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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

NO IMPEDIMENT TO JAPANESE CONSIGNMENTS.

WITH the Vladivostok squadron scattered and Russia practically driven from the sea, the question of what constitutes contraband of war suddenly loses a good deal of its interest...

Such being the case, one of the immediate effects of the news should be that the Portland & Asiatic company, now that it finds itself in a position to safely do business...

PROPOSED FOREST RESERVES ABANDONED.

THE RESTORATION of a large amount of public lands in northeastern Oregon that had been withdrawn for forest reserve purposes...

It is conceded on all hands that the government's forest reserve policy is a good one, if pursued with moderation, care, good judgment, and not in the interest of railroad corporations and landgrabbers...

However, let us say no more at present about this phase of the subject, and congratulate ourselves upon either a change of heart, or an enlightenment of the head in the forestry bureau of the interior department at Washington...

By the way, it is stated that this action was taken at the urgent representation and forceful pleas of Governor Chamberlain. It will be remembered that during the campaign two years ago last spring the Portland morning paper predicted various terrible and humiliating consequences to the people of Oregon...

AN INSUFFICIENT EXPLANATION.

THE GENERAL MANAGER of the Denver & Rio Grande railroad, on which, in Colorado, the terrible accident, resulting in the death of scores of persons, occurred last week, says that the company is in no way responsible for the wreck...

"It was one of those unavoidable accidents which is liable to occur on any road when a flood of that kind which washed out our bridge occurs."

ROOSEVELT NO SAN JUAN HERO.

Colonel Bacon Says Rough Rider Chief Was Not Even Within Sight.

Col. Alexander S. Bacon, former Republican member of assembly from Kings, West Point graduate, lawyer and military writer, attacks President Roosevelt under the title: "Do the American People Love a Woolly Horse?"

The colonel, who until recently has uniformly supported Republican candidates for office, declares the battle of San Juan to have been a "gold brick," the purpose being to show that Roosevelt "worked" that battle for more glory than Bacon believes he is entitled to.

Referring to the battle of San Juan on July 1, 1898, Colonel Bacon says: "Having examined, under oath, about one hundred participants in the San Juan engagement and having in my possession the stenographer's transcript of their testimony, I am prepared to say that Colonel Roosevelt was not in a position to see the Spaniards on July 1, 1898."

of the company's bridge superintendent, and was as safe as any bridge on the Denver & Rio Grande, or any other road; and that "no bridge could have withstood the torrent that destroyed this one."

Then people should not travel on railroads that cross streams on bridges, and especially on the Denver & Rio Grande, whose bridges are all as likely to be swept away at any time as this one was, except such travel is imperatively necessary; and then travelers should make their wills, say their prayers, bid a sorrowful adieu to their families—leaving them at home—and get their lives well insured, before starting.

Why did not the railroad officials know about the torrent before recklessly plunging into it? Should not a train full of passengers have been halted at such a dangerous place? If it is impossible to build bridges that will withstand torrents, should not the railroad company invariably ascertain whether the bridge is there, and supported, whenever a torrent is raging, if not on every approach to a bridge of this character? And can no bridge be constructed by a great railway company that will withstand the assault of a washed-out county bridge; and if so, is not this company, knowing that the irresistible county bridge was above, have used extraordinary precautions at this place and time?

These are some questions which will be put to the general manager of the Denver & Rio Grande, and they will not be fully and satisfactorily answered by his statement.

The fact is that railroads are too reckless of the lives of passengers in this country. Most of the "unavoidable accidents" are on the contrary avoidable accidents.

WHY THEY WANT THE PORTAGE ROAD.

SUPPOSE we say that the distance from Lewiston to Riparia is 80 miles, and the distance from Riparia to Portland is 284 miles, making in all 364, with a water level and no mountain grades. And suppose we say that the distance from Lewiston to Marshall Junction on the Northern Pacific is 138 miles, and from Marshall Junction to Tacoma is 376, both with very heavy grades, a total of 514 miles. These two sets of facts placed side by side demonstrate beyond the possibility of doubt that all the natural advantages in reaching Portland are with the O. R. & N., as against its northern competitor. Yet the rates in one direction are precisely the same as the rates in the other.

