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Official paper of Clatsop County and the City of Astoria.

THE WEATHER

Western Oregon, Western Washington—Rain and colder.
Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington, Idaho—Rain or snow; colder.

THAT U. OF O. \$125,000.

The Oregon Legislature very properly passed an appropriation in the sum of \$125,000 for the benefit of the University of Oregon at its last session, and the same was passed up to the people upon a referendum, and will be voted upon at the general election on June 1st.

For the credit of the whole State and the good of the University, it is to be hoped there will be a rousing majority for the concession. To defeat such a bill would show a popular indifference to the maintenance and success of one of the best and most helpful integers of Oregon's statehood.

The State has founded the institution in good faith, and maintained it with a fair generosity for the years of its existence; and what is sought for it now, is not so much by way of deliberate expansion, as it is to meet the logical growth of the great school itself.

You cannot keep a good thing down to any limitations; it is bound to grow and flourish, and the extension of its work and service must be met by prompt and rational expenditures adequate to the pace of that growth. There is nothing to be urged against such an appropriation; the regency of the University is of a kind to negative all thought of waste or extravagance or worse, and every dollar of the \$125,000 will find its exact and purposeful place in the scheme of betterment designed for the school.

The people do not always have the opportunity to exercise their will in the distribution of the public moneys, and this is an occasion for the demonstration of their best judgment in directing, at least, that much of the public treasure to channels that mean something of real and practical good; and of exemplifying their faculty for wise administrative ability. To refuse it will be a sign of sheer weakness in that line; and we hope there will be no dubiousness nor meagerness in the mandate from the polls to hand this sum over to the proper representatives of the establishment we are all proud of.

JEROME'S TURN NOW.

New York's great criminal prosecutor is to be grilled on the grand jury irons of inquisition. His removal has been prayed for by a host of people who have alleged all sorts of things against him and the matter has reached the hands of Governor Hughes, who calmly says, "the charges will take their usual course." This means something more than it used to in New York, thanks to the power and policies of that same Governor.

Jerome is of the "Four Hundred" of Gotham and this may have contributed somewhat to the sudden array of adverse sentiment against him, that idea being current and popular just now in centers of that kind. His office is, in a sense, one of almost National significance and cannot escape the limelight even a little bit; therefore it is an easy matter to account for the 22 formal charges that have developed against him, and which are, for the most part purely tentative and of no real import, while some of them are grave enough to rouse very definite interest.

Out here, 3500 miles from the man and his sphere, he has never loomed very big; has never been considered really distinguished nor great in the field he occupies; but he has been generally credited with a desire to do his duty by the people. But, it

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HAS
MONEY TO LOAN ON GOOD SECURITY

seems, being among the lofty, the prosperous, the powerful, he has at last come to his turn in the play of popular criticism and resentment and must make the best of it.

THE MODERN SURGEON.

While we are following our pessimistic bent of damning the grafters, scoring and scorning the "interests, cursing the political pirates, of our day and country, we might, as a matter of sheer relief, turn to the clear and compensating manifestations of professional acumen and accomplishment that are making for the safety and comfort of the race and contributing hugely to the annals of scientific achievement.

Among the great professions we hear most of the surgeons; that is, more frequently and freely of the good things they are doing, of the discoveries they are making, and of the practical and perfect schemes they are devising for eliminating the chance of death and diminishing the volume and duration of pain and malady.

We owe more to them than we realize and are far too chary in admitting what of it we do know. But, day by day the debt is growing, and the profound and successful students of this comforting cult, become great more by reason of the readiness of their professional brethren to recognize and proclaim their victories, than by any spontaneous acknowledgment conceded by the laity.

Every accession of professional and technical value made by the physician or the surgeon, is of direct benefit to mankind and reduces the measure of its danger and decrepitude. We should take better cognizance of the good that is being done for us and signalize our sense of its splendid import as well as our knowledge of its especial source.

EDITORIAL SALAD

Congress seems to prefer submarines to battleships. If the submerged vessels work, an enemy would rather meet a battleship than the hidden danger, so the subject is an open one and can not be settled on theory alone.

When Mr Bryan delivered his lengthy tariff speech in Congress a colleague asked him if his wife wrote it, to which Mr. Bryan replied: "She might have done so, she is clever enough." The compliment is delightfully comprehensive.

A Havana dispatch says there is a growing sentiment there for an American protectorate or annexation. It is certainly trying to see a great and good friend pack up for a second departure, when a hurry call for his return is almost certain.

Absolutely fireproof cars will run in the McAdoo tunnels, at New York, and the Pennsylvania railroad will have 85 of like construction in service by June 1. With two such important beginnings, the days of roasted wreck victims soon will be memories of the "barbarous past."

Governor Sparks has appointed a carpenter as inspector of Nevada's new state police. His friends say, however, that it is not to be inferred from this that the governor intends to build up a wooden force.

The money stringency cuts no ice—at least very little. The fine ice fields on the Hudson have been neglected by the companies because of the hard times.

Quite Useful.
"She has a very useful husband."
"How do you make that out?"
"He can always suggest something that he wants for dinner."—Detroit Free Press.

A generous confession disarms slander.—French Proverb.

COFFEE

Why do we drink so much poor coffee?
Because good coffee is so good.

Your grocer returns your money if you don't like his coffee's Best: we pay him.

GERMAN EXPANSION

Baron Speck Von Sternburg Refutes the Story

NO LUST FOR TERRITORY

The World is Large Enough and All They Want is a Fair Chance to Compete on Equal Terms With Other Countries.

