

La Grande Needs Play

It has been a well-known fact for generations that this town and too little play is had for children, and it had for grown-up people. We should have all kinds of recreation—tastes differ and because one likes to play it is no reason why his neighbor likes it. Some people like the smell and taste of garlic, others like Limberger and so on. It is so with amusements. Tastes differ, and something must be done to give each person what he wants in the way of sports and pastimes is possible.

Chautauqua is a fine outing and some of the numbers are good, but Chautauquas do not suit all. Some faster and more thrilling is demanded by many—horse racing, automobile racing, flying machine.

Gold fair grounds has been purchased by a bunch of spirited citizens and is at the disposal of the people. Would it not be well to arrange some fun for this year? Who will be the first to map out a program of the suggestion. Try and think of something that will thrill people to the extent that they will forget they have a stomach-ache or headaches, or love affairs. Let's get off on the "high" this summer. There is plenty of wheat and fruit and bigger pay rolls. Spend it? Of course you will spend it, but while spending it, let everyone have a good time.

The man who used to take a drink by himself was a scoundrel, but the man who ordered the drinks for everybody had at least a generous heart.

That was in those prehistoric days—called wet days, we remember correctly. So, now in these dry days, why not advocate the big thing in the way of entertainment and amusement that everyone can enjoy. Who will be the first to send in the communications. With the council of many people as are living in Union county surely something should come from suggestions that can be whipped into a program worth while.

Bear one thing in mind. Sunday is a day of rest and a day that should not be desecrated with any rough stuff. A band concert, a picnic for the children, a sermon at the park is a fine event for the Sabbath day, but racing of dogs and the contests of strength should be put over on week days.

Just how long will attorneys insist on filing briefs to Ben Oleott should remain as governor or become secretary of state? Some of the attorneys would have Ben from both offices, if possible, others would have Oleott in one office, while still others doubt his right to hold two salaries, preferring probably that he receive one salary.

They are wasting their time. Attorney George Brown has ruled, and when George ruled the matter is settled. Ben will be governor—and that's the end of the controversy. He is making a good chief executive so far, and indications are that he will continue in the same manner.

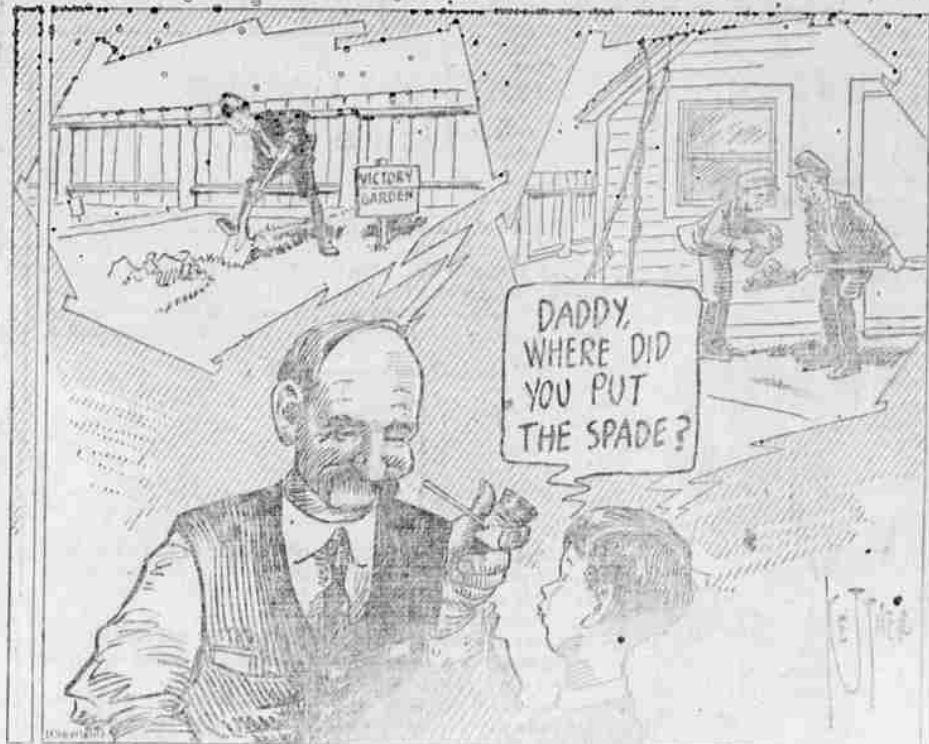
When the crisis comes what will happen? We mean the crisis when this fever, which commercial America now has, begins to subside, what will be the procedure? As matters stand now, on next October there will be twenty thousand men turned out of work in the Oregon yards. It will be at the beginning of winter. Other employment will not be available. Think it over. It is a serious matter.

