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CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

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BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART; FOR THEY
SHALL SEE GOD.—Matt. 5:8.

Humanity

Humanity lost much during the great war, but that which should most deeply wound its pride was the loss of the belief in its own humanness. Once upon a time, and that time was not long prior to 1914, men believed that real progress was being made toward abolition of war. They fondly flattered themselves that they were not as other men had been in previous ages. They were more humane, they thought.

They devised the Hague conference, which with full and free representation of the nations, discussed pleasingly and with some show of conviction rules for the mitigation of the cruelty of war. To be sure, war had never been cruel, that is, comparatively, up to that time. War had proceeded by certain rules of honor and chivalry. There were prejudices against the use of chain-shot and agreements to grind to an edge not more than a few inches of the tips of sabres. And the Hague conference went at it systematically to codify all the rules safeguarding humane principles of warfare. It made agreements about dropping explosives from balloons and airships; about ruthless destruction of property; about the rights of non-combatants; about calibre of guns and construction of missiles. There existed a peculiar horror against the use of poisonous or asphyxiating gases. In fact this latter method of warfare was regarded as too barbarous to be contemplated by our refined civilization. To be sure, the Chinese in ancient times had employed it. They had dropped over the battle-
ments of their walls kettles filled with burning tar and sulphur, a comparatively harmless form of chemical warfare but regarded by the highly civilized modern reader of fiction with peculiar horror. These Chinese of olden times had no claim to be called civilized.

Then came the war. Who cared for Hague agreements? What method previously held in abhorrence was not seized upon if it promised anything of effectiveness? What refinement of cruelty ever known in the past was not, by the exercise of modern skill and genius, raised to a degree of cruelty never dreamed of before? And the result is that in the discussions of preparedness there is now no mention of humane methods. The weight of the bombs to be dropped from the air is to be limited only by the sustaining power of the airship. The recent meeting of the American Chemical society in New York city followed by the exhibition of chemical industry indicated that chemical experts are directing their researches toward the perfection of war materials as much as to the service of the arts of peace. All sorts of predictions are made as to the possibilities of suffocating entire armies, exterminating the crews of ships and even blotting out the inhabitants of vast areas of an enemy's territory.

In the matter of man's inhumanity to man, the world seems to be making rapid progress.

Tremendous Growth

A short quarter of a century ago the automobile was a curiosity. In the first five months of this year 1,742,832 automobiles were manufactured in the United States. This production was more than one automobile to every 75 of population.

In the automobile industry the world looks upon one of the wonders of the world and without doubt upon the first wonder of American industry. Its magnitude is amazing, its rapid growth almost unbelievable and its future possibilities hardly to be predicted with accuracy.

One is at a loss to explain the source of the millions of workmen who have entered the automobile industry and its allied trades during the last two decades. Scores of automobile factories employ many thousands of workmen. Additional thousands are engaged in the manufacture of automobile accessories. Thousands of men and women are engaged throughout the nation in the business of selling automobiles and their accessories and supplies, while automobile repairing is attracting the best mechanics of the country. Many of the people thus employed were drawn from other occupations, but could the nation's industry, commerce and agriculture absorb this labor again if the automobile industry should cease functioning? It is from the angle of labor that the value of the automobile industry to America is most fully approximated.

The United States owes its position of world predominance to its industry and one of the predominating industries in the United States is the automobile industry.

THE OLD HOME TOWN

By Stanley



OFFICE CAT



BY JUNIUS

WHAT EVERY YOUNG GIRL WANTS TO KNOW—MORE.

Mary had a parrot true,
She killed it in a rage;
Because when Mary's fellow came,
The parrot told her AGE!

When a baby begins to crawl it is beginning to take after papa. And when it begins to rummage through papa's pockets it is beginning to take after mamma.

"You told me to file these letters, sir," said the new hobbler, B. B. (Beautiful but Dumb) stenographer.

"Yes," returned the boss. "Well, I was just thinking that it'd be easier, sir," said the stenographer, "to trim 'em with a pair of scissors."

"Spend your money" is one of Dr. Henry Ford's observations. Yes, for heaven's sake, do so. Because if you don't it'll stick up on you and then you'll have to rent a hall to put it in!

