

ROGUE RIVER COURIER

GRANTS PASS, OREGON.

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A. E. VOORHIES, PROPRIETOR & MANAGER

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1904

Senator Hanna is very seriously ill with typhoid fever. The effects of the disease being aggravated by the worn out condition of the senator prior to contracting the ailment. The physicians express confidence in his recovery, but the crisis of the disease has not yet arrived.

Affairs in San Domingo have reached such a serious state that a squadron of war ships composed of the Minneapolis, the Columbia and the Hartford has been ordered there by our government to protect the lives and property of its citizens. Such little half wild countries as this will not know peace or prosperity until they are controlled or at least "protected" by some strong and civilized power.

The Courier of April 16, 1903, contained a description of a new magazine gun invented by E. E. Redfield. Recently the Glendale News republished the piece verbatim, failing to give credit therefor. The Southern Oregon papers are now reprinting the article and are giving undue credit to the Glendale News. We like to see the piece re-printed, but instead of "Glendale News" please append "Rogue River Courier."

Secretary Hitchcock continues firm in his decision not to re-appoint J. H. Booth as receiver for the Roseburg land office and it is likely that the efforts of the Oregon senators in behalf of the latter will be fruitless. No criticism of Booth's official record is advanced by the secretary, whose objection is solely on account of Booth's business interests and his connection with lumber companies. The secretary will probably re-appoint Bridges as register but declines to take such action until the senators name a successor to Booth, when they are not anxious to do.

The Observer laments editorially that "none parties in this city, with better intentions than judgment, are now circulating petitions for prohibitive measures in the matter of intoxicants." The fear is premature. The petitions referred to are doubtless those for a local option law, which would render it possible for a community to abolish its saloons if it so wished. The Courier believes in the abolishment of saloons as soon as the public sentiment is strong enough to back up the movement and every effort to bring about this condition should receive encouragement.

The democratic party will have to practice dove like tactics this year to avoid a split in the party as the factional feeling is already quite intense. The Hearst element, said to be backed by Bryan, is at direct variance with the element of which Cleveland, Watterson and others of the older democratic party are the exponents. These factions are so far apart that, at the present time it looks as though it would be exceedingly difficult to reconcile them. But it may be that the necessity of the case will bring about a burial of the hatred and some sort of middle ground prepared, upon which all may meet.

It is now stated that Senator Fairbanks of Indiana will make the race for vice-president with Roosevelt. The senator is a man who has had presidential aspirations of his own, now said to be dormant. His name on the Roosevelt ticket is expected to quell at least one anti-Roosevelt faction and one that made the nomination of Hanna a far more probable thing than it can be under the present program. Senator Fairbanks is a man of known ability who has a long and honorable record. If occasion demanded, he is capable of assuming the presidency. This last qualification is one that has at times in the past, been lost sight of in the selection of vice-presidents.

The sensational crime of this week is one of the most impressive telephone lectures that we have had. Gen. Puse for a long time. Here is a young man, naturally and abnormally a good, peaceable citizen, but so constituted that light makes him a maniac and under its influence he commits a terrible crime. The financial public profit of saloons appears extremely dubious in the prospect of expenses for detention and trials in cases like this, while the victims die, those who frequent and patronize saloons will have to go a good deal of pleasure from them in counter balance the grief and trouble suffered by two families through this unfortunate occurrence.

The Japs have tried at last of the waiting game of Russia and have struck hard and vigorously. In a midnight attack on Port Arthur Monday night with a torpedo boat, they sank two Russian war vessels and disabled two more. Their audacity and aggressiveness surprise the world and it is in these qualities that they have an advantage over the Russians. The Japs are probably no heavier than their opponent but they are much quicker and can grasp and improve an opportunity in the time it takes the thought to enter the Russian camp. With equal resource and condition there would be no side in favor of the Japanese but with Russia's power and weight the little Russian men will be obliged to make a withdrawal and retreat to the eastward.

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