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Never Before Have We Offered Such Bargains

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Come Early Tomorrow Morning

Don't wait until the afternoon rush, but come early and avoid the crowding hundreds of eager purchasers. **Every Article in Our Entire Stock Reduced.**

Never Before has This Store Waited on Such Crowds

Sale of Shirtwaists in the Millinery Dept. Upstairs

WEST'S
 "THE QUALITY STORE"

Be Sure to Visit Our Ready-to-Wear Sale of Women's Coats, Suits and Dresses

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS
 EDITOR AND OWNER.

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Recently the state of Maryland raised the age limit for children as workers from 12 to 14 years. One result of the change is that more than 2,000 new pupils are expected in the schools of Baltimore, more than half of whom are boys and girls who will attend day schools. The others, all between the ages of 13 years and three months and 14 years, may continue at work, provided they attend night schools. This division has been made on account of lack of room in the day schools.

HAWAII'S VOLCANIC INFERNO.

A Peep into Kilauea's Lake of Brimstone and Fire.

Kilauea, in Hawaii, is a round, extinct crater about three miles across and 700 or 800 feet deep. It has been the scene of terrific explosions in past ages, but it has now dwindled to the small active crater of Halemaumau, which is sunk near the middle of it like a huge pot, 200 or more feet deep and 1,000 feet across.

In the midafternoon a party of eight of ten of us on horseback set out to visit the volcano. The trail led down the broken and shelving side of the crater, amid trees and bushes, till it struck the floor of lava at the bottom. Our course took us out over the cracked and conformed lava beds, where no green thing was growing. The forms of the lava flow suggested melted and writhing dragons, with horrid, gaping mouths and vicious claws. The lava crumbled beneath the horses' feet like shelly and brittle ice. At one point we passed over a wide

jagged crack on a bridge. As we neared the crater the rocks grew warm and sulphur and other fumes streaked the air.

When half a mile from the crater we dismounted and, leaving our horses in charge of the guide, proceeded on foot over the cracked and heated lava rocks toward the brink of this veritable devil's caldron. The sulphur fumes are so suffocating that it can be approached only on the windward side. The first glance into that fearful pit is all that your imagination can picture it. You look upon the traditional lake of brimstone and fire, and if devils were to appear skipping about over the surface with pitchforks, turning their victims as the cook turns her frying crutlers in the sputtering fat, it would not much surprise you. This liquid is rather thick and viscid, but it is boiling furiously. Great masses of it are thrown up forty or fifty feet and fall with a crash like that of the surf upon the shore.

The mass of boiling lava is said to be about one and one-half acres in extent. Its surface is covered with large masses of floating crust, black and smooth, like leather or roofing paper, and between these masses, or islands, the molten lava shows in broad, vivid lines. It is never quiet.

Looking upon this scene with the thought of the traditional lake of fire and brimstone of our forefathers in mind, you would say that these black, filthy looking masses floating about on the surface were the accumulation of all the bad stuff that had been fried out of the poor sinners since hell was invented. How much wickedness and uncharity and evil thought it would represent! If the poor victims were clarified and made purer by the process, then it would seem worth while.—John Burroughs in Century.

Helping the Books.

Persons about to install new libraries or those who find their books in bad condition will be glad of the advice offered on this subject by a writer in Les Annales (Paris). Glass cases should always be avoided except for a few precious volumes which are specially looked after and frequently dusted since the confined atmosphere and lack of air circulation in such book-cases are favorable to the development of germs, insects and mold. "Second-

ly," adds the Scientific American, "the simple precaution should be taken of placing on the shelves behind the books strips of cloth or flannel moistened with benzine, phenol, tobacco juice or turpentine. These strips give excellent results if renewed from time to time."

One of the Stipulations.

A vegetarian engaged a German cook lady not long ago. His wife liked the appearance of the applicant. Her references were good and the wages she demanded not exorbitant.

"I'd like to have you come," said the lady of the house, "but perhaps you won't want to live with us. We are vegetarians and never have any meat in the house. Would you be satisfied with a vegetable diet?"

The fraulein scratched her head. "Well," she said dubiously, "I've been a vegetable?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Word Blindness.

