The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, THURSDTY, NOV. 21, 1907.

THEY WERE GETTING RICH QUICK.

The remedies for present difficulties are common sense and hard work, abandonment of get-rich-quick schemes, right use of present resources and cessation of efforts to discount the future—a future in which we should have faith indeed, but which is to be gained and realized only through patient and prudent labor and waiting.

In all parts of the United States, during the past five or six years, schemes like those which brought the Moore bank and the Ross bank in Portland to disaster have been active and incessant. Great schemes have been "financed" out of the money of depositors, like the Home Telephone Company and Rankin's undertakings in timber land, and Lafe Pence's operations in suburban heights and hills, and Irrigon's irrigation projects—all perhaps well enough in the long future—yet possibly not, and therefore yet to be determined and proved. The money of depositors was poured into these schemes, in expectation of quick turns, with large profits, for those who were financing them—with other people's money. But the turns couldn't be made; the realties were too far in the future; too much money had been put into them, in the hope of great and sudden gain. The projects broke down. Mr. Moore and Mr. Ross not only did not make the profit they had planned out of the use of their depositors' money, but threw away that money, too. This, or the like of this, has been going on all over the United States. New York, as the financial center of the country, has been the chief seat of it. The sure instinct of the people detected it; they began to withdraw their money, and the crisis came. Somehow "the providence that's watchful in a state" discovers the danger in cases of this kind, and then hastens the catastrophe it fears. But so closely related is the whole scheme of things, in our business and industrial life, that excesses of speculation and abuses of credit fall not merely on the offenders, but react on others in nowise to blame. So the Merchants National Bank went down.

Incidents like this are among the most unfortunate consequences of the misconduct that has produced the present situation. When Mr. Moore and Mr. Ross hoped to vault at once into the seats of high finance by their play with the money of depositors, they did an injury far beyond the limits of their own operations. On an immense scale men like Heinze and Ryan and Harriman have played the same game. Loot of bank and trust funds, for promotion of undertakings for profit—desperate schemes of gambling for sudden gain to the promoters—this is the source of the whole trouble. The problem now is to reassure the public mind, to bring confidence back again, to re-establish such conditions as will make the general public feel that the plungers and gamblers and promoters are out of it, and that the financial and banking operations of the country are in the hands of men safe and sane. The processes through which this result is to be reached are in rapid movement and operation; for the general business of the country is sound throughout. Its products never were so abundant, the world's demand is exceptional and prices are on a high average level, or even above it. The problem is in process of solution, through the remedies of common sense, hard work, abandonment of get-rich-quick schemes, use of present resources and cessation of the abuses of credit. Having found the locality of the pit that we have dropped into, we are climbing out, and shall hardly plump into it soon again. That kind of plunging had reached the limit of the game. That it didn't collapse sooner is now the real wonder.

AS TO "CERTAINTIES."

A recent issue of The Outlook has an article under the title "Certainties in Religion." Some attempt to define religion should be required, when such a subject is dealt with. But let us admit that any definition of religion is impossible. It is impossible, because the human spirit is so diverse, so variant, that no formula can contain it. Then again, it is next to impossible to separate religion from the dogmata framed to support it. These dogmata run into infinite divisions and subtleties, wherein is no certainty. Religion is the basis of man's nature, but no form through which it is expressed is absolute. There are certainties in morality, in religion none; because every expression of religion is but temporary—an expression of the age and of the people that make use of it. There is, consequently, no universal or absolute religion. Probably there never will be. Christianity itself approaches the universal religion only as it leaves behind the dogmata upon which it has built, and has used as its support. Religion is not a theological or ecclesiastical creed. It is personal conduct. "The kingdom of God is within you."

An increasing multitude of religious persons are unable to agree on definitions of religion; still less able to accept dogmatic definitions or declarations. Yet they live their own religious life. But because they do so they should not be called irreligious. Yet we find The Outlook saying: "If differences between the denominations is a good reason for inaction in religion, then the differences between the schools in medicine is a good reason for never calling a doctor, and the differences between political leaders is a good reason for taking no part in the politics of one's country."

