for his supper, what a frenzy would have seized him in later life, when his wife was late with her cooking. His suicide probably saved the divorce courts a job.

In describing a boxing match for the championship of the British naval squadron in the Pacific, the Victoria (B. C.) Colonist says: The duck, sidestep and slip were not used as much as they might have been, and the counters were too late by the fraction of a second to be alarming as the counter always is, landing at the psychological moment on the physiological spot where the well-timed impact can execute the maximum shock.

Accidents, says the old saw, will happen in the best regulated families. Who could guard against such an accident as the Dayton (Wash.) Courier-Press records in the following paragraph: Mr. E. A. Ryerson, a few days ago, had a very peculiar experience, which resulted in being compelled to sleep one night with one of his shoes on. He had bought a new pair which were a good fit and very comfortable, but the shoemaker had neglected to pull out the large tack from the center of the sole, the point of which had become bent forward. When he tried to take the shoe off the point of the tack entered the foot, and the hater he pulled the deeper went the tack, and soon his shoe was full of blood. As it was late at night he went to bed with the shoe on, and in the morning he secured assistance and got the shoe off all right. So next time you see a man go to bed with his boots on, don't jump at conclusions. WEXFORD JONES.