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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

THE WEATHER

Oregon, Washington and Idaho—
Fair and warmer.

HER LESSON CUT OUT.

The Portland Oregonian and all the rest of the metropolitan wisecrackers have a big lesson cut out for them when they shall have gotten their Port of Portland Commission at work down at this end of the river; when their tugs and steamers and mariners are busy with the new things the people up there are paying so dearly for; and some of the experiences awaiting them here are likely to cost them yet more, much more, before they shall learn to take the word of the masters of sea-craft who are traversing these waters day in and day out, the years through.

The Oregonian has thrown a fit because a well known master-mariner, who, for long years, has been bringing passengers and freight in over the Columbia bar on a ship that has to be guarded against disaster as much as anything greater or smaller, declares that on a given date in March he brought his steamship in at low water stage on 22.5 feet of water; and proceeds to tell this licensed master that there ought to have been more water there at that time, and that he had no business to report any such findings on that bar at that time, and gives him the deuce, generally, for incompetence and talking too much, and so forth.

There is just so much water available for ships of certain draught on the Columbia bar, and this varies with the run and range of the tides at work there, and no men know these variations and actualities better than they who handle hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of cargo and hundreds of human lives month and every week. What they say goes with all the world of seamen and shippers and owners, the Oregonian and its compeers to the contrary notwithstanding. And when the Port of Portland Commission sends its men down here to transact its affairs, it will do it upon the same identical basis these men use, and none others. Their wisdom will be garnered from the same sources, amenable to the same conditions, and controlled by the same set of facts that prevail now. They will find no more water on the Columbia bar than the pilots and sea-going masters find, and they will traverse the same chan-

nels, and cling closely to them, or there will be something doing that has not transpired in these waters for many a long day past.

There mere assumption that there should be three or four feet more water on the bar than the most responsible men in the trade can find, if acted upon, will make the Portland taxpayer dig far deeper than he has, to cover the cost of stupid and irreparable blundering.

THE "EVERGREEN" UPROAR.

The State of Washington has swung squarely into line with all her sisters in the great Union as a source and nursing ground for scandalous official deals and misdemeanors. And now that the ball has been started rolling at Olympia, there is no telling where it will stop nor who will be embroiled in the uproar and effluvia. There are those who will contribute to the confusion and turmoil upon the hypothesis that they may escape in the density of the thing; while others will confess much and call in the unsuspected to share their disgrace and punishment; while, still others, in the hysterical fright of the hour will spread the criminal contagion to clean quarters and innocent men, and involve all and whom they may, in the vain attempt to minimize their own share in the avalanche of wrong. It is another version of the same wretched story; and its course will not vary a hair from the trend to which the people of this country are so sickeningly familiar.

We wish men were honest, and thank the powers that be, hourly, that so vast a percentage of them are as honest as they are; but we know there is to be no success from the course of evil and exposure in the political life of the nation until it is swept by a storm of national anger and national adjustment that shall make stout history and strong reading for our heirs and successors. Washington is no better nor worse than the commonwealths of the country that have made their records in this direction; she is simply the latest, that's all!

Holland is delighted, but failed to go wild. It is a princess.

What is a Democrat? On the lumber schedule, at least, more than half a protectionist.

The popular idea of the Texas plan for signaling to Mars is that the committee expects to get close enough to shoot.

A Chicago professor hints that Niagara Falls will go dry in 3000 years. It will take longer than that to put Chicago in the dry column.

The Illinois Legislature is taking up the subject of its \$20,000,000 waterway as if it intended to make every month count from this time onward.

The public is surprised to hear that Mr. Patten owned 375,000 bushels of real wheat. So the \$5,000,000 profits were not entirely the results of a bet on paper.

Alaska has been neglected. No president has ever visited that territory, and it was not included in Col. Bryan's itinerary in 1896, 1900, 1904 or 1908.

A free trade paper speaks of the "tariff muddle." All that other folks are able to see is a tariff bill going through the legislative hopper in a hopeful way.

It is increasingly the public opinion that a corner in wheat is no sufficient reason for raising the price of bread. Give the corner a few days and it will blow up.

