

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 1905.

THE FLIGHT OF RUSIA.

Russia is a victim of her ignorance of Japan. She underrated the fighting power of the country with which she provoked war. It seemed to Russia really absurd, in Japan, to raise her protest against the continued military occupation of Manchuria by Russia—for what was Japan going to do about it? Russia threatened to treat Japan's protests with contempt. Some of them she didn't deign to answer. To others she returned evasive answers, after long periods. Russia was bored. She thought Japan impudent. She deemed it presumptuous for such a nation as Japan to press insistently as she was doing on matters in controversy, Russia was in Manchuria and meant to stay there. She had Port Arthur and was fortifying it, contrary to agreement; was converting it into a powerful naval station. To the remonstrances of Japan she turned a deaf ear—since it pleased her majesty to suppose Japan couldn't help herself. Japan wouldn't dare go to war with mighty Russia, and if she should, Russia would crush her in three months and there would be an end.

A COUNTRY OF EXPERIMENTS.

In the Southern hemisphere are the two islands which make up New Zealand. This area is about 115,000 square miles, and covers Oregon's 96,000. The population is now 850,000 and growing rapidly. The climate is healthy, the land productive, the people prosperous. All this is in the handbooks. What has not yet been published broadcast is that, although labor unions are strong and aggressive, although strikes are self-assertive and bound to occur, they have been practically done away with since the arbitration and conciliation act, passed in 1894, was amended and passed into general and compulsory use in 1900. Two courts are thereby created. One is the Conciliation Court, composed of an equal representation of employers and employees, with a disinterested chairman to hold the scales. Any party to a labor dispute may apply to this court and get prompt hearing. If either party fails to appoint the necessary arbitrator, the government selects one and the hearing proceeds. Appeals may be taken to the Arbitration Court, and from its decisions there is no further appeal. This court, at its own option, either gives advice or issues an award. Failure to comply with the award brings a penalty of \$500 on a culpable employer, and the same amount against a trades union if a party. If the union fails or is unable to pay the penalty, each member of the union is responsible for its default up to the amount of \$50. Under this system strikes are said to have disappeared, and work goes on without interruption.

THE MISSOURI REPUBLICANS.

Missouri has finally elected a Republican as United States Senator, Major William Warner, a lawyer, an ex-Congressman of Kansas City, and a well-known figure in Grand Army circles. It is a surprise to many, and a most vexatious and discreditable factional row that bids fair to throw away entirely the fruits of a hard-won and unexpected Republican victory. The contest had lasted from January 18 to the day of the Legislature's adjournment, and had been conducted with much bitterness and some scandal. It ended finally in great uproar. Niedringhaus was the caucus nominee. He is chairman of the Missouri Republican State Committee, and he was boss of the Republican state organization. He had supplanted in control of the machine Richard C. Kerens, a very rich man who had led the party in a consistent record of defeat through many years. The Republican upheaval found Niedringhaus in position to claim the fruits of victory. But Kerens organized a caucus bolt and the result is that these two bosses have killed off each other, and permitted a desirable choice to be made.

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THE MING AND THE BOOK.

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more severely than ever Napoleon was able to shake her. Japan, advancing through Manchuria and towards Siberia, will organize and consolidate the country against Russia. Here is the basis of a political scheme that will organize and control Russia for the whole northern line of the Chinese Empire. Here is a new starting-point in the history of the world; why not prodigies now? Russia will be shut up in Europe and in Arctic Asia. Japan will be the leading Oriental nation. China, though retaining her nominal independence, will admit or accept the hegemony of Japan. History is full of surprises. Here is one of them.

STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT.

Subdivision of lands is a great need in our newer states, and will be, yet for a long time. It is necessary, not only in itself and for itself, but for its effect both on town and country life. It is the first necessary step towards relief from frustration for the towns, cannot have growth unless occupation of the lands of the country precedes it. We shall reach a stage after a while where subdivision of lands will cease, and increase of the size of holdings will take its place. But not soon. Conditions of life vary, according to times and circumstances, and the movements of one age do not repeat those of another.

