

THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1902.

The Elks have fairly captured Salt Lake, and when they leave, that city will look as though it had been dehorned.

The cry has been "All hail to the King!" And yet what Edward VII. would undoubtedly prefer is to be short on hail and long on reign.

The breeze that interested Senator Mitchell when he arrived home has blown into a cyclone. He should hunt the cellar, or go into executive session.

Uncle Sam might as well take in Hayti and be done with it. A warship has to be kept there all the time to protect our interests. Why not throw her a line and tow her over to the Tortugas?

There is something the matter with Charley Fulton's Senatorial boom. H. W. Scott pronounces it "perity phillitis," while Senator Mitchell thinks it needs an operation for appendicitis, and Jack Matthews just calls it colic.

Dr. Doyen of Paris comes to the front with a serum warranted to destroy staphylococci, the microbe responsible for boils, carbuncles and such. Senator Mitchell should keep a barrel on tap until the offices are peddled out.

If the Lewis and Clark Fair committee are really making any progress toward getting a site in sight the patient but long-suffering public will feel grateful to said committee if it will just drop a hint as to the direction of its advancement.

Portland's former "Ames" does not seem to be the chief of Minneapolis' present desires. That city has the proud distinction of having a Mayor who resides in Indiana, and promises to "never come back."

Commissioner of Internal Revenue Terkes has decided that palm oil must not be used in making oleomargarine, because it is "offensive in taste and color." This is what the "oleo" bill was for, to prevent the public being deceived by its similarity to the genuine article, and the decision is sustained.

Bryan, in asserting he will not be a candidate for President, neglects to mention the name of the person whom he thinks would be a good leader for the Democracy, though he may get down to it in the course of time by elimination. Cleveland, Gorman, Hill and everybody except himself and the unknown are already out.

Denver has a moral fit on that may become serious. Her latest act of extreme morality was to exclude Mark Twain's book, "Huckleberry Finn" from the Public Library. There is surely something the matter with the microbes that set them for brains. Mark Twain, criticized and condemned by the literateurs of that crimson-curtained village, is too tragical for a farce, too farcical for a tragedy.

Astoria's newspapers know how to reason from cause to effect and also from effect to cause. One of them recently said: "Fishermen complain of having a portion of their nets stolen while drifting at night. Many Greek fishermen come up from California in the spring, bringing nothing with them. When these same fishermen return at the end of the season, each one owns a net." Good logic, plain inference.

A WORD ABOUT OURSELVES. The Journal, under its new management, is receiving a cordial reception from the people of Portland and Oregon. Its circulation is good and getting better all the time. It is increasing at

the rate of 50 subscribers a day. The interest in the paper is extraordinary; the good will expressed toward it is exhilarating.

Within a few weeks The Journal will be better equipped with new machinery, through which it can be enlarged and improved. New features will be added, as the number of the pages of the paper is increased. The Journal hopes to become a valued medium of information; it hopes to deserve the support of the people of "the Oregon country." It will never be satisfied with itself; it will ever try to accomplish more and more.

In making The Journal a newspaper fit to go into the homes of any and all the people, the boys and girls even are not to be forgotten. There are to be pages for them, pictures, stories and puzzles. But making a newspaper takes time. It cannot be accomplished in a day, a week, a month or a year. However, there is room for hope in connection with The Journal. It started out to grow into a newspaper and it means to fulfill its destiny. The progress made so far is not much, but it is enough to justify the claim that The Journal has come to stay; come to help make a better Portland and a grander Oregon; come to assist to build up, not to tear down; come to lift and not to lean.

The Journal appreciates the support already accorded it and welcomes more of the same kind.

ITS OWN VALUATION.

Governor Toole of Montana has taken the Northern Securities Company at its own word, and recommended that the properties of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific Railways be assessed \$2,800 per mile. It would be an increase of 300 per cent. The State Board of Equalization, while not raising the assessments to the figure named by the Governor, did increase it 186 per cent.

The reason for Governor Toole's recommendation, and for the raising of the level of assessment was the action of the Northern Securities Company in listing the Northern Pacific and Great Northern at \$2,800 per mile, and guaranteeing the usual rate of interest upon the stock, or practically doing so. The Governor merely takes the merger concern at its own word, at which no one may justly complain. And, as to the valuation of the securities representing the road, the most brilliant as well as most profound financiers of the world were at the head of the merger company.

In all likelihood the companies would be willing to pay their full share of taxes were they free from the exactions of politicians and grafters who utilize power reposed in them by the people to compel tribute from the rail lines lest opposition legislation be enacted.

As it is, however, railroads seldom pay so much as they should toward the support of government, their properties being usually listed at much less than it should be, when the value of their franchise is taken into account.