Under such circumstances as these, the people of the interior of the state argue that if the natural impediments for the eight and a half miles below Celilo were removed, traffic would naturally flow by the water level route. When it is said that a portage road there can accomplish nothing and that the only hope of relief would come from a ship canal, they say that the canal takes so long to build the expected relief could not come for years. Let it be built, of course, but let something else be done in the meantime. While a portage road seems an insignificant factor in the enterprise and while it is claimed for it that it will accomplish none of the things expected of it, they say they are willing to take that chance. If it will do nothing, then there is no good reason why anybody should be opposed to it. On the other hand, they recall that when the little portage road, five-eighths of a mile in length, was built around the cascades two results followed, one immediately and the other speedily. First, freight rates were at once reduced, and second, the appropriations for the locks came with such regularity that the work was soon finished. And, furthermore, the result of it all was that instead of anybody's business being hurt by it, traffic was increased all along the line, thus demonstrating that the work really helped everybody interested, including the railroads.

WEST POINT CADETS FOR THE FAIR.

A VERY ATTRACTIVE FEATURE to most expositions has been the encampment of Federal and state troops. But the most attractive of all military features at any of the recent expositions has been the encampment of the West Point cadets. They have proven of extraordinary interest to every visitor. If they have been secured by other expositions it is only reasonable to suppose that they can be secured for the Portland fair. If they can be, nothing should be left undone to secure as early as possible the necessary official permission so that they may be assigned to come here next summer.

So far as the cadets themselves are concerned, no better trip could possibly be made. Relatively few of them have crossed the continent. Most of them have been brought up under eastern traditions and therefore have little first hand knowledge of the great country lying west of the Alleghenies and the Rockies. A trip across the continent would give them their first adequate idea of the great country for whose defense they are being trained. It would prove to them not only a matter of education but a lesson in patriotism such as they could not otherwise secure. They would return with a better appreciation of the great country which stretches from ocean to ocean and which with the reawakening in the orient will speedily and enormously grow in importance.

JAPAN'S REMARKABLE SUCCESS.

From the Kansas City Star. The war in the far east moves on, and every day adds to the amazement of the world that success should almost continuously attend the banner of the Japanese. There has not been a single decisive victory on the Russian side. Every point gained by the Japanese has been comparatively inconsequential and of no permanent value. On the other hand, the Japanese move forward against the enemy, taking one strong position after another, and more and more confining and hedging about the forces of Kuropatkin, cutting off lines of communication and restricting the avenues of escape. The most sanguine Japanese sympathizer would scarcely have outlined a war program so favorable to the cause of his preference. The Japanese losses have been heavy in some instances, but in every such instance the gains, from the war standpoint, have been substantial.

HUNDRED THOUSAND STRIKERS.

From Public Opinion. One hundred thousand is not an excessive estimate of the number of men now idle in various parts of the country as a consequence of strikes. The strike in the packing industry involves somewhere near half this number, the number of striking cotton mill operatives increases the total to 75,000, and a dozen or more labor disputes have thrown at least 25,000 employees out of work in other industries.

POSSIBLY PROHIBITION.

From the Weston Leader. There are those in Weston who voted against the local option law and who oppose it from principle, not for profit, who may vote for Prohibition this fall. Local conditions here may justify this change of base. Those who condemn the council for its commendable efforts in the direction of decency and morality, are making Prohibition voters.

MAN CHARGED.

From the Chicago Tribune. "I see old Hunkle is taking an interest in politics this year. What has got into him?" "He says this will probably be the only opportunity in a lifetime to vote without helping to boost some Ohio man."

Small Change

Tolstol sent no congratulations. Parker has already had to begin to deny reports. The Russian naval commanders are improving—can run faster. The old over-confidence scare will be duly worked by the campaign fat-friers, as usual. The industry of slaughtering railway passengers is never tied up by a strike or otherwise. Are Mr. Bryan's feelings about Judge Parker's speech of acceptance too deep for utterance? The meeting of the mining congress will be another big event for Portland, and for the fair.