This is unsound, because it is admitted on all sides that no school of medicine is in possession of absolute truth. Everybody knows that medicine is an experimental and progressive science. No competent physician pretends otherwise. Similarly, in politics, opinion is the guide. In other words, politics is a progressive science. So in fact is religion. The certainties in religion therefore are few. Man has a sense of his hold on the infinite; but the attempts he makes to prove it, from age to age, through formulas and creeds, are not certainties. If one desires proof of this, let him consider the religious creeds of former times and observe how they perished, and note, moreover, the modifications of the creeds of Christendom that have taken place during the last one hundred years, and even in his own time.

Religion is a permanent force in the human soul and spirit, but absolutely indefinable. Its definitions, and the dogmata it attempts, never can be certainties. What was the career of Jesus himself but a recognition of this fact and a rebuke to all the "certainties" of the religious creeds and sects about him?

A CODE OF ETHICS FOR LAWYERS.

The Oregon Bar Association has under consideration the adoption of a code of ethics. That should be easy. The lawyers might send out to some minister and borrow a Bible—one with an index—and hunt up the Ten Commandments and adopt them. If the Ten Commandments make too short a code of ethics for the needs of the legal fraternity, there might be added a few choice selections from the Sermon on the Mount. But if it should be determined that the commandments handed down through Moses would make too long a code of ethics, the Golden Rule might be adopted.

The association will do well, however, to weigh its action carefully before adopting a code such as any one of these here suggested. It very frequently occurs that the Golden Rule conflicts with self-interest, especially in the practice of law. It would bring gray hairs to the head of a man of only 30 years to have such a code of ethics thrust itself upon his attention just as he has asked the court to allow him half of an estate as his fee for conducting the legal proceedings. It would worry the most self-possessed man practicing at the bar to have an opposing counsel quote such a code to him when he has suppressed the truth or presented falsehood at the trial of a case. Then it would very materially cut down a lawyer's business if he should quote the Golden Rule to his clients when they come for advice as to the manner in which they should endeavor to settle with those with whom they have engaged in controversies. There is this saving merit for the Golden Rule, however, that no attorneys would ever be disbarred if all acted according to the principle there laid down. Yet this is of small consequence, for there are few disbarments anyway.

Here is something not from the Mosaic law, nor the Sermon on the Mount, nor the Golden Rule, but it is of equal authority, and it would do well as a sort of admonitory postscript to any code of ethics the lawyers may adopt:

"Woe unto you also, ye lawyers! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burden with one of your fingers."

FRANCHISE TAXATION.

"When the last word has been said, it requires no more skill or erudition to value a franchise properly than it does a farm wagon or a tract of land." In this terse language, J. H. Easterday, State Tax Commissioner for Washington, in a speech before the Oregon State Bar Association Tuesday, sought to dispel a popular belief that a franchise is an intangible something whose exact value could not be accurately estimated for the purpose of taxation. Mr. Easterday has for years been a close student of the taxation problem, and his interpretation of the meaning of a franchise is not a haphazard guess. He does not believe in the policy which keeps the franchise off the assessment roll irrespective of its character, simply "because the statutory law is silent as to form."

The speaker demonstrated quite conclusively that the franchise is as necessary to the operation of a railroad or street railway as its tracks and cars, and suggested a simple method of determining the value of the franchise by deducting the value of the cars, rails and other tangible property from the total amount of capitalization on which the net earnings of the system are based. There is a growing belief among the people who stagger under excessive taxation of property, which they have accumulated by hard work and thrift, that if any favoritism is to be shown on the assessment rolls it should be in favor of other property than franchises, for in almost every case those franchises which have the greatest marketable value have been secured at no cost to the holders.

The street railway consolidation in this city a few years ago gave Portland an excellent example of franchise values, and in the transfer of the properties for several millions of dollars the difference between the total price paid and the actual value of the tangible property was about $4,000,000. On this showing no difficulty whatever was encountered in fixing the exact market value of the franchise under which the lines were operating. The persistent efforts of Mr. Easterday, both as State Tax Commissioner and as a member of the Legislature for a number of terms, have been of material assistance in improving the taxation and assessment laws of Washington, and reform on lines similar to those suggested in Mr. Easterday's speech would offer relief to those who pay taxes while others shirk.

"SOBERING DOWN."

