

Resolutions of Portland Board of Trade.

Whereas, with the certain increase of population incident to the low settlers' rates established by the railroad companies and the effective advertising work done throughout the East by Portland's Commercial organizations and the Lewis and Clark Exposition Corporation, it is highly desirable that the comparatively inaccessible central section of Oregon, an empire vast in area and natural resources and capable of sustaining an enormous population, receive its share of the home seekers looking to Oregon for homes, and

Whereas, this section of Oregon can be made susceptible to settlement and development only through the establishment of transportation facilities, and

Whereas, through the inauguration of various irrigation enterprises large tracts of arid land in Central Oregon promise soon to be reclaimed and become productive, and

Whereas, it is of vital importance to the commercial interests of Portland that the trade of this rich, though as yet isolated inland empire tributary to the metropolis, be not diverted, and

Whereas, reports of railroad activity in the Southern portion of this State indicate railroad invasion from the South, that threatens the loss of the trade of Central Oregon to Portland, and

Whereas, it appears that the only means through which Portland can retain this trade and increase its volume is through the building of a railroad from some points on the line of the O. R. & N. Co. South, and

Whereas, there appears to be no disposition on the part of the officials of the Columbia Southern Railroad, the only road heading for Central Oregon from the North, to extend its line to Bend as projected and promised, and

Whereas, this apparently inexcusable inactivity on the part of the Columbia Southern Railroad Company, offers encouragement to the railroad enterprises projected into Central Oregon from the South, and

Whereas, there is grave danger that unless prompt action is taken Portland may forever lose the trade of Central Oregon, and the development of this section will be greatly retarded, the absence of transportation facilities driving home seekers into more favored localities, from a transportation standpoint in adjoining states, now therefore be it

Resolved, by the Portland Board of Trade that the commercial interests of Portland demand that the transportation situation in Central Oregon be at once investigated and that such action be recommended, urged and worked for as may result in the extension of transportation facilities to Central Oregon and the retention of the trade of this section for Portland, be it further

Resolved, that the President of this Board appoint a committee of two with full power to confer with and act in conjunction with a like committee to be named by the Chamber of Commerce, said committees to select a fifth member from the citizens of Portland, and that the duties of this joint committee be: To wait upon the officials of the Columbia Southern Railroad Company and ascertain if possible the cause of the inactivity of said Company and failure to extend its line from its present terminus at Shaniko to Bend, as projected some time ago.

To ascertain the probabilities of the Company taking early action looking to the extension of its line, and if such possibility exists to urge all possible haste in the matter: To ascertain the feasibility of other routes that might tap Central Oregon from the North in the event it is found impossible to induce the officials of the Columbia Southern Railroad Company to act in the premises: To ascertain, if possible, the present status of railroad encroachments from the South and the possibilities of their

threatened extension. To procure facts and figures in reference to the extent of the territory that might be opened to settlement in Central Oregon through the extension of the Columbia Southern railroad of the building of a new road from the north, and the resources of the same and the probable volume of tonnage, if tapped by a railroad: To do any and all other things that might be deemed advisable for the opening up of Central Oregon to settlement and the retention of its trade for Portland: To report to this Board from time to time in reference to the progress of its work.

WHAT ARE BEST? (AND) WHY?

A Few Points on the Fine Points in Pianos and What Instruments Possess Them Most and in the Greatest Degree.

Piano names are a legion and in quality and character they vary quite as much as human nature. Generally speaking there is the cheap commercial kind that sell for a small sum,—and come dearer then the "stenciled" one at which the finger of scorn is always pointed, the medium priced piano, a whole horde of them and which are always pleasing; the high standard piano costing a little more, but a kind it always pays to have; and finally those that have reached the very pinnacle of perfection. Pianos that remain faultless and sweet in tone, perfectly sound in construction and pleasing in construction to enjoy. Instruments that gifted artists have lavished time and talent on to produce decoration to harmonize with the artistic and refined tone within; on which the scientific piano make has bestowed skill, experience and experiment to evolve a case combining perfect symmetry of outline with the utmost possibility for tone production; to whose construction the forests of the world have yielded up their richest woods; mine and forge have contributed fine metals; from out the Orient rare ivories have been gleaned and upland flocks have furnished finest fleeces for felts and leathers. Supreme intelligence and judgment the most discriminating musical ear and the greatest mechanical skill have co-operated to so assemble combine proportion, shape and finish these rare products that sweetest tone, the greatest volume, most endurance, responsive touch and perfectly balanced action shall produce a faultless instrument. Few pianos possess all these qualities and none to so marked degree as the Chickering piano, the oldest in America, Boston's best; the Weber of New York, by many odds the finest instrument made in that city, and the great Kimball of Chicago, the most modern and progressive up-to-date piano made. One that through sheer virtue of its superior tone and finish and the reasonableness of its price has risen in its short existence of fifteen years to a prominence in the musical world, equal to the former much older makes.

