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have passed beyond its beginnings. It would scarcely have remembrance in history today.

It is a serious study also to follow Roman law in church formularies, even to the modern time, and to follow it in ante-Nicene and post-Nicene theology.

Hints only can be given; for a newspaper is held by the very necessity of its life and work to the affairs of the passing day.

But when there is a full in this debate, or for a time inhibition of current topics, even the history of religious and ecclesiastical doctrine may get brief attention from a newspaper—if only it is attempted in the right spirit.

Whole treatises, however, tend to make such subjects obscure. Simple suggestion may offer a better way, by stimulation of individual inquiry.

Only one more remark now: St. Paul is perhaps of all writers, either ancient or modern, the most difficult to understand. That must be due partly to the mysticism of the powerful nature within him, and partly to our ignorance of the intellectual atmosphere in which he lived.

For, mystic as he was, yet he was an intellectual giant. Has The Oregonian this day run into an open switch? If so, it trane into injury to those who have taken passage with it.

IS THE SUBJECT REMOTE? Matters of current interest—a trial in progress here—the newspaper may not discuss. These matters must wait.

It is not to do for a newspaper to have opinions just now on the main matters of the current time. Let us look a little, therefore, into subjects of historical and of permanent interest.

Let us inquire into the historical grounds or reasons of the celibacy of the Catholic Christian clergy.

The subject is dealt with at length in Michelet's History of France. We find in this analysis an explanation of the course it was necessary to pursue, that the clergy might free itself from the secular-ecclesiastical superiors.

The church was compelled to place itself under the domination of Rome. This has been the preservation of Christianity.

The great Pope Hildebrand (Gregory VII) saw that if Rome was to maintain her dominion, she must make her ruling agents entirely disinterested.

These are not the main matters of the current time. Let us look a little, therefore, into subjects of historical and of permanent interest.

trip Mr. Jones and his colleagues have viewed thousands of acres of similar land, which, ten years after the water has been turned on, will be supporting an equally dense population in regions now given over entirely to the jack-rabbit and the coyote.

The man who makes two blades of grass grow where only one has grown before is a public benefactor, and the reclamation service of the Government goes still farther, for it makes grass grow where none has grown before.

DEVELOPMENT FOLLOWS THE RAILROAD. Central Oregon is again under examination by a party of Harriman officials. There is a very slight difference in the personnel of the party from that which went out two years ago and compiled exhaustive reports.

Even the scientific expert, Professor French, was a member of the last previous excursion. They will find conditions much the same as they were two years ago, except that there has been an increase in the number of settlers who are waiting in semi-idleness for the coming of a railroad to enable them to reach the markets with the products which their farms will turn off in such large quantities.

That rich country has not yet been a large producer of much except wool and livestock. These railroads could force to be brought to a remote shipping point, and, as the agricultural traffic was undeveloped, at Winnipeg. From there the products would be shipped to the North Pole.

The young man lacks five years of his majority, at which time he will inherit a fortune of \$30,000,000. With the enthusiasm of boyhood he is looking forward to the time when he can not only fit out an Arctic expedition according to his father's ideas, but can accompany it himself, as he hopes, to the farthest north.

In the meantime the lad will devote his spare time to the study of Arctic expeditions and problems in the hope of adding to the world's knowledge of the frozen zone, and incidentally of shedding luster on his father's name.

He is a filial lad as well as a plucky one, and the world will be pleased to learn of his success in the great realm of science and science, to which he has dedicated his inheritance—when the time comes.

The Portage Road has been turned over to the state by the contractors, and is now ready for business. It was completed at a cost to the state of \$165,000, and the upper country now has an independent highway to tidewater.

The action of the O. R. & N. Co. in giving a right of way over its own property, in providing special trains for the friends of the Portage Road, and otherwise aiding the project, displays a friendliness that would not be in evidence if the state had a monopoly of traffic.

The river is "open," however, and any one who can carry freight by boat and portage at a lower rate than is exacted by the railroads can secure a considerable volume of business.

The Washington Railroad Commission appointed by Governor Mead is now in the field. It is a strong recommendation for the Spokane. The Review says the appointment of such a commission vindicates every Republican who voted for George Turner.

