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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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A higher morality, like a higher intelligence, must be reached by a slow growth.

Herbert Spencer.

SILVER IN THE ORIENT

IT MAY be supposed by many people that since the United States affirmed the gold standard in 1896 and Mexico, Peru and some other nations adopted it later, silver as standard money has pretty much gone out of existence, but such is far from being the case. While there is no probability of this country ever adopting the silver standard, the relation of the two metals in international trade is interesting and important, and is likely to become more so.

A large part of South America and all of Asia continue to use silver as a standard of value and a medium of exchange, and since the people of the United States trade with those countries, they are necessarily interested in this fact. It begins to appear, according to keen observers, that to get gold the Chinaman or East Indian declines to pay us gold prices for our goods, hence recently there has been a great falling off in our Asiatic trade. This decrease has been very noticeable, and the principal explanation of it seems to be the different money standards.

"The fall in silver last year," says Moreton Frewen in a recent letter, "every thoughtful man must admit, has practically suspended the effective demand of \$80,000,000 people for our goods. Less than two years ago the Chinaman buying our products paid in a bill of exchange on New York nine silver taels for five gold dollars. Now he would have to pay 12 taels for five dollars in gold, for which he would get no more goods. His earnings and the silver price of what he sells are the same, so that his American purchases have been increased one third in price. Being a careful trader, he simply quits buying American products, hence our Asiatic trade is decreasing in a rush. Mr. Louis W. Hill lately said of the oriental trade, 'We have none.'

These facts are not presented in advocacy or even in suggestion of another 'silver craze,' but merely to state an interesting condition that the economists and statesmen of the world need to consider. As the Detroit News-Tribune points out, it does not concern us as much as it does England, for we can live and prosper without oriental trade, though we ought to be able to do a good deal of it, 'while the English working classes begin to starve the moment Asia begins to diminish her takings of British manufactures. We raise all our own food and more, and if we could not export it or our manufactures it would simply mean that more of our population would have to take to the land and raise their own food instead of buying it off the farmer.'

The despised silver metal seems to serve the Asiatic markets pretty well, and they are getting the better of the gold standard countries on account of it. Mr. Frewen says: 'Under the stimulus of free silver, the orient has awakened to a vigorous industrial life; given a quarter of a century more of exchanges so low as today, our steel, cotton and leather industries, together with countless small manufactures where the labor cost of the article produced bears a high proportion to its value, will pass bodily over the Pacific from Pittsburgh, Lynn and Lowell to Asia.'

Senator Teller recently stated the situation thus: 'A quarter of a century ago five gold dollars exchanged for five silver taels, which paid a day's wage to 25 Chinese mill hands; today five gold dollars exchange for more than 12 taels, which pay a day's wage to 60 Chinese mill hands.' So the cheaper silver is in terms of gold, the cheaper is Chinese labor, and with this China is entering upon a new industrial career, and becoming independent of the west, which 'threatens to turn the world upside down.' All this may be no argument against the maintenance of the gold standard in this country, but it shows that the silver standard with silver falling in price, instead of rising, is enabling the orient, by enabling them to become industrially independent, and together with our gold standard is costing us the oriental trade.

The protest of the Hood River people against the Groat bill now pending in congress is fully justified. The bill proposes a change in the dimensions of apple boxes. The box in use on this coast has been

THE CALL OF LIFE

PREVENTION is easier than cure. It is also less expensive, both in dollars and lives. Every day in the year in this country, 400 persons perish miserably from consumption. Estimates of the cost to the country annually run as high as \$350,000,000. The suffering and loss from it is greater than from any known disease. One ninth of the deaths from all known causes result from tuberculosis. It kills more people and costs more money than all the earthquakes, all the cyclones, all the floods and all other catastrophes of nature. Beside its destruction of life in the world in one year, the late Italian horror at Messina and Calabria is comparatively small.

