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PORTLAND, MONDAY, DEC. 19, 1910.

ODDITIES AND NOVELTIES IN CONSTITUTION.

It is interesting to note the widely different comments on the constitution adopted by the Arizona convention. By the conservatives it is branded as an unstable freak, but by those observers who style themselves "progressives" it is accepted as an advanced type of charter for government by the people.

In the following are listed what are termed the "progressive" features of the constitution:

Initiative and referendum with percentage of 10 and 5, respectively.
Amendment to the constitution by a majority vote of the people upon the initiative of 15 per cent of the voters.
The recall of all elective officers.
Direct primaries.
Direct advisory primary for United States Senators.
Instructions to the Legislature to enact a corrupt practices law.
Anti-lobbying law.
Non-partisan election of the judiciary.
Anti-child labor provision.
Juvenile Court with the age of criminal responsibility fixed at 18 years.
Prohibition of incarceration of children with grown offenders.
Rigid corporation regulation, with a provision designed to abolish wild-catting.
Physical valuation of railroads as a basis for rate regulation.
Corporation commission with wide power.
Employers' liability provision abrogating fellow servant doctrine.
Mandate for the enactment of a workingman's compulsory compensation law.
Elimination of Probate Courts.
Regular sessions of the grand jury, with criminal prosecution by information or indictment.
Restriction of the sale of public lands to prevent land grabbing.
Abolition of the fee system of all public offices.
Authority to cities of over 2500 population to frame their own charters.
Prohibition of the employment of aliens on public work.

It will be observed that the majority of the provisions have a familiar sound in Oregon. Analyzed closely the Arizona document is found to differ chiefly from the made-over constitution of Oregon in the incorporation of self-executing sections. Several features enacted by general statute in Oregon have been included in the Arizona constitution. Among these are the direct primary, embracing popular expression of choice for United States Senator; the employers' liability act; physical valuation of railroads and several others.

The initiative and referendum have been provided for in milder form in Arizona than in Oregon. For example, initiative petitions in Arizona must be signed by a number equivalent to 10 per cent of the total vote cast for Governor in the last preceding election. In Oregon the number of petitioners must be equivalent to eight per cent of the whole number of votes cast for Justice of the Supreme Court. The Arizona plan not only has a higher percentage but bases that percentage on a total vote almost invariably larger than the basis selected in Oregon. In Arizona, amendments to the constitution may be initiated by petition of 15 per cent of the voters. In Oregon the percentage is but eight. The referendum percentage is fixed at five per cent in both constitutions. Either constitution may be amended by majority vote of the electors voting on the question.

In other respects the Oregon constitution has been practically copied in the Arizona document, wherein the latter relates to the initiative, referendum and recall, but these initiative and referendum features have been elaborated by the addition of provisions found in the Oregon general statutes.

In view of the similarity of the wording of the Arizona and Oregon constitutions on the initiative, referendum and recall it is to be presumed that the delegates also studied the Oregon corrupt practices act but almost stopped short in despair when they observed its length. Radicalism did not go so far as to incorporate in the constitution a document of some 12,000 words, but the Arizona delegates adopted a section instructing the Legislature to enact a corrupt practices law.

This is a peculiar provision in the light of the reservation by the people in the same constitution of the right to initiate laws. Why instruct the Legislature to do anything at all when the people have the power to adopt any law they may desire? The initiative in itself is a notice to the Legislature that if it does not give the people what they want the people will take it by their own efforts.

Judging from the variety of these "progressive" features the Arizona convention was possessed of peculiar inspirations. Its constitution implies in one place an unbounded trust in the judgment of the people, and in another place a grave doubt as to the probability of the people initiating measures that the convention believed should be put into the general statutes.

The convention put laws into the constitution that it apparently could not trust the Legislature to enact, then faced about and instructed the Legislature to pass laws that it feared the people would not enact. To cap all, the Legislature was not permitted to amend the constitution but the people were given the right to do so by majority vote—even to the extent of overthrowing the whole thing two years after they had approved it.

In truth, the most pronounced radicalism in Arizona is found in the departure from the old accepted theory that the constitution should be a permanent fundamental basis for law and government. This departure is in the ease with which the constitution may be amended and in its incorporation of measures usually found in the general statutes. And after all, Arizona will not have a real constitution if this document is finally approved. Oregon actually has no constitution. What we call our constitution is now simply a restriction on what the Legislature may do without referring its acts to vote of the people. But the people may initiate and pass by simple majority in one election any law whatever that pleases popular opinion, fancy or clamor, simply by calling it a "constitutional amendment."