While not giving the public full details regarding its grievance, it is slightly apparent that the Review is disappointed because George Turner was not appointed to the position.

in the Outlook, a hundred machines, from "red devils" and "black devils" closed touring cars to the lightest and latest-built runabout, proceeded by a squad of mounted police at a gallop, sped from New York to Coney Island and back again with never an arrest or an accident or an attempt at racing.

The explanation of the universal indulgence of this gay and rapid ride is found in the fact that the automobiles were filled with orphans from a dozen institutions of the great, stifling city, and that the New York Motor Club had inaugurated a new holiday for these children and named it "Automobile day."

The owners had loaned the machines, the guardians of the children had selected from their wards those whose good behavior had entitled them to a holiday, the municipality furnished the escort and the way was easy. The result brought new scenes, new ideas, new experiences, into monotonous institutional lives, which would remain with them as pleasant memories, and the automobile took its place among the instruments of philanthropy upon which the tenderest harmonies of modern life are played.

William Ziegler, son of the noted Arctic explorer who died recently in Brooklyn, preparing to carry out his father's plans for the discovery of the North Pole. The young man lacks five years of his majority, at which time he will inherit a fortune of \$30,000,000.

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OREGON OZONE.

Carrie Nation, of Kansas, the only nation that never signs a peace treaty, has declared for Governor Folk, of Missouri, as a candidate for President of the United States.

Mr. Folk upon the assumption that he is the only man who keeps the lid down. Does the eminent lady mean to cast a slur at Secretary Taft, whom President Roosevelt left "holding down the lid" when he went bear-hunting?

In fixing the punishment of the Portland thief who stole gold fillings from a dentist's office, the city should be given to the fact that the man was kindly considerate of personal feelings in waiting until the fillings had been extracted by the dentist, instead of burglarizing the mouths of the original owners while they slept.

It is a pity that poetsingers cannot be taught to prefer the lady poet, Mrs. Robert Fitzsimmons for years has been accompanied about the earth by a huge dog. Once in New York the dog got tangled up in the electric wires at a roof garden and caused a panic.

At several hotels the beast has created consternation, not being amenable to the "No Dogs Allowed" regulation, because it isn't a dog. Down in California, the other day, Fitz's pet got loose and devoured several small mammals of a boy before he was caught and caged.

Perhaps one cannot expect a pugilist to be contented with a pussy cat or a meek little poodle, but if Mr. Fitzsimmons were only a poet he might be content to carry a caged canary. This is a reform that needs attention.

"If all the eggs handled in St. Louis last year were strung like pearls on a string," writes a Missouri poultry enthusiast, "they would encircle the earth seven times at the equator." Conceivably, if you can, this dignified member of the solar system sweeping through the cerulean vastness of the nebular hypothesis at a seven-league stride and wearing a crown of diamonds.

John D. Rockefeller went to his boyhood school a few months of the year, and the rest of the time worked and played as a boy ordinarily does in a country settlement, chopping wood, raising chickens and turkeys, weeding garden, setting chickens and turkeys. Nowhere does he seem to have made an impression, save by his silence.

"He never mixed much with the crowd of us," one old schoolmate told me. "He was always a little aloof, and he was different from the rest of us." When he went into the oil business, he gave himself to this venture body and soul, one may truthfully say, working with a persistence which few other men could have maintained.

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THE MOST SUCCESSFUL MAN IN THE WORLD

John D. Rockefeller Measured by a National Standard—A Passion for Money. "He is Just Money Mad," Said the Late Senator Hanna.

Mr. M. T. Russell, in July McClure's, John D. Rockefeller—of the Standard Oil—is without question the most conspicuous type of our present dominating commercial class.

The most important man in the world—a great and serious newspaper passionately devoted to democracy calls him, and unquestionably this is the popular measure of him. His importance lies not so much in the fact that he is the richest individual in the world, with the control of property which that entails; it lies in the fact that his wealth, and his power springing from it, appeal to the most universal and powerful passion in this country—the passion for money.