Having succeeded in breaking the wheat corner, public sentiment will now have to exert itself in an effort to lower the price of bread to what it was before flour went up.

Japan's premier is in a lively contest with a \$12,000,000 grafting Japanese corporation. The former hermit nation is carrying its genius for imitation too far for its own comfort.

FLORIDA HAS SCANDAL ALONG WITH REST

STATE EMPLOYEES TAKING RAILWAY PASSES AGAINST THE LAW THERE.

TALLAHASSEE, Okla., May 13—Charges that many persons of prominence in Florida have accepted passes on the railroads, contrary to the law, have been submitted to the House by a committee appointed to investigate the pass files of the State Railroad Commission. The report was referred to the committee on judiciary.

Among those reported as having accepted passes are: United States Senator Talliaferro, Representative Frank Clark, former Representative Robert W. Davis, A. Crom, State Controller; W. T. Bauskett, Secretary to Senator Talliaferro, United States District Judge J. W. Locke, United States District Judge Alexander Brownman. While the anti-pass law of Florida does not affect federal officers in anyway, it specifically provides punishment by fine or imprisonment for the giving by any railroad of passes to salaried employees of the state, and such officer accepting a pass being subjected to like penalties.

A TEMPERANCE UNION.

Members Limited to Fourteen Drinks of Liquor Daily.

"Signing the pledge" is no new thing, as is proved by researches in Italy. Interesting particulars of what would appear to be the earliest examples of written pledges to abstain from gambling and excessive drinking are given in the Turin Studi Medievall by Signor Girolamo Bisaro, who has discovered three such documents in the archives of Milan. The first of these records is an oath sworn on the gospels by Giacomo Pasquall and Armanino Duca to the effect that for two years they will abstain from gambling in Pavia or within three miles thereof and will likewise refrain from inducing others to gamble on their behalf. The penalty for any breach of this oath is fixed at 5 soldi, payable to Papio Bovstorio.

In the second document Perano de Bono promises Uberto de Proto to abstain from gambling for a certain period, exception being made on behalf of the game of bismentro, at which, however, he was not to lose more than 2 denari on any one day. Further, he undertakes not to visit any inn for drinking purposes before the hour of vespers on Monday. A breach of either clause of the pledge involves the payment of 5 soldi to De Proto. By the third document Sileto Ferrario expressed his willingness to pay 12 denari to his brother Lamperio should he be persuaded to play for money in any place of public resort or to spend more than 2 denari on intoxicants in any one day.

The motive for these contracts is not stated, but it is presumed that they were entered into by employees whose masters wished to keep their proclivities in check. There is nothing in the documents to suggest the existence of any organization for the promotion of temperance. The honor of being first in the field in this respect therefore still rests with Germany, where two temperance societies were founded in the sixteenth century.

Of these the Order of St. Christopher was formed by Sigismund de Dietrichstein on Jan. 18, 1517, and the Order of Temperance by the landgrave of Hesse on Dec. 25, 1600. The members of the one order were pledged to abstain from toast drinking, and the members of the other undertook not to drink more than seven glasses of liquor at a time, and that not oftener than twice a day.—Chicago News.

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President Taft is giving much time to a study of legal means to curb aggregations of capital that work evil. The people are satisfied that their side is in the hands of a good lawyer.

It is stated that in 1907 the packing combine paid cattlemen \$12.50 a piece for cows and sold the hides alone for \$9. Protecting the trusts is different from protecting the farmers.

The Most Common Sense of Suffering

Rheumatism causes more pain and suffering than any other disease, for the reason that it is the most common of all ills, and it is certainly gratifying to sufferers to know that Chamberlain's Pain Balm will afford relief, and make rest and sleep possible. In many cases the relief from pain, which is at first temporary, has become permanent, while in old people subject to chronic rheumatism, often brought on by dampness or changes in the weather, a permanent cure cannot be expected; the relief from pain which this liniment affords is alone worth many times its cost. 25 and 50-cent sizes for sale by Frank Hart and Leading Druggists.