Sheik's despondency was becoming so great yesterday that we decided to put him on the staff, even though Junius, who rejected him, works there, also. Well, he lasted three hours.

His, first, last and only assignment was the police station. He was gone about five minutes and rushed in claiming a "scrap."

"The city editor told him to try 'accepting' it out on the typewriter, and after awhile scanned the finished product. Sheik, even went so far as to hand it and if you don't believe on a search through our wastepaper basket will prove our assertion.

Here's the story:
Headline: "WOMAN LOSES AYP. PAPER, ON BUSY SECTION."
Story: "The police are greatly excited concerning a find they have made which may result in considerable disclosures. The find was made early in the morning on Elm street, almost at the station door, and consisted of a blue robe from a ladies' dress with two red ribbons attached. Police now have it in their possession. They state that they will not be embarrassed if the finder calls for it although they intend to question her if she is good looking."

And Sheik is still wondering why it wasn't "news."

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GROUND-HOGS DAMAGE GRAIN

The Park Reports That Fields Are Injured; Porcupines Also Out-Lawed.

THE PARK (Special)—Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Stratton from John Day, visiting with their niece Mrs. Jack Brown of Union, were camped at the Thompson place on the creek. Mr. Brown, who is a logging contractor from North Powder, took them all for a jolly outing. He also reports a very successful season at his logging business. They returned to Union Sunday.

James Felker took a jaunt up to the Forks angling for trout Saturday returning home in the evening. Mr. Felker is a well known truckman of Union, who is at present hauling lumber for the Hers and Jacobs mills at North Powder, having a contract of 700,000 feet to haul from the mills to the railroad. He reports success at his business this summer.

Clarence Vanorder, his wife "Aunt" Maud, with their baby "Chuck," returned home Saturday evening after one week of a delightful visit with the folks of the "Big Log Cabin" at the Forks. Their son Kenneth, their son-in-law Frank Wigglesworth and their daughter Mary, came by team to the Smith place walking the rest of the way. They all went salmon fishing. Altogether they caught seven nice salmon and 62 trout.

John Willingham, camp tender for the forest reserve, took Mr. Flynn, chief engineer, down the trail to his car. He will go to Baker, then to Portland where he resides.

The farmers here and in parts of Grande Ronde are complaining about the ground hogs, which are in places taking possession of the fields causing much damage. It seems that while their attention has been directed to the elimination of the gophers, ground and red squirrels, these other known as ground hogs or woodchucks have multiplied to such an extent that they are becoming a pest. It is understood that the same poisons and tactics are not efficient for these animals. They do much more damage than the others also. They are much larger and very active. They swath down large patches of grain as if trampled by cattle. They work much like the porcupine.

The porcupine is another pest which has done much damage to the fruit trees, especially on those farms close to the edge of the wood. In the winter time these quilled animals climb the trees and strip them of their bark. In the summer they destroy grain and smaller fruit. Frank Wigglesworth killed 17 of these posky ani-

mals in about a week's time this spring.

Bill Delbert came down from the Big Meadows Monday. He reports the sheep there in fine condition. The lambs will be shipped the last of the month.

Miss Urvia E. Hunter, Charles Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wilson, all of La Grande, came by auto on a salmon fishing party. They all had dinner at the "Big Log Cabin" visiting with Mrs. Hunter's parents. They returned home in the evening of Sunday.

Miss Mary Vanorder rode her pony up the creek Tuesday. Miss Ida G. Hunter met her at the ford of the creek at Thompson's place. Kenneth Vanorder went to work with his team for Bob Wauker on Big Creek Monday morning.

Joseph Lay has taken his horse to Baker where he will ship a curlew for an empty car to load the spring.

Lester Miller was at the home of his sister, Mrs. Lydia Vandevanter Saturday and Sunday. The creek is receding fast and the water will be normal in a little while. The salmon will then start to spawn. They are much easier caught when spawning as they naturally are forced out of the hidden places. They never spawn before the water is down to normal, and then, where no salmon were in evidence earlier sometimes the ripples are just black with them.

Billy Volvinkler, of Island City accompanied by his father, Oswald and Mr. Herman, were on the three forks and caught their limited number of fine rainbows.

Correct this sentence: "Ed quit smoking in a minute," said he, "if I thought it wasn't good for me."

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