Governor Toole has adopted a novel method that should be more acceptable to the railroad men than the practice to permit too low assessments and then at the same time levy tribute for the private uses of the dominating politicians.

THE COMMUNITY FAMILY.

Activity in civic improvement is noticed among the women who compose the clubs. They are determined that they will exert influence, not only in the family at home, but in the larger family that constitutes the community. And they are accomplishing something.

The present movement for the betterment of social conditions would mean little were the women subtracted from the active forces. Those who compose the clubs are giving warrant for their organizations by setting on foot measures that make for the elevation of society in every manner, and only cynics who see not the real merits of the clubs will fail to admit their great value.

Portland will some day appreciate what these club women are doing. They are creating public sentiment. They are educating the people. They are holding up ideals. Some day the people of the city will want to attain those ideals, and will proceed to do so.

AN EVIDENCE OF GROWTH.

Evidence of the rapid growth that has occurred in the North Coast is to be found in the excellent service that is now given by the Northern Pacific between Portland and Seattle. Four trains a day are running, each one furnished luxuriantly with all modern appliances. The running time is fast, and business men may pass between Portland, Tacoma and Seattle at the maximum of convenience.

It is long since there were only one or two trains and these of old-style equipment. The alteration in the conditions is evidence that the North Coast has evolved from the crudities of pioneer life to the status of settled communities, demanding and supporting railroad service as good as any of the East. For there are few trains beyond the Rocky Mountains that are superior to those running on the Portland-Seattle division of the Northern Pacific.

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL DISCUSSION BY EXCHANGES.

TRUST EVIL—A PRESCRIPTION.

The New York Journal of Commerce, a newspaper whose conservatism will not be questioned by anyone familiar with its policy, does not believe the monopolistic combines are helpful to the people or to the commerce of the country. "While there may be no need for radical legislation," says that journal, "there is, nevertheless, a class of abuses connected with the trust system which call for prompt and thorough correction." These abuses are those resulting from special legislation in the form of tariffs, patents, public franchises and reckless corporation laws. Monopolies have been thus fostered and the people robbed of their rights. Add to this special legislation the inefficient enforcement of such laws relating to corporations as we have, and we find the chief causes of trust evils.

The laws relating to corporations must be readjusted to the new conditions; there must be a withdrawal of special favors and privileges. A policy of destruction and one leading to public ownership would be about equally calamitous, in the opinion of the Journal of Commerce. Ten suggestions are made, as follows:

- 1. Protect competition as the most effective prevention of monopoly.
2. Reduce the tariff to a moderate revenue basis, especially on products dominated by large corporations.
3. Reform state corporation laws which now permit one state to openly defeat the laws of another state, doing elsewhere acts unlawful within its own borders.
4. Reform legislation permitting monopolies based upon patents and public franchises.
5. Secure reasonable publicity in the affairs of large corporations.
6. Secure National laws against fictional capitalization of corporations.
7. Establish Government supervision of real or National monopolies.
8. Enact such laws as may be necessary to protect small rivals from unjust competition.
9. Compel public officers to a stricter enforcement of existing laws against restraint of trade.
10. Oppose vigorously all legislation leaning toward public ownership; preferring Government supervision as safer and more efficient than socialistic control.—Minneapolis Times.

THE NEGRO AND HIS FUTURE.

The congress of negroes which began its session in Atlanta today is a thing of interest not only to the negro race, but to the white race as well; especially those of us in the South to whom this so-called "negro problem" is an ever present and vital one. It must be a matter of gratification, therefore, to all, white and black, that the leaders of the negro race have taken this advanced step toward the working out of their own destiny along intelligent lines.

What the results of this congress will be cannot now be foreseen, but they can only be for the betterment of both races if its deliberations are characterized by common sense and conservatism—as it would seem, from the nature of the call and the character of the men who have responded to it, they will.

Leading negroes, like leading white men, do not entirely agree as to what is best for their race, but there are certain fundamental facts which must appeal to the observant and conservative ones, such as are capable of applying conditions as they are and who are not controlled by passion or prejudice, as being the basis for whatever is done.

First—The absolute abandonment of the social equality idea, at least so far as that section where nine-tenths of their race now live and will probably continue to live, is concerned. There is a racial law—the same as would control the status of the Indian or Chinaman in white communities—which always has and always will regulate this.

Second—Hatred and animosity toward their white neighbors must be exterminated if the negro is to meet with that degree of success for which the best of the race, at least, are striving. It is manifestly true that such feelings can only work to the injury of the weaker and inferior race. The negro, as nearly all individual records of success prove, must cultivate the friendship and good will of his white neighbors if he is to reap the full advantage of the opportunities that are before him.

