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UP-TO-DATE TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

The gathering of telegraphic news for newspapers has evolved with the demand that has been made for better service in that particular line. Better newspaper men, better telegraph operators and more careful management is required than during the days when the Associated Press was the only means of obtaining a general report of what transpires in various parts of the world. Now it is no longer customary for the up-to-date newspaper to rely upon the Associated Press reports, but in the place of the generalized specials that the association is able to furnish, the leased wire and auxiliary service of the modern journal is in vogue.

The Associated Press news is gathered for the purpose of serving as a sort of coach for something better to come. This something better is, of course, the "special" that the newspaper orders from its correspondent. In the special the paper secures a brighter, better written, more accurate, and consequently far more interesting account of an occurrence than the Associated Press attempts to offer. In its effort to fill the requirements of all its patrons the old-time news gathering corporation overlooks entirely matters that are of the utmost importance to communities in which some of their principal customers publish newspapers.

In recent years the demand for the once valuable Associated Press franchise is fast dwindling. The bright newspaper finds the leased wire special news service—that deals almost exclusively with big events and events that interest readers of papers that maintain the latter day means of securing news—much superior to the product of the old press associations.

It is a very easy matter to secure an Associated Press franchise should a newspaper desire one, but of late, there is not much of a demand for what was at one time worth a great fortune to a publisher. The United States Courts have determined that the Associated Press is a common carrier and in nearly every case where suit has been brought against the association by a newspaper that has been shut out by the trust, the paper has won out. The most noticeable cases on record are the suits of the Chicago papers and the demand of a big San Francisco daily to be reinstated after it had been refused re-admission to the corporation. When this latter paper succeeded in getting the franchise back, it leased a special wire and is now using the Associated Press as a sort of side issue for publication only when the leased wire fails.

It is predicted that the newspaper of the future will be served with telegraphic dispatches compiled especially to meet the news requirements of the city and state in which the paper is published. The ancient belief in the infallibility of the Associated Press is dying with the progress that enterprising newspapers, published for the people, and not for the purse, are making.

OREGON LAND VALUES.

The chief attraction of Oregon, in the eyes of the Easterner, is the low valuation of farming lands. High valuation in the Eastern states drives many agriculturalists to the West to seek for homes, and this state offers just the opportunities they desire.

Farming lands are not over-capitalized, excepting in a few localities, if at all, in Oregon. Here in the Willamette Valley, near the largest city of the north coast, farms may be purchased at nominal figures, compared with prices asked in the Middle West or on the Atlantic Coast.

Recently a pamphlet was issued by the business men of Washington County, at Hillsboro, attached to which was a list of farm properties prepared by an agent. Casting up totals and striking averages, this result is reached:

Nine offers of as many tracts of farm lands, totaling 1,218 acres, aggregated \$40,140, or an average of \$33 per acre.

This land lies within 14 or 15, or at most, 18 miles from Portland. This city is reached by direct rail lines, and there are fairly good roads leading hither. Yet, these tracts of farm lands, mostly improved, average only \$33 an acre in valuation.

Throughout Oregon, such opportunities are to be found. Land thus located contiguous to Eastern cities of Portland's size, would be valued at from \$80 to \$125, perhaps \$150 to \$200 an acre.

As a matter of course, this low valuation will not be permanent. In time, as the state fills with settlers from the East, land will appreciate, and we will experience the same evils of over-capitalism that afflict the Eastern states. But this evil has not yet come to Oregon.

Here the home-seeker may buy farms at so low cost as to make it almost absurd. And this low cost is attracting people from all over the Union. It is increasing Oregon's population. It is forcing development of the state's resources to a degree hitherto unknown. It is the basis of the wonderful movement that promises to give Oregon a million population before another decade has passed. It is bringing to this state a class of home-seekers most desirable, persons who want homes and who have enough money to buy them, and energy to go ahead and develop better methods of farming and stock-raising.

Oregon's strong point just now is the low valuation of the farming lands.

PORTLAND MUST AWAKE.

The railway situation demands prompt action, lest projects be set upon foot that will subtract from the trade of this city. Territory legitimately belonging to Portland may soon be penetrated by lines that will carry traffic from rivals in commerce, and produce to them that should come here.

It cannot be too often impressed upon the minds of the people of this city that in the center of Oregon is an empire, an empire that some day will contribute enormous quantities of agricultural and livestock products, immense amounts of mineral wealth, to the city that commands its trade. The Journal counsels our business men and capitalists to take down that map of Oregon that hangs upon the office walls, and study it carefully. Take your blue pencil and run a line around the outer edge of the state, describing the railroads courses as now built. Look at the "scale of distances" in the corner, and then with a ruler measure the extent of the country for which at this time far-seeing men should be planning to provide transportation.

