#### The Athena Bress

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The Blue Mountain Eagle, published at Canyon City, reaches out and says something in the following:

"When God made Taft, did he make a good job? Did he make a mollycoddle for Aldrich to work over or did be turn out a finished product? Did he give him a piece of hemp or a ramrod for back bone? Did he endow him with real brain tissue or was it just gristle? A bundred million citizens are waiting for an answer to this conundrum. Taft will furnish the answer. The answer will put him either into the brain column or the gristle row. Where will be fall? If providence turned him out when he was only half baked Mr. Aldrich will finish the job and the tariff framed by soulless corporations will go through with a whoop. . Did destiny take Taft by the coat collar and jerk him into the presidential chair to tule wisely, or did a tunch of troadcloth land pirates steer him to the throne to ratify their work? We shall soon know. His veto of the tariff bill will show the hand of Providence, or his O. K. to the till will show the smooth work of "de gang." "De gang vs. Providence." Ultimately "de gang" will be swallowed up and the query is what will become of Taft? Will it be big, Honest Tariff Taft or just Easy

Apparently the only way some university professors can get talked about is by giving utterance to some very foolish and unfair views. A professor in Chicago recently indulged in an indiscriminate tirade against women. He charged them with extravagance in dress and living, with drunkenness, immorality and a general smashing of the decalogue. Such an attack is as senseless as it is false. Evidently he has fallen into the error of think ing that the character of some socalled high society women who drink, gamble, swear, dress expensively and look lightly upon marriage vows reflect the character of the average American woman. If he knew more about practical life he would not fall into such unwarrantable blunders, American women as a rule are lovers of home, chaste, thrifty, industrious, and good mothers who look well after their children. At the same time another professor in the same city and institution, went to the other extreme and sought to show that a woman, even in enlightened Amerca, is but little better than a slave. He pictures her lot as one full of bardships, and berself an object of pity In thought be must be living in the Dark Ages, when much of what he says was true, and not in the enlightened twentieth century.

A feature of the Sunday Oregonian was three pages of advertising and special writeups of the educational institutions of the northwest. Washington and Idaho State Normals were given a generous share of the special mention, but by the irony of fate there was no Oregon Normals to read about. What a spasm of ghoulish delight must thrill the vanity chords of the big rims of the tall tower, when they reflect that the Oregonian can live without the patronage of Oregon normal schools, and to show it, the graves of those murdered institutions were decorated by the advertising department with alluring announcements of other schools at so much per inch, setting forth their advantages to the Oregon student body.

In reference to the proposed federal income tax a member of congress said that its imposition would make America a nation of liars. Without passing upon the merits of such a tax, it is clear that the objection thus raised would apply to any tax in which a man's property is in any way involved. Doubtless when county, town or city assessors make their usual rounds to determine the tax each man has to pay many lies are told them, but it is never said that the community is one of the liars. While in making sworn statement as to the value of income, personal property and real estate many may perjure themselves, yet the oldfashioned honesty is so strongly entrenched in our individual and national life that in most cases a truthful answer is given.

The price of hops is soaring and the advance means money in the pockets of the Northwest growers. A repetition of the stirring days of 1904 in the hop trade is promised. Brewers of the world are said to be facing a serious shortage of hops. The market in Portland has been lifted in a few weeks from 10 to 20 cents. Even old hops command a good price. Offers of 13 cents have been made for the 1908 crop, that a few weeks ago went begging for 5 cents. Short crops in England and Germany are reported to be boosting the price.

A Chicago magistrate has decided that it is no crime for one person to tread on anothers foot, but that neither is it a crime for the downtrodden person to retaliate by smiting the foot crusher in the eye or on the jaw. It Solomon could revisit the earth and hear some of the judicial decisions of modern life, he would acknowledge the folly of trying to keep the record for freak decisions for an instant.

While attending a circus at Walla Walla recently, a young lady lost her hat trimmings when a giraffe greedily munched the tempting headgear. Any giraffe which would eat the artificial cherries off a young woman's hat is in need of instruction in the rules of hygiene and good manners.

When business men and corporations are tempted to make money dishonestly they would do well to follow the example of the old Scotch merchant who wrote in his brass-bound, leather-covered ledger, "O Lord, keep me and this buik honest."

Pilot Rock's only near beer saloon is down and out. The City council considered a remonstrance against granting the renewal of license to sell near beer, and the only oasis remaining in Pilot Rock is the city pump.

The yellow peril is a literal and menacing fact wherever Sunday schools and well-meaning but worldlyignorant reform movements subject girls to the sinister association of Chinamen.

Princeton university rejoices in a student who has discovered the first comet seen this year. That young man probably is destined to prominence in the astronomical world. He may not have bitched his wagon to a star, but towed by a comet he may get there just the same.

Every man cannot join the uplift by ridding the world of African lions. but he can assist at spreading traps for the feet of the nefarious housefly.

It begins to look as though out of the general scrimmage down in Deschutes canyon, central Oregon will get at least one railroad.

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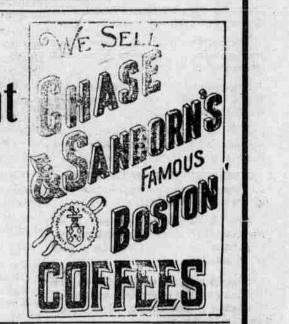


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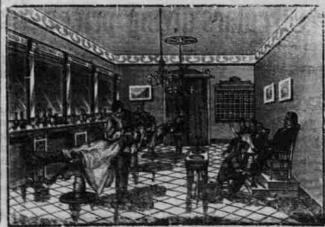
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