

# Coquille City Herald.

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NO 38

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## Musings from the Heights at San Souci.

As we gaze from San Souci on the verge of the ocean  
That laves charming Bandon thy feet  
feet north your lee,  
We list to its roaring, its ceaseless commotion  
And scan the horizon for sails on dark sea.  
As we gaze, too, we think of myriads now sleeping—  
Their lone and last sleep in thy caverns, oh! sea,  
Of the fond ones at home who sadly are weeping  
For spirits now flown to Eternity.  
The waves of vast oceans are — singing  
A mariner's dirge for the sleeping below,  
The sea nymphs in chorus the kelp shrouds are bringing,  
Rough manes befitting where hurricanes blow.  
As gazing we fancy those spirits awakening  
From their rest and chill sleep in the Sea God's domain  
And list to the march of their feet fiercely shaking  
The earth to its centre with stentorian acclaim.  
Sleep on in thy tombs of bright agates and corals  
Surrounded by Nereids, nymphs, zephyrs and sprites,  
Your relics surrounded by Neptunes a laurels  
Farewell, ocean sleepers now retired from the fight.  
H. H. B.  
San Souci, Bandon by the Sea.  
March 17, 1903.  
The Lay Preacher's Pulpit.

Congressman Littlefield, a man of marked ability and independence of character, recently said:

"If it were not for the newspapers the jobs which would go through Congress are terrible to contemplate. If there were no newspapers at all, I don't believe I would be willing to trust myself alone in the House of Representatives for 15 minutes."

This is a very high compliment to power of journalism; but it is the truth. Fifty years ago the New York Tribune, under Greeley, was about the only great newspaper that stood for utterly unbought, untrifled editorial opinions. The New York Evening Post was equally upright and fearless, but at that date it was not the peer of the Tribune in National circulation and political influence. Today there is not a city of 50,000 inhabitants that does not support an incorrupt independent newspaper. It is true that the so-called satanic press of yellow-kid journalism has multiplied in numbers and pecuniary strength, but compared with the able incorrupt independent newspapers the satanic press has small influence.

Congressman Littlefield is right. The highest rank of newspapers do act as a check and a restraint upon many Congressmen who would not hesitate to do wrong if they did not know and fear the newspaper, knowing that it would at once "turn on the gas" and expose their wrongdoing to the country the moment it became a matter of news. The gaslight is the best policeman, and the newspaper is feared because it is its business to record the deeds of darkness as well as to award praise to those who prove themselves children of light. This sleepless vigilance of the press and its prompt exposure of social offenders to the public gaze has a powerful restraint on the lawless and turbulent, on both the knaves and fools. Men who care nothing for conscience do care for reputation, influence, commercial credit that can be seriously impaired, if not utterly wrecked, by newspaper exposure and indictment of their misdeeds. "Turn on the gas" is the best sign for an able and upright newspaper to fight and conquer under, provided it does not forget that even gaslight needs prudent handling. The newspaper of brains and character has been correctly described at once "Mayor, Sheriff, detective and teacher and preacher all in one."

Of the power of journalism, Edward M. Shepard, in a recent address, said that under "the unheroic bombardment of American newspapers the German war lord stayed his hand, and his British ally was at once ashamed." The power of a great newspaper lies not so much in its purely intellectual power of expression as it does in the public confidence that its opinions are honest opinions, unbiased by partisanship or personal friendship. Samuel Bowles, many years ago, when asked if the candidate he opposed for Mayor of Springfield was not his friend and brother-in-law, replied: "Yes, but my newspaper is subordinate to neither friendship nor family ties. It has no brother-in-law." That is a very high ideal, and yet the nearer a great newspaper approaches that ideal, the larger is its unspeakable public influence for good in society or politics. The public have no use for the opinions of an editor if it once

discovers that he does not discuss public questions honestly and disinterestedly from the single point of view of public welfare. If an editor undertakes to frame his opinions by trying to find out what will please his readers, he is lost. He might as well at once abolish his editorial page. An editorial opinion is worthless to the public unless there is a man of good sense and information behind it, who is as courageous and impartial as a just judge in the trial of causes in the courts.

A newspaper is at once a private business and a public trust. What it prints and what it does not print must be determined by its own sense of business discretion and its own moral judgment. A mixture of motives, all entirely honorable, may govern and dictate the conduct of a newspaper; but a newspaper cannot in the long run hold the confidence of its public if it fails to discuss public questions with honesty and disinterestedness. The public weal must be its point of view if it expects public confidence and respect. The public do not expect that their editor will always be acute in mind and able in policy, but they have a right to expect that he will be upright in purpose and incorrupt in action, and the influential editor seldom fails his public. It is the notorious exception, when a man becomes the editor of a successful newspaper that exercises any appreciable influence on public opinion, if the man recognizes no such thing as heart or conscience, integrity or humanity. No man can play fast and loose with these eternal verities, just as his sense of immediate self-interest or vindictiveness prompts him. Merciless personalities in politics are sometimes manifested through the press, just as they are elsewhere in the organized expression of human thought, feeling and business, but no great newspaper ever rose to influence and long maintained it whose editor made his private piques, his unquenched personal animosities, his unweakened personal revenges and unsatisfied private interests the polestar of his working career.

