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Tillamook Headlight
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HEADLIGHT PIRATE.
Doles Out Gems of Current
Topics and Events.

WHILE no one will be able to tell what number of subjects the United States has acquired with the Philippines until an accurate census is taken, the weight of evidence seems to be against the figures given by Spain. As a matter of fact the Spaniards never took a census of the islands with any degree of care, but rather relied upon the Filipinos themselves for information. Orientals are poor enumerators. Xerxes' army of possibly a half million was magnified into three millions even by the grave historians of that day and comparatively recent claims as to the fabulous populations of Chinese cities demonstrate the fact that the tendency to exaggeration is still well developed in these people. The Filipinos are probably no exception to the rule and their claim that the islands contain a population from ten to twelve millions should be taken with reservation, even if there were no more authentic information on the subject. But there is. A famous English explorer who has spent years in the Philippines, at the request of General Merritt, appeared before Paris peace commission and declared that insofar as he had been able to determine by careful study the population of these islands could not exceed four millions.

THERE is no doubt that the increase of wages is a sure indication that good times have already come, but all that it means for the future prosperity of the country cannot be desmed as this time. We can, however, be certain that it will contribute very greatly to the general welfare.

THE weather man ought to know that the ground hog's lease on winter weather has expired.

IOWA spends one-third of all the money raised by taxation for educational purposes. There is no danger of the state losing its place in the republican column as long as it keeps up that ratio.

THE potato crop of the United States for last year was 164,015,964 bushels, or a fraction more than twenty-two bushels for every man, woman and child in the country. A potato famine is a remote contingency.

FROM every western state comes the same story told in Oregon—the tide of immigration has again turned to western farm lands. Farmers are not always prosperous any more than are men engaged in other pursuits, but the sober judgment of thinking men always has been and always will be that in country as rich agriculturally as is the great west there is no calling in life as certain to reward the energetic and careful man as the tilling of the land.

THE favorable comment being bestowed upon our soldiers abroad along their route to Manila is a compliment no less to our transport service than to themselves. The crowded and unsanitary conditions that prevailed on our transports in the Santiago campaign elicited comment by no means favorable to us, but the world can now see that those conditions were owing to a hasty improvisation and have nothing to do with our ability to transport troops half around the world with the same perfection that characterizes our methods of doing other business.

could get the people of China educated to eat one bushel of wheat each per year they would consume 400,000,000 bushels a year. Sure enough, sure enough, Col. Mulberry Sellers Marsh, "their millions in it!" All that is needed is to change a national habit older than modern civilization in a country impervious of civilizing influences.

WE CANNOT have a government half republic and half empire, half free and half slave, half heaven and half hell. It must be one thing or the other, one policy or the other. It is easy enough to say that we can coerce the Filipinos, that we can rule them or kill them, that with their bow and arrows and dagoes they are no match for our rapid-fire guns and our great battle-ship; but if such a policy be adopted toward them it will not be long before coercion will be necessary at home, when force will be required to preserve domestic tranquillity.

MISSOURI, once so rich in game and fish, is losing ground steadily in these important resources. This would not happen if proper attention were given to the subject. It is not the intelligent use of the gifts of nature that leads to their decay and extinction. Nothing but sheer waste and neglect could ever deprive the people of their bounty. Even quail and common kinds of fish are becoming scarce in many sections of Missouri. The subject is one demanding vigorous and liberal legislation. Fish and game supervision ought to be looked after immediately and allowed something more than a pittance to starve to death upon. It is in truth a pitiful sight when a Legislature devotes its time to preserve natural blessings that with suitable care can be made perpetual.

MR. ROOSEVELT is a warm President "quantity." He is not the sort of a person to stand back simply to give William McKinley an opportunity for vindication. He knows enough not to be put off with the patronizing advice that he is young and can wait; that four years will be nothing. His iron is hot now, if it ever will be. Gov. Roosevelt must be taken into the account now. Any editor who thinks he and his friends are not planning for the presidency at this moment is simply deceiving himself or writing to make other men blind to the real situation.