TEST OUT NEW YORK RACING LAWS

BELMONT PARK SEASON WILL DEMONSTRATE EFFICIENCY OF THE STATUTES.

NEW YORK, May 13—The prediction of fair and warmer weather indicated that many thousands would witness the Metropolitan handicap at Belmont Park this afternoon, which marks the opening of the racing season in this district. Broadway was fairly alive most of the night with sporting men discussing the relative merits of the entries and eager to see the first day racing.

It is admitted that the Belmont Park season will be a fair test as to whether racing is to be continued in this state under the anti-bookmaking laws. All arrangements have been made for betting at the track under limited conditions. As interpreted by the courts no bet may be recorded, thereby eliminating bookmaking, but it was conceded that bookmakers would be at the track and would accept bets made orally by persons known by them to be responsible. It was understood that strangers at the track would be able to place bets through commissioners known to the bookmakers.

The scratching of Jack Atkin left King James the top weight among the entries for the Metropolitan and he was the early favorite, but Madden's Fayette had many followers whose money he will carry. The backers of King James are relying on his last race at Los Angeles, when he took up 142 pounds and won a six furlong sprint in handy fashion in 1:11 4-5. Although Fayette's best trial has been 1:43 1-5 for the Metropolitan distance his friends say that he is the equal of King James Juggler was favored by many excellent judges and James R. Keene's "Turncoat" had a crowd of supporters.

A ONE NIGHT CONVERT.

Incident in the Temperance Career of Father Mathew.

In 1843, when Father Mathew was crusading for total abstinence in London, he created no small amusement for a large party at the hospitable mansion of an Irish nobleman by his attempts, partly playful, but also partly serious, to make a convert of Lord Brougham, who resisted good humorously, but resolutely, the efforts of his zealous neighbor. The incident is related by Katharine Tynan in her biography of Father Mathew.

"I drink very little wine," said Brougham, "only half a glass at luncheon and two half glasses at dinner. And, though my medical adviser told me I should increase the quantity, I refused to do so."

"He was wrong, my lord, for advising you to increase the quantity, and you were wrong in taking the small quantity you do," said Father Mathew, "but I have my hopes of you."

And so, after a pleasant resistance on the part of the learned lord, Father Mathew invested his lordship with the silver medal and ribbon, the insignia and collar of the "new order of the Bath."

"Then I will keep it," said Brougham, "and take it to the house, where I shall be sure to meet old Lord—the worse for liquor, and I will put it on him."

The announcement of this intention was received with much laughter, for the noble lord referred to was notorious for his potations.

Lord Brougham was as good as his word, for on meeting the veteran peer he said, "Lord —, I have a present from Father Mathew for you," and passed the ribbon rapidly over his neck.

"Then I tell you what it is, Brougham. I will keep sober for this night," was the peer's unexpected response. And he kept this vow, to the amazement of his friends.

DIVISIONS OF TIME.

The Planet Venus Has Neither Days, Months Nor Years.

Though the fundamental division of time, the day, appears intuitive to most persons, it is well to remember that in the arctic regions the marking of this division is by no means easy. During several successive months the sun is either always below or always above the horizon, and the only method—a very uncertain one—of distinguishing between day and night is to observe the times of high and low tide. Division of time into months comes from the motions of the moon. Malays, Polynesians and Australian aborigines reckon time exclusively by months and days.

That greater unit of time, the year, characterized by the regular succession of the seasons, has presented the greatest difficulties to exact determination, partly because the seasons are not sharply distinguished in some regions, partly because of the universal desire to establish among the year, month and day simple relations which find no support in the facts of astronomy.

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BOTH HAVE REASONS.

CHICAGO, May 13—There was no meeting between Jack Johnson and Jim Jeffries in Chicago, Johnson deftly eluding the issue which was opened to him, stepping out of town last evening and will fill a theatrical engagement in Buffalo. As for Jeffries, he frankly admits he does not want to hold any conversation with the colored boer. Jeffries stated that in case Johnson tried to confront him there was going to be something doing. "I not only did not see him but I don't want to see him," he said.

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