

EDITORIAL COMMENT AND TIMELY TOPICS

THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

BY C. S. JACKSON

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Instead of the government keeping its revenue in a bank, created upon business principles, the sub-treasury system has been created, which is simply an enlarged safety deposit box, where the revenues of the government remain in idleness except when disturbed through Congressional appropriations or by the Secretary of the Treasury through bond purchases. The sub-treasury takes from the channels of trade that which is essential to the proper conduct of trade and commerce.—James H. Eckles, ex-Controller of the Treasury.

PULL TOGETHER.

From this time on every Oregonian should, in every possible way, endeavor to make the Lewis and Clarke Centennial a grand success. There should be no thought of failure, much less the expression of a fear of failure. The directors have been chosen from amongst our most worthy citizens and they are giving freely and fully of their time. The least the rest of us can do is to pull all the time and all together to help them. If no other good results, a better city, a cleaner city, a more harmonious city, will follow. We may not have the greatest Exposition the world has ever seen, but we will have one supreme in its natural surroundings. We may not be able to show in such great profusion man's handiwork, but we can show the stranger within our gates the wonders God has wrought. There may be greater crowds at other Expositions, but we can, if we will, send those who visit us, away chanting the glory and hospitality of the great West.

It all depends upon us, upon each of us, what our fair shall be, shall mean, shall do. Imagine if you can, how St. Louis would exploit the scenic advantages if those surrounding Portland were within sight and reach of her marble walls! Where, besides, is there such a combination of natural attractions as are found here? Winding through the city is a beautiful river with charming views and a perfect delight to all who enjoy aquatic sport. From the hills which form the background of the city, views lie before you which even the most devoted Swiss might envy. The mountains clad in eternal snow, and the great ranges of which they are the white robed sentinels, are of transcendent beauty and grandeur. A ride of but a few miles by boat or train up the lordly Columbia unfolds a panorama of waterfalls, mountains and river that dwarfs the Rhine or the Hudson. To the westward the shores of the Pacific lie not four hours run from the city. To the south either by boat or train the more peaceful beauty of the valley of the Willamette may be seen. The sportsman can gratify his wildest dream, the mountaineer climb and height on height to conquer. In very truth in this favored land of ours the visitor will be amply rewarded for his trip even though not a building was erected nor an exhibit made. In our city he will find a people proud of their home and will be received with warm hospitality.

The great difficulty is for us to realize what we have and how singularly we are blessed. Even now with good streets, and clean walks and drives around the hills, Portland would be the show city of the continent. All that is needed is for our own people to act together.

Let all realize that it is no time for bickering or fault-finding. That the capitalist and the laborer, the employer and the employe, are all alike interested. That an injury to one is an injury to all. Let us all now, not tomorrow, get together in a reasonable spirit and settle the little differences that cloud to some extent the otherwise sunny sky. Let all resolve that this Portland of ours will show the world that the spirit which created it still dominates it, and there will be no doubt that a triumphant success and a great forward movement will be our reward. "Now join your hands, and with your hands your hearts. That no discussion hinder government."

LET US HAVE RESULTS

The county judge and the county commissioners are giving to the public the best possible evidence that they were thoroughly in earnest when they declared their intention of investigating the tax scandal. Two of the extraordinary "settlements" made by a previous board have already been set aside, and the aid of the courts will be invoked to recover the money lost to the county. Other questionable transactions will be similarly re-opened. The District Attorney has declared emphatically that he proposes to compel restitution of the funds due the county from former County Clerks, whose accounts were found to be short, and that if necessary, criminal as well as civil proceedings will be

brought. Mr. Manning has but to follow his promises with performance and he will merit the heartiest commendation. No public official could ask a better opportunity to demonstrate his loyalty to the interests of the people than is afforded at this time to the County Board and the District Attorney of Multnomah County. Let them act together with an eye single to the protection of the county's rights, and undismayed by the powerful influences that will be arrayed against them. This is no time for personal or political jealousies among these officials. All else must be forgotten in the firm determination to right the wrongs which have been inflicted upon the county in the past, and to fearlessly expose and punish all to whom punishment is due.

BUYERS AND SELLERS

What is the great purchasing power of a community? This question was asked by a prominent financier on visiting the great stores of John Wanamaker & Sons, of Philadelphia.

