

Wallowa County Chieftain

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ENTERPRISE, ORBON

Are you ready to enlist for the invasion of Manchuria?

The trouble with this airship business is that it has too many ups and downs.

Let us be just to Geronimo. He was the worst old Indian that ever happened.

A London dress, it is said, is to marry a poor young American. Which sounds better.

What has become of the old-fashioned boy who used to run away from home to fight Indians?

Your opinions are like a good many other things you possess: Of no value to anyone but the owner.

So now Hetty Green's son wants to take a trip in an aeroplane and become a rising young man.

A fashion recipe tells "how to prevent high collars disfiguring the neck." One way is not to wear them.

If the next war is to be fought in the skies, as Hiram Maxim says, how are they going to save the pieces?

Mrs. Leslie Carter states that she would darn her husband's socks were it a case of life and death. Noble woman!

The chronic loafer likes hard times because it gives him an excuse to stand around and watch other people work.

Booker T. Washington says that the United States should do for Liberia what it has done for Cuba. And as many times!

There must be some explanation of the size of the harpins. It may be that they are to be used as slungshots as well as pondrads.

Taft was made a Mason without being compelled to ride the goat. It may not be out of place to extend congratulations to the goat.

Wilbur Wright says that airships are hardly more dangerous than automobiles. Wait until they begin to run over us; then we'll know.

Army officers are to be inoculated with experimental anti-typhoid serum first. The private doesn't always have to occupy the point of greatest danger.

Perhaps the late William H. Seward had not the slightest idea, when he negotiated the purchase of Alaska, that he was also buying a lot of earthquakes for future delivery.

Harvard students have taken up the fad of growing beards and mustaches. Any man has a right to start whiskers on his fiftieth birthday. Before that, the act is something of a misdemeanor.

Mrs. Mabelle Gilman Corey has written a magazine article in which she says New York society is ignorant and stupid. Mrs. Corey has evidently come to the conclusion that she is not going to get into New York society.

The people who were saying when our warship fleet started on its trip around the world that it would either be destroyed by the Japanese or be demolished in a storm or get itself lost in some unknown sea can have the consolation of knowing that it burned a lot of coal, anyhow.

A student in a New England high school, whose picture appeared in the papers in a sweater ornamented with the school initials, has been ordered by a judge to leave school and go to work to support his 17-year-old wife and their baby. The boy is a prominent athlete, as the initials indicate. He met his wife a year ago at a high school dance in a neighboring town, and they were married without the knowledge of the bride's parents. There are some suggestions here for discussions at teachers' conventions, mothers' meetings and women's clubs.

The fixing of passenger rates by direct action of the State Legislatures of a number of Western and a few Eastern States two years ago was recognized at the time as not the wisest course of procedure. Careful investigations by competent commissions ought always to precede action of that character in order that the facts might be fully ascertained and no injustice done, and it may be added, also in order that the action when taken might not be subject to overthrow by the courts as unreasonable. Nevertheless, it has been a matter of great interest to discover after the event what should have been more accurately determined in advance—whether, namely, the 2-cent passenger fare actually means a loss to the roads forced to accept it. In the case of Missouri figures are now published by the State Railroad Commission which show that as a whole passenger earnings increased in that State in 1908 over 1907. The Santa Fe road, for instance, showed a gain of \$687.74 per mile on Missouri passenger business, or about 19 per cent. The Missouri Pacific showed a gain of \$1,002.27 per mile, or 60 per cent. Two other roads showed light gains and three showed losses. The interpretation of these figures by the railroad companies

will, of course, be necessary before any decisive inferences can be drawn. It, however, the Missouri loss make a good showing under a 2-cent fare law one can hardly avoid the inference that in Pennsylvania, a State of much thicker population and much heavier traffic, the roads could get along excellently on such a rate. Yet the Pennsylvania Supreme Court held a year ago, by a vote of four to three, that a 2-cent fare law was bound to be unremunerable and confiscatory, and so refused to allow it to be put into force. Whatever "facts" the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania had before it at the time can hardly fall to look trivial and valueless in the light of this Western experience.