These three pianos are the leading makes carried by Eilers Piano House, the great west rn high standard low price piano store of the Pacific Coast, Large stores Washington street corner Park, Portland, Ore; San Francisco and Sacramento Cal. Also Spokane Wash.

Sight Was Her Terror

"I would cough nearly all night long," writes Mrs. Ches. Applegate, of Alexandria, Ind., "and could hardly get any sleep. I had consumption as bad that if I walked a block I would cough frightfully and spit blood, but, when all of my medicines failed, three \$1.00 bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery wholly cured me and I gained 55 pounds." It's absolutely guaranteed to cure Coughs, Colds, LaGrippe, Bronchitis and all Throat and Lung Troubles. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Adamson & Winick's Co. drug store.

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CHOOSING A HUSBAND

Blanche Ormonds and her chaperon, Mrs. Romain, were traveling down to Southampton in order to spend the weekend on board Lord Mahon's yacht Fairy, lying off Cowes.

Soon after the train had passed Surbiton, Blanche's paper fell on to her lap, and her eyes became fixed on vacancy.

"Thinking which of the three you will accept, dear?" inquired Mrs. Romain, quietly.

A slight flush tinted the girl's delicate complexion as she replied: "How did you guess?"

"I have been through the wood myself, dear, and I know how perplexing it is."

"Perplexing is no name for it," cried Blanche. "I wish you could help me."

"Haven't you any preference? Don't you care a little more for one than another?" asked the old lady.

"Not a bit. They are all splendid fellows, and equally eligible. In fact, I feel sometimes as though I should like to be a female sultan, and marry them all."

"If you accept Sir Harry Kinnaird you will obtain a title," suggested Mrs. Romain, "which is certainly a consideration."

"Yes, but he's so fearfully headstrong, you know."

"How about Capt. Dilwyn, then? You won't find a handsomer man, nor a braver one, if you hunt all England through."

"Yes, Dick's awfully good-looking, isn't he. But don't you think he's inclined to be jealous? I couldn't stand a jealous husband at any price."

"Mr. Manby hasn't that fault, at any rate, and I am sure he's very fond of you."

"I believe he is; but he's so masterful, and he always seems to look upon me as a little child."

"It seems to me," observed Mrs. Romain, "that if there was only one of them you would take him and be thankful; but, as it is, you are suffering from *embarras de richesses*."

"Perhaps you're right," admitted Blanche. "But I wish it could be settled one way or the other, for I can assure you it's getting on my nerves."

"You may depend that you will have to settle it yourself," said the old lady. And then, with a smile, she added: "You should draw lots for them."

"I've tried that," replied the girl, plaintively. "But it was no use, for I had to do it three times to be fair, and each time it came a different one."

"Then, really, I don't know what you are to do, unless you make up your mind to accept the first one who proposes."

"If I did I am sure I should be sorry afterwards, which ever one I had; but I have a great mind to let them decide the matter themselves."

"What do you mean, child?"

"Why, suppose I was to fall overboard and agree with myself to choose the one who was brave enough to jump in after me and save my life?"

"But think how wet it would make you, and it would be sure to take your fringe out of curl; besides, you might be drowned."

"Oh! I should make that all right with a life belt underneath, and I am not a bad swimmer, either. I think I'll do it."

"My dear Blanche," appealed Mrs. Romain, "pray consider—"

"Yes; that will remove the responsibility from my shoulders," decided Blanche.

"And, of course, dear Mrs. Romain, I shall rely upon your honor not to betray me in any way."