It must take an enthusiastic evangelist to keep up revival meetings at this time of year.

The farmer can sell his wheat at a good, profitable price, whether it is contraband or not.

The car feels so good over that boy that he may change his opinion on the contraband subject.

Anti-gambling reform has not progressed so far yet to stop all betting on horse races.

Yet all the red-headed men may not vote for Parker. Roosevelt's hair is not of an Ethiopian hue.

Secretary Morton may have to invite Abdul Hamid over to ride on an American Sunday excursion train.

Some of those stockyard strikers strike in entirely the wrong way: that is when they assault other men.

When you hear talk about men over 50 being no good any longer, point to Candidate Davis and his pocketbook.

Still, some mothers would rather her wandering boy should be elsewhere than in a model consecrated saloon.

Why, certainly, Portland is a good mining town—at least there are lots of gold and silver—and brass, too—in it.

If that infant Alexis knew what a life he was born to, if he lives to grow up, he might take an overdose of paregoric.

The inhabitants of Fort Arthur are also among the innocent bystanders who cannot take themselves off out of danger.

Great Britain says it will retire from Tibet, but this is supposed to be said in a Muscovite sense—will retire if driven out.

The old men and the young women and girls seem to be trying to furnish the newspapers with sensational stories these days.

Doubtless the carline is a happier woman than she has been in many years, but there are plenty of happier women than she.

President Roosevelt will make no campaign speeches. But this may not be proof that he thinks he has already talked too much.

It is impossible to render a complete opinion on Bishop Potter's model saloon as long as there is no description of the free lunch furnished.

Abdul Hamid must take into consideration that this is a campaign year over here, and the administration is running for re-election.

The advent of young Alexis was undoubtedly a great event, but the event may not change future history as much as the car imagines.

The betting in Wall street is 10 to 7 in Roosevelt's favor. But it is very early in the campaign yet, and many subscriptions are still to be obtained.

He is only Mr. Parker now, though with most persons a man once a judge is always "Judge." But it is very early in the campaign yet, and many subscriptions are still to be obtained.

Noting the report of so many missing people from Portland lately, the Corvallis Times asks: "Why not get small boys to look under the houses?" But none of these missing people were Joshua or apostles.

Near Casadero are seven prune orchards, five being owned by democrats or populists, while two are the property of republicans. The two who will yield a bountiful crop, while the other five will yield very little, thus furnishing another convincing proof of republican prosperity and democratic disaster.

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A SOUTHERN OREGON HERO.

From the Glendale News. A boy who was employed at one of the mines on Mt. Reuben, while in the powder house that contained 1,250 pounds of dynamite, dropped a lighted candle into an open box of the explosive on Wednesday evening. Horrified at the probable consequences, the boy rushed out of the magazine, shouting "Fire in the powder house!"

Scared Fred Gaedecke ran to the scene, where he found fire burning in the awkward packing around an open box of dynamite. He tried to put out the blaze with his bare hands, but was unable to do so; then he ran to the engine room, got a pail of water, returned to the powder magazine and subdued the flames, which by that time were wrapping themselves about the dynamite. When at the engine room he was cautioned not to go back to the powder house or he would be "blown to pieces."

"If I don't go back there and put out that fire every man on this mountain will be blown to pieces within a minute," was his reply. He went, and by that act of heroism he doubtless saved the life or averted the maiming of every man at the mine, and the destruction of



August 18.—In the morning some men were sent to examine the cause of a large snake from the northwest, which seemed to indicate that some Indians were near; but they found that a small party, who had lately passed that way had left some trees burning, and that the wind from that quarter blew the smoke directly toward us. Our camp lies about three miles northeast from the old Maha village, and is in latitude 43 degrees 51 minutes, and longitude 124 degrees 41 minutes. The accounts we have had of the effects

FRENCH LICK GAMBLING RESORT

From the Chicago Record-Herald. French Lick Springs, Ind.—Now that Thomas Taggart, president of the French Lick Springs hotel company, has become a national character politically, national attention is being directed to the miniature Monte Carlo that is being conducted here on the grounds and under the protection of the hotel company.

