

The Oregonian

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Portland, Sunday, February 11, 1906. WONDERFUL CHANGE. Strange changes have taken place in the political sentiment of the country, as to the relative positions of state and Federal Governments.

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Undoubtedly the argument that the general Government, by means of its superior resources and power, can maintain a permanent quarantine against the States and can deal with an epidemic more thoroughly, is sound. But it is a strange argument to come from the old section of state sovereignty.

It is worth while from every point of view. You must know your own country before you can travel intelligently in others. There is little intention, we may suppose, on the part of Americans who go abroad, of permanent expatriation.

Of course we shall find, indeed we do find, Eastern newspapers, not a few, inclined to ridicule the movement in our Western, Rocky Mountain and Pacific States, which enjoins it on our people to "see America first."

The simple fact that the people of America, or that portion of them, who undervalue their country live amid provincial conditions in our Eastern States. Our Western people have a juster estimate. They do not undervalue the Eastern States either.

Rulls, continues the Chronicle, are of small consequence to anybody unless he knows the historic associations with it. It says even those Americans whose chief desire seems to be to make themselves as much like Europeans as possible ought to know by this time that Europeans who travel all see their own countries first.

But perhaps the ludicrous thing in the chaff of the Eastern press is that the West, in order to attract tourists, "must have a population that does not wear, swagger and carry revolvers." As to this it may be said that the man

in the streets of New York or Chicago will wear more profandy and see more swaggering and bumpkinousness of all kinds in a week than in town or country of the West in twice the time and will probably pass close by more revolvers hidden away in the clothes of Yeggmen and "tailor-made" tramps.

To the Chicago Chronicle The Oregonian wishes to tender its acknowledgments for the article from which it has drawn largely. The Oregonian has drawn from the article because it is "just the stuff."

Paul Laurence Dunbar, the negro poet, is dead at his home in Dayton, Ohio, after three years of illness. He was a young poet of greater fame, he died young, for he was born in 1872.

Dunbar's true rests upon his poems. In no sense a great poet, he had nevertheless a fine lyric gift and sang melodiously, both of joy and sorrow, with pathos, humor and sound philosophy.

Dunbar was probably melancholy by temperament; but his dialect was almost always gay and often jubilant, while they lack neither pathos nor tender religious feeling.

Dunbar's best religious lyric is "De Shepherd," and there are few better ones in English or any other language. His philosophy of life, if tinged with melancholy, is still sane, courageous and wholesome.

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Morgan selling stock in an insurance officer and a banker. The idea of multiple personality is thus seen to be ancient and highly respectable.

Leopold as a dual ruler has not neglected that species of charity which begins and ends at home. As ruler of the Congo State he possesses in that unhappy country a private estate covering about 11,000 square miles, whose principal products are rubber and ivory.

Under Leopold's rule the population of the Congo State has decreased by 10,000,000 souls in some fifteen years, but this misfortune seems to be compensated by an increase of \$15,000,000 in his private fortune. Thus every dead African for whom Leopold is responsible has netted him exactly \$1.50.

The development of Helen Keller challenges the wonder of mankind. No idea, however good in itself, ever made its way in the world by peaceful means. A few have prevailed without actual bloodshed; but there may be bitter strife without death and slaughter.

The North Americans of Antiquity have always been a puzzle to the students of the archaeology of the Western Hemisphere. There was a race here long preceding the coming and existence of the race or races found here by the European discoverers.

It is said to note that Helen Keller has looked down in her spirit to her wonderful career—sad, but not surprising. Though special care has been taken of her health, she has been for years on a nervous strain so tense that a breakdown was at all times a shadowy possibility.

A feature of Brooklyn High School, work, lately introduced in those schools, is training in rifle shooting. It is indorsed, according to the Brooklyn Eagle, by General Oliver, Assistant Secretary of War; General Crozier, Chief of Ordnance; Major-General Charles F. Roe and many other prominent military men.

