

THE OREGON SUNDAY JOURNAL

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RAILROAD MERGERS VS. LOCAL INTERESTS

IT IS CERTAIN with the development of the consolidation idea in railroads and the other idea that a certain group of railroads share a community of interest in certain territory into which not all of them even penetrate, that the relation of the people of various sections to these railroads have undergone a radical change.

That problem they must meet; it must be solved along new lines. The principle in it is involved in the proposition that the section cannot afford to be eliminated through any railroad expediency. What was good for these sections is still good for them; they cannot afford to be made a simple convenience.

OREGON'S FINE SOLDIERLY RECORD

WHILE attending the Northwest military maneuvers of militia and regular soldiers this year, the British military attaché said that the Oregon troops were the best guard organization he had seen in the country.

To the faithful work done year in and year out by a relatively few of the state's citizens must be ascribed credit for military honors won by Oregon. Military qualifications are implied by a constitution seeking a nation of peaceful workers, and this duty is emphasized in the laws creating a guard organization.

SUNDAY OPENING OF THE FAIR

THE QUESTION of opening the Lewis and Clark fair of Sundays still remains to be definitely settled. There are those who assert rather vehemently that the fair should be thrown wide open, that its machinery should be kept in motion and that its amusement features should be quite as conspicuously maintained as its educational features.

It might be well for all concerned to face this question frankly and settle it at once. Largely it is a matter of common sense. Sabbatarianism would believe in closing it tight; extremists in other directions would believe in throwing everything open.

With this as a starting point we conceive it to be a duty which we owe all our visitors, which indeed we owe our own people who have contributed so liberally to the enterprise, to throw open the fair on Sundays.

that point there should be no difference of opinion—the grounds should be kept open. How much further should we go? The Journal has consistently held that for the educational value of the exhibits, for the benefit of that largest of all classes of our citizens, who are employed every day during the week and are forced to look to Sunday for the recreation and instruction which the fair will afford the buildings should be thrown open for their inspection.

All of this is a matter which involves the whole public and all the classes of people who contributed to the enterprise. So far as it is possible there should be a decent respect for all views and they should be given every consideration consistent with the greatest good to the greatest number and a proper regard for the practical success of the fair itself.

SNEAKING IN CHARTER AMENDMENTS

PORTLAND'S CITY CHARTER is the fruit of much and months of careful study by the body of free-bitter experience, of protracted public discussion holders who were entrusted with the task of framing it.

Professional politicians have no use for an ideal form of government. Such a government gives little opportunity for their peculiar activities. Grafting, nepotism, favoritism and a score of kindred evils incident to practical politics find scanty foothold under a government that is conducted upon strict business principles and in the interest of the public.

Both of these expected results have been realized. The charter had been in force for scarcely a year when a scheme was hatched by the professional politicians which, if successful, would have thrown down one of the chief bulwarks erected by the people against machine rule in municipal affairs.

Six months have elapsed and the champion of the spoils-hunters is now sneaking back to another stealthy attack upon the shallow pretext that the city needs additional revenue the Oregonian is again advocating legislative revision of the charter. No man of good sense can be deceived by a disguise so flimsy, for it is patent that the real object of the suggestion is only to pave the way for another onslaught by the foes of honest government.

INSIDE AND OUTSIDE VIEW OF NEW YORK

REV. DR. NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS, pastor of Plymouth church, Brooklyn, in the course of an anniversary sermon, declared that the men of the west were the true moulders of the nation's destiny.

Dr. Hillis has had the incomparable advantage of having traveled over and seen the country. He knows it in all parts as few Americans do. He has made it part of his purpose in life to know his own country. Year after year he has kept at it so that now when he pronounces a judgment it is one worthy of attention.

The parents owe their offspring proper care and protection from all terrible influences of the neighborhood. It is after they have reached their manhood and womanhood, if their parents have done what they could to rear them properly and equip them for life's battles, that the obligation

on the face of the earth like New York. Measuring himself by himself he has risen to exalted proportions in his own estimation. He looks up at the tall buildings by which he is surrounded and at the teeming masses of humanity pouring down the deep canyons which he calls streets, and he readily concludes that everything he sees is due to his own individual efforts.

It is well once in a while to hold the mirror up to such as these and tell them some of the homely, blunt truths which Dr. Hillis expounded in this anniversary sermon. The people of all the country are proud of New York. They love to go there and enjoy the many delights which it presents. But they do not confuse cause with effect.