When the report first came out that Mr. J. J. Hill had declined to speak at the banquet of the Kansas City Commercial Club with Mayor Tom Johnson, there was some surprise. People wondered why a man of Mr. Hill's distinction should permit himself to exhibit rancor so spiteful. Was he afraid of Tom Johnson? Was it his purpose to make statements which he feared the Mayor of Cleveland might dispute? Apparently he must have had some such motive, for the report of Mr. Hill's speech bristles with errors of fact, while its tone is that of a man suffering from nervous irritation so extreme that he is no longer master of his tongue. Compare, for example, the statement in one part of the address that American roads earn only 4 per cent on their capital stock while German roads earn 6 per cent, with this from another part, that "American roads exceed in their earning power those of any other country." Or compare Mr. Hill's remark that the managers of our roads had of their own accord reduced the average of passenger fares to 2 cents a mile, with his charge made a little later that the state laws fixing 2 cents as the legal rate are "a wild attack on the railroads." If the 2-cent rate is a "wild attack" it was begun by the railroad magnates themselves, unless Mr. Hill misstates the facts.

We have no wish to appear hypercritical in pointing out Mr. Hill's disagreements with himself, but they are so numerous in this speech that it is no wonder he did not wish Tom Johnson to hear it. The astonishing thing is that he was willing for anybody to hear it. Taken for all in all, it is a production whose rashness of utterance almost equals the rashness of some of our magnates in managing their roads, which is saying a good deal. It would not be amiss for Mr. Hill, and sundry of his fellow-magnates also, to heed the advice which he bestows upon the country and "sober down." What could be more absurd, to cite one more awful example, than Mr. Hill's dictum that "railroad property should have the rights common to other property" in the states of the Union? Has it ever been denied those rights? Is it not the fact that the railroads have had not only all the rights which other property enjoys, but in addition to them a great many other rights and privileges which no property can possess without danger to the common weal? Who does not know that the governments of California, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and other states have been virtually usurped by the railroads for many years? The very thing that the American people have in mind is to put railroad property "in the same position as other property." They are resolved that it shall no longer control politics and business as it has in the past. The people want nothing in respect to the railroads but bare justice, and they are not in the least likely to "sober down" until they get it.

Mr. Hill thinks that the country "even now does not realize how far railroad construction has been unable to keep pace with domestic commerce." He is mistaken. The fact is fully realized, and the reason for it also. The people quite understand that "the limit of safe service with existing facilities has been reached," and they are eagerly inquiring why some of the boasted earnings of Mr. Hill's roads and others als have not been applied to extend those facilities. Why has Mr. Hill not spent a dollar in repairs for his Great Northern line in Washington since it was built, except as the officers of the law have forced him to do so? Why is his track out of repair, the roadbed still as primitive as on the day it was laid down? Mr. Hill's road is an excellent example of a railroad where construction cannot keep pace with the demands of business because its earnings are wasted in stock speculation. Our transportation magnates are fond of boasting of their prowess and foresight. Could not they foresee that the traffic of the country was bound to increase, that greater and greater demands would be made upon their equipment? If they foresaw it, why did they take no action until it was too late? If they did not foresee it, the less they boast of their foresight hereafter the more seemly it will be. Mr. Hill thinks it is "little short of wonderful how the railroads have met the traffic situation." He is too modest. It is nothing short of wonderful. The reckless incapacity of our railroad men, their callous disregard of their duties to the public, have excited the amazement of the whole world.

The boast that our railroads are superior to those of every other country in "service, in value and in useful conduct," is lamentably amiss. The speed of our fast American trains falls below that on the French, English and German roads; while ours kill more passengers per million carried than all the rest of them together. If the average earnings of the English and German roads exceed those of our own, it is not because the rates are higher. The fact is that their rates are lower both for passengers and freight, taking speed and safety into account. They show better earnings because they pay no rebates to favored shippers; because they issue no passes; because the stockholders get those express earnings which in America go to select rings of the railroad managers; because they have very few wrecks to repair and few damage suits for death and mayhem to fight in the courts.

Furthermore, if the European roads are capitalized in excess of ours there is excellent reason for it. They are worth more. They have more trackage per linear mile, their beds are more stable, their equipment is better in every way. The sooner our magnates stop boasting and complaining, stop gambling and playing politics and go to work to make their roads as safe and sufficient as those of Europe, the sooner they will be able to borrow the money which they say they need. People will lend them money when it becomes reasonably certain that they will not gamble it away, but no sooner.

