

THE WEEKLY OREGON STATESMAN

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Twice-a-week Statesman, \$1 a year.

The poultry show being held at Ashland is reported to be a great success.

In the interest of convenience for our mechanical department, on account of work connected with the Twice-a-week Statesman, the "Editorials of the People" will hereafter appear in the Daily of each Thursday morning, instead of Wednesday, as heretofore. Will our "editors" who contribute to this department, and all who are likely to contribute, please take notice. Have your articles reach the office Tuesday evening if possible, and not later than Wednesday noon. So far, we have not refused to publish a single article that has been sent in for this department. We do not limit the range of subjects, nor the position taken by any contributor. We should like to see some "editorials" by our women readers. There is a vast field of discussion and information that might be touched upon by the bright women of the Statesman's big family. They could make the department interesting both to women and men.

We print in this issue an editorial article taken from the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, on "The Flax Industry." There need be no speculation or any kind of doubt on the part of Governor Rogers concerning the growing of the best kind of flax fibre in Oregon—especially in Western Oregon, where a fibre may be produced fully equal to that of the districts of Europe most celebrated for fine flax. As the Post-Intelligencer says, the making of grain bags at the penitentiary at Walla Walla would lead to the manufacture of finer fabrics. It would be but the beginnings of a great industry. The Statesman urged the Oregon legislature at its last session to take up this work at our penitentiary. It should have been done. There is no reason in the world why Oregon and Washington should not supply the United States with its linen manufactures, thus putting \$40,000,000 to \$50,000,000 a year into the pockets of our people, which is now sent to foreign countries. Think of what a hive of industry this would create! It would support in thrift a larger population than is now in these two states.

TAGAL SYMPATHY.

The "American Anti-Imperialistic League," with headquarters at Chicago, is freely distributing a series of publications which it terms "Liberty Tracts," one of which, entitled "A Liberty Catechism," recently came to the address of an old veteran in Salem, who felt very indignant that his American patriotism should be insulted by sending him such a document. The publication consists of a series of questions and answers formed to suit one another and are shrewdly misleading, in that they assume that the policy of the United States toward the Philippines is of a certain nature and kind (which it is not) and then proceed to show wherein this policy is wrong. But, even with all the reprehensible preparation for which the Atkinson school of writers is noted, their reasoning is as false in many instances as the assumptions upon which it is based. For instance, in answer to the question why it would be wrong for this country to assume to govern a dependent people, the "Catechism" says:

"Because all peoples have an inherent and inalienable right to their liberty—the right to live their own lives in their own way and to govern themselves or to be governed as they choose and by whom they choose. Whether such government be good or bad does not in the slightest degree affect that right. It is a natural right which exists for the most enlightened man—the right to govern himself in his own way, and neither for his benefit, nor for our profit, nor for the advancement of civilization have any right to interfere with his free and untrammelled exercise. Material gain can never compensate for loss of freedom. Without doubt there are instances where an inferior people may seem to need the temporary guidance of a superior nation, and might be benefited by it; but the presumption is heavily against forcing them to accept guidance. Tyrants cannot accept this reasoning; true Americans must."

If the foregoing was applied to a "people" in the true sense of the term—to a people living as a nation, under a government of their own, with a code of laws or any peaceful system of government recognized by the balance of mankind or even by the "people" under it—then there might be some rea-

son in the argument that would appeal to the intelligent mind.

But that reasoning is intended to apply to the case of the warring Tagals of Luzon, a mixed and irresponsible warring faction, who in no manner represent the whole people of the Philippine archipelago and who are a far greater terror to the balance of the tribes of the islands than any foreign powers are. The only efforts yet made by the United States are to quell the insurrectionary and predatory spirit of those Tagals, to restore peace to the islands and to give them a stable government in accordance with the desires of their most intelligent and their responsible representatives. When these efforts are crowned with success, and there is no possible opportunity for hesitation or argument until they shall be, then it will be time to discover the kind of government most suitable to the desires and conditions of the whole people, and this the United States will give them with such safeguards and protective restrictions as will make it permanent and peaceful.

It passes comprehension, how any American at this time can promulgate such arrant hypocritical nonsense as these Tagal sympathizers are now sending forth.