THE SECRET OF NATIONAL GREATNESS

WHAT is the secret of national vigor, that mystic influence that gives predominance over the world, and what the origin of decay? Japan's brilliant achievements in peace and war arrests all attention now and causes us again to probe the dark abyss whence comes racial supremacy and into which recedes the new-born strength in the prime of enjoyment.

So long did the Mediterranean cradle national glory that it was regarded the peculiar embodiment of greatness. The Medes and Persians were in fact children of the inland sea. Carthage, Athens and Rome were its proudest progeny, but surely as it rocked infant strength to mighty achievement it lulled the active arm to the lethargy of decay.

Inhumanity to Children

(By Mrs. John A. Logan. Copyright, 1904, by W. B. Hearst.)

THERE is a class of children who are deserving of the sympathy who never seem to have attracted the attention of any one who felt at liberty to interfere for their protection.

I allude to the children on the farms all over the United States. Many whose parents are well to do are really beasts of burden. They are made to toil early and late when they are little more than babes.

With bare feet and scarcely enough clothes to cover them, they are in the sun all day long in the heat of summer, and with insufficient clothing they brave the storms of winter.

The girls fare no better. They have to help their mothers with the churning, cooking, cleaning, and, worst of all, must take care of the children, some little children being compelled to amuse and look after their baby brothers and sisters when they are only babies themselves.

Too many men and women act on the hypothesis that their children owe them continued service until they reach their majority; that children should be grateful for having been born into the world, when, as a matter of fact, they are under no obligation for their being.

and fell. Mediterranean glory has always meant early eclipses, for the glory that is faded from obscurity has been back again through the mists of ages. Why should such devoted motherhood until the spirit of death?

From the north have come conquering hordes, great at least in feats of strength and fortitude. China, the conquered Flower Kingdom, contented with itself and indifferent to all the world, found the seas were before the fierce bands of Mongols and Tartars.

Justice vs. Peace

(By Julia Ward Howe. Copyright, 1904, by W. B. Hearst.)

AT the time of the Franco-Prussian war, 32 years ago, I felt myself constrained to make a great effort to interest women in the "peace" question, on the ground that as mothers they knew the cost of human life, as men do not know it.

I also tried to institute an annual mothers' day, for which I chose the second of June as being a time when it was very easy to meet, and to have flowers for decorations, and so on.

Antitoxin for Hay Fever

By Leonard K. Hirschberg of Baltimore, who has been making experiments recently with polliniferous plants, a new antitoxin for hay fever, has an interesting article in the Golden Rod.

"Autumnal catarrh, rose cold, hay fever, spring asthma and similar complaints," he says, "all seem to be due to the toxin found in the pollen grains of the grasses. The autumnal catarrh of the United States is not excited by the pollen of grasses, but by the pollen of late flowering plants, such as amaranth and solidago, or golden rod.

"The striking symptoms of rose cold and hay fever are catarrhal. There is intolerable itching of the eyelids, swelling of the mucous membrane of the nose, profuse discharge from the nose, and paroxysms of sneezing. Cough, laryngitis and choking asthmatic attacks are common. Two of my patients have had the disease for several years. One was treated in August every year. Every treatment hitherto tried has only alleviated the symptoms for a few hours, while a sojourn at the seashore or in a different climate would relieve them immediately.

"About a month ago I tried to procure some of Dunbar's antitoxin, but found none in this country at that time. I wrote to Dr. Dunbar in Hamburg and received a cordial letter in reply. This letter reached me the same day that two packages of polliniferous plants arrived from Fritzsche Bros., New York. One package contained the serum (liquid antitoxin), the other a powder (dry antitoxin), with a brush and a pipette.

"Poliantin, both in the liquid and powdered form, is for external use only, never for subcutaneous inoculation. The powdered antitoxin is added to the liquid, efficiency and is certainly more convenient than the liquid, but the patients prefer the liquid form, especially for the conjunctival symptoms. One-fourth of per cent phenol is added to the liquid as a preservative, but it decomposes if it becomes contaminated with nasal secretions. If any turbidity or odor is noticeable it signifies decomposition.

From the London Chronicle. A warm heart beats beneath the great seal that behind an epied a gentleman friend inside the omnibus which was ambling along just ahead. Signs and telepathic communications failed alike to attract the attention of the unconscious passenger, though, of course, everybody else on both omnibuses was wreathed in interested smiles.