The casino here and in West Baden are the two "widest open" gambling houses in the state. They are also the most elaborately equipped and elegantly appointed places in the middle west. In the French Lick resort he leads. Owing to the absolute immunity from molestation by the authorities, the promoters and managers of the French Lick casino have been enabled with safety to invest a large sum in sumptuous appointments. Few gambling adjuncts of many European spas are more handsomely or expensively furnished than the gambling houses here.

When the present company was organized Mr. Taggart was chosen president and is the general manager of the property. His selection was prompted by his wide personal popularity in Indiana and the middle west. Although he may be classed as a professional politician he developed business traits of a high order.

The building used as a gambling house was formerly a bottling house, but a new bottling house was built in the rear of the hotel and the old one converted into a building for the gambling house. It is a large frame building, about 200 feet long by the hotel. The lower story is devoted to bowling, billiards and slot machines.

The gambling house proper occupies the second story of the building. It is under the direction of A. H. Brown, the lessee of the building. Brown is a gambler who came from Michigan and who has a monopoly of all the gambling in French Lick. A wide piazza extends across the entire front of the building on both floors. Just inside this on the second floor is a reception and lounging room, also extending across the building. The space in the rear of the building corresponding with the reception-room in the front part is divided into semi-private club-rooms for card games. The entire space between the building and the entrance is a long narrow room, the one on the right as the building is entered being devoted to stocks and grain and the horse and dog track.

A Chicago firm maintains the brokerage office and one-half of one wall is occupied by the quotations blackboard. Next to this blackboard is the one used for race betting.

When the Western Union Telegraph company some months ago abolished its race betting service the pool-room here was abandoned until special service could be secured. Arrangements for this service are now being made and the files of "dope" are being kept up-to-date in anticipation of the reopening. In the other large rooms are the billiard tables, roulette, the "horse" game and others of a similar kind. The apparatus or layout are of the most expensive make. The rooms are all finished in mahogany and the furniture is of the most artistic upholstery in leather. The carpets are of deep velvet and the hangings rich in texture. No detail of complete and sumptuous appointments is omitted from the casino.

Thomas Taggart, who largely directs the policy of the company, and who is president, is known in his state as a "liberal" man in such matters as gambling. During his three administrations as mayor of Indianapolis he kept the gambling houses open, and he is reported to have an open fight with them on entering into any treaty with them. Under his administration gambling rooms were operated in Indianapolis, but they were suppressed soon after the present city administration took the reins.

There are good men for every emergency. Gaedecke was tried and found not wanting. From the World's Fair Bulletin. John A. Shields, the little man who holds a big world's record by virtue of his speed performance upon the typewriter, continues to be an attraction at a typewriter in the Palace of Liberal Arts at the world's fair. Mr. Shields, who is home in Holton, Kan., won the title of world's champion typewriter by writing 2304 words in 41 seconds.

Since coming to the exposition his friends have continually urged him to try to exceed even this speed, and in a recent trial he succeeded in writing 248 words or 1,943 letters, in 41 seconds. The test matter which he wrote contained every character upon the machine, and also contained the letters of the alphabet in regular order. In making the record Mr. Shields was blindfolded, writing entirely from memory.

The trial was witnessed by a committee of St. Louis men connected with the typewriter trade.

Oregon Sidelights

Southern Oregon apple crops are excellent. Farm hands are very scarce around Silver Lake. Still it can be asserted that crops never fail in Oregon.

A new box and shock factory at North Bend will employ 100 men.

The experiment of making brick out of Coos bay sand is succeeding.

A Unatilla county man has sued a neighbor for \$300 for killing the farmer's dog.

Albany may also have a linen factory, a reminder of the time when it had a flax mill.

The best manner of packing apples is a problem being considered in the Hood River valley.

A Ferndale man killed a bear whose hide weighed 30 pounds. He did not "hurt" the bear.

