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THE WEATHER

Oregon, Washington and Idaho—Fair.

REPUBLICAN UNITY

The almost universal movement among the Republicans of this country to elect Mr. Taft to the Presidency, bears a pointed and significant lesson to those Republicans in the lesser spheres of government, in the State, the County, the City, to unify and blend and merge for the preservation of the balance of power wherever it exists; to re-organize and rejuvenate the party interests and fix its control, wherever a majority is registered; to restore and maintain the common, strong, sensible, and saving faculty of the party, in order that the whole people may have the benefit of its policies and prestige.

Oregon needs this assimilative process as much, or more, than any other Republican stronghold in the nation; happily steps are being taken to bring the full strength and virtue of the party into play against the machinations of the minority, to spare Republican Oregon the shame of sending a Democrat to the national senate after giving William H. Taft a clean majority of 25,000. Any effort that is made to rehabilitate the party in this state should have the instant and intent interest of every man who bears the stamp and status of Republican and even though the pledges, set up in the application of new laws, of men who thought they were doing right when they made them, must be no barrier, to

the saving of the party from the course that will wreck and disband it.

And when it comes to the municipal level of party action, there is no better, nor more rational, excuse for the frittering away of the party franchise, than exists for it in the larger field of partisan action and ambition. Astoria is among the places that call for the exercise of this doctrine of adjustment and redemption; and it has no time to waste in the process if it expects to align itself with the Republicans of Oregon in their work of substantially and finally asserting the weight, ascendancy, and franchise value of Republicanism in this State.

PORTLAND, TOOL

Brer' Jim Hill side-stepped all of Portland's cute little questions tool. Never a thing told he to the good people up there, pat as they were with their little catechism. The "Great Northern" and its secrets are as far and silent as ever they were despite the lavish prying of the Commercial lever wielded there the other evening. Oh, Brer' Hill is a genius at barring and baffling the inquisitive public and we may be excused for realizing, with more or less satisfaction, that even the metropolis of Oregon has no more influence in opening railroad oysters than the poorest little jay-town on any of the 20,000 miles of trackage Mr. Hill controls.

At Spokane, however, he seems to have been a bit freer with his ideas and candor. Oregon, according to Mr. Hill, is the coming metropolis of

the northwest. Having said this, James J. Hill will see to it that Spokane is taken care of to that end; that Spokane will be the center, in time, from which will radiate the vast scheme of control and influence he is building up out here. That much may be set down as final, in the minds of all prognosticators along the Columbia, and part way up the Willamette; the precedence that is to be given Spokane is fixed, certain, ample, if the word of the most powerful man in the West is to be properly gauged. It is well it is so, for it is a solid and safe predicate from which to argue the range and scope of his other plans as to other places, and will preclude the making of some possible, and re-actionary, blunders.

We have enjoyed Mr. Mill's tour of the Northwest. It has afforded us a chance to see and estimate the man at close range, and to learn that he is the keeper of his own counsel and that he does not make fish of one city and flesh of another; and also to learn that Spokane is the chief point of immediate concern with him. Good luck to her; and may Portland and Astoria come in, later, for their share of the good things that are brewing.

VALUABLE ALLIGATOR.

The man of science has been studying the alligator and has discovered that every part is of some value. A half-grown specimen is worth far more in money than the largest steer that was ever separated into articles of commerce, even in a Chicago abattoir. Take the teeth for instance. They are of such fine ivory that they can be made into watch charms and other jewelry, for they have a much brighter luster and are as rich in tint as the best tusks that ever came out of an African elephant's head. The teeth alone are worth from two to four dollars a pound, according to size. Every square inch of the hide makes a covering which is far more durable and has a more attractive finish than most leathers. As the reptile has what might be called an armored skin, considerable of which is covered with hard scales, an alligator trunk challenges the most reckless baggage smasher to do his worst provided the box within it is of good hard wood. But the trunk is only one of hundreds of things which the ingenious artisan makes wholly or partly from this denizen of the South. Why enough of them would supply the material for a modern outfitting shop with a few toilet sets added. Your pocket book may have come from an alligator's skin. The purse you dangle in your hand was once his claw. He finishes and furnishes the traveling companion, except the brush, comb, soap and tooth powder. All kinds of travelers' bags come from his hide. Even automobile outfits are partly made of it where the tourist is willing to pay the price. The outside of the alligator when dressed and tanned goes on the floor of the boudoir, or studio in place of the Royal Bengal rug. It has become the fad to hang the reptile "pelts" on the polished oak walls of the dining room and to ornament it with the claws. Your umbrella or cane is placed in the fore legs of the stuffed alligator. Standing upright in the hallway he makes an excellent umbrella holder. On the table of the smoking room he holds the tray where you knock the ashes of your after dinner cigar when reading the book whose covers were once a part of an alligator. The Indians of the Southern swamps formerly caught alligators not only for their teeth and hide but for their meats. Parts of the flesh are white and tender. Two freshly laid alligator eggs will make as palatable an omelet as was ever contributed by the choicest Leghorn or Plymouth Rock.—From Growing the Gator for His Hide, in Technical World Magazine for November.