Mrs. Romain had chaperoned Blanche Ormonds ever since the death of her last surviving parent three years previously, and she knew that when once the young lady had chosen one of the three suitors in that manner remonstrance was useless, and so, with a gentle but pathetic sigh, she resigned herself to the inevitable. In due course they arrived at Southampton and took the boat to Cowes, where they found the yacht's gig awaiting for them.

It had been proposed to weigh anchor the following morning, and proceed for a sail round the island; but the almost dead calm that prevailed precluded that plan being followed. Most of the guests went on shore, but Blanche pleaded the necessity of writing some important letters, and on coming on deck when she had finished her correspondence, she found only her three admirers, who were evidently awaiting her pleasure, and Mrs. Romain, who was pretending to read, under the awning.

This was her opportunity. A butterfly that had lost its way afforded her an excuse for approaching the open gangway. A sudden stretch, an effort at recovery, a faint scream, and Blanche was floating on the ebb tide.

Without a moment's hesitation, or stopping to remove any article of clothing, Kinnaird immediately jumped after her, and being at the best of times an indifferent swimmer, was soon vainly struggling to keep himself above water.

Capt. Dilwyn quickly took off his coat, kicked off his shoes, and then dived over the side in a manner that showed he was quite at home in the treacherous element.

A few powerful strokes brought him alongside his rival, and in an instant he perceived that it was all up with him unless he was rendered immediate assistance.

A painful position to be placed in, with the girl he loved in the one balance and his old school friend in the other.

Heaven only knows how it would have been settled, but just then Kinnaird decided the matter himself by seizing the captain with the desperation and tenacity of grip that is only known to a man who has been down once and is on the point of sinking again.

In the meantime Manby quietly descended the accommodation ladder, stepped into the dingy which was alongside, and casting off the painter, commenced sculling after the rapidly disappearing young lady.

Having assisted her in over the stern, he was able to turn his attention to the others, and was just in time to prevent them swallowing more salt water than would have been altogether beneficial for their constitutions.

"Oh, my dear!" exclaimed Mrs. Romain, when the ladies were once more safe in the seclusion of their cabin, "how magnificently his lordship played in after you! Wasn't it noble of him? Of course, you will decide upon him now!"

"Of course I shall not," replied Blanche. "Do you think I'm going to marry a man who has not sense enough to look before he leaps?"

"Then I suppose you will accept the captain? If it had not been—"

"No, indeed!" interrupted the young lady. "If I dare say it was very natural and all that, but still, he preferred his friend to me—and besides—let me tell you the truth—Jack asked me when he was helping me into the boat, and I promised to marry him."—Ally Soper's Half-Holiday.

Proper Remedy.—"Pittsburg is laboring under heavy fire insurance expenses in the downtown district," remarked Mr. DuKane. "Now that is something," added Mr. Gaskell, "to which the water cure should be applied."—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

HUMAN NATURE.

"The talk about viewing the country and studying human nature from the window of a railroad car doesn't approach results obtained from viewing the public and studying human nature from the window of a large post office," said an employe of the Washington post office.

"Not long ago a woman hurried up to the window, and I could see from the gratified expression on her face that she was dead sure she would soon make another woman feel unhappy, only in this case the 'other woman' happened to be a man."

"Oh, say, Mr. Clerk," she cried, eagerly, "can feather beds be sent through the mails?"

"Well, we don't encourage the practice, miss," I answered, frowning to save a smile.

"There!" she exclaimed, triumphantly, to a companion in a ragged, who had, in the meantime, come up. "Charlie will have to say me the box of candy. You see, she explained to me, 'a gentleman friend bet me a box of candy against a box of cigars that he could send a feather bed through the mails, and I bet him he couldn't, and now I have won. Oh, I am so glad, Charlie is so smart.'"

"He can send a feather bed if he makes it small enough, and it doesn't weigh over four pounds, miss," I resumed, "or any other article that is mailable, provided he does not register it, as size cuts no ice so long as it is to be delivered in the United States, but if it is to go to foreign shores, then both size and weight are very important. If he brings the bed down, miss, we will send it for him if properly packed and the postage is prepaid. You have lost your bet."

