

THE NEGRO QUESTION

OREGON'S BLACK LAWS STILL AT TRACT ATTENTION

In the States East of the Rocky Mountains—Several More Inquiries Are Made.

(From Daily Statesman, Nov. 3.)
In the Executive office, at the Capitol, yesterday a letter was received from Edward J. Hall, of Keokuk, Iowa, regarding the Oregon "black laws." The letter, which was promptly answered, complete information being forwarded, is as follows:

"It is asserted by those troubled with Bryanitis that you have a law, or it is part of your constitution, that a negro cannot hold property in your state and that last fall there was a majority of 10,000 against its repeal. Please state the truth as completely as possible."

Two telegrams were also received asking for information, and replies promptly dispatched, with full information to the enquirers.

A gentleman residing in this city recently received a letter from a friend in Kansas, making inquiry regarding the same subject. This letter is given below, showing the manner in which the Democratic campaigners are using the absolute Constitutional amendment regarding the negro question:

"My purpose in addressing you is to ascertain the position your state takes as to the negro. Our Democratic and Populist speakers are telling us that Oregon, a Republican state, not only denies the negro the right to vote, but, like the Chinese, they are prohibited from coming into your state at all, for any purpose. I heard one speaker go as far as to say: 'It is unlawful for a negro to lay down at night on the soil of Oregon, even though they have nothing but the sky for a covering.'"

"Of course, this is all done to checkmate Republican charges as to what the Democrats have done in North Carolina."

"Now, I am not a campaign speaker, nor seeking for fuel for them. But as a Christian, and friend to the negro, would like to know the simple truth in the matter. If the text of your law in this case is to be found in some newspaper, would be very thankful for a copy of it. If not, please give me a plain statement of the case and greatly oblige."

This gentleman was also supplied with complete information, which he has doubtless put to good use in the interest of the Republican ticket, and to the discomfiture of the Democratic campaigners in that part of Kansas.

MEANING OF THE FREIGHT CAR SHORTAGE.

Indianapolis Journal.
"How are rate matters?" was yesterday asked of the general agent of the Vanderbilt fast freight line.
"Rates," said he, "are no more mentioned, cars being the question. You may think it an exaggeration, but to-day had I at command 4,000 cars I could place them for leading in forty-eight hours. In my long railroad career I have never known similar conditions. We have many times been short of cars in this territory, but could almost always draw on other territory where traffic was light and keep somewhere in sight of the calls for cars; but at present the shortage is confined to no one part of the country, and the situation has reached such a stage that it is with great difficulty that a connecting line can be induced to let a car go beyond the first gateway where it is possible to transfer the freight. This year Southern and Northern lines are using every car they can command. Reports from Southern roads are much the same as in Central Traffic Association territory."

"The general increase in business is in all classes and is responsible for the shortage at this season." Indianapolis Journal.

ODDEST DELUSION YET.

Kingston, Ont., Oct. 27.—Kingston can boast of a good many things of which it is proud, but the latest it can make is a little bit eccentric. Of all the crazy men with queer delusions there is none to compare with that of an individual who is confined in the insane asylum in this city. He thinks he is a poached egg, and for twenty years he has been looking for a piece of toast big enough to sit down on. When visitors come and meet him he always approaches them with the request for a moment's conversation in private. As he is perfectly harmless the keepers do not put any restrictions upon him. If you grant his request he whispers in your ear:

"Have you got a piece of toast about you?"
"No," you say. "What is the matter with you? Are you hungry?"
"Hungry?" ejaculates the man. "Why should I be hungry? I got plenty to eat. I'm tired. I'm a poached egg and I'm looking for a piece of toast to sit on."

Naturally this request leads to laughter, and the poached egg retires in high dudgeon, but he comes back regularly on the arrival of the next batch of visitors to tell if he can't have better luck. All sorts of things which look like toast have been supplied to the man, but he wants the real thing, and as chairs and couches are not made out of toasted bread he is obliged to go on making his perpetual plea to visitors. In all other respects the man seems normal, and if this crazy idea could only be got out of his head he might obtain his discharge. As he persists in his delusion he will probably spend the rest of his day in the asylum.

HINAS ON WATERING FLOWERS.

In potting the plants a quantity of broken pottery, brick or any similar material should be placed in the bottom of the pot for drainage, and some sand incorporated in the soil. This will prevent the soil from becoming soggy from overwatering, or any water remaining longer than necessary about the roots in the bottom of the pot. Each time you water give sufficient to saturate thoroughly all the soil in the pot, then do not give any water until the soil at the surface begins to look somewhat dry. The habit of giving a little water each day,

whether necessary or not, is detrimental to the health of the plant. Plants will dry out quickly in the house, especially if the temperature is a little higher than is best. To avoid this, set the pots in saucers in which there is about half an inch of sand.—Robert H. McGregor in the November Woman's Home Companion.

