

The Oregonian

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Portland, Sunday, January 25, 1914. The Residuary Legatee announces his candidacy for Governor in the Democratic primary.

BILLS TO KILL MONOPOLY.

The anti-trust bills introduced in the House are in line with the policy proposed by President Wilson and would as nearly as possible, in dealing with a subject open to many uncertainties, prevent monopoly and restore competition.

But there are dangers of making the prohibitions of the law too sweeping. The bill defining monopoly would apply to combinations which are generally regarded as beneficial to the public as well as to those which are injurious.

The same bill speaks of combinations "which purpose" to restrict trade. How is the purpose to be proved? Such proof being essential to establishment of the law, it is the fact that a certain act produces monopolistic effect to be presumptive evidence of a purpose to produce that effect.

When the accused might set up any of these defenses, the Government might find difficulty in proving price discrimination to be prompted by intent to injure a competitor, beyond such injury as is necessarily inflicted on an unsuccessful competitor.

MILD HECKLING INVITED.

A civic forum on the lower East Side of New York announces that addresses will be followed by open discussion and questions. That is about the closest approach to heckling that an American audience ever makes.

devote his attention to National affairs. His addresser's statement had no more monument to commemorate his services to the city. A short time previous the city had bought the gas works, dismissed some old employees and put good Liberals on the job.

Heckling has its uses, as well as its abuses. Spellbinders would hesitate to make a speech without a heckler, and a specious argument if they were as liable to be heckled in this country as in England.

THE PITCHER AND THE WELL.

The Residuary Legatee announces his candidacy for Governor in the Democratic primary. Governor West elected by a narrow margin in 1902.

Let all other Democratic candidates note the frame-up. Judge Bennett, John Manning, John L. Smith, Bob Jellison—all of them who have borne the heat and burden of many a Democratic battle—all and their faithful Democratic followers are to be ignored in the task of naming the successor of the only Governor who will do it himself.

The old game is to be played again. Dr. Smith is to be nominated by Democrats; Bennett by the Democrats, Democrat, and Judge Bennett is to be denied a nomination because he is not a Democrat; then, when Dr. Smith shall be nominated by Democrats, the threadbare guff about non-partisanship is to be spouted where, and he is to be elected on the plea that he is not very much of a Democrat, after all.

NEW YORK SQUIRMS.

Appointment of John Skelton Williams has caused opposition among New York papers, for the ostensible reason that he harbors grudges, hence cannot exercise impartially the great power vested in the Controller of the City of New York.

The Senate committee on banking and currency has heard objections to Mr. Williams' confirmation and has reported the appointment favorably, but the New York Sun intimates that bankers are opposed to his present and potential authority and that this explains the lack of witnesses before the committee.

The New York Tribune finds "some indications that Mr. Williams was disposed to be influenced by personal animosities." It says: "Bankers in Washington stand in fear of him" and that "a man who can excite such apprehensions is the last man in the world to be selected."

Mr. Williams' appointment has probably excited alarm in New York, less because of the objections named than because it is one more evidence of the administration's purpose to wrest financial power from that city. New York has long been the financial dictator of the country, but feels its power gradually slipping.

The alleged incident has not been apprehended at Copperfield; the Mayor has not been indicted or punished for his reported crime of selling liquor to minors; the gamblers who it is said openly and notoriously violated the law are still at liberty;

The Governor will not yet trust the civil authorities of Baker County to enforce the law, but keeps his soldiers on duty. If the Governor had evidence to warrant martial law he has evidence sufficient to send the malefactors to jail.

NOT SETTLED.

The Oregon Society of Engineers knows exactly what it wants, and the civil Grange knows nothing about it. Interesting and important subject of technical engineering instruction at the State University or the State Agricultural College.

But it does not. It might, if the engineers alone were concerned, and if they alone were paying the bills; but they are not. Undoubtedly the Grange is not the farming element represented by the Grange.

It does not settle the question as to the engineering course to make a showing, with a distinguished air of finality, that the Board of Education, the Curricula and the Society of Engineers understand each other and have fixed up the whole business. Not at all; not at all. It should, no doubt, but it doesn't.

THROWING MONEY AWAY.

