

The sugar trust feels its dignity to an extreme degree, and must take it out on beet-sugar, says the Oregonian. The optopus, which has a tentacle in the sugar bowl of every family of the land, cannot conceal the object of its attack. The war, of course makes sugar prices lower, but it does not make them cheaper. Consumers will have to pay the cost of the fight as dear experience has taught.

The trust is credited with a dual motive. It aims either to absorb the beet sugar industry or to drive the latter interests out of the refining business, and to make them vacate territory once occupied exclusively by itself. One of these results it feels sure of attaining, and either seems worth the while. The advent of beet-sugar refineries into the new field of the hierarchy regards as impudent. These new interests, according to the dynasty's purpose, will have to cry for quarter. The price of peace will be either benevolent assimilation or retirement from the sacred precinct of refined sugar. The trust therefore is in the battle with a two edged sword.

The growth of beet-sugar production in the past thirteen years has been phenomenal. From less than 2000 long tons in 1888 the output has increased to nearly 200,000 tons, and is nearly four times as large as five years ago. As much it produced now in a single year as was in all the years from 1880 to 1897. The manufacture of beet sugar in the United States this year will be two-thirds the quantity of the cane output, and nearly one-third the quantity produced in the United States, Hawaii and Porto Rico. The industry is evidently here to stay, and the trust knows this well enough not to try to drive it out of existence. The object is to worry the beet-sugar interests into subjection.

It is alleged that Italy is willing to lend Great Britain 25,000 soldiers for the war in South Africa, at no greater cost than their keep. The offer, if it may be so called, indicates either a very low state of finances in Italy or an absorbing interest in the speedy termination of the war. Just how the matter will strike the British mind is not certain; but while on first thought the idea seems startling the hiring of mercenaries would be no new thing in British history. During our own war of the Revolution the patriotic fathers contended with hired Hessians as well as British Regulars, and gave the mercenaries a good trouncing on more than one occasion. There is, however, an unreasonable prejudice against mercenaries. The men themselves have no voice in the matter. They must go where they are sent. The obloquy rightfully rests upon the nation doing the hiring and the government which traffics in the lives of its citizens from sordid motives. Hiring foreign troops to fight one's battles does not accord with accepted notions of national dignity. There is something amiss with national spirit when the hiring of mercenaries is necessary or held to be desirable.

A church economist says that \$45,000,000 is invested in this country in church steeples. The steeple is high art and cannot be spared. It punctuates the landscape. Even were the steeples all sawed off and the money sent abroad, the heathen would continue to rage and the people to imagine vain things. Let the spire alone.

A Warner Lake man over in Lake county has sold one hundred tons of stock salt, gathered from the lake marsh this summer. Of course the salt is mixed with dirt and is only fit for stock purpose. During a favorable rain several years ago over six hundred tons were gathered.

Hanna is at "lagerheads" with "Teddy" because "Teddy" wants to be president.

Lots of egotism and little brains are full partners through the journey of life.

If you want to be thoroughly hated, just be reasonable.

Ridicule, unless barbed with reason, is ridiculous.

Pat was timid—"Biddy! did ye ever think of marriage?" "Now, faith, Pat I never did" "Sorry," said Pat as he turned away with head cast down. "But, Pat!" cried Biddy; "wait a minute; ye've set me a-thinkin'."

Alien immigration, as reported by the Commissioner of Immigration at New York for the year ending June 30, 1901, nearly reached the half million mark, to be exact 453,496. It is a case of concern that the percentage of illiteracy among the immigrants is constantly increasing; of this year's arrivals forty or 50 per cent being unable to read or write.

This is explained by the fact that there is little immigration from the best countries in Europe. Great Britain and France send us practically no people. Italy sends an alarming proportion, while the Poles, equally as undesirable, form a considerable per cent. Our immigration laws should be made stricter so that we should not be made the dumping ground for the scum of Europe. We have shut out the Chinamen, but allow equally undesirable people almost free entry.

Italy has done much to deserve the gratitude of this country by enacting her new emigration law. Under this law, emigration is permitted only at certain ports, and agents are stationed at these ports to see that the emigrants are proper persons and that the laws of foreign countries relative to immigration are complied with. If the law is properly enforced, we should be troubled with but few undesirable Italian immigrants and, although, of course, it is possible for those who chose to do so to come by way of some other country, this plan will involve extra trouble and expense, and will be adopted by comparatively few.

If a government should ever become bankrupt and go out of business, its public property might be sold to pay its debts. But that can never come to pass. Should one form of government be overthrown, another is set up in its place, and the new government takes possession of all the powers and property of the old. There will always be some sort of order and authority to control nations, and so the dream of the anarchists, a total abolition of all law and authority, will never be realized.

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The lecturer said: "If I stand on my head the blood all runs to my head, doesn't it." He was not contradicted. "But now I stand on my feet, why doesn't the blood rush to my feet?" "Because your feet are not empty," replied McGinnis, from the audience.

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\$1000. The Harney County Board of Supervisors have awarded a contract to the Burns Sawmill for the purchase of 1000 feet of lumber for the construction of a new bridge over the Harney River.

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