WILL BE EXECUTED.

CHINESE OFFICIALS TO SUFFER THE EXTREME PENALTY.

For Outrages on Missionaries During the Recent Uprising—To Destroy a Venerated Temple.

PAO TING FU, Friday, Oct. 26.—The commission of inquiry into the outrages on missionaries here has sentenced to death Ten Yang, the provincial judge; Wang Hung On, the military commandant; General Ku and two other officials. German and French troops will garrison Pao Ting Fu for the winter. The preparations are complete for destroying, October 27th, the most venerated temple in the city.

THE PEACE PROTOCOL.

Paris, Nov. 2.—A dispatch to the Havas Agency from Peking, dated October 31st, says: The foreign Ministers continued today the discussion of the peace propositions to be presented to the Chinese. The French proposals were accepted. Additional specifications will be discussed on Monday. On account of the necessity of thorough accord between the different cabinets the final note will not be presented for several weeks.

General Veyron, commander-in-chief of the French troops in China, with the allies under his command, is purging the villages around Tien Tsin and Peking. Many villages infected with Boxers have been destroyed and their inhabitants punished. A French column sent to Tuen rescued the missionaries there. Another French column met with resistance at Siet Chung. The enemy's loss was considerable. The village was burned. News received from Pao Ting Fu indicates a movement of French and German troops upon Si Lung, where the Imperial tombs are situated. It is rumored that the army of Yang Yuh Kante has resolved to defend the place.

As a result of inquiries made by the international commission under General Bailloud, second in command of the French troops in China, the allies are convinced that the Grand Treasurer and the Governor of Pao Ting Fu and a Chinese colonel were instrumental in the murder of American and English missionaries, and they have been condemned to death and will be executed soon.

HIC JACET.

Oh, hard is the bed they have made him,
And common the blankets and cheap.
But there he will lie where they laid him;
Where else could they trust him to sleep?

To sleep when the bugle is crying
And cravens have heard and are brave.
When mothers and sweethearts are sighing,
And lads are in love with the grave.

Oh, dark is the bedside and lonely,
And lights and companions depart,
But lief will he lose them and only
Behold the desire of his heart.

Oh, this is the quilt, but it covers
A sleeper content to repose,
And far from his friends and his lovers
He lies with the sweetheart he chose.

A. E. Houseman in London Academy.

DISHES OF ROYALTY.

The Prince of Wales probably has learned the art of dining as well as any gentleman, titled or otherwise, in the world.

Kaiser knows palatable dishes when he sees them. Germany's ruler cares for game, feathered game, more than for any other viand, affecting a special fondness for salmi, or stew, made of thrushes.

Another royal example of ability to recognize a good dish is furnished by the czar of Russia, who is just disloyal enough to his country to confess publicly a preference for French cooking; this, however, doesn't say that he does not care for Russia's cooking.

The late King Humbert of Italy had so great an affection for caviars, and very sweet ones at that, that he would get up in the night to partake of one. Queen Wilhelmina has an appetite that would do credit to any peasant in her domain, and no dainty things find favor with her. She will have roast beef, mutton, and fillet of beef and rump steak as her regular diet.

Another queen who eats roast beef is Christina, regent of Spain. It isn't that she is overfond of this diet herself, but she believes firmly in its strength-producing virtues.

Yellow, mellow, ripened days,
Sheltered in a golden coasting;
O'er the dreamy, listless haze,
White and dainty cloudlets floating;
Winking at the blushing trees,
And the somber, furrowed fallow;
Smiling at the airy eases,
Of the southward flying swallow,
Sweet and smiling are thy ways,
Beauteous, golden Autumn days.
—Will Carleton.

FIRING ON HEALTHY MEN.

When Jules Favre complained to Bismarck that the Prussians had fired upon a hospital for the blind, he received the reply: "I don't know why you should complain. You do a good deal worse—you fire upon our stout and healthy men."

FOUGHT IN AFRICA.

Trieste, Nov. 2.—Ninety Americans who fought for the Boers in South Africa have arrived here, and have left for Hamburg, where they will sail for America.

Selfishness is often a woman's best safeguard and one which she is usually born without.

HOW LOVE IS MADE IN MEXICO.

Young Men and Women Rarely Meet, and Then Only in the Presence of the Girl's Relatives.

Senora Adelaida Vazquez Schieffino, a Mexican woman, in a paper in the November Woman's Home Companion, entitled "The Social Sphere of Mexican Women," writes as follows of courtship beyond the Rio Grande.