Mr. Taft was the guest of Mr. Roosevelt in the White House for the twenty-four hours preceding his inauguration as President Thursday, March 4. It would be rash to say that the social friendliness thus betokened between an outgoing and incoming President is unique, yet it certainly is unusual. Thomas Jefferson, for example, who was promoted to the presidency from the vice presidency, did not even go from the White House to the Capitol, but walked from his boarding house accompanied by a company of Virginia artillery. President Adams not only was not present at the simple ceremonies of inauguration, but was not in Washington. He had left the city early in the morning on his way back to his Massachusetts home. The unfriendliness of Adams and Jefferson was as notable as the friendliness of Roosevelt and Taft. For an example of closeness of relation similar to that which now exists between the retiring and incoming Presidents, one must go back to the time of Jackson and Van Buren. General Jackson and his successor rode from the White House together in a phaeton drawn by four gray horses and attended by a military escort. Jackson sat uncovered on the platform while Van Buren delivered his inaugural address and took the oath of office. The recent custom, whether the two men are friendly or not, has been for the new President to go to the White House at eleven o'clock on March 4, and drive to the Capitol with the outgoing President, escorted by military companies and political clubs. The obligation of official courtesy is respected, even though the men may not have been previously acquainted, or though they may belong to different parties. Mr. Cleveland acted as the personal escort to his successor, Mr. Harrison, in 1880; and in 1880 Mr. Harrison appeared in the same capacity with Mr. Cleveland.



What every woman (thinks she) knows: That she looks well in pajamas. A woman can look extremely attractive when she is taking down her hair—if she has some. A woman must be mighty independent or mighty careless to wear black stockings with tan shoes on a muddy day. What every man expects: That before the close of 1909 women will be wearing corsets that reach below their knees. Ever notice how unruly those wisps of hair around a woman's neck are when she has a handsome assortment of finger rings? When you hear a married woman sniffily remark that "handsome is as handsome does," you may accept it as a cliché that her husband bears a striking resemblance to a stranded dogfish. When the relationship between husband and wife reaches such a matter-of-fact stage that she will pencil her eyebrows and scrub on the rouge right before him, there isn't enough glamor left of the conjugality to blind anybody with its glare.

A Key to the Mystery.
The visitor took up a small canvas smeared over with invisible gray, sprinkled here and there with yellow "dots." "What have we here?" he said to the artist.
"A chromatic in sad color, with golden accidents," replied the young painter. "Lynn might lights from the sea."
"Oh, quite so!" murmured the visitor. "I wonder—have I got it right side up?"
The painter regarded the canvas doubtfully, then pointed to a remarkable signature in the corner.
"It's all right," he said. "You'll never make a mistake if you keep that in the right-hand corner. It is put there for that purpose."

New Yorkers Fond of Theater.
Theater managers estimate there are about 11,000 theater attendants in New York City who attend at least one performance each week throughout the season.

Appropriate.
"Oink! That's a queer name for a dog."
"Not when you consider his rough, strong bark."—Kansas City Times.

Better a fool friend than a wise enemy.

The Dutch throne has forty-one possible claimants.

Editorials

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

DOES OUR FORESTRY PAY?

UNLESS discovery of some other material suited to production of paper, spruce sufficient to supply the annual demand for pulp must be grown, but many rational economists are wondering whether there is any real justification for reserving from settlement an area of land in the United States that already totals more than the entire German empire. The rapid advance of concrete "lumber" for everything from railroad ties and fence posts to reservoirs, huge factories and office buildings operates to reduce consumption of wood. And it is a moot question whether land devoted to forestry might not more profitably be devoted to fruit and vegetables. This is the only country in which the doctrine that the forests insure a water supply is generally accepted, and even here many expert engineers who differ very radically from the Plancher dictum maintain that water causes forests and not the forests water. The recent exhibition in Chicago demonstrated conclusively that perfection of steel reinforced concrete eliminates the necessity of wood for building purposes. Steel furniture is lighter, stronger and more sanitary than wooden. Except as fuel scarcely a purpose served by wood cannot be better served by steel and stone. Trees are always beautiful. A denuded landscape is unpleasant. But when the advancement of knowledge eliminates wood as a necessity the question will naturally arise, "Does our forestry pay?"—Chicago Journal.

THE LATEST SPASM OF SPELLING.

