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BRIEF NEWS OF OREGON

Governor West issued a proclamation declaring next Friday, "Rose Festival" day, a legal holiday.

Moving pictures of bears in their native haunts were taken in the vicinity of Roseburg. Traps were set in some instances.

The senate has passed the Chamberlain bill appropriating \$60,000 for erecting aids to navigation along the Alaska coast.

The case of Frank Stetler of Portland, to determine the validity of the new minimum wage law, has been put on the docket of the supreme court of the United States.

Timber men and mill owners of La Grande are planning to wage an extensive fight on forest fires this summer, and it is expected 30,000 acres of timber will be patrolled.

Three Portland boys entered a plea of guilty in the circuit court at Oregon City to a charge of burglary, and each was sentenced to a term of from two to five years in the state penitentiary. All were paroled.

For violations of sections of the interstate commerce law relating to the working of employees overtime, the O. W. R. & N. company was fined a total of \$3250 by Judge Bean in United States district court at Portland.

The department of commerce has notified Senator Chamberlain that it has requested the treasury department to detail a revenue cutter to patrol the course of the regatta at Astoria, July 2 and 3.

State Forester Elliott announces that he will appoint at once about 350 road supervisors and about 100 other persons fire wardens to work in districts which are not patrolled by regular wardens.

The Grants Pass commercial club has asked for advice on how to proceed in case the lands in the Oregon & California grant suits revert to the government. The persons interested are appealed to.

Despite threatening weather conditions the crowds at the Lebanon strawberry festival were greater on the closing day than on the first day. Auto parades were better than ever before.

Two Oregon items included in the sundry civil bill which will be reported to the senate are \$100,000 for Crater Lake and \$15,000 for the improvement of the Clackamas salmon hatchery.

Professor V. I. Saffro, assistant in the entomological department of the Oregon agricultural college has tentatively accepted a position as entomologist at the college extension station in Montevideo, South America.

The secretary of the interior has awarded to W. E. Mason, of Klamath Falls, the contract for the construction of the Lost River diversion channel of the Klamath irrigation project, at a cost of \$19,922.

Revival of the old wars between cattlemen and sheepmen is indicated by information received of depredations, supposedly by owners of cattle, among sheep on the government range on Dixie creek, west of Durkee.

During the first year's operation of the corporation department, since the enactment of the blue sky law, the receipts of the department amounted to \$225,262.47, according to figures given out by Corporation Commissioner R. A. Watson.

A Chinook salmon weighing 87 pounds was caught in the lower Columbia by H. P. Nelson, a gillnetter. The fish may capture the \$30 prize offered by Schmidt Co., of Brookfield. For the largest salmon which will be sent to the fair at San Francisco next year.

Efforts will be made through the Oregon delegation in congress by the Portland chamber of commerce to secure an amendment to the homestead act which will reduce the amount of clearing necessary on the part of the settler on a homestead in the coast counties of Oregon.

Determined to win for Portland the 1918 national convention of the American Osteopathic association, members of the Oregon association will convene Friday and Saturday. Osteopaths from all over the state will be in attendance and the Portland contingent has arranged its affairs to be present at all the sessions.

On representations of Senator Chamberlain, Major Boggs of the Isthmian canal commission has ordered new bids called for for canal supplies. Objection was made that the term supreme limited tenders to a proprietary cattle food. Portland millers said suvore was the name of a proprietary cattle food, which only one firm could furnish.

Secretary of State Olcott announces that the bounty appropriation of \$40,000 made at the last session of the legislature for the capture of wild animals had been exhausted. A law passed in 1909 provides that the bounties on predatory animals shall be paid by the state and counties, each paying half. Mr. Olcott has notified the county clerks that the appropriation has been exhausted and has asked them to discontinue forwarding claims until another appropriation is made.

CURIOUS LAND TENURES.

Some English Tenants Do Queer Stunts to Retain Their Leases.

Our British cousins still cling to some curious customs with respect to land tenures. One curious proceeding is known as "The Castor Whip Tenure." On Palm Sunday every year a servant from the Broughton estate attends service at Castor church with a new cart whip, and, after cracking it three times on the porch, marches with it to the manor house.