The answer came promptly. "The plain people, the wage earners." Estimates made by careful students of commercial life place the percentage of purchase of the necessities of life with the men and women who work for salaries and the ratio is as eight to ten. The great department stores of the Eastern cities cater almost entirely to the masses. The volume of trade is, therefore, largely increased, although the individual purchases are small. The rich man and his family naturally deals with high-class stores that carry an expensive grade of goods in stock and that do not attempt to secure the small trade of the big majority.

Most storekeepers make a study of the best method of reaching the workman's purse, and at the same time to have stock on hand that meets the demand of the wealthy class. The business of managing such establishments as Sigel, Cooper & Co., of Chicago, and Wanamaker's, of Philadelphia, is the result of years of patient study of the human character and an untiring effort to please buyers.

The value of newspaper advertising is gauged by the management according to the standing of the publication with the people. Newspapers that are merely subscribed to because they are "the only thing that we could get" have little weight with the great purchasing class. A paper must have the confidence of the people, must be known to be honest and above petty bribery to be of value as an advertising medium. Any journal, no matter how great its circulation, that has offended class or creed, can never be of particular benefit to an advertiser.

The people learn to love a newspaper that will champion their cause and despise one that tries to usurp the entire journalistic field for none other reason than an effort to fattened itself at the expense of a suffering public. The Journal has not been above error in the conduct of its policy toward the people—no newspaper ever was; but it has always tried to pursue a course of equal rights for all men, rich or poor. The loyalty of readers toward those who advertise with The Journal has been proof positive that a newspaper that will at least make attempt to guide the plain people and give them proper recognition, will itself be rewarded by an unwavering public support.

All the energies of the Postoffice Department were recently devoted to securing the arrest of an Indian letter carrier who was charged with appropriating two cents, more than a year being consumed in the effort to gather evidence against him. Superintendent Machen is charged with receiving bribes to the amount of \$20,000, and it will be interesting to observe whether similar persistence is displayed in his case as in that of the two-cent embezzler. Postmaster-General Payne is reluctantly coming to the conclusion entertained by the public that something is wrong in the Postoffice Department. A few more arrests may even convince him that the investigation was necessary.

COURTS AND CAPITALS OF THE OLD WORLD

Posthumous children are frowned upon by German law as set forth by the new Imperial code, which declares that only those children shall have a right to their father's heritage who have been born prior to his demise. Attention has just been called to this particular provision of the law by the posthumous birth of a son to the late Prince Wolfgang Stolberg, who was found dead with the top of his head blown off through the discharge of his gun only a few days after the demise of his own father, Prince Alfred, whom he had succeeded as eldest son.

The new-born infant, who has thus made his appearance in the world nearly five months after the death of its father, has, according to the law of the land, no right to the chieftainship of the princely house of Stolberg and to the vast estates and immense fortune that go therewith. But the mother of the child—that is to say, the widowed Princess Wolfgang Stolberg—and her legal advisers have already put forward the pretention that members of mediatised houses of Germany—that is to say, families exercising rights of petty sovereignty prior to the beginning of the nineteenth century—are governed in matters of succession, marriage, etc., by their own family statutes enacted by the adult male members of the house and only subject to modification by them.

Of course the late Prince Wolfgang's brother will contest this view, and basing himself on the laws of the land will claim the succession. It remains to be seen what view the tribunal will take of the matter, and the question if decided against the new-born infant will arise as to what extent the national laws of succession to property affect the statutes governing the succession to the throne.

Were the German Crown Prince to marry, to become Emperor, and then to die leaving no male issue, the question arises as to whether any son to which his wife might give birth, after his demise, would have any right to succeed to the throne of Prussia, and to the dignity of German Emperor.

This is a matter which is of considerable interest, and while it is easy to understand the motives which have prompted the compilers of the new German code to discriminate against children of posthumous birth, since the frauds in connection with cases of this kind have been numerous, yet it cannot be denied that the law bearing upon the matter is liable to lead to gross injustice, besides being contrary to the statutes and principles of all other countries.

In view of the letters which have been recently appearing in the American papers written by English people, and especially by subjects of King Edward in the West Indies, condemning the social ostracism to which the white classes condemn the colored people in this country, it is unfortunate that Lady Hemming, the wife of the Governor of Jamaica, should have declined at a horse show held there the other day to take her seat in the place reserved for her on the grandstand until a respectable colored woman, well dressed and well-behaved, who occupied a seat not far off, had been removed.

This was done in deference to the orders of one of the governor's aides-de-camp, by a policeman, and the incident, which created a great sensation, being witnessed by the public, aroused so much indignation on the part of an American couple present that they invited the colored woman, who maintained a most quiet and dignified attitude in these trying circumstances, to take a seat in their box, from which, after expressing to her their warm sympathy, they withdrew.