Verbal antipathies are common. Most of us hate the feel, so to speak, of certain words—"victuals," for instance. Is verbal astigmatism prevalent, too, we wonder? We never know the difference between "subjective" and "objective," and we have a high respect for writers who use those words intelligently. "Ingenuous" and "disingenuous" always puzzle us too.—Franklin P. Adams in Metropolitan.

Sharp Tongued Bernhardt.

Sarah Bernhardt is quoted as having paid her respects to Isabella of Bavaria, consort of Charles VI. of France, in this wise: "It is to her that we owe the invention of the corset, but it was she, too, who sold the half of France to England. There was no crime of which that woman was not capable."

Told Her Why.

"I'd like to know why you hired a young woman for a typewriter?" demanded Mrs. Hilow of her husband. "So I could have some one to dictate to," replied the unhappy man.—New York Sun.

The Way He Put It.

He—I have a compliment for you, dear. She—What is it? He—Mrs. Jones says you have the handsomest husband in town.—Life.

Go on and make errors and fall and get up again. Only go on!—Brackett.

Tacking Explained.

"What do people mean when they talk about tacking?" asked Bobby, who had listened to a detailed account of his sister's first experience in a sailboat, but in considerable confusion of mind.

"Oh, you'll know when you're a little bit older," said his sister, but the small round face wore an expression of injury, and she had to explain further.

"Why, it's just turning halfway round," she said, with slight hesitation, "and then—and then you sail on the bias."

The Gurgle in the Bottle.

Why does water gurgle when poured from a bottle? As water pours out air attempts to pour in. Occasionally the hand holding the bottle may move and give the air the opportunity. The quick rush of the water to fill the hole made by the air causes the gurgling sound.

Grading the Rulers.

Themistocles, it is said, declared that his son was the strongest man in Greece.

"For," said he, "the Athenians rule the Hellenese. I rule the Athenians, your mother rules me, and you rule your mother."

A Really Smart Man.

"He always says the right thing at the right time, doesn't he?" "More than that. He always keeps still at the right time."—Houston Post.

GENIUS AND VANITY.

Schopenhauer Was Not a Bit Afraid to Praise Himself Out Loud.

Schopenhauer, the great German philosopher, afforded one of the most remarkable examples of self complacency that has ever been known. His naive eulogisms on his own productions are almost beyond belief. In writing to his publishers of his work he says:

"Its worth and importance are so great that I do not venture to express it even toward you because you could not believe me," and he proceeds to quote a review "which speaks of me with the highest praise as the greatest philosopher of the age, which is really saying much less than the good man thinks."

"Sir," he said to an unoffending stranger who watched him across a table d'hote where he acted the part of the local "lion" habitually—"sir, you are evidently astonished at my appetite. True, I eat three times as much as you, but then I have three times as much mind."

Auerbach, the German novelist, also had a great appreciation of his own powers and work, and many stories are told of the obtrusive way in which he displayed his vanity. A German writer says of him: "Every year Auerbach visits three or four fashionable watering places, at each of which the following episode occurs at least thirty times. The novelist indulges in small talk with the little children of the natives and invariably ends the conversation thus: 'Knowest thou who has been talking with thee? Behold Auerbach! Tell that at home!'"

GRIT OF A SHARPSHOOTER.

Sergeant Halliwell's Feat at the Siege of Lucknow.

During the siege of Lucknow in the Indian mutiny there was afforded what was probably the most notable instance of the record in war of a crack shot.

The rebels were endeavoring to mount two eighteen-pounders, which they had hauled up to the flat roof of one of the palaces surrounding the residency, and it was necessary to prevent this being done, or they would have been able to pour down a heavy fire on the defenders. Sergeant Halliwell was chosen for this duty. He was a crack shot of the Thirty-second foot.

Being given the best rifle that could be found, his orders were to prevent the guns being mounted. He took up his position behind some battered down masonry where there was only cover for him to lie at full length. He remained in that position, it is said, for several days, not being able to stand, inasmuch as that would have resulted in instant death. His only change was to roll over from his back to his stomach. His eyes were ever kept on the dismounted guns, and whenever the Sepoys attempted to mount them his unerring rifle played havoc among them and prevented their object being accomplished. Food was brought to him at night by men who crawled to his position.

