The Oregonian

PORTLAND, OREGON.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as Second-class matter.
Subscription Rates—Invariably in Advance.

(BY MAIL.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	$8.00
Daily, Sunday included, six months	4.25
Daily, Sunday included, three months	2.25
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75
Daily, without Sunday, one year	6.00
Daily, without Sunday, six months	3.25
Daily, without Sunday three months	1.75
Daily, without Sunday, one month	.60
Weekly, one year	1.50
Sunday, one year	2.50
Sunday and Weekly, one year	3.50

(BY CARRIER.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	9.00
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75

How to Remit—Send Postoffice money order, express order or personal check on your local bank. Stamps, coin or currency are at the sender's risk. Give postoffice address in full, including county and state.

Postage Rates—10 to 14 pages, 1 cent; 16 to 28 pages, 2 cents; 30 to 40 pages, 3 cents; 40 to 60 pages, 4 cents. Foreign postage, double rate.

Eastern Business Offices—Verree & Conklin—New York, Brunswick building. Chicago, Steger building.

San Francisco Office—R. J. Bidwell Co., 742 Market street.

European Office—No. 3, Regent street, S. W., London.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1, 1913.

THE STORY THE ANNUAL EDITION TELLS.

The Oregonian today, in its special Annual Edition, presents a resume of activities in Oregon during 1912. It is a wonderful chapter in a series that extends little more than a half century, but which grows more remarkable with each succeeding twelve-month. Just a glance through these pages will reveal convincing evidence of prosperity that has nowhere been surpassed. But careful reading will be found worth while. They show that the wealth of Oregon is beyond computation, that the advancement of Oregon is with seven-league boots, that the opportunities in Oregon are manifold.

Seldom have the uncertainties of a Presidential year had less effect on material progress than in 1912. In Oregon the political campaign failed even to slacken the onward march. Our prosperity is based on the solid foundation of unlimited resources, expanding markets, increasing population and an assured future. With such assets, what can retard our progress?

* * *

Nineteen-twelve brought many good things to Oregon, but none more important than the revival of the lumber industry. Changes in transcontinental freight rates in 1907 caused a decline in lumbering that continued until early in the past year. Mills that had operated day and night to meet demands worked on half-time or were closed down. Every member of the vast army that gains its livelihood from the forest wealth, Oregon's major resource, was affected in some degree.

Conditions have combined to regain this lost ground. In the year mill after mill increased its cut until the estimated output of the 700 wood-working plants, 2,500,000,000 feet, is high water mark. Advance orders are heavy, better shipping facilities are at hand, and the value of annual lumber sales will soon pass $30,000,000, the approximate total for 1912.

In the production of other commodities, too, Oregon has gained prestige as a manufacturing state. The Federal census figures for 1910, recently available, place the total volume of manufactured products in Oregon at $93,005,000. Five years earlier they were estimated at $52,007,775. What gain has been made since 1910 can only be surmised.

It is a marvelous showing and yet only to be expected. The 2246 manufactories, supporting 28,750 wage earners, are operating because conditions here are just right. Almost alone as a shipping center in a territory estimated at 240,000 square miles, Portland offers a great field to the manufacturer, and, through Portland as the gateway, the same advantages are offered in other Oregon cities. Ocean shipping and unlimited water power are great factors in the manufacturing growth. More and more, Oregon will cease to depend on the East for the commodities she needs. More and more she will send "Made-in-Oregon" goods into surrounding states and by water to Alaska and the Orient.

Portland early seized leadership as the manufacturing center of the Pacific Northwest. It not only holds that advantage, but is second on the Pacific Coast to San Francisco and is gaining on the city by the Golden Gate for pre-eminence in the West.

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Bountiful harvests blessed Oregon in 1912. Abundance was the farmer's portion, for every crop of grain, grass, fruit and vegetable thrived, and dairying, livestock and poultry husbandry, three of the chief agricultural industries, prospered. Reliable estimates place the value of all agricultural products of the state at $123,735,483. Truly a stupendous total for a sparsely-settled state that has thousands on thousands of acres of tillable land still untouched.

