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THE PENSION QUESTION.

At the time of the promulgation of the general order of the commandant at the Soldiers' Home requiring all pensioners in the home to turn over all their pension money to the commandant except four dollars per month, which order was in accordance with a resolution of the board of trustees, the full particulars thereof were published in the PLAINDEALER and the action of the board editorially approved.

A federal law, passed by congress in 1891, provides that inmates of soldiers' homes shall deliver their pensions to the commandants to be held for them in trust or turned over to dependent relatives, but the regulations of various homes have ruled precisely the same as ours.

Patrick Henry said something about his feet being guided by the lamp of experience. That is still a good maxim to follow. Like effects will produce like results. What has been will be, under the same conditions. Depreciation of the currency will produce disastrous consequences.

The question has been asked, who pays the expenses of the American Protective Tariff League? It furnishes lots of literature and these things cost money. Of course interested parties pay the expenses. This has been held up as a terrible thing, that manufacturers should put up their money to supply information to the American people.

When Governor John P. Altgeld was placed in nomination before the democratic convention of Illinois last fall, it will be remembered that his eulogist painted him as being an angel among men. It seems from his connection with the state university of Illinois and the wrecking of the Globe bank of Chicago that he is anything but an angel.

Two clips of wool were sold at Heppner Monday, one for 7 cents and the other for 8 1/2 cents. This wool was sold on the sheep's back, and will be delivered in May. The same clips last season brought 5 1/2 and 7 cents. An eight cent tariff on wool would be a big thing for the wool interests of the country, and would not be felt by the consumer of manufactured woolsens.

The firm stand of the president on the Cuban question will be hailed with satisfaction by every liberty loving man everywhere. Notice has been informally served on Spain that she must carry on her warfare in Cuba in a civilized manner.

FOR SOUND MONEY.

Hon. Geo. E. Leighton in an address, the other day on assuming the chairmanship of the Sound Money League, said: "We believe that the disturbance of our monetary standard, which would have resulted from free coinage of silver under the old ratio, would have been most disastrous to the commercial interests of the country, subversive of all justice and honesty in the matter of contract obligations, and, by the introduction of a depreciated standard, ruinous to labor, whether in agricultural or industrial pursuits. We know this would have been the result, or the history of civilization has been written in vain. But do not imagine that such a result was a part of the conscious purpose of any considerable number of those who advocated free coinage. No one who has had business or social relations with the people of the West and South, where sound ideas have been most prevalent and most persistent, could reach such a conclusion. The whole movement outside the mining states, was in my judgment a grasp in the air for relief from real conditions of industrial disturbance, not occasioned but greatly increased by a defective currency system. The real occasions and meaning of these evils, or the true remedy, they did not understand."

While the Sound Money League is in the field as an active force to oppose the free coinage idea it does not propose to appeal to the passions and prejudices of men, but to their judgment, after giving them the facts of history. It is also, as shown by the address of the president, ready to accord to the opposition sincerity of purpose, but lack of information. In the same address occurs the following, in reply to the popular idea that a bank is created primarily in the interest of moiled capital. The sight of a bank has about the same effect on the average populist as a red rag on an angry bull.

"I believe that in those sections of the country where error is most prevalent upon these questions it is due almost entirely to an absolute want of knowledge of the larger commerce of the country, its nature, its methods and its needs. The necessity for a sound currency system in the handling of 7,000,000 bales of cotton, or 400,000,000 bushels of wheat, or 2,000,000,000 bushels of corn, with the cattle and hogs of the farm or plantation, the 8,000,000 tons of iron, with the scores of millions of manufactured products, is at once apparent to the merchant or manufacturer, who recognizes the bank simply as a useful commercial instrument, just as the railroad, the steamship, the postoffice or the telegraph, are commercial instruments. They exist to facilitate the operations of commerce."

Patrick Henry said something about his feet being guided by the lamp of experience. That is still a good maxim to follow. Like effects will produce like results. What has been will be, under the same conditions. Depreciation of the currency will produce disastrous consequences.

The question has been asked, who pays the expenses of the American Protective Tariff League? It furnishes lots of literature and these things cost money. Of course interested parties pay the expenses. This has been held up as a terrible thing, that manufacturers should put up their money to supply information to the American people. But it is any worse than the action of the Reform Club of New York that has announced its determination to defeat the Dingley bill? This club offers to furnish reform plates free of charge, that shall contain reasons why the proposed law should be defeated. At whose expense is all this? That of interested parties, of course. People are not in the habit of spending their money unless there is at least a possibility of a contingent benefit. We are not in accord with the ideas of the New York Reform Club and must decline their magnanimous offer, with thanks. We had a little sample of what the McKinley bill did, and we are having some experience with the Wilson bill and prefer a return to McKinley conditions.

