East Oregonian

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1902.

DAILY, WEEKLY AND SEMI-WEEKLY
— BY THE —
East Oregonian Publishing Company
— AT —
PENDLETON, OREGON.

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AVOID ILL FEELING.

It would be unreasonable to expect that such an intense situation as that now between the council, mayor and chief of police be devoid of feeling. That would be to reckon without the ordinary knowledge of human nature that the commonest mind possesses. Yet, it is pertinent just now to counsel moderation by all parties to the controversy. Pendleton is going to be injured by the incident, unless it be that all keep cool and stick closely to facts. Charges and counter charges fly through the air in this place, and every one is hearing all sorts of reports and allegations. Reputations are being injured, and old sores opened that ought to heal. Political considerations are entering into the case, and, in fact, there are many features of the investigation that are not conducive to the right results.

The East Oregonian counsels the elimination of bad feeling, in so far as that can be accomplished, in the interest of justice to all who are concerned. It will be well to hold this in mind—if aught but justice and absolutely honest inquiry prevail, then will permanent harm be done to all who are mixed up in the affair.

The plain truth is that the matter of the marshal is susceptible of many varieties of verdicts according to the point of view of the judge. Conclusions derogatory to all might be reached. Pendleton has in the past compromised with unlawful practices. It has been open and above board. Every citizen knew that it was being done. Public sentiment was not sufficiently advanced to sustain officials and courts in going all the way towards the eradication of the gambling and other forms of evil from which the city has taken fines that amounted to licenses, notwithstanding the town ordinances and the state statutes prohibited them. It has not been the intention at any time to prevent them from existing, only to keep them within bounds.

Furthermore, these facts have been patent to the state courts, to judge, to district attorney, to sheriff, to justice of the peace, to constable, in fact to everyone in the county who has eys and ears and thinking apparatus. City, county, state officials, citizens, church members, those not in the churches, all, everyone, even the youngest child, knew that the law was violated, that it was going to be violated, that it was going to be winked at.

The facts relating to John Heathman, no matter what they may be as brought out by the investigating committee, are not different from those that might have been stated truthfully during past years. He has done as chiefs of police in Pendleton have done for twenty years, with the exceptions.

If there be wrong, of there be malfeasance, that wrong, that malfeasance rests upon all who have had to do with government, city, state or county. It also rests upon the private citizen, who has allowed the machinery of the courts to rust while he failed to invoke it to stop the things of which he now complains.

Here are some of the phases of the case, and they argue for moderation by all who have the disposal of this affair. Pendleton will be better if moderation and justice prevail.

WE NEED GOOD ROADS.

The assertion made in the title of this article has been iterated and reiterated to the people of the state. It must be iterated and reiterated again and again, until Oregon has good roads. Money can be spent in no manner to bring quicker returns to present residents or to bequeath more to coming generations, than in building good, permanent highways. Agitation must go on, and the newspapers must carry on the agitation. The question must be discussed, figures printed, opinions of experts published, and every phase of the matter set before the public, until the force of the people's sentiment compels officials to do the work necessary, to the end desired. It should be unnecessary to argue the expediency of expending liberal sums of money upon the city streets and country roads. All citizens are interested, and the communities will be the better when the roads are put into condition. Especially should this work be done before 1905, when Oregon will have many visitors who are to be prospective citizens. Oregon may well prepare to show them better highways when they come to look over the state.

FUTURE WORLD POLITICS.

It is a matter of plain inference, one that goes without saying, because everybody says it, that the Pacific ocean is soon to be the center of great dramatic interest in the affairs known as world politics. Steam and electricity have made the Atlantic ocean narrow; the movement of science and the alliances of commerce have made great European wars impossible or mercilessly destructive to all concerned, which amounts to the same thing.

The Atlantic ocean has settled down to be a well policed commercial channel, a sort of aquatic Fleet street and Strand, with Lombard and Wall streets as terminals. The theater of adventure, of striking success, of humiliating failures, of the knight errantry and trade hunting of great nations must be on the Pacific, and in all this the United States willingly or not, must take the leading role. Hawaiia is hers; California, Washington and Oregon are parts of her own substance. The Nicaragua canal will soon be one of the greatest of her tools. She has a controlling interest of some sort or another in the archipelago of the Phillippines; moreover, her diplomatic achievements in China, her efforts to keep clean the threshold of the open door, have had the virtual effect to extend the Monroe Doctrine over eastern Asia.

