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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

SUNDAY OPENING OF THE FAIR.

IT HAS BEEN suggested to The Journal that we might just as well, and on precisely as good grounds, suggest the closing of the city park on Sundays as to favor the closing of the Lewis and Clark fair on that day.

So long as Portland tolerates open saloons and gambling houses on Sundays we cannot see why it should be squeamish about opening such an institution as an international fair on that day.

The Journal would like to hear from the people of Portland on this question, from those who advocate Sunday closing as well as those who favor Sunday opening of the fair.

RAPID PROGRESS IN GOOD ROADS BUILDING.

A SERIOUS EFFORT is being made to arouse public interest in the Brownlow good roads bill which is likely to come up for consideration in congress within the next few weeks.

The subject of good roads is attracting an increasing amount of attention all over the country. Forty years ago it cost 25 cents a ton per mile to carry farm produce, lumber, etc., on a wagon road and it costs just as much today.

Some of the states have themselves seriously undertaken the building of good roads on their own account. New Jersey annually appropriates \$250,000. The state pays one third of the cost, the counties two thirds, though 10 per cent of the latter amount is assessed to the towns.

NEWSPAPERS AND EXPENSE.

Of the Many Necessities of Life the Modern Daily is Least Costly.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. It may fairly be said that the cheapest of the necessities of life is a good newspaper. If all other needs of civilized existence were supplied at the expense of the newspaper, the problem of living well on a small income would be solved.

THESE WERE NO ORDERS.

From the New York World. Every officer who has served with Lieutenant-General Chaffee, the new head of the army, has a story to tell of him.

None for Him.

From the Chicago Record-Herald. "I suppose," said Mrs. Oldcastle, "your son, like most of the young men of the present day, is looking forward with a great deal of eagerness to his patriotism."

MARK TWAIN'S CONFESION.

From Harper's Monthly. "I have found dealing with lawyers an expensive undertaking," says Mark Twain. "It has cost me four umbrellas already, to say nothing of the onslaught upon my morals. I have done nothing but buy umbrellas and leave them in my lawyer's office. The other day I stopped at one of the umbrella counters in a big downtown office building, where there were three piles of umbrellas. One pile was marked \$1, the second pile \$2, and the third pile was marked \$3. I did not look beyond the third pile, as I was not certain how much money I could afford to spend. I said to the man in charge of the umbrellas, 'I am a stranger from the west of the Mississippi, all unused to the effects of the east. I came from the wild west, and I appeal to you as man to man, whether, in your judgment, you being an eastern man, and I a stranger on his first visit to your great city, would you advise me to buy this \$1 umbrella for \$1, the \$2 umbrella for \$2, or the \$3 umbrella for \$3? I ask you as a pilgrim and a stranger.' And the man, looking me straight in the eye, said: 'As man to man, and speaking heart to heart to you, a stranger, I would advise you to buy the \$3 umbrella.'"

COMPETITION AMONG PARROTS.

A London editor, weary of the favorite slogan of the opponents of Mr. Chamberlain, organized a fiscal parrot competition, in which the parrot which could most impressively say "Your food will cost you more" received \$25. Hundreds of pollies were put into training, and scores of them appeared in St. James' hall to show how well they could voice the free-fooders' contention. There was plenty of swearing and shrieking, and the winner was a gray African, and when he said his "Your food will cost you more," after five minutes' profound fiscal reflection, his judgment greatly impressed both his feathered and his unfeathered auditors, except one hen parrot, which angrily shouted back, "You're a liar!"

RIGOROUS WEATHER IN THE EAST.

THE Eastern and Middle Western sections of the country are passing through a winter of unusual severity. Cold weather is as a matter of course in the winter through the upper Mississippi valley and along the Atlantic seaboard. It would be a matter of surprise if it did not come. But when temperature as low as 45 degrees below zero is reported and through great sections over 30 degrees below is the standard range, the people that this favored section may better understand how incalculably they are blessed and feel less inclined to resent as something peculiarly distressing and unwarranted a fall once or twice during the year of the temperature to 32 above zero.