Still the subscribers to the Twice-a-week Statesman come in in clubs—in two and threes and half dozens. Our friends throughout the country are doing much better than we had reason to expect. They are placing us under many obligations.

A correspondent in the Roseburg Review reports that the "Hardscrabble Coyote Club is in working order." The Hardscrabble Coyote Club ought to be all right. It should never be in any other than working order.

In the basement of the high school at Sioux Falls, Ia., hot luncheons are to be served to the pupils during the noon recess. The practice already prevails in Omaha and some other advanced cities. Its advocates believe that light hot luncheons will do good to the health and the brains of the pupils, whose cold snacks in school or quick-gobbled messes at home are not to be encouraged. Sioux City will charge a moderate sum for the food.

FOREIGN NOTES OF INTEREST.

Greece has followed Italy's example in forbidding the exportation of antiquities. Notice has been served on foreign governments and learned societies.

A Bath parson, the Rev. Valetine Rowe, who before taking orders was a colonel in the Royal Engineers, has shown up his cure to enter the military service again.

London's Anthony Comstocke has raided the "University Press" for books by Havelock Ellis and Dr. Fere, the head of the Paris Bicetre Hospital, which they assert are intended to corrupt morals.

A curious bicycle fatality is reported from Wernigerode in the Hartz mountains. A lawyer going to business on his wheel felt a catch in his neck after jouncing over a gutter, but paid no attention to it till he got home at night. He died two days after and the autopsy showed that he had twisted the vertebrae of the neck.

PECULIARITIES OF HORSES.

An Old Trainer Tells About Whims of Some Animals.

"Talking about people being peculiar," remarked an old trainer out at the Benning's race track the other day, according to the Washington Star, "if there is anything more peculiar than race horses I haven't come across it. Race horses—I mean thoroughbreds, of course—are as full of whims as well as a woman, and you've got to humor them just the same as women. I remember one I trained some years ago—a horse, I mean, of course. He was a great one, and few of them could show him the way in. Yet that fellow couldn't be exercised in preparing him for a race unless the boy on him was rigged out in the stable's regular colors. You couldn't fool him about it, either, for he knew just as well whether the boy was fully dressed as we did, and if he wasn't you couldn't get the old fellow on the track. But when the boy put on the duds, why, the old horse would go out and do all that was wanted of him."

"Then there was another that I had that wouldn't associate with other horses, and the consequence was that we had to train him by himself. Actually had to wait every time until every other horse was off the track. Then, when he had the whole track to himself, we had all we could do to get him off when we thought he had been given enough. This same one we had to send to the post by himself, and when we got him there we had to keep away to one side off from the bunch. Another one I had was just the opposite, for he wouldn't go on the track, either for exercise or for a race, unless he was accompanied by another horse."

"Then there is the horse that runs true as long as he is in the lead, but will stop and give up the fight the moment another one gets near him or passes him. On the other hand, there is the horse that will not try if the jockey carries a whip, while there are others that will not try unless they are given both whip and spurs. But, as I said, they are very peculiar, and have as many whims as mankind."

The Dowager Princess of Russia and the Princess of Wales have tastes entirely in common. Both are devoted to art embroidery, painting in water colors and are wonderful adepts at millinery.

Fine Printing, Statesman Job Office.

EDITORIALS WRITTEN BY THE PEOPLE

MOTHER AND DAUGHTER.

Editor Statesman: The following appeal to the people of the United States, supposed to be the composition of F. Graham, who had it published as it appeared in the Oregonian, January 1, 1896, was answered by a citizen of Salem in your columns a few days later. Britain was then threatening to extend her claims to cover gold mines in Venezuela. Having much the same estimate of the right in the self-defensive struggle the Boers of South Africa are now making, voiced by Senator Hale, of Maine, recently, the answer of Columbia, revised, is herewith offered: AUSTRALASIA TO COLUMBIA.

The Youngest to the First Morn of England's Colonies.

