

# The Sentinel.

BY LEW. A. CATES.

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## SIXTEEN PAGES

### THE NEW DENTISTRY.

No inconsiderable is heard about the new school of prophylactic dentistry in the profession and it is even more interesting out of it. The prospect of keeping undecayed teeth through life instead of carrying enough metal in one's mouth to support an issue of mining stock is highly attractive. The Sentinel does not understand that the new dentistry promises much economy, because the constant attention from childhood to prevent decay will probably be as costly to the patient and as profitable to the profession as the present refined blacksmith work. But it will be more attractive to all except the young lady who wanted her sound teeth adorned with the ornamental glitter of gold fillings.

Most readers know the jaw-breaking word prophylactic from ancient tales of rings and charms. It means what prevents disease instead of what cures it. Dentistry as now practiced is really destructive surgery like that of the ancient saw and searing iron. It cuts away the diseased part and replaces it with metal as the ancient surgeon would chop off a crooked leg and substitute a straight stick. Dentistry already has achieved the orthopedic surgery of straightening crooked teeth instead of substituting false ones. The next step is to prevent the decay of teeth so that they need not be subjected to the butchery of saws and files and drills. Some dentists believe this to be wholly possible and near at hand.

They lay down the law that a clean tooth never decays on the foundation fact that the self-cleaning surfaces of teeth are never attacked. All that dental prophylaxis has to do, they say, is to keep all the surfaces, inside and outside and between the teeth, as mechanically or chemically clean as the small areas completely protected by nature keep themselves. When dentists find out how to do this, perhaps doctors will discover how to keep us well instead of curing us, and we shall pay them for it as cheerfully.

### NOT A NEW GRIEVANCE.

The American people confront with considerable equanimity an indefinite period of higher cost of living. The Sentinel hears it on every hand; in private conversations it is a topic for discussion, while with newspapers and periodicals it is an ever-ready theme. But it is not a new grievance, because the increased cost of living between five and ten years provoked a general demand for higher wages all over the country. That demand was of necessity met and no material reduction was made in the depression of two years ago. In this manner wage earners adjusted themselves to the higher cost of living. The industry of agricultural production found means of similar adjustment probably closely connected with the industrial prosperity of both manufacturers and workingmen.

The increased consuming power of persons employed in industry, whether as capitalist or laborers, put up prices of food products. Probably that is the chief explanation of the higher prices for farm produce that reconcile farmers to the higher cost of maintenance. How far it all traces back to the system of high protection that raised prices of manufacturers in the first place and compelled wages of labor and prices of food products to follow, we do not know. Perhaps that will be bet-

ter understood when the tendency of prices to rise receives a more serious check than either of the last two.

There are no present indications of that, though shrewd observers in business centers are beginning to ask how far the high cost of living is going to retard pesterity.

Probably the first effect will come through the remarkable changes that have been made in our foreign trade. Exports continue to fall off and imports to increase, regardless of the end of the tariff agitation to which that change was first attributed. During three summer months there was an excess of imports for the first time in ten years.

Evidently high prices are encouraging sales to us and discouraging purchases from us. We are running up a debtor balance which must some time be settled with exports at lower prices.

### SOME PET SUPERSTITIONS.

People in these days speak and write very patronizingly of the old ages of superstition, rejoicing that they have passed, and that the world has entered on a wiser and saner era. But, if the truth be told, every age has had its pet superstitions, and if some have vanished, they have been replaced by others quite as irrational. In old pagan days, the Greeks and Romans before entering on any important business, consulted the Delphic oracle, the Cumean Sybil or Virgilian Lots. Now many persons consult the clairvoyants and the psychic mediums.

In those old times certain days and numbers were supposed to be malevolent. The idea that Friday is a day of evil omen, comes from the fact that Christ was crucified on that day, and the superstition that thirteen is a malevolent number arises from the incident that at the Last Supper thirteen sat down at the table, and one of them was the arch-traitor, Judas. Today many wise people decline to start on a journey or enter into any business enterprise on Friday. Our own President McKinley would never inaugurate any public affair or sign any important document on a Friday. There are kings and emperors who still cherish the same superstition.

Great rulers have been noted for an absurd faith in omens. Napoleon regarded the breaking of a looking-glass as a presage of death or dire calamity. The kaiser is not devoid of superstitions, which to people in general seem absurd. The czar possesses a ring set with a bit of the True Cross, which he always wears as a talisman against evil. Queen Victoria had an uncanny horror of cats; so also had Lord Roberts. The black cat is an object of morbid terror to many people both great and small. Bismark had a superstitious reverence for the numeral three as his lucky number.