UNDER the war revenue act, passed last June, the receipts up to the beginning of the present year were over \$54,000,000. Of this amount the stamp tax yielded over \$22,000,000 and the beer tax over \$18,000,000, or together nearly four-fifths of the total. It is probable that the taxes imposed by this act will continue for at least the next three years, for while some if not all of them were intended to be temporary, the result, from a revenue point of view, are so satisfactory that there is likely to be a strong popular demand for their retention. That a portion of them will be permanent is hardly to be doubted. It is very generally admitted that tariff duties as a whole will remain as they are for some years and unless the revenue from this source materially increases, which growing prosperity will make possible, none of the war taxes can be dispensed with so long as the present standard of expenditure is maintained. There appears to be a broken conviction that in future the government must rely more largely for revenue upon internal taxes than hitherto and there are very good reasons for believing that this will be found necessary, whether the scale of national expenditure shall be materially reduced or not. At all events it can be said with great confidence that there will be no relief from taxation for several years and the next generation is likely to see some of the taxes now collected for war purposes still contributing to the support of the government.

AN INSECT that is able to do a million dollars' worth of damage to the farmers of the United States in a single year may well be regarded as one of the most dangerous and destructive of the many foes against which the agriculturists of this country are compelled to fight for a living. This is the record of the noted Hessian fly, which is second to the famous chinch bug in the destruction of crops throughout more than one-half of the grain-growing districts of the United States and its ravages in the wheat fields

in the other countries have long been known and experienced. Hence the Department of Agriculture has for some time past made this subject a serious study and will soon issue a bulletin, giving an important treatise that will be much sought for by the tillers of the soil. At present the Hessian fly has a very wide distribution throughout the grain-growing region of Europe and America. There is evidence of it having existed from prehistoric time in the southern Europe adjacent to the Mediterranean sea and was introduced into this country near New York City, on Long Island, by Hessian soldiers during the war of the revolution in 1776 and 1777. The pest infested the straw used for the soldiers' bedding and soon spread from their camps. Observation showed that a spread from that section into the adjacent territory was approximated at the rate of twenty miles per year.

THE commercial agencies estimate that the recent advances in wages affect 175,000 workers. It is interesting to consider what this means other than as evidence of more prosperous conditions and as to this the New York Times says: "A moment's reflection brings into view the inevitable consequences of an increase in the income of millions of persons. It augments the retail purchasing power of the country to an enormous degree. Only a part of the increase is added to the saving fund. Much of it goes at once to supply deferred wants, to purchase comforts and to provide enjoyments and luxuries. Trade will be increased and the manufacturers will be pushed to the limit of their capacity to meet the new demand. In the years that lie before us production in this country will far outrun the records of the most fruitful past years." Not only will the manufacturers be benefited by this augmentation of the purchasing power of the country, but the agricultural producers also. There will be a better home market for the products of the farm as well as for those of the mill and the factory.

AS MIGHT have been expected, the position of Bishop Potter and Dr. Rainford on the saloon has stirred up the New York prohibitionists. They have raised the hue and cry after these two reverend gentlemen, who in turn are fighting back, not with the gentle answer that turneth away wrath, but by calling these assailants blockheads and Pharisees. Of course this is not the best way to settle these difficulties, but from their very nature they are not capable of a settlement. Bishop Potter's proposition that the saloon, under proper conditions, is not an evil but a positive benefit is hopelessly at variance with the idea that perdition lies in every glass of intoxicants. Candor must compel the admission that the controversy will be barren of results. No more can the bishop convince the prohibitionists of the correctness of his theory than can the latter force adoption and observance of their ideas. The conflict between the brethren will go on for a time and then die of sheer weariness, leaving the size of results accomplished like unto a pin prick in the middle of the ocean.

TWO LIVE PAPERS.

The regular subscription price of THE HEADLIGHT is \$1.50, and the regular subscription price of the Weekly Oregonian is \$1.50. Any one subscribing for THE HEADLIGHT and paying one year in advance can get both the

HEADLIGHT
and
WEEKLY OREGONIAN
One Year for \$2.25.

All old subscribers paying their subscriptions for one year in advance will be entitled to the same offer.

REBELS FLANKED

Americans Push Far Into Enemy's Country.
WASHINGTON, March 25.—The war department late tonight made public the following dispatch from General Otis: "Manila, Mar. 25.—Adjutant-General: The perfected northern movement is not yet completed. Otis' and Hale's brigades with mounted troops of the Fourth cavalry, the turning column, met with heavy resistance over a difficult country, and are camped tonight six miles east of Polo and six miles north of the line from which the advance was taken up. Wheaton's brigade, at Calocan, drove the enemy one and a half miles north across the river. Hall, on the extreme right, encountered a considerable force and Calocan. The movement continues in the morning. Our casualties were about 160, of which 25 were killed. The enemy lost in killed alone 200. OTIS."

