

Corvallis Gazette.

FRANK CONOVER.

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IN-RE THE O. N. G.

Recent legislation for the benefit of the Oregon National Guard, has had the effect to call out from various newspapers some very ill-natured, flippant and uncalled for thrusts at that organization.

The instinct of soldiery on which this organization is founded is not a vain desire for display, but a patriotic spirit, a sense of a duty of citizenship, by which our young men are animated.

The state of Oregon should be prepared to preserve public order within its limits, and on all occasions to enforce its own laws. It should not desire the intrusion of the national government, but should depend on itself for maintenance of the dignity and majesty of its authority.

Strange as it may appear to a resident of the staid old city of super-sanctity, of massive patriotism and herculean energy; down where the brawny arm of state yields its best blood to infuse some life into the nerves of the capital empress, occasions have been known in the experience of several towns in the state of Oregon, where a good militia force would have appeared like a guardian angel.

Congress is besieged, veritably snowed under with petitions asking the opening of the world's fair on Sundays. It is doubtful whether any such accession can now be made without a breach of faith.

TWO OF A KIND.

It looks as though the Oregonian and the New York Times would have to draw straws to see which is entitled to the prize for its misanthropic essay on the character of James G. Blaine. Each cited act after act of the dead statesman's noble service to his country; of the various broad and statesmanlike measures, both national and international, of which Blaine was the author; of the brilliancy of his diplomacy and the "courage of his convictions" Blaine always displayed in the name of justice and humanity and the elevation of his country's interests; of the admiration he could command and the wildest enthusiasm to which he could stir the soul of the entire nation; and of the hold pre-eminent he had upon the affections of the American masses. All this his critics acknowledge; and recognizing the facts, the verdict of the magnanimous world is that "Blaine was a great statesman." Still, there appears to have been one quality lacking in his career. He had failed to please the mugwump, the self-righteous pessimist and the jealous misanthrop, and above all his virtues this fault arose with such over shadowing poignancy that these recalcitrant elements could find no condonation even in the presence of the great arbiter whose robe is the mantle of the tomb. It is not surprising therefore, that after rehearsing all the good attributable to Mr. Blaine the detractors should turn a back somersault and in the language of the Times sum it all up in the opinion that "Admission he could command; he could arouse the wildest enthusiasm; the considerate confidence of thoughtful men he could not win, and, with all respect to the feelings of those who, in widely separated parts of the land will sincerely mourn him, it must be written that he could not win it, since, in sober truth, he did not merit it.

The Times, it is remembered, is a great mogul of mugwumpism. Its inconsistency is just the measure of the candor breathing satire and and splenetic impartiality with which it deals with every subject that is not in line with the mugwump order. The Oregonian is—just the Oregonian, and no other explanation is needed. The pair of them have the field pretty much to themselves.

Poor old Granny Eugene Journal goes into hysterics over the revision of the assessment law. Its tirade of invective against the legislators who voted for it knows no bounds. We shall not assume to dispute Granny Journal's tide of argument to the effect that all the honesty, all the wisdom, all the fairness of intention, and all the philosophy of political economy center in Lane county, under the shadow of the Journal's wing. Nevertheless, under the genius of this great American government, the ignorant and the baser sort are sometimes allowed a voice in public matters and they not unfrequently fix things up tolerably well. Peg one for the ignorant cusses this hitch.

The general sentiment in favor of better roads has led Congress to take action in recognition of it. There are two bills looking to the awakening of the people generally on this important subject. One appropriates \$10,000 to enable the secretary of agriculture to make inquiries in regard to different systems of road management throughout the country and to make investigations in regard to the best methods of road making. Also to prepare a publication on the subject suitable for distribution, and to enable the secretary to assist agricultural colleges and agricultural stations in disseminating information.

The "school age" is a variable quantity in this country. In six of the states and territories, children are admitted to the public schools at the age of 4 years; in 19, at 5; in 20, at 6; in 3 at 7; and in 1, Texas at 8.

The senate measure to appropriate \$160,000 for a branch insane asylum in eastern Oregon will doubtless become a law.

THE SOBER SECOND THOUGHT.