The ancient regard for seven as a sacred and symbolic number still endures, and we see this idea carried out in church architecture and decorations. Many men, sailors and theatrical people, are noted for their superstitions. Kipling is always careful to avoid seeing the new moon over his left shoulder. Zola was a victim of many petty superstitions. The use of the horse-shoe as an emblem of good luck dates from that remote time when a device of this shape traced in blood was placed on the doors of the Israelites to ward off the murderous attacks upon their first born.

Business men who believe Friday to be a day of evil omen still cite Jay Gould's "Black Friday" as a justification of their belief. Many other superstitions, cherished not only by the ignorant masses but by the wisest people, might be mentioned. Many poets, romancers and even scientists and philosophers have been addicted to absurd superstitions. People shall see visions and dream dreams, and attempt to pry into matters not given unto men to know. But the great mysteries of life and death, and the hereafter, remain as unsolvable today as in the first days of man's existence upon the earth.

Down in Oklahoma a girl advertised for a husband. The entire cost for advertising and wedding

was \$11. One year later her husband died leaving \$10,000 life insurance. This bears out The Sentinel's contention that it pays to advertise.

### "HELLO, BILL."

There is something of real hearty good nature in the greeting, "Hello, Bill," that makes it the expression of comradery the country over, not only among the members of the Elks, who have made this greeting famous, but by all who possess a jovial manner. If there is a convention, or any gathering which brings people from different sections together, this greeting will be heard on all sides, whether they are old friends and acquaintances or perfect strangers. The Sentinel does not know how the expression originated, why every stranger should be Bill to every other stranger, rather than John or Amos, Tom, Dick or Harry. Perhaps it had its beginning in the Harvard class song of the quaint American humorist, Oliver Wendell Holmes, entitled, "Bill and Joe." It begins:

"Come, dear old comrade, you and I  
Will steal an hour from days gone by,  
The shining days when life was new,  
And all was bright with morning dew,  
The lusty days of long ago,  
When you were Bill and I was Joe."

Probably Bill has survived as the synonym of comradery because it is more euphonious in conjunction with hello. Hello, Bill runs trippingly from the tongue, as most of the other familiar names would not. It is resounding, melodious and carries far when uttered with unctious.

Hello, Bill is distinctly American. It is the open sesame to hospitality. It savors of the welcome of the long lost brother. It is one of the outgrowths of the homogeneous spirit of citizenship that pervades this land from one end to the other. State pride and local pride are not wanting, but when Americans get together from vast distances they are at heart like members of one great family, and Hello, Bill is the noisy and merry hailing-sign of their brotherhood.

### ALL MEN NOT LAWYERS.

The necessity of a legal adviser in attendance upon meetings was made apparent at Monday night's council session when the aldermanic body had up for discussion and adoption an ordinance providing for the sale of municipal bonds. There were several important points in connection therewith that required the advice of a dicycle of Blackstone, and it was eventually found necessary to rouse one from his slumbers. The ordinary citizen cannot be expected to be familiar with common usages of law, much less its technicalities and there are grave dangers lurking about a legislative assembly that attempts the transaction of important business without thorough knowledge of its ground. The Cottage Grove council, let it be said, is acting cautiously as well as expeditiously in the promotion of the proposed water system, and thus far The Sentinel can see no place wherein it has made the slightest mistake, but 'tis well at all times to be on the safe side.

### ARE WE BETTER?

An editorial in the Biblical World, a publication by the University of Chicago and edited by the faculty of the Divinity school there, has set up a large-sized theological controversy by frankly questioning the value of the scriptures in ethical teaching. Christ's use of wine is cited as an example of matter that controverts the ideas of total abstinence. It points out that the effect of the traditional use of the bible as a compendium of ethics was the presence in the church of vast numbers of conscientious Christians who are "entirely devoid of sensitiveness to those moral issues which are most real in our modern industrial and social life."

The Sentinel steadfastly maintains that the average man of today is far superior to the man of biblical times. The average Christian today has the elements of morality, virtue and sobriety far more thoroughly established within him than had the men who established the church and carried forward its divine mission in the apostolic age.

If this be not true what has been the fruit of all these centuries of preaching and teaching? The standard of morality was never so high as now. Things were tolerated and regarded as quite proper during the last fifty years that would be wholly out of place now. The world is moving forward. We are living in the brightest and best day of the world's history. The men who taught and wrought in bible times were superior when measured by the standards of that day, but they would be wonderfully deficient if living now.

### ABOUT WHISKERS.

The edict that has gone forth that men must again wear beards will undoubtedly meet with the disapproval of the gentler sex of Cottage Grove. "A kiss without a mustache is like an egg without salt," says one of Kipling's native girls. But she wasn't a Cottage Grove girl. The news that men are to allow a hairy growth to obscure their faces after years of smooth-shaven existence should raise a shriek of protest from wives and sweethearts, and The Sentinel, believing that it understands their rightful position in the premises, stands ready to champion their cause.