WHERE ABSURDITY IS CONSEQUENTIAL.

Representative Macon, of Arkansas, has taken an indefensible position. He threatens to fight the Peary bill to the last gasp because "there is no more proof that Peary discovered the North Pole than there is that Cook did." This is absurd. Peary's proofs have been submitted to the learned world and have been approved after close examination. Nobody whose opinion is of the least importance dreams of doubting that he discovered the Pole. Mr. Macon's opinion is of no consequence whatever to science, but, unfortunately, he is a member of the committee on naval affairs and therefore in a situation to do essential injury. An ignoramus who would only be laughed at under normal conditions may become dangerous when he gets power into his hands.

The delay in giving Peary promotion for his great discovery is not creditable to the United States. In the eyes of foreign nations it seems to prove that we care nothing for epoch-making achievements and have not the sense to appreciate them. That men of Mr. Macon's caliber should be in a position to thwart the effort to render tardy justice to Commander Peary is a National scandal.

Of course such a thing as restricted suffrage in the House of Representatives is out of the question. We mention it only to lament that it can not be applied to such cases as Mr. Macon. If he and some of his compeers from the backwoods were allowed to vote only on subjects which they were competent to handle the country would be spared many a humiliating spectacle. It would be better still if they were forbidden to make speeches until they had shown by passing an examination that they knew what they were talking about. No person is permitted to teach a class in arithmetic in the public schools until he has demonstrated his ability in a rigorous examination, but men like Macon may freely display their boundless ignorance and asinine folly in Congress and there is no help for it. Liberty is a precious treasure but its possession has unpleasant accompaniments sometimes.

BUILDING PERMITS AND POPULATION.

Portland building permits for the month of December will exceed in value those of any previous month in the history of the city, and for the year the total will break all previous records by many millions. This splendid record will be attained without including more than one-half of the work for which plans have been drawn, money provided and all arrangements completed for commencement so soon as the force in the building inspector's office can finish checking up the plans and issue permits. There has been nothing spasmodic in the building movement which has been in full swing in Portland for more than two years, for the gains have been uniform throughout the calendar year. The November figures on building permits in various American cities taken in connection with the population figures, when comparisons are made, show in a striking manner the rapid growth Portland is making.

For that month, Portland stood in eighth place among the American cities, being led in the order named by New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Detroit, Kansas City, St. Louis and Cleveland. The latter city, in seventh place, and Pittsburg, in ninth place, were very close to Portland in the amount of new buildings planned. Cleveland's permits amounted to $1,151,000; Pittsburg's to $1,011,000, those of Portland to $1,119,000. But while Portland is credited with a population of 208,000, Cleveland has 560,000 and Pittsburg 533,000. Even St. Louis with a population of 687,000 people was less than $200,000 ahead of Portland in the value of permits issued.

Turning to cities of Portland's class in population, we note that St. Paul with 214,744 population issued $764,000. Denver with 213,381 population had November permits of $403,665 and Indianapolis with 233,650 population shows but $480,000 in new permits. San Francisco with double the population was more than $100,000 short of Portland in the value of November permits. In November, 1909, San Francisco was in third place and Portland in sixteenth place. This year San Francisco is eleventh in the November list and Portland eighth.

CHARLES H. MARKHAM.

The number of Oregonians who will note with genuine pleasure the rise of Charles H. Markham to the presidency of the Illinois Central is not limited to his old neighbors and friends in Portland. Throughout the Willamette Valley and Southern Oregon, "Charley" Markham made a reputation that will linger long in the history of agricultural development work in Oregon.

Mr. Markham was not the original advocate of diversified and better farming in the Willamette Valley, but it was during his administration as general freight agent of the Southern Pacific at Portland that the work now being carried on by the numerous development leagues, received its greatest impetus. Realizing the possibilities of the Willamette Valley, and that grain growing was not returning a sufficient amount of traffic for his railroad or of dollars for the farmers, Mr. Markham rode up and down the Valley preaching the gospel of diversified farming. He urged the farmers to turn from wheat growing to dairying, fruit growing, and to make one acre produce as much net revenue as was then being secured from ten acres. He materially aided in laying a fine foundation for the splendid development work that has followed, and he will not soon be forgotten for his work in this state.

