

COAST MAIL.

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Cream of the Week's News.

Published Every Day in the Daily Coast Mail.

Washington, Mar. 21—There has been considerable speculation today as to what will be the result of Gen. Miles' testimony given before Senate military committee.

The impression is growing that President Roosevelt will retire him under the age limit. On the other hand it is contended that Roosevelt cannot take action on unofficial reports of Miles' strictures, because of the privileged character of testimony given before the Senate committee in the privacy of the executive session, and any attempt to punish the officer for giving his opinion on a measure at the request of the committee would surely lead to vigorous action by congress for the protection of its witnesses and the defense of its own authority.

Portland, March 19—The Republican convention for Multnomah county was held today. The Independent element assumed control. The usual excitement attending the conventions held in recent years was lacking. The proceedings were quiet.

A county ticket is to be nominated and delegates chosen for the state convention.

The latter will be against Simon and opposed to Governor Geer's renomination.

WAR SHIPS WATCHING COLON REVOLUTIONISTS

Washington, March 19—The North Atlantic squadron is now in Port of Spain, Trinidad, West Indies. The squadron will remain within reach of Colon on account of the revolution there.

LIVES AND PROPERTY DESTROYED BY FIRE

New York, March 19—Several lives were lost and property worth \$1,000,000 was destroyed by fire on the Hoboken water front this morning. The Str. British Queen, lying at the Phoenix dock was burned.

Rhodes Weaker

Cape Town, March 19—Cecil Rhodes is reported weaker this morning.

CHINESE REBELS STILL SCORING SUCCESSES

Hong Kong, March 19—The imperial troops have suffered two defeats at the hands of the Kwang Si rebels and the uprising is still spreading. Several provinces are involved.

BLOCKADE BROKEN ON GREAT NORTHERN LINE

St. Paul, Mar. 21—The three hundred passengers who have been snow-bound on the Great Northern line in North Dakota arrived last night. Over forty cars of baggage and about twenty mail cars came in at the same time.

Washington's Boom

EASTERN IMMIGRANTS BUYING WHEAT LAND Country Being Filled with very Well-to-do Class of People

Tacoma, March 19—Eastern Washington is experiencing the greatest land boom in its history.

The town is full of immigrants locating land and speculators in wheat lands are making their fortunes.

The Northern Pacific Railroad has sold a large amount of land in the wheat belt.

The new comers are a thrifty class of people with money to invest in new homes.

UNITED MINE WORKERS HOLDING CONVENTION

Pass Resolutions for Eight Hour Day, Arbitration and Unionism

Spanokix, Ind., Mar. 21—The most important feature of today's session of the convention of United Mine Workers of America was the adoption of several resolutions.

The first resolution demanded an eight hour day in all collieries in the anthracite region.

Others demand recognition of the mine committees by the operators in the adjustment of disputes relating to local strikes; declaring opposition to working with men not members of the mine workers union; favoring arbitration of trade disputes; condemning the system of black listing by committees of district employers.

PROHIBITION CANDIDATE EXPRESSES HIS OPINION

EDITOR COAST MAIL:— I confess to some reluctance in requesting the privilege of replying to your several articles relative to prohibition. As a "prohibitionist" I expect criticism, severe and searching, since I intend to give it to my opponents. I shall seek in every way to lift up the standard of clean politics and the safety of the American home.

With Henry Clay, it is my privilege to satisfy myself of what is right and firmly pursue it. Duty is mine—results are God's, and with them I have nothing to do.

Your "Waste of Energy" article was not criticism—it was dogmatic denunciation. You claim it to be "impossible to refrain from calling their judgment in question," "that there is little use in ar-

guing it," "that it is not enforced anywhere," "that it is no solution of the drink question," and that if all this were true it would "cut no figure with them." That the man who votes that ticket "knows absolutely that he is throwing it away," "that he knows to a dead moral certainty, etc," "that with good government, clean politics, enforcement of laws, etc, etc "he has nothing to do."

All of which, sir, in view of the platform, purposes, aims and men of the cleanest political party in the United States, is the veriest twaddle.

If your article means anything, it means that every anti Republican vote cast, whether of Democrat or any other party, will be thrown away. I do not agree with you.

It may seem strange to you, but I believe that the party that stands (1) for the abolition of the Internal Revenue system whereby the government derives support from our greatest vice; (2) that demands that taxation be removed from the comforts and necessities of life; (3) that equal protection be given both employer and laborer; (4) that all appointments be based on qualification and not party services; (5) that the right of suffrage shall be denied to none on account of race, sex or nationality; (6) that stands for honest money; (7) that says that arbitration is the wise and economical method of settling national and inter-state disputes; (8) that the immigration laws should be more rigidly enforced; (9) and that an educational test be applied to all exercising the right of franchise; (10) that pledges itself to do full and complete justice to all old soldiers, their widows and children—is going to win out in the long run.