A bulletin by the bureau of animal industry at Washington, D. C., explains a formidable source of the malady. Some of the facts from this bulletin were retold in The Sunday Journal. The bulletin declares that "the danger to which the public is exposed from the milk of tuberculous cows is of magnitude almost beyond conception." It declares that "the danger is one of the greatest to which public health is exposed. It says that in some cases whole dairy herds are affected, and, though present, each animal is daily expelling deadly tubercle germs. It recounted the case of one cow in which five calves fed on her milk were seized with generalized tuberculosis, and guinea pigs inoculated with tubercle germs from her milk, died.

Pictures of five other cows, each with a similar story, appear in the bulletin. All were taken from herds supplying milk to the public. Of 24 cows taken in one lot, 10 were found to be constantly expelling tubercle bacilli. Of six other cows examined at the Washington station, all were found to be constantly throwing off these deadly germs, and in neither case was it possible from the physical appearance to detect the presence of the disease. In one case, guinea pigs inoculated with sediment in the milk, died with generalized tuberculosis.

The Bulletin says: "If the public were thoroughly informed of the dangers to which it is exposed from

KEEPING INSURANCE MONEY AT HOME

OREGON SENDS nearly \$6000 a day to the far east for life insurance. It is a heavy drain on the state. It is enormous, increased by sums sent away for fire insurance. The life insurance drain has been reduced by the Oregon Life and Columbia insurance companies, which now keep at home about \$1000 a day that was formerly sent away in payment of premiums. The incident raises the query of why a further development of the insurance business might be provided for as a means of keeping more local money at home for investment in local bonds and other interest bearing securities. The field for such an endeavor is large. Portland has enormous wealth for investment, being accredited as the second richest city of its size in the country. It has business brains abundantly able to conduct a safe insurance business. It has an insurable population of 266,788. Of the insured but 27,975 lives, or but 13.53 per cent are insured. Though the number of insured is small the percentage is larger than that in most of the states. Fifteen states, counting the District of Columbia, have more, and all the others, with the territories, have less. The highest percentage is in the northern states and the lowest in the south. The most heavily insured states are Connecticut, Nevada and the District of Columbia, each with 22 per cent. The lightest insured are Oklahoma with 3 per cent, South Carolina with 5 per cent and Arkansas, Mississippi, North Carolina and Texas with 6 per cent each.

A movement for a larger development of local insurance activity, as suggested here, is on foot in Chicago. The Association of Commerce in that city is behind the movement. The plan was proposed by Robert B. Armstrong, formerly assistant secretary of the treasury. The reason urged for it is that of the \$400,000,000 that the west sends out annually for insurance Chicago gets but 1 per cent. The money goes to the far east and across the Atlantic. It is one of the reasons why New York has three fifths of the money of this entire country. The \$25,000,000 paid out annually in this country is a stream of gold flowing to or across the Atlantic. The life insurance companies alone have assets aggregating three billion dollars and 90 per cent of it is concentrated in the Allegheny mountains and the remaining 10 per cent is scattered throughout the vast empire stretching from the Alleghenies to the Pacific.

The insurance assets are a resource formidable for financing home projects and formidable in the fruitage of interest returns they

use of impure and infected milk, the demand for milk of improved purity would rise to the magnitude of a concerted national movement." It adds that, "under our present conditions of civilization the importance of milk is second only to that of air and water." The point is illustrated through lives saved by the efforts of Dr. Goler of Rochester, N. Y. He led in that city a movement for pure milk and reduced the mortality among children under five years in that city from 7451 for the 10 years ending in 1896 to 4965 for the 10 years ending in 1906. The number of child lives saved was 2486, among which 1554 or 62.5 per cent were children under one year. The case of a volunteer pure milk society at Leeds was equally productive of life saving results. It effected a saving of 25 per cent among the children using the society's pure milk as compared with those living in the same residence districts at the same ages and during the same season using other milk supply.

