

EDITORIAL COMMENT AND TIMELY TOPICS

THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

BY C. S. JACKSON



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THE JOURNAL, P. O. Box 121, Portland, Oregon.

Nations, like men, have their periods of infancy, youth, manhood and old age. They grow strong, and then lapse into senility and decay.

That which happened, will again happen under like conditions. A few men have always unerringly, beheld the law of Cause and Effect.

OREGON'S HONOR AT STAKE.

The campaign in the First Congressional District has ended and the election is in progress today. The result cannot be known until the ballots are counted and it is idle to attempt to forecast it at this time.

FOR THE VITAL QUESTION THAT IS TO BE DETERMINED AT THE POLLS TODAY IS WHETHER THE VOTERS OF THE FIRST DISTRICT SHALL BE REPRESENTED IN CONGRESS BY A DISCREDITED POLITICIAN, WHOSE LONG RECORD OF OFFICE SEEKING AND OFFICE HOLDING HAS UPON IT THE DARK BLOT OF MALFEASANCE, AND WHO HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY CHARGED BY THE PRESS OF HIS OWN PARTY WITH CORRUPTION AND DISHONESTY, OR WHETHER THEY SHALL SEND AS THEIR REPRESENTATIVE A MAN OF KNOWN AND PROVED INTEGRITY, OF STAINLESS LIFE AND OF UNQUESTIONED ABILITY.

This is more than a party issue. It is the issue between decency and indecency in public life, and no citizen of the district, who appreciates the obligations of the franchise and who would cherish the good name of his state should hesitate between the two candidates.

Desperate appeals have been made to the party loyalty of the Republicans of the district and frantic efforts have been made to create the belief that the defeat of Binger Hermann will be a rebuff to President Roosevelt and the national administration.

UNLESS PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT IS TO BE REGARDED AS THE FRIEND AND APOLOGIST OF OFFICIAL DISHONESTY THIS STATEMENT IS ABSOLUTELY UNTRUE.

It was during President Roosevelt's administration that Binger Hermann was dismissed in disgrace from the land office, and had the President then believed him to be an honest and capable official he could have retained him, by a word, in his office.

The assertion that "a vote for Reames is a vote for the trusts" is a malicious and a willful falsehood. No man has been more outspoken than Mr. Reames in his declarations in favor of restraining the power of the trusts, and no man, on the other hand, has been more notoriously their subservient tool than Binger Hermann.

During all his long career in office Hermann has been the willing instrument of the corporations. Their interests have been his interests. Their will has been his guide. The huge timber grabbing syndicates have found in him an unscrupulous and an ever ready agent. This fact is notorious and indisputable.

Jealous of the good name of the state, The Journal has done its utmost to avert the disgrace of having in Washington a man so utterly unfit to represent the people as Binger Hermann. If he shall be defeated it will be one of the most signal victories for decency and good government that the state has ever known.

IF HE SHALL BE ELECTED, THE RESPONSIBILITY MUST REST UPON THE VOTERS OF THE DISTRICT, AND MOST OF ALL UPON THOSE WHO, BY FAILING TO GO TO THE POLLS, HAVE RENDERED HIS ELECTION POSSIBLE.

The Journal trusts that honest men will be in sufficient number to elect Reames and believes that they will be. But The Journal will never give one iota of support to Hermann in or out of Congress.

The good name of Oregon will be redeemed, no matter whether it takes two months or four years to rescue it.

The following conversation was overheard this morning in a Fifth street barber shop, one of the participants being evidently a citizen of the state and the other a newcomer, in search of information. Said the latter: "Is this man Hermann a thief?"

people of Oregon want to represent them in Congress? "Yes, I guess that's right. Anyway, he's sure to be elected." The stranger subsided into a reverie.

SPIRIT OF THE GREAT WEST

By Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

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Traveling for two or three months through the great West teaches one accustomed to New York and New England, many things. I have visited New Orleans, Los Angeles, Pasadena, San Diego, San Francisco, Portland, Or., Salt Lake City, Denver, Kansas City and St. Louis.

In the South, perhaps a little more marked than elsewhere, are to be found the warmth and cordiality of manner which are features of the entire great West, and which are noticeably lacking in the manner of Eastern people toward strangers.

