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Official paper of Clatsop County and the City of Astoria.

SCANDINAVIAN-AMERICAN SAVINGS BANK

HAS MONEY TO LOAN ON GOOD SECURITY

next time, without recurring thought of the lambasting he got previously. It is an invincible and an incorrigible complaint, and largely susceptible of complaint, from other than the original source.

A SURFEIT OF HONORS.

It is announced from Portland, as a verity, that there is an understood and perfected deal afoot in the State, to make up the Oregon Republican delegation to the National Convention, at Chicago, of the four representatives now in Congress, Senators Fulton and Bourne, and Representatives Ellis and Hawley. This is on a parity with the rest of the political deals now under negotiation, and exceeds, for extraordinary and untraditional processes anything ever heard of in Oregon.

One would think that the gentlemen in question had received enough popular testimony of confidence and honor, without setting them this task and tribute, so unusual and irregular; so needless and gratuitous. There are plenty of excellent men in the ranks of the party to whom such rewards as this are due and who would appreciate it quite as much as those four, to whom it would come more in the light of a surfeit than anything else. We are opposed to the plan, and shall fight it to a finish on the ground that it is a dangerous innovation and a palpable breach of authorized and recognized procedure.

FOLLY, PURE AND SIMPLE.

A Portland policeman found it necessary to kill a friend on Wednesday evening, because that friend was an incarnate idiot and put himself in the place of the crook that is supposed to be killed by every officer who gets such a chance. He posed as a highwayman, at the hour such gentry are known to be abroad, and the climax of his stupidity was in selecting a policeman to play the trick upon. He has paid the penalty of his utter folly, and the officer has the sympathy and commendation of the whole State, for having set at example of swift service in police work that will be invaluable as a hint to his colleagues on the force and to the highbinders that flock to the road in this criminal behalf.

The state and her cities need more such guardians as this; and it is just such incidents that contribute to the need. Every officer in Oregon should be under orders to shoot these murderous scoundrels on sight just as this Portland policeman did, the fakes as well as the fiends.

A GOODLY COMPROMISE.

Word comes over from Seattle that a compromise has been effected as between the lumbermen and the railroads of the Northwest, whereby shipments may be started, pending the adjustment of the excess rate demanded by the transportation lines, by the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

This is alright, provided there shall be a market for the lumber that has congested at the mills and yards out here. The compromise is futile if there shall be no demand for the product. At all events we hope there is enough of demand to stimulate a further call for this great commodity and that the resumption will be set afoot at an early day, and never be heard of as relaxing again.

MONTANA PIONEER DEAD.

DILLON, Mont., Feb. 13.—Arthur Sullivan, aged 90 years, the oldest resident of this section of Montana, and a pioneer of three states, is dead. Mr. Sullivan was one of the leading citizens of Southern Montana and at one time was one of the wealthiest men in the State. He was prominent in masonry circles. During the early days Mr. Sullivan journeyed to Missouri, Colorado and Montana.

FIRED UPON FROM AMBUSH.

MERIDIAN, Miss., Feb. 13.—Cooper Henderson, a mill man, and Samuel Culpeper, county convict manager, were fired upon from ambush last night near Braham's station by three unknown negroes. Henderson was probably fatally wounded and Culpeper received serious injuries. The negroes escaped but possess are in pursuit.

EDITORIAL SALAD

Paris has a few yellow papers that insist on war between the United States and Japan as an inevitable event. This seems to be a branch of the Paris claque system, and will eventually be identified as a stock jobbing contrivance.

Enlistments in the army and navy have been increasing lately. The voyage of the big fleet has had a favorable effect on the service. For the unemployed who can pass the examination the opening is considered by many one of the best.

In 1905 Canada imported from the United States goods worth \$82,000,000. Last year the figures were \$112,000,000, or more than half of the Canadian imports. A short haul the best prices, and the most desirable products are bound to win.

Last year British imports exceeded British exports by \$640,000,000, while American exports were greater than American imports by \$500,000,000. Some political economists say they prefer the British side of the ledger, but Americans are few who would agree to a swap.

The Republican party has many men fit to be president, but no one of them is as great as the party, nor are all combined. But Mr. Bryan is the Democratic party, and its prospects are what might be expected from so lamentable a plight of a once self-governing organization.

The chairmen of several agricultural boards have been interviewed as to whether rural free delivery pays or not. They give the usual affirmative reasons, and so many more than escape the casual observer that the reader is convinced the system is one of the best yet invented for the public good.

The United States supreme court, in a unanimous decision, holds a boycott of manufacturers engaged in interstate commerce to be illegal and that those who engage in the boycott are liable to damages. Thus the highest court declares that trade organizations that are responsible for boycotts violate the law against combinations formed in restraint of trade. The decision was announced by Chief Justice Fuller and there was no dissenting opinion.

SIX BATTLESHIPS.

