

LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER

C. F. SOULE, Publisher

TOLEDO.....OREGON

Cuba wants new blood. It ought to be a few degrees cooler than the home brand.

The President's action concerning the Twenty-fifth Infantry has become a study in black and white.

Summerfield, Ohio, has a boy 15 years of age who weighs 488 pounds. He may be Secretary of War some day.

If, as Prof. Lowell says, the people of Mars are our superiors, we suppose it will be in order for us to look up to them.

Pretty hard on Count Bond being cut off from all those millions, with the cost of living higher than it has been for twenty years.

A wealthy Chicago girl is going to marry a baseball player. Bet he won't pinch her and stick her with pins, like a count or a duke.

Mrs. Russell Sage finds it difficult to give away \$80,000,000 so as to make it do the most good. Her husband would have found it impossible.

A Nebraska woman is seeking her third divorce from the same man. She is shrewdly practicing what that "trial marriage" advocate is preaching.

"We have enough railroads now," declares E. H. Harriman. Mr. Harriman may have enough, but there are millions of us poor people in the country who don't own a single railroad.

The Buffalo Times tells of a boy who took several ounces of rough-on-rats without suffering any evil effects; but it appears that he worked in a drug store and took it to a customer.

New York's board of education has put itself on record in opposition to the new kind of spelling. This fact will cause Brander Matthews to recall the old proverb concerning the prophet in his own country.

If they can be discovered the men who made a drunken man in New York sleep with a pig are to be punished. But will the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals take no action in behalf of the other pig?

According to President Roosevelt, a 30-cent lunch in a Panama restaurant is good enough for anybody. It is just possible, though, that the lunch set before President didn't look as much like 30 cents as the one served to the average patron.

"Story hour" is a new feature of library work among children which has had marked success at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburg. Children come to the building at stated times and listen to stories told by a skilled narrator. In Boston the centennial of the birth of Hans Christian Andersen was celebrated last year by a gathering of a large and interested audience of children at the Public Library, to whom a lady told Andersen stories. It is an expedient for providing wholesome entertainment for children which might well be adopted by all cities and large towns.

Iceland is now connected with Europe by cable, and the King of Denmark is in direct communication with his subjects on the northern isle. Cables are built so fast that it is difficult to keep track of them. There are about two hundred and fifty thousand miles of metallic connection under the seas of the world, the average cost of which has been about a thousand dollars a mile. A quarter of a billion is a great sum of money, yet it is a small price to pay for communication between continents which send to each other an estimated total of six million messages a year.

Young men who are wondering what opportunity the world holds out to them when they leave college may be interested in some figures given in the latest published report of the United States Commissioner of Education. The commissioner says that since 1890 there have been created an average of about a thousand new college professorships every year, and more than thirteen hundred new positions in the high schools and academies. Thus about twenty-three hundred new teachers have to be found annually, without making any allowance for the retirement of many hundreds of others on account of age or other disability. It is apparent that the man who wishes to live the scholarly life has ample opportunity in these days of popular education.

By those who have watched the rapid growth of the colleges and universities fears are often expressed that personal contact between president and students, between professors and pupils, will be

lost, if it has not been lost already; and that so the best part of a college education will be forfeited. The definite charge, by a writer in a recent number of the Outlook, that in one college at least this condition has already come to pass, brought out some interesting correspondence. One woman mentions a professor who not only knew all "his boys" while they were under his instruction and helped them by personal advice and friendly social intercourse, but has kept in touch with every one of them since they were graduated. Once a year he sends them all a letter, and nearly all of them reply. The atmosphere is almost like that of one great family. The misfortune of one is the concern of all, and all help to repair it. Other correspondents cite other colleges and other men to show that intercourse between faculty and students is growing more intimate instead of more remote; and no one has considered it necessary to cite—for every one knows—the definite system which most of the colleges have for bringing all the students under the direct personal influence of some of the professors or other instructors. Candid graduates of forty or fifty years ago, if they are familiar with present college conditions, nearly always admit that the relations to-day are simpler and more familiar. The old-time professor, however beneficent his influence, was too often a man of austere dignity, which made him unapproachable. His modern representative may be regarded with less awe, but not with less affection. One thing must be remembered: It takes two to form a friendship as well as to make a quarrel. The student must meet advances half-way. If he does, there is little danger in any college, large or small, that he will go through the course friendless or without the helpful influence of close contact and acquaintance with "professors et professoras."

