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VEOTES AND MILITIA.

THE OREGONIAN says West's idea of what a governor should do is "to veto bills and call out the militia."

Why shouldn't a governor veto bills? What is he given the veto for? Most governors do not veto bills enough.

Penney was a veto governor. He was re-elected to a second term, although a Democrat in a strongly Republican state.

Chamberlain returned more vetoes than did Penney. He was re-elected governor, and then elected senator.

West vetoed 64 bills at the 1911 session, and about 70 at the 1913 session. He vetoed a bill that among other things, provided funds for payment of his own salary.

But the legislature ignored everything. It passed the bill, riders, emergency clause and all, over the veto and the pet appropriations are now a part of the high taxes of the state.

As to calling "out the militia," Governor West has never used the militia for other purpose than to enforce the law.

At that time, the mayoralty and council of the town were in the hands of the saloon men.

The high officials of the city were saloon owners, bar tenders, and one saloon swamper.

Boys of 14 and upwards were being made drunk. Open gambling was in progress. There were open charges of arson, and there was testimony that people were afraid to oppose conditions through fear of fire.

After West visited Colonel Lawson to Copperfield and cleaned up the town, the district attorney and his grand jury indicted the mayor, indicted most of the councilmen and proceeded to a general cleanup.

The whole aspect of government in Baker county changed. The district attorney was able, after Lawson's work, to find law and find evidence for bringing indictments which he said before Lawson went, that he could not find.

Such was the result of West's use of the militia. He used it because the law of the state was suspended. He used it because Copperfield was in lawless hands. He used it because the civil officers were winking at the lawless conditions in the little frontier town.

HONORING DE GRASSE.

IT IS proposed to erect a monument in Washington to Admiral De Grasse. Patriotic organizations behind the movement urge the fact that the French sailor is the only foreign commander who helped this country

materially in the days of the revolution to whom no memorial has been erected.

Recently J. J. Jusserand, the French ambassador, said "Nobody risked so much or did so much unaided for the United States as did De Grasse." It was his fleet of war vessels that helped to secure General Washington's victory over Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, thus bringing the Revolutionary war to an end.

Washington has statues of Lafayette, Rochambeau, Steuben and Kosciuszko, four foreigners who helped the American colonies in their war for independence. De Grasse's services were recognized by General Washington, and they have been acknowledged by American historians.

The moral influence of the French fleet as an American ally, was of incalculable value in its encouraging effect throughout the colonies as well as for its discouraging effect upon George III. The attitude of the French then and that attitude since as expressed by the gift of the statue of Liberty Enlightening the World is reason enough for the people of this country to honor the memory of the French admiral of the Revolution.

We owe much as well to our great body of French-Americans and to them honor for De Grasse would be a felicitous token of appreciation of France and Frenchmen.

ALASKAN SURVEYS.

THE United States Geological Survey has completed preparations for the annual campaign of investigating the mineral resources of Alaska.

Unusual interest attaches to the work this year for the reason that it will in a measure supplement the survey in connection with the proposed government railway by determining the resources of those districts to be served by the railway.

Eleven parties will be put in the field. One party consisting of seven men and fifteen horses will go up the Matanuska river early in June and begin work near the scene of the new gold discovery on Albert creek. It will penetrate a region little known, lying in the headwater country of Talkeetna river.

Returning this fall the party will survey the region between Matanuska and Copper rivers that has been advocated as a railway route.

Another party of seven men with twenty horses will explore the region between Lake Clark on the east and the Iditarod district on the west. There is a belt of country here over 100 miles in width which is almost an entire blank on the map.

Another party will cross Skolai pass into the White river basin and thence to the international boundary. This is also a region where railway building has been considered.

Surveys in Alaska require preparation long in advance and part of the supplies are shipped over the trails in winter. For this season's work supplies were started inland from the coast early last January and are now cached at convenient points for the use of the surveying parties during the working season which begins in June and ends in September.

These activities are the beginning of a vast development in the north. They are certain to add new features to the known resources of Alaska. They are preliminaries to the building of the railroads under the Chamberlain bill. As Captain MacGregor of the steamer Stetson said, "Portland started her Alaska steamship line at the right time."

VERA CRUZ, A COMPARISON.

VERA CRUZ has twice been occupied by armed forces of the United States, and the New York Sun calls attention to a somewhat remarkable coincidence. The recent seizure of the custom house and placing of the city under American control cost the navy not far from the same losses that General Winfield Scott sustained in his land operation in February, 1847.

Scott's army numbered 12,000 officers and men, and Vera Cruz was defended by a force of about 4400. The Mexican war had been in progress nearly a year. Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma and Monterey had been subdued, but the losses of these cities in northern Mexico apparently had little effect on the issue of the war. A campaign against the City of Mexico by way of Vera Cruz became necessary.