London, Jan. 13.—Frederick Graham, who is understood to be connected with the British colonial office, has sent the following cablegram to the United States, addressed to the general manager of the Associated Press, New York:

AUSTRALASIA TO HER SISTER COLUMBIA. Columbia, thou first-born child, Sprung from the same dear mother-land, When, under rule not just or mild, Compelled for liberty to stand. 'Twas that stern lesson serv'd to save The future of our common race. Thenceforth she gave to each new babe The widest freedom on earth's space. And you may roam the world around, From pole to pole and clime to clime— True liberty is only found With that dear tongue of thine and mine.

The blood of heroes that we share Was shed in floods to keep us free, Let us unite, and who shall dare To thwart the freedom of the sea? For us, if we must stand alone, Our utmost strength in men we'll send, And perish with the island home Of freedom, if we can't defend.

On earth's best vantage spots we stand; No other ports to us are free; Come, clasp with you our mother's hand.

And join our guardship of the sea. It will be noted, Mr. Graham confesses in the second stanza that the resistance of the American colonies to the motherland was the cause of her giving to those of Canada and Australasia "the widest freedom." The occupation and fortification of earth's best vantage spots of which those of Esquimaux is a threat to us, ought to convince us that the bloodshed of our common race now going on in South Africa is not in the interest of freedom, but for "a vantage spot" of "guardship of the sea" Britain assumes against the widest freedom.

COLUMBIA'S ANSWER.

No, Australasia, sister mine; Tho' of the same old motherland And of one speech, the act not thine For death on liberty to stand. Her harsh ill-usage long I stood. Before thy birth, the fate was mine, To plead in vain, her motherhood For law, for justice, rights divine.

For freedom, justice, truth and right; I appealed to God before the world; Tho' weak and poor, defied her might, The banner of the free, unfurled. Now, free flags wave o'er many lands, And you, even you, should hope to see Men, guns and ships, to leave my strand And check her tyranny on the seas.

As in times past, no mother shall Invoke our ships, impress our men; 'Gainst "spots of vantage" Right's a wall We still defend as we did then.

Not hers the right to rule the waves; Mankind's best interests now demand Weak nations shall not be her slaves— Justice must reign on sea and land. As freedom's child 'tis not for me In sentimental drool to deal; High law is: "To thyself be true; Make thine accord with mankind's weal."

SELECTING JURIES.

When the annual period comes that the county court makes its selection of the list of citizens from which the jurymen of the current year are to be taken, the observing man who glances over it and who is acquainted with the people and with the officials of the county must recognize a weakness in the Oregon law in this regard, and

cannot help seeing a large loop-hole for favoritism and corruption.

The power of selecting possible jurymen should be taken entirely out of the hands of the county court, which is composed of three men who cannot possibly be acquainted with all the voters of the county and who may have several strong reasons for keeping off certain very good elements from the jury or for putting on certain elements favorable to themselves and their friends, without sufficient regard for the general public weal.

Each precinct in the county should be allotted a number for jury purposes proportionate to the number of votes cast therein and men to fill this quota should be selected by election board of the precinct following each general election, the list of names chosen to be entered in the back of the poll books and certified up to the county clerk. The members of the election board are acquainted as a rule with the voters and are the most competent judges of their fitness and representative character. In this way, the possibilities of collusion and favoritism would be reduced to a minimum and the county court would not be left the sole arbiter of fate in all matters requiring judicial investigation.

In the jury list recently published the names selected from several of the precincts are notoriously non-representatives, the wealth, intelligence and honest thrift of the communities being entirely left out and special pets chosen instead. Our biennial election system would require the selection of two lists by the election boards—one to serve during the period from August 1, 1900 to August 1, 1901, another to serve the following twelve months, and so on. Any form of local selection, where knowledge and acquaintances give a possibility of getting the best material, would be preferable to the present system.

JUSTITIA.

THE HOP SITUATION.

Editor Statesman: A review of the 1899 Oregon hop crop and market, just at this time, would not be amiss for the reason that many peculiar conditions have arisen since harvesting was commenced.

Owing to the rains during August and the fore part of September, together with a late attack of vermin, harvest time found the crop not only blighted with mould to a greater or less extent, but the crop was green in color with but few exceptions, and the crops of the hop, owing to the excess of rain, were unusually large and difficult to try; many growers commenced picking earlier than they otherwise would have done if it were not for the blight, and when the crop was finally harvested, it was found that there was a crop of some where from 75,000 to 80,000 bales; the quality of which was below any crop the state ever produced; not that the mould alone was the serious detriment, but the lack of strength, immature flavor, slack drying and over drying, made the crop not desirable, in the face of the choice quality of California and the good flavor of the Washington crop. The New York state crop, while mouldy, was of exceptionally fine flavor and readily found buyers.

