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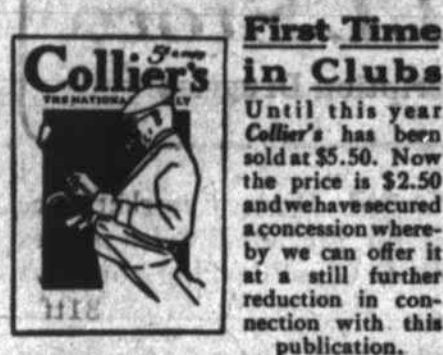
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BRIEF NEWS OF OREGON

Three are dead and one seriously injured as the result of a fire at Morgan, which started at 11 o'clock Friday night and destroyed property valued at \$12,000.

Six Medford people are in Portland undergoing the Pasteur treatment to prevent hydrophobia as the result of a strange epidemic of rabies in that city recently.

The senate committee on public lands has reported out Representative Sinnott's bill permitting entrymen to file on an enlarged homestead after making final proof.

With the tooting of steamboat and factory whistles and the ringing of church and school bells, Astoria celebrated the opening of the Panama canal.

Roseburg celebrated the opening of the Panama canal by an automobile parade, blowing of whistles and ringing of bells. The few firecrackers in town also were fired.

That Frank J. Rooney, whose body was found near Troutdale last Tuesday, was murdered a week ago appears certain from developments, according to Deputy Sheriff Beckman, who is investigating the case.

Because of the danger of forest fires as a result of campfires carelessly left by hunters, Governor West has issued a proclamation closing the deer hunting season. It became effective Monday.

State Highway Engineer Bowlby states that August 26 has been fixed upon as the time for opening bids for construction work to be performed on the Columbia river highway in Hood River county. This county recently voted \$75,000 in bonds to build its link of the highway.

Through the efforts of Representative Hawley and Senator Lane, congress recently passed a bill granting a pension of \$20 a month to Dr. William W. Oglesby, of Cottage Grove, who served as captain of company C, Second Oregon state militia, in the Bannock Indian war in 1878.

Representative Sinnott's bill, previously passed by the house, permitting homestead entrymen to divide their five months' annual leave of absence from their land into two periods, passed the senate. Under the existing law the homesteader must take his leave in one continuous period.

When the cadet regiment of the agricultural college visits the Panama-Pacific exposition at San Francisco next fall it will be in the high classification known as class C. This is a technical rating adopted by the war department to designate those cadet regiments in which military interest and proficiency is very high.

Practically every southern Idaho and eastern Oregon city and town was represented at a meeting held at Baker to further the movement to secure the routing of the national highway from the Snake river through Baker, Union and Umatilla counties to the Columbia river, rather than through central Oregon, which is making a strong effort to get the road.

A special appropriation of \$15,000 has been granted by congress to improve the Clackamas fish hatchery on the river below Clackamas station. The government owns two sites on the Clackamas, only one of which is used. The present site is above the site recently purchased, which will become the new location for the building. Plans are being completed at Washington.

After following his man for nearly two years, during which time he trailed him to the Argentine republic on the south and Edmonton, Alberta, on the north, Charles T. Hass, of the Hass Detective Agency of New York, arrested Ossin N. Jackson at Grants Pass on the charge of embezzling \$85,000 in New York City. Jackson came to Grants Pass last spring and purchased a ranch about eight miles from that city and was erecting an \$8000 residence.

Announcing that the money could be used to better advantage, the state fish and game commission has removed the bounty on bobcats. The bounty has been \$1 a scalp and the state has paid out about \$6000 so far this year. Commissioner Duncan said a large part of the animals had been caught in the southeastern part of the state and that the hunters benefited other states as much as they did Oregon. The removal of the bounty on bobcats has no effect on the bounties on cougars and wolves, the commission announced.

Three boys were caught in the act of setting forest fires on the headwaters of the Sluslaw river and they will probably be prosecuted. Carl V. Oglesby, head warden for the Lane County Fire Patrol association, had suspected that the numerous fires discovered in that portion of the mountains were being maliciously started, and began to watch for the guilty parties. One evening this week he caught one youth 19 years old and two boys between 11 and 13 years old applying a burning torch to the dry underbrush and fern on both sides of the road for half a mile.

TRAGIC LOVE MAKING.

Female Spiders Kill the Swains Who Come to Court Them.

