

THE WEEKLY OREGON STATESMAN

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The Statesman has been established for nearly fifty-two years, and it has some subscribers who have received it nearly that long, and many who have read it for a generation. Some of these object to having the paper discontinued at the time of expiration of their subscription. For the benefit of those, and for other reasons, we have concluded to discontinue subscription only when notified to do so. All persons paying when subscribing, or paying in advance, will have the benefit of the dollar rate. But if they do not pay for six months, the rate will be \$1.25 a year. Hereafter we will send the paper to all responsible persons who order it, though they let the subscription account run over six months. In order that there may be no misunderstanding, we will keep this notice standing at this place in the paper.

CIRCULATION (SWORN) OVER 4000



CAPTAIN HOBSON.

When several silly women offered to kiss the hero, Richmond Pearson Hobson, the young man, who was chivalrous and young and a Southerner, very promptly put up his lips to be kissed; and soon the newspapers began to joke about it. Tsen began the undoing of Hobson, the hero.

The people very soon forgot the hero of the Merrimac, in the "hero of the merry smack." From this simple little piece of foolishness sprang all of Captain Hobson's trouble. Very unjustly, the people condemned the little episode, and refused to forget it, even after the young naval officer realized his mistake and reformed. Because the young man is a Southerner, perhaps, the Northern press has ridiculed him so that public opinion has changed entirely toward him; and the people of the South—many of them—have allowed themselves to thoughtlessly follow the general trend in joking about Captain Hobson too much.

The Savannah Press has a few words to say in defense of the young hero, which every lover of justice and admirer of a heroic act should second. The article referred to clearly explains how Captain Hobson had repeatedly declared that his eyes were bad and how the naval examining board said that his eyes were as good as a searchlight. There was nothing left for him but to resign and take his place in private life. Hobson deserved a better reward. The whole Nation regretted his intention to retire from the service, but if he was determined to do so, he had earned a place upon the retired list and deserved a pension. It seems, after all, republics are ungrateful. The careers of the men who achieved distinction in the North American squadron during the late war have been clouded. Sampson died with a broken heart. Schley's record was muddled with a court of inquiry and Hobson is denied the privilege of retiring on account of disability.

Of all the men who served on American ships Hobson is rated as the bravest and best. As one of his eulogists declares, "he did perform a brilliant exploit," and his name stands for noble daring and personal bravery. Such an example should be honored by the department and by public men.—Macon, Ga., News.

The Alabama newspapers have recently paid a good deal of attention to a controversy between Captain Hobson and the private secretary of John H. Bankhead, Congressman from the Sixth Alabama district. The friends of Captain Hobson, as well as Mr. Hobson himself, have accused Mr. Bankhead of using his influence as a member of the committee having the matter in charge to prevent the retirement of the hero of the Merrimac, on account of political jealousy, as it is generally understood there that Captain Hobson is a candidate for Bankhead's place, and with very good chances of wresting it from him. Captain Hobson is a Democrat, and he is very popular with the members of that party in Alabama, and with the people of that state.

Congressman Bankhead's private secretary has denied the charges, but the record seems to be against him.

Bankhead is serving his seventh term in Congress, and he was Warden of

the Alabama Penitentiary before going to Washington, and had been theretofore for many years prominent in the political and official councils of the state. He assumes an attitude of considering Captain Hobson as an upstart, but his unjust attitude towards the young hero will probably prove his political undoing.

Captain Hobson is now on his way to Oregon, on his lecturing tour, and he will be in Salem, and deliver a lecture here, at the First M. E. church, on Saturday, the 18th.

It is quite evident, from the attitude of his own people towards him, and his popularity with them, that he is not the dude he has been painted by the yellow press, but that he is a genuine hero and a genuine American. He can be excused for being a Democrat, belonging as he does to an old Southern family, and having his home in the state of Alabama.

To the plea of the fire insurance companies that the recent advance in premium rates is justified by low earnings or actual losses in operation a most significant answer was made by the writer of a communication that appeared in a recent issue of the New York Commercial. Quoting from the Spectator Chart, he showed that one company—whose president had publicly declared that there is little or no money in the business and no encouragement in it for the investment of independent capital—has actually paid out in dividends \$2,116,757 during the past ten years; and these years include the "period of disaster" so lugubriously referred to by numerous fire insurance officials and agents. These dividends represent an average of 21 per cent on the company's capital and over 25 per cent for the past five years. In addition, the earnings of the company have meanwhile permitted an increase in its surplus, of from \$1,500,000 to \$5,700,000. Still, its officials insist, along with those of the other companies in the "combine," that premium rates must be doubled and more in order that the companies may live and remain solvent.