"A Mexican girl realizes she is a miss of some importance when she has attracted the attention of a cavalier, who has seen her at mass or during a promenade on the plaza. Without the formality of an introduction he dispatches letters glowing with words of admiration and devotion, and nervously awaits a reply. In the meantime he visits the locality of her home, hoping to catch sight of the object of his admiration at the balcony or as she emerges from the house to attend church. He patiently but persistently pronounces backward and forward in the street, for custom forbids his entrance to the house, and is happy if favored with a glance from her lustrous black eyes. No ridicule is strong enough to dampen his ardor, and no objections of irate parents sufficiently powerful to subdue his passion.

"Mexican lovers rarely meet, for even if the young man is related to the family of the young lady, and has been a caller at the house, the mere fact of his paying attention to her puts a severe restraint on his intercourse with the family. After a time, if things have progressed favorably, he is admitted as an accepted suitor, and is received by the girl always accompanied by her mother, who usually does all the conversation. But love finds many forms of expression,

and stolen glances, never suspected, speak volumes for the lovers. As the suit progresses many an evening passes with the girl at the window or balcony, and her lover in the street below, wholly oblivious of the passer-by or if he is naive or caustic remark. The duration of a courtship depends upon the formality employed, the sneers at command of the parties, and their age. Consent for the marriage is demanded from the parents of the girl by the suitor's father, who is accompanied by a priest, that the pledges may be made the more binding."

Mrs. Von Blumer—Dear, dear, I dropped my diamond ring off my finger this morning, and I cannot find it anywhere.

Von Blumer—It's all right. I came across it in one of my trousers pockets. Harper's Bazar.

New Nurse—Please, mum, I can't do a thing with the baby. He cries all the time.

Mistress—Well, I declare! How stupid of me! His other nurses were colored girls. You'll find some stove polish in the kitchen.—New York Weekly.

In the rubber forests of Para one laborer disposes of 100 trees in seven months, securing from 400 to 800 kilograms of rubber, of which he gets half from his employer.

RUSH MEDICAL COLLEGE.

Chicago, Nov. 2.—Rush Medical College is to have a new \$80,000 building, for which Dr. Nicholas Senn has just given \$50,000. The new building will be principally used for clerical purposes and will be named Senn Hall.

THE ARRANGEMENT OF FLOWERS.

A cone-shaped—the long lily-like design—vase is one of the best for an easy disposition of flowers, particularly for roses and carnations. To arrange these, place the stems evenly together on something level, so they may be equally deep in the water. The unevenness of the heads—due to the varying length of stems—will be graceful and natural. Avoid all stiffness or forced effects, and above all things do not crowd too many flowers into one bowl or vase.—Ella Morris Kretschmar in the November Woman's Home Companion.

TROOPS FOR CHINA.

Hamburg, Nov. 2.—The Russian Government has commissioned the Hamburg-American steamship line to transport troops between Odessa and the far East. The Hamburg-American line has purchased the Brazil and River Plata fleet, belonging to A. C. DeFreitag & Co., of Hamburg, and is now negotiating with the Hamburg & South American Steamship Company for a joint working of their respective Governments.

PENSION SYSTEM.

Established by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.
Pittsburg, Pa., Nov. 2.—Official notices were posted today, of the establishment of the pension system for employees of the Pennsylvania Railroad lines west of Pittsburg. The new system will go into effect January 1st, next. Employees aged 70 years or more will be given the option of retiring from the service on half pay. If an employee has been crippled in the service of the road, he can retire at the age of 65 years.

HE WAS SMOTHERED.

How Millionaire Rice Lost His Life at the Hands of His Attorney.

New York, Nov. 2.—Efforts were being made this evening to determine the exact conditions of the lungs of William M. Rice, the millionaire. Assistant District Attorney Osborne declared that the autopsy had revealed a state of affairs consistent with smothering.

ILLEGAL REGISTRATIONS.

Republicans Discover Fraud in St. Louis, Nov. 3.—Warrants have been issued for the arrest of 350 men, charged with having registered fraudulently at different precincts in the downtown wards of the Twelfth Congressional district. The action was taken on information filed by Chairman John R. Owen, of the Twelfth Congressional District Republican Committee.

The committee sent registered letters to the names as they appeared on the voters' list from rooming-houses and saloons in the district, and more than 1,000 of these letters have been returned with the report of the Post-office Department that the persons named do not live at the places shown on the registration list. On the strength of these reports, warrants have been asked for the arrest of more than 1,200 persons and 350 of the warrants have been issued.

THE CAMPAIGN IN TEXAS.

Politics is so dull in Dallas the Registrar can't drum up a crowd with an old-fashioned cow bell.—Hillsboro, Tex., Mirror.

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