Third—Respect for law and self-respect must be taught and practiced if the negro is to attain that degree of citizenship to which he should aspire. There is no better place to begin this moral training than in the schools of which members of their own race are themselves the teachers. But better still, though the progress in this respect must obviously be slow for a generation at least, is in the home. It is a matter of record that the negroes furnish probably three-fourths of the material for our courts and penitentiaries. And it cannot be said, in explanation of this circumstance, that it is due to oppression on the part of the whites; for selfish reasons alone would prompt the whites, who pay nearly all of the taxes, to wish it otherwise. Lack of self-respect, of course, brings about disregard for law and order, to which the average negro's love of idleness and the baser passions with which nature has handicapped the majority of his race have, of course, added their share.—Atlanta Journal.

CONGRESS' FREEDOM.

A good many of the newspaper criticisms of the course of the so-called "trusts" in Congress on the Cuban reciprocity scheme seem to be inspired by the idea that they were guilty of an unpardonable offense in disagreeing with the President on that question.

any recommendation may make of wise and judicious measures of national policy. But whether the responsibility of the initiative in shaping the course of national policy on important issues largely belongs to the President, it is for Congress to say whether the measures he recommends are wise and judicious.

His recommendations are never and ought never to be received by his party in Congress in a spirit of servile acquiescence or of passive submission to his dictation. It is the duty of Congress and of his party in that body to subject his recommendations to searching scrutiny and to the ordeal of thorough discussion, and it is equally the duty of each member of Congress or of his party to exercise and express his own independent judgment as to the wisdom of the particular measure in question.

No member of Congress can be justly criticized, therefore, for disagreeing with the President in the honest and fearless discharge of that duty.—Pioneer Press, St. Paul.

THE TRAMP PROBLEM AGAIN.

Plans without end and too numerous to record have been proposed from time to time for the extinction of the tramp nuisance; but Superintendent J. W. Brown, of the Red Wing Training school, believes he has a method that will succeed where other measures have failed. At a meeting of the State Board of Control yesterday, Superintendent Brown presented a paper on "How to Reduce to a Minimum Tendencies Toward Institutional Life." It was a rather high-sounding title for an essay the chief purpose of which was to exploit means of ridding the country of criminals and tramps. The speaker advocated the purchase by the state of an extensive tract on which a number of cheap buildings could be erected as habitations for vagrants who would be sent to the place by every judge before whom they were arraigned.

Mr. Brown favored fixing the term of service on this tramp farm at one year for each culprit sent there, ten hours daily to be spent in hard work. He was convinced that at the end of two years Minnesota would be rid of 90 per cent of its vagrant and culpably idle population. Ignorance, idleness, disease, poverty and immorality were pointed out by the speaker as the causes which lead to those social conditions that produce criminals and dependents. All this is altruistic.—Minneapolis Tribune.

THE MOTH AND THE FLAME.

John S. Stevens, of Peoria, President of the Illinois State Bar Association, made several wise suggestions in his address at yesterday's session.

For one thing he urged that young lawyers should give more attention to law books and less attention to politics. This suggestion will be heartily seconded by a long-suffering community.

A youth just out of law school should realize that he has a lot to learn, including the fact that he is not qualified to run the country. He should work hard, study much, and resolve to make a living and a name for himself out of his profession. But only a few law school graduates do this.

The great majority attempt the short cut to success. They make but an incident out of the profession they have fitted themselves for.

They spend their time about corner saloons, in back room caucuses, and in carrying favor with political bosses. They bury the speaking bureaus of the campaign committees and beg for assignments. If fortunate enough to be enlisted in the spell-binders' force these unsophisticated youths, new from college, proceed to instruct their elders on the issues of the day. They work day and night following the political red wagons. Then when the campaign is over they stand hat in hand under the plum tree hoping to catch some job. If they fail, they write home for money and do it all over again—spend precious time, money, and energy in the uncertain and dangerous game of politics.—Chicago Chronicle.

ANOTHER PIPE DREAM.

Again the Philadelphia papers are printing the familiar ante-election story that the voters of Pennsylvania are tired of boss rule and will administer a rebuke to the Quay gang this fall. The men who supported Attorney-General Elkin for the gubernatorial nomination are full of wrath at his overthrow, or "throw-down," as they are pleased to call it, and the Wanamaker faction is as well organized as ever. Pattison is popular and has a record of two old-time victories. He would be acceptable as Governor to the bolting Republicans and should get their united vote. Senator Quay, greatly alarmed, is hurrying home and there are dark clouds all around the political horizon, with some few flashes of lightning. So runs the story, but such comforting statements have been made before and with monotonous regularity Mr. Quay has kept enough of the recalcitrants in line to win out by ever increasing majorities. The same experience is likely to be repeated this fall.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

THE VERGE OF PESSIMISM.