A correspondent in another column makes a plea for Willson avenue. That is right. Don't neglect the avenue. Why do not the good ladies in that part of town organize a Willson Avenue Improvement League? Witness the growing success of the women of the Marion Square Improvement League. The men don't seem to be good for anything; excepting in the way of giving subscriptions when the good ladies ask them. Organize some more, and go at them. You will never know what you can do until you organize and try.

A friend of Willamette University who became the happy father of a girl baby donated \$500 to the school in honor of the event. If it had been a boy, probably he would have given \$1000. This is a very good example for friends of the University who live nearer its shadows. It followed up the idea ought to yield an immense endowment fund.

It is said Bryan wants to be chairman of the National Democratic Committee. This prompts an exchange to remark: "Bryan would be a more interesting Democratic National Chairman than Jones, of Arkansas, and could not possibly make a worse score in election prophecies."

It is reported that H. W. Scott, of the Oregonian, is to be the president of the 1905 Fair, to succeed Hon. H. W. Corbett, deceased. A better selection could not be made. Mr. Scott is a big man, and a big man is needed for such a great undertaking.

Just as the building season is opening up, Portland is having its annual strike of carpenters, and the painters and other tradesmen are likely to get mixed up in the trouble. These warring brethren should come up here to Salem and learn the ways of peace and pleasantness.

The world's stock of wars is the smallest ever known, not only in numbers, but in importance. There is no great war in progress anywhere, and the total number of little wars is eleven. The most of these are revolutions.

An alarmed paragrapher (probably married) says: "The average woman is pricing hats and dress goods at such a rate that the average man is seriously considering the advisability of wearing blinkers Easter Sunday."

It is suggested that Castro's resignation of the Presidency of Venezuela bears a strong family resemblance to Addicks' withdrawal from the Delaware Senatorial contest.

Mr. Gatch is going to be the next Congressman from the First Oregon district. If all of his friends will stay with him, and go with him.

Salem had two conventions yesterday, and there was plenty of room left for a dozen more. This is the convention city of the state.

It is not too much to say that the various clubs and leagues organized by the good Salem ladies are both useful and ornamental.

Salem ladies organized another club or league yesterday. They propose to help out the 1905 Fair.

THE STATESMAN ENTERS ITS FIFTY-THIRD YEAR.

The Statesman entered upon the fifty-third year of its publication on Saturday, March 21st, the first issue of the paper having appeared on March 21st, 1851.

Of the long and varied history of the paper it is not the purpose to write in lengthy terms at this time. The paper was at first started as a weekly, and for many years it was the most powerful newspaper in what was then the territory of Oregon. This was while it was under the ownership and editorial management of Hon. A. Bush, who continued with the paper until November, 1863. The Daily was started July 19, 1864.

The present management assumed charge on August 18, 1884—nearly nineteen years ago. During the years after 1884 until the period of "hard times" commencing after the second election of Cleveland in 1892, the Statesman prospered in a material way and added largely to its equipment of machinery and facilities for publishing and printing. From 1893 until about three and a half years ago the principal struggle was to hold its business and franchises together. Then there was commenced a period of expansion, which has continued to the present time, and which is still going on. In that time the equipment has been more than doubled in value, and the gross business quadrupled.

The monthly cash business of the Statesman Publishing Company now averages about \$4,000 per month, and it is growing steadily. There are published from the Statesman office the following:

Daily Oregon Statesman.
Weekly Oregon Statesman, issued in two sections, Tuesdays and Fridays.
Pacific Homestead.
Northwest Poultry Journal.
Oregon Teachers Monthly.
The Homestead has a circulation of 10,000, the Northwest Poultry Journal 5,000, and the Twice-a-week Statesman over 4,000.

Up to a year ago last September the business of the Statesman Publishing Company had been conducted for some time at a loss, and for a number of months at a heavy expenditure for new machinery and equipment. Since that time the business in every department has been on a profitable basis. Naturally during the time of building up and spreading out, a great deal of assistance in a financial way was needed from outside sources. There are a number of men here in Salem to whom the management of the Statesman is under deep and lasting obligations on this account, and some in Portland and elsewhere in Oregon. Some day we propose to publish the names of some or all of these. No one has lost anything by the accommodations extended, but the gratitude is none the less deeply felt. Without the help of some public spirited men this institution—for it has come now to assume the proportions of an institution—could not have been built up. The Statesman is now paying out in wages alone in Salem over \$20,000 a year, and more than half its income is derived from sources outside of this community.