What About the Japanese Soldier

Why is the love of country so strong in the Japanese? How is it that he who has been trained in the art of war is also capable of expressing the tenderest sentiment? What is the moral code of the Japanese? Why is it that the Japanese soldiers are so careful for their lives at all, but attack their enemy with a reckless daring which surpasses that of any other soldier? Is it his religion which teaches him contempt of death? These are questions which I am asked to answer every day, and my answers in these lines try to lay clear to my readers the main traits of the character of the Japanese.

First of all I owe it to my countrymen, who are fighting so bravely against the armies of the east, to tell them as phatically that it is not contempt of death taught by Buddhism which makes them ready to lay down their lives for their country and love their brothers and sisters.

The principles of Japanese ethics are nowhere better expressed than in an imperial decree, which in 1895 was sent to all Japanese school teachers. The emperor in this calls the attention of the teachers to the fact that the nation which he gives in the official decree as the very same which his ancestors for centuries tried to implant in their subjects, which have been recognized as the fundamental principle of the nation for many generations. The most important paragraph of this imperial decree reads:

"It is our wish that you, our loyal subjects, at all times honor and obey your parents and love your brothers and sisters. Man and wife should live together in peace and love. Be faithful to your friend. Practice self-sacrifice and self-possession. Be merciful. Do what you can to help science and education. Be peace loving. Educate your mind and try to reach perfection in everything. Think of the commonwealth and spread it among your neighbors by good deeds. Watch over the constitution of the country, and obey its laws. Be ready to sacrifice all, your life, your property, when danger threatens your country. Remember that you owe your country everything, and that you should exert all your influence to further its interests.

In giving these rules, the mikado solemnly instructed his subjects, and made the same promises for his successors.

This decree of the mikado is read to the children in all the schools of Japan on the first of January, and on the 15th, January 1, February 11 and the mikado's birthday. Religion is not taught in the Japanese public schools, as the instruction of it has always been left to the parents, but every child must attend the public school regularly and is only excused in cases when it is absolutely necessary, and how strictly this is adhered to is proved by the statistics for the year 1923, which shows that during that year 5,738,928 children (3,137,486 boys and 2,641,440 girls) attended the public schools regularly, while the total number of children who for some reason or other did not attend was only 81,846.

It is the young men who have been educated in these schools who are now fighting in Manchuria, and it is absolutely certain that they are fighting as brave and often done in both the European and American wars, as fanatical barbarians. It is also a great mistake to think that they do not value their lives at all.

The Japanese soldier values his life as highly as the soldier of any other nation, but he would never think of hesitating when he has to sacrifice it for his country, or emperor, because he has always been taught that duty and honor demands that he be ready to sacrifice it when his country is in danger. Before the rules were given for the education of soldiers and sailors in an imperial decree issued in 1882, which reads in part:

"Know, therefore, soldiers, that we are your superiors. We are your fathers and your mothers, and you must guard your supreme as you guard your heads and necks. Only in this manner can the right understanding between us exist. Whether we are in the field or in the city, guard our empire and prove ourselves worthy of the blessings of Heaven and the glorious deeds of our ancestors depends upon whether you fulfill your duty. Be instructed to be loyal, brave, faithful, obedient and temperate.

Both officers and soldiers are taught this decree until they know it by heart. These lines will, I hope, serve to explain many things concerning our soldiers which have not heretofore been understood. To be a soldier or a sailor in our navy means of course to be prepared for a life of hardships, and our officers are fully satisfied with their lot under all circumstances, and their only desire is to do their full duty. Before I close I should like to say a few words about the patriotism of the Japanese. The word patriotism recalls immediately to the mind of every Japanese three words: Emperor, dynasty and nation, and these three are absolutely inseparable and combined represent the highest idea which he can conceive. Between the people and its ruler is the most perfect understanding, and this is not strange when it is remembered that the dynasty in Japan has never changed.

Civil wars, the curses of so many other nations, are unknown in our history. There have of course been smaller disagreements and misunderstandings, but these have always been insignificant and have soon disappeared. Our race has always remained pure and we have never intermarried with foreigners. Only few of our people have emigrated, and all our ancestors are buried among us, with the only exception of the warriors who have fallen in foreign countries or of the very few who have died while traveling abroad. Furthermore, we have never suffered from invasions of foreign enemies. One great invasion which was planned by the Mongols in the thirteenth century failed very much in the same manner as Phillip's attempt to conquer Great Britain with his "grand armada." For all these reasons the heart of every Japanese fills with pride as soon as his country is mentioned. And therefore, and not because he does not value his own life, is he ever ready to die like a hero on the battlefield and attempt even the impossible.