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WEATHER.

Oregon, Washington, Idaho,—Fair.

THE DAILY WAR STORY.

Major Rodic, an attache of the Austrian embassy at Tokio, returning to the fatherland, hardly catches his home-breath before he unwinds a thrilling and portentionus tale of Japanese preparation for the early subjugation and absorption of the American republic, "hide, hoofs, tail and tallow."

They are, according to this latest expose, working their foundries, factories, arsenals and yards, night and day, over and under time, shaping up war materials of all sorts and highest qualities ,for the express and sole purpose of wiping us off the face of the earth and with the loot recouping the losses and infinite debts entailed up on them in their conflict with the Russians.

The peculiar feature of all these stories is that they emanate from un-American sources. Of course, in such a matter, it is unlikely that any of our people are going to be taken into the Japanese confidence, but it does seem that a subject of such world-wide notoriety might be shared, in some measure, with the party at interest, and some hint of the design drift our way. There is so much of it afoot, it seems strange we are denied all knowledge of the open and audacious play they are making in our behalf.

The whole world is learning to respect Japan, America along with the rest of the nations, and we are at a loss to understand just why she is so avid about engaging us in war. We have always been her friend ,and never more so, than during the last and gravest of her troubles; it beats us.

Thank Heaven, we have the Hague Tribunal to fall back upon to fend off this demolition, this effacement, that confronts us. It is not expected that we will put up any fight in the premises. Japan counts on that. She knows how timorous, how slow to wrath, and prone to peace upon any terms, we are. And this may temper the harshness of her onslaught and modify the measure of her exactions after we have capitulated.

The only thing that disturbs her assurance of quick and supreme success in such a war venture, is that she must do her bantam act between our hind legs and is liable to get stepped on in the maneuver. That we hear nothing of this from Washington is accounted for on the assumption that the capital is so darned far away from the seat of all this extraordinary bumptious endeavor, that the gravity of the situation has not percolated that distance. But it will get there, in time enough to enable us to knuckle gracefully and upon terms entirely satisfactory to our little trans-Pacific friend.

North Head will please advise us of any untoward signs that may arise on the western horizon, in order that Astoria may have the first deal in this vital proposition. We need it in our boom!

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

This is St. Patrick's day, and perhaps the most universal and popular anniversary on the world's calendar, outside Christmas.

Whoever knows the Irish and likes them, (and who does not?) assumes a sort of friendly proprietorship in this natal memorandum of the great and jolly Saint, just out of sheer good will to the people with whom he is the patron, par-exceullence.

St. Patrick has become deeply and heartily Americanized by reason of the vast numbers of sterling citizens of his nationality that have merged their destinies with ours and made this land famous in a thousand ways; and it is one of the signs of our real appreciation of the Irish that we have taken over this pet ideal of theirs and almost wholly appropriated him.

It would be a strange year indeed, in the United States that his natal day should pass unobserved and unhonored and no man desires that it should be so; for there is much to inspire reverence and stimulate manliness in the splendid history of the old patriarch, who, for a thousand years, has been an ineffaceable standard for all that is courageous, clean and good in the human race. May the honors never dim, nor the memory of the Saint.!

FORAKER'S FUNDAMENT.

When a man of the supposed calibre of Ex-Governor Foraker, of Ohio, becomes possessed of the greatest ambition known to American manhood, it would seem, to the interested onlooker, that he should have some larger and nobler ideal, to serve as his predicate than the paltry feat of discrediting the man whose shoes he hopes to fill, upon so mean a hypothesis as the "Brownsville affair." To date, this seems to be the only grasp he has on the fleeting aspiration for Presidential honors, and the farther he goes with it, the less of dignity and honor redound to him. That he, a Northern senator, should go to the South and the meanest of its elements, for a cue, a slogan, and political pull, reveals the measure of insincerity of the man, as well as the very cheapness of him.

It will all come home to him in the fullness of time, and he will be made to know that his predecessor has exalted the scale of qualification for the Presidency to a point that such men as Foraker are not likely to attain. The people demand something bigger than this contemptible and transparent "declaration of principles," and his ability to furnish anything better, is negatived by his having forced this poor basis, primarily.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

Much has been said of broken rails on railroads this winter. The breaking of rails in frosty weather cannot be prevented. It is a danger menacing travelers like a storm at sea. What can be done, however, when the danger threatens, is to double or quadruple the number of track-walkers and to compel trainmen to greater vigilance .

The New York Commercial's International Weekly is letting the natives a hungry political machine is going tempestuous winds of March, while about seeking whom it may devour. of this country know something of the beauty, worth and attractiveness of Jamaica, the Bermudas and the Sandwich Islands.

Home rule in the opinion of democratic legislatures in Missouri is a matter to be regulated by party advantage. The present legislature shows that it holds this view in common with its predecessors.

In a spirit of accommodation Mr. Harriman expresses a willingness to let himself down to the level of the United States. Perhaps the concession ocered will be greater before the toboggan slide ends.

The archaeological department began excavating for New York the other night, and it is believed that within a few days interesting discoveries will be made on a street called Broadway.

Imagine the fuss the American tourists made when compelled to go round and see Paris' two nights by the light of a Chinese lantern.

One of the vice-President's of the Douma is a newspaper man. Very properly he belongs to that division called the "party of toil."

It seems to be easier for a man who leads a double life to commit suicide than for a man who has only a single life to spare.

The rules should be suspended long enough to get a tie pass for "Mrs. Warren," and send her to the provinces.

Governor Hughes has been nominated for President by his college fraternity. It seems a real pity to turn this tender little boomlet loose in the

ROBBED WASHINGTON STORE.

Joe Gulkus Captured In Chicago With Jewelry Store Booty.

CHICAGO, March 16.—Joe Gulkus, who came to Chicago several weeks ago, from the West, was arrested here tonight charged with being one of the burglars who robbed five jewelry stores in the state of Washington. Gulkus is accused of having been implicated in the following robberies: Jewelry store at Chehalis, $20,000; store at Roslyn; Day and Co's Store at Tacoma and two stores in vicinity of Seattle. The chicago police have been watching for Gulkus for some time and when arrested there was found in his room forty watches, a score of bracelets, 12 rings and many pawn tickets. Detective Ladyard of Tacoma, who wos present when the arrest was made, said tonight that Gulkus admitted having taken part in four of the robberies but denied any part in the Chehalis affair.

EIGHTEEN PERISH.

Fire and Flood Cause Deaths Among Frightened Foreigners.

WHEELING, W., Va., March 16.—Eighteen persons are known to have lost their lives because of an early morning fire today at the Warwick Pottery Company's Plant. Because of the water surrounding the burned district it was impossible for the fire apparatus to reach the scene. The Firemen pressed into service all the boats that could be secured and carried their lines close to the burning building by this means. The crew of boats moored across the river manned a yawl and rescued about 100 persons. Most of the imperiled personc were Sryians and at times the big yawl was threatened with overturning by the frantic foreigners. Had the drowned persons remained in their homes none would have met death. Not all of tho e who met death met it by jumping into water. Only five were drowned.

RAISE FOR DISPATCHERS.

CITY OF MEXICO, March 16.—The train dispatchers on the Mexican Central have been increased $20 per month.

The American Minister to Nicaragua has introduced the custom of licking the president of the republic when words fail. This practice will never become popular among the diplomats at Washington.

Everybody who is not already holding public office in New Jersey is fighting for one.

When Bernard Shaw reclassifies his plays they will be called "pleasant," "interesting" and "uninteresting."

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