THE self-appointed simplified spelling board goes on reforming the spelling of English words by platitudes, regardless of the fate of previous detachments. The plan of these reformers is to change the spelling of a certain number of words every year till they eat their way gradually through the whole dictionary. They would have deformed several hundred words by this time if any but a few freak newspapers paid the least attention to them. The so-called third list of deformities has just been misprinted. It contains an indefinitely large number of words, since it lays down a general rule instead of selecting particular words for mutilation. Moreover, it makes the boldest application yet of the phonetic principle, spelling exactly like a lary schoolboy who has learned his letters and doesn't propose to take any more trouble. The combination *ea* is to be abolished wherever it is pronounced like the short *e* or like broad *a*. When heilth falls us we are to fear deth and hope for heven, saying farewell to the family harth with as stout a hart as we can command. There is something familiar about the next class of deformities, which drop the *e* in past tenses and participles. He who has killed is to be fld with the dred of being hangd. Probably it recalls dimly a former injunction to put

a *t* for the *ed* in other past tenses. Another new rule to drop the final *e* after *h* or *r* is akin to half-forgotten former rules. We are to resolve to carry our mother tongue into mimentment. Finally the terminal *ie* is to become *ie*, when the accent does not fall on it. Upon servis of subpoena we are to repair to the edifs where justis is administered.

These persons are neither lunatics nor jokesters. They actually think they are carrying on a great reform in the art of letters. They go on writing their own letters in jargon like a pipeer marching and playing alone ahead of a tropp that sits on the ground and laughs at him. What would be their emotions if they looked back over a path without a single follower cannot be guessed. But reformers never look back.—Minneapolis Tribune.

MURDER AND THE DEATH PENALTY.

WHAT is to be done with those who commit murder? The laws of most countries reply that they should be put to death. On the other hand, there is a strong and widespread sentiment that, no matter how heinous a man's crime, the State is never justified in deliberately taking his life. This sentiment has found expression in the laws of several American States and of two or three European countries, where murder is punished by life imprisonment.

In some States where the death penalty was abolished, so great an increase in murder followed that capital punishment was restored. France has passed through a similar experience. Although the law was not repealed, the President always commuted the death sentence to life imprisonment. A little more than two years ago a parliamentary commission recommended the repeal of the capital punishment law. But the number of murders was growing so rapidly that the national sentiment changed, and the proposed law was not passed. President Fallieres has recognized the present public opinion, and, in conformity with it, signed four death warrants early in January. For the first time in years the guillotine was used.

Death was once the ordinary penalty for felonies. Blackstone cites 100 offenses thus punished, ranging from the unauthorized felling of a tree to high treason. Now only four crimes are so punished in Great Britain, including, besides murder, violent piracy, treason, and destruction of public arsenals and dockyards. In the United States the list of capital crimes is practically the same. But he who sheds man's blood has his own blood demanded of him less frequently in the United States than in any other civilized country. There are no trustworthy statistics, to be sure, but it is a well-known and lamentable fact that in a great number of cases the murderer is not detected; in some parts of the country, although the perpetrator of the crime is known, he is not arrested; in States where the laws are better enforced the prosecution fails to convict; and finally, the convict frequently evades the gallows or the electric chair.—Youth's Companion.

"What objection do your sisters make?"

"Henrietta says she hasn't any ideals—high ideals. She doesn't think Annabel's at all intellectual. Annabel says she thinks six foot one and a half is high ideal enough for any girl. I thought that was pretty good—what? Maud takes mother's view. Aunt Seraphine thinks Annabel's giddy."
"She may get over it."
"Annabel or Aunt Seraphine?" asked the lucky dog. "I hope Annabel won't. If she does she won't be Annabel, and I think that would be a real misfortune. But wouldn't all that jar you? Here's me! Look at me. You know Willie. What would I do with a domestic, idealistic, metaphysical, economical, penicilline paragon? What would she want with me? No, sir, I've got a mighty odd good-looking girl who knows how to put clothes on herself and flirt and play tennis and golf. She can pick a banjo and dance and sing and almost anything is a good enough joke to laugh at with her. She's a level-headed little woman, too, when you get down to cases and don't you lose sight of that. If she isn't good enough for me what would you recommend?"
"It certainly is funny how they are," remarked the intimate friend, ambiguously.—Chicago Daily News.

The Pedigree of the Shirt.

Why does the being we call a "gentleman" wear around his neck a band of spotless whiteness and unbearable stiffness, at his wrists similar instruments of torture and before his chest a rigidly starched linen plate? No one outside of a madhouse would call these articles of apparel agreeable. There is for the custom no reason at all drawn from comfort, hygiene or usefulness. There is, however, the ghost of a dead reason. Once upon a time a "gentleman" was presumed to do no work, and he dressed to show this by putting on these visible signs that he never soiled his hands, sweated his neck or bent his noble back. It matters not that we no longer believe in this definition of a gentleman. We did believe once. Its ghost rules on. No man is bold enough to appear in society without this impossible harness. Only a professional humorist like Mark Twain or some one who wishes to pose as a mild lunatic dares rebel. Addison said that the man who would clothe himself according to common sense would find himself in jail within a week.—Frank Crane in Atlantic.

