

Semi-Weekly

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Influence of the Range Steer.

The influence that the range steer is exerting on the commercial interests of the world is varied and widespread, says G. W. Hervey, of Nebraska. The demand that he has created for improved blood has added millions of dollars annually to the revenue of the fine stock breeding industry.

This will show more plainly when we understand that the range is a breeding and producing district, carrying almost entirely breeding cattle and stock cattle of feeding ages; the export trade in these range steers being largely to the feed yards in the states east of the Missouri, where in the periods of enumeration they help to swell the cattle population of those districts.

How Seattle Does.

Cattle has a very pretty scandal in the elopement of two people, who, by the way, had a right to elope, the man being the possessor of a two-weeks-old divorce decree, and the fair lady's single state dating but a week backward to the divorce mill.

The night prior to their departure Ellis and Mrs. Johnson were together at the Bismarck, a Bohemian resort, where music, wine and meals are furnished. The divorced Mrs. Johnson found them there and attacked Mrs. Johnson with an umbrella.

We like a circus, but would give the seeing of all the circuses that may take the road soon for the chance of seeing such a mixup as those Seattle people engaged in.

Makaroff's Brilliant Career.

Vice Admiral Makaroff, who lost his life in the battleship Petropavlovsky disaster Wednesday, was appointed February 26 to the command of the Russian Pacific fleet. He was one of the heroes of the fighting on the River Danube during the Russo-Turkish War.

Petroleum Production.

The United States Geological Survey Press Bulletin, just issued, summarizes a government report on the world's production of petroleum for 1902. We make an extract:

"The world's production of petroleum in 1902 amounted to 185,151,080 barrels. Of this the United States and Russia produced 91.44 per cent. For years Russia has led in point of production, but an increase of 19,377,722 barrels in the production of the United States in 1902, and a decrease amounting to 4,025,51 barrels in the production of Russia, caused these two countries to change places, and put the United States at the head of the list.

than double the quantity of the higher grades of refined products is obtained from the average crude petroleum produced in the United States than is obtained from Russian oil. The United States produced nearly 2 1/2 barrels of refined products in 1902 for every barrel produced by the rest of the world.

"Within recent years crude petroleum of inferior quality has been largely consumed as fuel oil. In Russia petroleum has been distilled only sufficiently to meet the government requirements as to the flash test, and the remainder is marketed as fuel petroleum, under the head of residuum. This is also true, to a certain extent, in our newly developed fields in Texas, Louisiana, and California.

Blood Will Tell.

It takes time and carefully selected breeding to make thoroughbred stock that will reproduce their own characteristics without variation or a breeding back to original types. The Lebanon Criterion tells of a case in point:

Just three weeks before the first of April we set a hen, with seventeen White Minorca eggs. The eggs were from a choice hen, and we had high hopes for more White Minorcas. When last Friday came twelve fluffy little chicks came to light, but lo, and behold, four of them were as black as crows.

How Seattle Does.

Those chicken 'sports' are as half-breeds in the human family. In the case of persons having Indian or negro blood in their veins, though to such a small degree that their blood would not be called in question, it is not unusual for a child of the 'sport' order to come along, bred back to the inferior race to a degree that cannot but surprise the parents.

The cattlemen of Southern California, through Governor Pardee, of that state, have asked permission to bring their stock to the Oregon ranges, on account of the prevailing drouth in California.

The editor of a life saver this morning, the fire from the blacksmith shop was eating through the roof of his chicken house when he threw the chickens from their roosts into the open air. They staid out, too.

That was a splendid rain yesterday and last night, not only for the growing crops but the property contiguous to the Olive street fire of the early morning. Had the roofs been dry as usual the nest of barns back of the blacksmith shop most likely would have gone.

A prominent merchant, at one time mayor and a member of the city council, where he was noted for his liberality to the firemen, asks the Guard to insist on the best possible support for the fire department.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought

Be sure and get the kind with the signature of J. C. Watson.

Note and Comment.

On the declaration of war with Japan the Russian court and populace, with most solemn ceremony, invoked the aid of God in their war against the heathen Japanese. So far Russia has got much the worst of the bout. Having placed the justice of their cause in the hands of God, and having met with little else than disaster, if consistent they should come to the conclusion that they are in the wrong and make reparation to the heathen whom they thought they had a commission to destroy.