When people in those sections realize that they do not have to stand such climates, that they can make a living under easier conditions here than elsewhere and that they may altogether avoid the rigors of the dreadful winter climate in the upper Mississippi valley and on the Atlantic seaboard, laws will actually have to be enacted to keep them out of Oregon. If any criticism is to be made it is that our own people do not appreciate anything like its true value the glorious climatic conditions under which they live.

Still Stirring Up Sentiment Against Roosevelt

From the New York Herald.

"Washington, Jan. 17.—That neither the New York nor Pennsylvania Republican state convention will instruct President Roosevelt is the story heard here by the anti-Roosevelt Republicans. It is reported by the senators and representatives from other states as reliable information, but no one can trace it to its source. So persistently is the rumor circulated that it has come to be accepted as a fact, and there is reason to believe that a strong effort will be made in both conventions to prevent instructions.

Senator Platt, who returned from New York, today says New York delegates will instruct President Roosevelt. Senator Quay, when asked about the report, said that he had heard nothing about it. At the same time well-known Pennsylvanians who are in the confidence of the leaders say that it is a fact that the Keystone state delegates are not irrevocably committed to Roosevelt, and if it should become clear in June that the president was not available, the delegates would be free to choose some other candidate.

This means, if it means anything, that the delegates will be left free to follow their inclinations when they get to the convention, and they could only be left free if they were uninstructed.

"It is evident that matters instead of getting in a more satisfactory condition the president is getting steadily worse. Pennsylvania should fail to instruct, it would be taken as evidence that the persons, who have been struggling with Quay to prevent him from espousing the cause of the President had made considerable headway. It was only a week ago that friends of the president were planning to make Quay the administration manager. Colonel Quay has said, however, that he thinks Roosevelt will be the nominee.

"If New York should also fail to instruct it would be the end of the Roosevelt boom, and the president's name might not be mentioned to the convention.

"The latest news bearing on the attitude of Senator Hanna toward the president and the presidential nomination is that the home district of the Ohio senator, the twentieth Ohio, has been invaded by the Roosevelt tide. Mr. Hanna has a fight on his hands. Lines of battle have been mapped out by Senator Forsaker, and he will seek to obtain instructions for Roosevelt in each of the 21 districts of Ohio, and also in the state convention.

"The latest things Senator Hanna heard when he got here on Saturday was that Senator Forsaker had held a conference with Miner G. Norton of Cleveland, and Representative J. A. Beldier, and that Mr. Norton had been placed in charge of the Roosevelt invasion of the city of Cleveland. The twentieth and twenty-first districts are to be the first battleground of the administration and Senator Hanna. Senator Hanna lives in the twentieth district.

"Mr. Norton was the corporation counsel of Cleveland under Mr. Hanna's old enemy, Mayor McKisson, and he wants nothing better than to engage in a factional fight with the administration behind him.

"It is the irony of politics that at the very time that the president is seeking the place of Senator Hanna, Mr. Forsaker should plunge the Buckeye state into a factional broil, which is aimed first at the leadership of Senator Hanna. So long as the administration thinks that Senator Hanna is trying to side-track the Roosevelt boom by preventing

instructions it cannot very well ask Senator Forsaker to cease his attempt to compel Ohio to send instructed Roosevelt delegates to the convention, and set the seal in Ohio is the very thing that is not wanted at the White House at this time.

"It is freely predicted that when all the conventions in Ohio are over Hanna will have an overwhelming majority of the delegates, and the friends of the chairman of the national committee are laughing at the pretensions of Forsaker that he can carry the state for Roosevelt."

"The Herald has made a canvass in New York to test sentiment on the presidential nomination of the Republican party, and in reviewing the results it says:

"There is a pronounced drift in this city toward Senator Marcus A. Hanna as the Republican presidential candidate. This is proved by a canvass made by the Herald among Republican business and professional men. Of 1,209 members of that party questioned, 729 favor the nomination of Mr. Roosevelt and 480 declare for Senator Hanna.

