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BRUCE DENNIS, Editor.

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BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

SAFEGUARDED.—He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.—Psalm 91:11.

Statesmen and Errand Boys

If this nation is to have statesmen; if we are going to have men large enough from deep study to pass upon national and international questions intelligently, the time must arrive when we will cease making errand boys out of our representatives in congress.

Too often people measure the worth of a congressman by the number of pensions he gets for his people, the number of calls he makes at the different departments to attend to petty errands for people who live in his district, and quite often larger business concerns who deal with the government force a congressman to be their representative at the national capital.

The system is entirely wrong. With the many perplexing questions arising which have direct bearing on all the people, it is a mistake to load a representative up with a lot of errand work.

And, too, we should measure our public men, not by the amount of rustling around in a business way for constituents, but by their stand on big questions. In order to have a mind capable of grasping these big questions, study is required, and the senator or member of the house who imagines he can attend the sessions of congress and vote intelligently without deep study is badly mistaken. The day of the high roller in congress has passed. There may be some there, but they are of little use to themselves or to the people they represent.

Add to Sensational News

When it was presumed that press was overloaded with sensational news from the movie centers, the bankers who go wrong and the rank and file of people who let their bearings get twisted, comes a tragedy in Montana that will add to the sensational news materially. A rector of almost national fame was killed by the wife of a former circuit judge, so the tongues can wag about prominent people again. More than that, they can bring in the cloth into this scandal, which is always cherished by a certain element.

Regrettable is the tragedy. Regrettable because the life of a man who was doing good work has been snuffed, and that of a woman who was also a leader has been taken. But the human flesh showed weakness and the punishment apparently was swift and sure.

It will run in the newspapers as the northwest's crime serial wherein a minister was implicated, and to many that will be a decidedly interesting feature.

When one gives the subject a little thought, though, the per centage of ministers who commit crime is very small indeed.

Those Flipper Pants

It was very natural for the youth of Portland to find issue upon that which they fought. Parents in that city keep up a fight over something. If they can't find anything else to quarrel over, they pick on their public schools. What the parents do, the children will also do.

When a lad appeared at Franklin high school in that city with a pair of flipper pants on, the fight started. The flipper boy, after being relieved of his pants became angry and he formed his gang. As a result a war is on between the flipper pants boys and the anti-flipper boys.

To what extent it will go remains to be seen, for sometimes boys' wars are not very pleasant and last a long time.

Portland can point to her parents as the cause of these troubles. "The father eats the sour grapes and sets the children's teeth on edge."

FORUM

MR. GARRICK ON SCHOOL BILL.

Editor Observer: Dear Sir: This being open season for politicians it will not be out of order to take a review of their latest activities and successes.

Sam Kozer is going to keep our minds fixed on those individuals [illegible] has broadcasted their photos all over the state. Sam evidently has a keen streak of humor in his make-up. He wants the voters to see what they are getting for their money. How they are all dressed up looking their best with their best smile, wooing Miss Oregon for her patronage. We must admit that some of them look pretty well considering their way of life. There are exceptions, however, when it comes to looks. Mr. Pierce's photo is quite a handicap for a wooer to present to Miss Oregon, when we should hope she might live to name the day when she will make Mr. Walter the happiest of men, etc.

But Miss Oregon don't seem to take Walter in a real kindly way. [illegible] But his photo could have been improved very much and in fact might have been made a speaking likeness if at the time Walter had raised his right hand with a doughnut between thumb and finger, with the hole facing the public, and there imprinted these startling words: "Here is the cause of all your burdens and the high cost of living, etc., and if you will only put me in the governor's chair my very first act shall be to cut all the holes out of the doughnuts."

When Walter some weeks since started out to capture Miss Oregon's smiles, he offered a different kind of inducement. He first presented his pedigree along religious lines, a Protestant from away back. Therefore not very responsible for any opinions he might hold on the matter. He forgot, however, to state what particular shade of Protestantism he inherited. Overlooking the fact that Protestantism is as varied in shades as a Camellion's coat.

But as an added inducement for Miss Oregon to smile on him, he promised to support a monopolistic school bill that with judicious handling would make us all good Protestants or some other kind of good people. This bill that Walter agrees to support contemplates the reduction of all forms of worship to one common standard and the reducing of all languages to one common alphabet, and all the children to one common parentage (the state). If Walter and the other sponsors of this silly bill would investigate the three kingdoms of nature they could not help learning that the Glory of God is intelligence, which intelligence is amply manifest in the endless variety displayed in all his wonderful works.

This so-called school bill that Mr. Pierce unthinkingly agrees to support is a combination of ignorance, stupidity, impudence and selfishness exceeding anything recorded in history since the days of Nebuchadnezzar.

How can Walter Pierce imagine that the people of Oregon will consign their children to the care of strangers for eight years of their young life to be taught, what? The absurdities of Evolution perhaps, or the non-existence of God?

L. GARRICK.

In the Day's News.

Andrew Bonar Law, the new British premier, is the first native of Canada to attain the premiership, indeed, the first colonial-born to achieve that honor. His parents were just ordinary plain middleclass people. He is without university education, is a nonconformist, owns no land, and is little known socially. He owes his first return to parliament to Irish voters. He established his position by a single speech, and he was made parliamentary secretary to the board of trade only two years after entering parliament. In 1911, to the astonishment of many, he succeeded to the leadership of the Unionist party. He is a man of facts and figures. He thinks in statistics; his mind is a perfect storehouse of classical information. He is a good golfer and the best chess player in the House of Commons. He is a life-long teetotaler.