King Leopold, of Belgium, is a monarch whose power is strictly limited by constitutional restraint. King Leopold, of the Congo State, though he is the same man, is subject to no such limitations. In his African dominions he is an absolute despot, and there is overwhelming evidence to prove that he is avaricious and cruel almost beyond parallel.

The distinction may seem a fine one, but it is common enough in history. The czar of Russia, for example, is Duke of Finland in his personal capacity only, and if the treaty of 1809 were observed, the Russian government would have no power in Finland. The two countries would be entirely independent, though under a common ruler.

Any one who knows anything about the nature of boys of the high school age knows that their fighting instincts need to be restrained rather than encouraged; wisely and temperately directed rather than stimulated; and that athletic sports as now existing (take the

full measure of time allotted by prudence from study. In brief, boys in our public schools should be trained in the arts of peace, leaving the arts of war to be acquired under officers now in training and who have been trained in methods of war at the great Military Academy, when occasion requires.

RESTORING THE POST CANTEN. The fight to restore the canteen is on in Congress. Representative Morrell, of Philadelphia, stands sponsor for the bill introduced for that purpose recently. There is evidence in abundance to prove that the Army or post canteen is a protection to the soldier and therefore a benefactor to the service.

On the common ground that the soldier should not drink intoxicating beverages all may meet. To the fact that many, and indeed most, soldiers do drink, and will drink, all who are well informed agree. The question therefore resolves itself into consideration of the best means to minimize the evils of the drink habit among soldiers in garrison.

President Roosevelt in his usual unmistakable English indorses the action of the court-martial that reduced Lieutenant Ray L. Taylor twelve numbers for insubordination at a theater some weeks ago. The Lieutenant requested the subordinate—a Sergeant in uniform—to move to another part of the house which the latter did, making thereafter complaint of the insult offered. The President regards the insult as a flagrant one and takes occasion to declare that there is no body of men of similar size in this country which merits so well of the country as the officers and enlisted men of the Army and Navy of the United States.

One of the surprises disclosed by statistics given out by the Department of Commerce and Labor is the statement that Italy furnishes a good market for American products, outranking in this respect Belgium, Cuba, Australia and Argentina and exceeding by 100 per cent this market offered by the entire continent of Africa. Our exports to and imports from Italy are nearly equal, there being but a difference of only \$100,000 in favor of exports.

King Charles, of Roumania, better known as the husband of "Carmen Sylva," the pen name of his queen, is seriously ill. He is 67 years and not abstemious life render a fatal termination probable. His nephew, Prince Ferdinand, whose wife is a niece of King Edward, of England, is heir to the throne.

It sometimes pays to have more than one string to your bow. If the freight rate bill shall serve to lessen Mr. Harriman's revenue, he can recoup himself by building a railroad in Mexico which will pay him to build a thousand miles of railroad through her rich western territory.

President Woodrow Wilson, of Princeton, is the newest member of Democratic standard bearer in 1908. No prophet is needed to tell that in the convention he will be among the "also rans." He bolted Bryan in 1896.

Harriman, railroad magnate, is going to raise alfalfa along the line of the Southern Pacific in the Willamette Valley. Which is a better business than raising hedges on the "New York" stock exchange.

That Boy Will Do Something. Chicago Chronicle. There has been much chaffing comment of late on the fact that George Westinghouse, Jr., of Pittsburgh, has gone into his father's great shops in that city at a wage rate of 18 cents an hour, wearing a lunchbox and wearing the regulation overalls of the shop.

Whatever King Leopold did not take by divine right he acquired by virtue of a rubber conscience.

THE INTERPRETATION THEREOF.

"Portland divines," as we learn, "ate a free lunch." It seems to have been at the Hotel Portland. It was on Thursday evening, the night of the eclipse of the moon, which everybody observed.

The class in astronomy was properly abuzz through the corridors awaiting to wait on the Rev. Dr. Wilson and the Rev. Dr. F. Burgett Short was seen first through the corridors.

