

canning and handling salmon in Oregon one gets some idea of the importance of the industry and of the value of the propagation being carried on in the various hatcheries of the state.

From the mouth of the Columbia to Cascade Locks the water area of the river is 98,000 acres. For the past 45 years this area has averaged to yield a revenue of \$25 per year per acre in salmon.

If a farmer can afford to spend money on fertilizing his fields, certainly we can afford to spend a small portion of the revenue derived from our rivers and streams in the artificial propagation of fish to restock our streams.

PRACTICAL SIDE OF LENT

HISTORY OF IMMENSE INTEREST TO ALL



LENT is with us, and no matter whether you observe the season as one of fasting and penitence, as a religious duty, or not, the respite and change that it brings is a good thing for everyone. All such institutions have their origin in the genuine welfare of mankind, and they deserve respect.

In earlier times religion and morality and hygiene and physical well-being were all combined in one general code of conduct. The Mosaic laws are a mixture of abstract piety and practical sanitation. The tendency of modern orthodoxy has been to make religion a thing apart; it has been separated too much from the everyday life of men. Efforts are being made by the churches to make religion minister to the physical as well as the spiritual requirements of humanity, but a great deal remains to be done in this direction.

As we have said, the Lenten fast is based on a real human need, manifested all through the ages; it is not religious in any narrow theological or sectarian sense. The term "Lent" comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, meaning to lengthen; the reference is to the days, which begin to noticeably increase in length at this season.

The ancient pagan nations celebrated the coming of spring by fasting and penitence, and this custom, like many others, was adopted by the Christian church and adapted to its purposes. This shows the astuteness of the early religious fathers, for if the Christian religion had antagonized these pagan practices and customs which were so powerfully entrenched it could never have made the conquest it did. It simply captured the pagans, with their customs and all, and "benevolently assimilated" them.