As the clergyman begins to deliver his sermon, the servant quits his seat. A purse containing thirty pieces of silver is fixed at the end of the whiplash, and, kneeling on a cushion, he holds the purse suspended over the head of the minister until the end of the sermon. Then purse and whip are left at the manor house.

The "Whisper Court" at Rochford, in Essex, is a strange Michaelmas observance held under the auspices of the steward of the manor. The business of the court is transacted at midnight in the open air. The absence of a tenant is punishable by a fine of double his rent for each hour he fails to be in attendance. No artificial light except a firebrand is permitted. The proceedings are recorded by means of one of the embers of the brand. The roll of fourteen tenants is called and answered in a whisper, and then all kneel and swear allegiance.

In explanation of this odd ceremony it is said that many years ago the lord of the manor, after an absence from his estate, was returning home at night. Passing over what is known as Kings hill, he accidentally heard some of his discontented tenantry plotting his assassination, and thus warned reached home by an unexpected route. He enacted that from that time forth the tenants on his estate should assemble every year exactly at the same time to do him homage round a post which he caused to be erected on the precise spot where the plotters met.—New York Tribune.

A Parting Shot.

A young girl was taken in to a London dinner by a solicitor, who, probably considering her too youthful for it to be worth his while to make himself agreeable, barely spoke a single word to her during the meal. It so happened that she had before dinner asked him to explain the difference between a barrister and a solicitor, which he did by telling her that, as the latter was not permitted to speak in court, the former had always to be employed for the purpose. At the conclusion of the dinner, as the ladies were leaving the room she sarcastically addressed him in the following words: "What a pity, Mr. X., you omitted to bring your barrister with you this evening."

Eau de Cologne.

It is stated in a foreign contemporary that the chief condition to the achievement of a perfect preparation of eau de cologne is prolonged storage. The production of this world famous article in its original home in Cologne is carried on in the simplest manner. The ethereal oils are first mixed with the wine spirits, and the mixture, after two months' digestion, is distilled at gentle heat. The preparation is then placed in kegs and removed to the cellar, where it lies five or six years, and only then is placed on the market.

One of Disraeli's Epigrams.

Disraeli's epigrams were pointed and double edged, and this one, given by George Russell in his diary, is about as sharp as Disraeli could make it. Some one had asked Disraeli if he had read the Greville memoirs. Now, there never had been much amity between him and the Grevilles, and so he said: "I do not feel attracted to him. I knew the author, and he was the most conceited person with whom I have been brought in contact, although I have read Cicero and known Bulwer Lytton."

Chinese and Europeans.

Europe knew next to nothing of China or its people prior to the conquests of the famous Genghis Khan. The commotion raised by that monster made Europeans somewhat acquainted with "Far Cathay," as China was then called. It was about the year 1300, or possibly a trifle earlier, that the first Chinese made their appearance in Europe. The first commercial intercourse between Europe and China dates from about the year 1320.

Learning.

Wear your learning like a watch, in a private pocket, and do not put it out and display it merely to show that you have one. If you are asked what o'clock it is, tell it, but do not proclaim it hourly or unasked, like the watchman.

HUNTING THE CHAMOIS.

Swift and Strong, These Willy Alpine Animals Are Hard to Get.

In spring the hair of the chamois has the color of the deer, in autumn it turns dark brown, and in winter almost black. Then the flocks move down from their very high pasture grounds toward the woody regions, where they find both food and shelter under the broad branches of old pines, which keep the ground underneath free from snow. But no sooner has the snow melted far enough to allow them sufficient food above the timber line than they are off to return to their favorite abode, the high, inaccessible Alpine pastures. There they live together in flocks of five to twenty, most gayly, as appears from their playing, sham fighting and merry jumps.

Meantime they never fail to mount a guard, mostly an elderly doe. It seems that these are fitter for this duty than the bucks, probably because of their greater carefulness owing to their motherhood. Their scent is so acute that they detect a man at a distance of miles. As soon as the sentinel perceives something suspicious she gives a sharp, hoarse whistle. Then the whole company keeps suddenly quiet, as though petrified, and after a few seconds chase away like lightning toward some safe refuge or for a distant point of observation, where they constantly and with great attention eye the disturber.

