

is, strange to say, not only payless but thankless.

#### A NEW INTEREST IN EDUCATION.

THE ENFORCED focus of public attention on the schools through teachers leaving the service of education is certain to be productive of results greater than the mere raising of salaries to retain teachers. While by no means neglected it has been the custom to give the schools scant attention beyond providing buildings and hiring teachers. Policies have been left very largely to grow fair or rank as best they might with little attention to keeping pace with the march of progress which has been almost phenomenal during the past generation. If ten per cent of the electorate turns out to a school election it is considered good. Ofttimes it is but half that.

The state campaign for education—elementary and higher—should be, and undoubtedly will be, supported. It must be borne in mind that the object is for the advancement of the children and youth of today to qualify them for the greater citizenship of tomorrow, in the greater state of Oregon and the more perfect society.

Let us reflect for a moment. Has it ever occurred to you that we are prone to lavish our best thought, care and strength upon the artificial, while living, breathing subjects are neglected? Go through the art gallery and note the work of the masters, old and new, and with what infinite pains and patience they have labored to produce the beautiful; go to the studio of the sculptor and observe with what diligence he chisels out the fair counterfeits of humanity. Go from one to another of those who labor assiduously among the ideals that surround us to produce the lovely—laboring through weary years to present a perfect figure on canvas or carve it from a block of cold marble. For weary months and years they labor, and behold! on every side there are growing up immortal beings on whom is not bestowed a fraction of the time, care and patience that is given to producing the image—the perfect presentment of the outward form which is but the husk to the kernel. If such devotion could be centered upon the mind and soul of the living, breathing being and directed toward producing the ideal of human character what a world this soon would be! How much of hell would be banished and how much of heaven would be realized! There would be developed a generation of producers, artisans, scholars, statesmen and representatives of the professions such as few have dreamed—a glorified humanity fairer than marble figures carved from Carrara's quarries, more imposing than colossal statues raised to the memory of our greatest and best—a generation of men and women whose minds would reach to the realization and enjoyment of the more perfect justice reflected in the radiance of infinite light only as the ideal of today.

#### REPATRIATION A FAILURE.

IT WAS the dream of King Oscar of Sweden to welcome back to the fatherland many thousands of subjects who had ventured into the land of opportunity in America. He believed that they would bring back the American spirit, the American energy, the American enterprise and the capital they had made in America and regenerate his kingdom.

The plan was launched at a favorable

time, when financial depression was heavy in the United States and it seemed "a good time to go home." Strong and subtle influences were brought to bear and many were persuaded to return in the belief that they actually could do better in the "Old Country" than they could here. The ideas of King Oscar were advanced by King Gustaf when he ascended the throne, and on its face, the idea appeals to reason as a most excellent one. Like many another apparently logical idea, however, it refused to develop.

Many, after a few years in this country, return to the old home land for a visit, and many go with a determination to remain, but they do not. They soon come back to America.

Why?

The answer lies in all those intangible little somethings that go to make up element and environment. The living does not compare to that to which they have been accustomed to in America. It is not on the same plane, not only as to the essentials, but the comforts and pleasures, saying nothing of the luxuries. To the man who has been in America the horizon of life is narrowed. The man who has breathed the spirit of American freedom chafes and frets within the limited bounds of the native land and the restraint of ways and customs. In short they find it quite impossible to adjust themselves to the old world conditions. "The old home is not what it used to be," not because it has changed, but because we have changed.

#### THE CUSTOM OF TIPPING.

THE CUSTOM of tipping belongs to the gallant period of the past when the world was divided between master and servant in a state of semi-slavery, and not to this day and age when the lines of caste and class have been broken and labor raised to the dignity which commands, and is accorded, respect and honor. It is arrant folly to pass laws to prohibit tipping, as has been done in some states. Such laws are not enforced and only serve to lower respect and beget contempt for the work of well-meaning legislators and for the courts.

The superintendent of employment agencies of the state of Illinois makes the statement that tips given employes in many of the public service places, hotels and theater cloak-rooms in Chicago, are not enjoyed by the recipients and do not remain with them, even in part, but must all be turned over to the boss who gets them their jobs. One man has the contract to operate the cloak-rooms of a large number of the foremost hotels and theaters. The boys under him receive a fixed wage of \$5 to \$7 a week, and if their gratuities do not average up to a certain standard, they are dismissed. The superintendent estimates that, with fifty boys turning in an average of \$5 a day, the contractor's profits amount to as much as \$1,000 a week. This tallies with New York's experience. It was discovered at the time of the hotel porters' strike last year most of these men worked for a contractor and turned in to him the tips received.

In "the good old days of yore" when hospitality was freely extended the pilgrim and wayfarer, little gratuities to the menials of the host and to those who served him, was an expression of appreciation and of generosity quite in keeping with the times. It should be remembered, how-

ever, that the system of communal fellowship commonly known as society, has changed. Today the hotel guest pays for the service he receives, as does the railway traveler or theater patron—in many cases, pays altogether too much, it is asserted,—but even so, there are many who continue the custom and show their generous spirit in tips, as supplementary payment for particular thoughtful attentions, and the practice is not wholly to be condemned, but there are too many places where the old system will not mesh with the new. The wealthy may give, with discrimination, tokens of appreciation for special services rendered, but the man of the times, even though wealthy, discourages the custom of indiscriminate tips, and himself to be held up because he thinks he must do so, should give some one a liberal fee to show him where he is growing a large tuft of moss.

Women sailors are quite frequently employed in Denmark, Norway and Finland, and are often found to be excellent mariners. In Denmark several women are employed as state officials at sea, and particularly in the pilot service. They go out to meet the incoming ships, climb nimbly out of their boats, show their official diploma, and steer the newcomer safely into the harbor.

#### KINDNESS TO THE POOR AND AGED.

A BEAUTIFUL custom which existed among the university students of Copenhagen some years ago, was that of entertaining the poor and aged. Open house was kept during the long winter months, and many to whom life was a drab, cheerless stretch on the west slope of life here found a cheering smile, an encouraging hand and pleasant entertainment.

For a long time the students quarters for old people was in a large old-fashioned building on Gothsgade and throughout the long winter the old building was full of light and music. On entering, the visitor found many old people, all of whom, though poorly dressed and evidently acquainted with hard times, were cheerful and happy, for the students did far more than simply supply their guests with warm rooms, comfortable seats and hot coffee. They gave themselves. They sang and played to their aged guests; they gave them lectures and talks; they mingled with them and learned to know them. They were hosts in the best sense; they made the aged poor of Copenhagen their honored guests.

Under the law of Christian friendship social barriers disappear. Rich and poor, employer, employed, strong and weak, are brothers. That other barrier—that which unhappily so often exists between youth and age—yields easily to the great law of friendship, the students of Copenhagen have proved. It is doubtful if, in all their university course, these students learned a greater truth than this which they discovered in democratic association with the elderly folk in humble stations.

#### THE SIMPLE THINGS

To what extreme simplicity may man's existence be reduced without impeding either the body's functions or the expansion of the mind. A loaf and a cup of drink are necessary, to which may be added by way of luxury, a book and a fire that will supply light and heat. When these are provided nothing is wanting that is indispensable to the development of a great soul.

Willard Dillman.