

The Tillamook Headlight.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

Senator Carter, who defeated the river and harbor bill and failed to be re-elected senator from Montana, has been taken care of by President McKinley. He has appointed Carter a member of the U. S. Commission of the St. Louis exposition at a salary of \$5,000. That explains it and the secret is out. As most people predicted, Carter was put up by the ship subsidy people to block the river and harbor bill, for which he would be rewarded in some way or other. We are sorry to disagree with the president, but it looks exceedingly significant that Carter should be taken care of so soon after the river and harbor bill was talked to death, and, no doubt, at the request of Mark Hanna and those wanting to get the ship subsidy "graft" passed. Deals of this description bring odium upon the republican party, not only so, but it will bring it down to defeat if "graft" legislation is persisted in. Every person in Tillamook sees the injustice it was to this county to deprive it of government improvements at this time, after being "bottled-up" for so many years, and all the editorial articles, political speeches and republican literature will have very little effect upon the minds of the people when they see such an object lesson of "graft" and injustice right before their eyes when they cast their ballot at the next election in Tillamook county. Have the republican leaders taken into consideration what effect the defeat of the river and harbor bill is going to have upon the next election in Oregon and the political weapons this places in the hands of the democrats to whip the republican party? If they have not, then it is time for them to do some hustling to head off this political blunder. We can imagine how the members of the Oregon delegation feel after working so hard in the interest of the state, and then, at the last moment, to find, to their great surprise and sorrow, all their efforts ignominiously defeated by a boomerang bullet. Instead of returning home elated, we fear the Oregon delegation will look greatly crest-fallen, for the situation places them on delicate ground when confronting their constituents.

It is stated that the American special commissioner at Peking has been instructed to inform the foreign ministers that President McKinley deprecates any action tending to delay or check negotiations with the Chinese government and that he is especially desirous that there shall be no further unnecessary bloodshed. The attitude of a majority of the foreign ministers on the question of punishment of Chinese officials, as reported a few days ago, warrants the belief that the American representative will have their co-operation in his efforts to put a stop to executions, for the fact of this government expressing its opposition to the bloodthirsty policy of some of the powers cannot fail to have great influence. As we have heretofore said in referring to this matter, the course that has been pursued is anything but creditable to western civilization and it ought to go no further. The danger that if continued it might drive the Chinese to desperation and cause armed resistance on their part is one to be considered, but hardly less important is the question of the moral effect upon the civilized nations. The position taken by President McKinley will be heartily approved by the American people and ought to have an improving effect on the Chinese situation.

Frank G. Carpenter, in writing to the United States newspapers from New Zealand says: "Women have the right to vote in New Zealand, although they cannot be members of Parliament. They can be mayors, members of the town councils, school board directors, and can hold a number of other offices. I find that the women go to the polls, especially those of the lower classes. Indeed, the capitalists say that it was woman's suffrage that made the working-man the balance of power in New Zealand. When the law was first put in force many of the richer women stayed away from the polls, while the wives of the laboring men voted for what they considered their rights and those of their husbands. Today father and mother go to the polls together and vote and when labor questions are before the country the women of the working classes are out in force. The woman's rights advocate goes about, with her tracts and speeches, and the type is the same as in the United States. Woman suffrage has closed 25 per cent of all saloons for good and it has closed all of them after 10 o'clock p. m."

The unexpected defeat of the river and harbor bill renders the situation along the lower Mississippi River serious, as funds are not available to continue the levee work, and a large area of country is almost certain to be overflowed next summer, causing losses that may amount to millions of dollars. The damage

through inaction on other improvements already under way will amount to millions more. And all these losses, and injury to commerce, and vexation and interference with business projects are apparently due, directly and finally to a disgruntled politician from a mountain state whom the President, doubtless at the behest of Boss Hanna, has rewarded with a \$5000-a-year sinecure position on the St. Louis Exposition Commission. This is pretty straight evidence that it was Hanna rather than Carter who caused the defeat of the river and harbor bill, in revenge for the defeat of his pet subsidy steal. But it was Carter who became the willing agent, and it seems almost like a direct affront to the river and harbor states for this man immediately to be rewarded with a gift of \$5000 a year for three or four years.—Telegram.

What a great improvement it would be if a law could be passed making all city charters for municipal corporations practically the same. This idea of continually "monkeying" with city charters and taking up the time of the state legislature is played out, and as a business proposition we see no reason why Oregon should not pass such a law. As a commission has been appointed to draw up a charter for the "charter-cursed" city of Portland, would it not be a good idea for someone to draw up a bill making city charters in Oregon uniform? Here's a chance for those who have legislative bees in their bonnets or whose minds turn in that direction to distinguish themselves.

Reports continue to come from all over Southern California about the shortage of fruit cars and the inability of the railroad companies to handle the big orange crop. Many of the large growers have already lost heavily, and if something is not done in the near future tons of marketable oranges and lemons will go to waste. The situation is declared to be unprecedented, and thousands of dollars have already been lost to the fruit-growers of Southern California, with more to follow, even under the most favorable circumstances. Several packing-houses have been forced to close their doors simply because they cannot get cars.

At the Cabinet meeting the President told his secretaries that the start for California would be made the first week in May. He extended an earnest invitation to the whole Cabinet to accompany him. The purpose is to make the journey by a leisurely itinerary, devoting perhaps six weeks to the round trip, including the week or more to be spent in California. The return is to be via one of the Northern routes, with possibly a visit to Yellowstone Park, which the President has desired to see for several years.