Herr Ballin, director-general of the Hamburg-American line, which for many years held the speed record on the Atlantic, in an interview in New York, just before sailing for Germany, said that his line would make no attempt to build a faster ship than the new Cunarders. He expressed the belief that the limit of speed had been reached until some new method of propulsion shall be invented. National pride, however, may cause the Germans to reconsider the matter. When the Deutschland took the record away from the British, ten years ago, English builders made practically the same announcement that is now made by Herr Ballin. But the prestige given the flag and line under which a record-breaker sails is so great that it is hardly possible that the Germans will be content to let the British have all of the glory and advertising which go with the fastest ship in the world, and some Deutschland of the future will undoubtedly cut well under the remarkable records of the Lusitania and Mauretania.

The people of the Pacific Northwest should feel duly grateful to President Loveland, of the Trans-Mississippi Congress, for the eloquent tribute paid the Columbia River in his speech before that congress, now in annual session at Muskogee, Okla. In urging the importance of the waterways improvements, he said:

> Don't forget that out on the Pacific Coast we have the second largest river in the United States. It flows down from mountain ranges whose mineral wealth is inexhaustible, and on for a thousand miles through vast stretches of grain and fruit land in Washington and Oregon, and finally through magnificent reaches of splendid timber land to the ocean.

The benefits which will result from improvement of this wonderful waterway are incalculable, and in face of the National interest being shown in the great work, the puny attempts of such newspapers as the Tacoma News to misrepresent the facts are reprehensible in the extreme.

The American people, Mr. James J. Hill, wish prosperity to the railroads. They realize fully how indispensable they are to the business and welfare of the country. But they wish the railroads to deal fairly and justly and keep to their legitimate business, and insist that their managers shall not persist in wasting the resources derived from the traffic of the country in stock-jobbing schemes, warfare of interests and effort to promote monopolistic combinations. It is justice, however, to Mr. Hill to say that he is the fairest of all our railway magnates. He serves very well the territory he occupies, and is giving Oregon an additional and needed connection—needed the more since our other Western railway magnate—the one who has fenced this state in and claims it as his own—disregards its needs and productivity, and lets it lie fallow.

A few groups here and there, throughout Oregon, notably in Multnomah, are beginning to busy themselves with organization of the Republican party. The use or need isn't apparent. Republicans, or men so-called, have allowed themselves to be persuaded that there is no need of party, no place for party, nothing for party to do; and they have given Democrats the leading positions in affairs of city, county and state. We may suppose they intend to continue this line of action, else they would not have begun it and pursued so far as they have done. The Oregonian has no faith whatever in any inclination or disposition of the Republicans of Oregon to unite for any purpose. It has appealed to them too often, in vain, to allow itself to be deluded further.

The cotton industry of our Southern States has reached prodigious proportions, and there seems to be practically no limit to its development. The value of the crop of this year is more than $800,000,000. This for the raw cotton alone. Manufacture of cotton in the Southern States likewise is making rapid progress. The whole industry this year will be worth to the South more than one thousand million dollars.

It may be expected that the jury will acquit Mrs. Bradley. She killed Brown, undoubtedly. He most richly deserved it. The jury might well enough bring in with their verdict of not guilty a vote of censure on the woman because she didn't kill Brown long before she did. She was a weak creature, not without sin and error; but he was a damnable scoundrel.

According to the report of the Amateur Athletic Union, 2,441,000 Americans took regular physical exercise this year. Evidently these figures do not include the multitude who daily execute arm movements raising highballs from mahogany planes.

One may look in vain through Mrs. Leslie Carter's inventory in her bankruptcy proceedings to discover whether she reckons that new husband an asset or a liability.

Kaiser Wilhelm's letting go of tips to the amount of $10,000 at Windsor Castle indicates that his philanthropy equals the proverbial intoxicated able seaman's.

This may be a bit premature, still we suggest that there be held in Portland next November an All Oregon Apple Fair.

Rockefeller declares he doesn't own any United States bonds. He doesn't have to; other investments pay larger profits.

Chicago is ready to resume cash payments. Let New York follow suit and then note the effect on the country.

We beg to assure Mr. James J. Hill that the country will sober down the instant Wall street sobers up.

Among American industries not adversely affected by the panic is collegiate football.

Good morning! Have you ordered the bird for next Thursday?

THE SOUTH AND THE PRESIDENCY.

Where the Votes, But Not the Democratic Candidates, Are From.

New York Tribune.