"The attitude of the legal profession is especially significant, for of the 294 lawyers canvassed, 123 favor Mr. Hanna and 172 Mr. Roosevelt.

"In such a canvass as the Herald has conducted, necessarily Democrats are encountered, and the prevailing sentiment among those who opposed Bryan in 1896 and 1900 is that a more conservative man than Mr. Roosevelt should be placed in nomination in order to attract the Democratic vote.

"In the clubs, where men prominent in business and professional life meet, the sentiment which six months ago favored Mr. Roosevelt is now for Mr. Hanna or some equally conservative man. The business man said today that in the club which he frequents the tendency until a few months ago was favor Mr. Roosevelt. Now, he declared, nearly every member regards Mr. Roosevelt's selection as inadvisable, and, politically speaking, a blunder.

"Among the district leaders of the Republican county organizations in Manhattan there is a preponderance of anti-Roosevelt feeling. Of the 36 leaders, 28 have expressed themselves as preferring another candidate than the president, although most of these expect that he will be the choice of the convention.

"A Roosevelt tendency predominated among individual and professional men. Approaching Wall street, however, Senator Hanna's partisans are more numerous, and in the financial district itself a majority is opposed to President Roosevelt, while all favor Senator Hanna. As an organizer and a business man, Mr. Hanna appeals to financiers, operators, traders and railroad men. As they express it, they don't regard the president as a safe man."

"Among the corporate interests this feeling permeated the whole personnel of the various departments. In political circles, which were thoroughly canvassed by men to whom politicians talk freely, though confidentially, the opinion was expressed almost unanimously that as between Senator Hanna and President Roosevelt they are for Roosevelt.

"In distinctive trade districts an endeavor was made to ascertain how the respective business centers regard the nomination of President Roosevelt against Senator Hanna. Prominent merchants and wholesalers in the drygoods trade favor President Roosevelt. In the fur and jewelers' trade Senator Hanna doesn't appear to be regarded as a formidable rival of the president.

Letters From the People

How About It?

Portland, Or., Jan. 22.—To the Editor of The Journal:—Dear Sir: What, if any, effort is being made to investigate the thievery that were committed at the burning of the Chinese house on Oak street recently? It seems to me it is high time that the matter were investigated, if necessary, by a non-partisan body of citizens. This is a matter both of public and private interest, as for Chinamen have no security as to property rights in our city, how long will it be before white people will not fare much better and likewise interested in the welfare of Portland? It seems to me that nothing should appear more strongly to the body of our people than that the governing and official class of the city should be above suspicion. For, considered not only locally, but as a place for industry and residence to outsiders, the character of its government, morally as well as financially, is one of the prime considerations. Respectfully submitted, L. H. ADAMS, 332 Thirteenth street.

House Cleaning in Portland.

San Francisco, Jan. 19.—To the Editor of The Journal:—Dear Sir: I noticed that your Portland paper noticed that that city was talking about cleaning house. The same question is being agitated here, and badly enough, too—it needs it. Of the many suggestions toward beautifying this town, the most important and the most practical is that of improving the appearance of the streets upon which they are located. And what do you Portlanders think they propose doing? Plant trees? Yes, they expect to begin with that. Next, they propose to plant suitable to soil and climate and have at least one show street of which to be proud.

And what is being done in Portland? Cutting down beautiful trees which were planted by the city and the citizens. There stood upon the corner of Third and Clay streets as magnificent a specimen of weeping willow as could be found, and whoever was guilty of authorizing its destruction ought to be run in. For I consider it was criminal to strike dead to its vitals. Had such a tree adorned one of San Francisco's streets, it would have been encircled with an iron railing or perhaps a seat constructed around it. It would have been an ornament to the proposed new market place.