People always wish to get out of life and living the best they can, in the circumstances in which they find themselves; and it is right that they should do so. On the whole, in our present situation, during many years to come, we shall establish and maintain better conditions of life, social and economic, through subdivision of lands and increase of rural population. But in the course of time a limit here also will be reached, as in our older states. It is not necessary to go to New England to see the tendency now towards larger holdings. It may be observed in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. But in our states of the West and South we are in the newer stage of development, and a must be traversed before we reach the conditions that are to succeed it. We haven't yet done with agriculture or for agriculture one-tenth part of what is to be done here; and manufacturers cannot make much advance till we have done more for agriculture and have established a larger population of producers and consumers.

THE SACAJAWEA STATUE.

Local interest has been reawakened in Sacajawea, the intrepid Indian woman who contributed so much to the success of the Lewis and Clark expedition, by announcement that the clay model of the statue that is to be placed in a central position on the Exposition grounds will soon reach the city. The thrilling story of this century-ago journey is replete with interest. The commonest events detailed rise almost to the stature of the heroic, and none are more replete with heroism than those with which the name, the tact, the endurance and the loyalty of the "Bird woman" are connected. The patience, helpfulness, cheerfulness, of this young slave wife of the wholly worthless and stolid human mongrel who was "her master must appeal to the chivalric admiration of all men and enlist the sympathy of all women who learn of her through the journals of the great explorers.

THE PRIVATE SOLDIER.

After all, the science of war consists in delivering the best-equipped, the bravest, most enduring, most healthy, best-instructed private soldier at the critical point of attack or defense in great force. To this end are sent the energies of the General Staff, the Commander-in-Chief, all subordinate commanders down to company officers. To efficiency there, efforts of commissariat, transport, medical staff, communication service, all tend. We have heard so much lately of the Japanese private, all so impressed with his virtues and special qualifications, that it may be worth while to see in what his superiority consists, and if it is really so marked over other races. In Frederick Palmer's most interesting book, "With Kuroki in Manchuria," we see "the private soldier of Japan at close range. He is brave but not reckless, trained to a high point in endurance in marching power equal to any superior to nearly all temperate diet and healthy, obedient to orders, and educated up to the point of comprehension of orders, treating himself in thought and act as a unit in a squad, company or regiment. He is loyal to Emperor and country to the highest degree, kindly and self-sacrificing. With whom shall he be compared? With his Russian antagonist? The Russian soldier was described and photographed the other night by a three years' observer. He, too, is brave; so the blood-curdled battlefields of Manchuria testify. He is simple and obedient, strong with physical advantages. There he stops. He is excitable, and open to panic on one side to barbarity on the other; keeping the peasant's ignorance and stolidity under the soldier's uniform; slow-witted, unbalanced, prone to excess when the door is opened; dependent on his officers for all initiative. By training a machine-like performance of ordinary duty is secured.

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by the Charitable Aid Board, which fills the function of our organized charities. The old-age pension law has materially lightened their labors. But the state recognizes the duty of public charity, and cheerfully pays the cost.

The public school system of the islands is excellent. For some years the plan of one good school at the most accessible point in three or four adjoining country districts, in place of a poor and cheap school in each district, has been in force. A graded school with competent teachers accessible to every child is the aim. The children living at distant homes are taken to the school for their lessons and returned when school is over, at the expense of the school fund. The same plan is making its way in some of the Eastern States, in one at least of the states of the Middle West, and is under experiment in Oregon. The results, both in advantages gained and in cost incurred, will be watched with much interest.

In many other directions New Zealand is boldly accepting the idea of a paternal government. Its ownership of all the 2400 miles of railroad in the colony, except 100 miles of a private road, and its absolute control of the railroads with no bazaar of interstate commerce and all its complications, has enabled it to reduce the profits of the roads to 3 1/2 per cent on the capital invested by the state, all excess over that return being used in reduction of fares and freights.