WOOD PULP AND WASTE.

To insure a pulp wood supply to meet adequately the future needs of the country seems one of the most important of the many forest problems of the United States. Statistics collected by government experts, however, show that there are possibilities in the field of invention for the relief of the drain on the country's remaining pulp wood forests by devising means of utilizing saw-mill waste.

It is estimated that there are 4 1-2 million cords of slabs destroyed in refuse burners of the lumber mills of the country each year. The wood used for pulp last year amounted to approximately 4 million cords, about a quarter of which had to be imported. The mill-waste estimate is based on a recent canvass of some of the larger mills of the country by the United States Forest Service, which established the interesting fact that mills having an aggregate out of 5,440 million board feet had a final waste of 1,870,000 cords of slabs after the best had been used for lath. Assuming these mills to be representative, it is seen that there is still considerable waste in forest products at the mill even after the earnest efforts of lumbermen during the last ten years, to bring about a close utilization of the whole tree.

These figures make it look as if American inventors who are performing wonderful feats in other fields, should get down to the consideration of methods to make these waste slabs

available for the pulp makers. Work along this line would also be likely to show the way for utilization of thousands of tons of sawdust which are now wasted each year.

It is true that some utilization is being made of mill waste at present, but in most cases it is only the larger and more modern plants that are even making any attempts in this line. Then, as it is, the plants which use the waste slabs, after laths are made, often waste the sawdust, and those which use the sawdust waste the slabs. The slab residue from the lumber cut of the country is estimated to amount to about 14 million cords, of which about 6 million, with an average value of \$1.40 a cord, is sold for fuel, 3 1-2 million burned by the mills for fuel, and 4 1-2 millions sent to the refuse burners. This last figure shows the enormous quantity of forest product that is pure waste. The iron furnace slag heaps have been seized upon by the brick maker, and the screening dump of the coal mines has become a valuable source of raw material for the briquette manufacturer. Experts say that it may prove possible to make just as good use of the waste heaps of the lumber mills if slabs and sawdust can be converted into pulp.

PEGGY'S ADVICE.

Why It Suddenly Changed From Excellent to Worthless.

It was the era of the first Quincy baby, and the attention of the entire Quincy family, consisting solely of mother and father, was directed to the proper upbringing of the infant. Books on babyhood were bought and digested. Suitable magazines were subscribed for. Friends and mothers were consulted on every point. But to the wonder of the solicitous Mrs. Quincy declared that the advice that did the most good was that which appeared in the morning paper, signed with the fetching name "Peggy." But the time came when even that was discarded.

"Aren't you going to read me the little lesson from the Journal for today?" asked Mr. Quincy at the breakfast table.

"I shall never read that stuff to any one any more," said the mother firmly.

"Why not? Only day before yesterday you were saying what excellent recommendations Peggy made about crying children. Why do you desert her?"

"I'll tell you, Tom," she said. "I had meant not to say a word about it, because it is so humiliating, but now you've spoken—well, I might as well confess. The paper yesterday said something I didn't quite understand, and, as I was downtown, I thought I'd just run into the office and ask Peggy what she meant. So I did. The office boy smiled when I asked for Peggy, but he took me up a lot of dirty stairs and then pointed to a door. I knocked, and a voice answered, 'Come in!'

"Well?" queried her husband. "Well, there isn't any Peggy! Not a woman at all, but a perfectly horrid, grinning man, smoking a cigar! He writes that advice—a man! What do you think of that, Tom?"

Mrs. Quincy paused in her indignation.

"I thought you found the advice good, as a rule," he objected.

"Tom Quincy, how could a man in a newspaper office write good advice to mothers? I am surprised! You men think you know everything!"—Youth's Companion.

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