At intervals of a few years we hear that England is scraping the bottom of her coal mines and that in a relatively short time her fuel supply will be exhausted and she will have to go out of the manufacturing business. Still, England continues to mine coal in sufficient quantity for her needs. Lately however, the prophets have been insistent in their auguries of woe, and they have asserted that this time there can be no mistake. The exhaustion of the English coal supply is in sight. Providence appears still to temper the wind to the shorn lamb, however, for coincident with these gloomy outgivings comes the statement that new coal beds have been discovered near Dover whose value in money is estimated at \$5,000,000,000. Leading geologists say that the discovery is the most important since the Norman conquest. Thus England is granted a respite. Her manufactures will not become extinct for lack of fuel—not for a while, at least. Still, the prophets of evil continue to prophesy. They calculate that not only the coal supply of England but of the whole world must within a certain time be exhausted and they demand to know what will become of humanity then. The question is interesting, but hardly of contemporary importance. The anxious ones concede that there will be years to come and we may justly assume that we shall not be personally interested in occurrences that far in the future. But even if we expected to live until all the coal and wood had been burned we should still decline to be alarmed at the prospect. We have great faith in the resources of the human intellect. Poe said that the ingenuity of man could not devise a cipher or cryptograph which the ingenuity of man could not solve. We hold the same opinion with respect to any emergency that may confront the human race. Man rises to the necessities of his existence. When the fuel that we now have is exhausted substitutes will be found for it. The resources of nature are infinite and they are at the disposal of men acute enough to utilize them. The harnessing of the tides alone would produce enough power transformable into heat to supply all humanity ten times over. That is only one resource; there are a dozen others.

Identity Marks.

They were riding through Indiana.

"That man across there is from St. Louis," said the observer.

"How do you know?" asked the drummer.

"He constantly looks in the mirror to see if his face is dirty."

The drummer looked around a bit, and tapped the observer upon the shoulder.

"There's a man from Pittsburg," he said, indicating a passenger two seats behind.

"How can you tell?"

"His face actually is dirty."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Started in for Himself.

Acquaintance—Were you ever bunoed?

Skinflint—Was I? Why, I was bunoed so many times that it taught me the game.—Detroit Free Press.

A man's honesty may be due to the smallness of the bribe offered.

IF THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN SHOULD GO TO WAR

Philippines and Hawaii would be immediately at mercy of little brown men Navy would likely determine contest.



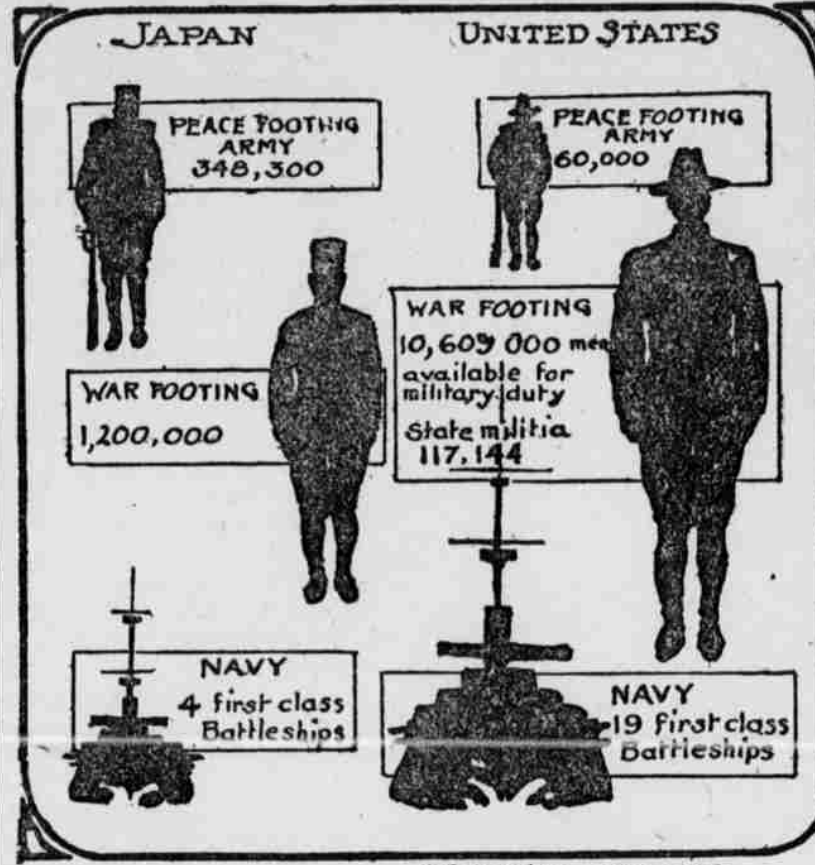
That May morning, eight years ago, when Dewey with his fleet sailed into Manila harbor, the United States entered the Japanese "sphere."

