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WHY NOT?—O ye simple, understand wisdom; and ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart. — Proverbs 1:5.

History Repeats

Athens, Rome, Corfu—these names, figuring in reports from the war-mrenched Mediterranean area, carry readers back 2,000 or more years and bring them again down to date and leave them with the question: Does the world wag upward or downward?

The events of today in the eastern Mediterranean narrated in nonmodernized terms run in much the same fashion as do histories written before the Christian era. Rome and Greece clashed then; and Corcyra, or Corfu, might have been the target of the ancient Rome's fleet then, as it was of modern Rome's fleet yesterday.

For more than 2,000 years Romans and Grecians have been neighbors and they are still ready to fly at one another's throats. Where is the progress of peace in Europe? Where is the desire for amity, which might induce the United States to go in and help the worthy cause?

It seems that astrologers on the job never miss a chance to foresee a calamity, disaster, catastrophe, cataclysm. Let astronomy furrow its brow in perplexity and astrology immediately becomes voluble in predictions of the earth's or the moon's or the sun's destruction.

No wonder the stars twinkle—in merriment—at such reading. The world's end has been forecast innumerable times by those who claim special information from the heavenly bodies—but it still spins on.

Over At Bob's Farm

The state experiment station, which is one of the best pieces of land in Oregon, is presided over by Robert Withycombe and "Bob" as everyone knows him has been studying the whys and wherefores of farming all his life. He has come to a realization that Eastern Oregon lands must produce vegetable crops as well as grain in order to make the most of opportunities. He viewed with sickening regret, as did all of us, the failure of the head lettuce crop in Wallowa and Baker counties, and he came to the conclusions that the experiment farm owned and operated by the state is the place to try out such ventures before farmers plunge into them with their time and capital. That it is a sane conclusion all will agree, and all will agree further that Bob's farm is going to be a very interesting and attractive place next season, for today he announced he would put in experiment tracts in head lettuce, celery, onions and possibly cauliflower.

It is generally understood by those who observe closely that the Grande Ronde valley is especially adapted for these vegetables, as well as is Wallowa county, but the trouble has been in pioneering the crop and learning its adaptation to the climate and soil. This Bob will do at his farm and his efforts will be watched with an interest that is bound to encourage him in his great work.

Kitchen Victory

That fragrant steaming that drifts in from the kitchen is beginning to permeate the entire house, and the wise and immediate relatives of the busy, flushed and tired housewife have not a word to say.

It is one of those expectant times, when a hush seems to settle everywhere, and nobody feels like starting the phonograph, and nobody dares ask when supper will be ready.

But it is ready, after while, and the star number on the program is a peach cobbler. There are some peach preserves, still warm, and the members of the family silently reflect that there were sliced peach for breakfast, a peach pie for the noon meal and every time the baby asked for a piece between meals he was given a peach and told to run outdoors and play.

One of the great gustatory victories of the year has just been won. The peaches have been canned.

Out on the kitchen table they stand—those two dozen quarts of peaches, in a double row, handsome little soldiers, ready to be marched off to pantry or to fruit cellar. Think of winter days, when the lights will have to be lit before the evening meal!

Hard To Knock Out

Portland wins again in the freight rate case from Puget Sound cities, and it is a perennial story, for it seems that question will not down and there is no way to make a permanent disposition of it.

In every decision Portland wins, but in winning it would seem that other questions are born which brings the case back up for hearing.

The water grade is bound to win permanently some day for it is an economic law, and try as hard as we may we cannot defeat economic law.

When a man boasts he understands women he is either a helpless egotist or a hopeless fool.

Whether she likes the cave-man stuff or not, the modern girl is always strong for the iron man.

Some of the girls have made a great showing this summer, and others have merely made a showing.

A lot of persons are not nearly so much worried about the Great Divide as they are about the present divvy.

Editorials From Over the Nation

THE PASSING OF STATE FAIRS.

(Holme, Ida, Statesman)

There may be more truth than some of us are willing to admit in the statement of a La Grande (Ore.) editor that the state fair is a back number, something which has passed into oblivion, an institution for which "time in her majestic advancement has rung the death knell." This editor says:

You can sing all fall the power of Jersey breeders and auto-gize the handsome pumpkin, but you are alone in doing so. Even the man who raises the Jerseys has his neck craned high looking over the back of the prize bull to see the girl in tight swallow a snake at one of the carnival shows, and the man who raised the prize pumpkin, bigosh, is more deeply interested in the loop the loop or the high dive than he is in imparting the agriculture to the throng which hurriedly passes by just in order to say that they have seen the fair.

No, the state fair is a back number. Even Willamette valley people, who admittedly still think the sundial should be a staple article in the jewelry stores, have got past the fair. Such comments upon fairs have been remarkably frequent in recent years. They have made one wonder if, after all, state fairs do not belong to the days of barn raisins, huskin' bees, strawberry sociables and the like, days which seem to be gone forever.

The enthusiast over fairs will deny this inference with statistics of attendance and expenditure at some of the big fairs still remaining. But even the enthusiast, we think, will have to admit that most of the people who go make the farm products and livestock exhibitions an excuse for going caravanning, roaming with the crowds and hunting the succulent hot dog. He knows that just as soon as these things are taken away, as they have sometimes been by reformers, the fair languish.

The advocate of fairs will have to admit, too, that the continuing life in the livestock exhibitions is the result, not of public interest in fat cattle and perfect breeding but of the subsidies and propaganda of the record associations, who find the fairs useful to their business of registering animals.

The modern state fair presents the sorry spectacle of an unwanted institution supported on three points, by the carnival, by the registry associations and by the bureau which spend state appropriations.

The people interested in carnival shows and booths, in registration and in making political showings will boost for the fairs. So, too, will the merchants in fair cities, looking to the profits derived from the crowds attracted by the lightshows and by the broadest advertising. But there may be more truth than some of us are willing to admit, as we have said, in the statement that most other people find the state fair a back number.

SYCAMORES DOOMED FOR AGGRAVATING HAY FEVER

LETSMAN, Ga. (G.N.S.) — On the ground that they cause hay fever, all sycamore trees in Quitman probably will be ordered chopped down shortly. An ordinance now being formulated also will prohibit planting of sycamores in the future.

Record For Newsboys. MORRISTOWN, (G.N.S.) — This town claims the oldest and youngest newsboys. Lemuel Nichols, 77, and Harry Wilson, 7, sell papers on the same street.

THE OLD HOME TOWN By Stanley



THE FUN STARTED WHEN MARSHAL OTEY WALKER MARCHED OUT ONE MEMBER OF THE MEDICINE TROUPE HE HAD CAUGHT RE FILLING THE TONIC BOTTLES AT BOB HOLTGATES PUMP.

Are You Fit? Do You Fit?

Round Pegs in Square Holes! Are you one of the 80 per cent in business who are misfit—partial or total failures, on the road to nowhere?

Look yourself squarely in the face! Are you where you expected to be at your age? Will your boy and girl have a better chance than you had?

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—If he needs help.

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—your side, and the 'inside'

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