

The Oregonian

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Portland, Sunday, August 15, 1909.

BALLINGER'S REFORM LAND POLICY.

For several years there was a tie-up of public land in the Interior Department. Entry was barred and patents held up in ways that greatly annoyed and in many cases damaged this Western country.

Needless alarm. It is not credible that the Interior Department is playing to the scheme of speculators and grabbers, either through negligence or dishonesty of Government officers.

Instances where the opening of lands to entry on steam has benefited seekers of water power sites, doubtless are exaggerated. A few of the criticisms may be valid, but on the whole, the policy of the Interior Department is justified and proper.

At the bottom of all the hubbub in Spokane was an effort to discredit the new reform policy of the Interior Department. Of course Pinchot and his associates, who represent the preceding regime, encourage the hubbub.

RIGHT TO CHASTISE CHILDREN.

Judge Bennett, of the Municipal Court, is one of the "old-fashioned sort" of whom we hear so much.

Parental discipline of this type belongs to another day and age of the world. Perhaps it is not the less wholesome on that account, but it is certainly a somewhat startling innovation upon the present manner of dealing with disobedient children.

The London Times publishes a very interesting study of the conditions which provoke such seditious and anarchistic utterances. The Times correspondent frankly admits that "we advance in time with the antagonism, open or veiled, of a very large proportion of the Indian people.

That victory may yet prove more far-reaching in its effect than the latter-day fathers of the United States would have dreamed of.

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rule might easily be, and no doubt often was, carried too far, but old-fashioned folk are wont to assert that it was more honored in the observance than in the breach and point to the growing number of delinquent children in every urban community and to the large proportion of youthful convicts in every penitentiary as proof of this contention.

IRRIGATION'S BIG START.

No one interested in the industrial development of the Pacific Northwest through irrigation should neglect to pin in his memory a few concrete facts published on page 8, section 5, of The Oregonian today.

Optimistic, the record for Oregon and Washington discloses that various projects \$8,000,000; a like sum will be required to complete them. They will then bring under cultivation 355,000 acres. Average cost per acre is under \$40.

THE UNION PACIFIC MELON.

Union Pacific sold above \$218 per share in the New York stock market yesterday, and predictions were freely made in the market circles that it would not be checked.

The Illinois Central holdings of the Union Pacific have a par value of \$22,100, and, as that stock is selling around \$160 per share, it now has a market value of nearly \$3,500,000.

It would be unwise for Hawley and Ellis to take to the streets and begin to call for the repeal of the tariff bill and then voted against the bill he helped to make, because his vote wasn't needed to pass it.

AWAITING THE SPARK.

None of the enterprising British playwrights have followed up that highly profitable production "An Englishman's Home," with an up-to-date version containing scenes of possible modern London or Cawpore horrors.

A writer in discussing England's remarkable power over the strange men of the East, once said: "Beneath the small film of white men who make up the Indian Empire boils or sleeps away a sea of dark men, incurably hostile, who wait with patience the day when the ice shall break and the ocean flood under its own laws."

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fitting act. Captain Vancouver imagined he was making the land British. But to shut out Americans he ought to have been exploring the Columbia River. Five months after Gray, Vancouver did enter the Columbia, and then attempted, though too late to claim first discovery of the river.

Mazamas might well have held a celebration on Mount Baker, in honor of Captain Gray, the American who did so much to save Oregon and Washington from the British, whose navigator named Mount Baker.

ONE PIONEER STORY.

There appeared in The Oregonian of August 12 the pictured face of a woman who a few days before had finished her life work at her home in Marion County at the age of 72 years.

Such were the conditions and dangers that this man faced with his band of motherless children, as in the May time of a far-away year he set his face toward the setting sun, with a more urgent purpose than that to reach the home in Iowa, of the environment of which he was perfectly familiar, for a home in Oregon Territory, over which was the glamor of enchantment that was lent by distance.

Unwritten record of anxiety, of dejection, of toil, of loneliness, of perplexity, is that of this family and many others similarly situated during the immediately succeeding years.

Ignorance, the consequences of which might have any day been appalling, stood the men who started across the plains with their families in the ox-team era in the place of courage. Courage was developed later—more especially among the women, who came with the bears and herons.

HISTORIC MOUNT BAKER.

Mazamas last week scaled the top of Mount Baker, a snow peak close to the international boundary between British Columbia and the State of Washington.

The first record of the discovery of the mountain is that of the British Captain Vancouver, April 29, 1792. That was twelve days before the discovery of entrance to the Columbia River by Captain Robert Gray, the Boston navigator—an event which gave the United States first claim to the Columbia region.

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A PATHETIC ROYAL FIGURE.

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coming Queen of Spain and the mother of Spanish Bourbons. Queen Victoria, her grandmother, in the peace and seclusion of English royalty, gave birth to a numerous progeny. Each of her nine children was hailed as a gift to the British Nation, and through it to the thrones of Europe.

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GRAIN TRADE HEADQUARTERS.

The decision of Albers Bros. to erect in the city the largest cereal mill on the Coast is another indication of the increasing prestige of Portland as the great grain and milling center of the Pacific Coast.

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A NEW INCARNATION.

In connection with Dr. Charles W. Eliot's prophecy of a new religion, Mrs. Anna Beman's announcement that Christ will soon reappear is not without interest.

The grainhandlers' strike was soon over. The grainhandlers quite sensibly concluded that 35 cents an hour in Portland is better than nothing, even better than 30 cents an hour at Tacoma, or here.

Some people are always late. If the multitude who registered at Spokane the last month had come to Oregon in time, each could have had a full section of the finest land in the world for nothing.

INCOMES.

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God who is immanent in all that is. The empty old phrase "God is everywhere" has assumed vital meaning. The new faith holds that he actually is everywhere, and since it is impossible that anything else should be where he is, it passes on to the conclusion that he is everything. He is all being and all activity, according to the newer lights.

From all this comes the altered idea of what true worship is. We cannot please the Lord, we are told, by talking to him however ingratiatingly. He sees through our flattery and counts it naught. It makes no difference to him whether we address him as "Thou" or "you." He doesn't mind if we omit altogether to address him.

TOPICAL VERSE.

The Income Liars. Swell people, you do the stunt Of putting up a nifty front, Are all your words and all your acts In strict accordance with the fact! Are not some peppy folks fairly wise, Mistaken as to your income's size?

THE JOYS OF A SUMMER VACATION.

Chicago Record-Herald. They rented a cottage together, the Browns and their neighbors, the Joneses, and said: "We'll share in the cost and divide up the work, and each one shall make his own find that housework will seem just like play."

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