Aside from the special interest that Oregonians will always feel in the success of Mr. Markham, the Nation at large is a gainer by his success. His career again demonstrates that merit still wins rewards. A contemplation of his rise from the ranks will act as an inspiration to the growing army of youngsters from which will be recruited the railroad presidents, bankers, statesmen and other great men of the future. The United States of America is still a land of great opportunities for the poor boy—provided he does not spend his time on the street corners listening to the anarchistic mouthings of lazy agitators.

MAKING COMMONS SUPREME.

Unionists have been divided among themselves in Britain, and voters, who hold balance of power, have shown themselves distrustful of their political schemes. The victorious Liberal party is pledged to Home Rule for Ireland and to destruction of the veto power of the House of Lords.

One of the curious results is rejection of the referendum. Unionists proposed referendum of the tariff and the Irish questions—that is, Balfour did. But Austen Chamberlain, leader of a rival faction in the Unionist party, repudiated that political project. In Oregon the political situation has been such, during a number of years, that no candidate for office could be elected who opposed the referendum. Obviously, political affairs are ordered differently in Britain. This outcome affords little encouragement to enthusiasts in Oregon, who were quite sure some time ago that Great Britain was about to adopt the initiative and the referendum.

The referendum would present important constitutional changes in Great Britain, but for the present, at least, it is put out of the way. The plan of destroying the powers of the House of Lords will entail serious constitutional changes. If carried through it will make Parliament practically a one-chamber body, with the House of Commons possessing supreme power.

The old, hereditary House of Lords obviously is doomed. The American people will congratulate their British cousins when the improvement shall be effected. But whether elimination of a second chamber from participation in Parliamentary legislation should be accepted by the British people makes a debatable question. The Liberal programme proposes that the House of Lords be disabled from rejecting or amending a money bill and that its powers as to other bills be so restricted that any bills which have passed the Commons in three successive sessions, and which have been rejected by the Lords, shall nevertheless become law.

Hitherto the Commons have been supreme in dealing with the Budget. Recent assertion, by the Lords, of the power to veto a money bill until it should be submitted to Parliamentary elections, has raised the present issue. Now the Liberal party proposes to eliminate that power altogether, and it goes much further than that. It proposes, also, that other bills may be passed over the Lords by the Commons. It is true there will be delays in the latter procedure, until such bills shall be passed by three successive sessions of the Commons. But this makes the one House of Parliament virtually supreme over the other. The hereditary House of Lords has become intolerable, but there is good reason, founded upon history, for believing that a second chamber in Britain, a popular body, would serve the interests of the British. In the United States there is protest against the National Senate, not, however, on account of its large powers, but on account of the unpopular method of choosing its members. This may be rectified shortly. Students of politics will regret the British shall not effect similar reform in the method of choosing members of the upper branch of Parliament.

It may be added that the bicameral system guarantees safer deliberation in legislation than does the one-chamber system. It secures better balance of opinions and interests. In our own Oregon Legislature we often have seen the advantage of scrutiny and criticism by the one House of the work of the other. Besides, there is ground for asserting that two law-making bodies preserve the balance between legislative and executive departments and safeguards against oligarchy, anarchy and despotism.

THE PANAMA EXPOSITION.

The Kahn resolution calling upon the President to invite foreign powers and nations to participate in the World's Panama Exposition and fixing a date when Congress shall decide where the exposition shall be held has been favorably reported, and January 17 is the date when the matter will be settled.

Viewed from almost any standpoint, there does not seem to be very much that is favorable for New Orleans in the situation. The Californians very early in the proceedings abandoned the idea of asking any financial aid from the Government and in a prompt, business-like manner got together the largest fund ever pledged by any city for a similar purpose. This fund of $17,500,000 without any Government aid is of sufficient proportions to carry to successful consummation an exposition in strict keeping with the importance of the great event it is to commemorate. Not one dollar is asked of Congress and the only reason for appearing before Congress in connection with the event is to receive official sanction and get for the big show the recognition that will commend it to the rest of the world.

As a counter-inducement, the best that New Orleans has been able to offer is a fund of $7,500,000 and the Southern delegation now at Washington boosting for New Orleans is endeavoring to secure an appropriation of $1,000,000 from the Government. Even with this million of Government money, the Southern city would still be $9,000,000 behind San Francisco in the amount of available funds, and half that sum would mean the difference between success and failure of the big affair.