There's something clean, smooth and—kissable looking about a man direct from the hands of the tonsorial artist. A shave, massage and powder perform wonders. A mustache, of course, isn't so bad, and a Van Dyke is rather distinguished and foreign looking, but those half grown mustaches that have the appearance of misplaced eyebrows, and the great shaggy beards that make the wearer look like a cave dweller, are probably the cause of the original clean-shave fad.

Their beardlessness is one of the reasons for American men usually looking younger than their wives, if we may be permitted to make the comparison without inciting a rigid boycott. A woman who married a man with a full beard twenty years ago might worry herself thin should her liege lord and master part with his whiskers today. It is, The Sentinel believes, the younger generation of women who are most strongly opposed to the bewhiskered man. Their mothers may have a secret fondness for facial hirsute adornment in their "men folks." Mother says, fondly reminiscent, "I remember, dear, when your father wore a full beard and mustache, and he was the handsomest man in all the country 'round. When he came to me one day without that beard I felt as though there was a stranger in the house."

The only man who can welcome the return of whiskers is the one of cadaverous face, whose gaunt look could be thus be side-tracked.

### SHOULD HAVE HEED.

Some thought should be given to the report of Health Officer Oglesby, which appears elsewhere in The Sentinel today. There seems to be lack of interest in the public health if, as he alleges, there is failure on the part of property owners to connect with sewers to the detriment of the general health of the community, the proper means should be employed to compel such action. No individual, or set of individuals, should be permitted to jeopardize the health of their neighbors, as is the case under existing conditions, according to the evidence at hand. The health officer demands that an improved state of affairs be speedily brought about, and his position in the premises should be sustained by the entire community. If not the important office should be declared vacant, for if his opinions are of no value he is a needless expense.

An event of more than ordinary interest is the signing of an agreement by and between James J. Jeffries and Jack Johnson, which insures a battle for the world's heavyweight championship. This slugging match will probably be pulled off in San Francisco, certainly in California, for that is one of the few states in the union that countenances prize fights.

The citizenship of Cottage Grove is realizing more and more the necessity of supporting and advancing

the interests of the city. And why not? The city is theirs to ruin or prosper. The same sense of obligation should prompt them to support it as prompted our Teutonic ancestors in the forests of Germany to stand elbow to elbow in protection of their village. The same spirit of loyalty should inspire them as fired the highland Scot to shed his blood for the welfare of his clan. The country town with all its faults, is rightly governed, best enlightened, most moral and happiest spot in civilization. It's a good, safe place, not too fast, nor yet too slow.

The Sentinel is in receipt of The Evening News, Roseburg's new daily paper, and wants to attest to its merits. Typographically The News is an improvement over the general run of publications of its class, while from a news standpoint it starts out well. Roseburg should give The News a hearty welcome and cordial support. The Sentinel holds that a newspaper of the right stamp can accomplish more good toward advancing the material interests of a community than any other single agency, and the public-spirited people of any town should look well to their support. The News has our best wishes.

The reader's attention is called to The Sentinel today. It is probably the largest and most complete newspaper ever published in Cottage Grove. It has sixteen pages, containing much valuable reading matter aside from that of a local character.

William J. Gaynor was elected mayor of New York on Tuesday by a plurality of about 70,000.

Twenty-seven prominent timber dealers of Cheboygan, Michigan, with their families, arrived in Portland last week to make Oregon their future homes.

The Spokane Apple show will be the greatest exhibit of apples ever held anywhere in the world.

In the thirty days that the low colonist rates were in force on the transcontinental lines, the O. R. and N. brought 7164 homeseekers to Oregon and Washington points.

Spokane's mayor has been fined fifty cents for failure to pay his water assessment.

If Dr. Cook is a liar he certainly belongs to a cheerful class.

Get the Cottage Grove spirit and you will speedily develop into a real booster.

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Children delight in wading through all the puddles on the sidewalk and they would rather walk in the snow beside the walk, than anywhere else.  
This is hard on the shoes—no shoe will stand it indefinitely. All you can do is to get the strongest shoes you can buy, without getting them too coarse and heavy.

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Security Watch with Every Pair  
Each purchaser of Security School Shoes is entitled to one of these handsome watches for only 50 cents. There isn't a dollar watch on the market as good. It is guaranteed for one year. We couldn't afford to make this offer except as an inducement for you to try Security School Shoes.  
Bring the children in and let us fit them out with a pair of Security Shoes—they will prove a revelation to you in shoe value for childrens shoes

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