That is the prize for which Portland must contend.

Is it not a cause to arouse feelings of patriotism? Does it not stir the blood to realize that in a measure we may fight for our homes and the protection of the commercial basis of their prosperity?

What more legitimate enterprise ever enlisted the enthusiasm of a company of men?

If it be war, with the implements of commerce and traffic, so much the better. War binds together the dismembered elements of a community, and makes friends of those who might otherwise be enemies. With a common cause to fight for, with mutual interests as a means of uniting our people, there may be glorious victories achieved. There may be triumphs of state and municipal patriotism, that will bring honor to many a man and mark them as those who were willing to battle for their home town and state.

This is not puerile sentiment. It makes for Portland's commercial supremacy. It prompts our citizens of wealth and brains to plan a splendid campaign, with plenty of the sinews of war in hand, abundance of capital to command, experience of half a century to guide, and wonderful promise for the future to allure the Portland patriot to do and dare for the good of his neighbor.

Let this wave of enthusiasm not arise, let it remain dormant, offer opportunity for other cities to come into our territory, and to snatch the prize from our very hands, and when opportunity has fled we will have time for reminiscence, and some Gibbon may write a great book upon the "Rise and Fall of the Portland Empire." Such a book must not be written. We must work to the end that the author will have no material wherewith to pen its pages. We must rather furnish material for an epic poem that shall tell of the bravery and persistency of our leading men who went out to conquer an empire for our home city.

THE TABASCO COLUMN.

"Mr. Matthews," said The Journal representative, removing his hat and making his most Chesterfieldian bow in that august presence, "a few of your friends and a legion of your enemies would like to know whether or not you are really chairman of the Republican State Central Committee; can you give anything that will throw even a few rays of light upon the subject? 'Aye! there's the rub,' said his twinkling. 'Is it not the case that you are still chairman?' 'My dear sir,' said he with that suave peculiarity to the upper classes, 'that is always the case, except when it is not, provided it is.' 'Is this to be considered your summing up, your ultimatum?' 'Therefore, Wherever? What? Can a man say otherwise? Of course not.' And the great political Siamese twins closed their mouths with a snap that could not possibly be mistaken for a soft snap. So at last we have light.



Couldn't hide the truth.

If you haven't bought your tickets for the Press Club benefit at the Baker tonight, dig up your shakels at once. Remember this is for the benefit of the boys who furnish you the news, and who stand for, as well as stand the press.

The announcement is made that the governor of Kansas is engaged to be married. Some fine Kansas girl will get him as a Christmas present in—but may be she didn't hang up her stockings.

Solomon, not the original, though he is wise, says our municipal judge was so "greasy" he couldn't tell a crab apple from a Carey Irrigation law. Yet he told enough to worry the boys.

Oregon ought to beat the world in the poultry business. Here the hens run at large all winter, while back East, for three or four months they have to "lay" dormant.

Judge Hogue says he "would not lie under oath for anyone, and it seems, too, he does not enjoy lying under the imputation of acting unfairly.



And now the sidewalks on Fifth between Washington and Alder have ruptured. Like the boy with the mumps the street has it on both sides.

With a policeman in each gambling room, may we not earnestly hope that when they open up the games, they will be run according to law.

Now that Italy has joined England and Germany, it's a safe bet that the combination could whip Venezuela, if she was twice as little.

Now that Mr. Dooley is married, Hennessy is liable to have to resign in favor of Mrs. Dooley as interlocutor.

Fred Merrill admits he was there, but claims he was only running a kindergarten for the municipal judge.

According to Merrill there were two entrances to the gambling room and the police couldn't find either.



Marconi is going to send a wireless message to King Edward in a few days. If he wants to tickle the King he will not abbreviate it to "Ed." Even if it costs more to send the message in full.

Mayor Williams, to use the expression of Marcus Aurelius, is a man, which this case, is standing pat.

Chicago is talking of Carter Harrison for president, but then what would Chicago do for a mayor?

The farthest way 'round is the shortest way across, is true of Portland's highways just now.

Does putting policemen in charge of the pool rooms mean that we are to have a new deal?

It's 16 to 1 at Corday's, 16 pistols to one stage, and they hold up the stage.

