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THE MODERN DRUGGISTS . . . PENDLETON



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1902.

### "CLOSED" PORTLAND.

The moralists have a crow coming long and loud. Merrill's proposition to practically make Portland a wide-open town fell through. Merrill will now be the object of discussion among the moralists throughout the country and he will be put down as a very bad man. He will be pictured as an advocate of lawlessness and crime.

Mayor Williams and his followers will be fawned over as the next thing to angels. All of this, not because there is so much difference in the moral standing of the men, but because of a difference of opinion. One side believes that gambling will be carried on any way and thinks that it can be better regulated by the license system, and that the taxpayers would receive some benefit in this way. The other side think that gambling should not be tolerated in any form and that to license it encourages it, and it is thereby increased with its attendant dangers.

It is merely a difference of opinion. It is not a reflection on the morals of the men. Mayor Humes, of Seattle, the champion of the license system for cities, is a moral man. Although he belongs to no church, he neither drinks or gambles. He has never turned charity aside. He simply believes in the license system conscientiously and thinks it best for the public.

There are two sides to the question. There is wide room for argument. Portland's step will not settle the matter. Neither will gambling cease in that city. It is admitted by all that are intelligent that this evil will exist. It is a question whether it is best to license it and compel those who engage in this universal evil to pay a part of the expenses of government, or to make war on it and compel the gamblers to resort to bribery and other means necessary to carry it on. It means the skulking behind closed doors, the corruption of officers, giving a leeway to the lower element of tin-horns and a hundred other things.

Still this may be better than licensing what is considered crime.

Captain Butts, of Fort Russell, an old Indian fighter, swore in the presence of a superior officer the other day and now he is likely to have to stand a court martial trial and will appear before Funston. It was a part of the tactics in those early days to swear and the old captain must have forgotten himself. But Funston has made enough other people swear since he returned from the Philippines to be willing to show leniency, at least, if the case is left to his discretion.

It turns out that Councilman Utch, the St. Louis hoodler, is not so good after all. It was not a repentant soul that prompted him in turning informer against his confederates, but a spirit of revenge aroused by his pals not giving him the proper div. They had promised him \$50,000, and only gave him 10 per cent of this sum. He went on the theory that there ought to be honor even among thieves.

Pendleton is waking up to put on her winter clothes. She is talking civic improvements, better sewerage system and a great many other things of importance. The fire service should not be forgotten either, as

with the approach of winter all of the defective flues will be discovered, and that too, generally after it is too late, or at an inopportune time. They generally let themselves be known at the dead of night, or when the wind is high, just when the firemen have the hardest work to extinguish the fire.

The National Livestock Association has now combined with the railroads in a fight against the packing trust. This ought to be a winner or a hard fight at least. The trusts cannot do much without the railroads, and then the National Livestock Association is no small thing itself. A fight against great powers like these gives the trusts a taste of their own medicine. It is not like the fight against a lot of starving miners, who must eventually settle on any terms, if they do not receive outside aid. It is rather strange that the railroads would enter into a fight against the combines since their owners are all combine men themselves. But still wonders do happen and occasionally the public is the beneficiary.

The Macedonians raided Turkey and had things their own way. Turkey may have done the best she could in the Miss Stone case after all. She seems utterly powerless to protect herself against anything or anybody. If one of those little bands of bandits would raid the harem and kidnap the boss in bloomers and make a Charlie Ross case of him, it would not do decaying Turkey any harm.

Another accident has happened in the Washington mines. Those mines have long been a death trap and in spite of continued protest on the part of the people no precautions seem to have ever been taken to improve conditions. The explosions occur with regularity and the death rate increases with each accident.

In no case should city ordinances be more rigidly enforced than those against children running about the streets at night. Permitting them to do so has made thousands of hobos and caused many a pure girl to go astray.

### ALTGELD ON SYNDICATES.

But, says some one, is there any use in our making an effort? Are not all the bankers of this country, all of the trusts and great corporations of this country, all of the powerful forces of this country, is not the fashion of this country, are not the drawing rooms and the clubs of this country now controlled by concentrated and corrupt wealth? Are they not growing stronger every year, and do they not vilify and attempt to crush everybody that does not submit? Can anything be accomplished in the way of curbing this great force and protecting the American people?

My friends, let me cite you a parallel: George William Curtis and other writers of his day have described the slave power back in the 50's. They tell us that slavery sat in the White House and made laws in the capital; that courts of justice were its ministers; that senators and legislators were its lackeys; that it controlled the professor in his lecture room, the editor in his sanctum, the preacher in his pulpit; that it swaggered in the drawing room; that it ruled at the clubs; that it dominated with iron hand all the affairs of society; that every year enlarged its power, every move increased its dominion; that the men and the women who dared even to question the divinity of that institution were ostracized, were persecuted, were vilified—aye, were hanged.

But the great clock in the Chamber of the Omnipotent never stands still. It ticked away the years as it had once ticked away the centuries. Finally it struck the hour and the world heard the tread of a million armed men, and slavery vanished from

America forever. Note the parallel. Today the syndicate rules at the White House and makes laws at the capital; courts of justice are its ministers; senators and legislators are its lackeys. It controls the preacher in his pulpit, the professor in his lecture room, the editor in his sanctum; it swaggers in the drawing room; it rules at the clubs; it dominates with a rod of iron the affairs of society. Every year enlarges its power; and the men and women who protest against the crimes that are being committed by organized greed in this country—who talk of protecting the American people—are ostracized, are vilified, are hounded and imprisoned. It seems madness to even question the divinity of the American Syndicate. But my friends, that great clock is still ticking—still ticking. Soon it will again strike the hour and the world will see not 1,000,000, but 10,000,000 free men rise up, armed not with muskets, but with freemen's ballots, and the sway of the syndicate will vanish from America forever.—Extract From Speech of J. P. Altgeld, 1900.

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