Shifted responsibility comes home at last. We cannot always dodge. No soul can travel far or fast enough to get away from duty. This is God's word, and sooner or later every man must render his decision concerning every pressing claim.

It is true that the man who takes his bearings by the star of Bethlehem is often regarded as a fool—but results prove the wisdom of his choice. Samson chose a woman's favor and became a helpless prisoner in the hands of his enemies, David chose carnage and was denied the privilege of building a temple to his God; Julius Caesar chose preferment, and died by the hands of his friends; Napoleon chose empire and received his Waterloo; Webster chose popularity and went away from earth with the consciousness of having failed.

Assuming the role of prophet, I see the two great parties reorganizing their forces, coming to the supreme test of a pure national life, handicapped with the habiliments of the liquor traffic. They cast them off, and proclaim that forever more this nation shall not only be free but clean and pure and good.

That prohibitionists every where are helping to this goal is without question since they believe that

"If Jesus Christ is God—
And the only God—I swear,
I will follow him, thro heaven and hell,
The earth, the sea, and the air."
R. C. LEE.

(The numbers in parentheses in the above are inserted for convenience in editorial comment. ED. MAIL.)

PLEADS GUILTY

MURDERED AND TORTURED FILIPINO PRISONERS

Stevadores had Mutinied and Were Shot Without Form of Trial

Manila, March 18.—Few incidents since the American military operations began in the Philippines have attracted more attention than the court-martial trial of Major Waller, W. T. Waller and Lieutenant John H. A. Day of the Marine Corps, which began today. The court is composed of army officers and officers of the Marine Corps, with Colonel James Forney of the Marine Corps presiding.

The two officers are accused of executing natives of the Island of Samar without trial. The charges specify that Major Waller and Lieutenant Day killed three native stevedores out on streets of Basey, Samar, without trial. These stevedores were among the natives who accompanied the disastrous expedition of Major Waller and a detachment of marines to the interior of Samar last December.

It is said that these stevedores mutilated and proceeded to the foothills, where they dug camotes, a variety of sweet potato, and that they later concealed and refused to turn them over to the Americans saying that when the marines died of hunger they would have a good supply of arms and ammunition.

Washington, D. C., March 18.—Much sympathy is expressed here for the two marine officers who were placed on trial at Manila today charged with executing natives of the Island of Samar without trial. Friends of the two officers attribute their actions to loss of mind, due to the privations which they suffered in their expedition last December.

Major Waller is known particularly well in this vicinity, having been appointed to the Marine Corps from Virginia.

He was commissioned second lieutenant in 1880. He was on the frigate Lancaster in the Mediterranean, and was present at the bombardment of Alexandria. He was promoted to first

lieutenant in 1885, and in 1890 became captain, and was stationed at Norfolk, Va., from 1891 to 1895. He was transferred to the battleship Indiana when the destruction of the Maine in Havana harbor indicated war with Spain, and had charge of the second battery on that ship.

In November, 1899, Major Waller, who had been promoted to that rank July 25, 1899, was stationed at the Marine barracks at Cavite, where he remained until early in June, 1900, when he sailed for Taku with a detachment of 100 marines, and took part in the fighting at Tientsin on July 16, assisting in capturing a fort. After leaving China he returned to Manila, and from there on October 22, 1901, he went to the island of Samar with 330 marines. Soon afterwards he attacked a force of insurgents occupying a strong position at Sojton, and after two days desperate fighting carried the position. Two of the marines and twenty-six insurgents were killed.

Manila, Mar. 21—The trial of Major Waller of the marine corps before a mixed court martial was resumed today, the court having reversed its recent decision to the effect that it had no jurisdiction.

Waller pleaded guilty to the charge of ordering the executing of eleven Filipinos, and said his mind was all right when the execution was ordered.

Captain Dunlop testified that he had thought that the eleven prisoners ought to be shot and had so advised Major Waller.

CHINESE REBELLION GROWING DANGEROUS

Hong Kong, March 18—The rebellion in the Kwang Sikkwang Tung and Yunan provinces is assuming a serious aspect.

The rebels recently routed a large imperial force after fighting two days. The rebels are looting towns, seizing government supplies and murdering mandarins and many of the imperial soldiers are joining them.

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