It developed during harvest that the crop of the United States was about as follows:

Table with 2 columns: State, Bales. California... 55,000 to 60,000 Oregon... 75,000 to 80,000 Washington... 30,000 to 35,000 New York state... 50,000 to 60,000

Or a total of 210,000 to 235,000 bales, or a little more than was produced in 1898, besides which we had a large stock of old hops in the hands of dealers and brewers throughout the United States. During the 1898 season we exported from this country to England 120,769 bales, and imported 3,295 bales.

The English crop this season being equal to their own requirements (being now found to be 661,426 cwt.) precluded any large export movement from the United States; while the continental crops was of such fine quality and large, that importers were induced to import to a greater extent than in many years; so that up to the middle

of January the exports and imports of hops in the United States figure as follows: Imports of hops from September 1st to January 15, 1900 3,441 bales; imports of hops same time last season 1,623 bales.

Exports of hops from September 1st to January 15, 1900, 29,650 bales; exports of hops same time last season, 72,118 bales.

A few of the dealers, foreseeing this condition of affairs, figured that sales on a basis of the goods costing 8 to 10 cents would be profitable, accordingly sold for later delivery, or in other words sold short.

The buying in Oregon commenced rather late, on account of the poorness of the quality, and while about October 15th ranged from 6 to 11 cents per pound, they were not satisfactory to some of the growers and the Oregon Hop Growers' Association was organized, having for its object the enhancing of prices. The idea of the Association was brought up at a time when it would have been very beneficial to the growers of Oregon, if it had been properly officered and managed.

I have had considerable experience with growers' combinations, and always brought them to a successful issue, so on October 30, 1899, I had an interview of considerable length with Mr. M. L. Jones the president of the O. H. G. A., in which I advocated a plan in substance as follows:

"That the Association purchase from the members their crops at the then prevailing market price, paying for them 50 to 60 per cent, and giving them script stock for the balance due them. There would have been no difficulty then in financing 50 or 60 per cent of the market value, as it was early in the season and the goods would have been disposed of, the goods so purchased to be shipped out of the country and a selling committee go with them to the markets and dispose of them as the market would absorb them, without depressing prices. The movement of such a large stock of goods as the Association then had under its control, from the source of supply, would have stimulated the market here without much question, and the stimulus to the market here would have been quickly reflected in the general markets, so that the goods could have been disposed of when they arrived at their destination, at an advance over the cost to the Association, resulting in additional profit to the holders of script. In case the markets did not respond to the apparent depletion of such a large stock, then the condition would have been no worse than did exist, except that the crops of the members of the Association would have been sold and disposed of."

I also outlined future work for the Association, in the way of encouraging the production of choice quality, the discouraging of hop raising by irresponsible growers, the necessity of formulating a contract that would be as binding on the dealer as on the grower, the correction of a great many abuses that exist in the trade and various other ideas that presented themselves.

At this time the ruling prices were from 8 to 11 cents and no sales had been made below 8 cents. I also had interviews with other directors and submitted to them my plan for the Association, which was considered feasible by them; but at the full meeting of the directors, my plan, which was written out and in the hands of one of the directors, was not even read to the full directors' meeting, but, on the contrary, a plan of consignment with an advance of 4 cents per pound for prime quality and 5 cents per pound for choice quality, was considered and consummated with Mr. A. J. Ray, of the J. M. Russell Co. Instantly the word was telegraphed East that the Oregon crop was going to be shipped out on consignment, and the Eastern dealers either cancelled their orders here or else reduced their limits of price, fearing a complete demoralization in the market. Mr. Ray finally declined to carry out the agreement and the Association rescinded the same. Then came the plan of selling, by which Mr. Ray and Mr. M. L. Jones were to go East and effect sales. In the meantime the market continued

to decline in spite of the statements of Mr. Jones that the market was firmer and advancing, until now prices are ruling from 4 to 7 cents, with the bulk of the business at 5 to 6 cents.