The independent, self-reliant attitude of the Californians can hardly fail to commend their project to Congress. The Government has spent a great many millions in expositions, and many of them, from a financial standpoint, have proved lamentable failures. For this reason there is a general feeling that it is up to the city which desires an exposition to provide funds for it. This California is willing to do and this New Orleans is unwilling or unable to do, at least to the sufficiency offered by the Western city.

Aside from any financial considerations there are geographical, historical, sentimental and commercial reasons for holding the exposition at San Francisco that are but slightly in evidence in New Orleans. Unless something unusual develops, the Western city will surely be selected as the site for the great exposition and even if Government sanction or approval is withheld for a time, the showing which San Francisco will make will be so stupendous that it will actually force Government recognition.

"CONSERVED" TREES WASTED.

Much timber "reserved" by the Government is "overripe" and going to waste. This tardy discovery is made in the Crater Lake district and preparations are making to put the timber on the market. Of the cash proceeds, 25 per cent will be given to the state for roads; the other 75 per cent will go into the hands of the forest bureaucracy in Washington and elsewhere.

In this business the need of home rule conservation, by people of the State of Oregon, presents itself with added force. Local administration would minimize this waste of overripe timber. Besides, it would turn into the treasury of the people of Oregon the proceeds of timber sales. This money would serve the uses of residents of Oregon; would build roads, support schools and colleges, and relieve property owners of tax burdens.

In many places of this country trees are wasting in the reserves. Such places, wherever possible, should be growing new crops of timber. Conservation should mean production of new crop as well as protection of growing crop. These are matters which can be attended to best through local control. Even the National Government, in order to carry on its official system, is forced to resort to a pretense of local administration, with offices in the Beck building, Portland.

People of Oregon have immediate and direct interest in the resources of their state. Compared with their interest, that of the people of the whole United States is remote. This difference means a great deal in the business of real and honest conservation.

We are living in an age of wonders, but nothing more wonderful or approaching so near the uncanny has yet been reported than the stopping of a speeding train by a wireless wave. The invention reported in an Ottawa dispatch in yesterday's Oregonian, if perfected so that it can be depended on at all times, will be of invaluable aid in saving life and property. Nearly all of the greatest railroad wrecks of the past half century have been caused by misunderstanding of orders and the inability of those who discovered the error to reach the flying trains. The Westinghouse air-brake made high speed on railroads possible, the block signal contributed largely to the safety of fast trains and the wireless control over the trains would seem to be the most important aid to the other safeguards that has yet been invented.

Commander Hodges, of the Department of the Great Lakes, is the last prominent man to call attention to the alleged ease with which the Japanese could land an army on the Pacific Coast. If we grant for the sake of argument that the views of General Hodges are correct there still remains a question to answer: Why should the Japanese land and capture the Pacific Coast? Japan knows well enough that the United States, with all of its population and wealth, could not be conquered, and that in the end the Nippon army would go down to a defeat that would become historic. This being the inevitable end of any kind of a "ruction" that Japan might care to start, there does not seem to be any immediate danger of the little brown men starting the preliminary successes that are to end in ultimate defeat.

Response of Portland music lovers to the invitation to a concert at the Heilig yesterday afternoon was so hearty and genuine, and the performance was in every way so excellent that it safely may be assumed the demand is here for the semi-monthly entertainments proposed for the Winter. Appreciation is all that is asked by the seventy singers who generously volunteered their talent to the musical uplift of the community.

Perhaps it might be well for Mr. U'Ren to offer a part of that Fels single tax fund as a prize for the best solution of the latest initiative problem—what was the whole number of votes cast for Justice of the Supreme Court in the recent election?

By an error of the telegraph operator, Portland's bank clearings were made to show a decrease of 9.2 per cent, when, in fact, there was an increase of 9.2 per cent. Here is evidence of what damage a misplaced thing like this * can do.

With Japanese moving freely in every part of the United States and thousands of them domiciled on the Pacific Coast, does any American flatter himself into the belief that the Mikado is not advised as to our military unpreparedness?

At last it has dawned on the minds of a few military authorities in Washington that the Pacific Coast is vulnerable. This weakness can be corrected by a battleship fleet. The cost of shifting this defense from the Atlantic is negligible.

That poor, old, off-colored Queen of the Sandwich Islands would be satisfied with $200,000 from the territorial treasury. As she gets a pension of $25 a day, it is likely somebody is using her.

The advent of twins in "Mr. Dooley's" family may account for his inability to furnish "copy" for The Sunday Oregonian. There are times when a humorist just can't be funny.

