

# The Deschutes Echo.

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SATURDAY, FEB. 20, 1904.

The Japs have so far had the best of the war. When war was first considered it seemed hardly possible that the little island nation could withstand Russia for any length of time. Russia, however, is only a land nation and her people have not taken to sea-faring life in sufficient numbers to insure a sufficient number of competent sailors for her navy. As a result her navy has proven ineffective and a large number of her vessels are now out of the war for good. Thus Japan has or is likely to have the sea to herself and she is safe from Russian invasion. This changes the complexion of the war and bids fair to prolong it for a year, or more. On land the Russian will hold his own. He has unlimited soldiers and is a man to be reckoned with. The battle of Chemulpo in which two Russian vessels were destroyed was a gallant spectacle. The Japanese admiral with fifteen vessels of various classes blocked escape from Chemulpo harbor and ordered the two Russian vessels to come out. Against these odds and in the face of certain destruction the Russians cleared for action and went out and fought until their vessels were in a sinking condition when they returned to the harbor and abandoned the sinking ships. The Japs are proving themselves wonderfully capable soldiers and sailors but the Russian has not yet shown the yellow streak. There have been no surrenders and Russian people are now singing their national anthem, a sign that the whole nation is waking up. The war will become more desperate as the Russian people wake up.

We told you so! Malcolm A. Moody is desirous of retiring from private life to a berth in congress. What is the matter with Moody? Hasn't he all the comforts of home at The Dalles? Has some one been poaching on his game preserves and made him sore? Well, we hope not. Moody will have to get busy as his trial at Portland interrupted his campaign. Nevertheless, if from now on he attends every public gathering from a dog fight up he can easily make up for lost time. His campaign may cause him to absent himself from the vicinity of The Dalles Land Office for a time but we guess the residents of the land district will not mind that and the health of the land officials will not suffer. If Moody won the republican nomination for congress, what then? Well, we think those inconsiderate democrats, who, as Ex-Senator Thurston once said, are always sure to be on hand when there is any h—l to be raised, would mistake Moody for a meat pie and dig into him. There's that report that is going the rounds at Portland, The Dalles and here, that members of the jury before whom Moody was tried made positive statements that they believed that Moody was guilty of the charges in the indictment and that if the case had gone to the jury they would have voted guilty and stuck to it, and that the best Moody could have hoped for as an outcome of the trial was a disagreement. We have known lots and lots of democrats and we never knew a democrat who could pass

up a warm one of this kind. This is one thing that Moody had better head off. He might get affidavits from those twelve jurymen that they believed him innocent. His discharge by the judge on technical grounds is of little popular interest. What it wants to know is whether he is morally innocent of the right serious charges made against him. The democratic clans are gathering and they are not fighting among themselves. They are saving up fight for something, we wonder what. It is barely possible that the next campaign will be a hair-raiser. The democrats are good fighters and the corruptness that has existed in public life under Roosevelt's administration will give the democratic orators a chance for personal illustrations that will put the republicans on the defensive from the beginning of the campaign. Names like Dietriehs of Nebraska, Burton of Kansas, Moody of Oregon, will nightly receive polite mention all over the United States. Wouldn't that be handing a bunch of posies to the second congressional district of Oregon? Williamson is partly to blame for Moody's candidacy. He should have found something good for Moody. Couldn't he have had Roosevelt depose the treaty-breaking Sultan of Jolo and installed Moody in that position? The residents of Jolo are Mohammedans and believe in the Koran but then that would not please Moody. He would find a lot of good things—things that are easy to live up to—in that sacred book. Yes we think Williamson should have got Moody this job. Moody would have abolished slavery and that horrible polygamy that now exists in that benighted island.

Marcus A. Hanna is dead. His life as a thorough-going business man was long and successful, his life as a politician was short and successful. His entrance into politics was greeted with suspicion and abuse but at the time of his death he was conceded to be one of the safest and soundest men in the republican ranks. He had great influence over President McKinley and no doubt Hanna's shrewdness added much to McKinley's success. He was an earnest and fair-minded American and both political parties will acknowledge his patriotism and ability.

The Oregon Daily Journal is making use of the Hearst war service in Manchuria. This is an admirable arrangement for the enterprising Journal as the Hearst corps at the seat of war is composed of some of the most active and reliable newsgatherers in the world. Competition is the life of newsgathering and the Hearst system, being independent of all other bureaus, looks at the war from its own standpoint and digs up a great amount of news not obtained by other service.

Some county residents are in favor of a new brick courthouse for Crook county. The county is growing rapidly in wealth and population and it is possible that a larger structure may be necessary in a short time. The present county court is an economical one and will only consider the repair of the present courthouse at its next meeting. The loss by fire will probably not be great an account of the insurance.

You will now be given the impression that A. M. Drake is an important holder of stock in the new irrigation company. This will be told you by interested parties and you should not try to remember it too long. The Ore-

gonian, also, will continue to refer to Drake as the great irrigator of this section but that is only for effect. These reports are of the "stuff that dreams are made of" and the fewer of them you listen to the wiser you will be. How about that yarn that the C. S. R. Co. was going to locate its depot on the Bend townsite? How much truth was there in that?

Benson, Hyde, Schneider and Diamond were indicted by a federal grand jury for lieu land scrip frauds covering the States of Oregon and California. These men were acting with employes of the U. S. Land department and procured cheap lands in sections where, by information obtained by bribery, they knew a forest reserve was to be made. None of the government officials were indicted. They confessed and are to be used as witnesses.

The following article has been going the rounds of the state press and appeared in the Oregon Daily Journal under the caption "Hoist by His Own Petard."

An Eastern Oregon editor had this in his columns: "It you see it in the— it is so." The next day he was whipped for lying about a neighbor.

We suppose this means our own Truthful James who writes those homilies on character.

Binger Hermann has an opponent for his office in the person of L. T. Harris. Harris has the support of Lane county and a number of newspapers are shifting from Hermann to Harris. Brownell has not yet started in the race but will probably do so. Either Harris or Brownell would make a better congressman than Hermann.

The vice-president of the Deschutes irrigation company who sued for \$30,000 libel won't need his money now to help out the company. The sale of the property has knocked the props from his air castles and put a hawk in his poultry yard.—Crook County Journal.

Congressman Dick and Gov. Herrick of Ohio, are candidates for the senatorial seat of the late Mark Hanna. Herrick is a Foraker man, while Dick belongs to the party wing of which Hanna was leader. Dick seems to have the best claims to the place.

Murphy of Tammany says he is for Grover Cleveland for president; D. B. Hill is for Judge Parker, and Hearst has the Bryan admirers of New York in his train. It is thought that Murphy's second choice will be McClellan.

Mr. Pony Winters, a prominent capitalist of Prineville, announces that arrangements have been completed for the starting of his bank at BEND. The banking house will be located on WALL ST.

The United States while declaring neutrality in the Russian-Jap war is being watched by Russia. A correct neutral stand is one which Roosevelt is temperamentally unfit for.

The Associated Press reports chronicle a large number of places in the vicinity of China where firing has been heard. There must be reports of a dozen battles due according to this.

The regions of the Balkan mountains are becoming riotous and Turkey may have a war to fight just as soon as Russia's soldiery is moved well towards the East.

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