There is something courageous and creditable about the movement reported from Tennessee to secure for a Southerner the next Democratic Presidential nomination. It is courageous to propose an experiment which the Democratic party has not made since 1844 and which it still shrinks from, not so much on grounds of logic as on grounds of shallow expediency. The South has been the hewer of wood and drawer of water for the Democratic party for 64 years. It has furnished, on the average, 70 to 75 per cent of that party's representation in the Senate and House of Representatives and in the Electoral College. It has dictated the Democratic party's policies in Congress and in National conventions, and it used the party first to protect slavery, then to try to break down the protective tariff system, and finally to assail the country's standard of value. But all the while it has hesitated to offer for the Presidency one of its many brilliant leaders.

This self-effacement has cost the South dear, for its politicians have come to look at the great office of the Presidency as a pawn to be lightly sacrificed in the game of National politics. They have been content to name Northern candidates without much regard to their representative character or training in Democratic principles, taking them on the chance that they might appeal to some passing mood of one group of Northern states or another. The South selected in turn Tilden, Hancock, Cleveland, Bryan and Parker—candidates in ideas, temper and theories about as wide apart as could have been assembled. It has oscillated with cynical indifference between conservatism, negativism and radicalism, and has often voted stolidly for Presidential nominees whom at heart it despised. From this long practiced attitude has sprung an insincerity which has eaten deeply into Southern politics and which always suggests the existence of a wide discrepancy between what a Southern leader says and what he thinks. There are many Southern Senators and Representatives who publicly favor Mr. Bryan's renomination and privately condemn it as political folly. The most candid and ingenious of them can only attempt to square their thoughts with their actions by maintaining, like the Hon. John Sharp Williams, that they gladly support Bryan, but have no use for Bryanism.

MRS. EDDY WRITES ON CHRISTMAS

Founder of Christian Science Tells What Day Means to Her.

Mary Baker G. Eddy in Ladies' Home Journal.

To me Christmas involves an open secret, understood by few—or by none—and unutterable except in Christian Science. Christ was not born of the flesh. Christ is the truth and life born of God—born of Spirit and not of matter. Jesus, the Galilean prophet, was born of the Virgin Mary's spiritual thoughts of Life and its manifestation.

God creates man perfect and eternal in His own image. Hence man is the image, idea or likeness of perfection—an ideal which cannot fall from its inherent unity with divine Love, from its spotless purity and original perfection.

Observed by material sense, Christmas commemorates the birth of a human, material, mortal babe—a babe born in a manger amidst the flocks and herds of a Jewish village.

This homely origin of the babe Jesus falls far short of my sense of the eternal Christ, Truth, never born and never dying. I celebrate Christmas with my soul, my spiritual sense, and so commemorate the entrance into human understanding of the Christ conceived of Spirit, of God and not of a woman—as the birth of Truth, the dawn of divine Love breaking upon the gloom of matter and evil with the glory of infinite being.

Human doctrines or hypotheses or vague human philosophy afford little divine effulgence, deific presence or power. Christmas to me is the reminder of God's great gift—His spiritual idea, man and the universe—a gift which so transcends mortal, material, sensual giving that the merriment, mad ambition, rivalry and ritual of our common Christmas seem a human mockery in mimicry of the real worship in commemoration of Christ's coming.

I love to observe Christmas in quietude, humility, benevolence, charity, letting good will toward man, eloquent silence, prayer and praise express my conception of Truth appearing.

The splendor of this nativity of Christ reveals infinite meanings and gives manifold blessings. Material gifts and pastimes tend to obliterate the spiritual idea in consciousness, leaving one alone and without His glory.

STRINGENCY IN PAWNSHOPS, TOO.

Giving Out Little Cash to Customers in New York.

From New York Letter to the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

One of the interesting phases of the present financial stringency is the effect upon the pawnbrokers here. The number of persons who are seeking cash by pledging family jewels and all kinds of personal property has increased largely. But the pawnshop men have had to cut down their loans, and in some cases a limit has been put on the amount to be given to any one person, no matter what the pledge. "If we can't get the money from our bankers, we can't put it across our counters," said a loan man today. Along the Bowery and Park Row the limit in most shops has been set at $25 and $30, although a few of the larger ones are paying out $50. Customers with valuables on which they could ordinarily raise much more have to be contented with these sums or accept checks. A majority of the customers of pawnshops, however, want the cash. One pawnshop keeper said: "It is surprising the number of people who have come in here since the trouble started and tried to raise money. It was clear many of them had never been in a pawnshop before. One man brought in a bunch of Government bonds and wanted cash on them. Naturally we could do nothing for him, but it shows to what straits people are being put for ready money when they bring stuff like that to us instead of taking it down town. A man came in with a grip the other day and spread out on the counter a lot of jewelry which I saw at a glance was easily worth $20,000, probably the family jewels he had just taken out of a safety deposit vault. I told him to pack it right up again; that we could not do anything for him. He begged me to give him $1000 in cash, but I had to tell him we couldn't do it." Another pawnshop man said one trouble was no one was making redemptions.