Oregon livestock is valued at $82,645,942, and the 1912 output of livestock was worth $33,150,000. It is an industry of great promise and there is hardly a farmer in the state who does not share to some extent in its returns. The maintenance of an open market at Portland and the development of the packing industry are responsible for the greater attention devoted to stock-raising. The Northwestern States the past year marketed $2,000 more hogs than in 1911. That the hog is a mortgage-lifter is well known, but, let it be recorded here, nowhere is the farm mortgage a rarer document than in Oregon, and, generally speaking, profits from the hog, as well as from all else the farmer sells, are set aside to provide a living and a comfortable competence.

There is cause for gratification that Oregon at last has awakened to the fact it is not necessary to import eggs and poultry. Two years ago more than eighty carloads of eggs were shipped into the state. In the past year exports offset imports, and in 1913 probably not a single shipment of eggs will be received. The production of eggs has increased two-thirds in twelve months. The poultry and egg output for the year is valued at $7,250,000. The Oregon hen has come into her own.

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Dairying, with an aggregate output worth $16,750,000, has fully held its ground. Other 1912 totals are: Hay, $12,367,809; wheat, $12,200,000; fruit, $7,107,000; oats, $5,250,000; hops, $3,650,000; wool, $3,000,000, and the minor products make a large additional total.

While the fruit crop is the most valuable recorded, prices, particularly for apples, were not as high as in previous years. The great need is closer co-operation in selling. There are indications that this need will be met by next season.

There are other sources adding to the golden stream that flows into Oregon. The Columbia River yielded $4,000,000 in salmon fisheries, or $30 for every acre of its broad surface from the Cascades to its mouth. Eight thousand men gathered in this silver harvest and 40,000 people were supported on the river's bounty. Mines added $3,229,000 to the receipts, a total that will be increased considerably this year.

* * *

But what of Portland, the metropolis not only of the state, but of the entire Oregon country? There is only one possible answer. Portland has prospered as the country has prospered. Indeed, the only circumstance to be regretted is that the rural districts, with all their advancement, have not kept pace with Portland's overwhelming growth. In material gains, in growing population, in social betterment, Portland has never halted. Of all its years of development none has been more satisfactory than 1912.

Visitors to the Lewis and Clark Exposition found Portland an enterprising city, but not metropolitan in appearance. Work was just beginning on the Wells-Fargo building, the pioneer of our present skyscraper era. In the five years since then $95,293,770 has been spent on building construction, and some of the results may be seen in the pictorial section of The Oregonian today. The building permits issued in the last three years amount to more than $55,000,000. No other city of equal size can match this showing. The erection of residences has kept pace with the phenomenal record in construction of towering office blocks. A statistician has found that for a period of five years each fifty-four minutes of every working day has witnessed the completion of a new home in Portland.

* * *

Portland's building growth is by no means the only evidence of progress. Statistics tell us that our bank clearings in 1912 amounted to $592,000,000, a gain of $34,535,152 over 1911; that postal receipts were $1,107,182.42, an increase of $103,699.71 above 1911. There are no better criterions than these.

Portland is taking care to provide for its greater future. In 1912 $4,484,857 was spent for street and sewer improvements. The total length of hard-surface streets was increased to 272 miles. For new school buildings and grounds the city paid $951,960.95. Extensions of the water system cost $790,041, money was invested in parks and playgrounds, one immense bridge across the Willamette was completed and another was nearly finished, while work progressed on a $1,500,000 Courthouse. The erection of a $450,000 central library building and the establishing of Reed College in its permanent buildings are also worthy of comment.

* * *

And what of the future? The Panama Canal will soon expand our markets and add impetus to the development that is under way. The south jetty at the entrance to the Columbia River is completed and work is under way on the north jetty, assuring a forty-foot depth over the bar. The Port of Portland is deepening the river channel, and the Celilo canal will soon give us direct shipping connections with the interior, while public docks will be added to our harbor accommodations. New buildings to be under way early this year will cost $5,000,000, with prospects that the construction outlay for the year will exceed $20,000,000.

Of inestimable importance to Portland and to the state is the electric railroad development now under way. By the end of 1913, 673 miles of these lines will be in operation, a far greater mileage than is tributary to any other Western city except Los Angeles. The steam railroads, too, are still investing money in Oregon, in an extension to Coos Bay, an east-and-west line from Vale, the Natron cut-off of the Southern Pacific, and terminal projects in Portland.

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Tennyson's wanderers came upon "a land where all things always seem'd the same," but it was far from Oregon. Here the spirit of the West holds sway, the spirit of change, of accomplishment. Marvels have been wrought, but they are only a beginning. An empire remains to be developed.

