

# The Oregon Statesman

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## IT WAS HALF-PAST TIME

It was half-past time we had a change of administration, in order to keep this country from going down to the standards of living in Japan, India, China and the other cheap labor countries.

We have what amounts to almost a free trade tariff—And its administration by free trade Democratic sympathizers was making it more and more so—

As, for illustration, the case of the Italian and Spanish cherries coming into New York free, in competition with our own Oregon cherries—

Coming in at 10 cents a bushel, as not in the process of manufacture, when they would take 1 cent a pound duty, even under the present free trade tariff law, as in the process of manufacture, if the customs officials were in sympathy with the doctrine of protection.

That is not enough, of course; but it would be some protection. It should be 5 or 6 cents a pound, and no doubt will be, under the protective tariff law now being framed.

Another case:

Sugar pays duties according to its polaroscope tests. Well, a "deserving Democrat" got into the Treasury Department as an official there, and then he resigned and went into the employ of the sugar trust, after he had learned the ropes.

Then this former high official of the Treasury Department wormed about and got a commission appointed of agents of the Treasury Department to recommend a new plan of sampling sugars for the imposition of tariff duties—

Amounting to a virtual acceptance by the customs officers of the tests made by the importers. Fine scheme.

Well, this commission has been at work two or three years; and it would have been all ready to report, had Cox been elected President.

The way it stands now, it will not have the immaculate gall to report at all—and if its report is ready it will no doubt be burned.

The days of the "czars" of the United States Treasury Department are numbered; and they are mighty few, and it is a glorious thought—

For, dear children, there are more ways to kill a cat than to choke it to death with hot butter, and the administration of a tariff law is largely by promulgations of the Treasury Department; and millions of money and the destinies of whole industries depend upon the shading of the meaning of a word, varying the weight of a hair from the south to the southwest side.

The apostle Paul was a great protectionist. He said, "If any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." A protective tariff provides for the workingmen and their families in our own American homes; free trade makes provision for the cheap laborers of alien countries.

They have a new "bandit court" in Philadelphia, and on its opening day it convicted a bandit in 35 minutes and a pickpocket in 39 seconds. There was a woman on the first panel and two women on the second. Give the women a chance, and the backfire of the "crime wave" will get in motion. A woman will not call a plain thief a kleptomaniac or excuse a bandit on the plea of emotional insanity. But the penitentiaries may have to be made larger.

D'Annunzio's discarded military decorations received from the Italian government have been sent to the King. Of course the latter is too august a personage to think of sending a leather medal in return.

Rev. Henry N. Cowden, the blind chaplain of the house of representatives, has quit after a service of 29 years. His task as a blind man was to lead the blind.

One of the big questions to come before the Pacific Coast Merchant Tailors' association, to meet in Los Angeles next week.



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will be whether the flaps on the bottoms of pantaloons shall be cut on the bias or given a flaring effect, a la Marie Antoinette. Most of us are strong for both.

And they are yelling for rain down in southern California. There are worse things in the wide world than a few showers or a little mist once in a while.

After laying aside the duties of the presidency, Woodrow Wilson will have plenty of time to secure terminal facilities for his single-track mind.

There is one encouraging thing about the consumption of the bootleg whiskey. One drink is sufficient to make a man job the prohibition party if he manages to survive.

Londoners drink 500,000 gallons of tea every day. That is another reason why Tommy Lipton has so much money to invest in a yacht to try to lift America's c.p.

Going to the world's fair in Iceland next summer? Well, really Iceland is a nice place to visit in summer, and this will be in June. Don't take any consonants along—there are plenty there.

With Vice President Coolidge sitting at sessions of the Harding cabinet he will be the direct link between the executive and legislative branches of the government. Vice President Hobart was useful to President McKinley in establishing good relations with the senate, but he never sat with the cabinet. Coolidge has an opportunity for still broader usefulness.

Japanese have been ordered out of Texas, but the yellow men down there are likely to be in the same class as their fellows in California and be troubled with deafness.—Los Angeles Times. The Japanese are brown up here in Oregon; but our legislature, if it tackles the matter, will likely find our canny little brown fellows also very dull in their auditory nerves—the rest of their nerve being in a robust condition of health.

## THE TOBACCO SITUATION.

The news that tobacco growers intend withholding their products from market owing to falling prices is interesting in the face of the anti-smoking campaign. If the growers want to play into the hands of the reformers this seems an excellent way to do it. Just as the higher price of liquor in England has made for a wave of temperance and abstinence, so the high prices of tobacco prevented a good deal of senseless smoking in this country. Only the most hardened and inveterate smoker will indulge recklessly when prices are high.

