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A DANIEL COME TO JUDGMENT

LIKE a new comet, T. T. Geer has blazed athwart the sky as a "friend" of the Oregon system. In a speech in behalf of Dr. Withycombe and Mr. Booth, Mr. Geer said Senator Chamberlain is an enemy of the Oregon system.

Ye gods, what next! If there is anything the standpat machine, now parading through Oregon in the stolen garb of the party of Lincoln has not accused Chamberlain of, what is it? Are they next to charge him with horse stealing? Or with wearing a corset? Or cruelty to animals?

In justice to history, it is no more than fair to say, that nothing more fortunate for the Oregon system could have happened than that George E. Chamberlain was governor of Oregon during the formative period of that system. If a hostile governor had been in the executive chair during that period, it is wholly probable that there would now be no Oregon system.

For proof of Chamberlain's fidelity to the Oregon system, The Journal points to public documents on file at the Oregon state house. A single document will suffice in this case. The legislature of 1905 by use of the emergency clause on many bills was quietly preparing to nullify the referendum. The presence of that clause on a bill prevents the people from reaching the measure with the referendum.

Under the amendment to the constitution of the state of Oregon, adopted June 2, 1902, the people reserved to themselves power at their own option to approve or reject at the polls any act of the legislative assembly.

The above language is quoted from a public document. It is official. There is no room for dispute over its meaning. There are more of the same kind.

But for Chamberlain's presence in the governor's office with all the great influence of that office thrown on the side of Statement One, there is little doubt but that system of electing senator through the people's choice would have been broken down. The fact that there was proposed such a measure as the infamous Bean-Brooke bill, making it a crime to subscribe to Statement One, is a sample of what was going on during the formative period of the Oregon system.

Of this bill, the Salem Statesman has something to say. It publishes a list of all the initiative measures, with comment on each. Of the bill for revival of the assembly, it says: "Not yet ready for this."

Of this same bill, the Oregonian says it is "politically premature." "Politically premature" means the same as the Statesman's "not yet ready for this."

A FEW SMILES

There was a missionary sermon and collection at a certain church and a little girl who accompanied her father to the service seemed perplexed and mystified.

SAFETY FIRST

MAYOR ALBEE has appointed a public safety commission. The slogan should be "safety first" and at the same time.

In attracting public attention to the value of prevention of accidents a safety first campaign is justified from the material standpoint of economics. The growing complexity of modern life, the introduction of new machinery and new modes of conveyance render it imperative that greater care should be exercised in the conservation of life.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

(Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department should be written on one side of the paper, and not exceed 300 words in length.)

The Telephone Systems. Portland, Oct. 1.—To the Editor of The Journal:—I wish to thank you for information regarding telephone conditions in this city, as quoted on page 9 of The Journal of September 22, advising that the Pacific company has 54,000 and the Home company 18,000 telephones in service.

Wooden or Concrete Docks. Portland, Oct. 6.—To the Editor of The Journal:—I have been published during the past two or three years in the newspapers of the city about the city's acquiring title to the docks on the waterfront.

Accuses Hop Growers. McMinnville, Or., Oct. 2.—To the Editor of The Journal:—After spending nearly three weeks in the hop yards of this county, I have reached the conclusion that a good deal of the crop is being raised by the poor people of the country.

THE RUMINANTS. The reformer is not content with the prohibition of smoking and chewing tobacco in large offices but is now trying to extend the taboo to the chewing of gum.

Woman's Relation to Prohibition. Portland, Oct. 3.—To the Editor of The Journal:—As time goes on, and the battle for a Dry Oregon is admitted by impartial observers to be already won, I desire to advance to you a goodly list of citizens who are in favor of prohibition.

And Still More About Maine. McMinnville, Or., Oct. 2.—To the Editor of The Journal:—Here is more news from the Maine-Korea-Boston on prohibition Portland, Maine, under the auspices of the committee of "Not only in Portland were conditions bad, but the results were comparatively as bad in the country towns.

DR. TRIMBLE. Tomorrow, for the last time in the present pastorate, Dr. Trimble will occupy the pulpit of Centenary church, Portland. He has been transferred to the pastorate of the First Methodist church at Tacoma, and leaves next week, after a residence of four years in this city.

There are very many who regret to lose the counsel and association of Dr. Trimble. No Portland clergyman has been more progressive or aggressive in civic uplift or more widely interested in social betterment. He is an elo-

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

Some men are too polite to be truthful. The thread of many a discourse is merely a yarn. Better one boll on the stove than two on the neck.

It's easier for a man to shut up a 100-ton safe than a 100-pound wife. The difference between a retreat and a tactical maneuver depends on the side reporting it.

One can judge a woman's wardrobe by the clothes she wears with her best two days' visit. They can't sing for American dollars and cents, but what's to hinder those opera singers from getting up a concert of the powers?

Arland D. Weeks in Chicago Herald. Arland D. Weeks, who should be anybody, as the hands which held the gun were none too steady when the order came to fire.

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REGIONS SIDELINGS

Iowans, in and around Eugene, will hold their fifteenth annual picnic October 8, at the fair grounds. James Winslow, a farmer on the Hermiston project, reports in the Herald the harvesting of watermelon that weighed 70 pounds, even though handicapped by the fact that it had been plugged before it was ripe.