This is the first occasion on which there has been such a public exhibition of aversion to the colored element displayed by people occupying high official positions in the British West Indies, where there are several coal-black members of the African race who have been knighted by the late Queen Victoria, and whose wives are, therefore, entitled to the prefix of "lady" to their name, just in the same manner as Lady Hemming. I understand that the matter is to be taken up in Parliament in England, and we shall doubtless hear more about the affair, which, as Sir Augustus Hemming is a specially capable administrator, is greatly to be regretted.

Emperor William has just conferred the rank of field marshal in the German army upon Count Haeseler, in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of his joining the colors. The count is a strange looking old man, who, alike in appearance, in manner, and in military genius, possesses a striking resemblance to the great Moltke. He has nothing of the trim, well-groomed, natty appearance of a German officer about him; indeed, no man dresses worse; his uniform always ill-fitting, and betraying traces of long wear, seems to hang around him rather than to fit his figure, and give him the aspect of an antiquated umbrella of the Gump species.

He disdains all the artifices of the toilet, lives on the coarsest kind of food, seems to begrudge every moment that he wastes either at the table or in bed, drinks nothing but water and milk, has a heart that is utterly insensible to the charms of the fair sex, and is twisted and warped in shape. This is owing to the fact that he was dangerously wounded in the war of 1870 at the battle of St. Privat, where he lost two ribs, and he has ever since been obliged to wear a silver brace or corset in the same way that the French general the Marquis de Galliffet wears a silver covering upon that part of the abdomen which was shot away during the Mexican war.

The new fieldmarshal has no ear whatever for music, and on one memorable occasion, in the presence of the Emperor, made the remark that it was only calculated to "please imbeciles." The Kaiser, who had just been expressing the utmost enthusiasm about Wagner, instead of getting angry, merely laughed uproariously. In fact, he puts up with everything from Haeseler, who is in chief command of the western frontier of the empire.

At the grand military maneuvers held some years ago, when William assumed the direction of one of the rival armies, the field marshal had the temerity to surround and capture his sovereign. On another occasion, it was in 1898, when the Kaiser commanded and led in person a charge of cavalry, which resulted in the death of no less than 14 horses, and in the placing hors de combat of some 20 troopers, several of whom succumbed to their injuries, the Count apostrophized the Emperor with this remark: "If you go on at this rate, I really don't know if I shall have enough men left to bury the dead."

There is no officer in the German army of whom more amusing anecdotes are told, especially in connection with his aversion to soldiers performing duties in the household of married officers, which should be performed by nurse maids. Many is the time that he stops on the streets at Metz soldiers conducting their masters' children to school, and takes charge of the children himself until the man has gone to fetch either a maid or the mother to assume the care of the youngsters.

MARQUISE DE FONTENOY in Washington Times.

LIFE OF A FIGHTING SHIP.

Wardroom life aboard American men-of-war has greatly changed with the growth of the new navy. The bigger ships of today carry more officers than those of 20 years ago, and the hastened promotion of the last five years has changed somewhat the character of the personnel in the wardroom. The officer who presides at the head of the wardroom table is no longer a grizzled veteran who has eaten his heart out with 20 years of monotonous service in the grades below lieutenant-commander. Bearded ensigns 30 years of age and drawing pay that barely enables them to live, no longer haunt the ships of the United States navy. Promotion and command come earlier, and men who even 10 years ago would have been seated well toward the foot of the wardroom table now dine in the lone dignity of the cabin. With the fuller table of the wardroom there is more variety of character and conversation, and with greater activity everywhere throughout the service men have livelier interests. Old stories are not heard so frequently, and men do not harden into set peculiarities of views and manner as they did when promotion was slow and duty, from being the same for long years together, was dull and insipid.

Some things remain, however, much as they were, because tradition is powerful in the navy. Chaff? Yes; a good deal of it as of yore. There is always some man in the wardroom keen enough to penetrate the most secretive of his fellows and discover their lurking weakness. Once discovered, that weakness is a proper subject for chaff. The freshness of "the young doctor," the indolence of the pay-master, the susceptibility of the junior lieutenant, are subjects that furnish unending amusement when conversation runs low.

A MECHANICAL "HELLO GIRL."

Reports from Chicago announce the success of an invention which will add about one hundred per cent to the value of that heart-rending invention, the telephone.