There was no opposition to the landing of Scott's army, and he began at once to invest the city. Heavy siege guns were taken ashore from the American transports, and for four days a steady bombardment of the city was carried on. A Mexican force of 2000 men was repulsed in an attempt to flank the Americans, and there was "sniping" by the Mexicans each night. Eighteen days after landing his army, which at that time was a formidable force, Scott received the surrender of Vera Cruz.

Admiral Fletcher's recent operations killed and eight wounded, a total of 19 killed and 57 wounded. In 126 killed and 195 wounded, a total of 321.

The coincidence is that history practically repeated itself. It is probably a fair deduction from the facts to say that the Mexicans are little better shots than they were 67 years ago, in spite of the fact that losses inflicted upon the Americans by "snipers" in undefended Vera Cruz in 1914 were practically identical with American losses in their war for independence. De Grasse's services were recognized by General Washington, and they have been acknowledged by American historians.

KEEP THE RECORD STRAIGHT.

THE JOURNAL does not propose to permit the legislative history of Oregon as reflected in the 1911 and 1913 sessions to be falsified to the benefit of the legislature and the detriment of Governor West.

Take, for example, Senator Miller's flat salary bill, recommended by Governor West in his message to the 1911 session. It proposed a saving of \$25,000 a year in the state printer's office. It passed the senate February 13, by the following vote:

Ayes—Albee, Barrett, of Umatilla, Burgess, Chase, Dimick, Hawley, Joseph, Kellaher, Lester, Locke, Malarker, McCulloch, Merriman, Miller, Norton, Oliver, Patton, Sinnott, President Selling.

Noes—Abraham, Barrett of Washington, Bean, Bowerman, Calkins, Carson, Hoskins, Nottingham, Parrish and Wood.

The bill went into the house, where preparations had long been ready to kill it. It was held up there by the power of the ways and means committee, from which committee many members were told that they must beat the printer bill or their measures would be killed.

The measure was beaten decisively. In a sensational message next morning, the Governor demanded reconsideration of the flat salary bill for the printer, and, in effect, stated that if it was not so reconsidered and passed, there would be retaliation by veto of the appropriation bills of those who had killed it.

The message was a bombshell in the house. It broke the power of the ways and means combine, and caused many members to change front. A motion to reconsider was made, and in a succession of votes the attitude of the house was completely reversed and the bill passed.

It became the law, and it was due alone to the threatening message of Governor West that the result was achieved.

Attempt was made in the 1913 legislature to repeal it. The house and senate machines passed the repeal bill, in spite of the efforts of the minority in both houses that stood together consistently in opposition to the caucus gang.

But the governor vetoed the repeal bill. A frantic effort was made to pass the repeal measure over the veto, but it failed in the senate.

The Miller law is now in effect, and it is saving the taxpayers of the state \$1800 per month, or more than \$20,000 a year. It brushed away the last surviving remnant of an extravagant fee system by which the people of Oregon had been plundered for forty years.

FEMINISMS.

ACCORDING to a statement accredited to Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman the reason a woman is fonder of going to church than a man, is because the church is the only place to which she can go as a human being and not as the female relative of man.

From this it would seem that the assumption that women go to church because they are more religious than men is an erroneous one. It also indicates that everywhere except in the church woman is considered simply the female relative of man and not a human being.

If woman is not the female relative of man how is she to be classified? The statement of Mrs. Perkins is on a par with that of Mrs. Middleton, daughter of Senator La Follette, who is reported to advocate that married women refuse to assume the name of their husbands and retain that of their father.

A NEW CHURCH.

A SPLENDID new stone church was dedicated yesterday in Irvington.

It is one of the costly edifices of the city, and if its dedicatory services are a faithful one, it is to have a career of great power and usefulness. It is built and dedicated by the Presbyterian denomination, but its managers insist that it is to be so conducted as to be the church home for the entire community.

There is no limit to the great service that can be rendered at such a place. As Dr. Boyd said in the dedicatory sermon, if a congregation be filled with the spirit

of the Nazarene, it can still hold fast to its ancient moorings while going out to meet the radical movements and participate in the social service of this changeful time without impairing the old faith.

There is an atmosphere of welcome it can radiate, and a drawing power for moral uplift it can exercise. There are generous rewards for right living to which it can point and many a brave boy and girl around whom it can throw its protecting arms.

No one has learned bad habits from study of the life and work of the Galilean. No church can make every day practice of His teachings without radiating light and gentleness throughout the community.

The storm tossed life of General Daniel E. Sickles has come to a close. His career was a most remarkable one and was full of romance and adventure. By nature he was a fighter. A pleasant feature of his passing was the reconciliation with his wife from whom he had been estranged for a quarter of a century.

Letters From the People.

Little John was full of mischief and during his first year at school hardly a day passed that he was not sent to stand in the corner.

"Don't you think we could get the cartage to build a round school house this time, Mr. Linscott?" "Why, son?" his father asked, in astonishment.