I ain't a-goin' to kick about the way this world is run; I ain't a-goin' to kick about the way I'm gettin' done. I'm talkin' 'bout the sunshine and the butterflies an' bees. An' the singin' of the brooklet, an' the murmurin' of the breeze, the instid o' tellin' how the cow I bought two weeks ago Jes' turnt out jes' givin' milk—which surely goes to show That human nature in a trade ain't what it ought to be; But then, I ain't a-goin' to kick about it; no, siree!

The times that I've been swindled, well, they'd never hear me hintin' that my feller-man's a crook; The only proper way to tell my sentiments would be To find some language which was grown inside of Mont Pees-lee turnt out jes' like brava fur to burn the land near by. An' send up streaks o' lightning to illuminate the sky. I ain't a-kickin'; I jes' let my difficulties slide. I know I couldn't do the subject justice if I tried.

—Washington Star.

JUST LONG ENOUGH.

"Say, Scribbler, have you got a pencil to spare?" "How long do you want it?" "That's just long enough, thanks."

BOOKS AND AUTHORS.

Current literature for August accomplishes the most remarkable garbling of facts connected with Tracy and his career. Judge from the following excerpt:

"The list of casualties brought about since he escaped on June 9 from the Cook County Penitentiary, in the State of Washington, up to the middle of July, includes seven guards and deputy sheriffs."

The article in Current Literature from which the excerpt was taken was headed: "The Strenuous Tracey." Certainly, the writer in Current Literature has not devoted any very strenuous effort to studying the geography of the West. Here he mixes up in absurd confusion the Oregon Penitentiary at Salem, the State of Washington and the county in Illinois in which Chicago is located.

En passant, let it be remarked that the foregoing assertion in Current Literature is a representative sample of the knowledge Easterners have of the Great West. It appears to be a very good imitation of ignorance when a writer in a representative magazine such as Current Literature tells of Tracy breaking from a Washington prison, after all that has been printed in the newspapers since the escape of Tracy and during the long search.

SYMPOSIUM ON REVIEWERS.

In the August Critic there is a symposium to which many publishers contribute their views on book reviewing. G. S. Goodwin, who prepares the article, congratulates the publishers upon an open expression of their views which have been misrepresented frequently. The Appletons, Century Company, Dodd, Mead & Co., McClure, Phillips & Co., Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Harper & Bros., Henry Holt & Co., Little, Brown & Co. and Doubleday, Page & Co. are all agreed that it would be disadvantageous to the publisher to discontinue the practice of sending books to the newspapers for notice. One or two of them believe it the best to send prepared descriptive notices, in no sense critical, of books to be dealt with critically. They prefer critical reviews because of the publicity given to the books. The publishers find, generally, that reviews are not written to get "reads." Doubleday, Page & Co. say many of the best reviews they receive appear in journals in which they rarely advertise. Little, Brown & Co. say that book reviews have value according to the standing of the paper publishing them, and the man who writes them. Holt & Co. say that honest and intelligent reviews are a decided advantage to the publisher as well as to the community. The Harpers regard reviews valuable according to the extent the contents of a book are summarized, whether a work of fiction or serious work. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. do not like perfunctory notices, like bare mention, but prefer to send books to reviewers who show that they give them a fair reading and consideration. McClure, Phillips & Co. say that discontinuance of the present custom of reviewing books "would be a disadvantage—almost a disaster—to the publishing business." The Appletons think the public depends largely on the opinions of the critics, not only for their first impressions, but for confirmation of their own views. They say they are "extremely desirous that our books should be reviewed—unfavorably, if they deserve it—but let them be reviewed."

The publishers represent the most intelligent opinion on the subject. They certainly do not share the view of certain hypercritical critics who write contemptuous things about American book reviewers, and pronounce them incapable, mercenary, puff-balls and empty babblers. The publishers do not say this. They even take the trouble to say that they do not find in the English book reviews the vast scholarly superiority claimed.

TIRESMOME INTRODUCTIONS.