Human beings are greatly the result of climate when we come to manners and morals, and the climate of the South is reflected in the manner of the people one meets there in society or in business.

"In New Orleans," I heard an Eastern man say, "the business men make you feel that you have conferred a favor upon them by calling in the interest of your own affairs. In New York and New England they not infrequently give you the impression that you are unwelcome, even when you are calling in their own interest."

In the great West a similar spirit exists, especially in the towns composed largely of native-born Westerners. San Francisco is an essentially Western city. Next to New York it seemed to me the most metropolitan and cosmopolitan of all our towns.

The face of the native Oregonian is illuminated when speaking of the present and the future of his state, and it is difficult for him to understand the ignorance of the Eastern mind regarding its wonderful history and growth.

I have heard much all my life of "Sunny California," and I found indeed much sunshine there, yet for real, continuous, glowing, golden, reliable sunshine Denver, Colo., is far ahead of California. I wonder we do not hear more of that fact.

Kansas City, Mo., with a less admirable or reliable climate, has all the spirit, push and life that are observable throughout the whole great West, and it has what cities further west lack—a magnificently fertile farming country surrounding it.

The baseball fever is no respecter of persons. The broker with the high hat and the bank account and the barefooted boy stand side by side and eagerly await the next inning. But there is some little interest when it comes out that the fever that comes with the first game reaches the dignified ecclesiastic.

THE NATIONAL GAME.

The Rev. W. S. Rainsford, rector of St. George's, the noted New York church, told in Philadelphia on the day he preached the sermon that caused him to be charged with heresy—of a snub an old lady once gave him.

"I had the habit in my youth," said Dr. Rainsford, "of conditioning all my proposed actions with the phrase, 'Deo volente,' or 'God willing,' or something of that sort. An aged woman, the head of an aristocratic family, invited me one morning to dine with her the following night."

"I shall be delighted to dine with you madam," I said, "if I am spared." "The terminal phrase seemed to displease her. Perhaps she thought she sniffed can't in it. She frowned and said: "Oh, if you're dead, I'll not expect you."—Kansas City Journal.

SNUB FOR THE RECTOR.

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"HOT HEADS OF UNIONISM."

Charles S. Darrow, who was appointed attorney for the coal miners by President Roosevelt, in a recent address on "Unionism," in Chicago, said that the union fever had become so strong that many of the most worthy labor organizations had been suddenly filled up without discrimination, with men who do not understand the principles of organization, and who are willing to hide behind the union, while satisfying a narrow personal spite against worthy business institutions which are absolutely just in their dealings.

A HUNGARIAN VIEW.

Dr. Emil Reich, the famous Hungarian historian, has been studying conditions in America and gives vent to his enthusiasm in the following terms: "The American commonwealth differs from Europe in two most essential points. These two points are: The practical immunity of the states from any serious attack on the part of a powerful hostile army or navy, and the constant exposure of all the social and most of the economical and political institutions of the states to the invasion, raids and warfares waged against the American male by that greatest surprise of the nineteenth century, the American woman."

HOW LIGHTNING KILLS.

The cause of death by lightning is the sudden absorption of the electric current. When a thunder cloud which is highly charged with positive electricity hangs over a certain place, the earth beneath it becomes abnormally charged with the negative electric current, and a man, animal or other object standing or lying directly beneath comes also under this influence.

WHAT MAKES THINGS GROW?

According to Maurice Springer, a French writer on the subject, the energy of growth is closely related to electric energy and may be identical with it. At any rate, growth energy is closely connected with the phenomenon called osmosis—that is, molecular pressure due to difference of density in adjacent liquid masses.

Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, widow of the late President, proposes to sell to Mr. Ingersoll, the millionaire bachelor, her beautiful home in the Adirondacks, Berkeley Lodge. The place has tender associations for Mrs. Harrison, as she and the late General planned it together soon after their marriage and spent every summer there, but she has, it is said, received a tempting offer and is considering it.

THE ARID LAND OF OREGON

In the 16 counties of Eastern Oregon are 3,000,000 acres of arid land, 90 per cent of which is tillable under irrigation.