After some time a sortie was made, and the Sepoys were defeated. For this brave work Sergeant Halliwell received the Victoria cross.—Harper's Weekly.

Malicious.

Gladys—I refused Fred two weeks ago, and he has been drinking heavily since. Ethel—Isn't it about time he stopped celebrating?

Answered.

Schoolteacher—What farm papers does your father take? Son of the Village Tightwad—First mortgages!—Puck.

Hope shall brighten days to come and memory gild the past.—Moore.

MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC LIGHT SUBJECT IS DISCUSSED

La Grande, Oregon, January 2, 1913.—Editor Evening Observer—Dear Sir:—I have before me some interesting data from the town of Logan Utah, where a lighting and power system has been owned and operated by that place since 1904 which shows how profitable the business is and how much the municipal system has saved the inhabitants of that town, and which if applied to this place would accomplish the same results. The following is quoted from a letter written by Mr. Wm. Evans, auditor of that place:—"Our plant has been in operation since May 1904, and during that time has paid off approximately \$25,000 of the initial cost and have at present \$3,284.74 in a sinking fund to make redemption of the issue of the \$12,000 completion bonds which become due June 1, 1924 as well as the \$5000 in the electric fund. No sinking fund has as yet been created to pay off the \$65,000 bond issue. This has all been done besides constructing a new transmission line replacing No. 6, copper with No. 2 thereby getting the greatest possible efficiency; installing 2 Dickerson Automatic governors at a cost of \$1500; construct-

ing a new series Tungsten street lighting system at a cost of about \$5000. During most of the time we have sold light at the extremely low rate of 10 cents per 16cp. per month service, continuous service power at the rate of \$1.50 per horse power per month.

At the time of the proposed installation of the plant, subscription lists were presented to the people asking that they sign for the number lights they would use and the price to be charged per light was 33 1-3c. Figuring the difference between the price they have actually paid and the price proposed, the plant has saved the people of Logan, after being in operation seven years, over \$165,000. Any La Grande light user knows that it is impossible to burn their lights from dark until bedtime at the rate mentioned above 33 1-3c per month and according to the letter above and the auditor's statement which follows La Grande having the water power, same as Logan, a municipal lighting system in La Grande would save our citizens about 23 1-3c per light per month or proportionately so.

Report on Electric Plant.

Cost of installing	\$112,879.93
Present value	\$6,909.98
(The present value has been arrived at by depreciating the initial cost 5 per cent per year and then adding improvements.)	
Bonded Indebtedness.	
Bonds, first series Nos. 1 to 130 inclusive, \$500.00 each, dated May 1, 1903, due May 1, 1923, at 4 per cent per annum	\$ 65,000.00
Bonds, second series, Nos. 1 to 12, inclusive, \$1,000.00 each, dated June 1 1904, due June 1, 1924, interest 5 per cent per annum	12,000.00
.....	\$77,000.00

Classified Service.

412 domestic irons, at 25c per month	\$ 103.00
84 small motors at 50c per month	42.00
Large motors at \$1.50 per hp. per month	326.55
9,635 16 cp. lamps at 15c per month	1,445.25
Total monthly service as per service book	\$ 1,916.80

Power Generated.

Day peak load—January 435 K. W.; night load, 315 K. W.
 Day Peap load—June 355 K. W.; night load 250 K. W.
 Mean 395 K. W.

Cost of Operation—One Month.

Salaries	\$ 450.00
Interest on bonds	267.00
Miscellaneous expenses	160.00

*This amount has been arrived at by taking 1-12 of the miscellaneous expenses for the year.

Cost of Production.

One kilowatt per month	\$2.22
1 16 cp. lamp for one month, (allowing 2-3 of cost of operation for the production of lights06
Other service amounting to \$471.5 per month costs \$292.00 to produce.	

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\$800,000.00

of money accumulated by residents of La Grande and the Grande Ronde valley.

We Now Have Loaned
\$700,000.00

to business men, farmers and others in this community. The money deposited here is not "laid away" as some of it might be if its owners had not deposited it, but it is industriously at work all about us, doing good. By depositing your income here on open account and paying it out by check, you will safeguard your interests, build your credit and cultivate an acquaintance at a strong financial institution, which can and will help you when you need help. Don't delay, you can begin with a small deposit at the

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