The New York Reform Club sets forth that the manufacturers of this country have been compelled to improve their machinery and methods in order to compete with foreign manufacturers. The improved methods noticeable is a reduction of the wages of labor to the foreign level. We don't care to compete with the foreign manufacturer, if the condition of the competition is the lowering of our laborer to the foreign plane. Healthy home competition will regulate prices.

J. C. Cooper, of McMinnville, chairman of the union bi-metallic party of Oregon announces that his party is not dead. He does not even admit its disintegration, but calls upon the reform forces to come out and "form a more perfect union" on the 21 day of June next at Albany.

It is suggested the international bi-metallic commissioners recently appointed by President McKinley might try their pretense hand on Japan, as that country is now threatening to join the procession and adopt the gold standard.

The people's party committee of Jackson county will hold a meeting on the 23d inst. The populist members of the legislature from that county expect a vindication at that meeting but the Record populist says "nit."

Money is now looking for investment in enterprises that will bring reasonable returns. The "cent per cent" profits of the halcyon days of boom times are gone, and small margins are deemed satisfactory.

When will the senate get down to work on the tariff bill? The people are impatient and demand action. The proceedings of the senate ordinarily can be summed up in two words: "Hijya wawa."

What a vast amount of water power is going to waste in Douglas county. Much of it will be utilized some day, turning machinery and generating electricity.

A VOICE FROM HAWARDEN.

England's "grand old man" has said some very cutting things of late concerning the attitude of the government of his country on the Greco-Turkish question, but none more incisive than a letter recently written to the Macedonian leader, Gladstone is nearer the heart of the English people than any other leader, and the next election, with Gladstone's utterances for watchwords, will surely be carried by the liberal party of which he, at 88, is still the real head. The letter is as follows: "Under the present deplorable scheme, all the British government has a right to do, seemingly, is to lead its opinions before a tribunal of two youthful despots, the emperors of Germany and Russia, and to abide by their help to execute their final determinations. Our disgraceful offer seems to be to place ships, guns, soldiers and sailors at their disposal for the purpose of keeping down the movement for the liberty of Crete and of securing to these young despots, who have in nowise earned the confidence of Europe, the power of deciding questions which rightfully belong to the Cretans."

The people's party central committee had a meeting at Portland the other day and solemnly resolved to "keep in the middle of the road," and to form no entangling alliances with any of the old parties. Will they? Perhaps they will do the same as last year, meet, adopt a platform, nominate candidates and then put the management of the campaign in the hands of a committee of practical politicians, who will pull down or set up whomsoever they please.

Congressmen Tongue heard Bryan deliver his speech, that was lauded so much before the supreme court on the Nebraska case. In a letter to the Hillsboro Independent Mr. Tongue does not seem to be much taken with Mr. Bryan as an advocate before the highest tribunal in the land. He said that speech delivered by anybody else would not have received three minutes attention.

Mark Hanna is taking a hand in the senatorial fight in Kentucky, it appears, and Dr. Hunter has his back up about it. Kentucky is a little nearer Ohio than Oregon, and if Mr. Hanna was so much interested in Oregon as reported there is small surprise that he should send a man to Kentucky to help unravel the muddle.

The populists by a formal declaration have announced their ability to manage their affairs without the aid of Sylester Pennoyer or John H. Mitchell. This was probably called out by the rumor that a combination had been formed by the two gentlemen named whereby one was to be senator and the other governor.

At a banquet of the mystic shrines in Portland the other day our genial state treasurer, in rising to respond to a toast was greeted with the cry "our next governor." Stranger things than that have happened, and furthermore Phil would not only make a good governor, but would make a good run.

Dr. Hunter, the caucus nominee of the republicans of Kentucky for United States senator, has been indicted by a grand jury for the crime of bribery. As it will become time before he will be tried, he had better withdraw from the senatorial race and allow the legislature to agree upon a man.

And now it is said that Russia is making provision to adopt the gold standard.

NEWS NOTES.

Carter Harrison has been installed as mayor of Chicago.

There is much complaint in Portland of the antics of the scorcher.

The gold reserve still crawls up. It was \$154,929,925 on Saturday.

The Greeks must fight the Turks or there will be a revolution at home.

The Greeks have about 100,000 and the Turks 150,000 men on the frontier.

A revolution has broken out in Honduras and the republic is under martial law.

James Martin of Vermont declines the offer of an appointment as assistant secretary of war.

The Spaniards raided a camp of pacifists near Mazes, Pinar del Rio, and killed 49 persons.