It is a system with an automatic switchboard, and the great advantage is that it does away with "central" altogether. No more "hello girls" or the making of remarks over the wire to distracted patrons. In the new order of things it is only necessary to turn a small dial till you have formed the combination of figures in the number wanted. It is the same device as that used on the time lock of a bank safe.

As soon as the number is arranged you touch a bell button and that rings the bell on the other end of the wire. Having found your man and entered into conversation, there is no danger of being interrupted at the critical point by having the wire "cut off," as happens so frequently by the system now in vogue. A conversation over the automatic telephone is kept up until both parties are ready to hang up their receivers.

Besides this advantage there is the satisfaction of knowing that no idle and inquisitive young lady is drinking in your conversation. According to the officers of the new Chicago concern there will be 10,000 of their instruments in use within six months. Already they have it working in more than ten cities of some 25,000 population, and nothing but satisfaction is expressed for the plan that eliminates "central" from the scheme of thing.

ARCTIC EXPERIENCE OF PETERS

William J. Peters, of the United States Geological Survey, who is to represent the National Geographic Society on the Ziegler arctic expedition, has lived in the far North much of the time since 1898. He went to Alaska with the Klondike rush that year in the interest of the Geological Survey and with a party of five or six men went over White Pass and explored the White and Tanana Rivers in canoes.

The next year Mr. Peters took a pack train from Pyramid Harbor, on the Lynn Canal, and started across the mountains in June. His party explored the headwaters of the Tanana River and went as far as Fort Egbert, on the Yukon River, near the international line. The party devoted much attention to study of the topography of the country and was also accompanied by a geologist who studied the minerals.

In 1900 Mr. Peters explored the east and of Seward peninsula, in which the Nome district lies. In 1901 he started with a small party over the snow and ice and explored the Koyukuk River. The party went to the Arctic divide. It returned to Bergman, a

trading post, which was its basis of supplies. After the breaking up of the ice the party went again by canoes to the Arctic divide and explored the Colville River, skirting along the coast to Point Barrow, and from there went to Cape Lisburne in an open whaler's boat. From Cape Lisburne Mr. Peters and his party returned to Nome in a collier and then took the regular steamer for the United States.

In 1902 Mr. Peters was detailed to make a map of the country about Juneau, which includes the famous Treadwell mines. He returned last fall to the famous Tonopah district in Nevada, a map of which he completed a short time ago.

Aside from being an expert in geographic and topographic science, Mr. Peters has had so much experience in roughing it in the arctic region that he is especially well qualified to accompany the Ziegler party, which is to make a dash for the North Pole.

Mr. Peters is a native of California. He was born in Oakland and educated in the schools of the Golden State. He entered the service of the geological survey 19 years ago.

A FARMER'S OPINION.

I'm only a common farmer. I live in the hills of old Polk. Don't pretend to belong to the city— Can't stand the noise and smoke. But I'm up-to-date in farmin' An' I allus read a heap. I know how to make my business pay And make money while I sleep.

I allus keep myself posted. On what's goin' on aroun'. I know just where 'Freddy is travellin' And the career of ever' Portland 'Brown'.

I'm posted on affairs in China. I've read the latest prize-fight. But they none don't amount to nothin' With the question that's hurtin' my light.

Now I've allus voted fer the Grand Old Party. And my father before me did too. An' me an' my oys at the last 'lection, Helped 'Teddy with a considerable few. But lately I've been clean disgusted. With what my party went and done, I feel like haulin' down my colors, And handin' over my gun.

I tell you, it's disgustin' And a stain to our party's name To elect this man to Congress, Who is aspirin' for the same. I tell you, I know Binger, I know him far too well. I know all about his shady career, All about his magnetic spell.

Our party shouldn't send him to Congress, 'Jist because he wants to go. We want to be friends with the leaders, Don't send one who is their foe. I've allus voted the ticket straight. But I hev' voted fer 'men' you see, An' I'll vote fer a 'man' this time. Reames is good enough fer me. —L. D. Brown.

NEW NERVE CENTRE OF GOVERNMENT

The most important room in the new White House is the one which is occupied by the telegraph and cipher bureau. This might be described as the bridge of the ship of state, the place where the President stands in time of war or during any serious crisis and issues his orders to the various departments of the government.

Sixty-five wires connect the telegraph and cipher bureau with the nine governmental departments, as well as with every telegraph, telephone and cable station in the United States.

It is the only telegraph office in the government service that is never closed.

