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CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

Indifference

"Doctors and ministers hold one thought in common," says Dr. Copeland, New York senator-elect. "They cannot understand why the average man is so indifferent to his preparation for the future."

The doctor worries because his silly patients won't take care of their bodies and the minister worries because his silly parishioners won't take care of their souls, when both agree that health of body and soul is mostly a matter of taking thought, and the rules are plain.

And that isn't all. "If the individual is indifferent to the things having to do with his own happiness," adds Dr. Copeland, "what can be expected of nations, which are simply great groups of individuals?"

What, indeed? Since national purposes are far less clear than those of individuals, and the more people, the harder it is to agree.

So we blunder and blunder, as individuals and nations, merely "muddling through," except for occasional great moments of insight and clear purpose.

But even so, the muddling isn't all waste effort. It is by their mistakes that people and nations learn. Democratic people resist, therefore, on the right to make their own mistakes, instead of being saved from them by paternal government.

The only trouble is that the process takes so long. As Lord Byron said, "We live to learn, yet slowly learn to live." Man's greatest enemy is his own indifference.

From Soapbox to Mansion.

Ned Schymgeour, the street-corner orator of Dundee, Scotland, who defeated the famous Winston Churchill for parliament, is finding luck to be agreeably eccentric. A friend has left him a baronial mansion in Surrey and an automobile to take him to and from Westminster.

If Schymgeour ever expected to be elected to parliament, his hopes were brighter than the opinions of fellow citizens. They never took him seriously. He was a perpetual candidate, always going down to defeat and thereby realizing the expectations of the multitude.

Schymgeour's queer life has the elements for a strong story or drama. It does not prove anything as yet, except that nobody knows what may happen. But the clever novelist could make it illustrate how fixedness of purpose never fails of result.

One Big Union Will Never Work

Up in Minnesota there is some one in union circles of the railroad employees who occasionally has a dream of a big union that will take in all forms of railroad labor. That dream is being sprung again and arrangements have been made to start the ball rolling.

It will never work. It cannot, for the very good reason that in railroad work as in every other large industrial work, there are men in different trades, some requiring greater length of time to master than others. As long as this condition prevails there will never be one big union.

Aid For Astoria

The city of Portland has set the pace for all other Oregon cities by raising \$40,000 in a few moments to aid the needy people of Astoria who have been in many instances reduced to want by the terrible fire of a few days ago.

It is but proper that every community in Oregon respond according to its wealth in the same manner that Portland has responded, for after all, throughout the entire state Oregonians compose one big family and when any portion of the state is visited by such a calamity as Astoria has experienced, it is the duty of all to respond and respond cheerfully.

Editorials From Over the Nation

MULE NECKS AND PROSPERITY

El Paso Herald: One enthusiastic locality in West Texas brings strange proof of the community's development. The mules have larger necks than they used to have.

In all seriousness the public is advised that farmers throughout the state should be encouraged to buy mule necks ranging in size from 14 to 18. Any dealer offering a size 20 collar would probably have been asked if it was meant for an elephant.

But now note the change. Size 22 is the fashion in mule collars. It is practically standard. Scarcely any other size is called for.

This indicates some development in mule necks, and it is argued that better, stronger, larger mules are the natural result of better breeding and feeding. This in turn comes from better farmers on smaller farms, using more brains in their

work, and raising better crops and better livestock.

The analogy might be carried further. It might be said that the West Texas mule has very nearly quit kicking and buckled down to steady pulling, and so has the farmer who drives him. The combination works for prosperity.

All for a Kitten. Los Angeles Herald: "Kindness is not dead in the world, although some pessimistic folks like to decant on the coldbloodedness of present day life."

Not long ago the elevators in the Federal building in Chicago were tied up for a half hour, while operators, clerks, judges and employees gave their time and efforts to save a life that was in danger of being crushed out.

A playful kitten had leaped onto one of the beams of an elevator and would neither be coaxed nor driven from her perch. When the operator of the lift discovered the animal's danger all business in the great building came to a standstill until finally a man managed to reach the creature and remove it from danger. Then the wheels of business began to revolve again.

Only a kitten. Some on remarks that it would have been no crime if it had been killed in order not to obstruct business. But business is at most but the activity of human beings and the mauling of humanity is its heart. Well must it be for the nation while its sympathies are so active that it cannot see the mauling of even a kitten in order that its mauling be not interrupted.

Those who know and value the domestic cat are often astonished and distressed by the neglect, if not positive cruelty, with which it is treated by many who are fairly kind to dogs and other animals.

Many people never envision their children to treat their cats kindly, nor explain what kind treatment they eat their own meals regularly but the poor cat is often forgotten and left to get its own food from the neighborhood's garbage cans.