A very high rate of increase in attendance in the schools of Baker county is reported by County Superintendent St. John. The increase was in the upper Burnt River country, first with an expansion to 42 from six a few years ago.

In the course of an editorial on the business outlook the people of Astoria find "Rule Britannia" and "God Save the King" left behind with the dress uniforms and other formalities by the English soldiers that looked with the Germans in the same battles of the Marne and Alsace.

A Business tip in Astoria Budget: "Astoria offers a big opportunity for a light-sailing craft. Some day somebody from somewhere will start a touring car service in the city and the motorists will say, 'Well, why didn't we think of that?'"

In an editorial under the caption "Keep Together," the East Oregonian says: "Let us keep the Round-Up spirit ready all the time for use in the future. Let us keep the Round-Up spirit ready all the time for use in the future. Let us keep the Round-Up spirit ready all the time for use in the future."

At the moment of pre-impact the soldier's thoughts were lest he should break his glasses. He was looking at the remaining lens splintering on a stone; his combed hair was thrust aside, exposing a bald spot, which had been the object of gazing jests at the bar and upon which several supposed cures for baldness had been tried.

Battered, I buzzed on until gravity brought me down. My career was over, my speck of time, my moment of thrilling trajectory. In the darkness of hidden ore inderting found my substance and had shaped me to the mold of mankind. Long I had waited to serve, and what bullet could have done better?

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BATTLE ANTHEMS

From the Tacoma Ledger. Americans still remember that at the time of the Spanish-American war our soldiers went into battle singing, not "America" but "The Star Spangled Banner."

It is not surprising, therefore, to find "Rule Britannia" and "God Save the King" left behind with the dress uniforms and other formalities by the English soldiers that looked with the Germans in the same battles of the Marne and Alsace.

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THE RECALL

THERE is yet time for those who have filed the recall petitions to escape the consequences of their blunder. By neglecting to file as candidates they can avoid the business. That would be an easy way to get out of an enterprise that, if continued, would bring nothing but an overwhelming rebuke and lasting odium upon its promoters.

There is no more chance for the new candidates to succeed than if they were not candidates at all. This town has not gone mad. The madness is in those who have notions that this foolish recall can be made to succeed.

DON'T SLEEP AT THE SWITCH

AN ATTEMPT is on in Oregon to revive the assembly. The bill for that purpose is actually to be on the November ballot. In the state pamphlet which every registered voter receives by mail, there are two bills and the argument for its adoption. The argument is a vicious assault upon the Oregon direct primary.

Of this bill, the Salem Statesman has something to say. It publishes a list of all the initiative measures, with comment on each. Of the bill for revival of the assembly, it says: "Not yet ready for this."

Of this same bill, the Oregonian says it is "politically premature." "Politically premature" means the same as the Statesman's "not yet ready for this."

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DEFENSE OF GERMANY

EMINENT Germans will occupy a page in tomorrow's Sunday Journal, in a discussion of the causes and responsibility for the world war. Among those who are back of the discussion is Prince von Buelow, Chairman of the Hamburg-American line, Dr. Drechsel, director of the American Institute, Berlin, and Dr. Heineken, director of the North German Lloyd, and Franz von Mendelssohn, president of the Berlin Chamber of Commerce.

There are many others in this formidable array of German statesmen and business and professional men who have a part in the presentation of the German side of the case. The Journal submits it to the public with full realization that any such statement is bound to be from the viewpoint of those who make it, and that the conclusions and even the facts are subject to

EFFECT WORLD WIDE

EVIDENCE that the influence of the great European war is felt in the uttermost parts of the earth is shown by reports reaching the Presbyterian General Mission Board. A man from Tripoli writes: "I thought I had seen the country restless before but never have I imagined anything like the present distress and hopelessness."

Owing to the Ottoman mobilization reports a missionary in Beirut, Syria and country are transferred from comparative regularity and quietness to confusion, fear panic and utter stagnation. In West Africa and Persia the board announces that the situation is critical.

Missionaries in Chili write that the big houses are closing down, the saltpeper fields have stopped work, thousands of men are being

thrown out of employment, prices are soaring and business is at a standstill. Reports come from China that as a result of shutting down factories operated by Europeans thousands of natives have been thrown out of work and many are starving.

Agitators have seized the occasion to fan the flame of rebellion and encourage the massacre of foreigners. Riots are frequent. It all goes to prove that modern development has brought the peoples of the world in close relation and made them mutually dependent.

THE MEMOIR OF A BULLET

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THE RAGTIME MUSE

All clad in scarlet and in brown. With stately pace and sober mien. And meditative eyes cast down. The simon flames upon the hill. The sedge grass and the cattails tall. The woodbine leaves of scarlet hue. Are waving in the breeze. They wait to see October through.

Who's HOO? HOO'S HOO. By John W. Carey. WOO'S war-torn France's premier and grand high diplomat—the man that keeps its president wiped up to where he's at?

Why hoo? hoo? our government buying the German merchant marine? We don't buy it, if at all, from the German nation, but from German citizens.

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