The ownership of the Statesman is in the Statesman Publishing Company, and all of the stock excepting 125 shares is held by persons actively employed on the paper and engaged in its management and editorial direction. There are in all fifteen hundred shares of stock.

But this is a public institution, and the real credit for the possibility of its upbuilding is due to the loyal patronage of the people here and throughout its field, and to the faithful labors of those employed in its various departments.

If the growth shall continue, it will not be long until the business of the Statesman will double and treble, and it will thus become more and more a benefit to the community. There are few cities the size of Salem having a printing establishment as complete as that of the Statesman, or as busy.

We enter upon the fifty-third year with brighter prospects and higher hopes than ever before, and with more to be grateful for from an indulgent public.

THE BACILLUS OF CRIME.

Over in England they are carrying on a crusade against professional criminals. The eminent sociologist, Sir Robert Anderson, is at the head of the campaign and his latest contribution to the literature of the movement is interesting and decided original. In this article Sir Robert contends that the crime problem is simpler than the disease problem, and that criminal tendencies in man should be treated by the authorities very much as are bacilli and bacteria by the sanitary reformers.

Sir Robert contends further that the primary duty of the state is not to reform criminals, but to protect society against their crimes. This duty, he says, is constantly violated when professional criminals are set at liberty. He goes on to cite numerous instances in which the police have turned loose men of this class when it was known that they would at once return to their criminal practices. In one case three notorious burglars, released from prison in 1901, were detected in a bold robbery in 1902. When arrested they expressed their satisfaction and gratification that they had been captured under circumstances that would insure a short term in prison. Under the law they could receive only nine months' imprisonment and when they were again free they were as determined as ever to return to their old calling.

In such cases as this, Sir Robert Anderson would have the courts conduct an inquiry before the release of the prisoners. If it should appear that they are professional criminals and are likely to return to their former practices, the court, instead of releasing them, should commit them to institutions where they can be prevented from further depredations. In defining who shall be classed as professional criminals, Sir Robert asserts that a felon, who is proved to be the associate of criminals and who has no visible means of subsistence, shall be declared a professional criminal and be treated as such unless he can satisfy the court to the contrary.

His argument is that this plan would reclaim such criminals as are reclaimable by adding to the penalties of imprisonment. The expert criminal would not be released to become again a leader in depredations against society, but would be held under restraint until he would give his parole to be decent. This parole system has been adopted in some parts of this country in the belief that it would lead criminals to forsake their old habits and engage in legitimate business pursuits.

We have still, however, an increasing number of professional criminals and there may be much in the suggested plan of indefinite detention that is worthy of consideration. When a man has smallpox he is shut up for the protection of the community. Why should not a man infected with the crime bacillus also be restrained until it is certain that his liberty will not endanger society?—Anaconda Standard.

Sir Robert is right in part and wrong in part. The primary duty of the state is both to reform criminals and to protect society. Blackstone declared that the state has no right to deprive a man of his liberty except for two reasons, to protect society and to reform (or cure) the one restrained. Sir Robert Anderson is behind the times. If he will come over to America and study the developing and partly perfected systems in New York, Ohio, Minnesota, and a number of other states, and if he will read the reports of the proceedings of prison congresses and meetings of the highest medical authorities, he will find that they are committed to the policy of reformation if possible and permanent detention if found necessary, or, on the part of some, sterilization where the ends of society would be best served in that way.

The new, the coming American system of penology, aims at the reformation of the criminal and the final stamping out of crime, by rational and common-sense methods. It aims at reformatory and preventive treatment, instead of retributive punishment. It takes the man as he is and treats him as a rational being, giving him opportunities and facilities for improvement and reformation, and if he is unwilling or incapable of becoming a law-abiding and self-supporting citizen, he is detained for life, as an insane person would be, and for better reasons in many cases, for the criminal is often possessed of all his reasoning faculties and is therefore capable of vastly more harm to society than is the one who never had reason and is idiotic, or having had reason has lost it and is insane.

It will be a slow process, for the law and society are conservative and hedged about with precedents and old customs, but it will ultimately work itself out, in the indeterminate sentence, the reformatory system and the parole system, which are complements of one another.

WOMAN'S CHANCES OF HEAVEN.