The newspapers are slowly coming around to the good old "go slow" policy regarding Hawaiian annexation. As we anticipated the windy talk is gradually dying out. The San Francisco report pointedly observes that there is a great deal of wild talk by politicians who want some hobby by which to work themselves into prominence; but thinks the United States government will preserve its dignity, hear both sides of the squabble on the island, and do the just thing by all concerned. The Astorian, too, with a deep, clear vision into the true inwardness of the annexation scheme, probes into the world be made exercise of American political jobbery with the keen steel of fact that goes to the core of the the wily piece of jugglery. It says: Those who overthrew the native queen's rule did so for financial reasons pure and simple, and this is another complication. Claus Spreckels, the wealthy sugar planter and refiner, has already made over \$500,000 out of the revolution and the annexation talk. On Friday last the stock of the Hawaiian Commercial Company was sold at ten cents a share. Saturday it jumped to \$6 a share and, as he and his sons had bought in all that could be obtained, they are almost the sole gainers. Now, if the islands should become United States territory the 100,000 shares of this company would probably go up to \$60 or more a share—the figures they were quoted at a few years ago—and the Spreckels would make millions out of this one concern alone.

Then there is the bounty of 2 cents a pound to be paid to American sugar planters under the McKinley bill. If the United States will continue to pay this bounty and Hawaii becomes a part of the United States the Spreckels family will get several millions every year on that account. It is, therefore, as clear as anything can be that the so-called revolution at Honolulu and the demand for annexation are part of a scheme having but one object, and that is putting money into the pockets of the rich planters and their satellites. To oblige them this country is to be burdened with a most undesirable population, and all that this implies, and more than our workmen probably even suspect now.

PRESTO change! Astoria gets the pilotage plum and Portland is in a rage. Between the two, so far as it affects the state at large, it is diamond cut diamond between the two. The pilotage business at the mouth of the Columbia is pretty much of a game of grab and it doesn't make much difference whether its headquarters are at Portland or Astoria. Meanwhile we in this section can look on with indifference and let the ferocious animals chew each other; while the euphonious chords which swell the breezes that sweep these unfretted precincts would be aptly expressed should the muses of the plains and wood lands sing:

SENATOR DOLPH has again loomed up as a probable appointee to the supreme bench in place of Jackson, whose nomination the democratic members have objected to confirm. The compliment would be a peculiarly emphatic one, under the circumstances, redounding not only to the merits of the man thus honored, but proving a just recognition of the political genius of the northwest Pacific coast. Dolph would grace the exalted position with the best of them, and his people have faith in him.

A LEGISLATIVE committee, jointly between Oregon and Washington, are wrestling with the problem of saving from subjugation the salmon supply of the Columbia river. The question seems to be a perplexing one. But it is not. Let them tear out the villainous fish traps and wheels and kill off a piratical canner or two at Astoria and the fish supply of the Columbia will take care of itself, with what aid it is getting from the hatcheries in operation.

FEED is short and stock are suffering in parts of eastern Oregon. It always was and it always will be that way whenever feed don't happen to come before the animals like falling manna.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

The president has heard the official proposition made by the commissioners from the new provisional government of Hawaii for the annexation of that country to the United States, and is now, with his usual thoroughness and care, studying the question, in all its bearings, in order to make up his mind whether he will take any steps towards annexation, make any recommendations to congress, or leave the whole matter for the incoming administration and congress. Before the commissioners arrived it was thought probable, indeed it was informally agreed that a treaty by which the United States took the republican government of Hawaii under its protection would be about the proper thing for the present, leaving annexation to follow, as it unquestionably would have done in a few years. But when the ultimatum of the commissioners—annexation or nothing—was received, the situation was changed. The president and all of his cabinet are favorable to annexation, but as it would have to be preceded by congressional legislation, and the life of the present administration and congress is so nearly spent, it may be deemed advisable by the administration not to begin what would probably have to be ended by the next congress and administration. A decision will probably be reached in a few days. The Hawaii flag—red, white and blue stripe, with a red cross in the corner—is flying from the top of the hotel at which the Hawaiian commissioners are quartered. There is nothing foreign looking about the commission.

A determined effort is being made to secure some silver legislation on a compromise basis before the session closes. Dan Lamont and Don Dickinson are here in the interest of the new administration, and to submit to the silver men several propositions for a compromise, all of them involving a suspension of the purchase of silver by the government. They say that if their efforts are not successful an extra session of congress will certainly be called.

The bill authorizing the expenditure of \$50,000 in the preparation of an exhibit for the world's fair, showing the progress of the colored race since 1863, has been favorably reported to the house, and the favorable manner in which it is spoken of by members indicates that it may pass, but, owing to the crowded condition of the calendar, action on no measure is certain.

