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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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ATHENA, ORE., AUGUST 14, 1906

The editor of this paper has been named a delegate to the National Irrigation Congress at Boise City. He smoothes his modesty in making the announcement—the aforesaid announcement being made for a purpose. This high pinnacle of distinction has been reached by him without any intrigue whatever. To attain it, he wasn't called on to serve sentence as a bogus fruit fair director—as was a certain Weston editor—an office not carrying even the emoluments of a free pass, and whose only reward is to be kicked out after paying to get in. Neither is he weighted down with badges for bravery, won on a Franklin county battle field, in putting to rout a gang of Chinese section hands for possession of a tattered blanket and a bottle of sarsaparilla, but the Press man will ride to Boise in a Pullman, and at every station the train may stop, will pass to the rear, and gleefully peering into a cattle car trailing behind the train, will irrigate a certain individual with a bucket of ice water. We'll teach him a few things about irrigation he is not aware of, and if he survives the tutelage, he may amount to something besides failure with a hole in it.

This one is from Knass, too: "In every newspaper we pick up we're sure to find a lot of gush about the man behind the counter and the man behind the gun; the man behind the buzz saw and the man behind the son; the man behind the times and the man behind his rents; the man behind the whistle and the man behind the cars; the man behind the kodak and the man behind the bars; the man behind his whiskers and the man behind his fists; and everything behind has entered on the list. But they've skipped another fellow of whom nothing is said, the fellow who is even or a little way ahead; who pays for what he gets, whose bills are always signed. He's a blamed sight more important than the man who is behind. All we editors and merchants, and the whole commercial clan are indebted for our existence to this honest fellow man. He keeps us all in business and his town is never dead; and so we take our hats off to the man who is ahead."

Oregon farmers, who resort to irrigation, will be deeply interested in a 30-page circular just issued by the Department of Agriculture, entitled "Investigations of Irrigation Practice in Oregon." The booklet is written by A. P. Stover, irrigation engineer, who spent last season in Oregon, making a study of irrigation as it is practiced, so as to find out the errors that have been made and gather data which would be helpful in instructing the irrigators how to avoid the mistakes of the past. The report is not as comprehensive as might be desired, but contains a great many valuable suggestions and is worth the perusal of every farmer who is obliged to artificially water his lands.

Canada can not be accused of illiberality in dealing with its Indians. A new treaty with the Indians of Alberta and Saskatchewan grants them one square mile of territory for each family of five, while those who prefer to live separate from the band will be granted 160 acres each.

With 4000 or even 1000 Hartman freight cars tied up at San Francisco the annual fall car shortage will be felt more severely than ever on Oregon lines. There will be a cry from every quarter, south and north, for cars for moving the crops, and the operating department of the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific systems will be in hot water for the next three months, unable to satisfy their patrons. Every empty car that is sent to

one point will be demanded at 100 others. Should early rains set in this fall, troubles will be much augmented. Erection of more private warehouses at all shipping points in the Pacific northwest is said to be the only immediate resource of the producers and shippers.

The Walla Walla servant girl who left a Captain's family to work for a Lieutenant's wife was plainly unfitted for a military life. She upset the whole scheme of Army post ethics, which are that a Captain's wife is a little better socially than a Lieutenant's, a Major's than a Captain's, and so on; in other words, the older ladies are the better, which is as it should be. The war Department might avoid further trouble of a similar kind by excluding domestic servants altogether from military reservations.—Portland Oregonian.

The merchants who are running up against catalogue house competition should adopt the same system with customers who divide their allegiance. The man who buys part of his goods from big mail-order houses who handle retail goods should be compelled to pay cash before delivery, freight and other things which he does in order to secure things from the big city. If the catalogue house is your competitor, then enter on the campaign with it on equal terms.

A Kentucky paper says that nearly all the young men down there who will come of age this year are demerits. In the case of Mr. Bennett, republican, who is a candidate for reelection to congress, this is important, if true.

Now is about the time to scan the Eastern papers for the picture of the winsome young man who has set out to convince Mrs. Sage that \$100,000,000 is really too much for a lone widow to look after.

INVITING COMMERCIAL ISOLATION.

Portland Oregonian.

One of the largest wheat-exporting firms in the Pacific Northwest has just received notice that a reciprocal treaty is about to be concluded between the Australian and South African governments by which wheat will be admitted from British territory to South Africa at 4 cents per 100 pounds less than from the American Pacific Coast. This firm as well as other firms in the same line of business has, in the past, shipped a great many cargoes of Oregon and Washington wheat to South Africa, at times when the European market was unsatisfactory. The proposed discriminating duty will be sufficient to close the doors of the South African importers against us and our wheat will naturally be forced to other ahd, not infrequently, less profitable markets. The incident, by itself, may not be of National importance, but as it illustrates the steadily growing feeling of resentment against the commercial policy of the United States, it is interesting.

The trade and good wishes of South Africa may not be of sufficient value to cause any particular uneasiness over its loss, but it is the general application of the American standpoint policy that is piling up trouble for us. Germany, after repeated efforts to secure a satisfactory reciprocal trade arrangement with this country, has finally refused to grant us advantageous duty rates on our products as it extends to the "favored nations" with which reciprocal tariff relations were established last winter.

America is rapidly progressing to a point where it cannot sell anything to a foreign country so long as it is possible to secure the purchasable commodity elsewhere. By adhering to this principle it is only a question of time until the United States will be commercially isolated.