AFTER MARCH FOURTH.

"If," cries the New York World in double leads, "if Mr. Bryan should become a member of President Wilson's Cabinet," and if Speaker Champ Clark should not behave himself with becoming decorum toward the great man who caused his (Clark's) loss of the Democratic nomination—we are not now quoting the World's exact language, but are giving it in spirit and substance—it will be high time for the Democratic House of Representatives to get another Speaker.

The mumblings and the rumblings increase in volume and force. The Democrats who fancied that Speaker Clark and Mr. Underwood would accept meekly the exaltation of Mr. Bryan now know better.

There are other ifs in the situation. If Mr. Bryan should accept the proffer of President Wilson to a Cabinet position; and if he should find that the President intended to forget or ignore the explicit platform declaration for a single term for all Presidents—what then? Or if Mr. Bryan and Mr. Wilson have already had an understanding on that important question, and if it should transpire that Mr. Wilson will gracefully retire and leave the way open for Mr. Bryan in 1916—what then?

ONE DEMOCRATIC DELUSION.

The Albany Democrat is anxious to be "enlightened as to the claims of Mr. Joseph N. Teal upon the Democracy of the state and Nation for a place in the Cabinet of a Democratic President," and it directs a series of questions to the sponsors of the Teal candidacy for Secretaryship of the Interior, mainly designed to disclose his unorthodox political record and antecedents.

Possibly it is not important, though some Oregon Democrats think it is, to trace Mr. Teal's political activities, if there are any Teal political activities; but common rumor has it that he is a Democrat, and supported Mr. Wilson for President in 1912, and various other Democratic candidates prior to that election, though he was diverted to the fusion ticket for Governor in the memorable year (1898), when Mr. King, the rival claimant to the Secretaryship, ran for Governor as a Populist and as a Democrat. In the dark days of 1896, when Mr. Bryan was calling on every loyal Democrat to stand by his silver-mounted guns, Mr. Teal may or may not have wavered between partisan duty and plain common sense. We do not know. That was the year, we believe, when Mr. King got lost in the Populist forest, and emerged with an election as State Senator—as a Populist. These things are not mentioned in the spirit of reproach or of controversy; merely to indicate the qualifications of your true Democrat.

What is a Democrat? How long must one have been a Democrat to be eligible to a Democratic job? Must he have been faithful to the losing cause during the lean and hungry years when no Democrat could hope for anything, unless he connubiated with the disaffected wing of the Republicans, as Chamberlain and West, and even Our Harry, the embryonic Senator, did? Or may he profess to be a Democrat and a non-partisan at the same time, for which there is distinguished precedent in the case of Hon. W. R. King in his candidacy for the Supreme Bench in 1910?

Apparently the Albany Democrat is under the strange impression that the Democrats alone carried Oregon in 1912 for Mr. Wilson. If Mr. Wilson had received only the votes of the Democrats who voted for him, he would not have carried Oregon.

SENATOR KERN, ATTORNEY AT LAW.

The law prohibits any member of Congress from appearing as an attorney in a private employment before any of the departments of the Government; and sometimes it is enforced. The sound policy of the inhibitory statute is obvious. No man can serve two masters; a Senator or Representative may easily confuse the public interest with his personal or professional interest.

Senator Borah, of Idaho, has publicly announced that so long as he shall represent his state in Congress he will not appear anywhere for any private client. He has sought to procure the enactment of a law by Congress that will elevate the members of that body to the standard of conduct which he has marked out for himself, and has faithfully followed. But Congress neglects or ignores his proposal. The reasons are no doubt sufficient to the individual members.

A flagrant case of an outright violation of the proprieties and the decencies is the appearance of Senator Kern, of Indiana, at Indianapolis, as chief counsel, or one of them, for the guilty dynamiters. A conspicuous officer of the United States, he was paid to act as an attorney to defeat the effort of the Government to convict and punish a lawless group of men who had joined in a conspiracy to defy the laws, destroy property of great value, and take human life. He absented himself from his duties at Washington to conduct the defense of the conspirators, and he announces now that he will exhaust every resource of the law to procure their final acquittal and release. Yet Senator Kern—Private Counselor and Attorney Kern—knows these dynamiters are guilty, and he knew before the verdict that some of them are guilty.

The penalty for practices like Senator Kern's ought to be ineligibility to serve in the United States Senate.