Eggs should be cheaper now that the chickens have had such a fine show.

The cats shown at the poultry exhibit have gone back.

That James play ought to be prorogued.

WE HAVE IT HERE.

Purgatory, when stripped of false corruption, is a Protestant and Christian idea. One great church places it between this world and a final heaven. To me it is an integral part of this world, as of the other. All life tends to purge itself, and the earthly life is often called a furnace.—Rev. J. C. Smith, Indianapolis, Ind.—Chicago Journal.

TRADE RELATIONS WITH JAPAN.

The following address was delivered by Col. H. E. Bosch, Oregon's Commissioner to Japan, at the annual meeting of the Portland Credit Men's Association last Monday evening at the Commercial Club. After introducing himself as a credit man also, as he was in such a position some 15 years ago, Col. Bosch stated:

Whether I had gone as the special commissioner for the Lewis and Clark Exposition Commission, or as a delegate diplomatic mission in a dual capacity to induce the Japan government to participate officially at our Oriental Fair in 1905, and secure space for an exhibit of Oregon commercial products at the coming International Exposition to be held at Osaka, Japan, early next spring; both missions proving successful, as you know.

Incidentally I traversed the highways and byways of the foreign and Japanese business sections of many cities in search of trade and saw offered for sale many articles of such goods we now manufacture or are capable of manufacturing, such as candles, linens, dyes, and many other goods, paper, printing, book, cloth, flannel, gloves, blankets, beer, lard, tallow, grease, fertilizers, malt, paper pulp, lumber of all kinds, brushes and brooms, cordage, glue, toilet and laundry soaps, steam boilers and engines, ice flour, meals and starches, condensed milk, confectionery, sweetmeats, salted fish, meats in barrels, meats in tins, pickles, catsup and sauces, hops, paints and oils, wheat, hides, hocks and horns, pig iron, bar and rod iron, iron pipes and tubes, stoves and grates, doors and windows, spruce tree boxes in shooks, barrel staves, medicines, spices and yeast, evaporated vegetables, trunks and valises, wire mattresses, curled hair, etc.

IMPORTS INTO JAPAN.

Upon studying the imports into Japan of these goods for the year 1901, and they came from the United States, Great Britain, Germany, Belgium, Austria, France, Switzerland, Holland, Russia, British India, Canada, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, and Italy. I found that the aggregate amount was over 23,000,000 yen or \$11,000,000. The goods naturally forced itself upon me that Portland, Oregon, should have a share of this ever increasing trade, the demand of which is only limited by the supply, price and rate of transportation, all within our own power to control. In fact this trade has increased to such an extent that recently two large steamers, the Korea and Siberia, each over 10,000 tons burden, have been added to the already large fleet of steamers, leaving the ports of San Francisco, Portland, Tacoma, Seattle and Vancouver, B. C., for the Orient, and still the cry is for more.

With these conditions in mind I am now preparing a commercial exhibit for the Osaka Exposition, with the determination to establish closer business relations between Japan and the United States. In my mind that this great International Exposition will not only be visited during the life of five months, but by the merchants and importers of Japan, but by those of China, Korea, Java, Sumatra, Siam, Siberia and Philippines.

COMMERCIAL AMBASSADOR.

The experience I gained during the twelve years I spent on the road many years ago as a commercial ambassador stands me in good stead, for I shall have more side lines than any knight of the grip ever had, but I do not expect to take any orders; my mission will be simply to exhibit the goods, explain quality and prices, put purchaser and seller in touch with each other, and it then remains with you whether my mission will bear the fruit I hope for.

The trade of Japan, in fact the entire far East, was in the hands of England, and even now the English are in the grip of the war and why? Simply because England held this trade so long that they insisted upon their people taking their goods in quality, quantity, price and in such commercial packages as the Oriental trade demands.

In this effort on the part of German manufacturers, to secure Oriental trade for the Fatherland, the German government has placed additional steamers on the routes direct from Bremen, Germany, to all parts of the Orient, and are ready to still further increase the steamer service, as trade demands.

ABOUT THE STEAMERS.

These steamers are of various sizes so they may enter into all ports. For the purpose of carrying passengers and goods, the German government has paid to Nagasaki, and was surprised at their completeness. Special attention was paid to the comfort of its passengers—not only cabin, but second class and steerage passengers. The staterooms are large, airy and well arranged, the berths, instead of being along the side of the ship, where you hear the continual swing and sway of the waves, are inside the ship, where they are protected from the electric appliances by way of bells and lights, and so necessary in tropical climates; wardrobes for your clothing, for you know everybody dresses for dinner on all Oriental steamers and in fact at all hotels.