There are now 225,000 acres in the state under irrigation, and it is estimated that 30,000 acres more can be covered by local ditch companies and private enterprises. The remainder of the 3,000,000 acres presents too many difficulties for private capital and must be reclaimed by the government or state.

The government hydrographer, F. H. Newell, in his report to Congress, shows that all the arid land of Eastern Oregon is susceptible to irrigation by the storage reservoir system.

The water-gathering area of the high mountains of Eastern Oregon is sufficient to reclaim double the amount of land now susceptible to irrigation if stored and applied scientifically. The contour of the country and the gradually sloping foothill regions, which form natural highways for canals from the water sources to the arid plains, make Eastern Oregon the most perfect irrigation site on the Coast.

Another favorable feature of the arid districts of Oregon is that the land susceptible to irrigation lies in large bodies, and continuous tracts, so that one main system of canals and reservoirs can be made to cover the greatest possible area. It does away with the cost of labor of building so many central sites for distribution.

NO SICKNESS ON THIS SHIP.

With the launching in England of the new channel steamer Queen last week the passengers en route to France were promised immunity from seasickness.

The Queen is a turbine vessel fitted with the Parsons engines, and the builders have undertaken that she shall have an average sea speed of 21 knots.

By the introduction of the turbine principle it is claimed that all vibration is done away with. The oscillation caused by the paddle wheels and the throb of the screw are absent.

Clear of the pier or wharf, a turbine steamer runs into a nice, lazy swing, and the side screws, which greatly add to her speed, impart general steadiness.

Very rarely is there any pitching. The machinery works quite noiselessly. The vessel moves forward as if she were a fish, rather than a complicated mechanical structure.

There are three screws to a turbine steamer. The two side shafts take the place of the ordinary twin screws, and the center shaft runs free. The maneuvering power is as great as in an ordinary steamer, while in going astern there is none of that most unpleasant grinding motion so familiar to the traveler.

So many steamers have from time to time been built for the cross-channel passage which have been promised to overcome all risk of sea-sickness that a certain amount of skepticism is sure to exist regarding the merits of the new boat. But the public will not have very long to wait. It is hoped that within six weeks the Queen will be running on the regular service. Those who are best acquainted with the turbine principle are most confident of her success.

There is no doubt that steamers fitted with engines working on Parsons' principle can develop a speed far beyond that of the ordinary screw. This has been proved in the case of the torpedo-destroyers, and there is no reason why this high speed cannot be equally utilized on all cross-channel routes.

Many predictions have it that turbine engines are, sooner or later, to open out a new era in ocean traveling. If ever the principle be adopted on the big Atlantic liners the transatlantic voyage will be considerably shortened.

SOLD A NEGRO TO SERVITUDE.

MOBILE, Ala., May 24.—The grand jury of the United States Court at Montgomery has found an indictment against Robert N. Franklin, a white citizen of Goodwater, Ala., charging him with having sold one Joe Patterson, a negro, to J. W. Pace, a land owner of Tallapoosa County, in a condition of penance or involuntary servitude.

The negro borrowed \$1 from Franklin, promising to pay it back the next day. He failed to do so. He was arrested, convicted and fined for obtaining money under false pretences before a Magistrate. He was sold for \$25 to a Mr. Hardy, who worked him for a year. Then he was sold for \$40 to Mr. Pace, who has been working him since for a year. This is only one of many such cases.

Secret service men are working up the cases. It is said that many more negroes are still in bondage in three of four counties of this state. The magistrates fine negroes, have some one pay their fine, and work them all the time, having a guard over them all day and lock them up at night. They are sometimes brutally whipped. Franklin is in jail.—New York Sun.

THE GERM THEORY.

The lady scientist pursues her way through the department store. Stopping at the silk counter, she looks over the stock. At last she finds a piece of goods that strikes her eye.

"I should like to have a dress pattern of that," she says. "Can you guarantee the goods?" "Oh, yes, indeed, ma'am," says the salesperson. "That is the finest piece of watered silk we have in the store."

THE OHIO HABIT.

Ohio is 100 years old, but is not old enough to be broken of the habit of running a line of presidential candidates on every possible occasion.—Philadelphia Press.

County arid land can be covered with one main canal, beginning at Yoakum, and extending around the brow of the range of hills for 20 miles to the west.