To Petition Navy Department for Permanent Fleet in Pacific Waters

LOS ANGELES, CAL. Feb. 13.—In order that the War Department may fully appreciate the strong sentiment of the people of the Pacific Coast in favor of permanently maintaining a fleet of at least six modern battleships in these waters, various commercial bodies of Washington, Oregon and this state will be asked to pass resolutions to that effect and to forward copies to the authorities at Washington.

A letter from the Commercial Club at Seattle was read before the directors of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday in which it was stated that resolutions passed by the local chamber would have great influence as representing the sentiment of the people of one of the largest cities of the coast. The matter was referred to the committee on fortifications.

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PITFALLS OF ENGLISH.

Our Puzzling Language and Its Words of More Than One Meaning.

Of all modern languages English is undoubtedly the most difficult to acquire. In addition to the ordinary pitfalls of forms and idioms that entrap the foreigner struggling for mastery of a strange tongue, there is one so peculiar to ours that nothing even remotely similar presents itself in any other language, whether ancient or modern.

This is the paradoxical word, the word which has two meanings diametrically opposed to each other. It is not enough that, with all the wealth of words borrowed from half a score of other languages, we must impose a double and often a multiple burden on some poor little monosyllabic word like "let," for instance, whose meanings are legion. Our language must needs confound the student at the gates with the paradox. To give a few examples:

The word "let" means to "allow" or "permit" and likewise to "prevent," "hinder" or "refuse," meanings diametrically opposite. "I will let you do it" in the former sense is hardly more common in use than the phrase "without let or hindrance," and Shakespeare has it, "By heaven, I'll make a ghost of him that lets (prevents) me!"

"Cleave" means to split asunder as well as to "adhere" or "bind" closely. Scott makes Marmon threaten to "cleave the Douglas' head," while holy writ enjoins upon the husband to "cleave unto his wife."

Another example is "lurid," which means both a "dull red" and also a "pale green" hue, tints that are exactly opposed in the scale of color. While the former is the more common meaning, the latter is more scholarly correct, as the word is derived through the Latin from the Greek adjective meaning "greenish hued."

Again, we have "fast." A horse that is "fast" may be in rapid motion or standing tied stock still. In either sense, whether of motion or immobility, the word emphasizes the idea.

Examples of this bewildering pitfall of our tongue might be multiplied indefinitely. It may be said of the English speaking world as it was said of the old Romans—that their supremacy is due to the fact that they do not have to learn their own language. —Chicago Record-Herald.

REASON ENTHRONED.

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Cloudy and threatening with rain or snow in northern portion.
Western Oregon—Increasing cloudiness followed by rain.
Western Washington—Rain.
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THE PORTLAND POLICY.

From the signs most conspicuous in the press of Portland, and out of it there would seem to be a conspiracy afoot to center the political interests of Oregon at the metropolis along with all other state-wide concerns. This may be alright, and it may not; the people are beginning to weary of the one-town domination that leaves no choice to the outsider in the commercial and industrial affairs; and now to have the political dictum taken over there, may prove too much for the patience that has stretched to breaking.

The Portland sentiment seems to be verging on the Wilcoxian doctrine of "Portland against the State," a slogan that makes the metropolis hateful abroad in Oregon; but, since she has practically half the population of the state, it is pertinent and logical. Just how the absorption is going to be taken in the outlying districts remains to be seen; and there is a chance for some pretty hot contests at the polls and in the Legislature, and in which the Multnomahs may find barriers worth their notice.

What does Portland want, anyway? Must the balance of this State renounce its claims to choice and free expression in all things political, simply to satisfy the lust for control and prestige that is warping the common sense and decent judgment of the metropolis. We had best come to an understanding at once on this score and determine just how much of Oregon lies beyond the doors of Multnomah, so far as constitutional liberty and action are concerned. It is time the people were awakening to the ambition of our one great city and curbing its insensate craving for all power in the commonwealth commercial, political and industrial. This, or sanction, by legislative enactment, the obliteration of her municipal status, and make her dominion Statewide, with a franchise that shall count us all citizens of Portland unaccountable to other authority of any kind.

THE ITCH FOR OFFICE.

At this particular season of this especial year in Oregon the prevalence of la grippe is badly discounted by that other and deeper-seated disease, the itch—for office.

It is one of those maladies that imposes itself not only on the actual victim, but upon every man he knows and calls friend. It is an intermitant and baneful visitation and ranges the whole gamut of political official, schedule and counts its sufferers in every balliwick of the state.

Astoria has quite a batch on hand already; men who were innoculated years ago and have never gotten it out of the blood. Its tenacity is remarkable, despite the fact that nine times out of ten it is never salved by any success at the polls, but rather goes through the humiliation of defeat, time after time, only to increase its hold on the martyr and its plague on his friends and acquaintances. The primaries were looked upon as a probable source of relief, but even the iron-hand of repudiation at that poll does not seem to abate the initial nuisance. Of course, the ardent sufferer knows when he is sat down on at the primaries, and retires, perforce, to the shades of normal obscurity; yet he bobs up serenely the