Florida Has Largest Springs.

Indianapolis News.

No state in the Union has larger or more numerous springs than Florida. Many of them form good-sized streams from the start and some of them are navigable. The largest spring in the state, and one of the largest and probably the best known in the United States, is Silver Spring, which is located six miles east of Ocala. This spring forms the source of the Oklawaha River, a tributary of the St. Johns, and steamboats traversing the river enter the spring basin, which has an area of several acres. The water is from 25 to 30 feet deep, and is wonderfully clear, appearing absolutely devoid of color.

NORMAL SCHOOLS' UNIFICATION.

Plea for Central Location—Elimination of Four Wasteful Plants.

PORTLAND, Nov. 20.—(To the Editor.)—The recent report of State Board of Normal School Regents contains some interesting reading and should be of inestimable value in settling the much agitated question of whether there shall be four or one Normal school in Oregon. This report ought to recall the debate at the last Legislature at Salem and the cause for the present unsatisfactory situation.

The conditions that prevail at present would appear humorous were it not for the shameful waste of the people's money in attempting to sustain four different educational plants when one would be entirely adequate and do the work more thoroughly.

Ashland, with 122 students in the Normal department and 15 instructors, gives an average of eight pupils to the teacher. Drain, with 66 students and five instructors, an average of 13.2 pupils. Monmouth, with 129 students and 10 instructors, an average of 12 pupils, and Weston, with 153 students and 15 instructors, an average of 10.2 pupils. Any one at all familiar with educational conditions and methods knows that an instructor can handle 24 to 30 students about as well as eight or ten. If the total enrollment of 461 at these four schools were grouped at one school, for example, at Ashland, with its 15 instructors, it would give an average of 30.7 pupils per instructor, a very goodly number. These 15 instructors are now getting $1345 per month in salaries. This gives an average of $2.91 per pupil per month for teaching expense, and if the salaries of 15 instructors at Weston were taken, the average cost per pupil per month would be as low as $2.61.

By the present system of scattering the students among the four schools, the average cost per pupil per month ranges from $5.45 at Drain, or twice what it should cost, to $11.02 at Ashland, or about four times what it should cost. Surely this is a tremendously foolish waste of energy and money. It puts the cost of producing a Normal graduate at a rather unnecessarily high figure. But the extravagance becomes well-nigh "high finance," when we consider that the maintenance of grounds and buildings and equipment, not to speak of the janitor force necessary, must be added to this high average. From a financial point of view, then, the maintenance of four schools appears unwise and wasteful of public funds.

Many Normal schools throughout the country have an enrollment of 400 students, and a majority of them have at least 200 or more. Aside from the business aspects of the question in consolidating the four schools into one or two, there are other and far greater advantages to be gained. The friendships of a large body of students, the school spirit, the diversity of ideas and the unity of ideas engendered in a large gathering of teachers who are to go out into the state for a common purpose, are too great and potent to be commented upon in this brief communication.

Another factor not to be overlooked is the fact that, with one central institution, its location could be so placed as to make the best use of the general culture to be had at some one of the leading cities of our state. At present students receive little insight into the world's art, commerce and industry because of the rural isolation of the Normal schools. It must not be forgotten that they are at a great disadvantage in being unable to view first hand existing conditions at our centers of broad culture.

The unification into one large institution would also be a step toward annihilating our political jobbery attendant upon the present parceling out of our pedagogical instruction. If there is one factor in the social regime that ought to be free from the political quacks, it is the education of our boys and girls. And Oregon will continue to be ashamed of its Normal Schools so long as the petty office seeker and dilettante pedagogue are given a loophole through which to rob the public treasury.

