

THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED BY JOURNAL PUBLISHING CO. JNO. F. CARROLL

THE LOCAL OPTION LAW.

IT WILL NOT DO to accept the calm surface of events as indicating precisely what is going on with reference to the local option law...

THE CHIEF DEFECT IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

THE NECESSITY for the kindergarten has been proven by its results. Long before the youthful brain can reason or in any way intellectually appropriate lessons or arguments presented by written thought or word of mouth...

HASTENS SLOWLY.

Temporary Defeat Will Not Change Russia's Plans or Purpose. From the St. Paul Dispatch. The ability to wait is the most notable quality of the Muscovite nation...

SOUTHEASTERN OREGON.

Is Portland to Do Nothing to Get the Future Trade of That Region? From the Burns Times-Herald. Portland will lose the trade of this section in a very short time...

GAMBLING DID IT.

Gambling is the cause of it all. A glance at the list of the bad customers, complained of by the grocers of Pendleton, reveals the fact that about 99 per cent of them are workmen who are habitually gamblers...

Gen. Wood's Opponent Siles.

From the New York American. Mark Hanna being gone, it is predicted with confidence at Washington that Dr. Leonard Wood will be confirmed as major-general without trouble...

Oregon Sidelights

It can't rain more than 30 days in March, anyway. Rev. Smick is sick—Albany Democrat. Has he lost or mislaid the "m"?

Several Oregon towns have had a "boom" lately—in wine and water. A rabbit cannery in Goose Lake valley is mentioned as a needed industry.

A Roseburg young woman has sued her father for over \$200,000, which she claims he owes her for a line or two of Lear.

Jim Red-Road is in the Pendleton jail for being drunk and disorderly. He was traveling on his name, as well as his shape.

Bend Bulletin: To those who have occasion to travel the Prineville-Shaniko road at this season of the year our advice is, Don't.

Three McCall boys of Silver Lake, aggregate 19 feet 2 1/2 inches in height. They have plenty of room up there in which to keep growing.

It is supposed that an organized gang of safe-blowers infest Umatilla county, rendezvousing on the reservation, and the sheriff is trying to safely blow them into jail.

Certainly the big government transports went out from Portland to sea safely and easily; nobody said they wouldn't, except some malicious enemies of Portland.

Salem citizens subscribed for the local bond issue with alacrity, the whole \$20,000 being taken by home people in a few hours, an incident indicating that Salem is "all right."

Two Bend boys, while wading in the edge of a river, found two \$10 pieces on the bottom of the stream, and the money was claimed by Jim Overton as a part of some stolen lately from his house. Some thieves do have hard luck—and some boys are honest.

Land in the vicinity of the coal deposits in Gilliam county is bringing or held at fancy prices. One man at Twickenham has refused \$5,000 for 120 acres of his stock farm; also \$300 an acre for some other ground, holding it at \$1,000 per acre, which it may or may not be worth some day.

It is not every country girl who goes riding, even in the wilds of Clackamas county, who carries a gun, but it was fortunate that one did so the other day, when on a horse-back journey she and her companion were attacked by famished and desperate coyotes, one of which she killed and carried home as a trophy.

According to the San Francisco Chronicle, Edward H. Lenox, who as a boy of 16 drove the first ox team that ever reached the Columbia river from across the plains, has just celebrated his 77th birthday at his home in Oakland. He only lived in Oregon one year, till 1840, and so cannot well recall how many good things he has mislaid.

A little Corvallis girl, in whose parents' garden the violets are blooming, has received a letter from New York in which she writes: "How we envy you in your beautiful Willamette valley. Our entire county is covered with snow from four to 10 feet deep. We have not seen the ground since the first of November. The thermometer is now 12 degrees below zero."

Scio News: Never growl because a newspaper fails to give every scrap of news, so long as you take no wages to give the editor information. We have heard of readers who are much put out because no note was made of friends visiting them, or of social affairs, or of feasts that they had given, or of parties at night. The average newspaper man is not a medium or a mindreader. He wants the news and gets all he can, but if you shut up like a clam whenever he comes in sight you cannot expect to see much news regarding yourself or family in the paper.