PARTICULARS OF BATTLE

American Loss is 26 Dead and 150 Wounded.
MANILA, March 26, 8:15 A.M.—Twenty-six dead and 150 wounded in a hospital is the latest statement of the American losses in the engagement with the Filipinos. Today's fighting furnished a specimen of the difficulties with which the Americans have to contend. The Filipinos never, except at Malabon, permitted their opponents to get within several hundred yards of them. They would fire a few volleys from their cover and then scuttle back to another cover, repeating these tactics for miles. Many of the trenches had gullies and connecting paths through the cane and brush, enabling them to retreat unseen. The problem the Americans have to face is to drive or lure the insurgents to fight in force.

The trenches seem thinly manned, except in the vicinity of Malabon. The Americans, fighting a hidden foe, suffered greater loss in proportion than did the enemy. The loss of the Filipinos had formerly been estimated from the number of bodies found scattered in the swamp and through the brush. A larger percentage of the enemy's wounded died than of the Americans, many of them perishing from neglect, the Americans naturally attending their own men first.

The wounded, after treatment in the field hospitals, were brought to the hospital by train. Several trips were made from Calocan to the city. The first load to start for the city was composed largely of bandaged soldiers, who shouted: "Give them hell, boys."

The gunboat Helena and two army boats command Malabon, but the authorities desire to avoid smashing the town, where there is much valuable property belonging to foreigners, and where are located warehouses of most of the Manila firms.

Preparations for the Advance.

MANILA, March 25, 3:45 P.M.—The American advance began at an early hour this morning. Elaborate preparations were made for the moment. General Wheaton's brigade was placed in the rear, and those of Generals Harrison, Gray, Otis and Hale were massed behind that of general Hale. Under the cover of darkness, General Otis' and General Hale's brigade left their trenches and advanced close up to the enemy's line without being detected. General Wheaton's and General Hall's brigades occupying the vacated positions.

Movements of Wheaton's Brigade.

General Wheaton's brigade, in accordance with instructions, remained in the

trenches. Before joining in the movement at noon, General Wheaton's troops developed a strong opposition between Malabon and the river Taligahan.

The brigades commanded by General Harrison Gray Otis and General Hale advanced on Novaliches and Polo, strongly entrenched towns. In the meantime, General Hall's brigade swept the country clear to the waterworks and the foothills of Singlon, capturing San Francisco del Monte and Mariquina.

5:55 P.M.—Late in the afternoon the Montana regiment and the Third artillery had crossed the Taligahan river, going in a northwesterly direction toward Polo, and General McArthur, with the remainder of General Otis' and General Hale's brigades, were moving along south of the river in a position to attack either Novaliches, or Polo, being within two miles of Novaliches, and five miles from Polo. General Hall's brigade moved to Balac, protecting General Hale's right, meeting with strong opposition. The Oregon regiment and part of the Utah battery held the extreme left. The entrenchments nearest to Malabon suffered the most severe attacks, including a cross-fire from the insurgents massed at Malabon.

Fight at a Blockhouse.

The Montana regiment, near Balantao, came upon a blockhouse disguised as a leper hospital, across the river, after marching through the jungle. Four men were killed and 17 wounded. General McArthur's artillery was hampered by the thickness of the jungle. General McArthur's and General Hale's staffs were frequently under a galling fire, and upon one occasion all of the officers excepting the generals dismounted, being overcome by the heat. There were many prostrations during the day. The loss of the enemy was heavier than during any previous engagement.

REBELS RETREATING.

Americans Advancing All Along the Line.

MANILA, March 26, 7:30 P.M.—The United States troops under Brigadier-General Wheaton captured the town of Malinta, beyond the Tulihan river, today, after a sharp fight. Colonel Harry C. Egbert, of the Twenty-second regular infantry, was killed. Prince Loewenstein formerly aid-de-camp on the staff of Brigadier-General Miller at Ilo Ilo, somehow got in front of the firing line and was shot in the side, dying almost instantly. A German who accompanied the prince was wounded.

