

THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

THE PRESIDENT AND TRUSTS.

WALTER WELLMAN, writing to the Chicago Record-Herald, says:

'President Roosevelt refuses to be baited into 'running amuck' among the corporations and combinations of corporations which are supposed to be violating the Sherman anti-trust law as construed by the recent decision of the supreme court.

But what difference should it make to the president who makes the demand, or what their motives are? No doubt the Democrats in congress are playing politics, and that most of them are not sincere in their anti-trust professions.

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Nobody asks the president to "run amuck" and attack corporations generally; but the people do demand that he keep up the fight against the big criminal trusts.

THE LAW'S UNRELIABILITY.

THE LAW is a curiously mixed and uncertain thing, a creature of diverse and conflicting customs, statutes and decisions. In California a woman is on trial for the second time for murdering two women in Delaware by sending poisoned candy to them through the mails.

She was convicted the first time, but on some slender technicality the supreme court granted her a new trial.

CORRESPONDENTS IN JAPAN

Tokio Correspondence of Chicago News. These are the "rikisha" days of the Japanese-Russian war, at least as far as the foreign correspondents are concerned.

The Japanese government expressed to the different foreign legations the idea that Tokio was an ideal abiding place, especially just at this season.

The correspondents tell all the new arrivals that the Japanese spy system is almost perfect, and much better even than the Russian system.

Everybody has a revolver, a 10-pound can of tobacco, five pipes, two war maps of Manchuria, three of Korea, rubber boots, fur-lined boots and plain boots, riding spurs, riding whips, golfclubs, typewriters, fur gloves and waterproofs.

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Her attorneys attempted to prevent her trial in California on the ground that the murder was not committed in that state, nor yet in Delaware, the act being complete in neither state; but this point the court, rather strange to relate, overruled, so that if guilty she may possibly be convicted yet and punished.

But an Iowa woman accused of committing the same sort of crime cannot be brought to trial at all, the governor of that state not agreeing with the California court, holding that the crime was not committed in Iowa, where the poisoned package was mailed, and refusing to issue an order for her extradition.

This suggests, since poisoning at a distance has become quite fashionable, the desirability of legislation in all the states making it a crime both in the state where the poisoned package is mailed and that in which its victim resided.

THE BEGINNING OF GOOD STREETS.

THE STREETS of Portland could have had no severer test than that which they have been submitted to during the present season. It would be ridiculous to assert that they creditably withstood that test.

The weather has been such in Morrow county that farmers have been able to work all winter. And they're mostly the sort that did.

The Weston Justice of the Peace has had a case in his court for six months, and is thinking of inciting a disturbance or resigning.

According to a Southern Oregon paper "a very wet rain" has fallen up there. Strange to say, the 50-days' rain at Portland has also been wet.

Krebs Bros., large hog growers of Polk county, have purchased another 540-acre farm for \$32,000, and will plant 500 acres of hops. There's lots of money these times in Oregon hops.

The remarkable strides made last year in the erection of new business blocks and handsome residences and enlargement of factories in Baker City promise to be outdone this season in every direction, says the Democrat.

Sixty men working in the E. & E. mine have struck because one of them had been discharged because he refused to board at the company's boarding house, and the company has taken out its pumps and assumed a lockout position. There may be similar trouble at the North Pole mine.

The Corvallis Times has an article three-quarters of a column long, in elaboration of the initial statement that "Jesse Spencer's barber shop is again suffering from an invasion of cock-roaches from the old restaurant building, and it seems unlikely that there is enough grease and phosphorus in the town to arrest the infux."

Now is the time when the "country" editor can wreak his vengeance. The Tillamook Herald remarks: "Quite strange that people who haven't spoken to the editor for two years, much less noticed that we were in the community, are now seeking favor. Politics make strange people. It is quite noticeable that they want us to toot their horn. We'll toot when the time comes."

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The Sheridan board of trade made use last week of the Sheridan Sun to present to the public some facts about that town and the surrounding country, which is very productive. Sheridan has a population of about 1,000 people.

One of the largest irrigation enterprises in Malheur county is now under way, 18 miles above Ontario, on the Owyhee river, where a dam 100 feet high will be built across the canyon of the Owyhee, and a reservoir formed sufficient to irrigate 60,000 acres of desert land below.

The attitude of the war office is also disquieting. One morning the official gazette published the story that all necessary field equipment for the campaign in the tropics. Everybody scuttled out and began laying in a tropical kit.

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Oregon Sidelights

Pendleton is to vote on \$60,000 bonds to build three new schoolhouses.

Beet seeding near Echo and Foster has begun. About 150 acres will be planted.

Many home-seekers are in and around Sheridan, Yamhill county. Good region for them.

The Agricultural college at Corvallis is doing good work; turnout but just weak a porker weighing 685 pounds.

How lonesome it would feel in Tillamook if it should happen to quit raining just for one day, grows the Headlight.

What queer officials they have up in Linn county. The Brownsville Times says all of them are candidates for re-nomination.

Of a man announcing himself as a candidate for sheriff, the Malheur Gazette says his name speaks volumes. But can it "talk"?