Under this regime we see a thriving people trying out their idea of self-government and general development, free from the shackles of a paternal government, but independent in life and government, if ever that word can be applied to any people on this wide earth.

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When any one sets himself up as owner of a political party, he is due for a fall. The dream of the actor has become something more than a figure of speech, and never again will the white-winged argosies of trade play the prominent part which in the past they have taken in the world's commerce. With the passing of the sailor there also departs from the literary field a theme which from the earliest ages has supplied great material for romance and story. There was beauty in every curve of the famous clippers which raced around the world before the age of steam, and even the broad-beamed merchantman, booming along under a cloud of canvas, always presented an inspiring sight. These were the craft which originally "drew the world together and spread it apart," and they developed a race of seamen and navigators such as the world will never see again.

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Foreign shipyards have received very heavy orders for 1905 delivery of steam tonnage, but throughout the United Kingdom not a single new order has been received for a deep-water sailing vessel. The dream of the sailor has become something more than a figure of speech, and never again will the white-winged argosies of trade play the prominent part which in the past they have taken in the world's commerce. With the passing of the sailor there also departs from the literary field a theme which from the earliest ages has supplied great material for romance and story. There was beauty in every curve of the famous clippers which raced around the world before the age of steam, and even the broad-beamed merchantman, booming along under a cloud of canvas, always presented an inspiring sight. These were the craft which originally "drew the world together and spread it apart," and they developed a race of seamen and navigators such as the world will never see again.

THE MING AND THE BOOK.

There is a great gap in English and American literature. Fortunately this gap is about to be filled, so that the discovery of its existence need not worry the public unduly. Jack London is the man who has discovered the lacuna, and he is the man of letters who has volunteered to remedy the reproach from the literature of the English tongue. "The prize-rings has never been comprehensively done into literature," says Mr. London; "when it has been attempted it has been a description of a contest between world champions by a man who didn't know anything about it, who had never felt the shock of the knockout. We say at that precious 'done into literature' smacks of the 'literary society,' but, passing over such a trifle, it must be admitted that most of the men who write of the ring do know very little of the jolt and smash of the gloves, especially the real literary gent. Byron was a bit of a boxer, but he didn't do a fight into literature. President Roosevelt is also handy with the gloves, but we doubt if he will ever rank as a maker of literature, except of the tabloid kind exemplified by 'A square deal for every man.' It is unfortunate that the men who are long on literature should be shy on practical experience of boxing, but in the nature of things we fear it is inevitable in the majority of instances.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Professor Williston, of the University of Chicago, has announced that, in a million years or so, man will have vanished from the earth, and that the birds will be boons of all they survey. The professor himself is a bird, which perhaps prejudices him against poor, ordinary men, who have not the inestimable privilege of pronouncing judgment from a Standard Oil chair. The cruiser Washington was launched yesterday. Seattle would have been a shorter name, and would have meant much the same thing—in the opinion of Seattle. Kuropatkin reports that he has handed over to Linievitch command of the "land and sea forces operating against the Japanese." Russia probably forgot before now that she had any sea forces. Passing It Along. "Think not that God does not see you pass the blind beggar and not drop a coin in his cup," says the New Orleans Picayune. "Also think not that the blind beggar does not see you," adds the Louisville Times. "Further think not that the Board of Charities will not condemn you for premature almsgiving," says The Oregonian. And again think not that the blind beggar couldn't better afford to give you a two-bit coin than you could to give him a pigged dime.—Seattle Argus. Government employes in Panama complain that the three-grain quinine pills sent them from "the States" contain only two grains. Why don't they take one pill and a half then, instead of kicking about it? But these charges of graft in connection with hospital supplies read very much like the stories about Russia's Red Cross organization, which caused us to hold up our hands in horror. The President is going to hunt in Colorado. No trusts or anything dangerous this time; just mountain lions. A few practicable alphas would be warmly welcomed by the Russian army just now. Just a trifling mistake by the Canal Commissioners; mistake of making the dirt fly, they are making the mud fly. One thing about the Fair: To see it will be worth paying a fine. It appears that the officers responsible for the whiff of grape-shot which nearly wiped out the Romanoffs "didn't go for to do it." They were just a little negligent in their duties, that's all; and in view of the fact that they nearly hit some one, the Czar might do well to send these officers to the rapidly-retreating "front." The weak Staters to the South are a troublesome lot. Here in Santo Domingo bringing out all sorts of charges and counter-charges in the Senate and elsewhere, and Venezuela is aying up a store of trouble. As benevolent assimilation on such a large scale is out of the question, a little malevolent intimidation might be powerful good thing. That famous passage comparing man's brief life to that of the grass is not fully appreciated by the man behind the lawnmower. To be cut down as the grass doesn't impress him with the frailty of man; indeed, he is inclined to regard it as an evidence of toughness and tenacity. Of all annoying thieves the "trousers thief" is surely the head. To wake up in the morning and find one's trousers gone with all the change that was in the pockets must be a trying affair and, besides, must sooner or later lead to a trying-on affair with the tailor. There is, however, a way to prevent such annoyances. The dodger comes all the way from India, and for once the Orient gives the Occident a good tip on practical affairs. Mrs. Ernest Hart writes in the House Beautiful: "The first time I was introduced into the harem of one of the noblemen of Hyderabad, in the Deccan, I was surprised to find the Begum and her ladies dressed in light-fitting trousers made of rich damask silk. It being the fashion to wear trousers as close-fitting as possible, they are actually worn on and are taken off and changed about once a fortnight." By following this plan, the most adroit sneakthief would be 0-0-1-0-0!