"Well, he won't," she answered, mad clear through, "and I won't pay it, either, and the looks those two women gave me were as inky as jet as they snatched out of the building. It would have been a good joke on her if her beau had had a little feather bed made up and mailed to her."

The questions which are fired into us would make the face of an eight-day clock look troubled to find ready and satisfactory answers. Men, as a rule, accept our statements, but women are inclined to doubt and form conclusions of their own. The men at the inquiry windows in the big railroad stations have the same experience, but that is what we and they are paid for.

Two women came in one day, and one asked if she could send her pet canary to Philadelphia in its cage. I said she could if she first killed the canary, took the body to a taxidermist, had it thoroughly dried and prepared, replaced it in the cage and even included a small box of birdseed to assuage its hunger en route, provided the whole paraphernalia did not weigh over four pounds, but that anything else had to be shipped by express.

"Why, she said, very indignantly, 'my landlady told me at breakfast that I could send the canary. The idea!'"

"She meant after the cat had killed it and it was stuffed—just like you were stuffed," said her companion, with a smile. But the other one didn't crack a break in the bloom on her fair cheek.

"I have had well-dressed, and evidently well-educated people ask me the rate of postage to some foreign country, say Russia, and when told that the United States five-cent stamp will carry a half-ounce letter to practically all countries in the world, big or little, near or far, from England to the Niger coast protectorate, Afghanistan, Abyssinia, the Pitcairn islands and other places as remote, they say:

"I know the rate to London and Paris, but I thought, etc., and they had another 'think coming.'"

Nearly all of the different countries of the world, and all of the principal ones, are members of what is known as the Universal Postal union, and most of those that are not, the little fellows, have agreed upon the same letter postage, five cents, though some outside of the union vary as to weight and size of the article mailed.

You can make your foreign relatives and correspondents pay the postage on your letters. Postage upon domestic first-class mail matter must be prepaid at least one letter rate of two cents, else it will be held at the post office where it is mailed. The addressee is notified by card, and if he sends the required amount in stamps it is forwarded to him, otherwise it is sent to the dead-letter office.

But you may drop a letter destined for foreign parts without prepayment of postage. It will go forward to destination, and the recipient will be required to pay double rates for the privilege of reading it if he values it that high. On packages, however, intended for abroad, you must pay at least part postage to have it go forward, and the deficiency will be collected and doubled when delivery is made. If you fail to prepay at least a part of the postage upon packages, they go to the dead letter office, and the public do not seem to catch on to this curve of distinction in the two classes of matter. Always prepay postage in all instances, despite the privilege, on all classes of matter intended for home or foreign delivery.

The Brooklyn woman who objected to her divorced husband paying her alimony in postage stamps and had recourse to the courts, saying that she did not mind receiving it in two-cent stamps, but objected to those of large denominations, as she couldn't sell them, and that is the way he got even with her, probably, reminds me of a man who came in one day and asked for a stamp of the ten-dollar denomination.

Note are issued. The only denominations now issued are the 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and the ten-cent special delivery; 15, 30 and 50-cent and the \$1, \$2 and \$5 stamps. There is a slight call from all over the country for stamps over the 15-cent issue.

A woman rushed wildly in here one day, saying that she wanted 'my letter back,' which she had posted a few moments previously. Of course, she thought 'my letter' could be picked right out of a million or so other letters.

"Well, she was able to get 'my letter,' because she was able to comply with the postal laws and regulations governing the withdrawing of mail after mailing and before its dispatch. The utmost care is taken to ascertain that the person desiring to withdraw the letter is the person entitled to do so. Before she was handed 'my letter' she was required to exhibit a written address in the same handwriting as appeared on the envelope, which was her own, and describe it minutely, convincing those in charge that she was the actual sender of it before she got 'my letter' back."

Another woman came in one day with a red-hot stove because, as she declared, we had "given my letter to the meanest old thing that ever lived." It didn't cool her off a bit when we told her that the postal regulations allowed the delivery of mail in either season where it is addressed to one or notified to the contrary he is obliged to deliver it to the first of the two persons who may call for it. The other woman must have opened it, read it and revealed it, hence the bright red glow of anger upon the face of the woman at the window.—Washington Star.

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