Laying Up Treasure.

No man lays up treasure in heaven until he quits dodging taxes on earth.—Dallas News.

It's easier to marry for money than it is to get it that way.

MANICURED HOTEL WAITERS.

Latest innovation in the service of a Leading Convalescent.
Manicured hotel servants will be presented to-day to the guests of the Wolcott and it will be the initial presentation of a finger-nail condition that no other hotel in New York—or in the United States for that matter—ever has considered, the New York World says. The management has been impressed for three or four months with the general untidiness of waiters, bell-boys and other employes exclusive of the clerical staff and yesterday the following pronouncement was issued:
"Beginning on this date every employe of the Wolcott who comes in contact with the guests of the hotel will report daily to Miss Cora M. Parker, the official manicure, to have his or her finger nails clipped, cleaned, polished and filed."

"This order is mandatory and no excuse will be accepted for disobedience except illness or other excuse which the management shall deem to be reasonable.
"A room has been provided for the manicure near the waiters' dressing room, and she will be on duty from 8:30 a. m. until 5 p. m.

"No charge will be made for the service, which tends to promote cleanliness and which will appeal to the guests of the hotel. There is no reason why the finger nails should not receive the same attention as the hands."
The promulgation of the edict was followed by two waiters making immediate application for treatment—Serath Carros and Antipolus Chogano. Carros has a large hand with spotted fingers caused by close attention to the strings of a violin and to balancing saucers on his finger tips. Chogano has a long, slender hand, with oval nails. Each candidate was polished off in ten minutes.

"Fine," said Carros. "I like him. The young lady, she very nice. Don't hurt, just a little tickle."

Wit of the Youngsters

"And remember, dear," said small Fred's mother, "that George Washington never told a lie." "Oh, well," rejoined Fred, "he hadn't any the best of me. I never told one, either."

Teacher—Now, Harry, suppose I had a mince pie and gave one-sixth to Johnny, one-sixth to Tommy, one-sixth to Willie and took half of it myself; what would be left? Harry (promptly)—I would.

"Mamma," said 5-year-old Edgar one evening, "haven't I been a good boy to-day?" "Yes, Edgar," she replied, "and I'm very proud of you." "Well," continued the little fellow, "I can go to bed without saying my prayers, can't I?"

Small Clifford had frequently accompanied Walter to the home of the latter's grandma, where cookies were always forthcoming. One day while there the cookies did not materialize at the usual time, so Clifford said: "Mamma says I must never ask for anything to eat, but I'm awfully hungry, just the same."

RAILROAD SAFETY DEVICE

The "Death Button" Adds to the Subway Traveler's Security.
Safety in railroad travel is a vitally interesting topic, and an article in the Circle, entitled, "Making Railroad Travel Safer," gives some remarkable illustrations of the many inventions and automatic appliances which tend to guard the public from danger. One of these is called the "death button," making provision as it does in case of the sudden death or inactivity of the one in charge at the moment on lines where electric current has been installed as a propelling power.

The well-known "death button," now in use in the Manhattan subway trains is a safety device in line with this future development.
In the top of the electric controller handle, which is moved in a circle over a row of contact buttons by the motorman when he regulates the speed, is a little plunger which is the real factor in throwing the electric current off and on. It sticks through the handle and is held up by a spring.
Before he can get any current at all this button must be pushed down by the palm of the motorman's hand, after which he can move the handle about and adjust the strength of the current at will.

But should he drop dead at his post or for any reason remove his hand from the lever, the little button would spring up from contact, the current would leave the motor and the car stop.

Making for Strength.

Bacon—Experiments with sugar as food made in the French army have shown that it is a great source of muscular energy.

Egbert—I guess that is a fact. Just see how strong the sugar trust is.—Tonkers Statesman.

Folly to Be Wise.

"I'm not going to give my son a college education," observed a fellow who won't let us print his name, "because I want him to get on rapidly. I had the first job I ever had by undertaking to correct my employer's grammar."

You may say your financial judgment is pretty good if you are wise enough not to risk it backing the stock market or board of trade.