The dairyman is not alone to blame for impure milk. The public requires him to supply milk at too low a price. There is not a dairyman that does not, for the sake of his own family, want to know if there is a tuberculous cow in his herd. That cow infects the remainder of the herd and insidiously undermines the health of his household. He is himself unable, because of the insidious character of the impurities, to know the truth. This, in the case of tuberculous cows, is only discoverable by the tuberculin test. The presence of the germ in the milk is only detectable in an expert's laboratory equipped with the instruments of science. The chief blame is on the state and municipality, which does not provide regulating laws, or if it has the laws, does not enforce them. If the Oregon legislature is to enter the field of curing tuberculosis by endowing a state sanatorium it would manifest great intelligence if it also investigated conditions and provided for prevention. Prevention is easier than cure and is less expensive.

bring. The Chicago movement is well worth copying in Oregon.

HUGHES FOR A PRIMARY

OF ESPECIAL, unusual interest throughout the country is the outspoken, firm attitude taken by Governor Hughes in his recent message. This recommendation has attracted attention throughout the country, not only because of his high public position, but because of the great respect in which he is universally held on account of his honesty, ability and moral courage. "I believe the time has come," he said, "when nominations by all parties for elective offices should be made directly by the enrolled voters of the parties respectively. * * * By increasing the direct influence of the party voters, their participation in party affairs will be encouraged. It will make the elective officer more independent of those who would control his action for their selfish advantage, and enable him to appeal more directly to his constituency upon the basis of faithful service. * * * It is a reform which is instinct with the spirit of our institutions."

Governor Hughes goes briefly into detail with respect to the law he recommends. First, he would have all voters enrolled according to party and only enrolled voters should be permitted to participate in the primaries. Second, all the expenses of the primary elections should be borne by the public. Third, the expenses of candidates should be prescribed and limited, and made public. Fourth, the safeguards of general elections should in general be extended to the primaries. What he recommends is substantially, if not exactly, the Massachusetts law, which has done much to purify parties and reform politics in that state.

The politicians of New York are, of course, opposed to this measure, for as one of the most prominent of them says, it would tend to weaken or destroy responsible leadership—the machine, which he justifies—but the trouble is that the leaders, the machine, almost invariably work against instead of for the people's interest. They yield to the nomination of the best men occasionally, but only on pressure of public opinion that they dare not resist. It is this machine politics, in which the people participate scarcely at all directly, that has filled the senate to great extent with undesirable and sent scores of men of a similar type to the house. Governor Hughes seeks not to disrupt his party, nor any party, but aims to give the voters, the rank and file, a chance to control the party, to nominate the candidates, and so really to become, as they have not been, a self governing people.

The governor's recommendation may not be acted on favorably this year, though popular sentiment may compel enough of the politicians in the legislature to yield—for the people are no doubt with him—but it will come next year if not this. The governor, with the masses of the people behind him, will be irresistible.

English poultry journals at hand contain a complete reprint of a bul-

letin issued by Professor Dryden of the poultry department of the Oregon Agricultural college on the subject of incubators. The bulletin recounted experiments with incubators and declared as a result of tests made that these devices have not yet reached the proper stage of perfection. It showed that the chicks hatched naturally are stronger and the hatch 30 per cent greater than when the incubator is used. Professor Dryden is this season pursuing his investigations further, in the hope of evolving an artificial device for hatching that will more nearly approximate nature. In support of the contention of the bulletin several large poultry farms using incubators in the east have failed, while others are discarding the incubators and resorting to the ancient method. One farm in an eastern state employs 6000 hens for hatching purposes.

Running Shots

Written for The Journal by Fred C. Denton.

It would appear as if senators could use their position to further their own interests and speculations. Tillman is not the only one who has done so, and does so and will do so. Nor is he the only one who can, will and does lie about it, and weep columns of explanations. That he schemed to do the poor, innocent, Southern Pacific out of its hard earned land, his chief offense, can and do maneuver with legislation to the betterment of their pockets and the parcel of their conscience is what some consider.

There are miles upon miles of empty lots past which no one has been shoveled through the snow. The owners can easily wait until it melts off.

