

BREAK DRILL

For the second time since Miller & West began to find an artesian well for the O. R. & N. has the casing broken, leaving the diggers in a trying predicament. The first break caused the chocking of a new location, but now the well has reached a depth of 325 feet and the diggers are loathe to begin over again. Accordingly, to find a way out of the difficulty, an eight inch casing will be lowered within the ten inch casing which has formerly been used. The break is only two feet below the surface. About two feet below this again, the casing will be cut off to allow sinking of the inner casing. Yesterday morning the drill worked incessantly for two hours on a boulder and lowered itself but two inches. Suddenly the casing broke, causing the material delay.

The well is nearly full of water. But seven feet more and the well would be a flowing one. Several times, tests have been made to ascertain the quantity of the water, and after bucketing for several hours, the water was lowered a distance of forty feet. There it stopped. The supply is a large one but not of a sufficient quantity to make a flowing well.

It will require a piece of engineering skill to lower the 325 feet of inner casing. Each joint must be lowered separately and held while another fifteen foot joint is screwed on. When the last joint will have been attached and lowered, the device which controls the lowering, will be holding over nine tons of iron.

TROUBLES OF OSTEOPATHIST

Hint That the Nottingham Bill Has Fallen Among Workers

Portland, Jan. 28.—(To the Editor)—In The Oregonian of last Friday I note with surprise that Senator Nottingham's bill for the regulation of osteopathy was referred to the committee on medicine and pharmacy. And that, too, at the solicitation of three of the said committee, and despite the protests of the Senator who introduced the bill.

Upon what grounds such action was taken is not stated. Nor is it conceivable by one familiar with the spirit of antagonism manifested by the older schools of practice toward any system not in accord with their own.

The spectacle of medical doctors importuning our august body of lawmakers for the opportunity and privilege of sitting in judgment on the merits of a system of practice which they and their brothers have bitterly slandered and vilified and fought is so unspeakably ludicrous that one is moved to wonder if the dawn of the millennium is not already bursting—that the lamb should be suffered to lie down tranquilly within reach of the lion's paw.

Pray, what portion of the bone-doctors' request falls within the special jurisdiction of these erudite Aesculapians? Is it possible they fear that the health of the state's precious citizens would fail by reason of the unrestrained application of a system that depreciates the use of drugs? Be not alarmed, gentlemen. Have not some of the children of men thus far escaped that anxious and painful moment when the order for poisonous pills, powder or potion is inscribed in more painful Latin signs and symbols, and yet arrived at the full term of their allotted time?

Moreover, be assured that the doctors of Multnomah county, at least, are not panic-stricken at prospect of a legalized drugless treatment of its citizens. For has not its city and county medical association, by unanimous vote, put itself on record to the effect that drugs are not necessary in the efficient treatment of disease? Else, I charge you, they are derelict to the best interests of our sick and afflicted. Out of the depths of their tender compassion and infinite affection for their dearly beloved brother, the osteopath, they issued such a paragon of startling magnanimity that the osteopaths must have swooned in sheer breathlessness, to wit: Resolved, that the present law be amended so as to read

that osteopaths will not have to pass examination upon materia medica."

But the fact is that bill was not justly or properly referable to a medical committee, but, by virtue of the fact that it is a new law—that it provides for the appointment of a board of examiners under state control, with authority to issue licenses to qualified osteopaths and to administer oaths and contains penalty clauses for the violation of its provisions—it clearly falls within the jurisdiction of the judiciary committee. In support of such opinion I cite as precedent the reference of the osteopathic bill two years ago to the judiciary committee of the House. And, further, I would emphasize the fact that the Supreme Courts of several of our states have held that osteopathy is not the practice of medicine within the meaning of existing medical statutes.

This effort of our medical worthies to entertain the osteopathic bill is certainly unique and suggestive. Will it not come to pass—that the Republican party will submit its next National platform to its dear friends, the Democrats, for modification and correction, or that one Presbyterian General Assembly will turn over the Confession of Faith to the Unitarians for revision and suggestions? Perhaps not. But surely of this there can be no doubt—that in future the medical men, out of consideration of love and reciprocity, will graciously submit their possible legislative bills to the osteopaths, for alteration and correction.

These osteopaths may be as black as the medical men paint them, but it looks mighty strange that where they are best known they are best protected. And no evidence has yet reached the statisticians of any increase in the death rate by reason of the ministrations of over 4000 of them in our country. It is also strange that the Legislatures of 30 odd states have seen fit to protect their practice from fraud and quackery, and that the United States Senate June 29, last, passed a bill for their protection in the District of Columbia, requiring high educational qualifications. And it is worthy of note that the Oregon bill differs in no important particular from the one submitted to Congress.

R. R. GILTNER.
The above appeared in the Portland Oregonian of Jan 29.

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