John D. Rockefeller, measured by our National standard, is the most successful man in the world—the man who has got the most of what men most want. How did he get it, the eager youth asks, and asking, strives to know the secret of his success. His patience permit. Thus he has become an inspirer of American ideals, and his methods have been crystallized into a great National commercial code.

Now is this all. Mr. Rockefeller distributes money in charity and in endowments. If not our first, he is certainly our second philanthropist, the amount of money he has given being the standard. All over the land those who direct great educational, charitable and religious institutions are asking, "Can we not get something from him?" Receiving his bequests, they are at least the tacit supporters of the thing for which he stands—that is, John D. Rockefeller exercises a powerful control over the very destinies of the intellectual and religious inspiration. But has he made good? From time immemorial men who have risen to power have had to answer this question. Tyrants, tyrants, chieftains, since the world began, have stood or have fallen as they have convinced the public that they were giving or not giving a just return for the public good.

When Mr. Rockefeller must face the verdict of the public by which he lives. In his boyhood, John D. Rockefeller went to his boyhood school a few months of the year, and the rest of the time worked and played as a boy ordinarily does in a country settlement, chopping wood, raising chickens and turkeys, weeding garden, setting chickens and turkeys. Nowhere does he seem to have made an impression, save by his silence.

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AN OPEN SWITCH?

Annihilation of the political life of Oregon during a period of forty years presented in the trial now going on the court of the United States at Portland.

The Oregonian can do nothing now to interrupt the testimony. It can make comment. That may come later. At present it will say that in the history of political theory there is no sublimity more interesting than the relation of Paul, the apostle, to the Roman law.

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WILL MAKE THE DESERT BLOOM.

It is fortunate, indeed, for Oregon to be favored with a close-range study of the irrigation problem by so distinguished a party as the Congressional delegation now in this city.

Irrigation as a method for reclaiming worthless land is so far past the experimental stage that its benefits are no longer questioned. Throughout this country are vast tracts of rich soil which need only the application of life-giving water to make them the most productive that can be found anywhere in the world.

Proof of the soil's richness has been demonstrated wherever the settlers in a crude manner have diverted the waters of small brooks and streams to patches of alfalfa, vegetables and fruit.

But the reclamation work of the individual, or even of the small company, is at the best imperfect compared with that which will follow the carrying out of the plans of the Government in the desert regions, not only of Oregon, but of other Western states and territories.

Nearly all members of the Congressional party are men who have had opportunities to study the irrigation question in the respective localities from which they come, and they are accordingly familiar with the value of the work. Oregon and the rest of the states interested will especially profit by the visit of the party at the National capital in the committee-rooms, where the Congressmen can discuss the various reclamation schemes with a thorough understanding of the merits and conditions of each.

Representative Jones has witnessed the development of the great Yakima Valley from a comparatively barren region to one of great richness, where five and ten-acre farms return to their owners greater profits than are secured from entire quarter sections of grain on unwatered land. In their extended

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ASSESSORS AND THEIR DUTY.

The chief reason why the rate of taxation is so high is that a large proportion of the property owned in the state is never listed on the assessment rolls. The property not assessed includes not only franchises, which are intangible, but also personal property, such as money, notes and accounts, which are easily concealed. In every county there are real estate brokers and retired capitalists, who are known to be worth large sums of money, yet their total assessment is comparatively small.

Assessors dismiss the matter with the remark that they "can't find the property," or "that it is all he gave in." As a matter of fact, the Assessors for some reason do not try to find the property or to prove its possession, but are content to let poor people bear an unjust portion of the burden.

There should be an end of this. If it cannot be terminated in any other way, the honest taxpayers should form leagues in their several counties and go after the Assessors in a manner that will arouse them to a sense of their duty. The small property-owner who is compelled to pay an undue proportion of the public revenue is being robbed under the forms of law, and should ensure it no longer than he would permit himself to be robbed by a highwayman or sneak-thief without complaint.

The tax-evading plutocrat, whether he lives in Portland or in the farthestmost corner of the state, should be brought to account and be compelled to pay his honest debt to the state, county, city and school district. No Assessor should be allowed to close his roll until he has made every possible effort to list all the property in his jurisdiction subject to taxation.