The flaw in the diamond of the New York Tribune under Greeley was its passionate personal invectives and personal outbursts of bitter partisan hate. It was always able, but always so inflexibly intolerant that the New York Times and the New York Evening Post waxed fat on the chintz that Greeley periodically drove away from his doors. The political temper of the American people has become bland compared with what it was in Greeley's day, and no first-class American newspaper could afford today to abuse in its columns a high-minded, cultivated political opponent, as Greeley did when he printed an editorial attack upon Governor Seymour under the caption, "You Lie, You Villian; You Lie!" Greeley was an honest man, a sober man, an able man; but he never ruled his temper in conversation or print. His manners were boorish in this respect. He injected his intense, intolerant individuality into everything he wrote and into everything he inspired his subordinates to write, and the result was that the Tribune under Greeley said a great deal that made its judicious friends grieve. This kind of able, aggressive editor is becoming obsolete in the great newspapers. He is replaced by men who, while inferior to Greeley in genius, are equal to him in moral courage and superior to him in discretion and self-command. Greeley's great qualities of moral courage and political purity are perpetuated by the independent press of the country that in every considerable city of the land champions the cause of the people against predatory trusts and parasitic monopoly. Never were there so many powerful newspapers in the land of entirely upright purpose and downright action entirely devoted to the greatest good of the greatest number. If it were not for the influence of the independent press in both parties, the plutocracy would be able to always gag Congress with their gold and pack the leading courts of the land with their body servants.

The independent press is the lay preacher's pulpit which does not fear to speak the truth of municipal pirates while living who have become very rich through public robbery, and scorns to whitewash successful scoundrel when dead. The lay preacher's pulpit is not afraid to award to the memory of great criminals punishment after death.—Oregonian.

The President seriously contemplates calling Congress in extra session next November with a view to securing the legislation necessary to put the Cuban treaty into effect immediately.

The Panama treaty has been ratified but there are many well posted authorities who believe it will not receive the approval of the Colombian Congress.

## New Oregon Labor Laws.

The following labor laws were passed at the last session of the Oregon legislature:

**FELLOW-SERVANT LIABILITY ACTS**  
Provide that a railroad shall be liable in damages for injuries sustained by an employe as follows:  
When such injury results from the wrongful act, neglect or default of an employe higher in the service than the employe injured; or from the wrongful act, neglect or default of a co-employe engaged in another department of service or on another train. "Knowledge by an employe injured or the defective or unsafe character or condition of any machinery, ways, appliances or structures shall not of itself be a bar to recovery for injury." The representative of an employe who may be killed shall have right of action against the railroad for damages, and any contract, expressed or implied, made by the deceased employe to waive his rights under the act shall be null and void. The act will go into effect May 21.

**BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.**  
Provides as follows:  
The Labor Commissioner shall be appointed by the Governor, Secretary of State and State Treasurer, and shall hold office until July, 1906, when his successor, when his successor, elected by popular vote, shall assume the office.

This Commissioner shall cause to be enforced "all laws enacted for the protection of the working classes." He shall also "collect statistical details relating to all the departments of labor in the state, and relating to labor difficulties. Employers in factories, workshops and mills shall make "such reports and returns as the said bureau may require. Such information shall be deemed confidential and not for the purpose of disclosing personal affairs." Any member of the bureau violating this confidence shall be fined not more than \$500 or be imprisoned for not more than one year in the county jail.

The Commissioner shall have power to issue subpoenas, administer oaths and take testimony. He may enter any factory, mill office, workshop or public or private works at any reasonable time for the purpose of gathering statistics. The salary of the Commissioner shall be \$1800 per year, and that of his deputy shall be \$900 per year.

## TO PREVENT "BLACKLISTING."

The Bailey law to prevent blacklisting of employes will become operative May 21. It provides that "no corporation, company or individual, with intent and for the purpose of preventing such employe, mechanic or laborer from engaging in or securing similar or other employment from any other corporation, company or individual." Penalties for violation of the act range in fines from \$50 to \$250, and in imprisonment from 30 to 90 days, or both fine or imprisonment.