Appropriation by the city of \$7500 for an independent valuation of the property of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company, is an excusable waste. The State Public Service Commission, which is no less a servant of the people than is the City Commission, is preparing the same report on its own work.

AN EPOCH IN BASEBALL.

Four times in the past has organized baseball been compelled to fight back. The rebellion of three of these insurgencies resulted in the formation of an independent league, and after three years of warfare with the then one major league, was taken into the fold and became a factor in organized baseball.

This early outlaw league, organized in 1900, is the same American League now yoked with its ancient enemy, the National. The American League suffered costly lessons, bitter experiences and numerous changes in its infancy. Only two of the cities which were original members of the invaders. Likewise the new independent Federal League, organized one year ago, finds arrayed against it the forces that have won out of diamond successes in its future as a major league is dependent solely upon its financial resources.

In organized baseball the player is "owned" by the club in which he plays. His services are desired by other leagues, but his registration must be conducted with the owners. If the purchase is concluded the owners pocket the money, or as is more likely, pay it to some other club for a player or players to supply the vacancy, and that club spends what it has received to strengthen its own position, and so on down the line.

Last season Chicago paid Milwaukee \$18,000 for Chappelle; ten major leagues offered around \$25,000 for the services of the pitcher who had ended it as a rank impostor. The name of "mesmerism" which he was enquired to psychotherapy was so enquired with undesirable association.

Thus, although organized baseball has the power of wealth behind it, it is a fairly vulnerable target for the independent leagues. One of whom needs a few dollars together the pick of the idler-leagues by offering bonuses direct to players little study is required to guess where the crowds will go. The players welcome such competition because for now on they will get not what they have to take, but the top bid, and the public will welcome the independent league just as it welcomes competition in any line of business activity—provided the ways that of dreams, have the money to give the players and the public what they want.

reserve clause in the players' contracts is necessary if baseball is to prosper in the future. It is a national attraction. Ultimately the Federal League will be forced to adopt the principle. Yet the athletes are entitled to their fair share of the prices paid the club owners for their services.

The club owners in the major league are big game players. They are not a single player must weigh the price against the effect of the sale on gate receipts and against their ability to build up the loss of talent sustained in the sale. Gate receipts are not a matter of indifference to the club owners.

A shanking up, however, every few years is not a matter of indifference to the club owners. A somebody always suffers when monopoly has its own way unrestrained. In baseball the players are the chief victims and they are the ones who are to be benefited by the whole community. The Federal League can do no harm to baseball and it can do a lot of good. More power to it!

PSYCHOTHERAPY.

The limitations of mental healings, or psychotherapy, are still a subject of debate. Some claim that by proper application of the "power" of the mind that flesh is held to be remedied. Others deny that it can improve any but nervous and hysterical troubles. Still others, the obstinately skeptical, refuse to believe that mental forces can cure some diseases and more is accumulating daily.

It must probably be admitted that mental healing began with imposture. The London Times, in a recent issue, has this subject remarks that among the ancient Greeks physicians were at the same time priests. This is no more true of the Greeks than of all other ancient nations and modern savage tribes.

Undoubtedly, as the London Times remarks, "devotional enthusiasm has been the chief factor in the success of results" in relieving the sick. Any other kind of enthusiasm may produce the same effect. Whatever controls the patient's mind and brings psychic power to bear upon his malady will accomplish its end, if his mind happens to be one that is curable by such means. If it is not then neither devotional enthusiasm nor any other merely mental influence will help a great deal.

Like every other critic he has a decided opinion upon Meredith's style. That great genius never was popular in his life and he died in poverty. It will not be long before his novels are relegated to the top shelves in the libraries and the reason for it is his wilful disregard of clearness. Sir William Robertson Nicol tells a story of one of Meredith's books that may very well be true of them all.

Meredith gained a great name in literature before he died and his fame probably secured, but it is a "washed" name. He never will be vital like that of Dickens, which is a great pity for he was a powerful thinker whose weapons were always turned against injustice. Macaulay is another name of whom Nicol tells a good deal to say, though his knowledge of the historian was only second-hand. Macaulay was addicted to politics, far too much so for the good of his history. He served in Parliament and came first upon the programmatic. When he had finished his

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they proceed. But insomnia and hysteria are not normal. They arise from the lack of weakness of the inhibitory machinery. Here is where psychotherapy comes in. It places the patient in a situation closely allied to sleep and supplies the same sort of inhibitions which nature herself uses in dreams. By this means the "unconscious" is reduced to subjection and the patient is restored to health.