DEVELOPING A NEGLECTED ART.

London is going to have an exposition, and a very unusual sort of an exposition it is to be. It will not take into account the industrial and commercial development of the British Empire nor will it relate in any way to art and science in that vast domain. Rather, it will be confined to an exploitation of the simple life with particular reference to domestic felicity.

The promoters of the London exposition profess to believe that there are courses of conduct that bring happiness and which may be reduced to rules that are easily and conveniently followed. So the displays will be arranged to bring out effectively these ideas. There will be waxen lay groups to develop accepted theories of domestic harmony, while arrays of placards will set out rules of right conduct.

Such an exposition should be productive of great good. Even as agriculture, commerce, industry, science, literature and art receive immense benefits from exhibits, so should the undeveloped and somewhat neglected art of domestic felicity receive immense stimulus through free interchange of ideas among those who have made little discoveries in successful and happy home life. Discord, as everyone knows, is altogether too common in the home, and nothing is quite so destructive of contentment. Domestic felicity, on the other hand, provides the ideal existence. Hence the importance of teaching the subtle processes whereby happy home life is maintained cannot be emphasized too strongly. Expositions such as London's should come to be as popular as they are bound to be profitable.

ROAD TO SUBSTANTIAL JUSTICE.

John Henry Wigmore, in his Pocket Code of Rules of Evidence, sets forth certain principles which, if dominating in spirit as well as letter, he believes, will remove the curse of technicality from our system of evidence. One of these principles, the chief perhaps, is embodied in the following rule:

An erroneous ruling by the trial judge in admitting or excluding evidence shall not be a ground for ordering a new trial or otherwise reversing a judgment, if the jury's verdict without the erroneously admitted evidence, or with the erroneously excluded evidence, ought nevertheless to have been to the same effect as actually rendered.

Substantially the same provision is in the Oregon constitution. That document provides as follows:

If the Supreme Court shall be of opinion, after consideration of all the matters thus submitted, that the judgment of the court appealed from was such as should have been rendered in the case, such judgment shall be affirmed notwithstanding any error committed during the trial.

It is said by some lawyers that this amendment of the constitution has not avoided reversals ordered on the ground of actually immaterial error. But perhaps there are two view points, depending on whether the lawyer who thus criticises secured or defeated the reversal he has in mind. Moreover, probably no rule could be devised that would be absolute in its operation. The Oregon rule leaves to the "opinion" of the court whether substantial justice has been done regardless of error committed by the lower court. A court that is mentally inclined to make a fetich of technicality is likewise prone to exaggerate in its own mind the effect failure to observe that technicality has had upon the judgment of the trial court. Wigmore reaches this sensible conclusion:

All the rules in the world will not give us substantial justice if the judges have not the correct living moral attitude toward substantial justice. We hear much lately about Pragmatism. Whatever else it teaches, one truth it assures us plainly, that in the long run a man's concrete beliefs and actions are shaped and selected for him by the controlling power of his underlying disposition. What the law of evidence and of procedure nowadays most needs is that the men who are judges shall firmly dispose themselves to get at the truth and the merits of the case before them. Until they have become of this disposition and spirit, the mere body of rules, however scientific, however sensible, however apt for justice, will minister to them in vain.

Nearly every member of the bar is no doubt acquainted with or knows of some other member whose underlying disposition is to accord high importance to set forms and small technicalities. The tendency crops out in every-day legal practice. Such men are not the best fitted for the bench. The bar has a powerful influence in the selection of judges. It can help along toward reform of judicial procedure by discouraging the ambition that any such lawyers may acquire to be elevated to the bench.

PROBLEMS OF GOOD ROADS.

The appropriation of large sums by the state governments to build trunk roads through the country ought to encourage every small community to improve its local communications. There ought not to be the slightest conflict between the promoters of the trunk lines of roads and the villages situated at a distance from their course. Cross roads are of little value until the main thoroughfares have been built. When that fundamental work has been done they become invaluable. Both tasks should proceed together. The state can not do everything. Much must be left to the public-spirited initiative of separate communities. One essential preliminary is to get rid of the feeling that work done for the public is wasted. It is not wasted. It is often the most profitable kind of work in direct money returns. A man who sends his team and hands to build a piece of road with no expectation of pay will receive returns in the increased value of his lands. Clubs should be formed in every village to work for good roads, and they should be ready to spend money freely in addition to the regular road taxes.