Eight residents of Drain are erecting substantial houses, and several others contemplate doing so.

Chicago capitalists who have been looking over Harney county are pleased with it and may return.

The Dallas Itemiser is ably urging the building of roads into the big timber districts of Folk county.

A fine waterworks plant to supply St. Helens and Houlton with water is in course of rapid construction.

A fish ladder will be constructed at Kelleher City, so that salmon can ascend to the headwaters of Billy creek.

A Cottage Grove man while hunting deer, came upon a family of wildcats, and by quick action shot both the adult cats.

A forest fire that came near being destructive was started in Hood River valley by persons burning a yellow jacket's nest.

It is estimated that there are 5,000 campers along the Tillamook beaches, from Nehalem to Ocean Park, about 700 being at Netarts.

The Woodburn school district is broke, not having money to pay interest due on bonds, but will work out of its financial difficulty, of course.

A Gervais saloon man has been sued for \$700, double the amount that a Woodburn youth claims to have lost gambling in the saloon.

An irrigation meeting at Ontario was attended by over 600 people, and a water works association was formed. They are live folk up there.

Jackson county people are indignant over the fish law, which they say operates to prevent salmon from getting up Rogue river into that county.

An Albany man was nearly choked to death on small pieces of beef, yet it does not necessarily follow that beef up there is tougher than elsewhere.

Woodburn is afflicted with a firebug, and the Independent suggests that if he is caught he will be summarily disposed of without recourse to the courts.

Arlington is not enthusiastic over the proposed railroad that town to Condon, but it may not be injured as much as some imagine, or indeed, in the end, at all.

A new townsite was laid out on the John Day river one moonlight night, lately. As the mercury has been up to 120 in the shade there it is supposed that the new town will be a hot one in the future.

Arrangements have been completed for an automobile line from Croaskeys to Prineville and Bend, and construction of an eight-foot track will begin at once. The line will be in operation within ninety days.

A small 10-year-old boy who was caught robbing a residence at Hillsboro was nearly shoved to death by being temporarily shoved into an iron cage of the county jail, and he may be good hereafter in consequence.

According to the Drain Nonpareil, the number of graduates from the normal school there for the past 11 years have been as follows: 1884, 39; 1885, 33; 1886, 16; 1887, 11; 1888, 23; 1889, 12; 1890, 4; 1891, 4; 1892, 1; 1893, 2. Which figures, if correct, suggest that the state is not getting its money's worth up there.

EXTREMES OF STRIKE FOLLY.

From the New York Globe. The two rival organizations of painters, whose quarrel brought about the latest subway strike, have now joined hands to extend the strike not only to all branches of work in the subway, but to the entire building trade of the city. It will be remembered that one of these organizations was under formal agreement with the subway contractors to do the painting on the structures. A rival organization demanded half the work. Mr. McDonald refused the demand in the interest of the organization holding the contract. Then the rival organization ordered a strike, and now the organization whose interest Mr. McDonald was upholding joins with its rival against him, and unite with it in an effort to arrest all the building operations in the city.

"This comes very close to sheer lunacy. Luckily the subway work is so nearly completed that all that remains to be done can be accomplished without the aid of the striking unions. But could there be greater folly than to throw thousands of men out of employment indefinitely for such a reason as this? It seems incredible that the final step in this strike should be taken today as threatened."

FROM PURGATORY TO PARADISE.

From the Corvallis Gazette. Casper Durst, an old resident of this county, who left here and went to live in Oklahoma, is now arranging to return with his family to old Benton. Mr. Durst expects to leave Oklahoma about the 15th of this month, and will make a short visit to his parents' home in Crabtree, while looking up a location in this county. In speaking of his present home, Mr. Durst says: "We can't express our joy of being able to come back to Oregon again after living here in Oklahoma a year. We did not have rain from the 30th day of October till the 26th day of April, and heavy winds all winter, or rather sand-storms. If a great many of those dissatisfied people in Oregon could live through one such winter here, they would go back to Oregon satisfied."