In Berkeley I saw two choice trees, around which the sidewalk was built; the walk gave place to the trees, not they to the walk, as is the case in Portland. That is the trouble with us here, one show street? Let the residents compete with each other for such a street. Take Seventh street, for instance, part of which has recently been improved. Remove the dingy, decaying fences south of Yamhill street and let there be velvety green lawns and rows of roses or other bright hedges. 'Tis shameful for a city to advertise its filthiness and be obliged to tell its people that they need to clean house, and if everyone would see themselves as others see them, such things need not be done. If some Portlanders could only see the possibilities of Portland, something would be doing. San Francisco says they have cleaned house, and the vast expanse of water, but when anything is to be seen, why is it necessary to board a boat and go from San Francisco to see it? Because they have not yet 'cleaned house.' They have, more yet. Portland to see its attractions if it will only 'clean house.' One greatly needed improvement Portland should have is a boulevard leading to the City Park, extending from the terminal of a 'felony street.' Here it is proposed to extend the 'Pan Handle' from the entrance to Golden Gate Park into the city proper, forming a continuous driveway. Give Portland an entrance to her park.

Meets With a Republican's Pleas.

Portland, Or., Jan. 23.—To the Editor of The Journal:—I am a Republican, and regret that District Attorney Manning is a Democrat, yet his fearless conduct in the prosecution of offenders against the law, entitles him to the plaudits of all good citizens regardless of their party affiliations. It requires a high sense of duty and a high regard for the money influence for public officials to take the side of the poor and weak against the strong and influential. The course of Mr. Manning, in the case of the poor woman whose money was lost by her husband in one of the gambling houses of this city, shows in its plainest and most convincing manner that a man with a heart in the right place, and that he has a proper conception of justice, with that fearlessness needed to enforce the laws.

News, Gossip and Speculation From the National Capital

(Washington Bureau of The Journal.)

Washington, Jan. 25.—The senate committee on territories has filed with the senate the report made by its members, Senators Dillingham, Burnham, Nelson and Patterson, relative to conditions in Alaska. The sub-committee, it will be remembered, visited Alaska last summer, spending two months there investigating the conditions. The report recites that Alaska has yielded in revenues since its cession nearly \$10,000,000, a sum greater by nearly \$1,000,000 than the entire expenditure in her behalf. It is also estimated that the United States has been enriched by the fur industry to the extent of \$2,000,000, by the Alaskan fisheries \$50,000,000, and that the output of gold since 1898 has amounted to more than \$1,000,000. Detailed statistics are given of the copper, silver, lead, zinc and mining industries. The report pays much attention to the question of transportation and says that the development of Alaska depends more upon the improvement of transportation facilities than upon any other one instrument.

General Grant's plans in Southeastern Alaska are well served, and receive supplies at fairly reasonable prices. The situation upon the Yukon is entirely different as all goods intended for use in the Yukon basin if brought over American routes must be taken on ocean-going vessels to St. Michael, a distance of 2,500 miles from Seattle, and there be transferred to river boats, against the current of the stream, to the various points along the river. The committee is strongly of the opinion that a great benefit would result if the government of the United States to adopt a system of wagon roads for the relief of the miners in the American territory, and that for the basis of such a system a well constructed wagon road should connect the coast of the Pacific with the Yukon. Those of the Yukon river at Eagle, the length of which would be about 400 miles. It is as much the duty of the United States to build the road and secure the American interests of that district to the United States as it is to build the Great Pacific railroad to connect the Pacific coast with the country east of the Rocky mountains.

The report points out a plan by which the expense of a system of highways could be met from the revenues of Alaska without hardship to any of its industries.

The report refers briefly to the agricultural development of the territory. Considerable attention is given to the question of mining laws and the committee recommends amendments regarding each claim as a prerequisite of the right to have the claim recorded. That assessment work to be done upon each claim during each calendar year shall be greatly increased in amount, and that about 75 per cent of the cost of actual work upon the claim, none to be deducted from the time going and returning from it.

That proof of such work should be filed with the commissioner of the pre-emption land, and that the affidavits of claimant and of attesting witnesses, That no person should be allowed to stake out or locate or hold, except by purchase, more than one mining claim upon the same acre.