We shall never have good roads in Oregon and Washington until individuals learn that the money spent upon them is a good investment. In no other way can it be made to return as heavy interest. This lesson has been learned in some places, but in many others it has still to be taught. Farmers are too apt to look upon funds spent on roads as so much dead loss. The truth is that nothing pays so well. There are many little things which public-spirited men in every community can do to help the cause. They can build and use the "split-log drag," which has proved so useful upon the roads wherever it has been tried. Instructions for making this simple implement are given in one of the Government bulletins, which may be obtained gratis by writing to the Department of Agriculture. Moreover, each man who wishes well to the cause of good roads ought to go out now and then and actually fill up some mudhole or drain some miserable slough. He will thus set a good example which neighbors may possibly follow in the course of time. This part of the world will never attract settlers as it should until we have solved the problem of good roads, and that problem will never be solved until every individual learns to do his part.

The Washington man who has the alphabet engraved on a pinhead possesses an interesting curiosity, but there are greater marvels of a similar nature. The Lord's Prayer has been engraved on a silver penny, which is a minute coin. More wonderful still, the Declaration of Independence has been written within the space of a square inch. It is possible, by photography, to present the contents of a big book on a lantern slide. Perhaps some day libraries will be preserved in that way. If they are not condensed in some way they will crowd everything else out of the world.

The city health officer's warning against smallpox will be heeded by the wise. This is the time of year when that disease is especially virulent, on account of close housing and bad air. Dr. Wheeler counsels careful attention to vaccination. The immunity which it confers lasts for several years, but not for a lifetime. Unless one has been vaccinated within seven or eight years a physician should be consulted. Those who have never been vaccinated should attend to the duty at once.

Everybody supposed Jesse Pomeroy had become quite docile after serving nearly forty years in the Massachusetts State Prison. But his attempt to escape shows that while life exists there is hope of freedom.

An Army officer says the attention one of his effusions attracted dismayed him. It was the audacity of his work, rather than any poetic qualities, that attracted the attention, however.

The new year will not appear altogether joyous to the dynamiters at Fort Leavenworth. Though relieved of anxiety and uncertainty, they are likewise stripped of hope.

No great modification of their demands is promised by the Turkish emissaries. Obviously Turkish diplomacy surpasses Turkish military prowess.

A Eugene man was killed by a hunter who mistook him for a deer. The excuse is a poor one in the closed season.

Storm warnings may come to be needed on street corners if this excess of relative humidity continues.

Having escaped the gallows, Taylor hopes for pardon, and many fair-minded people think he deserves it.

A local Socialist oration was stopped by a parrot. Usually that's what starts one.

Nineteen-thirteen finds Portland sitting tight on the pinnacle of prosperity.

Isn't The Oregonian's pride in itself pardonable this morning?

If Oregon cannot get into the Cabinet we might try for a bureau.

The rah rah boys yell their swan song today.

Castro is held at Ellis Island for fumigation.

The water wagon is on its way.

Practice writing it 1913.

DEFECTS SEEN IN PRIMARY LAW.

Republican Charges That Foes of Party Use Sly Trickery.

PORTLAND, Dec. 30.—(To the Editor.)—Will not the Legislature offer us a real primary law? The most ardent defenders of our present primary admit that it is defective. Only one party has made an honest effort to comply with the terms of the present law, and that party has been helplessly divided.

The Democratic party has treated the law more as a joke than as a practical plan of procedure. So disintegrating and destructive of party are the provisions of our primary law that the voters who were hostile to the Republican party and desired its defeat voted almost unanimously for it. Honorable men who made no concealment of the fact that they did not desire the success of the party most affected, might well apologize for meddling with the preliminary proceedings of the party against which they were contending. The Republican who would interfere with a Prohibition nomination, especially when he did not purpose voting for its nominee, would dishonor clean politics. Our primary law, with its pretense of being for the party's good, provides that the men who petition for the nomination of a friend are further authorized to nominate an indefinite number of candidates for the same office, thus rendering an intelligent vote difficult, if not impossible. This furnishes ground for arraigning our foes for the deliberate use of trickery and strategy to disorganize the Republican party.

Add to this the irrational petition which does not vouch for the candidate possessing a single virtue requisite for filling the office sought, or any promise that the petitioner was favorable to the election of the candidate, and we brand the law as a false pretense to reform.