Japan seems to be hunting in California again, and as usual the game sought for is trouble.

Seattle does not need any earthquakes to help boom the A. Y. P. exhibit.

Roosevelt is having more fun out of congress than he did find in all Africa.

Surely Teddy can prove chicken-stealing, wife-beating or cheating at cards against one of the congressmen, and senators without jumping Tillman for a little harmless land speculation in which the territory of Carolina was more of a sucker than anything else.

It would appear from the arguments of some great journalists as if a man growing timber should be exempt from taxation, while other professions and other kinds of property for which they ask and receive valuable consideration should be taxed every year.

Plumbers will wear diamonds after this.

Game preserved for a few wealthy hunters is the object of our game laws. Why cannot pests, such as wildcats, skunks, raccoons, coyotes, wolves, lynxes, etc., be hunted by sportsmen instead of ducks, deer, geese and useful game?

Of course if Senator Bourne recommends the competent and capable man for postmaster, whether he be Young or other, the daily knocker and machine mouthpiece can be depended on to yell in terror and dismay at the destruction of Oregon.

Our local taxation is not heavy. Those kicking about it should consider that such a large portion of it is taken up with taxes on occupations, improvements and personal property. If these were exempt, as is the case in Australia, the land values would have to take up the difference, and vacant lot speculators would suffer almost as much as the workingman out of a job and the rent coming down.

If growing timber is a good thing why grow it on timber to encourage cutting, speculation and the like, and cheating the government out of it?

This Date in History.

1657—Attempted assassination of Cromwell.
1738—James Watt, inventor of the steam engine, born.
1897—General Robert E. Lee born.
1850—Edgar Allan Poe born. Died October 7, 1849.
1814—Henry Clay resigned as speaker of the house of representatives.
1862—Nearly 100 lives lost in the sinking of the lives lost in the steamship "Cimbria."
1864—William Walker, the noted filibuster, proclaimed the independence of Sonora, including lower California.
1861—Georgia passed the ordinance of secession.
1862—Confederates defeated in the battle of Mill Spring, Ky.
1863—Joseph Wheeler promoted major general in the Confederate states army.
1874—Morrison R. Waite of Ohio, nominated for chief justice of the United States supreme court.
1895—The Texas cotton palace at Waco burned.

David Starr Jordan's Birthday.

David Starr Jordan, president of Leland Stanford Jr. university, was born in Gainesville, N. Y., January 19, 1851. His career as an educator dates from 1872, in which year he became professor of natural history in Lombard university. During the next 10 or 12 years he occupied positions as a teacher in the Appleton Collegiate Institute, the Indianapolis high school and Butler university. In 1879 he became professor of zoology in Indiana university and from that institution he served as president of that institution. In the latter year he was called to the presidency of Stanford.

Jordan has been almost continuously connected with the United States government, through its corps of engineers, under the secretary of war. These engineers began work on the Willamette and Columbia rivers in the early 70's, at which time the shallowest places in those streams appear to have been about 12 feet at low water. Improvements were difficult and expensive, congressional appropriations for the work were small, and as the demands of commerce were urgent, the city in 1882 built a small dredge to assist in the work carried on by the government engineers.

Suffragette Appeals to Strength.

From the London Times.
The trials of physical strength between women and men, which have been a frequent feature of the suffragette campaign, afford a limited but vivid illustration of one natural result of that equal treatment of the sexes which the suffragettes demand. The difference between the sexes as regards strength is based on the recognition by both sexes of the ultimate fact that men are stronger than women. The prospect of the renewal of a social state in which the demonstration of this difference is expected to be a daily occurrence is one which every civilized man must view with the deepest pain and disgust.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Now Oregon is herself again.

The less Tillman says about it the better.

Green looks better than white to Oregonians.

Still, spring may not have arrived for keeps yet.

Some good use was found for some of our warships at last.

Perhaps Tillman can now sympathize with Adonis Joe Bailey.