A starved cat does not make a good mouse. Cats should have food regularly and fresh water often. We have not yet reached the highest form of civilization. When we have, no respectable family will venture to neglect any helpless creature.

THE UGLY DUCKING

Rockford Republic: Six of the school children at Cedar Rapids who were supposed to be below normal have been shown by tests to be above normal in intelligence. You can't judge how much brains a child has by the way he submits to disagreeable tasks any more than you can grade a dog by tricks. And there of course, there was the non-conformist duck that happened to be a swan. One cannot estimate the intelligence of another until the world agrees on some definition as to what intelligence really is.

The admirable Crichton was more intelligent than the aristocrats he served. The Hopi Indian is more intelligent on a barren mesa than the white broker from New York, and conditions would reverse geographically. At the risk of encouraging the personal inclinations of childhood it may be questioned whether the docile pupil, ready with all lessons and more interested in calculations than kites, is a better human product than the boy who plays hooky and knows where the sunfish are biting.

KEEP ON SMILING JUST THE SAME

Baltimore News: Another brickbat has been hurled at American complacency. Maria Moravsky, who evidently traces her ancestry to Slavic origins, says in the Outlook that we smile too much, overdo optimism, appear always much too cheerful. She objects strenuously to our happy little verbal admonitions, "Say it with a smile," "Grim and bear it," she's especially anxious to escape "the voice with a smile." Actually she fears for our sanity: it can't be right, all this cheerfulness; anger and gloom and bitterness must have place, she insists; or our very cheerfulness will wear us mentally ragged. All of which may be very wonderful psychology, and all of which may fit in with what may be called the activism of Miss Moravsky; as for healthy-minded Americans, we shall doubtless continue to count our perennials "smile that won't come off" as our happiest asset and be greatly indulgent with those fears for our sanity are based on a Slavic predisposition to gloom. If smiling is really a disease, let us hope it will take a more serious turn and become an epidemic.

SHARP SHOTS

All play and no work make no "jacks."

A light heart and an empty head never know sorrow.

Someone wonders how the man with two wives in one house found a place to hang his clothes.

A man can kid himself into believing anything. But oh, boy, when he tries to kid his wife.

Fashion says men's winter clothes will be about the same, except for a cleaning.

King of Siam has just taken his first wife. Now we will find out what a punk ruler he is.

Bargains In Homes

A new five-room dandy home and two lots near the railroad shops, city water, electric lights, bath and toilet, garage, new lawn, etc. \$2,000, \$500 cash, \$50 per month payments.

Five-room home on Oak St., near Adams Ave. All furnished, for \$3,000. \$500 cash, \$50 monthly payments.

A dandy home on First St., one-half block from Adams Ave. Five rooms, built-in kitchen, bath, toilet, electric lights, city water, etc. \$2,500, \$500 cash.

Five room modern home in the 13th block on Y avenue. Two lots, bath, toilet, electric lights, city water and garage. \$2,500, \$500 cash.

A five-room modern home, with large corner lot on 11th street, one-half block from Adams Ave. \$2,500, \$500 cash. Will take a good car as part payment.

Small tract, city lots, farms, etc. for sale and trade.

Auto and Fire Insurance.

PYRAMID LAND CO.

Out-of-Town Customers, Order by Mail! Prompt Attention to Selecting and Mailing!



Your Last Week Of Shopping!

You will find in this last week of Christmas shopping the sincere service, the spirit of helpfulness and cooperation among our salespeople—a source of great satisfaction to this store. Feel free to call upon them for suggestions—they will give prompt attention to all phone or direct mail orders. Our many hundreds of friends and patrons can rely on our leaving nothing undone to insure that Christmas shopping, during this rush season, shall be made as easy, as pleasant and as quickly discharged as possible. We shall be at your service tomorrow and the succeeding days with efficient service and co-operation gleaned from 25 years of experience in supplying to the people of La Grande some of the quality merchandise.

CHRISTMAS HANDKERCHIEFS

The best American made handkerchiefs for women, children and men here in larger assortments than elsewhere, and many of the finer sorts from France, Ireland and Switzerland. Beautiful hand-made kerchiefs with hand-drawn, hand-embroidered and hand-stitched; such handkerchiefs and in such large assortments always give this store "Handkerchief Supremacy" each year.

Most any price you wish from 15c up to \$2.00 each, or three in a box at 50c, 90c, \$1.50 and \$1.75 box.

CHRISTMAS HANDBAGS

Lovely patent leather vanity bags fitted with ivory comb, powder box, rouge box, pin box, purse and large mirrors, are priced \$5.00 to \$12.00. And besides these, there are bags of various tanned and plain leathers in many different shapes and fitted with different kinds of toilet articles. All characterized by interesting modernities in price, \$2.25 up to \$10.00.