THE POLITICAL BOSS. Analysis of a Party Machine and Its Operations. From the Chicago News. Senator Francis W. Parker of Chicago contributed to the March number of the "Review" a striking description of the methods of the political boss. That worthy is lauded by his followers and dupes, says Senator Parker, because he "does things." Yet what good thing does he do? The followers of the boss will tell you that he does a great deal of good. No; it is usually because he is willing to do what better men would scorn to countenance. As for securing good legislation, "it is a familiar trick of the boss when the press, the clubs, various interested organizations, and the public generally are clamoring for some reform to yield a part of it and then calmly ask credit for the measure as if he had originated it."

RUSSIAN DISLIKE OF JAPAN. From F. T. Jane's Book, "The Imperial Russian Navy." No Russian officer will surrender to a Japanese; the determination is almost universal to blow up the ship. I have a shrewd idea that orders exist to this effect. If they do not exist in black and white, they are tacitly understood. As for the Japanese, the ship that strikes is to be fired on by its consorts. There has been nothing in the war thus far to falsify these opinions. The Russian animosity toward the Japanese seems to be implacable, and the estimate of them very low. "We don't like the Japanese," said a Russian naval officer to me, "I know some that I like much; but taking them as a nation—as they are in good—too good; but they would never fight Russia fairly. They would invite us to a dinner and poison us, or something like that. Treacherous; you can't trust them."

Sudden Transitions. From the Chicago Journal. Unsophisticated cook—if you please, mum, the butcher says I shall get 5 per cent on all the orders I give him. What does that mean? Mistake! It means, Mary, that we shall have a new butcher.

SOME JAPANESE ADVANTAGES

From the Chicago Journal. If you should take a Japanese, shave off his little mustache, let his hair grow and braid a false queue into it and then dress him in Chinese garb, he would be a shrewd guesser as to how he could tell him from the original, simon pure John Chinaman.

More pertinent to the matter in hand, how many Russians do you suppose could find him out? The experiment has been made, not once or twice, but hundreds and thousands of times, and the result is known to a certainty—the white man can't detect the counterfeit.

This is one of the most important facts in the crisis that exists in the far east. It makes it possible for the Japanese to know all that the Russians are doing in Manchuria—how many troops are there, what their condition is, how well they are equipped and provisioned, where they are now, and what are their facilities for rapid concentration.

Never, probably, has one country on the verge of war been more thoroughly informed as to the circumstances and purposes of its potential enemy than is Japan with regard to Russia. Intelligence department is superb and in this case it is working under a peculiar advantage due to the similarity between the racial characteristics of her people and the people among whom the Russians are quartered.

The spy system has been provided when the war between China and Japan, which came on in 1894, was imminent, it was worked successfully against the Chinese themselves, who, of course, are very much more capable than the Russians of detecting a Japanese wolf in Chinese sheep's clothing.

At that time there was a Japanese physician practicing his profession in Shanghai who, as has since been disclosed, was the head of Japan's secret service in the flower kingdom. To him came daily reports of the great railroad, grapevine telegraph, and all sorts of ways that were as dark and tricky as that were as vain as those of the heathen Chinese himself.

He had under his direction an organization that extended to every source of military and industrial information. Merchants, professional men, laborers, household servants and Japs made to look like Chinamen were his agents.

That was a good school for Japanese spies. They learned their lesson well, now they are bettering in the instruction. The matter of disguise presents no difficulties. Even the false queue that it requires does not jeopardize its success, for false queues are as common among Chinamen as false hair is among their pale-faced sisters. If a Chinaman's hair is thinner shorter than the great mass of desirable, he supplements it with a switch, which is sometimes made of hair and sometimes of silk.