His bean crop pays an Applegate valley farmer $150 an acre. The lowly bean is not so big or so handsome as the red-cheeked apple, but is fully as dependable.

If any thirteenth census officers are called upon to journey up or down the North Pacific Coast it is safe to presume that they will pass over Tacoma by airship.

The fact that there is $2,000,000 in the Capitol building fund is no little cause of agitation for removal from Olympia of the Washington seat of government.

In allowing women to smoke in public places, the Bay City is again tempting Providence.

A STENOGRAPHER OF EARLY DAYS

Benn Pitman, Brother of Deviser of Shorthand, Reported Surratt Trial.

Boston Globe.

Millions of people have heard of Benn Pitman, who for more than half a century has been master of shorthand, especialy in America, and they readily associate his name with the teaching of stenography, or phonography, as it was called in his earlier days. As to his interesting history and dual accomplishments, however, the public knows little or nothing.

He was born in England in 1822, and was educated in a school taught by his brother, Sir Isaac Pitman, who was eight years his senior. It was Isaac who first devised a system of shorthand in 1837, and the 15-year-old lad begun its study at once. Soon he was teaching Isaac's classes, forming ones of his own, and by the age of 20 was traveling all over Great Britain with two of his brothers and one or two other enthusiasts in promulgating the new art.

Early in his boyhood he became imbued with a love of decorative architecture, and apprenticed himself to that calling and joined a brother in Australia, but was soon called back to take the phonography classes of his brother, Jacob. This vocation Benn found more immediately remunerative, and in 1849 he married, and three years later came to America, and after a brief time in Philadelphia he went to the far West and settled in Cincinnati—his home ever after.

It was not long before he was called to fill the role of official recorder of military commissions, Congressional investigations and other official phonographic work, and after the assassination of President Lincoln he reported the trial of Mrs. Surratt and other conspirators, and subsequently the Buell investigation, the Ku-Klux trials and other famous proceedings, assisted by his wife as copyist up to the time of her death in 1873.

DOUBT OF SPIRIT COMMUNICATION

Opinion Expressed That Many Questioners Will Not Believe.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 15.—(To the Editor.)—Ideas regarding planks that bridge the infinite visible and invisible realms as set forth in a communication in The Oregonian of this date are certainly evidence, at least, of an interest in something beyond the "vale of materiality." What would mankind do without an intelligent hope, at least, of something beyond? Satisfaction with the present is good and well in certain lines—"Contentment with Godliness," as the book says, "is great gain," but aspiration for the future is necessary to happiness complete.

To say that the bounds of the earth as known at present are capable of satisfying all our hopes is hardly true. How can this be remedied? By the transmission of intelligence from the higher or spirit realm to this. The evidence that this has been done is plentiful; examples and incidents throughout history are well authenticated. The doubt or questioning of the same are due not so much to evidence or capacity to examine and determine testimony or evidence, as to the will to admit or acknowledge ascertained fact—to the will, in short, not to know, as said in the old phrase:

A man convinced against his will
Remains a disbeliever still.

If it was only known, there are but few who disbelieve the future existence and the consequent necessity of a possibility of communicating with the same. They may say so, but in their heart of hearts they believe otherwise. To quote Cato, "Else why this longing for immortality?" JAMES DUBOIS.

The Boy and the System.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

This is the story of the boy, the bank, and the system.

The boy came into the bank and laid a half dollar with his bankbook on the receiving teller's window.

"We don't receive deposits of less than a dollar," said the teller.

The boy yielded reluctantly to the system and drew back. But he did not leave the bank. He crossed the corridor and seated himself on a settee.

The teller noticed him sitting there, and also noticed the reflective look on his face.

The boy waited for some time, thinking it over. Finally he arose and went to the paying teller's window. A moment later he confronted the receiving teller.

"I want to deposit this dollar-and-a-half," he said.

The teller grinned.

The boy had just drawn a dollar from his little balance and was using it as an entering wedge for the rejected half dollar.

And so the system was beaten by the boy, and a considerable accession of bookkeeping labor was the price of defeat.

A $33,000 Tapestry "Find."

London Chronicle.

Two pieces of ancient tapestry which were recently discovered at Langford Hill, a Jacobean house near Bude, Cornwall, have been sold for $33,000 at Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's rooms. The purchaser was Captain H. Lindsay.