The automobile lately appeared in a new role in New York, and, strange to say, it met in this role universal appreciation and unstinted praise. As stated

in the Outlook, a hundred machines, from "red devils" and "black devils" closed touring cars to the lightest and latest-built runabout, proceeded by a squad of mounted police at a gallop, sped from New York to Coney Island and back again with never an arrest or an accident or an attempt at racing.

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RECLAIMING THE DESERT.

On the 17th of June the sluice gates were opened in the Truckee River reservoir by which thousands of acres of arid Nevada land are to be brought under cultivation.

The issue of Public Opinion appearing on the same date, there is an article by Rufus H. Wilson, entitled "Conservation of the Arid West." Mr. Wilson, in writing of the general situation, says: "There are in the West 300,000,000 acres of arid land which experts declare can be reclaimed by irrigation. The water of the states on the Atlantic coast, cut up into 40-acre plots, the average size of irrigated farms, this area will make 2,600,000 farms. The occupants of these farms will add directly to the population of the West about 12,000,000 people, an increase of nearly one-fourth in the population of the country."

These figures have been cited because in no other way can be so clearly American the promise bound up in the reclamation act passed in 1902 by Congress—a clear and explicit measure which provides that the money derived from the sale of public lands shall be devoted to the construction of dams, reservoirs and canals to be used in the irrigation of the arid lands and districts of the West. Since the passage of the act the ablest engineers in the employ of the Government have been studying boldly in the field examining sites with reference to their fitness for the erection of irrigation works. Aside from the Truckee Canal, the most important of the undertakings upon which work has already begun have to do with the regions through which flow the Colorado, North Platte and Snake Rivers.

The Colorado that contained 1,300,000 acres of land that can be reached by diversion canals bordering on the Colorado River between the Grand Canon and the Mexican line. The plans of the Government engineers call for a series of reservoirs at points along the river where the conditions are most favorable, to be formed by building dams from 100 to 200 feet in height. Each dam will have a sluiceway through its base, so that the water may be drawn off as desired, and used to provide for storage of flushing out the sediment brought down by the river in great quantities from its upper courses. So slight is the fall of the Colorado that the dam will be destroyed by its own possible reservoirs of an enormous capacity. It is calculated that each reservoir will gradually fill with sediment. When this occurs its surface will be drawn down until it is 40 feet, and the water will flow the river channel, converted into a farming land. The crepe planted on this land will be irrigated as they need it by closing the sluices, and this, with the semi-tropical climate, will make farming possible the year around.

San or Insane. Dr. Stephen Smith, in Leslie's Magazine, "Is there any sure test by which to tell the sane from the insane?" inquired a student of the famous French alienist Esquirol. "Please dine with me tomorrow at 8 o'clock," was the answer of the student. The student complied. Two other guests were present, one of whom was elegantly dressed and apparently highly educated, while the other was rather uncouth, noisy and extremely conceited. After dinner the pupil rose to take leave, and as he shook hands with the teacher he remarked that he was a student of the law, and that he was a member of the bar.

Exchange. A party of Americans touring in Montreal visited the Convent of Grey Nuns. They were conducted about the grounds and different departments, and at length reached the infirmary ward. As they entered the main hall, in which a group of harmless invalids were seated, one of the party glanced up at a great clock on the wall, and was surprised at the late hour of the hour.

Went Wrong. "Why," she exclaimed, "is that clock right?" "You may be sure it is not right," spoke up one of the patients. "That clock would never have been put in here."

JAP SPIES NOW EXCLUDED.

The action of the naval authorities in excluding Japanese attendants from warships in the Chesapeake Bay, which waters is timely. The information that the order is the beginning of the riding of the navy of all Japanese help is even more important. The Japanese are in evidence in the messrooms of our warships, some vessels carrying as many as a dozen of these very competent and always willing helpers.

Admiral Thayer had attended the Admiral's servant in evidence in the messrooms of our warships, some vessels carrying as many as a dozen of these very competent and always willing helpers. Admiral Thayer had attended the Admiral's servant in evidence in the messrooms of our warships, some vessels carrying as many as a dozen of these very competent and always willing helpers.

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