There are the spiders, who live and die in the shadow of a unique law, which declares that the female shall be in all things stronger and wiser than the male. It is impossible to find elsewhere in nature such an astounding sex relation, for it is the chief object of the male spider to escape being devoured by the female spider to whom he has elected to surrender his heart. His whole structure is designed to aid and abet him in this perilous undertaking. He is small—indeed sometimes minute—strong of limb, agile, wary to an extreme. As a natural result his personality is not prepossessing. He is no expert spinner. He goes his way through life, now and then weaving an inadequate web—a poor, lopsided affair—to snare the one or two gnats which are all he needs as sustenance for his diminutive body.

At length, at the proper hour, he discovers the silken castle of a female and, observing it, hesitates, profoundly meditative. In this he is not alone, for others, too, have obeyed her silent summons—have come from far places to group themselves discreetly near her. There is one suitor perhaps possessed of great valor—even so, for days his courage fails him, but at last valiantly this troubador advances and twangs one of the strands of her web. By this he strives to discover her temper, to discern her mood. At last, overcome by his own temerity, he risks all and goes up her silken ladder, stumbling over his own multifarious legs, so great is his haste.

She watches him, immobile, a tiny sphinx made of velvet; then there is a sudden rush, a fatal wrapping of the entangling mesh—and an ogre drops aside the body of a gallant knight, sucked dry. It was not auspicious this venture, and six more suitors may meet a like fate before one succeeds in soothing her. No, the lot of a spider is not a happy one.—C. William Beebe in Atlantic Monthly.

An Amazed Woman.

A woman who had an Arabian glass cup of the fourteenth century and did not know its value took it to the British museum. After due consideration the expert, to her surprise, said that, though the museum did not want it, it might be worth \$2,000. The woman shuddered, because she had been carrying in a crowded London omnibus a bit of glass worth so much money, and it had miraculously escaped smashing. Finally, wanting money more than Arabian glass, she sent the object to an auctioneer's. Fancy her amazement when, starting at \$2,500, the Arabian cup went by leaps and bounds and was finally knocked down for the nice sum of \$6,500. The bidding of two rival collectors did the business.

Watch Papers.

When thick watches with removable cases were carried it was the custom for watchmakers whenever they cleaned a watch to place in the bottom of the loose case an engraved label with their names and addresses, on which they would write the date of the repair. Frequently these labels were elaborately engraved. Sometimes they contained maxims or verses around the outside. This habit gave rise to the

fashion of placing in the cases verses and devices, tokens of friendship or love, sometimes written on paper, but more frequently painted or worked on satin. All these were designated as watch papers irrespective of the material of which they were composed.—Exchange.

Most Ancient Condiment.

Mustard is the most ancient of condiments. The Egyptians regarded it as an aid to digestion. The Asians ate it freely. It was sold by peddlers in Solomon's time. The Normans and Anglo-Saxons in the earliest times never went to war without an ample supply of prepared mustard. It was their food and medicine. The plant seems to thrive in all parts of the world and is eaten by every civilized nation and many heathen tribes, either as a spring salad (the young leaves are most delicious) or a seasoning prepared from the ground seed.

Power of the Press.

A soap millionaire and an actor-manager were talking business. "I," said the actor-manager, "have discontinued the use of posters. My announcements appear in the newspapers exclusively. I have heard that those who don't read the papers don't go to the theater." "You are wise," said the soap millionaire, "and I do like you. Long since I discarded every form of advertisement save that of the press, finding that they who didn't read a newspaper had no use for soap."

ISLANDS OF SAFETY.

Fearful Conditions Greet the French Desperadoes Sent There.

In France a criminal who is classed as incorrigible is either sent to the islands of Safety, off the Guiana coast—of which Devil's island, where Captain Dreyfus languished, is one—or to St. Laurent or St. Jean, a little higher up the river. In this terrible climate, says a writer in the Wide World Magazine, with the scorching sun beating down upon them, the criminals are made to work in the gold mines or opening up the jungle, and as the officers in charge have practically unlimited power over them they are often ill treated.

The inhabitants of these prisons range from murderers of the worst type to professional thieves and desperadoes. About one-fifth of the criminals are women—and a thing that seemed incomprehensible to a visitor—are permitted to marry the male convicts. In some cases wives had joined their convict husbands. What dreadful children must be raised in this atmosphere of crime and brutality!

Escape is the one thought of the convict. The doors leading to the jungle are not guarded any too well, and the officers in charge do not seem to care if a criminal escapes into the forest, knowing very well that men seldom get away alive from this terrible region of deadly malaria and ferocious wild beasts. Fugitives have also to reckon with the natives, to whom the hunting of convicts is great sport. In many instances prisoners escape in batches of twenty and thirty and are more dangerous to meet than wild animals, as their main object is to obtain weapons and food. To get these they will attack and murder without mercy.

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