Probably no single action of the president during his entire term has been more talked about than the nomination of Judge Howell E. Jackson, of Tennessee, an able jurist, but an uncompromising democrat, to succeed the late Justice Lamar on the bench of the U. S. supreme court. The president had stated to a number of gentlemen his intention to nominate a republican, and such was his intention until the day before he nominated Judge Jackson, and the cause of his change of mind was a notification he received to the effect that twelve republican senators would vote with the democrats against the confirmation of any republican he might nominate. The reason given by most of these republicans was that an attempt to force the confirmation of a republican would result in either tying up the senate for the rest of the session, or the adoption of a cloture rule, and that they would not take any chances of either. Contrary to precedent Judge Jackson's nomination has been referred to a committee. It has been customary to confirm the nomination of ex-senators without referring them to committees. Judge Jackson although a democrat is not a believer in the doctrine of states rights. Democratic senators say privately that his confirmation depends upon Mr. Cleveland's wishes.

The house while sitting as a committee of the whole adopted a very sensible amendment to an appropriation bill, giving the owners of American quarries a chance to compete with foreigners in furnishing the marble for the new congressional library building, but when the yea and nay vote was taken in regular session the party whip was brought into use and the "protection" cry raised; consequently the amendment was rejected by a party vote.

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Sec. Foster's report on the condition of the treasury, and his estimates of receipts and expenditures for this and the next fiscal year has put an end to the talk about a bankrupt treasury, which has been more or less prevalent among democrats ever since congress met.

The amount of mutilated currency now being presented to the treasury for redemption averages \$1,500,000 a day, being much larger than for many years. It is believed that this is largely caused by the scare concerning the carrying of the germs of contagious diseases in old paper money.

The attempt to make Panama canal investigation a star-chamber affair is not well received. The people want to know the whole true inwardness of this business and if it injures anybody's reputation so much the worse for them.

THE death of Charles Algernon Sartoris, the husband of General Grant's only daughter, will relieve that lady of the tie that bound her to a coarse and repulsive man, and made her life a failure. Although she made no complaint and patiently bore her sorrows, it has been generally understood by the American people how the matter stood and the sympathy has been with and for her. She is still living in England with her children.

THE good news from Carmaux, France, that the great strike of the French miners is now likely to be ended in a manner satisfactory to both sides. The committee of strikers have agreed to submit the matters under dispute to arbitration. If they had arbitrated before they struck, they would be a good many thousands francs in pocket to day.

If the "u" in the Hawaii ex-queen's name be given its proper value of "w," it makes the name simpler in pronunciation. Thus her name is Leelee-wokalany. The Philadelphia Ledger thinks it hardly worth while to worry about the pronunciation of the name, since it has so lately changed to Dennis.

FERDINAND DELESSES the world's great projector, hovers between life and death, and at the age of 80 years is under a 5-year sentence in a French prison for the part he held in the Panama business. The "irony of fate" has a hard touch for many in this world.

SCIENTISTS tell us that the effective size of the molecule is never larger than the five hundred-millionth of an inch, and in some cases it may be found to be no larger than the thousand-millionth of an inch. The little item was not learned by actual count in the GAZETTE office.

WITH one fell swoop the state board of charities was wiped out so clean that scarcely a grease-spot was left of it. The mining bureau goes to keep it company. Who ever remarked that this legislature "didn't amount to no great shakes" anyway?

THE legislature is disposed to help the people of Lake county \$5000 worth in a scheme to establish a high school at Lakeview. The local people engage to first erect a \$12,000 building before they get the money.

WEATHERFORD's bill so fixing official compensation that no fee account can pay to an officer over \$5000 a year stands a chance of becoming a law. Most any man up a tree would say it ought to.

HOW IT BECAME POPULAR. When people find an article much superior to anything of the kind they have ever before used, they are almost sure to tell their friends about it, and especially if they know of some friend needing such an article. Dealers also soon learn the true value of their goods, and when they have an article of unusual merit they will almost invariably mention the fact to their customers. This accounts in a great measure for the large sale of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Here is an instance: W. L. Needham, a prominent citizen and business man of Orreburgh, Mo., has been selling Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for several years and recommends it to his customers, because in his experience it has proven to be the best for colds, croup and whooping cough. He says it is the most popular medicine that he handles, and gives the best satisfaction. 50 cent bottles for sale by T. Graham, druggist.

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