No doubt this scent, too, is the reason why even a zealous tourist so rarely sees a chamois. He does not pay any attention to the wind, which reveals his presence to the chamois long before he is near enough to see it. Strange to say, as soon as the animal has got the scent it keeps on flying much farther, as though frightened by a report. On the flight all the incredible strength and swiftness of the chamois show up to their best advantage. It clears crevasses thirteen to eighteen feet wide and jumps on to rocks fourteen feet high.

It is plain that this kind of game will not be hunted successfully by the first comer. It is not enough to be a good shot when, besides the whole hunting outfit, an animal weighing about sixty pounds is to be carried down from a giddy height over deceptive glaciers and brittle rocky boulders. Nor is it sufficient to be a good mountain tourist who, under a safe guide, shows remarkable strength and courage. No, the hunter must combine in his person the qualities of a good shot, an excellent tourist and a guide.—P. Kuhner in Scribner's.

An Artist's Mustache.

The mustache was not viewed with favor in England in the middle of the last century. An anecdote is told of the late Thomas Cooper, the English artist, to illustrate. He was brought before a magistrate in 1846 on some minor charge and was described in the police report as being "fashionably dressed, with large mustaches." The Art Journal of the date, commenting on it, said that "no member of the Royal academy perpetrates the atrocity of mustaches, a most un-English affectation." Mr. Cooper became a member of the academy a few years later.

An Amendment.

It is related that on arriving at his hotel during a provincial tour Sir Herbert Tree once handed his cabman half a crown. The man looked at the coin and then looked at the actor. "I recognize yer, Sir Herbert," he said ingratiatingly. "The last time Sir George Alexander was 'ere I druv 'im, too, an' 'e giv me 5 shillings. An' you're a deal better actor than 'e is!" Sir Herbert paid no attention and continued to ascend the hotel steps, so the driver added, "In yer own estimation!"—London Mail.

Dyed Articles.

In dyeing at home amateurs often make the mistake of putting the dyed article through the wringer, possibly to avoid staining the hands for one reason or perhaps hoping to dry the garment more quickly. This, however, should never be done, for the creases so formed are most obstinate and, in fact, often only disappear with wear, despite all pressing. Dyed articles should be squeezed from the bath and hung out of doors to dry.

Elevating the Hay Loft.

"Do you try to make home life pleasant for your son?" "Yes," replied Farmer Cornmeal. "But it's mighty hard to live up to the refined ways he insists on. I'm annoyin' him terrible because when I'm workin' around the barn I keep forgettin' to refer to the hayloft as the mezzanine floor."—Washington Star.

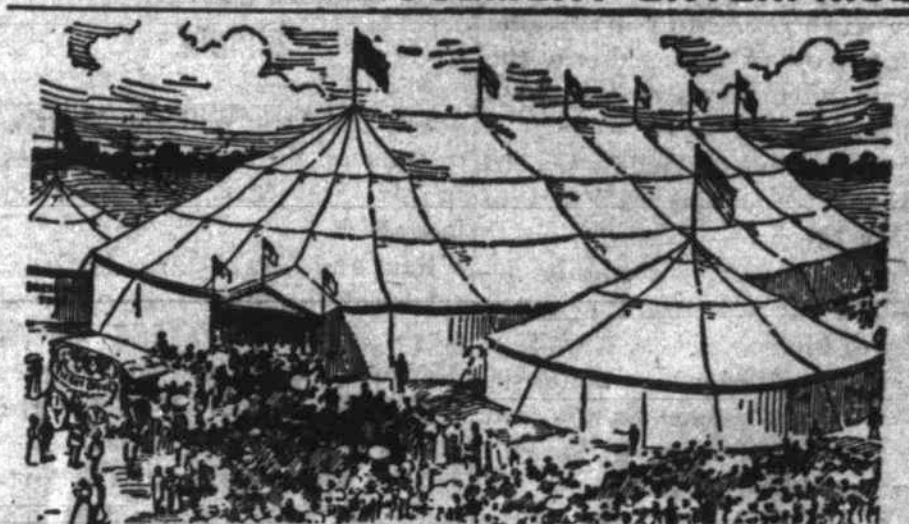
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