The Malheur Gazette says the story that the late "Joe Monaghan" was Kate Bender under a "wild dream." Or else a third-rate fake.

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PARKER'S FRIENDS' CLAIMS.

Albany Dispatch to New York Herald.

Judge Alton B. Parker's nomination for the presidency by the Democratic convention was regarded by his friends as practically assured. They predict it with a confidence based upon an intimate knowledge of the Democratic situation in every state in the union.

The Democratic party has an opportunity, "one of the foremost of the Parker managers said today. "I know that the party has shown itself to be capable of almost anything, but I do not think that it will commit the folly of throwing this man away."

It is asserted by his friends with the utmost emphasis that Judge Parker is wholly unpugged to any man. Not even David B. Hill, who is in full charge of the campaign on his behalf, has a promise from him of any kind or would ask for any pledge. He would be a bold man who would dare to make such a suggestion to Judge Parker face to face.

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convention. It was understood at the time that this movement really covered the candidacy of Roosevelt P. Flower, and that Flower was regarded by his friends as practically assured.

Mr. Hill is recalling his experience to all Democrats to enforce his contention that the most important thing to be done is to instruct the New York delegation, which will be elected entirely by the state convention, for Judge Parker.

Nothing will be done by the Parker men in the direction of getting delegates for him outside the state, and the New York state convention has been held. That this will declare for Judge Parker by a great majority is now regarded as a foregone conclusion.

The opposition of Tammany hall to the Parker boom was a surprise to his friends. They do not even now understand it, unless it is based upon some sentimentality which is not shared as a condition of his support of the Tammany ticket in the last campaign.

Parker managers feel that their real danger lies in the movement for Mr. Hearst and the movement controlled by Mr. Bryan. The Hearst boom they regard as a labor movement of ultra-socialistic character, and they are apprehensive that it may gain sufficient strength to control a third of the convention, in combination with the Bryan boom.

Senator Gorman's candidacy is viewed with favor by the Parker men because it serves to hold in line for him some of the southern states where the Hearst boom might make headway were he not in the field.

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Small Change

Looks like we were going to have a hard winter.

If the Russian fleet is lost, it is probably glad of it.

It is about time that lamb was putting in an appearance.

Almanac item: About this time look out for flood predictions.

Still there is a chance for spring to put in an appearance by Easter.

Ireland isn't a nation yet, but it is having more fun with the British politicians than if it were.

The report that the czar is going to the front doesn't cause the least bit of a panic among the Japs.

The most successful modists is the one who can invent styles as different from last year's as possible.

Sheriff Storey is not the first man by many to whom political promises have been made only to be broken.

It is always some person with a fat income who figures out how a person can live nicely on 17 cents a day.

If polygamy was been abolished in Sulu, what is going to be done for the sultan to keep him from going on the warpath?

One good word about a deserving person while he is alive is worth more to him than a long eulogy about him after he is dead.

The alleged public land reform bill that passed the senate is said to have been only a make-believe performance, it having been arranged beforehand that it should not pass the house. This is a stand-pat congress against reforming anything.

The bitter rivalry between Senators Foraker and Dick has already resulted in a fierce fist fight in a Republican convention at Cleveland. The late Senator Hanna was stout enough to keep the ambitious Foraker behind him, but the latter will not tamely follow in the trail of young Dick.

The newspapers, regardless of politics, are unanimous in the opinion that the paper of the day is not and several kinds of a robber—Salem Journal. But a good many papers are mourning this year about the iniquitous tariff that makes the exactions of the trust possible or easy.

'Een Websters do now complain About the wet and weary rain. Of balmy spring a balmy bane Is this continuous, cheerless rain. The birds to fly away are fain. So nests won't soak and fill with rain. The farmer wants to plant his grain. The heavens deluge it with rain. Impassable is many a lane Because of this unceasing rain. If it keeps on the raging main Will roar that it wants no more rain. As if the earth had Macbeth's stain. The heavens deluge it with rain. No travel's safe by wheel or train Because of fifty days of rain. 'Een pious prayers seem all in vain To check the falling of the rain. Of patter on roof and pane We've had enough with all this rain. 'Tis rhyme you cause it rains pain. But lay the blame all on the rain. 'N. B.—This is a spring poem. If it doesn't drive old Pluvius out of business nothing will.

From the Corvallis Times. "No," said Henry Dunn to the man who was sounding him on the rural telephone question, "I think I don't want any telephone connections at my farm. When I talk to a man I like to see how he bats his eyes—I know from the way he does that whether he is telling the truth or not. And if in the conversation, I should call him a liar I should wish to afford him the only satisfaction a weakling congressman can give—a great objection to rural phones is that they cut out a good many of a fellow's excuses for going to town. Rural mail delivery operates the same way, if anything more so. No, I would rather have a good road and if I wanted anything in town I would go after it. That's what I would have to do in the long run anyway."

From the St. Paul Dispatch. The more attention is given to this smoky and greasy business of the purely administrative work of the postal department, the clearer it becomes that this is another abuse of functions to which people and congressmen had become so accustomed that they were apt to be lulled as to regard it as perfectly legitimate and proper, but one which is not only an invasion of a distinct branch of government, but a practice whose tendency is to encourage corruption.

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