

THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

THE JOURNAL'S PLATFORM

A Trinity of Events Which Would Make of Portland the Mightiest City of the Pacific Coast.

- First—Deepen the Columbia river bar. Second—Open the Columbia river to unimpeded navigation at and above The Dalles. Third—Dig an Isthmian canal.

NOW FOR THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

THERE is no purely local question which begins to equal in importance the well being of our public schools. Every American community owes it to itself and to the country to see that the rising generation is well educated.

Observers from other sections of the country are forcibly struck with three principal things in our public school system. First, the absence of kindergartens; second, the absence of manual training schools; and third, that in no complete sense, as is the case elsewhere, does the enrollment embrace all classes and conditions of the children.

In other communities the interest in the public school system is intense and deep-seated; it embraces all classes from the wealthiest to the poorest, for all classes rely upon the public schools alone to give their children an education through the grades and most of them even through the high school.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

A Fireman's Tribute.

Portland, Jan. 4.—To the Editor of The Journal: Yesterday was a sad day to many firemen, for with aching hearts and tear-dimmed eyes we parted forever with one who was to us dear as a comrade and friend.

EXPENSIVE COLLEGE MUSCLE.

From Collier's Weekly. The impressive totals of university funds invested in athletic equipment during the present year make the outlay for developing the "sound body" rival the endowment of classical chairs and foundations.

WOULDN'T DISCUSS THAT.

Washington Correspondence New York World. "So happened that a man whose business takes him to see Senator Platt of Connecticut occasionally with no good results was thrown by fate into a street car next to the sage of Meriden yesterday afternoon.

MRS. SMOOT IN WASHINGTON.

From the New York World. Mrs. Reed Smoot, who has but recently joined her husband, the senator from Utah, at the Raleigh, and who chatted pleasantly for a few moments in the parlor of that hostelry, is about as happy in looks, as brightly of speech and as pleased with her lot in life as any woman in this broad world.

HUMAN SIDE OF DAVENPORT.

From the January Outing. The reading public knows the cartoonist as a man whose pen uncovers hypocrisy and puts the knife of ridicule into political bombast; but there is another side quite as interesting.

PROBLEM IN ENGINEERING.

From London Spare Moments. A Scotchman who had been employed nearly all his life in the building of railroads in the Highlands of Scotland, went to the United States in his later years and settled in a new section on the plains of the far West.

GENERAL REYNOLDS.

General Reynolds doubts his ability to keep the Colombians from haying Uncle Sam alive. He is a Scotchman who had been employed nearly all his life in the building of railroads in the Highlands of Scotland, went to the United States in his later years and settled in a new section on the plains of the far West.

News, Gossip and Speculation From the National Capital

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30.—Representative Mondell of Wyoming, in response to inquiries, gives the following opinion relative to the recent appointment of a public land commission and for the necessity for the much-talked-of repeal of the land laws of the country.

The appointment of a commission for the purpose of inquiring into the land laws and their administration naturally presupposes the existence of conditions surrounding the administration of the lands as they now stand and the disposal of public lands under them, which renders it important or expedient that investigation should be made and inquiry had with the view of preventing abuses or irregularities or the passing of the public lands into private ownership.

It is true that there seems to have been in certain quarters very unusual agitation of this subject for the past few years. True, it has not been for the first time in our history we have had presented to us the spectacle of an active and well-organized lobby supported almost entirely by contributions of great corporate land-scrip owners who have been industrious and persistently magnifying every irregularity and local abuse of our land laws and sending broadcast the most grossly misleading and untruthful statements as to the volume and effect of the transfer of government lands into the hands of private individuals.

The department of commerce and labor has made public the details of the past 11 months' commerce of the country. They show an increase in practically all principal groups, except those which the department divides the exports and in all of the groups into which it divides the imports.

The fact is that the three laws in question furnish nearly four-fifths of the entire reclamation fund, and that their repeal would amount to a repeal of the national irrigation act, after sixteen millions, now in the treasury, was exhausted.

The commutation clause of the homestead law is utilized to but a limited extent in the strictly arid portions of the country. In the semi-arid region, where a constant effort is being made to make more productive lands which in their natural state are of but little value and which, by reason of lack of water, are practically irrigated.

WAKE UP! OR THERE'LL BE NOTHING LEFT OF YOU



The foregoing very clever cartoon originally appeared in the Denver Post. It is the work of Warren Gilbert, an Oregon boy, who has made a fine reputation as a cartoonist. His father is a well known and highly respected resident of Salem.

Advice to the Lovelorn

BY BEATRICE FAIRFAX.

Dear Miss Fairfax: Kindly advise me in this matter. Is it a young lady's place to recognize a young man first or not? I have had an argument on this subject, as I think it is a girl's place to speak first.

Dear Miss Fairfax: I am one of the many "children" who ask you for some motherly advice, and hope you will advise me as well as I have read your advice to others.

Dear Miss Fairfax: I am a young man 24 years of age, and am deeply in love with a young lady who lives 18 miles from town for the past six months. She has always acted polite to me, but she never gave me any encouragement.

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JAPAN-RUSSIA CONTROVERSY.

St. Philip Terry in January Outing. Seoul, the capital of Chosen, is built amidst a network of hills 13 miles from the sea. It is an ancient walled city, fortified in the strongest way by smelting furnaces which drive any but an Asiatic army forthwith into the ocean.

SPORT WITH KINKS IN IT.

From the Illustrated Sporting News. It was a gorgeous glory that came from the links of Cairo. After a drive, a Cairo player watched the ball roll over the distant turf, when to his horrified amazement a crow swooped down and carried it aloft.

BRITAIN'S "NOBLE" RULERS.

Although Great Britain has now nearly universal suffrage, the nation is still ruled by the aristocracy. The reconstructed "government" of Mr. Balfour is composed of fifty-eight men. Of these twenty-five are peers and seven are sons of peers.