The reformers therefore will find the action of the tobacco growers very much to their taste. It is about the one combination in restraint of trade that few will be found to condemn. There is so much to be said against the habit of smoking and so little to be said for it that anything the growers may do to make it more expensive and difficult is in the cause of public welfare. A writer in the Los Angeles Times thinks that if the liquor men had gone in for this sort of altruism, prohibition might never have been necessary.

## DAMNED BY A PIRASE.

Bad luck dodged Dr. Theodore von Bethmann-Hollweg during his later days. The former German chancellor, who died after so brief an illness on the first day of the New Year, had the misfortune at the beginning of the war to make

## FUTURE DATES.

January 17, Monday—Begins the second semester of the Salem Community School of Religious Education for church workers and parents.  
January 19 and 20, Wednesday and Thursday—Annual Institute, Y. M. C. A.  
January 20 and 21, Thursday and Friday—Basketball, Willamette vs. U. of O. at Salem.  
January 28, Friday—Triangular inter-scholastic debate, Salem, Starton and Oregon City high schools competing.  
January 29 to 30—Interstate convention of Y. M. C. A. in Salem.  
February 2, Thursday—Dance, show and sale, state fair grounds.  
February 12, Saturday—Lincoln's birthday.  
February 14, Monday—Basketball, Willamette vs. University of Idaho, at Moscow.  
February 15 and 16, Tuesday and Wednesday—Basketball, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Walla Walla.  
February 17, Thursday—Basketball, Willamette vs. Walla Walla Y. M. C. A., at Walla Walla.  
February 18 and 19, Friday and Saturday—Basketball, Willamette vs. Gonzaga, at Spokane.  
February 22, Tuesday—Basketball, Willamette vs. Idaho, at Salem.  
February 23, Tuesday—Washington's birthday.  
February 24 and 25, Thursday and Friday—Basketball, Willamette vs. Whitman at Salem.  
March 4 and 5, Friday and Saturday—Basketball, Willamette vs. U. of O., at Eugene.  
April 15, Friday—Baseball, Willamette vs. U. of O., at Salem.  
April 16, Saturday—Baseball, Willamette vs. U. of O., at Eugene.  
May 26, 27 and 28—Baseball, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Walla Walla.  
October 1, Saturday (tentative)—Football, Willamette vs. U. of O., at Corvallis.  
November 11, Friday (tentative)—Football, Willamette vs. Whitman, at Walla Walla.  
November 24, Thursday (tentative)—Basketball, Willamette vs. Willamette vs. Multnomah at Salem.

As the Reed sympathies appear to be with Russia, this is a writhing to the Missouriian. Herbert Hoover, through his unselfishness and capacity, has been of material and definite service to the world. Jim Reed never was. He finds his consolation in being a professional stumbling block. He would rather halt a great cause than support a lesser one. All the people in the United States excepting Senator Reed and the reds would be glad to think the help Hoover's forces gave the Polish children incidentally aided in giving the Polish soldiers strength to hold back the motley and murderous herds of barbarism.

It must be said to the credit of Bethmann-Hollweg that he alone opposed the unrestricted warfare idea. He stood out strongly against Admiral Tirpitz, but when the latter won over Ludendorff the chancellor gave in. An Iron pressure was brought to bear on him, Count Czernin says, in his memoirs. The ex-Austrian premier further says that "Bethmann was an absolutely dependable, honorable and capable partner, but the unbounded growth of the military autocracy must be imputed to his natural tendency to conciliate." In brief he was no Bismarck. He made the further mistake of drawing up the famous German peace proposal which so exasperated the allies because it was couched in the terms of a conqueror. Bethmann-Hollweg's good deeds are written in water; what the world will remember are his terrible errors.

## WICKED WISCONSIN.

(Los Angeles Times.) It is charged that much booze was opened and the shimmy and

other voluptuous dances violently indulged as a part of the social activities incident to the inauguration of the new governor of Wisconsin. We will say this for Wisconsin: The 18th amendment dies harder there than any other section of the country. While New York and Chicago are getting ready to prepare to commence to begin to think about prohibition, Wisconsin hasn't yet heard of it. Every time they launch a new governor they smash a bottle of champagne over his bow—or stern—just as in the olden days. So far as the amendment is concerned, Wisconsin is still outside the breastworks.

## GERMAN MUSIC.

The band played selections from Wagner and Mendelssohn at the inauguration of the new governor of Massachusetts and they were found to be as impressive and harmonious as before the war. We may still have a grudge against Germany, but we can hardly afford to gratify it by boycotting Traumerel. If the Germans had stuck to the violin instead of the bugle and drum all would have been fine.

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