The Dalles people have witnessed a full realization of the dream of a half century—a good highway to Portland with the help of the present highway commission. The bonds we will extend that road so that La Grande can do a little liking with their machines in the river section.

La Grande has refused to let her police force form a policeman's union ought to be a fine thing. In fact, they not only could disband what they had but they might be able to sample a little of it in the city.

Union county jumped the fence second. Let Union county have the honor of being first, we are president is taking a firm stand when he defies. He refuses to give Italy Fiume, spaghetti or no spaghetti.

Conflicting Thoughts



The Religion of the Doughboys.

Has the dough-boy evolved a new religion? Judge Ben B. Lindsey, writing in the Cosmopolitan, seems to imply that he has. His explanation of the cause that led the Y. M. C. A. to get "in bad" in France was "because it offended the dough-boy's religion, which is courage, self-sacrifice, and humility." The "Y" man put himself out of court "by practicing cowardice, selfishness, and hypocrisy." Such a charge is resented by one "Y" man, Mr. Cullen T. Carter, writing in the Christian Advocate (Nashville). Thus: "A few secretaries may have been guilty of these acts. You could hardly expect two or three thousand men, hurriedly put together, to be altogether perfect. The soldiers did not measure up to that standard. But to say that such acts characterized the body of workers is wholly without foundation. As a whole, a finer bunch of men were never sent out upon any mission, and how well they served is a matter of record. A number of secretaries were killed, numbers were shell-shocked, gassed, and hundreds were to a frazzle. Such a charge is wholly unwarranted, unfounded, and not a word of truth in it as it is applied to the whole organization.

In all my experience with the army I heard nothing of the new religion so wonderfully praised by the Judge, called the dough-boy's religion. I feel sure it is a concoction of British and American infidelity foisted on the soldiers. It was my experience that the soldiers wanted the unadorned word of God. When such messages were delivered, the speaker had eyes beamed; and anything that smacked of religion was called 'bull.' This was given the Christian forces of America a great opportunity for service; and they have served gloriously in money, in life, and in blood. It has also given infidelity an opportunity to scatter its poison.

Mr. Burleson as a Business Man.

The Weekly has often criticized Mr. Burleson for saying he has committed in the execution of the heavy response which the President has thrust upon him. But the criticism has invariably been specific and constructive—never general. Of late a part of the press has shown a marked tendency to criticize Mr. Burleson in the most general manner. All sorts of charges, many of them as they were untrue, have been made. Some writers have stated bluntly that Mr. Burleson was "staggered" without any real experience and that the views charged against him are the result of the lack of such training rather than of political aims or personal ambitions. Nothing better could be expected of one whose life has been spent upon public affairs, to the exclusion of business, they infer as all of this, to be depreciated. It is a serious and unfair. Mr. Burleson has been an avowed and able lawyer in Mr. Burleson's career. Business has not been his principal interest in life. He has prospered. He is rich. His success as a business man has been far greater than as a politician. Compare, for example, the creation of a personal fortune—variously estimated at a million and upward—out of the war as a sample of his business success, with let us say, the results of the last Congress and campaign, which he helped to destroy. As an evidence of his thoroughly developed business ability—his capacity for getting a dollar's worth for every dollar paid—consider the manner in which Mr. Burleson developed 2,000 acres of indifferent land into the most profitable plantations in Hill and Bosque Counties, Texas.

Table, for example, the contract made "by and between the Texas State Penitentiaries" and Mr. Burleson and his brother-in-law. This contract is an extremely long document and cannot be reproduced in full, but a few of the more important sections will satisfy any fair-minded person that it represents the handiwork of no business novice. It provided that the State would furnish Mr. Burleson and his brother-in-law with 125 convicts, "whites and Mexicans," who would work the plantations on the "share system," whereby the state would receive 60 per cent of the profits and the brother-in-law the remaining 40 per cent.

In specifying the detailed financial arrangements, the contract provided that any money the brother-in-law advanced for running expenses would be repaid to the "parties of the second part, with interest at the rate of eight per cent," and that "they shall pay 70 cents per day for each man who might be employed solely by the brother-in-law, on work in which the state had no share.

These arrangements indicate an uncommon degree of business acumen. Which of Mr. Burleson's critics can show a contract that compares with the document in question? But this was not all. Anyone might sign up for a bargain, but it is the wise business man who takes precautions to insure its consummation. Mr. Burleson and his brother-in-law say to it that the men they hired would do their work honestly and faithfully—there was to be no cheating for shirkers. Section 18 of the agreement requires that "the convicts in charge regulate each and every convict, who physically able, to do and perform good and sufficient work and in such manner as shall be required by the party of the second part."