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—Baron Speck von Sternburg, the German Ambassador at Washington, has an article in the North American Review which appeared today, on "The Truth about German Expansion," refuting reports of Germany's designs on Holland and Belgium, and explaining Germany's real policy on expansion. The Ambassador says:

"Especially during the last two years it has been noticed by those interested in the world's development that a number of papers of Western Europe, have circulated the reports that the independence of the two small states Holland and Belgium is jeopardized in consequence of the war spirit and lust for territory alleged to exist in Germany. The reports, to which I refer, seek also to interest the American people by asserting that the underlying reason for Germany's purpose to acquire the Netherlands, arises out of our ambition to possess territory in the western hemisphere. The Island of Curacao in the Caribbean Sea is pointed to as a constant object of our keen solicitude. Should Germany, it is stated, succeed in annexing the Netherlands, her colonies naturally will pass with the mother country.

"In an article printed in the May number 1906 of the North American Review, 'The Phantom Perils of German Emigration and South-American Settlements,' I have already given a clear expose of Germany's policy in the southern hemisphere and proved that there is not a shadow of truth in the attacks directed against it by political columniators.

"Even such politicians who cannot ignore the conspicuous fact that the German Emperor is an enthusiastic advocate of the Peace Movement; that the German Government since thirty-seven years—that is, ever since the great national strife of the years 1870-1871—has striven always for peace and always has been less active than any other country in the direction of expansion; that the German nation has no other wish than peacefully to mind its own business;—even such politicians frequently believe, or profess to believe,—in spite of Germany's love of peace which, ever since the German Empire came into existence, has been demonstrated by history to be an incontestable fact, that this peace-loving Germany ultimately, by force of circumstance of logical development, will be coerced into annexing Holland and the Flemish part of Belgium, containing the great port of Antwerp.

"Usually it has been stated that Germany has an annual increase in population of 800,000, that these new masses must be supported by manufacturing, and that the German Empire will thus be coerced, with or against its will, into expansion, in order to procure the raw material and to establish the requisite markets for its industrial growth. The annexation of Holland and Flemish Belgium, containing Antwerp, are described as a mere preliminary necessary to make possible such measures of expansion. Germany must enlarge its maritime basis, and should have control of the Lower Rhine and its harbors. To the alien, these arguments may seem plausible enough. Whoever is acquainted with existing conditions, however, knows, that though seemingly plausible, this is not the truth.

"In the first place, it is not true that colonial expansion is a necessity for Germany, resulting from its industrial growth. The impetus given to German commerce and German manufactures is to be ascribed far more to the increase in buying capac-

ity of other nations—England, France, Russia or America—than to all the German colonies combined. Germany needs no colonies, what she wants is merely free competition on all seas, the open door, and the right to cooperate freely on an equal footing with all other commercial and industrial nations, in opening up new and as yet unopened districts and markets. Hence the principle of the open door is the leading motive of the foreign policy pursued by Germany. It is the red thread that winds itself through the Eastern Asiatic, the Oriental and the Moroccan policy of the German Empire. The high quality of all German products obviated the necessity of unfair preferences accruing to political power. All they need is a fair chance to compete on equal terms with other countries. The world is large enough, and rich enough, in still dormant possibilities, to admit of a pacific cooperation by all nations in this great work.

"It is equally absurd to allege that the annexation of Holland and Antwerp is a necessary preliminary to our colonial expansion. To have the harbors and ports of the Rhine controlled by foreign powers naturally would be insupportable to Germany. The entire railroad and water-way system of Germany radiate towards the two main commercial centres. Bremen and Hamburg, which as current development has shown, are fully equal to meet all demands of traffic, and are capable of further growth. The Rhine, it is true, is an important, —and for the highly developed Rhine Province—an indispensable waterway. The export interests along the Rhine always naturally will prefer the shorter and cheaper all water route via Bremen. It is, however, a matter of complete indifference to Germany, whether the vessels on the Rhine, carrying the products of the German Rhine countries to the ocean, on their journey pass along banks under the dominion of Germany, Holland, or Belgium, for the traffic on the Rhine is free of all payments, obstacles or restrictions, and could not be more free even if Germany controlled the adjacent districts. And this freedom has been secured abundantly by the so-called Rhine-Traffic-Treaties, entered into and upon by the interested states.

"The ocean commerce also in no wise suffers from the transportation of the Rhine products on the Rhine, as these German goods are re-shipped on German ocean steamers from the ports at the mouth of the river.

"Hence the reason which supposedly would impel Germany to annex the neighboring states, are deduced from false premises.

"If we view the matter more closely, however, and—independently of the particular arguments which I advanced in the introduction—give consideration to the situation of these three states in general, we find that no reason why Germany should be solicitous for annexation, or even for a union of economic interests. On the other hand there are quite a number why Germany should oppose annexation or a union of economic interests. Holland produces none of the raw materials required by Germany for its manufactures. Belgium produces merely coal and iron, which is the specific raw material of which Germany possesses a superfluity, and which is practically inexhaustible. Moreover, the coal and iron mines of Belgium have led to a splendid development of the iron industry of that country, which is protected by a tariff, and manufactures for its own consumption and principally for Trans-Atlantic export. If the German Belgium boundaries were to be wiped out, the products of this industry would depress the German internal market which, at present, is controlled by the German iron industry. Conversely, the German competitive products would depress the Belgian internal market. Thus, both German as well as Belgium manufacturers possibly may desire an increased tariff—certainly not its abolition. The same condition that obtains in the iron market, prevails in other competitive industries of the two countries.

"In consequence, no one in Germany or Belgium considers a tariff-union of the two countries feasible or desirable, and annexation, of which

(Continued on page 8.)

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