"Because," the little fellow answered, "I'm getting very tired of corners."

It is the greatest of all reforms that it radicalizes everything it touches. It robs principles of all their sanctity and throws them back on their reasonableness. If you have a principle, it will crush it, and if you have a man, it will crush him.

There is a settler living here who formerly worked for the Merritt boys in northern Michigan when they discovered the famous Mesaba iron range, and he tells me that he has seen a wealth beyond known John D. Rockefeller.

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A FEW SMILES.

Hearing a noise at the kitchen entrance, the man who had slipped quietly to the rear door and suddenly opened it. The grocer's delivery boy was standing there with a basket containing a dozen eggs, a pound of butter and some Roquefort cheese.

"Oh, it's you, is it, Billy?" said the man. "My wife is always afraid when she hears a noise here, especially after the chickens grow dark. She thinks it's a robber."

"Well, she needn't change her mind on my account," gloomily responded the grocer's boy, handing over the goods and presenting the bill, which called for \$1.87.

"Now Tommy," reprimanded his mother, "don't let me catch you throwing any more stones."

"Well, what will I do when the other grocer's boy comes?" asked Tommy.

"Just come and tell me," his mother replied.

"Why, you couldn't hit the broad side of a barn!"

"Little John was full of mischief and during his first year at school hardly a day passed that he was not sent to stand in the corner."

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SMALL CHANGE.

One never hears of the underized eggs news often lay.

Looks like the schoolmaster will keep the congressional kids in school all summer again.

Six days in a week is enough for anybody to work, but necessity may cause a few exceptions.

Of course there was a woman, or women, in the case of Grith, the alleged embezzler of the Condor.

Some of the refugees should not be blamed very much for wishing Huerta to be kicked good before peace was arranged.

The awful condition of prisoners in that horrible old jail in Vera Cruz is another exhibit of Mexican government.

There is no doubt that young Astor and his bride will be as happy as poor young couples married the same day.

It is to the interest of the man with alleged copper-dope to sell to make as much as possible to believe that they are ill.

It is easy to say that anybody who wants to get a job, but some capable men can't; somehow they haven't the knack.

Roosevelt has discovered a new, or hitherto unthought of, method of getting no clothes, or so the polite and entertaining Brazilians told him.

From the New York Evening Post. With the rise to 2 1/2 per cent last Thursday in the price of insurance covering the risks of war on oceanic shipments from United States ports to Mexican towns, "war risks" touched the highest level reported in this city since 1904.

It is a proved fact that prohibition is giving more work to the people than any other industry in the world.

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OREGON SIDELIGHTS.

Silverton citizens have bought a \$7500 wagon improvement bond issue, at par.

A street factory is the latest suggestion to arouse public interest at the busy little town of Sherwood.

"The wheat is looking so good in this section," writes the Arlington Courier, "that the farmers are not smiling for years are actually laughing out loud."

"Whatever Dallas may be deficient in, it has had that which has been called the very first local observations recorded by Editor Cates in his newly purchased paper, the Dallas Observer."

L. G. Harlan, manager, and L. K. Harlan, editor, are responsible for the Heppner Herald, the six page, six column weekly, the first issue of which was published on Tuesday, Thursday. The publishers point with pride to the first typesetting machine in the county, and the fact that it is all home printed and all live news and "business."

Those who were hoping to have a County building at the Panama-Pacific exposition, had a disappointing disappointment, according to information received by the commercial club, interested in the building, that it is all home printed and all live news and "business."

Hillsboro talent receives the following compliment from the McMinnville Telephone Register: "E. L. Moore, an old-time resident of Hillsboro, and the pride of his group of players, which appeared at the opera house in Hillsboro, was the present holder of the Man of the Hour, for the benefit of the McMinnville library. This is the second time that Hillsboro talent has been honored with their home productions."

Some of the foreign companies, however encountered large losses resulting from the sinking of coal ships at Port Arthur. The risk was great and the premium of 40 per cent was not paid. The vessels carried coal for the Russian fleet and a few boats got through all right. But the crisis came when Port Arthur fell on January 2, 1905, and the Japanese captured all the coal ships with their valuable cargoes. A good portion of these losses, probably full upon underwriters, was heavy enough to wipe out most of the profits cleared on war risk business for several years.

During the Spanish-American war the marine companies wrote very large risks. These included every variety of hazard from seaside cottages along the Jersey shore, on which a premium of 10 per cent was paid, to insurances on coal boats bound for the American fleet, which were covered at one time for a 10 per cent premium. There were no losses for the underwriters, which, in view of what afterwards happened, were covered by the "bombardment policies" on New York city property, which the war risk does not include losses due to delays incident to a blockade. Even in such cases, however, the insurers would be liable for the loss of the goods insured and whether or not they could be regarded in case of seizure as "contraband material." Each risk is taken on its merits, and the war risk does not include losses due to delays incident to a blockade. 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