Dr. Short, did you accept the hospitality of the Portland Hotel free-lunch counter on Thursday night? "Why, who told you that?" "Professor Hochstader told you were there, and that you seemed to be enjoying the items of the menu."

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THE SWEARING HABIT.

When Strong Words Come Handy. Mobile (Ala.) Herald. In America we will fight the swearing habit. It is not only that it is immoral and unwise to curse, but it is a help to comfort in the fact that when the jelly refuses to jell and the stegiplader falls and the door closes on two fingers and a boil fills its resting place on the end of one's nose, there are words, oodles of them, in this good English language that might be used if a victim was so minded.

Blaming It on the Mule. St. Louis Republic. Swearing is something of an economic necessity in a community where hauling and the mule are an industrial factor. It is a well-known condition here in Missouri that in driving as many as four mules over or through a mudhole a certain amount of otherwise questionable exhortation is inevitable.

"Respectable" Places. There is a weekly paper at Los Angeles known as "Conable's Path Finder." It has been published several years, and has achieved a reputation. It is a help to say, which have as direct application in Portland as in Los Angeles.

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THE PESSIMIST.

A dispatch from Washington the other day informed us that the Government in the course of two or three months will have two additional regiments of infantry and six field batteries installed in the Philippines, ready for immediate field service in China.

What is a Chinaman good for, anyway, except to wash shirts, and buy American manufactured products? He may not like them, but what difference does that make? He is a heathen. He is no good, because he can't fight. Buy our goods or fight! That is the motto of the American people.

Mr. Bullard, of the Marine Department, submitted figures of a test of tub-life-preservers showing that one weighing 4 pounds 8 ounces weighed 12 pounds 4 ounces after 24 hours' submerging.

The grime factor to be considered in selecting material for life-preservers is to get something cheap. Now this is cheap. It is not difficult to know. It grows large—in swamps. It is sometimes called bull-rush. On the whole, it is an excellent material for life-preservers. At least, the shipowners seem to think so. They consider it to be more buoyant than cork, "buoyant" in this connection meaning light airy, as opposed to heavy-heavy expensive.

Each Christian Science lecturer who comes to town makes the thing harder to understand. After a while the subject will become so incomprehensible that everyone will be able to believe it.

Christian Science is peddling somewhat from its position that matter does not exist. Its present contention, according to Mrs. Mimms, is that it is not "actual." In her lecture in the Belasco Theater, Friday evening, she said in part:

Christian Science is entirely untrue in its dealings with the question of evil, or matter. It rests absolutely on the basis that God is the only reality, and that matter is an impotent, unimportant good, the all-inclusive mind, beside whom "there is none else." The flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit is in conflict with the flesh, because of this opposition of spirit in the flesh, we know that logically one cannot be the outcome of the other any more than light can emit darkness, or truth express a lie.

It is hard to dispute the above assertion, but it is difficult to tell what they mean. If she means that God is the only, the infinite one, besides whom no one else exists, then it would be difficult to account for the presence of so many actual, tangible and good-looking people in the Belasco Theater, who seemed to be listening to her.

However, that does not fairly outline her position, because she says: "If (Christian Science) does not deny man or the universe, but only the material, it is not a denial of matter." At first glance, it would seem that the audience was composed merely of a false material sense. It is evident that there is something the matter with that view of the question, because, if it were true, Mrs. Mimms would not have wasted her time talking to such a thing as a false material sense, and besides she would be a false material sense herself. That would not do at all, because there she was expounding to the people all about it.

The solution of the difficulty, if any solution there be, lies in the reminder of the fact that she is quoted as saying: "Christian Science denies that matter or materiality can be . . . the emanation of the one spirit, the only cause." This probably means that evil, or matter (matter and evil are the same thing, according to Christian Science) cannot be the emanation of God, who is good.

Peter's Sleep Valentines. To Peter in his sleep appeared A troop of valentines most weird. On one a creature was portrayed That really made him feel afraid.