If a foreign customer of American goods is desirous of selling something, the disposal of which will increase his purchasing power, we proceed to hamper the operation with obstructive laws which tend to decrease the profits and increase to the American consumer the cost of commodity which the foreigner offers. Under such circumstances, it is, of course, foolish to expect anything like pleasant business relations with foreign buyers and sellers, and foreigners quite naturally turn to some other country where they can receive the same treatment they are disposed to extend to the others. The United States is now harvesting an enormous wheat crop, said to be the largest on record. There is, of course, no market in this country for all of this wheat, and approximately 200,000,000 bushels must find market abroad. South Africa, which in the past has been a good purchaser, has put up a bar which places that market out of our reach, and Germany, which also has frequently imported quantities of American wheat, is enforcing some of the same kind of protective tariff of which we have been making a specialty.

The worst feature of the policy of trade repression lies in the fact that it is one of our own creation. We can make no valid protest against the action of the foreign countries in giv-

ing our trade competitors an advantage over us, for we have by our own laws alienated our prospective purchasers and incurred an ill will which it will require years of fair treatment to remedy. Unless we correct this evil, and, at least partially, apply the golden rule to our business transactions with foreign countries, we will shortly find our foreign trade confined strictly to lines in which we have an invincible advantage.

KEEPING THEIR MONEY AT HOME

Spokesman Review

The Pullman boosters, officially known as the "Pull for Pullman" club, are taking up a unique proposition, the development of which will be watched with interest. It appears that about 60 per cent of the building occupied by for business purposes in that city are owned by nonresidents to whom a large amount of money in rentals is annually going out. The scheme under consideration is to keep this money at home by organizing a stock company to purchase the buildings.

As a business proposition it has much to commend it, irrespective of the motive back of it. If the ownership of the buildings is a profitable investment for the present owners it ought to be equally so for the company. The profits now made by the individual outside owners would go to the shareholders in the shape of dividends on their stock. If a sufficient number of shares can be subscribed to put the deal through there seems to be no good reason why it should not be an advantageous one.

The main idea, however, is to keep the money at home and to give the citizens a more direct and financial interest in the welfare and development of the city. Pullman is now no different from hundreds of other cities in which outside capital is invested. In some respects it has been argued there is a distinct advantage in these foreign investments, in that they create a wider interest in the commercial development of the place. Yet the tendency everywhere is to encourage local investment and there can be no question that the results are beneficial.

The "Pull for Pullman" club is one of the most alert and energetic of the various organizations of the kind in the Inland Empire. It may be assumed that if the plan now under consideration is proved feasible it will reach a speedy consummation.

The club is also showing its readiness to seize upon any opportunity to profitably advertise Pullman in its decision to send to the G. A. R. national encampment at Minneapolis pamphlets and samples of grain to make more widely known the resources of the city and surrounding country. The idea is a good one and will doubtless produce good results.

Deadly Surpent Bites.

are as common in India as are stomach and liver disorders with us. For the latter however, there is a sure remedy: Electric Bitters, the great restorative medicine, of which S. A. Brown, of Bennettsville, S. C., says: "They restored my wife to perfect health, after years of suffering with dyspepsia and chronically torpid liver." Electric Bitters cure chills and fever, malaria, biliousness, lame back, kidney troubles and bladder disorders. Sold on guarantee by Wm. McBride, druggist. Price 50c.

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, there has been submitted to the electors of the State at the last general election as required by law an initiative petition for a proposed amendment to Section 1 of article XII of the Constitution of the State of Oregon, to allow the state printing, binding and printer's compensation to be regulated by law at any time, and

Whereas, on the 25th day of June, 1906, the Secretary of State in my presence as Governor of the State of Oregon did canvass the voters given for and against said proposed amendment, and

Whereas, it was ascertained and determined upon such canvass that there were 63,749 votes cast for said proposed amendment to the Constitution, and 9,571 votes cast against the same, and that said proposed amendment received an affirmative majority of the total number of effective votes cast thereon and entitled to be counted under the provision of law,

Now, Therefore, I, George E. Chamberlain, as Governor of the State of Oregon, in obedience to and by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by law, do hereby make and issue this proclamation to the people of the State of Oregon and do announce and declare that the whole number of votes cast in the State of Oregon at said election for and against said proposed amendment was as hereinbefore stated, and that said proposed amendment received an affirmative majority of the total number of votes cast thereon and entitled to be counted under provisions of law, and that said amendment hereinbefore mentioned shall and is in full force and effect as a part of the Constitution of the State of Oregon from the date of this proclamation.

Done at the Capitol this 25th day of June, A. D. 1906.

Geo. E. Chamberlain,
Governor of Oregon.

By the Governor:
F. I. Danbar,
Secretary of State.

(Seal)

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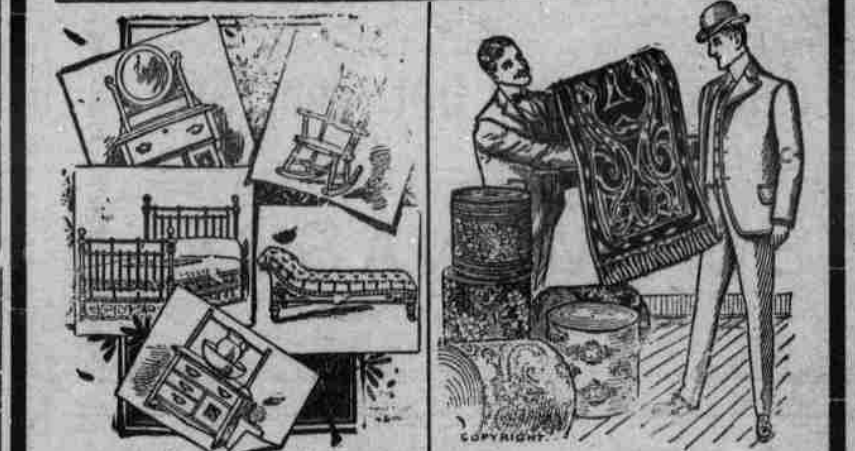
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