With one large institution, more efficient instructors can be employed and better equipment afforded, with a correspondingly increased value in the product. We would also have a great and growing institution of which we would be proud, instead of having to make excuses when the subject of Normal schools is introduced.

It is to be hoped that The Oregonian will continue to publish the future reports of the Board of Regents, and thus build up a sentiment that will place the disposition of our Normal schools and the education of our teachers in the hands of the better informed citizens—where it belongs. J. R. F.

ELECTORAL VOTE IN 1908.

Total is 483 and Necessary to Choice for President 242.

Herewith we present a statement of the electoral vote to be cast in the Presidential election of next year, based on the apportionment act of 1900, which a correspondent asks us to print, viz:

Alabama	11	Nebraska	8
Arkansas	9	Nevada	3
California	10	New Hampshire	4
Colorado	5	New Jersey	12
Connecticut	7	New York	39
Delaware	3	North Carolina	12
Florida	3	North Dakota	4
Georgia	13	Ohio	23
Idaho	3	Oklahoma	7
Illinois	27	Oregon	4
Indiana	15	Pennsylvania	34
Iowa	13	Rhode Island	4
Kansas	10	South Carolina	9
Kentucky	13	South Dakota	4
Louisiana	9	Tennessee	12
Maine	6	Texas	18
Maryland	8	Utah	3
Massachusetts	16	Vermont	4
Michigan	14	Virginia	12
Minnesota	11	Washington	5
Mississippi	10	West Virginia	7
Missouri	18	Wisconsin	13
Montana	3	Wyoming	3

The total in the electoral college is 483 and the number of votes necessary to a choice is 242. If Arizona and New Mexico are admitted as the state of Arizona prior to 1908, the new state will have four electoral votes, thus making the total 487 and the number necessary to a choice 244.

GOLD-HOARDERS' OBJECT-LESSON

An Incident Commended to the Attention of Charles K. Henry.

RAINIER, Or., Nov. 20.—(To the Editor.)—Charles K. Henry and others who advocated the double standard, under unlimited coinage of silver, could learn a valuable lesson in the futility of attempting to have two standards of different value circulate on a parity by observing the rapidity with which specie is hoarded when placed in circulation along with clearing-house certificates.

A few days since, one of our mills paid its employes some $12,000—$9000 of which was specie and $3000 clearing-house certificates. I questioned our merchants about the proportion of each paid them in settlement of store bills. The result was, notwithstanding $3 in specie was paid the laborers to $1 in certificates, they paid the merchants, in settlement of their bills, $5 in certificates to $2 in specie.

The deduction is obvious.

W. B. LOTTMAN,
Cashier State Bank of Rainier, Or.

The Buddists' Joss Sticks.

Boston Globe.

In all countries where Buddhist worship is celebrated there is a great consumption of "joss sticks." These ceremonial candles are lighted on occasions of festivity or mourning, prayer or thanksgiving to divinities, and the like. Joss sticks are at once candles and incense, since, like the latter, they burn without apparent flame. Their preparation is shrouded in some mystery and the process is still practically unknown, those who carry it on being chosen from a special class and kept in rigorous seclusion.

THE HOUSEHOLD

BY LILIAN TINGLE.

In a series of articles on "Domestic Pets," published some years ago, Barry Pain gives the following directions for the feeding of girls:

"They can be made to eat much the same food as boys; but they have their preferences. Ices and meringues make a good everyday diet. In feeding girls, a good general rule to remember is this: The taste and wholesomeness of the food do not matter as long as the color is pink."

He goes on to state that he has in his possession a letter from a girl "at a girl-trainer's" giving a list of things actually eaten at a dormitory supper—"an important and valuable document, because it shows what unassisted nature prompts a girl to eat."

The list includes toast and jam, toasted "gelatines," chocolate creams, pie, cake and jam, cheese cakes, minced biscuits, cocoa, plain sherbet, pink sharbet and citrate of magnesia with sugar. Such a menu could only, I think, proceed from an English "girl-trainer's" establishment; and it seems fairly obvious that the writer has based his remarks almost exclusively on the English variety of girl. The American kind, even when quite young, differs in many respects from the product of the British Isles, though both have their good points.

* * *

Whether the somewhat different methods employed by the "trainers" of the respective countries and the decided differences of food and environment are the causes or the results of the difference in girls, is for more scientific people than myself to decide. I can, however, offer one small crumb of information on the great feeding question for, during several years past, I have been collecting statistics on what girls like best to eat and what they most dislike. The research is by no means completed, but up to date the results run somewhat as follows:

FAVORITE ARTICLES OF FOOD.