Captain Cowies of the battleship Missouri, brother-in-law of the president, must think himself the victim of unkind fate. The Missouri collided with the Illinois off Pensacola, Florida, a few weeks ago, and Captain Cowies was hardly exonerated of blame for the accident when about two thousand pounds of powder exploded in the after 12-inch turret, instantly killing twenty-nine men and fatally wounding several others Wednesday. These big fighting machines are dangerous to themselves even with the most careful handling.

The loss of the Russian battleship Retopavlovsk is sought to be accounted for by the statement that the location of six submarine mines planted by the Russian cruiser Yenese were unknown, the charts having been lost when that ship was destroyed by the Japanese. It does not seem possible that the secret of these terribly dangerous locations should have been confided to but one set of men, and those in danger of destruction with their secret, as finally occurred.

Extend the fire limits as suggested across Olive street to cover the property where the fire was this morning? It would be a gross injustice to the property owners. Rents there at present, and for some time to come, for that matter, are not or will not be sufficiently high to warrant the considerable expense of brick buildings.

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A prominent merchant, at one time mayor and a member of the city council, where he was noted for his liberality to the firemen, asks the Guard to insist on the best possible support for the fire department. He suggests that Eugene is large enough to employ a couple of paid firemen who shall be constantly on duty so there will be no lack of a head when the apparatus arrives at the place needed. It is a hard proposition, look at it from either side. The expense would be considerable, with but few calls for service, still one badly managed fire at the commencement might cause a loss that would overbalance the expense of the men for twenty years, not counting the general detriment that would occur through the loss of any considerable portion of the business of the town.

Open Salmon Fishing Season.

The open season for taking salmon in the Lower Columbia river commenced yesterday morning. The Astoria Budget of the day before, Thursday, had this:

The spring fishing season opens according to the state laws of Oregon and Washington at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning and from what is known the first deliveries will be large and to the uninitiated would indicate a large run, but during the past week there has been more illegal fishing in the river than for a number of years.

The difference about the price of the raw fish by the fishermen and the packers is not liable to cause trouble, from the indications at hand, and it is more than probable that the fishermen will accept the opening price fixed by the canners, although some of the fishermen are talking about a strike, but there is little chance of it materializing.

The Divorce Problem.

The fact that a large number of divorces are granted to mismatched couples in the United States each year is a sad comment on the people's regard for the marriage relation. I

is also an indication that American mothers, at least many of them, are not as careful as they should be in counseling their daughters against marriage with unworthy suitors.

A St. Louis judge, in granting a divorce to an American wife from an English nobleman, is said to have used the following language:

It is always the way these foreigners treat their American wives. Ambitious mothers and cultured daughters traveling abroad are constantly falling into such traps as these. The courts are full of such cases. It seems to me that mothers ought to waste up some time.

While there are unquestionably numerous cases of this kind, are they more common, in proportion to the total number, than are the cases right here at home? When in one county in eastern Washington, as is stated to have been a fact, last year, the number of divorce cases equaled one-fourth the number of marriages licensed, there must be something radically wrong, either in the divorce law or the method of selecting wives and husbands.

There is no doubt but the Russo-Japanese war will be of long duration. The Japs have the best of the fight on water, which gives them great courage, while the temporary defeat of the Russians makes them more determined to go on. This war, like every other war in the past will make a demand for cavalry horses and mules. This demand will have to be met by increased prices, as there are no surplus horses or mules in this or any other country. The horse business certainly has a bright future, much more so than in years past.

LANE COUNTY REPUBLICANS WERE JOLLIED

Marion County Made Then Believe Harris Had a Majority of the Vote.

Salem Capital Journal: The Journal was alone in not misrepresenting the complexion of the Marion county delegation to the politicians of Lane.

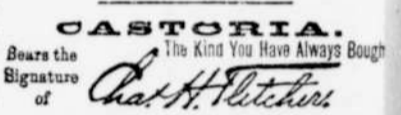
But a jolly was as good as any other substitute for the truth of the matter. The cold, frozen truth is that great many jollies were handed to the brethren from Lane as to the support in store for their candidate.

Considering the vanishing character of a great deal of the Harris support that gentleman made a great blunder in the direction of success.

For a late start, and discounting the "jolly" support, he made a fine race. But there was too much disposition to jolly and trifle.

Hermann's supporters were a disorganized lot of men who meant business, while the Harris talk was largely to have something to say.

That is the moral of it all.



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