Three shifts of operators, working eight hours each, keep the bureau open night and day.

Col. Benjamin F. Montgomery, of the Signal Corps, is in charge, with a staff of 15 men.

No visitors are allowed to enter this room, which is the clearing house of all government secrets. Nine codes, or systems of secret telegraphs, are used by the government in sending and receiving its messages, and President Roosevelt has a private code which he uses when on his tours through the country.

Every possible means has been adopted to insure secrecy. The system of wires which connects the President's desk with the desks of his Cabinet officials is automatic in its action. No one is employed who is not in every way above suspicion.

During the Spanish-American war the old bureau, which was not nearly as well equipped as the new one, handled 500,000 telegrams, nearly 400,000 of which were of a confidential nature.

President McKinley, with the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, made the bureau his headquarters during the exciting days of the war. For hours they sat at elbows of the telegraphers, directing military operations that were being carried on thousands of miles from Washington.

So perfect were the arrangements that when the American army was advancing on Santiago President McKinley was able to send messages to the officers on the firing line in less than 20 minutes.

At the time of President McKinley's assassination Col. Montgomery secured two exclusive wires between the bureau and Buffalo 15 minutes after the assassin's shot was fired.

FETISH DOLL.

Upon a certain day of the year the heads of households in South Africa who wish to bring good luck to their homes make an image of straw, vaguely resembling a doll and throw it into the street. Within the body of the image a small coin is placed. The person who takes possession of this coin receives all the ill-luck of the household. The image is supposed to have the power of transferring it. The average small boy, however, is not troubled with superstitious fears and considers the finding of such coins a clear profit and extreme good luck.

WHEN EAGLE AND BEAVER WED.

There's a maiden who, though grown to womanhood, Is a child among the nations. She is one of Britain's fair and lively brood, Held in check by her relations.

Her near neighbor is a cousin, big and smart, And it seems somehow or other, That they cannot always live as now-apart— She will have to leave her mother!

Her big cousin's noble eagle proudly soars While her beaver coyly eyes him, And if he came, a lover, to her doors She would surely not despise him.

In the starry sky she reads her destiny— 'Tis a bright and wondrous story Of what the maiden, Canada, will be When she sits beneath Old Glory.

Britannia may a tear of sorrow shed When her daughter wills to leave her; But Columbia will pat the lion's head When the eagle weds the beaver. —New York Sun.

PAST, PRESENT AND THE FUTURE.

Popular interest centered in the President of the United States and the only living ex-President. The two distinguished Americans represent two entirely different types of character. Mr. Cleveland is the embodiment of conservatism, Mr. Roosevelt is the incarnation of radicalism. When the President was presented to the mighty audience at St. Louis, he leaped upon the railing of the rostrum as a circus equestrian bounds upon horseback in the sawdust ring. When the first citizen was presented, he stepped quickly to the forefront of the stage with ponderous dignity.

SPRING FLOWERING PLANTS.

Planted in beds of fancy tulips which otherwise would be bare between the bulbous plants, Aubretia deltoidea—a variety of the purple rock cress—forms a bright and deep lilac-blue carpet of flowers in April. It likes a light, sandy and well-drained soil and a sunny position, conditions congenial to the tulip. The dwarf habit and dense-growing leafage of the Aubretia deltoidea are additional qualifications for spring carpeting. Another effect and a different one, may be obtained, by planting polyanthus between the tulips, leaving sufficient space for development. The yellow fancy polyanthus, which grows about ten inches high, is, of course, perfectly hardy, and will do well where the beds are not in so sunny a position or the soil so light and sandy. For spring carpeting around and under deciduous trees, shrubs and bushes there are two dwarf bulbous plants which should be grown in multitudinous clusters. The chionodoxa ("glory of the snow") will flower from February to May. The beauty of the tender blue and white blossoms, borne about four to six inches high on the crest of delicate stems, can only be fully appreciated when seen in close-growing, wide-spreading masses. It grows best in sandy loam, and, like most of other bulbs, should be dibbled in about September to flower the following spring. An inch apart is not too close to plant in order to obtain full beauty of effect, and three inches is the regulation depth. The blue Muscarf, or grape hyacinth, should be planted in similar close bulbs and three inches apart for the larger bulbs. They will bear their skyblue flowers erect, about six or nine inches high, looking like little bunches of blue grapes held upward to the onlooker. For an azure carpet a spreading mass of Muscarf botryoides is very striking from March to May. The bulbs should be dibbled in any time from August to November.