There is no later union reference here. Each convict did a day's work and the hours were set by the man in the winter, twelve to fourteen; in the summer, ten. Any delinquent man should be confined by even these few sections of the contract that Mr. Burleson knows how to enforce his carefully laid-out deals of business deals. But this is not all. He also says that while he is in charge of the men, he will be responsible for their behavior, and he will be responsible for their behavior, and he will be responsible for their behavior.

Frankly, there is no way to get the distance from Seattle and Hill Country to estimate whether or not Mr. Burleson got 200 a month out of this bargain, and it is reasonable merely to show that his deal covers the most minute details, and he is concerned with business. There is no reason to believe that the profits from the deal and the state was disappointed with that from the deal and the state. While it is impossible to consider a detailed accounting of Mr. Burleson's profits, there is a published statement of "Captain" J. E. Burleson, who was in charge of the deal, and he shows that the state had a profit of \$100,000. There are a few sentences taken at random.

"I think a man is entitled to good business and plenty of it. I give him strength to carry on his work."

"We never have religious services. There is no kind of school on the farm for the convicts."

"There is no effort made to teach them at all."

"I have been working here for twelve years. I know when a man is working or not."

"What is it necessary to have a corporal punishment. I whipped him being into the private infirmary."

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and competing machinery to see the highest operating efficiency at the lowest cost, would stabilize rates on a reasonable and just basis. It gives opportunity as to earnings, being capital out for investment, and finally operation and service and keep the roads in private ownership and out of bankruptcy.

It is a big program and a bold one, as can be seen from Mr. Hines' statement that the roads will need \$1,000,000,000 annually for extension and betterments for the next few years.

The Flying Age Is Now Upon Us. Man is able to remember yesterday, see today and plan for tomorrow. But beyond tomorrow he rarely plans. For imagination goes beyond the day after tomorrow.

The cliff dwellers of the West, in their homes on the cliff sides, thousands of years ago, could not have imagined that men would build themselves skyscraper cliffs of marble, steel and glass, or that the electric power of the lightning would be harnessed to move elevators carrying men up and down inside of these modern cliff dwellings.

There will come great changes in man's lives, changes in architecture, and, above all, changes in men with the age of universal flight. Air is to human beings what water is to fishes. Fishes live in the water, breathe it in, taking the oxygen from it. Men live in the air, breathing it in, absorbing the oxygen. Fishes live at the bottom of the water. They do not immediately get the swimming fins, which are to them what the flying machine is to man, or wings to the bird.

You know what a difference it makes to a fish, its character, course, even the flavor of its flesh, when it is a swift-moving fish. As a boy you pulled up from the bottom of a muddy pond or slow stream the fish hardly worth eating called a sucker. And you have caught trout that shoot and flash in the swift water of a running brook. What a difference between them!

The flying machine will help to end war by making it too dangerous, too expensive, for the powerful that control war.

In the old days before men had gunpowder, the business of every soldier was fighting. He put on his coat of mail, and arrows and spears could not pierce it. He pulled his shield and hid down on his head, then ran out on his war horse. He was safe, and the same time he was sure to kill his enemy.

The flying machine will be a world in which men physically, and mentally will be far above the men of today, after a few centuries of thinking and flying, as the men of today are above the northern hordes that poured into Italy, with Jordan from Asia and overran western Europe.

The flying world will be a world of peace. In the first place, war with the flying machine will be too expensive. All airplane men must be some engineers. There will be a means of locating exploding bombs.

dynamite shells instead of merely bits of the leaves of trees, and you know what that would be like in the flying century.

The Coming Era of Literary Hotels. A sign of the dry times coming may be the new method hit upon by a North Carolina for making his hotel resemble the Literary Digest and then it says the New York Sun is authority for the fact that a new "million-dollar" hotel in the South will be called, by some illogical, "The O. Henry." The portrait of the late Mr. Porter, who used this pen-name, will hang in the lounging-rooms, and illustrations from his works will decorate the other rooms.

Man's new will move about on the earth on little. His traveling will be on wings, a hundred, five hundred, perhaps five thousand feet across, moved by engines more powerful than any tempest. Infinitely safer in the greatest storm than a ship of iron on a rough sea.

What will the flying world be like, and how should men prepare for it? There will come great changes in man's lives, changes in architecture, and, above all, changes in men with the age of universal flight.

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Opinions of The Press. Burleson has raised the rates, and something else, if you should ask us.—Columbia Record.