The rest is easy for a Jap. Chinese garments become silk as if he were to the manor born. He must be Chinese, of course, and if he speaks it with an accent, nobody is going to know it but his Chinese neighbors, and they, in the present state of their feelings

Equally throughout the Nevski Prospect, the dull aspect and dejected bearing of the Muscovite throng would tell him of a nation dimly conscious of its government, official corruption and administrative blunders, but not enlightened enough to manifest emotions much beyond those of ill-treated animals.

The Muscovite people find, I am afraid, few consolations for their lot in vodka than in any of the innocent pastimes which satisfy those whom we must for the moment style "its enemies." But you would see the citizens of Tokio discussing the tremendous incident of a nation dining on the streets, stimulant stronger than their pale tea and thin pipe, yielding its three whiffs and a half, round the go-ban board.

To the black and white counters upon it they will give as close attention as did the black officers, for they are enmeshed in a game of destruction on board those pedo boats which did not fear to run the gauntlet of fourteen ranged men of war.

Such a difference springs from deeper roots than any game at "gomoku" or "rabi"; it springs from the keen and quality of the Japanese mind which will have everything exact and finished after its kind quite perfectly, whether it be the little bit of ivory which they carve into a statuette, or the mighty armor clad which they guide into the battle line.

The arrogance displayed by Russian statesmen in their recent negotiations with those of Tokio has met with a re- buke too terrible and final not to make all feel that they are today for the situation of the case, simple. It is a consequence of an ignorance among the upper ranks in Russian society as characteristic as is the somber and superstitious temperament of the peasants and common people. They called the Japanese "yellow monkeys," and are only today learning what it means to go to war with a nation of 45,000,000, all as homogeneous as the rice grains in a sack, all educated, sober, loyal, patriotic and fearless, without impairing their drill, hopeless obedience of the drilled mujik, but with the glad devotion of a free and self-respecting race.

Even now the leaders of the war party in St. Petersburg and Moscow are counting upon the scores of groans and sighs when their generals and admirals can afford to sacrifice, instead of those principles of justice and peaceful progress upon which their opponents take a stand. How often it is doubted to which influence civilization we prefer to concede the future of China and the far east!

THE RURAL MAIL CARRIER. From the New York World. It is the announced intention of the house committee on postoffice and post roads to include in its report advocating the increase of rural mail carriers' salaries by \$10 a month a recommendation denying carriers the privilege of taking subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals.

This is a time-honored enterprise of the rural postmaster. By what process of discrimination it is withheld from the carrier, whose duties include him practically in the same category. It is due to the rigid additional income thus earned that the rural carrier service has been maintained at a higher grade of efficiency than the low salary gave reason to expect. The result of the changes recommended will be to impose a higher charge on the government without improvement of the service and not unlikely to its eventual deterioration.

The large increase of first-class mail on rural routes is found to have been in direct proportion to the larger amount of second-class mail matter delivered, the demand for which has had its source in the very activity on the carrier's part which it is sought to end.

The rural mail delivery is designed to diffuse thought and spread intelligence. It is not a mere "business" which is to be given up, but a means of culture.

Small Change

Even by burning her hotels and the stores, Chicago can't keep warm. Still the deadly automobile shows that it is no respecter of wealth. Judge George is fortunate in one respect; he never requires a shave.

He is an exceptionally timid or obedient boy whom the curfew bell scares. After all, a good many barbers, some of them say, are pleased that the law was knocked out.

If the stock raisers pull together, they ought to be able to worry the beef trust some, anyway. Not all employment agents are rascals, but it seems undeniable that some rascals go into that business.

How much city revenue will pay for the ruin of a home, a young man's suicide or a woman driven to destruction? President Roosevelt is said to regard himself as a man of destiny. And he has no forebodings of a St. Helena, either.

It is not "infant industries" that are chiefly "protected" these days. There is the gambling industry in this city, for example. On sober second thought the senate yielded to Senator Mitchell's plea to postpone the proposed shipping bill for 18 months, which is advantageous to Portland.