Every morning at 10 o'clock the band plays for one hour, where all passengers can enjoy the music. The tables are set for dining; the table is supplied with the best viands prepared in the highest culinary art, and every meal is a feast. The passenger rates are 30 per cent higher than on other steamers; notwithstanding this, the steamers are crowded and travelers often wait for a week in order to enjoy a journey on these floating palaces. Now, these extra comforts are to stimulate passengers to travel together with the higher rates, for the purpose of revenue, enable the steamship company to make lower freight rates, and thereby assist the German trade to its fullest extent.

Right here is our opportunity; what the Germans can do, we certainly are able to do; the harvest is ripe, let us gather it.

THE RECENT TARIFF.

The recent new tariff we need not fear, as it contains no favored nations clause, and the world's commercial world rests on an equal footing; nor is this tariff to exclude foreign manufacture and protect home industry, as to any great extent; but this tariff is for revenue only; Japan being a progressive and aggressive nation, and one which has to be reckoned with both politically and commercially at so distant a place, finds her exchequer running very low, and she needs every way to replenish her treasury, and for this reason, she has new coast defenses and other internal improvements, is the tariff.

But there is no rose without its thorn, for our vocation as "Credit Men" finds no place in the trade with Japan, as no credits are given; all sales are made cash, and even the credit good with a bank, either by deposit of cash, or other collateral to the amount of the purchase, and the bank becomes responsible for the payment on arrival and delivery of the goods purchased.

NO CHANGE IN CONDITIONS.

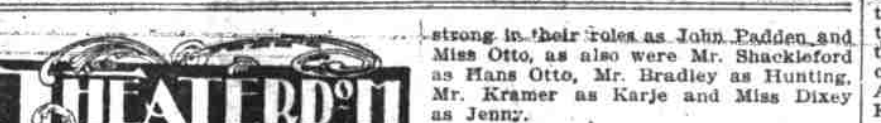
I am of the opinion that no competition, however great, will ever change these conditions, as it keeps the business in a healthier condition, and manufacturers and exporters are able to get their money back, and in the ultimate payment is an assured fact. While I am not given to flattery, nor to the throwing of bouquets, I cannot close without a word about the spontaneous response and hearty support our manufacturers and merchants are giving this effort for trade in the far East; every one to whom I have applied has most cheerfully contributed the articles required for the exhibit, the only difficulty being to check them from giving so much more than could possibly be used. Does this not speak volumes? Does this not inaugurate a new era, a new epoch in the commercial history of Portland and of Oregon?

We are standing today on the threshold of a great commercial prosperity and industrial expansion; we are on the up grade, so to speak, in which the Oriental trade will be a great factor. The engines and motive power of commerce are electricity, warranted to increase commercial speed for a hundred years.

LEWIS AND CLARK FAIR.

Our Legislature will surely make the desired appropriation for the celebration of that glorious event inaugurated a hundred years ago, to make this grand empire of the Pacific Northwest possible. The national government will do likewise; and the Oregon Legislature will follow suit, and the gates will be opened for double harness with our business prosperity, and when the gates are opened for dedicatory ceremonies, the "Antis," which are growing beautifully less day by day, will be falling over each other to secure seats in the front row.

The great work we have undertaken must be carried to a successful completion and needs every one with his shoulder to the wheel, and with apologies to the immortal Shakespeare, "Lay hold, push on Macduff, and damned the man who first cries, Hold! Enough!"



strong in their roles as John Padden and Miss Otto, as also Mrs. Shackelford and Mrs. Kramer as Karle and Miss Dixey as Jenny.

MANAGERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS.

At the Baker. The offering of the Neill Stock Company at the Baker Theatre Christmas week will be the well known play by Belasco and DeMille, "The Charity Ball." The first performance of this great play will be given at 10 minutes performance next Sunday afternoon and from present indications all previous records of The Baker will be broken at every performance during the week. No better selection could have been made than "The Charity Ball" for the Christmas week, as the play itself is closely identified with Christmas, the beginning of the piece occurring on that day. The beginning of the drama is beautiful, the story one of simple pathos, yet carrying enough comedy to lighten it to a proper degree, the costumes are magnificent and the scenic effects are marvelous in their richness and splendor. Another thing which will give a great deal of satisfaction to the amusement loving public is the fact that on Christmas afternoon the Neill Stock Company will play a special matinee.

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