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It is not there in the form of a proclamation, no gauntlet is thrown the spirit of the Monroe Doctrine is in the faces of grasping powers, but there, and there will be some thinking twice before such deeds as marked the opium war of England or the campaigns of France in Tonkin or Germany in Shan Tung will be repeated.

In forecasting the great deeds which the Pacific will witness, two or three months naturally come to the front. In proportion as these efforts are successful they must be deeds of peace, and not of war. In the very nature of international politics, whatever Atlantic may seem to mean, Pacific is peaceful. War does not pay; any kind of war in the Pacific ocean will always be most unprofitable. The triumphs of the Pacific must be triumphs of commerce; success in commerce rests in good will, honest dealing and a useful article at a reasonable price offered in exchange for articles which some other nation can produce to better advantage.

Let us look at these points in detail.

First, we cannot insult and humiliate a nation and yet expect her trade. Some of it we may get, no doubt, by mere underbidding, but not in full measure. This rule may seem not to apply to China, for in foreign affairs China is not yet a nation, but a mighty mass of helpless and untrained humanity. Her government has sufficed for the ideals of the past. Her war with Japan destroyed these, and for the present she floats as a huge derelict in world politics. But this condition will not endure. The hope of her salvation lies not in spoliation, but in redemption, and the forces to this end lie in the strength and courage of the woung China already making itself felt.

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It is for the interest of civilization, and preeminently for the interest of the United States, that China should make herself a nation, and when she becomes such we will ask her trade not with a club, but with such semblance of her astute ceremoniousness as the blunter western mind is able to assume.

When China is a nation we shall treat her as we treat other nations. When this is done she will cease to be a "yellow peril," and she will offer us no menace which a wise and kindly statesmanship cannot avert. There are ways of compassing all that is essential in exclusion without the offensive element of the public exclusion act. When the fates clearly indicate the wisdom of treating China as we treat civilized nations no agitation could be more short-sighted and mischievous than that which urges us to treat other civilized nations as we now treat China.

In the next place, honest dealing, as Mr. Hay has so well pointed out and still better exemplified, is the strength of American diplomacy. It is the esential fact in the success of American commerce. To succeed in any kind of trade we must furnish a good article at a reasonable price. In the long run a good article is the product of scientific knowledge. Scientific knowledge is the result of tireless investigation. The commerce of Germany rests on the work of the German universities. A navy is the police of commerce, or as Beresford puts it, the insurance which the nation gives to its merchant fleet. But the navy does not make this fleet or load it. The fleet is loaded by the manufacturers, and these depend upon the skill and ingenuity of those who invent or adapt the materials the factories produce.

It has been strongly urged that England's weakness both in commerce and in war lies in her use of amateur rather than professional service. Her generals and captains are self taught, not trained in a rigid school of applied science of war. She has scarcely any technical schools of any kind worth the name, and in her universities the applications of science are still regarded as matters beneath academic consideration.

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This condition may make for culture, but it does not look toward commercial success in manufacture and commerce, as everywhere else it is always science that wins the game.

The rapid growth of the great schools of science in the universities of America has been one of the most notable features in the educational history of the past thirty years. To this more than any other cause is due the overshadowing success of the American manufacturers and commerce. Higher education is coming more and more to mean development of the highest practical effectiveness. Without abundant and effective technical training good articles cannot be produced in competition with the world. Navies, tariffs, trusts and other devices cannot take the place of expert knowledge.

It is also vitally essential that the prices shuld be low. It is the lesson of America that the high priced labor, properly sifted and properly cherished, is more effective than cheap labor of any kind. The competition of servile labor in any part part of the world offers no permanent menace to American industry. Finally, we must remember that all foreign trade is of the nature of a barter. Nations must give and take, and the selling or the profits can never be on one side.

So wonderful deeds will be done on the Pacific and on the shores within the lifetime of the generation that is. The great canal will be built, the Golden Gate will swing wide open, the gateway of the Puget Sound will never be closed, and the open door of China will admit not only corn and calico, but the breath of the Pacific, in all the meaning of the word—the spirit of civilization, the message of peace on earth, good will toward men.—David Starr Jordan, in the New York Journal.

Massachusetts has 70,000 more women than men.