At present, when the thoughts of womanhood are turned toward the millinery carnival that marks the close of the Lenten season, there is peculiar significance to the remarks of Prof. Dallas L. Sharp, of Boston University, contained in his sermon delivered a week ago last Sunday in the First Methodist church of the Hub.

"If you need an Easter bonnet, get it," he said. "Wear it to church, for what better place to wear it than to church? It is an honor to God and a benediction to the soul to have and to wear Easter bonnets."

The learned professor, however, qualified these remarks by the assertion that "no woman who wears a sex gull or a song bird upon her hat will ever go to heaven." But, remarks a writer in the Anaconda Standard, that isn't so bad. If a woman can reach heaven simply by discarding feathers from the decorations upon her Easter bonnet, she ought to be willing to do it. For men the price of salvation is much higher, reckoned upon the basis of self-denial. If a woman can "honor God" and bring down "a benediction to the

soul" by wearing a pretty hat to church, she ought to jump at the chance. It's such an easy way to be good and pleasant, too.

But from Wabash, Ind., there comes another warning. Evangelist Jones, who have been conducting revival services there, told his audience the other night that no woman who wore a plume in her hat could see heaven or enjoy salvation. As Rev. Mr. Jones sent forth this note of alarm four women in the church arose, snatched the plumes from their hats and cast them into the stove. The service then proceeded, the women having sacrificed their heaven-barring ornaments.

It is not stated in the dispatches that any of the Boston women who listened to Prof. Sharp cast sea gulls and song birds into the fire. The church was probably steam-heated, anyway. It's only in provincial communities like Wabash that they use stoves. Then, too, the Boston women may have been so profoundly impressed by the professor's opening statement that they didn't comprehend what followed.

There is an interesting contrast between the views of these two pulpit orators. Prof. Sharp is not opposed to pretty bonnets set above pretty faces. Plainly, it is not his motive to discourage what Mr. Jones calls frivolities. Like most men, the professor enjoys a little frivolity now and then, especially when it takes the form of an attractive Easter hat becomingly worn by an attractive Easter woman. His only qualification is just and reasonable—there must be no slaughter of his feathered friends to provide the Easter ornaments. Therefore, all men will say that the Sharp idea has many features to commend it above the Jones conception of immortal happiness, which makes the Easter bonnet a bar to everlasting bliss. Still, there is moderation in all things and Easter millinery comes high.

THE NEW EDUCATION.

Out of the current discussion of the length of the college course of study it is more than likely that there will come some radical changes in the curriculum of most American institutions of learning. Already there have been many decided departures from the traditions of our American schools, the tendency of all these changes being toward what is termed the practical education. Among the advocates of the new system are numbered many of the most prominent college and university presidents of the country.

President Jordan, of Stanford University, in a recent address, spoke emphatically and directly against the form of education that forces men to study that which they do not intend to use. He included in his denunciation the student who attends college solely for the purpose of shining in society or in athletics, contending that a young man should enter college with a definite purpose in view and that his school work should be arranged so as to best aid him in carrying out this plan. This seems to be the idea of all those who are working for the proposed changes in the college course.

It is not to be denied that the classical course of study with its four years of Greek and Latin is a splendid mental training, but these advocates of the new system say that the same cultivation and training can be secured by the substitution of practical work for the dead languages. They urge more German and French and less Greek and Latin. Their contention is that there is more practical benefit in the study of the modern languages.

The tone of the current discussion of this important topic seems to be very largely in favor of the so-called practical education. Many college faculties have even declared in favor of a reduction of the college course to three years. The elective courses in most of our universities have lately been made much broader in their scope. A man who enters college with a clear idea of what he wants to accomplish, can now obtain the bachelor degree in three years by hard work. But, despite all of this argument, there are those, and they are not few, who deplore the tendency to shorten the course, and it is certain that these changes tend to cheapen the baccalaureate degree and rob the beloved sheepskin of much of its significance. More than that, not all young men who enter college have decided upon their life work and many are unable to do so. For such as these a prescribed course is a necessity.