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
Ice Cream	23.2	Olives and pickles	12.5
Candy	18.9	Potatoes	9.9
Cake	18.7	Scattering votes. (Below 2 per cent.)	6.7
(Chiefly chocolate.) Various fruits	15.6		

The scattering votes showed individual preferences for such things as hot ginger cookies, crawfish, cabbage salad, hot biscuits and jelly, pie, turkey, cheese and various other special items.

ARTICLES OF FOOD MOST DISLIKED.

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
Fat meat	16.7	Bread pudding	5.3
Underdone meat	13.4	Votes below 2 per cent	53.1
Vegetables (Specific kinds seldom mentioned.)	10.5		

The wide scattering vote here includes such wholesome things as milk, eggs, soup, rice, strawberries, and bananas, which may be accounted for by either constitutional idiosyncrasies or overindulgence. The larger figures would appear to be the results of either bad cooking or a badly balanced diet.

I commend the study of the subject to owners of these amusing and sometimes useful "domestic pets."

* * *

As for boys, I regret to say that I have had fewer chances for observation and investigation; but if I were preparing a "treat" for a number of boys between 12 and 16 I should be absolutely certain of one item, which does not figure so largely in my experiences with girls—and that is pie, and plenty of it, and pumpkin pie for choice. Try it and see. Anyway, out of 78 boys questioned at various times in different parts of the country, 63 answered promptly, "Pumpkin pie," and that makes rather a high percentage. Many of them added, "You bet!"

Of course grown-ups are much more chancy and individual in regard to favorite dishes; and this particular season is a bad time to make inquiries, for turkey and cranberry sauce looming large on the horizon induce a wrong sense of proportion. Just now, when many of us are not quite sure whether our financial status and the retail price of the lordly bird will or will not prevent his presence on our table in the immediate future, a slice of well-cooked, plump, juicy turkey seems one of the most desirable of delicacies. But the very people who today vote "turkey" may hold very different views a day or two after Thanksgiving, when dealing with the remains of the feast.

* * *

Charles Lamb's charming adoration of roast suckling pig and his later recantation in favor of roast hare "which eats so 'crips' as Mrs. Minikin says," are classic preferences; but the following eulogy by Sidney Smith is less well known: "If there be a pure and elevated pleasure in this world it is that of roast pheasant and bread sauce. Barndoor fowls for dissenters; but for the real churchman, the 29 times articled clerk—the pheasant, the pheasant! Then there is the 18th century Duchess of Queensbury posting down from London to Parsons Green to tell Lady Sophia Thomas 'something of importance,' to wit, 'Take a couple of beefsteaks, clap them together as if for a dumpling, and eat them with pepper and salt; it is the best thing you ever tasted. I could not help coming back to tell you,' and then she drove back to town." What has always puzzled me is the expression "clap them together as if for a dumpling." Were they served cooked or uncooked?

Any talk about good things to eat always recalls that story of the darkey boys who "made up a puss" to go to the one who should "name de bes' eatings." They drew straws for the first turn, and one, giving the weighty matter due consideration, began slowly: "Yaes, de bes' eatings! Well, I says 'possum, an' ham, an' 'taters, an' watermillion—" A black hand shot out and made a grab at the money. "Shet up, yo' sneakin' nigger," said its owner, "yo' think I's gwine stay in dis yere game when yo' done gone name all dey is?"

Operation of a German Trust.

Engineering Magazine.

The usual method of procedure adopted by the German syndicates are for a number of experts to visit each of the works associated, to ascertain its capacity of production and its aptitude for any special class of work. Orders, being received by the central offices, are then allocated and remitted to the several establishments, regard being paid to the situation and circumstances of the various firms so as to avoid waste, overlapping and unnecessary delay. And not only are prices fixed and orders allocated by syndicate agreement, but payments usually pass through the central offices. Moreover, the syndicate frequently attends to times, methods and costs of transit, and many other matters, with the greatest possible advantage to its constituents, for its expert officials are better informed than the private manufacturer immersed in the technicalities of his own particular works can hope to be. While different syndicates have different rules—some allowing their members more liberty of action than others, these may be taken as the general outlines of the working of German iron and steel syndicates