## TO PROHIBIT DECEPTION IN PROCURING EMPLOYEES.

The law provides that no employes shall induce, influence, persuade or engage workmen to change from one place to another in this state or to bring workmen of any class or classing into this state by means of false or deceptive representations, false advertising or false pretenses concerning the kind and character of the work to be done, the amount and character of the compensation to be paid for such work, the sanitary or other conditions of the employment, or as to the existence or non-existence of a strike or other trouble pending between employer and employes. The act prohibits the use of arms or deadly weapons of any kind to guard persons who may come into the state except on permit from the Governor. But the use of arms otherwise to protect property shall not be interfered with.

## RIGHT TO BELONG TO UNIONS.

This bill provides that it shall be unlawful for any employer to prevent or attempt to prevent employes from forming, joining or belonging to any lawful labor organization. Employers who violate the act may be fined not more than \$100 or be imprisoned not more than six months, or both fined and imprisoned.

Oregon is certainly a land of magnificent distances. The western part of the state has basked in the sunshine for the greater part of the winter, and the roses were blooming in the open gardens through most of the month of December. Now comes the story from Eastern Oregon that, owing to the long-continued cold spell, there is a scarcity of feed, and stock must be shipped into more favored portions of the state. Oregon not only offers inducements in the way of industrial openings of all kinds, but also has climate to suit, be it warm, cold or intermediate.—Oregonian.

## Model Work of Its Kind.

A large and handsomely bound volume giving the "Official Records of the Oregon Volunteers in the Spanish War and Philippine Insurrection" has been compiled by Brigadier-General C. U. Gantenbein, adjutant-general of the State of Oregon and late major Second Oregon United States Volunteer Infantry. It forms a very complete and interesting record of the excellent services of this regiment, a number of illustrations adding to its value. The state law under which the records are published provides that the copies shall be distributed in such a manner as the Governor may direct. Of the 500 copies provided for in the act Governor Geer has directed that one copy be presented to each of the 334 officers, sergeants and corporals of the Second Oregon Volunteer Light Infantry, and to the wife, father or mother of each of the 64 members of the Second Oregon who lost their lives while in the service, provided they apply to the adjutant-general before May 1, 1903. The method of distribution of such volumes as may remain on hand May 1, 1903, will be made known at that time. The volume is of 700 pages and contains the individual record of each man in the regiment aside from other facts of importance. It is certainly a model work of its kind.—Army and Navy Journal.

## No Referendum Wanted.

We are in receipt of two petitions now being circulated asking for a referendum of the new corporation tax law and of the portage railway law, passed by the recent session of the Legislature. We cannot agree with the petitioners that there should be a referendum on either of these measures. The portage railway law is a measure that Eastern Oregon has been working for many years, and while it may not benefit Malheur county directly, we think it will be worth to us all it will ever cost us, and if there ever should be a railroad built from Huntington to Lewiston, we certainly could get our freight much cheaper by reason of having an open river. It will require 4400 names to a petition to invoke the referendum of either of these measures. There can probably be that many people found who are directly interested in the defeat of these laws, but we hope that should a referendum be had a majority of the voters of the state will confirm the act of the Legislature.—Malheur Gazette.

One of the obstacles to the success of farmers' co-operative organizations is a tendency on the part of many of the organizers to think that such an organization is intended to set aside the ordinary rules of business. There is no mysterious power about a co-operative organization. The more nearly it resembles other successful organizations in its business methods the more likely it is to succeed. Business cannot be done without capital and the farmers who organize an association to do business must expect to raise a sufficient capital to transact the necessary business in an ordinary way. The man who is not willing to risk an investment of one-tenth the valuation of a crop which he intends to market through an association in the capital stock of that association cannot be relied upon as a faithful member of such an association. If ten of the growers of small fruit growers in the vicinity of Portland should associate themselves and invest \$50 each in their organization, their association would be much more likely to succeed than one with a hundred members who had invested only \$5 each.—Oregon Agriculturist.

Henry C. Moore, of Sioux City, believes that it is possible to interbreed the Arctic muskox with cattle of the temperate zone, and that the stock so produced would be able to withstand the severe winters of the United States. He has been in communication on the subject with Perry, the Arctic explorer, who is favorably impressed with the idea. "The vast loss of the present season among herds on the Western ranges," said Mr. Moore, "emphasizes the necessity of trying to infuse harder blood into American cattle."—Oregonian.

## Danger of Colds and Grip.

The greatest danger from colds and grip is their resulting in pneumonia. If reasonable care is used, however, and Chamberlain's Cough Remedy taken, all danger will be avoided. Among the tens of thousands who have used this remedy for these diseases we have yet to learn of a single case having resulted in pneumonia, which shows conclusively that it is a certain preventive of that dangerous disease. It will cure a cold or an attack of the grip in less time than any other treatment. It is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by R. S. Knowlton.

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