The principal piece, measuring 13 feet 4 inches by 13 feet 9 inches, was one of a set of panels of Fifteenth Century Arras tapestry, originally belonging to Cardinal Wolsey and representing the seven deadly sins. Three other of the panels are now hanging at Hampton Court Palace. The second piece of tapestry was part of a frieze, 14 feet by 2 feet 4 inches, originally made for Hampton Court Palace. Small pieces of the frieze still hang there in the Great Hall.

The tapestry was found packed away in a box at Langford Hill. The house belongs to two maiden ladies, who were unaware that their roof was harboring such treasures. It was stated in the salesroom that some years ago the panel, packed in a box and described as a carpet, was sold at auction for $7.50.

Streetcars and Ventilation.

PORTLAND, Dec. 17.—(To the Editor.)—Being a new arrival in this beautiful city, I have taken advantage of this pleasant day to see as much of it as possible. Have been to Council Crest and various other show places on the West and East Sides by streetcars. I request to say that, in every car without exception, the indifference to proper ventilation was appalling. One little, dinky transom was at an angle of 80 degrees, sufficient to give one-sixteenth of an inch for the air of heaven to enter, if it cared to get polluted by the various samples of breath within. The good ladies of this city are devoting their time this week selling stamps to fight tuberculosis. Why not devote one-half the proceeds to educate the streetcar employes and passengers to the advantages of ventilating the cars? In this climate a closed car is scarcely a necessity, but as we have them let us breathe uncontaminated air, if possible, by keeping half the transoms open. Respectfully, R. E. B.

Monoplane Named for a Woman.

London Cor. New York World.

The news comes from Pau that yet another aviation school, the third, has been opened there by M. Gremaud, who has built a monoplane of an unusual type. This he calls the "Dunbar," for it was created for a most ambitious young airwoman, Mrs. Jeanne Dunbar. She has been experimenting at Pau with a monoplane built 16 years ago by a relative of hers. The machine is nearly identical with that in which Lilienthal met his death, but an attempt has been made to make it modern by putting in a 25-horsepower motor.

HOW GRESHAM MAN CLEARS LAND

Method Described as Quicker and More Thorough Than Char-pitting.

GRESHAM, Or., Dec. 16.—(To the Editor.)—I have been reading with great interest the articles appearing in The Oregonian about how to get rid of stumps and clear land, and as I am always anxious to learn a new and better way I must say I am disappointed. Char-pitting is the old slow system in use only in remote districts where homesteaders are not in a position to apply a more modern and quicker process. There are disadvantages about char-pitting which ought to be brought out also. Not all stumps burn alike. Many of them will not char at all; more will char only half way, and the few dry, pithy ones char farly well, but the latter class can be burned with a great deal less cost and trouble by boring with holes in a manner hereafter explained and in one-twentieth of the time. A char-pitted stump will burn for five or six months, and during that time must be looked after frequently. After you have finally burned them out you level the ground and begin plowing. You will strike numerous roots that did not char. Then you have to clear your land in part over again if you want it clean.

But after all the stump itself is not the greatest obstacle in clearing land. What about the windfalls, the rotten and half-rotten logs and, last but not least, the hazel, vine maple, alder and other roots? I have had four farms cleared in this county and have had all kinds of men at work. I never hire men that are not experienced in clearing land, as I consider it to be a trade of its own, and as I am a close observer I learned from each one some things of advantage and how to produce the best results from this tiresome and tedious labor.

Land with green, heavy brush should not be taken into consideration, as it is too costly to clear it. It first should be slashed, burned, seeded down and pastured for several years until the small and fine roots rot off, mostly small fir growth.

To clear stump land it takes a team and stump puller, a half-inch steel cable, tackle and block, an auger, bellows, log chains, mattock, axes, shovel and peavey. First, the logs should be placed in piles, the bigger the better. A fire started in the evening will consume all except a few bits by morning. After the logs are all burned the ground should be picked clean of all small stuff so it will not be covered up by the blasting afterwards. These fragments put in piles and burn also. In logs that will not burn and are too heavy to move, bore holes every four feet to the center, one hole from the side where the wind comes from, and one from the top striking the other hole to make a draft. Take hardwood coals, drop in the top hole and blow a little through the side hole. That finishes the log if it is not too rotten and wet. There will be only pieces left to be gathered together again. Then treat your windfalls the same way, boring as close to the root as possible. There will not be a root left in there that you cannot break off or pull out with a stump puller. Some will not burn as readily as others, but this can be helped by throwing large chunks or small logs in the fire. This all ought to be done before the Fall rains set in. Now, the land is in clean shape and you can get around your stumps without difficulty. Some farmers call that cleared land already and cultivate around the stumps.