The fur seal industry is referred to at length. The committee recommends that a suspension of all killing by the lessees of the seal islands be made at once, and indefinitely, and that the government of the United States shall attempt to re-open and conclude negotiations with Great Britain looking to the revision of the laws and regulations which govern the taking of seals on open waters of the North Pacific ocean and Behring sea, and to enter upon negotiations with the governments of Russia and Japan to the end that all pelagic seals may be stopped.

The committee recommends that a survey of the harbor of St. Michael be made with reference to the construction of a breakwater off the northeast end of Whale Island. It also recommends the improvement of the mouth of Snake river with a view to making improvements for bettering conditions in the harbor of Nome.

The committee recommends the creation of a Fourth judicial district in Alaska to which an additional judge should be appointed. The new district should be south from the present Third district and should include the Yukon basin.

The committee is of the opinion that the time has not yet come for the establishment of a territory which binds the white population to Alaska is almost wholly that of mining, and until it is demonstrated that agriculture can be made profitable, and the population thus made permanent by doing it, no other fields and any form of local government would be unstable.

The committee favors the selection of a delegate and its members agree that if no practicable method of electing one can be adopted by congress, the appointment should come from the president of the United States by and with the consent of the senate.

Much interest is taken in Washington society this winter in the group of young ladies, daughters of senators and representatives who are enjoying their first season at the national capital.

The western members of the group are the daughters of Senators Warren and Clark of Wyoming. Warren's daughter has just made her entree into Washington society. She shared the honors of her friend, Miss Pauline Magruder, at a coming out party the day before Christmas. Miss Warren graduated at Allegheny last June. She is a bright, intelligent girl, thoroughly western in her individuality and heartiness of manner.

Senator Clark's daughter, Miss Laura, has just finished school at the National Academy near Washington. She is a bright girl, devoted much of her time to the study of music. She has a good voice, and is also studying the violin. She is spending the winter with her parents here, and is a favorite in the younger society circles.

Among the measures before congress in behalf of the organized militia of the country is one proposed by Representative Stevens of Texas, providing for the officers of the National Guard shall be transferred free of postage, and that officers of the National Guard shall be permitted to frank official mail matter the same as other officials of the government.

General Corbin showed his wisdom in giving up the barren office of adjutant-general when he asked and received the detail to command the department of the East. The inauguration of the general staff system stripped the office of adjutant-general of practically all of its duties excepting those of purely clerical and routine nature. Now it is proposed to abolish the office and incorporate the adjutant-general's department in the bureau of records and pensions of the war department. A bill to make this change has been submitted by the war department and introduced in the senate by the chairman of the repetitive military committees. The measure has the indorsement of Secretary Root, and there

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A little doubt that it will become a law. The bill provides that when the office of assistant-general shall become vacant the vacancy so created shall not be filled.

A visitor of rank, but who is expected to travel incognito, is coming to Washington. This is Mirah Aza Khan, the grand vizier of Persia. The grand vizier is making a tour of the world, his ultimate destination being Mecca, which shrine he will visit in accordance with Persia's ancient customs. It incumbent upon the faithful to make a pilgrimage there at least once during his lifetime. Beyond being cared for by the Persian minister here, there will be no official entertainment of the grand vizier in Washington.

Gen. Isaac Khan, who has represented Persia at Washington for the past four years, and who has been promoted to the post of minister to Austria, says he is a great admirer of American energy and progressiveness, and is desiring to stay here as he has endeavored to cultivate closer trade relations between the United States and Persia. He has impressed upon his people the advantage of using American inventions, and Persia is rapidly adopting modern implements of agriculture, and is dealing extensively in American products. He says he believes the day is not far distant when trolley cars and electric lights will be in use in Persia. General Khan's brother, Mirza, now in Calcutta, it is expected, will succeed to the post here.

Dr. Herran, who has had charge of Colombian affairs here, takes back with him to his own country a big stack of letters, the writers of which have made application to enlist in the Colombian forces in the event of war between Colombia and Panama. These letters are the main from "soldiers of fortune," and the majority of them come from Canadians, although quite a number are written by Germans. Some of the letters are written by men who have been officers in the German army, and will not enlist unless they are given posts of importance. German endorsement of Colombia is accounted for by the fact that a large percentage of the foreign residents there are Germans, and that the Colombian army is organized and drilled under German methods. The offer of the Canadians to enlist is taken as an indication that the Panama policy of the United States is not regarded upon with favor by our Northern neighbors.