From that moment Japan naturally has continued to watch with interest the American expansion in the Pacific. The annexation of Hawaii by the United States proved to be a blow to Japanese ambitions to the mastery of the great western ocean, and the battle of Manila Bay completed the discomfiture of Japan's pretensions.

These well remembered incidents undoubtedly are responsible for much of the prophecies of a future war between the United States and Japan. There are other factors, of course, but the remembrance of the Japanese protest against the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands, in which action Russia was usually regarded as a kind of abettor, and the generally believed report that the "Bushis" had offered the American government \$200,000,000 for the Philippines before the Paris Peace Commission had drawn up the treaty with Spain, have undoubtedly prejudiced opinion in favor of a coming conflict.

May Forestall the Canal.

If Japan really intends to draw the United States into a war which will decide the supremacy of the Pacific, it is a foregone conclusion that the Mikado's government will force the fighting before the completion of the Panama canal. To picture the Japanese



Relative strength of Japan and U.S.

send against it. Russia's Vladivostok fleet was regarded as a powerful fighting machine, but one or two engagements, principally by Japanese torpedo boats, made it quiescent.

Would Fight in the East.

A conflict between Japan and the United States, in all probability, would have its scene in the Far East. This would mean that, as in the last two Eastern wars, the "Bushis" would be within easy distance of their base, while their opponent would be at the disadvantage of fighting thousands of

that simultaneously the naval base at Hawaii likewise would be captured, and the cable island, Guam, midway between Honolulu and Manila, gathered in with ease and celerity. Assuming such disasters to have taken place, the passage of either fleets or transports across the Pacific would be perilous. One general naval engagement, however, might change the whole character of the prospect.

The part China would be called upon to play in a war of this character, in view of the regeneration and re-awakening which is in progress in the Celestial Empire, is a far more questionable matter. In two years more China will have an excellent military system. An army of 500,000 will then be organized in a modern manner and put upon an active service footing. It is true this military force, for some mysterious reason, has been raised only in the northern provinces. That the Japanese have been instrumental in building up this military power is an open secret. But what is the purpose of this big and efficient army? It is not to be believed that the Japanese have erected a monster to devour them; yet it is agreed the Chinese do not, as a people, look upon the Japs with any kindly feelings, and rather resent their officiousness.

Japan's Shrewd Tactics.

It has been charged that the Japanese influenced the organization of the Chinese army in the northern provinces in order to use it to repel any descent of the Russians into Manchuria while the Japs were exploiting that rich region. The fact that the southern provinces are unprotected and have no army organization has been attributed to a shrewd move on the part of the Japanese to leave open a door by which, when the opportune time arrives, they may conquer their neighbors. While China has been encouraged to form a powerful army, she appears to have been actually discouraged from building a suitable navy. Clearly China is more or less dependent on Japan. If any conquests are to be undertaken, the Land of the Rising Sun is to take the initiative and manage the undertaking.

What position China would take in the event of a break in the harmonious relations between Japan and the United States can only be left to conjecture. The progress of such a conflict undoubtedly would have some bearing on the case.

A glance at the present financial condition of Japan shows that the plucky little country cannot afford the luxury of a war. If it intends to go to war with either China or the United States it must postpone the evil day for some years. By that time the whole complexion of the situation in the Pacific may be changed by the opening of the Panama Canal. When that great work is finished, it will require a strong nation to dispute the mastery of the western ocean with America.