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and history, and another such a breed can never be developed in the modern steamship service. All that glamor of romance which literature has thrown around the pirates and their pursuers on the Spanish Main would have been missing had the black flag hung from the masthead of a steamship instead of a trim sailing vessel, whose chance for safety or capture rested to so great an extent on the skill of the navigator in charge. The steamship has even, cleared away nearly all of that mystery of the sea and robbed it of that—

Magical power which like the wind does nothing can stay and nothing can tread.

It has drawn the world so close together and churns around that world on such well-defined courses or highways that there has been a steady lessening of the mysteries of missing ships and there are but few ocean routes today that are not so well covered that the story of a trim sailing vessel, whose chance for safety or capture rested to so great an extent on the skill of the navigator in charge. The steamship has even, cleared away nearly all of that mystery of the sea and robbed it of that—

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THE PRIVATE SOLDIER.

After all, the science of war consists in delivering the best-equipped, the bravest, most enduring, most healthy, best-instructed private soldier at the critical point of attack or defense in great force. To this end are sent the energies of the General Staff, the Commander-in-Chief, all subordinate commanders down to company officers. To efficiency there, efforts of commissariat, transport, medical staff, communication service, all tend. We have heard so much lately of the Japanese private, all so impressed with his virtues and special qualifications, that it may be worth while to see in what his superiority consists, and if it is really so marked over other races.

In Frederick Palmer's most interesting book, "With Kuroki in Manchuria," we see "the private soldier of Japan at close range. He is brave but not reckless, trained to a high point in endurance in marching power equal to any superior to nearly all temperate diet and healthy, obedient to orders, and educated up to the point of comprehension of orders, treating himself in thought and act as a unit in a squad, company or regiment. He is loyal to Emperor and country to the highest degree, kindly and self-sacrificing. With whom shall he be compared? With his Russian antagonist? The Russian soldier was described and photographed the other night by a three years' observer. He, too, is brave; so the blood-curdled battlefields of Manchuria testify. He is simple and obedient, strong with