A JUST DIVISION OF WORK.

The educational world is interested in the treaty of amity and alliance which has been concluded between Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Both institutions are well established and highly respectable. For many years they have been flourishing side by side without much reference to each other.

Such is the work of an honestly applied science and art to the technical schools. Hence the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is to take over all the engineering courses, the electrical, irrigation engineering, and so on. These branches are not suitable for a literary university, while they are eminently suited for a technical school.

Another way to regard the "Feis fund" is that it can do no possible harm in this well-balanced state, while at the same time it will put a few thousand dollars into circulation. President Wilson will name the officials who must pass on Wilson land holdings. But this rare privilege will be only an annoyance to President Wilson.

ANOTHER REMINISCENCE.

Sir William Robertson Nicol has formed a conspicuous figure in London journals for many years. His principal occupations have been writing book reviews. This he finally expanded so widely that he was employed to review the same work in a dozen different periodicals, to the discomfiture of the authors, who were obliged to be dissected by a new hand in each instance.

Colonel Goethals is willing to become a police commissioner of New York for many years. He is a strangely careless of what becomes of him. He had the energy in useful work that it uses up in marching it would likely vanish for want of membership.

A three-legged cat having been the highest award, we would recommend a special prize for someone who could breed a voiceless variety. Five thousand dollars having been paid for a rare flea, San Francisco has a new field of wealth at hand, or on foot, as the case may be.

Children of the Woodlawn School have saved more than \$5000. Which is a most interesting sidelight on Portland's prosperity. The population of Portland has increased 14 per cent in three years. The rush to get in on a "good thing" is still on, moreover.

Indians in New Mexico are to present their views of the order against sun dancing. They may point to our tango, for example. Huerta is now believed to be on the point of resigning. What wonderful speculative tenacity they have at Washington.

Professor Taft boasts thirty-five pairs of trousers. This sedentary life is hard on them and demands a big supply. The state may adopt timeclocks. Yes, care must be taken to see that none of the employees work overtime. Heavy frozen meat shipments are enroute from Australia. Enough to give the American beef trust a chill.

to deliver his brief oration, which was simple and homely. It scarcely consumed five minutes, but it became immortal while Hale's effort has been pretty well forgotten. The length and elaborateness of a speech do not determine its value.

Nicol describes two of Macaulay's ineffective orations which he had prepared with great care. One was delivered on the street at Edinburgh during a political campaign. It was grave, scholarly, and ought to have been convincing, but unluckily it was not. Macaulay was followed on the stump by a Chartist speaker, one of the unwashed mob, who completely eclipsed him.

The prizes of oratory do not always go to the oratorical and the classical scholar, outside the colleges, at any rate. It often enough happens that a man with a literary voice and no manner whatever manages to impress the crowd with his sincerity. They discover, in spite of his elocutionary faults, that he has something to say, and that he says it with the sincerity of his heart and thereupon he has his own way with them. Sincerity counts for a great deal more upon the modern platform than any mere rhetorical graces.

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Approximate History.

"I don't recollect when we've had such a mild winter since back in the season of '42, '49." —Methuselah publishes interview in the West Eden Gazette on "How to Diet and Exercise for Longevity." —1121 B. C.—Daedalus and Icarus found the aviator's club, of which Darius Green later became president.

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Gleams Through the Mist

Phyllis, my vision, Heaven-blessed, You have a system, pedagogic, Of handling to me to digest. Of late, an awful bunch of fog, Since you but clear it from my sight, And dropped your music course, advancing To tackle sociology—

Phyllis, you do out-argue me, And you completely out my forces; Make me a man, and show me plainly, Oppressed mankind in many climes; Is yielding for assistance vainly; The social system you must correct, Which lawmakers are overlooking. Familiarly the names you cite Of authors on these subjects solemn; You quote the hefty things they write By lengthy column after column; You hit the thing in every phase Of poor humanity's oppression, And knock out every point I raise, With the sweetest self-possession.

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