The growing prejudice against the writing of minute details of family genealogies at the beginning of novels is driving such from the field and the fiction-reading world is all the better for the expulsion. Sir Conan Doyle in his "Hound of the Baskervilles," recognizes that the public is impatient over such details, and he starts Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson directly into business and lets their detective activity pull up family history incidentally in the drag-net. Sienkiewicz is notably slow in settling down to his story. There is too much tiresome explanation. A practiced hand at short story writing can give a long story writer some capital hints. He or she of the long story should take space for the development of the thrilling, successive surprises of the story, giving false scents as to the denouement, but these should be at the beginning, a sudden, abrupt plunge into a mystery so startling that the reader has no other thought but to pursue it very closely to the final crisis and clearing up. It should be borne in mind, however, that interest can only be kept up after the first sensation by introducing a series of minor shocks which stimulate expectation. Under such treatment the majority of readers will not complain if the last 50 pages of the book are a little tame and hardly up to the promise of the opening. Thus, in Dr. Doyle's "Hound," few people are mad because the legendary quadruped, a mystical terror for ages, turns out to be a decidedly mongrel cur daubed over with paste in which a leading constituent is phosphorus.

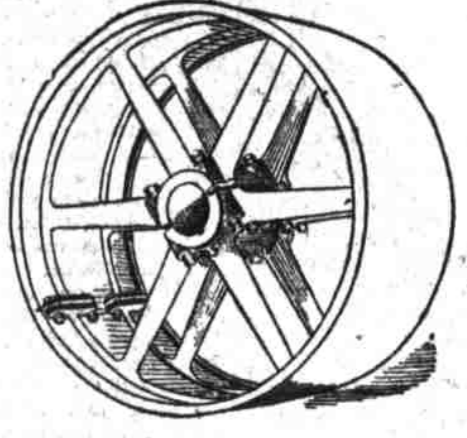
RICHARDSON ANENT POE.

In the Critic for August there is a most interesting critique on Poe as "the American World-Author," by Professor Richardson, from his introduction to the forthcoming Arnelm edition of Poe's works. He makes good his claim that Poe stands supreme in the absolute chastity of every word. "The ideal vision of pure beauty, now incarnate and now but a mist-figure, pallid or rosy, ever floated before the poet's eyes. It hypostatized him like a crystal ball." Tennyson said that, taking Poe's poetry and prose together, he was the most original American genius. Victor Hugo called him "the prince of American literature." Rossetti's "The Blessed Damsel," grew

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out of the inspiration of "The Raven," read when a boy. That poem has been pronounced by leading English critics as the most popular lyrical poem in the world. Poe's name appears in the lists of the five representative libraries of world literature, and in small bookshops in Europe his are the only American books found in many of them. Professor Richardson truly says that "the primacy of the American short story has certainly been due, in large part, to Poe's insistence that it be a unit and leave on the mind a definite result." His stories are certainly models of good short story writing. They are masterpieces.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

Bigamy seems so sort of foolish as well as criminal. The mother-in-law problem must have staggered Solomon. There's a heap of difference between rainbow making and rainbow chasing. A girl who is built for a bathing suit can't help being fond of swimming. The average woman pretends to be proud of her husband even if she hates him.—New York Press.

NE PLUS ULTRA.

"How dare you try to kiss me?" she cried indignantly. "Don't you know any better?" "If I did I'd try to kiss her," replied he, "but really you're the best ever."—Philadelphia Press.

UP AGAINST A FAMILY TRUST.

"Owing to a Nebraska smash-up I got left in a little Nebraska town one night a year ago," said the drummer, "and the way I came into contact with a trust made my hair stand up. It was a wretched town and a still worse hotel. My room was small and the bed was as hard as a board. I got up feeling mad, and after a miserable breakfast I was ready to bolt over. The bolting came when the landlord presented me with a bill of \$4. "Is this correct?" I asked as I looked at the figures. "Entirely so," he replied. "Then you are a blamed old highway robber." The landlord had three sons, and when they began to mix in I turned on them and gave 'em some red-hot talk. When I stopped for breath the old man, who turned out to be a Justice of the Peace, sat down in his chair and calmly announced: "Hear ye! Hear ye! I now declare this court duly opened. James, have you any business?" "I have," replied his eldest son, who announced to me that he was a Constable and that I was under arrest. He then made a charge against me, one of the other brothers testifying as to my language, and His Honor fined me \$10. As the third brother hadn't taken any part, I turned to him and sarcastically asked: "Where do you come in?" "Me?" he replied. Oh, I'm the Town Marshal, and as you are evidently a desperate character I shall have to lock you up for a couple of days and then run you out of town." "It was a nice little family trust, you see," smiled the drummer, "and I couldn't beat it. I was locked up for 48 hours, but I had to pay the hotel bill and the fine, and when I was set at liberty and got my mouth open to say something else the jailer laid a hand on my arm and whispered: "Don't do it. I am the old man's son-in-law, and if you kick against my jail he'll make your next stop 20 days."—Detroit Free Press.

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