From the 20th of October until now, those growers who were not in the Association were able, and many of them did sell, their crops at prices, while in not every instance with a profit, yet at figures which will not be realized again, unless some new management is put into the Association and different plans advocated.

Pending the agitation and circulation of false reports as to the market conditions, the growers of California, Washington and New York states have been able to dispose of their crops at good advantage, while the state of Oregon seems destined to have on hand the surplus stock of the entire United States.

An association of hop-growers properly organized and managed is bound to result in great benefit to not only the producer, but also to the dealers and consumers, but the management must be sincere in their ideas and work for the benefit of everybody connected therewith, and not for the benefit of two or three persons. That associations of producers can be properly organized and managed successfully is evidenced by the fruit growers' association, the raisin growers' association and other associations that are of great benefit in the way of preventing over-production and the proper marketing of produce; but the manager must be a person capable of handling large operations and not devote his time to making false statements and attempting to vilify the dealers and consumers with whom he is bound to come in contact.

Thus far the only thing that the Oregon Hop Growers' Association has accomplished is to further demoralize a demoralized market. The Association has not actually sold a single bale of hops, and Mr. Ray and Mr. Jones are now returning to the coast from the East, without having accomplished a single thing, except to show to the Eastern dealer the weakness of their position.

I have been in the hop business for the last twenty-nine years, and last summer cast my die with the Oregon growers, having given up my California, Washington and New York state business, with the idea of devoting all my time to the Oregon crop; and am very sorry to see so many of the Oregon growers misled into a false position; as not only have prices declined, severely, but it looks as though the surplus crop of 1899 for the United States would be in the hands of the Oregon growers and be a great menace to prices for the 1900 crops.

The only remedy that I can see now, is to continue the Association, but under new management; which should be with a business man at the head, who is capable of understanding the exact condition of affairs, who will act true to the growers, who will not devote his time to vilifying those to whom he must of necessity sell, who will be strong enough in his methods that he cannot be misled by people who have an axe to grind.

LOUIS R. SEARLES. Salem, Jan. 23d.

THE SPIRIT IS WILLING, BUT THE VERSE IS WEAK.

We enlisted in the year of sixty-one, Soon after the war had begun; We turned our faces west toward the setting sun; Our duties as a soldier we never did shun; Out in Missouri with hard marching and fighting we made Price get up and run; But, I tell you, it wasn't much fun. Of men sick, wounded and killed we had some. After the war was over and home we had come, And looking around the table there was missing one; Then there were four of us left; since that time Two more have been laid to rest, And now but two are left. But ready to go at the Master's request, For we are sure He does all things for the best. AN OLD SOLDIER.

WHERE CARES ARE FORGOTTEN.

The queen of the Netherlands is an enthusiastic amateur gardener, and owns a miniature greenhouse which she manages entirely herself. This is within a few minutes' walk of the palace, and she visits it daily, no matter what the weather. Once she remarked to a friend: "Here, among my flower pots, I can forget that I'm a queen."

Misses Grace and Mamie Babcock left yesterday afternoon for a visit with friends at Oregon City, Portland and Hood River.

BEECHAM'S PILLS Cure Indigestion, Constipation, Sick Headache. 10 cents and 25 cents, at all drug stores.

SOME OLD QUESTION.

The following was published January 5, 1801, in the Connecticut Courant. This seems to prove that the same difference of opinion was prevalent then as now, as to the exact time of the new century's birth: Precisely twelve o'clock last night, The eighteenth century took its flight. Full many a calculation head, Has racked its brain, its ink has shed, To prove by metaphysics fine A hundred makes but ninety-nine; While at their wisdom others wondered, But took one more to make a hundred,

Thus, by an unexampled riddle, The world's divided in the middle, The century, waking from its bed, Finds half mankind a day ahead; While 't'other half, with lingering pace, Have scarcely started in the race. Strange, at the eighteen century's close When light in beams effulgent glows, When bright illumination a ray Has chased the darkness far away, Heads filled with mathematic lore, Dispute if two and two make four! Go on, ye scientific sages! Collect your light a few more ages; Perhaps, as swells the vast amount, A century hence you'll learn to count.

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