The present war in Venezuela is not troubling the people in the United States in the least. This is strange, when, under Cleveland's administration, the country became greatly agitated and was ready to go to war over the boundary dispute. We must have cool-headed statesmen in power now compared to then.

A person in Illinois wants to know if there is an opening in Tillamook City for an embalmer. The idea in asking such a question when Washington, D.C., offers so many inducements to embalm such men as Carter, of Montana, and those who are engineering the ship subsidy "graft."

Ex-Senator McBride has been appointed, with two other ex-senators, commissioner of the St. Louis exposition, at a salary of \$5000. Evidently the senators when they find they cannot be re-elected are happy to fall back upon the next best thing.

Exports to Cuba have increased from \$13,300,000 in 1890 to \$26,000,000 in 1900. To the Philippines the increase has been from \$153,000 in 1890 to \$3,500,000 in 1900. Who will deny that trade fails to follow the flag.

Harvard students gave modern education another boost by uprooting the town pump.

The man behind the bar in Kansas leads a pre-carri-ous existence.

Terrible War on Horses.

One of the saddest features of the terrible war in South Africa, to those humane persons who cannot see without pain the sufferings of lower animals, is the great destruction of horses which has all along marked the struggle between the British and Boers. The war has been so largely fought by mounted men and has been waged under such climatic and other physical conditions that the loss of horses has been especially great.

The British government has purchased for army use in Africa more than 185,000 horses. They have been bought in many parts of the world. Over 21,000 have been obtained in the United States. Many thousands were procured in South America. Australia furnished others and more than half have been purchased in the British Isles.

The mortality among these horses has been enormous. Great numbers have died on the ships carrying them to Africa, because of the long lack of exercise, the plunging and rolling of vessels in storms

and the extreme changes in climate. Those that have landed in good condition have been worked to the utmost limit of endurance, because the British army has been almost always without horses enough for its needs. There has been a continual cry for more mounted troops.

The excessive work demanded of the horses, together with change of climate and food, and the usual havoc wrought in war, has caused wholesale destruction. Tens of thousands of fine animals have perished miserably under the most cruel circumstances. They have died of hunger and exhaustion, of slow sickness and wounds received when no men were available to put them out of their misery. Hard as the war has been on the soldiers engaged, it has been far worse for the horses, which could not mitigate their sufferings in any way, but were dependent wholly upon the care of harassed and overworked soldiers, under difficult conditions.

When peace comes in South Africa lovers of horses, as well as friends of humanity, can well be thankful.

The Growth of Farming.

During recent years we have become somewhat accustomed to hear of the decay of agriculture as a pursuit. It has been a favorite theme for sociological pessimists, and the conclusions they have reached were dire indeed as involving the ultimate downfall of our present social and political fabric because of the lack of rural and excess of urban development. Now, however, comes Le Grand Powers, chief statistician in charge of the agricultural section of the Twelfth census, with the statement that his department will show that there are at least 5,700,000 plots of ground entitled to be called farms under cultivation in the United States, and that this is an approximate increase of 1,140,000 over the number returned for the Eleventh census. In making his approximation Mr Powers has eliminated all schedules returned which do not cover ground which can rightly be classed under the general head of agriculture, cutting out western ranches devoted to stock raising, and city or suburban garden patches and the like.

Some comfort can be drawn from these figures. It appears that despite the mad rush to the city, and the rapid growth of urban population with its attendant congestion and misery, the pursuit of agriculture has not lagged. Here is a showing of farms added to the list at the rate of 114,000 annually; 2,192 a little over for each week, and 313 for each day. There is nothing discouraging in this. Even the most depressed of social philosophers must find a gain of solace in such growth.

Pursuing the topic, Mr. Powers gives figures that are still more inspiring. In the nine states of the North Atlantic division, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, he finds that while the number of farms has increased from 489,754 in 1850 to 670,000 in 1900, the acreage of farm land is substantially the same in 1900 as in 1850, showing no important change in respect to agriculture in forty years. In the eight states of the South Atlantic division, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida and the District of Columbia, practically the same conditions prevail, with an increase in number in farms from 248,196 in 1850 to about 960,000 in 1900. The cutting of the old plantations after the war accounts for the large increase in number with no corresponding increase in acreage.

Twelve northern central states, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas, has naturally made the greatest progress during the cycle under review. In 1850 the farms in these states numbered 437,597 and in 1900 approximately 2,200,000, an increase during the decade since 1890 of about 280,000. These farms have been carved out of the wilderness.

Other sections of the United States show a marked increase in the number of farms and the area of land under cultivation. While the schedules of the census bureau have not yet been tabulated to the point where definite and detailed information can be given, the figures thus afforded are valuable because of their direct answer to the charge that the rural element was disappearing from the American national life. It is true that the urban growth of our country has been so rapid as to challenge the wonder of all, and so complex as to elicit expressions of grave apprehension from thinkers, who saw danger in the conditions, yet it is also true that the rural growth has been such that it might have engendered equal astonishment had it been as closely watched. We are yet very largely if not essentially an agricultural nation.

God always goes before us and makes way for us to meet our trials.

He who prays in pride robs prayer of its wings for his own adorning.

It adds nothing to the piety of the parrot when it learns to say prayers.

If every bridal moon saw the bridling of the tongue happier homes would be the result.

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