Help from now on to make the Rose Festival a great success.

The sleds have been put away for another five, 10 or 20 years.

Call your eastern friends' attention to the low rates to Oregon.

Foraker insists that he is a very good man. In private life, very likely.

A good start at committee work should be made this week at Salem.

Direct personal taxation has always been a farce and a failure, and always will be.

It is a hard world—for those who have to pay plumbers' bills just after the holidays.

A flood, like a cold, and many other evils, usually comes when people are not looking for it.

All reports agree that Harriman will soon get busy in eastern Oregon. Hurrah for Harriman!

Evidently Seattle needs to do some lively hustling to get that exposition ready by the time set.

Alfred Austin says he fears the woman in politics, and it is feared that he may write a poem about it.

The Albany Democrat says that this will be the worst legislature in Oregon's history. What a pessimist.

Among those in Portland not likely to try to 'live as Jesus did' are several members of the council.

Peach trees are in bloom down in Oregon, but the first announcement of the failure of the peach crop will soon be due.

Harriman has gone down to Augusta to visit Taft. But it doesn't follow that Harriman will entirely run the next administration.

Rabbi Wise is a great admirer of President Roosevelt, but on cross examination admits that his hero makes a few bad breaks.

At this writing it is not known what will happen at Salem today, but a new senator should have been chosen by the time this is read.

The young man who strives to earn more than his weight in gold, and to do his work better than anybody else, is sure to succeed.

When we are through contributing to the Italian earthquake sufferers, how would it do to take up a subscription for Kaiser William? Let's be charitable to all.

Salaries are always sufficient when cashing offices, they are not sufficient for the places at the salaries provided, but no sooner do they get in than they want larger salaries. They should be denied.

FAMOUS GEMS OF PROSE

"MacGregor's Defense"—By Sir Walter Scott

(From chapter XXV of the Waverley novel, "Rob Roy.")

You speak like a boy—like a boy who thinks the old, gnarled oak can be twisted as easily as the young sapling. Can I forget that I have been branded as an outlaw, nicknamed as a traitor, and have seen my head as if I had been a wolf, my family treated as the dam and cubs of the hill fox, whom all may torment, vilify, degrade, and insult; the very name, which came to me from my own people, and which my ancestors, denounced as if it were a spell to conjure up the devil with? And they shall find that the name they have dared to proscribe, that the name MacGregor, is a spell to raise the wild devil withal. They shall hear of my vengeance, that would scorn to listen to the story of my wrongs. The miserable Highland drover, bankrupt, barefooted, stripped of all, dishonored, and hunted down, because the avenger of others grasped at more than that poor all could pay, shall burst on them in an awful change!

The land might be at peace and in law, for I would allow us the blessings of peaceful law. But we have been a persecuted people, and if persecution maketh wise men mad, what must it do to men like us, living as our fathers did a thousand years since, and possessing scarce more lights than we did? Can we view the bloody edicts against us, the hanging, heading, bounding and hunting down an ancient

and honorable name, as deserving better treatment than that which enemies give to enemies? Here I stand, have been in 20 frays, and never hurt man, but when I was in hot blood, and yet, they would betray me, and hang me, like a masterless dog, at the gate of any great man that has an ill-will at me.

But the heather that I have trod upon when living, must bloom over me when I am dead. My heart would sink, and my arm would shrink and wither, like a tree in the frost, were I to lose sight of my native hills. Nor have I a scene that would console me for the loss of these rocks and cairns, wild as they are, that you see around us. And I leave her, the subject of my love, suit and atrocity? Or how could I bear to be removed from these scenes, where the remembrance of her wrongs is sweetened by the recollection of her revenge? It was once the heart of my great enemy, that I was forced to give way to the tide, and remove my people and my family from our dwellings in our native land, and to withdraw for a time to the Cullumore country, and Helen made a lament on our departure, so piteously and so full of grief, that our hearts almost broke as we listened to her. It was like the wailing of one who has been borne home, and I would not have the same touch of the heartbreak again; not for all the lands ever owned by MacGregor!