Now comes the blasting of the stumps, which should all be done together. Pick up all the small stuff again, put up your machine and pull your stumps in pieces first the best that you can, which will loosen the hard ones. Most of them will come out by cracking them in two with one stick of powder after boring a hole in them. They will pull more easily in the direction away from the center. One thing is sure, when they are pulled out they are all out—there is nothing left.

Now comes the burning of the roots. Save all the big holes behind the windfalls, start a fire in these depressions and keep dragging your roots into them. They will burn well in there without being piled up, as would be required on level ground. Blasting works best when the ground is soft, and one has to find out how much powder to use to crack a stump into four or five pieces and not throw it clear out. The blast should by all means be set under the center of the stump, even if you have to make several holes to get to the right place. You will save by it.

If the Oregon people who have the development of the country at heart and who wish to get the land cleared, would subscribe to stock enough to start a powder manufactory, and agree to accept a return of 6 per cent on the investment, there would soon be a change in the country. The powder trust would be done away with so far as Oregon is concerned, and we would then very likely get powder for $6 a hundred instead of $12, which the trust charges. The cry now among the farmers is the price of powder—and still going up. Respectfully, MR. FRANK.

A Girl's Essay on Girls.

Exchange.

A girl is a half educated animal who has learned to conceal her ignorance by certain useless accomplishments. She is a colloquial noun, an objective pronoun, a transitive verb, an osculatory adverb, a qualitative adjective, a doubtful article, an inconstant conjunction, a frequent interjection and sometimes a past perfect participle, and more often a future perfect.

She is conjugated thus:
I flirt.
I marry—wed.
You kiss.
I am kissed.
I will be engaged.
I can, should or would be married.
To be divorced.
Divorcing.

She belongs to the feminine gender, except as a suffragist, and is in any tense.

She is rarely declined, except when in the past perfect.

Buffalo Has "Moving Picture" Censor.

New York Tribune.

Buffalo has a censor of moving picture films. He's Police Captain Forrestal, appointed by Superintendent Regan after a series of juvenile derelictions said to have been traced to suggestions in the views at 5-cent theaters. Captain Forrestal tells the Buffalo News that the pictures he's seen so far have "so many hugs and kisses" in them, and he proposes to reform that at once. Captain Forrestal's work is made comparatively easy, as there is one general clearing house for all the films used in Buffalo. The managers of the amusement places are not taking kindly to his supervision at all. They say that the films they use are all "censored" in Chicago before they are sent out. The Buffalo police retort that Chicago and Buffalo are not in the same class morally, and that their say goes.

Oh, Girls, Dimples Are Going Out!

New York Telegraph.

Annabelle Whitford makes the startling announcement that dimples are going out of date, and she really should be considered an authority on the subject, since she lately had a slight operation performed on her face which removed two of these generally termed "beauty spots."

"When dimples were solely a gift of nature," she says, "they were really attractive, and as much to be desired as a head of golden hair; but what chemicals have done for the would-be blonde, beauty doctors have accomplished for the women who crave a dimpled cheek, and now it is as hard to distinguish the surgeon-made dimple from the real article as it is to tell the drug store blonde from the real golden head."

Life's Sunny Side

William H. Berry, recent Keystone candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania, told this story during the campaign, illustrative of one of the points in a speech he sought to bring out with emphasis:

"Mary and Charley went down to Atlantic City together to spend the day. They went in bathing in the afternoon. Charley was first on the beach and rolling in the sand, after his first dip, when Mary appeared from the bathhouse.

"Charley jumped up as Mary approached, dressed in pink, and said with all the ardor of his pent-up affection:

"'Gee, you're so sweet I could kiss you.'

"'Why don't you?' the girl retorted.

"'Well, because I have some sand in my mouth,' stammered the bashful youth.

"'Swallow that sand this minute and come kiss me,' the girl ordered. 'If I guess right you need some of that sand in your system.'"—Washington Herald.

* * *

The class were having a lesson in geography, and were learning the points of the compass.

"Now, Tommy Jones," said the teacher, "you have in front of you the north, on your right the east, on your left the west. What have you behind you?"

After a moment's reflection Tommy explained

"A patch on my trousers."

And to make the information more binding Tommy continued in a shamefaced manner:

"I knew you'd see it; I told mother you would!"—Washington Star.