The French government owns a large lot in Washington, purchased two years ago for the amount of \$100,000, intended for the location of an embassy building. It was expected that the French national assembly would make provision for the erection of a building on this lot during the recent session, but no appropriation was made and the matter will not be taken up another year. In anticipation, however, of building a fine embassy building in Washington, it is stated that the French government has designated one of the leading architects of France to prepare designs for the building.

The recent spat in the senate elevator between Senator Hoar and Editor Scott of Portland was because the distinguished senator from Massachusetts felt vexed because the editor had said in his paper that the late Senator Morrill of Vermont "never failed to pay funeral expenses." A Southern senator says that the incident brings to his mind the fact that many years ago when Alexander Stephens represented Georgia in the United States senate, a stranger saw him creeping along the floor of the senate chamber, and asked a cabman who the sickly, puny little man was. "That, sir," replied the cabby, "is the meanest man in Washington, the very meanest. For years and years we cabmen have been waiting for that man to die, and when we could get a job at a public funeral, but he just keeps moping around to save funeral expenses." Senator Stephens did not die in Washington, and the cabby never got the job that they looked for.

Mrs. Fred T. Dubois, wife of Senator Dubois of Idaho, is active in the work undertaken by the Congress of Mothers against Mormonism and polygamy. At a lunch recently given by Mrs. Dubois to the executive board of the Congress of Mothers the Smoot case was discussed. Mrs. Dubois said that her campaign against polygamy should be continued regardless of the action of the senate in the Smoot trial. The executive board will request the representatives of foreign powers in Washington to inform their governments at home that the senate is not in session, and that steps should be taken to prevent the immigration of women to Utah before first being made aware of the true state of affairs there. The annual meeting of the Mothers' Congress will be held in Chicago, May 10, 11, 12, and 13. The Mothers' Congress at the St. Louis exposition will be held May 25.

The recent publication of the list of eligible widowers and bachelors in the senate is bringing forth results. One of the unmarried senators has received the following letter from a Kansas lady, who puts the proposition of matrimony to him in a very business-like manner. She writes: "Dear Senator—I read you are one of the widowers of the senate, and would more than likely be one who would be next to get married. Now I write you this and ask you if you are not engaged to any lady? If you would consider myself as a candidate for that sacred trust? I am a widow of 36 years old, and should like a good, honest, hardy man, one whom I could love and trust. I find life too lonesome to live without a good man. You may think this very impertinent in me to write you, but I assure you I am no adventuress, only one who is so lonely and there are no eligible men in this town. If you answer this and give me a gleam of hope, I will give you assurance by a dear friend of mine, whose husband is senator from this state, that I am a good and pure woman. We wait with patience your answer, then I will tell you more of myself and who I am."

The senator's response to this tender missive was written by his secretary. It will not encourage the lonesome widow to any great extent.

JUDGE GRAY FOR PRESIDENT.

From the Forest Grove Times. The sentiment is growing among the Democrats of the country in favor of Judge Gray of New Jersey as their candidate for the presidency. He is an able, conservative and clean man, who has the respect of the entire country, irrespective of party, and no objection could be made to him such as would apply to Bryan, Cleveland, Gorman, Hearst or other prominent Democrats who have been mentioned. It is not likely that he could be elected, but his nomination by the Democratic party would be a manifestation of wisdom not always shown by that great organization.

Got Gray? Now He's Proud.

With an appropriation of \$50,000 made to fight him, the bull would consider that he ranks at least as a respectable adversary.

Not the Only Victim.

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Mr. Neulich—We'll have to discharge the butler. Neulich—Because why? Mr. Neulich—He's mistook me for my usual in the dark hallway last night and called me a name. Neulich—Well, he has my sympathy. I made the same mistake myself one night last week.