Another oratorical contest has developed in the winner of the prize another rank plagiarist. The discredited orator, E. A. Smith, of McMinnville, was, it is reported by a writer in the Portland Evening Telegram, among those who pressed the charges against young Minchin of Newberg, but Smith's plagiarism appears to be far more flagrant and audacious than Minchin's; and Smith, it is stated, is a man of middle age and a speaker of experience, while Minchin was but a youth. Smith has a defense, however; it was one of those frequent cases of unconscious plagiarism. You have read something years ago, and when you sit down to write an oration you use the language you once read without knowing that you ever read it but innocently supposing it is your own. This is a remarkable trick of the memory cells of the brain. You remember, observe, not merely the ideas, the thoughts, or a few phrases, but whole sentences, and a series of sentences, word for word, and yet are unconscious that you ever read the language—only realize it when confronted with the "deadly parallel." This remarkable acuteness of memory in one direction, and paralysis in another, with regard to the same subject matter, should furnish an interesting subject for study for pathologists. But in order to take precaution against any unpleasantness hereafter in such cases it would be well for the judges in each oratorical contest to withhold their decision until they have examined carefully all compilations of literature, and assured themselves as thoroughly as possible that the best orations are not reproductions, through this double-acting trick of memory, of the words of some orator whose voice is still but whose language still speaks.

Electricity generated thirty miles away has been harnessed to pumps of Comstock lode, and it is expected that the water will be taken out and kept out down to the lowest levels. With this comes the expression of hope that extensive ore bodies will be discovered in the depths. Long distance transmission of electricity has been carried to its greatest perfection in California and Nevada. The prospects are that the Willamette valley will soon see a brisk beginning of the development of the water powers of the mountain streams, and great activity in this field may be looked for at no distant day.

Manufacturers' materials formed more than half of the imports into the United States in the month of February. This is the first time in the history of our importations that manufacturers' materials have constituted more than half of the total imports. In 1882 manufacturers' materials formed 33.9 per cent of the total imports; in 1892, 34.2 per cent; in 1902, 46.1 per cent; in the eight months ending with February 1903, 46.9 per cent, and in February, 1903, 51.3 per cent of the total imports into the United States. Meantime importations as a whole have greatly in-

creased, and seem likely in the fiscal year which ends three months hence to reach for the first time the billion-dollar line. Yet the growth in manufacturers' materials has been even more rapid than the general growth of imports, as is indicated by the above figures, which show that the percentage which manufacturers' materials form of this increased total has grown from 33.9 per cent in 1882 to 51.3 per cent in February, 1903. These facts are disclosed by the advance sheets from the monthly Summary of Commerce and Finance, just issued by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics.

One of the interesting results of the work of the anthracite strike commission is the fact that one of its members, on account of his excellent service, is slated as assistant to Secretary Cortelyou, of the new Department of Commerce and Labor. This is another recognition of organized labor that is deeply significant. Mr. Clark is president of the Order of Railway Conductors and in that capacity has for years been prominent in labor circles. He has long been recognized as representative of the conservative element of unionism, careful, just and considerate of the rights of others. Mr. Clark's services as a member of the strike commission gave him new prominence and revealed anew his sound judgment. His course was shaped so wisely that Judge Gray took occasion to especially commend him to the President and to urge his appointment as Assistant Secretary to the new cabinet member. It is said that several prominent Senators who had recommended other men for the position have, after consultation with President Roosevelt, agreed that Mr. Clark is the proper man for the place. This will be the second appointment in the new department to fall to organized labor. Frank P. Sargent, so long president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, having been named as Commissioner of Immigration.

The people of Salem and the surrounding country will go to hear and see Hobson, the dude, and they will go away having heard and seen Hobson, the hero. They will be pleased with him. He is one of the most maligned men of the country. He will be here on Saturday, the 18th.

You are supposed to wear something new Easter Sunday—next Sunday. If you cannot afford anything else, wear a new smile of contentment that things are no worse with you. There are plenty of people much less fortunate than you are, and some of them can afford to buy more new things to wear than you.

The new Chinese Minister's ability to fill Mr. Wu's shoes will be thoroughly tested when he begins to take American dancing lessons.

Yet a little while and the most pressing question before the community will be "what's the score?"

Weak?

"I suffered terribly for 12 years. The doctors said my blood was all turning to water. At last I tried Ayer's Sarsaparilla and was soon feeling all right again."—Mrs. J. W. Fiala, Hadlyme, Ct.

No matter how long you have been ill, nor how poorly you may be today, Ayer's Sarsaparilla is the best medicine you can take for purifying and enriching the blood. Don't doubt it; put your whole trust in it.

Ask your doctor what he thinks of this great old family medicine. Follow his advice and you will be satisfied.

Recovery will never be complete if the liver is inactive. Ayer's Pills are liver pills. Purely vegetable.

J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.