THE OREGON DAILY JOURNAL

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Editorial Page of

DEGENERACY SELF CONFESSED.

HE Morning Mossback drops like a hot potato its extraordinary contention of yesterday that in order to hold its own in the competitive newspaper race it is forced to publish all the lewd and lascivious testimony produced in the Taggart case. If this is not sufficient to drum up business then it will Izzard. continue to rake and scrape the purlieus of vice to get the very worst that's going, for this is what the people demand and are willing to pay for.

Let the unprejudiced reader simply listen to this

cold-blooded paragraph: "There is complaint, we hear, that the Oregonian publishes as news such stories as that of the Taggart case, which it would not have published in former times. The mestion is asked, "Why this degeneracy?" The simple answer is that newspaper competition compels it. The more severe the competition the stronger necessity of meeting every phase of it. The Oregonian, within its are own field of circulation, cannot allow any newspaper to cial

lower. It will not allow any newspaper within its field of circulation to outdo it. This is its language. It will turn "yellow," as it has been green with envy for some and it will do with greater zest many of the which it imagined and all of which it strenuously unced in the columns of its enterprising con-

ndeed it is an open secret that the Oregonian has on on the toboggan for a year past; it is now scarcely ore than a venerable ruin of its former self. Its busi-es has decreased and its circulation is fading away at a has decreased and its circulation is usuing to give qualms to its owners. Many people took paper for years because there was nothing else to these stopped at the first opportunity. Hundreds recoile have been insulted without recourse, villified paligned; all these stopped the Oregonian when could get another paper to take its place. Still heartily disliked the dictatorial tone, the pharal spirit and the canting hypocrisy of the sheet; loo quit when their demand for news could be met they too quit when their demand for news could be met elsewhere. Then all over this state are scattered people who believe in the purity of the home, who have public ideals which they are striving to reach and who are guided by patriotism rather than partisanship; all of these, driven away by the purely commercial principles of the Oregonian, have quit taking that newspaper and none of them is inclined to come back even though they maintain their present fight they are really fighting the decent sentiment of the whole city and inviting upon their backers a flank movement which will carry with it greater penalties than even the box ordinance imposed.

THE EMPIRE STATE. are offered the Oregonian at bargain-counter prices with a bunch of premiums thrown in and an affidavit made by the solicitor that Editor Scott having seen the of his ways has joined the church of which the Rev. Dr. Hill is pastor.

The Oregonian is effete. It is a back number. It is has been as well as a might have been. The essence of putridity is beginning to permeate it. One can feel it leaking through the upper stories. It has chased the ollar so long that its moral fibre is weakened and ost the sense of proportion. When it loses circulation and business its only remedy is to publish lewd and lascivious stories. Its only excuses are that com-petition forces it to do what it knows is unworthy and de want it. It never occurs to it that what the people really want are honesty, character and integrity in its newspapers. Give them these things, stand for and uphold them, then publish the legitimate news edited as news ought to be edited and not with the castiron methchanic and the fortunes of the day are saved But it is too late for the Oregonian. The old dog can-not be taught new tricks. He has bayed the moon so long that he is able to do nothing else now.

the dirty news of the world under the mis taken apprehension that this is what the people of Oregon want.

PRAISE OF THE COUNTRY PRESS.

N ENCOMIUM of the country press is going the rounds. It is something on the Champ Clark style of eulogy of the country press-fulsome, ornate, exaggerated, insincere, yet as to a large portion of the country press largely true.

Every city exchange editor knows, however, that there are country papers and country papers. There are those that rustle for local news; that discriminate between news and nonsense, between sense and bosh; that watch for and haste to narrate occurrences of local interest; that if they venture to write or reprint editorials do so with good judgment and with a sincere effort to instruct and enlighten their readers. Such papers are well worthy the encomium spoken of, even though it be verbose and vulgarly baited.

But there are others-some of them in Oregon. The week through "ye editor" can find no news worth printing, has no ideas worth presenting; month after month, year after year. There are specimens of the "country press in Oregon" that are not appreciably better than they were ten, fifteen or twenty years ago; they use the same type, have the same makeup, don't know that the world in that time has moved faster than would a snail in running a race.

There are other country papers that "start," merely to get a few land notices and sheriff's advertisements and some little pickups of patronage, and pay no more attention to obtaining and disseminating local news than the sphynx does to the movement to consolidate religious sects. For one, The Journal refuses to indorse this wholesale eulogy of the "country press," because there are these exceptions, and they are not few.

But having said this much, and kicked out the lazybones and pretenders, we cheerfully indorse all that has been said laudatory of the country press. When we get hold of a paper like the Medford Mail for instance, or the Santiam (Scio) News, or the Hood River Glacier, or the Echo News, or the Klamath Falls papers, or the Grant County News (John Day City), or the Oregon City papers, or the Dayton Herald, or-if it can be classed as a "country" paper, the East Oregonian-we know there is work, effort, enterprise, appreciation of a country editor's and publisher's duties, behind those papers, and that they deserve to be supported and upheld and praised. We do not mean that there are no others equally or nearly equally worthy, nor that all those not

however, that a considerable portion of the country press is not worthy of the laudation mentioned.