WHY HELP CAME TO OREGON

From the Christian Science Monitor.
The lesson taught by the interesting and instructive article which appeared in this newspaper last Tuesday on the "Port of Portland" is plain, and it should prove especially useful to our municipalities in the east as well as in the west which are pursuing a waiting rather than a progressive policy in the matter of local improvement.

Stripped of complexities, the "Port of Portland" is a district organized to simplify the carrying on of harbor improvement works over an area which includes the harbor of the city of Portland, Or., and the Willamette and Columbia rivers between Portland and the Pacific ocean.

"River and harbor improvement work," says the article referred to, "is attended to principally by the United States government, through its corps of engineers, under the secretary of war. These engineers began work on the Willamette and Columbia rivers in the early 70's, at which time the shallowest places in those streams appear to have been about 12 feet at low water. Improvements were difficult and expensive, congressional appropriations for the work were small, and as the demands of commerce were urgent, the city in 1882 built a small dredge to assist in the work carried on by the government engineers."

This was a beginning in the right direction. The people of Portland were doing their utmost to help themselves, but commerce on the two rivers was growing rapidly, and other steps became necessary. In 1891 the people and commercial bodies of the city, therefore, appealed to the legislature to authorize the incorporation of the work, and since then harbor and channel improvement has been under the supervision and control of a commission.

The results attending the manifestation of Portland's admirable civic spirit

OREGON Sidelights.

The Dailies Library is growing rapidly.

Many Eugene apples in storage were frozen.

A National Guard company may be organized at Hillsboro.

A fine new bridge will be built across the river at Brownsville.

Drain, as well as Cottage Grove, wants a new county, but a different one.

Echo Register: A Portland house has a 10 day offer out for rabbits at \$2.20 each which is making the sport a most profitable one where rabbits are as thick as they are here.

Once let Grand Ronde valley be covered with a good irrigation system, and it will only be a few years until it will rank second only to Multnomah county in wheat and population, says the Elgin Recorder.

A Dallas woman who has been feeding the birds feels well repaid. The other day, after a bounteous meal of warm food, she was sitting on the porch, and kind hearted housewife with a melodious outburst of song. Every day they came for their warm food.

Somebody has had the nerve to say that a fellow told him that someone had concentrated force in the muscles of the back. The fellow was a dead one, says the Bulletin. The fellow was a dead one, says the Bulletin. The fellow was a dead one, says the Bulletin.

Indications point to increased activities along all lines of industry in the locality for 1909, says the Oregon Owl. During the past two months 21 families have located in and adjacent to Oakland, and after having 25 additional families will locate in this section during the next month.

Roswell Bewley of McMinnville successfully played the role of a universal philanthropist last week. He sent to Portland for a big sleigh, bought two teams of horses, and after having them to the sleigh started doing good. First he took nearly all the little girls in the city out riding, and then the little boys, and later on the old people were given a spin.

La Grande Star: The plan to secure water for this valley is the greatest industrial stroke ever attempted. It is a "conservation" plan for it is designed to make use of what is now going to waste. The water is up in the hills. The necessary thing is to control the supply so that it can be used when it is needed, and not be allowed to tear through the valley and do damage when it is not needed.

With over \$100,000 provided for road building purposes, the Douglas county court has given Douglas county the biggest boost and the greatest present in its history. A complete outfit of modern road building machinery is to be purchased at an early date and placed in the hands of the county men for operation during the entire season. The court will cooperate with the several road districts of the county in building good roads.

Gold Hill News: An exceptionally rich body of ore was uncovered at the mine at Gold Hill, and the forecast of this week by the men who are engaged in doing the preliminary work of opening up this big prospect, is that the world's supply of gold is almost pure from the vein that is nearly five feet wide. The vein is an extension of the vein that has been worked in the past which has been opened up to a distance of almost 500 feet, showing that the vein will continue during the full length of the vein.

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