The death of Prince Ludwig Karl Loewenstein-Wertheim in the fighting, ends a career which of late had seemed mysterious and given rise to no little speculation. According to a dispatch from London to the Associated Press on March 4, the prince, who married Lady Anne Saville, daughter of the Earl of Mexborough, had been lost sight of by his friends and an advertisement inquiring as to his whereabouts had appeared in the London newspapers. This elicited a dispatch from Manila saying that the mission prince was in the Philippines, had been there for many months, was present at the destruction of Montojo's fleet, and was a member of the European club. The dispatch asserted also that his behavior had given rise to a suspicion that he was acting as the confidential agent of the German government. It was further alleged that before Manila surrendered he was allowed to pass in and out of the Spanish and insurgent lines, each party apparently regarding him as favorable to themselves. For a few days it was even asserted he had acted as a voluntary aid-de-camp on the staff of Brigadier-General Miller. The London Daily Mail, about the same time, said it had information that Prince Ludwig was in Ilo Ilo in January of this year, and, with other papers, it asked the meaning of these "mysterious movements."

The American casualties today were much lighter than those of yesterday, the total losses thus far reported since the engagement commenced being 45 killed and 145 wounded.

Gunboats Shell Malabon.

The United States gunboat Helena and other gunboats have been shelling Malabon, about a mile northwest of Calocan, for several hours. The insurgents made

a fierce resistance to the American advancing upon the railroad at Malinta. In addition to the fatal wounded of Colonel Egbert, several men of the Twenty-second infantry and several men of the Oregon and Kansas regiments were killed.

Evidently anticipating a bombardment by the fleet, a thousand rebels vacated Malabon last night, leaving a few to burn the town. General Wheaton's brigade, composed of the Second Oregon regiment and the Twenty-second and Twenty-third infantry, stretched out along the railroad from Calocan to the Tulihan river, was powerless to prevent the withdrawal, owing to the natural obstacles and to the strong opposition. A column of smoke at daybreak was the first intimation of the enemy's intention, but others followed at various points, all soon blending in a dense balloon shaped cloud. The flames of the burning rice mills and large building could be plainly seen from Calocan, despite the strong sunlight.

Rebels Fire the Town.

By 11 o'clock in the morning the only building of importance not destroyed in the center of the town was a large stone church, but even at noon fresh fires were started among the native huts in the outskirts of Malabon, although the general exodus took place much earlier. Many of the rebels sought refuge in the suburbs. Navotas and Casag, or were driven inland by the shells of the Helena, Calao, Ningdapan and Laguna de Bay.

In the meantime General Wheaton's brigade held the railroad to the river, but was unable either to repair the bridge, which had been destroyed by the enemy, or to advance, owing to the opposition and the hills on the other side. The calculations of both General Hale and General Harrison Gray Otis, whose brigades constitute General McArthur's division, were much interfered with by the character of the country in front of both, and the enemy was able to take advantage of this, so that the operations against Novaliches and Polo were delayed, though the right wing of the division swung out, sweeping the enemy in a northwesterly direction.

General Wheaton's headquarters last night were a half mile south of river on the railroad. The opposite bank was protected yesterday by blockhouses and entrenchments. Occasionally the artillery and infantry fired across the stream. Finally the engineers moved a construction train up to the bridge, the iron framework of which remained, and began to replace the floor.

Oregon Regiment Under Fire.

While this was going on the Second Oregon regiment crossed the river on the left and the Twenty-second on the right, with four companies of the Twenty-third infantry supporting the latter regiment. A rising clear ground stretched away a distance of half a mile to Malinta, situated on its crest. In front of the village were strong Filipino entrenchments, but no Filipinos were seen. Apparently, they had fled. The Twenty-second regiment approached diagonally, with General Wheaton and his staff close behind and scouts closely observing the ground.

When the Americans were within about 300 yards of the entrenchments the Filipinos suddenly volleyed heavily. The Twenty-second, which was holding the center, suffered considerably, but the Oregonians on the left and the Kansas on the right in the woods, the fighting was kept up for half an hour, the Twenty-second infantry advancing up the slope through the thick grass under the hottest fire.

Egbert Died Like a Soldier.

General Wheaton and his staff were all the time under a rain of bullets. Colonel Egbert, who was in the thickest of the fighting, was shot in the abdomen. He was placed on a stretcher and an attempt was made to carry him to the cars, but he died on the way. It was a most affecting scene. General Wheaton, baring his head, said: "You have done nobly."

Colonel Egerton gasped in reply: "I must die; I am too old." No Filipinos were found in the trenches. Though apparently their force was much smaller than that of the Americans, they had an immense advantage in position and opportunity to retreat. General McArthur's advance guard, the Third artillery, and the Twentyth Kansas Continued on the Fifth page.