As a whole the country press is worthy, admirable, influential, deserving of warm approbation and cordial local support; but when we come to individualize and differentiate we must discriminate. There is a scale of the country press, running from do all up through re, mi, fa, sol, la, si, up to do again—all the way from A to

"SPECIALS" ARE OUT OF LUCK.

TUST WHAT DIRE THINGS the special policemen can do to the mayor is not so apparent to other people as it seems to be to them and their friends. s with him rests the appointing power what are they oing to do about it if they happen to be outside the

No move made by the mayor since he came into office was more generally approved than that in which he asked for the commissions of all the special policemen. There are special policemen needed in big mercantile and financial institutions and they there perform special duties which redound to the public good. But there have been the dollar, dirty or otherwise, but it wants it. It has the north end, beyond the control of the police department, who not only levied blood money but next a lower. It will not allow any reserved. robbed in the dives and to see that the powers of the law were invoked against him in case he made any protest. It is men of this latter stamp against whom the nayor directed his energies. These men he proposes to keep out and the allegation that he intends to secure partisan advantage from it will probably not worry him in the performance of such a public duty. Many of the oldtime specials were among the most valuable acces-sories to the divekeeper but their period of usefulness will suffer a lapse during the administration of the present mayor.

It is barely possible, likewise, that when those who control the council discover that the moment they de fiantly fly in the face of public opinion on the box ordi-nance question they may look for reprisals and they will be very much less gay than they have been. In overrid-ing the mayor's veto they were doing no harm to that official; they were simply slapping in the face the re-spectable element of this community which worked so long and hard to get the box ordinance through the

MUCH INTEREST should be taken in "New York day" at the exposition for day" at the exposition—for various reasons. New York is the "Empire state." It has the greatest population of any state, between 8,000,000 and 9,000,000 people. It has the largest city in the country, and now probably the second city in population and wealth in the world, having about 4,000,000 inhabitants.

It is in New York, and especially on the site of this mammoth city where many historic memories cluster. Past the island site of the great metropolis sailed the valiant Dutch navigator Henry Hudson, and up the noble river that bears his name till this day. There the sage Wouter Van Twiller smoked his immense pipe and presided with dignity if not with genius over the destinies of the burghers from Amsterdam-deciding in one case, according to the account of that interesting fendant should neither recover anything off the other, their purses almost balancing, and that the constable should pay the costs.

There came, in time, the aggressive Britons and wrested the land from the Dutch; there Washington And so it is that he will not be outdone in raking and suffered a defeat that for a time seemed an irreparable misfortune of war; there for 13 years was the national capital; thither have drifted mankind of all nations and tongues and kindred, making the most cosmopolitan city in the world, scarcely excepting London and Paris.

New York in the last century and a quarter has furnished some of the country's greatest statesmen, patriots and philosophers. It gave to the country a Seward and a Roosevelt. It has also thrown some bad and base men to the surface, but the struggle, not made in vain, there as here, is for the preferment of better men, the reign of higher principles.

It used to be a "far cry" from New York to Oregon; now it is a quick, cheap and easy trip. A good many worthy New Yorkers are here today, and Oregon and Portland most cordially welcome them as fit repre-sentatives of the wonderful Empire State.

WILL IT BE PEACE?

HE CHANCES for terms of peace being agreed on at Portsmouth again seem slim, yet we cannot tell how deep a game Witte is playing in order to get the best possible terms he can. It was not to be supposed that he would agree at once or without a prolonged struggle to the terms imposed by Japan. He is a Russian-though of German descent-and he has to account to the czar and to the autocracy rather than to the people of Russia, who undoubtedly are almost

unanimously for peace on almost any terms.

Let us not be too swift to blame Witte and Rosen if they reject Japan's terms for the time being and declare that Russia will not accept them. These men are engaged in bargaining, and they owe it to their country. even to the autocracy, under the circumstances, to make as good a bargain as they can. While the world would censure them and their country severely for not finally agreeing on terms of peace, it cannot reasonably blame them for getting the very best terms possible, and even resorting to dissembling bluffs to do so. They do not have to show their hand plainly, or tell all that is in their mind. They have a right to play the game as skillfuffy and as audaciously as they choose and as they can; but we still think that before they quit and leave for home they will have agreed with Japan to end the war.

President Roosevelt, in his unique, audacious way, may be a potent factor in bringing about this result. True, it is from one point of view none of his business; a different president, perhaps any other man as president, would have kept his hands off and made no sign; but not

so Roosevelt. There will yet be peace unless Witte and Rosen are constrained and controlled by the Russian autocracy, ntioned are unworthy. We do mean to say, again, who dread the rising reign of the People.

SMALL CHANGE

The Oregonian, since it rain entured the indirect suggest ortland may have 115,000 inh stead of 110,000.

Develop! Help! Force railroad building.

Does Harriman own us?