It is now reported that Spain will give up the Cuban contest and withdraw her army from the island.

A caucus was to be held today to determine the question of committee appointments in the senate.

Judge Bellinger has decided that stockmen must keep their cattle and sheep off the forest reserves.

Mrs. S. M. Hanna, mother of the now famous Mark, died at Asheville, N. C., Friday. She was 81 years old.

Five men were badly burned by an explosion of molten metal at Pittsburg Thursday. Two will probably die.

Congressman Holman of Indiana, who earned the title of the "watch dog of the treasury," is seriously ill in Washington.

Father Beresford, rector of a Catholic parish in Pennsylvania, was apprehended at Kooing the other day, supposed to be a lecher.

Mr. Elizabeth R. Tilton, one of the principals in the Beecher-Tilton scandal of 23 odd years ago, died at her home in Brooklyn on Tuesday.

A woman at Ontario, Cal., was gagged and chloroformed by the train last week, and may not recover from the assault. Her name is Mrs. J. W. McFartridge.

While the Woods in the Missisippi have perhaps reached their worst thousands of people, especially in the Yazoo district, are homeless and destitute.

to the brakeman by the truss rod when the train was moving at a lively rate, fell and was fearfully mutilated. Kaiser, the Record man, is still throwing bombs into the camp of the hold-up-it reminds us very much of the man punneling the dead dog in order to show him there was punishment after death.—Town Talk.

A man by the name of Crouch shot his divorced wife and a Miss Daly and also their case George when at Sakett's Harbor, N. Y., Thursday. The women are dead and the man will probably die. Crouch is under arrest.

The failure of the legislature to legislate seems to have filled the State Secretary Kincaid with the idea that he is king of all he surveys. He does not propose to allow any claims against the state that his royal highness does not look upon with favor, whether they are low or not. It is a great pity that the secretary can't turn his wise eye upon himself and forget to allow some of his business affairs to be in the judgment of a great many people more just than those of the railroad commission or any other commission. Take a look at yourself, secretary.—Dispatch.

The strength of the British navy is serviceable ships is suggested by the fact that the Mediterranean and channel squadrons both in the Mediterranean contain 11 armoured battle-ships, most of them of 11,000 tons and over, 12 cruisers, five torpedo-boat destroyers, three torpedo cruisers and eight of other class, besides torpedo-boats and small boats. A large squadron is in the Eastern sea and other squadrons are kept at home. The expense of keeping such fleets in service in time of peace would bankrupt a less prosperous people. Russia, France and Italy have also large squadrons in the Levant.

Oakland.

Stearns Bros. commenced cultivating their hops last week.

E. G. Young & Co. received a large supply of gents, ladies and children's straw hats lately.

J. C. Hunt of the Oakland Flour mill, went to Eugene last week.

W. A. Frater, county treasurer, and W. P. Hayden, county surveyor, made our town a visit last week.

Rev. Ditworth and P. Benedict of Roseburg were in town Wednesday and Thursday to attend the Presbytery.

Born, to the wife of L. Armstrong, Saturday morning, a son weighing 13 pounds. Mother and child are doing well.

Creed Chenoweth has utilized a spring on the hill just above his place of residence for the purpose of furnishing water for the yard and garden, which is a very useful addition to the place.

Rev. Forbes, the synodical missionary of the Presbyterian Church, arrived here Saturday evening, and with the assistance of Rev. Courtwright will hold meetings here every evening this week.

A large and appreciative audience attended the entertainment given by the Cleaver section of the street and the program was good and well selected, and the juniors stowed they had been well trained and instructed in the various parts they took part in. These entertainments should be encouraged by the community, as the money gained by them is used for good purposes and the instruction given to the young persons has a tendency to assist in building up the characters of the boys and girls of our country, so that when they become men and women they may choose pursuits in life that will prove to be a blessing to them and the community in which they live.

F. A. Falkenburg of Denver, Col., Head Consul of the Woodmen of the World, visited Camp Douglas, Monday evening of last week and delivered a public lecture at Young's Hall in the interests of Woodcraft, which was enjoyed by all present. At the close of the lecture the audience was dismissed, and the committee in charge, proceeded to carry out the program of the evening by clearing the hall of the seats and participating in a social dance, free to all who wished to join in the pleasure. Music was furnished by the Oakland Orchestra. In an interview with Mr. Falkenburg we learned the following items: The W. of W. organization is at and half years old, is represented in 39 states and Canada, and has a membership of 82,000, has paid policies to the amount of \$1,700,000, no policy has yet been carried on the program of the evening by clearing the hall of the seats and participating in a social dance, free to all who wished to join in the pleasure. 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