The Harney and Malheur County deserts lie in large bodies, and Wasco, Crook and Baker enjoy the same advantage.

There is no region on earth where the favorable features of reclamation are so happily combined as in Eastern Oregon. Climate, soil, water and land all invite the homeseeker. The conditions are all favorable to poor men, who are compelled to work for wages. The old settlements furnish an abundance of labor. The prolific soil and abundant crops bring the cost of living down below the average on the Pacific Coast, and the open public domain which can be homesteaded by the poor man and improved at leisure, while he is working near, makes this an inviting field for settlement.

The arid land issue should not die because people are too busy to attend conventions called for its discussion. The reclamation of Oregon depends not so much upon reports of experts as upon the activity of the practical, working, irrigationists who have crops growing under ditch systems, and whose homes are living object lessons in conquering the wilderness.

Too many irrigation meetings cannot be held. The subject cannot be discussed too frequently, for the government never tires of listening for good results in any of its departments.—Pendleton East Oregonian.

SHE KNEW PATRICK.

Chaplain Edward Vattman, United States army, recently returned to Washington from the Philippines and relates with considerable humor his experience with an elderly Irish woman whose son is numbered among the missing. The young man, Patrick by name, a private by rank and a Washingtonian, was captured some time ago by ladrones and when last seen was being taken into the mountains strapped to a fierce looking Filipino. Father Vattman learned the particulars and when he returned to Washington, called upon the bereaved mother to break the news. Her intuition assisted him, for she said immediately:

"You've come to tell me of Patrick, father." "Yes," said the priest, "and my good woman, you must remember that 'Whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth.' In the midst of life we are in death, but the Lord comforts the afflicted."

"Yes, yes, father," interrupted Patrick's mother; "but tell me the news, father, dear." "Well, my poor woman," said the priest, sorrowfully, "the last we heard of poor Patrick, he was strapped to a Filipino and being taken into the mountains." "My! my!" exclaimed the sorrowful mother; "God have mercy upon the poor Filippino that's strapped to my Patrick!"

ANDREWS RETRACTS.

LINCOLN, Neb., May 24.—Chancellor E. Benjamin Andrews of the University of Nebraska, whose retirement from Brown University on account of his leaning toward free silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 attracted attention throughout the country in 1896, delivered an address to his class on practical ethics which indicates that he has changed his views.

"I confess the error I held for a number of years regarding the production of gold," he said. "The output of gold has increased enormously since 1890. By 1897 it had completely checked the fall which prices had been undergoing since 1873, and since 1897 has caused a considerable rise in prices. From the advice of the greatest geologists, both in this country and in Europe, and from the opinion of practical miners of Colorado, whom I saw when I visited Colorado in 1896, I believe the greatest output of gold was passed. I have to admit that it was an astounding mistake, and that I was in great and inexcusable error. I now believe that the heavy output of gold will continue."

POET FRENEAU AND THE WORLD'S FAIR.

But even more interesting than his originality as a forerunner of romanticism is the remarkable forecast in his work of striking and distinctive qualities of later American literature. His was a strangely prophetic voice. It would require an essay to point out in detail how Freneau, standing at the parting of the ways, takes up into himself the colonial spirit and forecasts the national. He himself was fully conscious of the high destiny of his new-born country, and it is not without a note of the notoriety spread eagle that he sings his patriotic strains:— where the Mississippi stream, By forests shaded now runs weeping on, Nations shall grow, and states not less in fame Than Greece and Rome of old!

That was not a paltry vision for a Princeton undergraduate in the year 1771. We commend it to the attention of the directors of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.—The Independent.

AIRSHIP PATENT SUIT.

Le Jaune, the steerable airship which was successfully maneuvered over Moisson plain, under the supervision of the Lebaudy brothers, is to be "called into court." The complainant is Signor Simoni, who invented an airship known as a "semi-aeronef." This system conforms very closely to the trapezoidal pattern which is a characteristic of the Lebaudy, Julliot and Fauchon, and complains that he was systematically prevented from obtaining any information during the building of the Jaunie and its trials at Moisson. He particularly accuses the persons cited of having posed as the originators and inventors of the airship system in question.