Oregon ought to be as p

Still "fair and northwestern winds."

obbing with the mikado and Governor-terral What's-his-name of the Phil-pines, some rich Oregon men should ganize and Build a railroad or two. Des E. H. really own us?

Dan McAllen is "awful" tired. But he still emiles, and declares that it is the greatest show ever on earth. He will do his duty by the bables this time if it kills him, but hereafter he will be wiser.

The whole world calls for, almost de-tands, peace between Russia and Japan and has a right to do so.

Peace is civilization; war is barbar

The Old Oregonian is led settay, it says, by bad examples and "competition." Who would have thought such a model as H. W. S. would have so easily fallen?

Roosevelt may demand peace with flourish of the big stick.

What a pity—the old mossbac mits whiningly that it no longer trols."

The woman caused it, as a rule

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

See Oregon's fair. Oregon's fair-see?

In spite of a sensational fakish article to the contrary published in a Portland that city is "a very decent and extremely orderly town" and that "it is doubtful if there is a town in the state of Oregon, or in any other state, that is as free from disorder and the disorderly, as free from toughs and toughness as this quiet, peaceful, thrifty community."

Go hoppicking in about two weeks. Blackberries in Gervals bring 2 cents pound in trade or 2% cents in Chicka-

A Eugene man who ought to know hops than last year.

New priest's house in St. Louis, Ore-Good trout catches in Coos county

Many eastern people looking for farms

Around Gaston wheat is yielding from 12 to 20 bushels per acre and oats abou 30. The hot weather just before ripen ing time out down the crop consider ably. Hay is a good crop.

Harvest might have been better; and then might have been worse.

more active than usual this year in ern and southern Oregon and caused several deaths.

The suicide of the apparently prosper-ous and contented man, Albert Mc-Kamey, at Hood River, is and prob-ably will always remain a mystery.

Duke's Valley Correspondence Hood River Glacier: This seems to be an unusually dry season, as corn and potatose that were not irrigated are nearly all dried up. Last year we got a pretty fair crop of potatoes and good roasting ears with no irrigation at all. Springs of water around in the hills are running less water than for several years.

North Yamhill Record: William Frasier of Portland was buying horses here last week. We understand he only bought one team and they cost him \$400:

"Tis a rather spotted harvest.

'Tis a rather spotted harvest,

Drain and Ashland people have "dug up" money enough to carry on the Normal schools in those towns, but they will have big bills for the next legislature to case. The Normal school question is one that ought to be taken up, considered carefully and definitely settled.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LES-SON & TOMORROW

By H. D. Jenkins, D. D. sust 19, 1906, Topic: Jeholakim the Word of God-Jer, REEVI

Verse 21. Jeremiah, son of Hilkiah, a priest of Anathoth, in the neighboring territory of Benjamin, had come to be regarded by many as a prophet. He had in his youth essayed the role of a reformer, but had been driven out of his native city (Jer. xi.21; zii:6). Even his own family sepudiated him. He had taken up his abode at Jerusalem and seems to have advised in the reformation under Josiah. But under the new reign he had an altogether different experience. Yet, like Savonarols at Florence long after, Jeremiah continued to warn king and people of coming judgments. He had committed to writing some of his severest sayings, which were read in the temple before the assembled worshipers (verse 10). This, coming to the ears of the king, he commanded that the address be brought to him. When it was thus read to him by his command, the scene occurred which furnishes the lesson for today.

KEENE'S "MAGIC KNOWLEDGE"

For over a quarter of a century in-deed, James R. Keene has amused Wall street by his infinite strategy and dar-ing. He has literally played hob with its important institutions and stood its celebrities on their heads. His magic knowledge of inside happenings has made both his followers and his elemies made both his followers and his enamies marvel. At intervals it is revealed to wall street that some of its great corporations are in trouble, and that, to hide deficiencies in earnings, they have been paying dividends out of capital. Then the stocks of these concerns drop like mercury in a freeze, and it leaks to that she had one to be been paying dividends out of capital. Then the stocks of these concerns drop like mercury in a freeze, and it leaks not that one man knew the deadly secret weeks and months before the crash.

R. Keene begins to cover the "short and that it was to he a bears of the second to be a leaker" he had out in preparation for the slice. Yet, like Savonarole at Floring after, Jeremiah continued to king and people of coming judges. He had committed to writing so of his severest sayings, which read in the temple before the asset to light that Keene has had the read in the temple before the asset to communicate known into the ears of she king, he comided that the address be brought to When it was thus read to him its command, the scene occurred he furnishes the lesson for today.

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LEWIS AND CLARK

our net; we therefore made a seine of well flavored a fish as the trout, which willow brush and by hauling it procured a number of fine trout, and a species of mullet which we had not seen before; it is about 16 inches long, the scales small, the nose long, obtusely oplinted and exceeding the under jaw; could and exceeding the under jaw; could and exceeding the under jaw; could be the mouth opens with folds at the sides; it has mo teeth and the tongue and pall and saddles to load the horses as as they should arrive. A beaver onight in a trap, but we were distance in larging to catch trout in mullet species. It is by no means so feed them from his own stores, the