* * *

As every Southerner knows, elderly colored people rarely know how old they are, and almost invariably assume an age much greater than belongs to them. In an Atlanta family there is employed an old chap named Joshua Bolton who has been with that family and the previous generation for more years than they can remember. In view, therefore, of his advanced age, it was with surprise that his employer received one day an application for a few days off in order that the old fellow might, as he put it, "go up to de ole State of Virginny" to see his aunt.

"Your aunt must be pretty old," was the employer's comment.

"Yassir," said Joshua, "she's pretty ole now. I reckon she's 'bout a hundred and ten years ole."

"One hundred and ten! But what on earth is she doing up in Virginia?"

"I don't jest know," explained Joshua, "but I understand she's up dere living wif her grandmother."—Harper's Weekly.

* * *

B. Davis Noxon was one of the ablest lawyers in Central New York. A young man entered his office as a student and was given Blackstone to study. At the end of a month he asked Mr. Noxon what he should read next. "Do you understand Blackstone?" "Yes," was his answer. "Read Kent," was the order. In another month he announced that he had finished Kent, and "What next?" "Have you read Blackstone and Kent?" "Yes." "Do you understand them?" "Yes." "Well," said Mr. Noxon, "you had better go at some other business; you are too smart to be a lawyer."—Kansas City Star.

CANADA HAS GREAT WILDERNESS

Area 15 Times the Size of Ohio Has Population of 500.

James Orville Curwood, in Leslie's.

There are vast areas in Canada of which even the Government has no definite knowledge, and there are thousands of square miles where the foot of a white man has never trod. Practically all knowledge of this big, wild country has been secured, again and again, along a few chosen and well-worn routes, outside of which investigation has seldom gone. One of these routes is to Hudson Bay by way of the Missinaibi, another to York Factory by way of the Nelson, a third to Fort Churchill by way of the Churchill River, a fourth over the surveyed line of the proposed railroad to the bay, and the one route to the country of the Athabasca is via the Reindeer Lake and Churchill River waterways.

Imagine a dozen or so well-beaten vehicle highways traversing a country one-fourth as large as Europe—narrow highways hemmed in by impenetrable wilderness—and one may form some sort of an idea of the little that is still known of 600,000 square miles of the North American Continent. Along these routes nearly all "explorers" have gone. Along them are situated most of the fur posts, and beyond their narrow lines but little is known. And in this world of forest and ridge mountains and eternal desolation, still buried in the mystery and silence of endless centuries, are its "people." Approximately there are from 15,000 to 25,000 human souls in an area of 15 times the size of Ohio, and there are no more than 500 of these who have not some Indian blood in their veins. On the other hand, fully one-half of the total population has its strain of white blood.

One Way of Obeying Orders.

Youth's Companion.

In one of the companies of a Wisconsin militia regiment are two students of Lawrence College, who are studying for the ministry. While the regiment was at Camp Douglass this Summer some of the boys of the company thought to have a little fun at the expense of the two ministers. When the beer, which someone had sent to the regiment as a treat, was to be served, they asked their captain if the two ministers might serve it.

He said they might. The boys were jubilant, and served notice of their new duty to the two students. One of them refused to have anything to do with it, but the other—Private Keith—took the notice, which read: "The beer must be served on the grounds, and no man must get drunk," and said he would obey it. He went to his lieutenant and asked him if the company might be held at parade-rest while he served the beer. He was assured that it should be done.

Private Keith then rolled the keg up in front of his company, knocked out the bung and let the beer out on the ground. When it had all run out, he turned to his lieutenant, gave the salute, and said:

"Lieutenant, I have served the beer on the grounds and I am sure no man is drunk."

Thunder and Lightning.

Ladies' Home Journal.

A bishop came to visit a church where a colored minister was presiding. Loudly and with much gesticulation the preacher proclaimed salvation. When he had finished, he approached the bishop and asked how he liked the sermon.

The bishop answered: "Why, pretty well; but don't you think you spoke too loud?"

"Well," said the preacher, "it's this way: What I lacks in lightning I tries to make up in thunder."

Death From Misprint.

London Globe.

A book of anecdotes of famous physicians by Gustav Hochstetter and George Zebden has been issued in Berlin. Dr. Marcus Herz is credited with saying to a patient who read medical books diligently in order to prescribe for himself: "Be careful, my friend. Some fine day you'll die of a misprint."

Professor Langenbeck in speaking of the increase in surgical practice said: "The human family may be divided into two parts—one operates and the other is operated upon."