Today's Events.

Centenary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin Stephenson, founder of the G. A. R.

Rt. Rev. Frank A. McElwain, Episcopal bishop of Minnesota, celebrates today his tenth anniversary in the episcopate.

New England's second radio exposition will be opened in Boston today and continued through the remainder of the week.

Secretary of State Charles E. Hughes is scheduled to speak in Boston tonight in behalf of the candidacy of Senator Henry Cabot Lodge for re-election.

By proclamation of Governor Morrison, North Carolina will observe the week beginning today as Cripple Children Week, during which time a canvass of the state will be taken in the interest of the physically disabled.

William H. H. Miller, former director of the state department of registration and education of Illinois, is to be arraigned for trial in Chicago today on an indictment charging conspiracy to allow candidates to pass examination for pharmaceutical and medical licenses.

THE OFFICE CAT

—BY JUNIUS—

TWO OF A KIND

"Did your wife or her car get injured in the accident the other day?"

"Not much, just a little paint chipped off both."

A contract is something that never gives the party who draws it up the worst of the deal. That's the one thing you want to remember as you pick up the pen and look for the dotted line.

Two French girls wanted to achieve modish slenderness and laced so tight that the undertaker soon had a job. This is another argument against the return of the stays so many women gladly discarded this last summer.

"Drive Slow and See Our City, Drive Fast and See Our Jail," announces a certain western city to incoming automobilists.

That reminds us of another odd sign we once saw along the road:

"Three miles more to Podunk Center,
Don't cut out your muffler before you enter.
Drive slow and bear in mind
We eat the dust you leave behind."

It is hard to tell whether the present troubles of France are occasioned by her nerves or her nerve.

I AM YOUR TOWN

Make of me what you will—I shall reflect you as clearly as a mirror throws back a candle beam.

If I am pleasing to the eye of the stranger within my gates; if I am such a sight as, having seen me, he will remember me all the days as a thing of beauty, the credit is yours.

Ambition and opportunity call some of my sons and daughters to high tasks and mighty privileges, to my greater honor and to my good repute in far places, but it is not chiefly those who are my strength. My strength is in those who remain, who are content with what I can offer them and with what they can offer me. It was the greatest of all Romans who said: "Better be first in a little Iberian village than be second in Rome."

I am more than wood and brick and stone, more even than flesh and blood—I am the composite of all who call me Home.

I am your town.

WE THOUGHT SO

"Why do you wear those clocks on your hose?"
He asked a lass full of pep.
"My dear," she replied, "I simply wear those
To help you watch my step."

ALARM CLOCKS

Dora, however, says she wears clocks on her stockings to keep her feet awake.

BAKE' ALASKA

Lady (to guide in Yellowstone Park)—"Do these hot springs ever freeze over?"

Guide—"Oh, yes. Once last winter a lady stepped through the ice her and burned her foot."

HE SWORE

Village Constable (to villager who has been knocked down by a passing motorist)—"You didn't see the number, but could you swear to the man?"

Villager—"I did, but I don't think 'e 'eard me."

"Darling, I've made up my mind to stay at home."

"Too late, George—I've made up my face to go out."

Odd and Interesting

The world uses 600,000,000 pins a week.

The depth of sand in the Sahara desert averages about 30 feet.

Although it has a huge tongue, the whale has very little sense of taste.

In Mexico there are certain localities where rain has never been known to fall.

Infants have an exceptionally keen sense of taste, which is dulled as they develop.

Butterflies are at time brought down by shot from a 12 bore shotgun in tropical regions.

The earth is five and a half times heavier than a globe of water of the same size would be.

A mulberry tree, still growing in the City of London and bearing a crop of fruit every year, is said to date back to before 1666.

Earning his living by playing a tin whistle, an Englishman is walking from London to Constantinople, a distance of about 1,500 miles.

The centre of the earth is about 4,000 miles beneath us. The deepest shaft ever bored reached a depth of less than one and one-half miles.

Six conversations can be carried on simultaneously over the telephone wire by means of a new instrument designed by a French postal official.

Amber has always been much used and prized in the East, and China still imports large quantities of it. It is crushed into powder and then burned as incense in the temples.

To stop auto drivers from racing recklessly about the roads, the villagers round Deauville, the fashionable French seaside resort, have dug shallow trenches across the roads.

Some animals can absorb enough poison to kill a regiment of men without suffering any ill effects at all. Of morphine, for instance, a goat can swallow with impunity enough to kill one thousand human beings.

By the accidental breaking of a radium tube at a London hospital an atom of radium smaller than a pin's head was lost. The insurance company admitted the hospital's claim, and $600 compensation was paid for the loss of the mighty atom.

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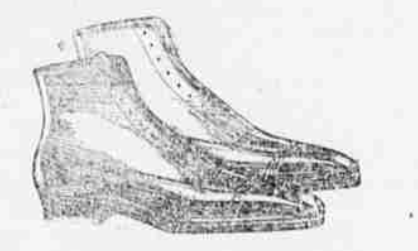

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