The Northern Pacific railroad manifests a disposition to deal generously with the "overland" settlers, but time alone will determine how far it will go in this direction. China seems unable to resist the temptation to mix up in the Russo-Japan war, which fact in turn tempts several European powers to aid Russia against the "yellow peril."

Ex-Senator Turner of Washington is to be boomed for the Democratic vice-presidential nomination. But are the state of Washington Democrats going to ignore Oregon's governor? What a good many eastern editors and officials demand, where will the practical side of forest reserves would fill a whole volume of that esteemed contemporary, the Congressional Record.

But if Mr. Pete Grant considerably returns money lost in his gambling house, on demand, where will his profits come in? Or does he bank on the supposition that most victims will refuse to "sueal"? It seldom rains enough in California, and when it does rain enough it doesn't stop, but keeps on downpouring until a disastrous flood results, such as now afflicts the Sacramento Valley. Taken all around, Oregon is hard to beat.

Even men sent to jail have a right to reasonably decent accommodations. Not all men are equally guilty. The city jail is a disgrace to this municipality, as everybody agrees. What is to be done about it? The gamblers' contributions are not sufficient to enable the city to get rid of its garbage properly, or to help appreciably to make good, durable streets, or build new school houses. But they do show forth Portland officials as men who trample upon laws they are sworn to enforce.

A bill has been introduced by Senator Gallinger to increase the president's pay to \$75,000 a year, and the salaries of other high officials including members of congress, about in proportion. Yet many men would be greatly pleased to take a salary cut, if it were not for these officials at the present salary.

Democrats of St. Louis, Mo., assembled in county convention, had so fierce a fight that one faction of them only escaped destruction by jumping out of a second-story window. It is suspected that these, though they were for Folk for governor, are not quite genuine Democrats, or they would not thus have taken to flight.

WHOLE SALES MAN'S NEW JOB. From the Chicago Record-Herald. Now your duty's clear before you, Uncle Sam, Dig! Take your jacket off and give the same a slam, Dig! The arguments are ended, all the orators are through; The question's been considered pro and con, it's up to you— Your instructions are specific, you know what you have to do— Dig! Get your pick and spade and scour off the rust— Dig! Now the question isn't "May you," but "You must"— Dig! You had a chance before you took the job, to understand Exactly what its size would be, just what you'd have on hand— Now get busy blasting blowdowns and upheaving dirt and sand— Dig!

EMIGRATION IN KLAMATH COUNTY. From the Klamath Falls Express. Ranch owners of Klamath and Tule Lake valleys are enthusiastic over the proposed irrigation canal which seems now certain of construction, and signatures to the contracts have been not a few since Monday. Messrs. Brown and Hawkins, the promoters of the canal, are at Merrill today, where they will remain for a few days. Yesterday afternoon they were at Lost river looking over the irrigation projects now under way on that stream. The building of the canal from the Upper Klamath into the Tule Lake valley is a gigantic undertaking. It will be a huge ditch with a capacity of 100,000 inches of water, sufficient to convert the whole expanse of sage lands to the south of us into a productive area, which means development and prosperity and plenty for the many that will come to build homes and identify themselves with us.

Favors Literary Fellows. From Printers' Ink. David Kaphokohankmokewona has been appointed postmaster at Kookia, Hawaiian Islands. This is but another illustration of the administration's preference for men of letters in official positions. Not in Receptive Mood. From the Chicago News. Admiral Togo has called five times at Fort Stevens today, where the Russians sent out word that they were at home, but not receiving.

IN ST. PETERSBURG AND TOKIO

Sir Edwin Arnold in Chicago Tribune. It would be an instructive experience for historians, for statesmen, for politicians, and for people generally, to pass at this moment of exultation in one capital, and of disappointment and depression in the other, down the main streets of Tokio and St. Petersburg. One is thinner shorter than the other, the other is thicker, which is sometimes made of hair and sometimes of silk.

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