CHRISTMAS GIFT APRONS

Delightful white gift aprons that are made just especially for the Christmas time. They have lots of white fluffy lace and dainty pink and blue ribbon bows. Then there are aprons of subdued mauve and cream combined into very attractive styles—just the things for inexpensive, attractive gifts. Priced at 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$1.75.

BEAUTIFUL LOUNGING ROBES

For His Christmas

SHIRTY CHRISTMAS! Long after the day is gone the beauty and comfort of a lounging robe will echo Yuletide's cheery greeting. We have robes made from richly colored Indian blankets in picturesque patterns, others in various weights and weaves that range in price from \$6.50 up to \$16.50. Come in and see them.



FELT COMFY'S, TOO

In lots of different kinds and colors—with leather soles on with padded soles and heels. All bath- or slippers, too, in soft soles or with leather sole and heel.

Prices, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.25 and up to \$4.00.

HOLIDAY FOOTWEAR

Lovely New Colonial Pumps! \$7.00, \$8.00, \$9.00

Six distinctive new styles in ladies' pumps are very recent arrivals here, among them are the new Colonial pumps that are so popular now. And while we list here only the newest arrivals, remember the N. K. West Co. stocks are always the most varied of all and give out quality footwear.

A plain patent colonial tongue pump, tan sole and leather heel, strap under tongue. Priced \$7.00.

A black patent colonial tongue pump with black leather sole and strap under tongue. Priced \$7.00.

An other suede, brown calf trimmed, colonial pump, imitation heel, wolf sole. Priced \$8.00.

A patent and brown other suede combination with high heel and turn sole—\$9.00.

Black suede one strap pump, Junior Louis heel. Priced \$7.00.

THINGS TO BUY FOR A MAN

Silk and wool leather sox. Knitted ties. Golf sweaters. Bath and lounging robes. Felt and leather slippers. Belt buckles with belts and cuff links in attractive set. Scarfs. Silk shirts. Wool shirts. Silk pajamas. Longue underwear. Pongee shirts. Traveling bags. Shoes. White silk vests. Full dress shirts, ties and collars. All full dress accessories. Overcoats. Fur-trimmed shoes. Fur-trimmed gloves. Cuff links. Collar bags. Indian robes.

This Store for Men Is "The Home of Hart Schaffner & Marx Clothes"

SILK LINGERIE WAS NEVER SO BEAUTIFUL OR MORE VARIED

Our ladies' silk underwear department was never so overflowing with lovely silk underthings. Beautiful new assortment of crepe, lace, crepe, jersey, crepe de chine and satin. Also combinations, vests, knickers and slips.

Featured in this department at this time are dainty silk garments in colors, blue, lavender, apricot, jade and maize—also color combinations. These garments are of the famous "RAYBERRY" and "SHANAHAN" makes—quality supreme.

We invite inspection at this time.

MEN INVITED TO THIS DEPARTMENT

Husbands, fathers and brothers—feel free to call here and see these lovely garments. Salesladies will advise and aid you in selecting



FORUM

A COVE PRAYER
Cove, Dec. 15—Editor Observer: Oh, County Court of Union county which are in La Grande—Mr. Couch, Mr. Galloway, Mr. Hutchinson be thy name—in days to come they will be done as it was in 1919. Give us this day our paved road; forget not our county bond issue of one and one-half million as we did not forget it on election day, and as we do not forget that \$276,000 there was allotted to the Cove road; let us not in to litigation, but keep us from eternal tribulation; and deliver us from the gravel road, for great is the cost of the upkeep thereof, forever—A MAN, from Cove.

Some fellows ideas o' safety first, is startin' to eat gas, as soon as the cook puts the food on the table.

Keepin' up with the Joneses, an' keepin' down expenses, is about as hard a proposition, as mixin' booze an' gasoline.

An optimis is a feller 'at c'n be hungry, cold, broke, homeless and happy 'at the same time.

Many a feller has bin kicked from a dainty bed of ease, into the cradle of adversity.

How to Sneeze Correctly.
Children and even some adults are being taught how to sneeze correctly in a London health center.



Be Cured to Stay Cured

I GUARANTEE to permanently cure your Piles without cutting, burning, stitching, anesthetic, confinement or unpleasant after-effects. My patients are reputable men and women in every walk of life to whom you may refer about this painless, non-surgical cure.

If you are a sufferer from Piles, Fistula, Fissure or other rectal disease, call or write today for my FREE booklet.

Cost of treatment returned if I fail to cure your Piles.

DR. CHAS. J. DEAN
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Your Credit:-:

is a valuable asset and should never be impaired through careless business methods.

Transact your business through this bank, build up your savings account and establish a substantial credit.

La Grande National Bank
SOUND—RELIABLE—PROGRESSIVE