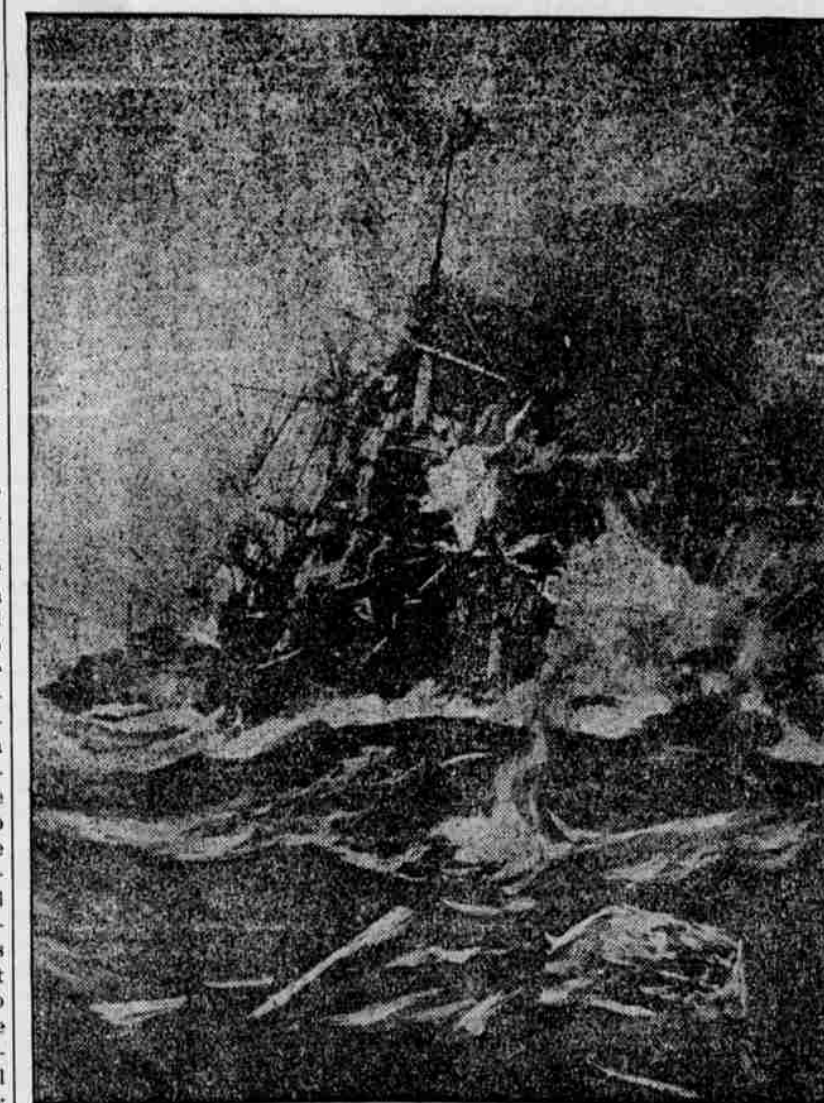
It Seems that Way.

"Say, pa," asked Willie, "what is a 'nonagenarian,' anyway?"

"A nonagenarian, my son," replied Willie's pa, "is usually a man who has or has not used tobacco all his life."—Philadelphia Press.

From the present prospect, the woman with a new fur coat is going to get more enjoyment out of life this winter than she did last.

WOULD BE A NAVAL WAR.



waiting until the interoceanic waterway is completed is to underestimate their character in a manner inconceivable in view of recent events. At the present time the United States would be in a position analogous to that of the Russians when the Japs suddenly flew at their throats.

The Russian Baltic fleet was about 12,000 miles from the seat of war at the beginning of the late conflict in the Far East, and the Atlantic fleet of the United States would be even farther removed—using the Suez Canal as the shortest route—were it now called upon for similar service. The Japanese navy is now fifth in rank of the navies of the world, and the United States practically ranks as third, and at the end of the year 1908, according to present programmes, it will be exceeded in size only by that of Great Britain.

A strong American squadron is maintained in Asiatic waters; yet, in the light of experience, this fleet could hardly hope to engage successfully such a powerful battle line as Japan could

miles from his base. As inconvenient as this state of affairs would prove to the naval arm, it would be almost paralyzing to the military arm. The difficulty Russia experienced in transporting her armies over a slender railroad 6,000 miles long would be easy, compared with the problem of sending at least half a million men by transports across the Pacific. Great Britain sent over 200,000 men to South Africa to fight the Boers, who had no navy to interrupt communications, and many months were occupied in the task. Transports of troops from the United States to the Far East during the existence of a war would of necessity have to be conveyed by an enormous and powerful fighting fleet, which would be a drain upon our naval force.

Philippine Attack First.

At the outbreak of such a war the Philippines naturally would be the initial point of attack. Unless sufficient time for preparation could be had, it is to be conceded that the islands would soon fall into the hands of the attacking force. It is also entirely probable