That the law has disorganized the only party that it was supposed to benefit, certainly justifies rational amendment.

Every organization is entitled to be organized by its friends free of interference from its foes. Opposing political parties to which a primary does not apply should be barred from any voice in making the details by which its adversary shall choose its nominees.

Let all nonsense be cut out of our primary be requiring petitions to be signed by actual supporters of candidates. Make it impossible for a clique to name a comrade, and then with the same signatures bring out other candidates to divide the votes they cannot secure for their man. Allow interested electors to petition a desired citizen to become a candidate, so that an acceptance completes a candidacy.

Make it a misdemeanor for a voter to register willfully and falsely to aid in the nomination of a man he does not expect to support at election. If more than three candidates seek the same office on a primary ticket, let a reasonable time be prescribed during which voters may eliminate names by addressing postal cards duly certifying their choice of candidates for such office to the County Clerk until all but three names are eliminated, then allow the making of first and second choice at the primary.

Some such plan will give a real primary, instead of a farce, and men who now grow eloquent over "the rule of the dear people" will seek some other calling than circulating bogus petitions in advocacy of straw candidates. The game of registering under one title to aid in nominating the men they hope to defeat, and caucusing to agree upon the man of their real choice, has certainly been overworked in Oregon.

The writers who have gone into hysterics for fear the Republican party would center on a candidate, when in fact the writer never voted the Republican ticket in his life, have had their amusement.

No method of election can entirely avoid the schemes of professional politics, but if we are going to have a primary, let us make it possible for a majority to elect. REPUBLICAN.

INFLUENCE OF JOSEPH ON JESUS.

It Has Been Underestimated by Critics, Suggests Writer.

HALSEY, Or., Dec. 27.—(To the Editor.)—I have read The Oregonian's recent editorials on Jesus of Nazareth. Especially was my attention attracted to your remarks on the influence of Mary on the education of the boy, because this touches a field in which I have done some little thinking. I think Joseph has been sadly neglected by the critics; that when he is studied more Jesus will be better understood.

Renan says of the home in Nazareth, "Their house would be of the common Eastern type, house and workshop in one, lighted mostly by the door, the light showing curiously mingled the furniture of the family and the tools of the mechanic." What happened in consequence of these surrounding circumstances? Jesus watched Joseph at work, admired and imitated him, wanted to help and liked to be about the place where his father was working. There now came to pass an event which had momentous effects on the future of Jesus. From some source came the suggestion to the boy's mind that God was his father. This allied Jehovah with the object of his heroic admiration, and he clothed Jehovah with a prestige corresponding to his admiration of his father and endowed him with the character of a workman.

This is the background of experience which is lighted up by the reply of the boy to his parents when they found him in the temple at the age of 12, "How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my father's business?" If his mother had wanted to find him in Nazareth she would have known quite well that he must be about the things of his father. He made inferences from his allegory and he supposed that his parents would do likewise. Consequently he was surprised and perplexed that they had not known where to find him.

JESSE H. BOND.

HOW TO BREAK UP A BAD HABIT

Advice of Dr. James on Improving One's Conduct Is Quoted.

PORTLAND, Dec. 31.—(To the Editor.)—Swear off scientifically, under the guidance of no lesser a light than Dr. William James, perhaps the greatest of all American psychologists, who has formulated "four laws of habit" which should prove a boon to the great "army of New Year's 'resolutionists.'"

Each law bears the acid test of common sense, as well as that of all psychological canons.

The prescription is as follows:

"To break up a bad or undesirable habit:

"1. Substitute for it a new habit.

"2. Start the new habit with a strong initiative.

"3. Never permit a single exception to occur (no 'tapering off').

"4. Seize every opportunity to act upon the new habit, thus keeping the faculty of effort alive by constant practice."

We do not hesitate to say that the world could be made over by the observance of these simple "laws of habit." NETTIE H. HEMENWAY.

Potash Supply From Germany.

Kansas City Star.

Potash is extensively used in the United States in gold mining, glass-making, bluing, photography, dyeing, explosives and fertilizers, and most of the supply comes from Germany.

Advantages of a Farmer.

Florida Times-Union.

One advantage of being a farmer is that it enables one to wear out his old clothes without feeling ashamed of himself.

HISTORICITY OF JESUS UPHELD.

Christ Will Survive Bitter Attacks of All Detractors and Enemies.

NEWBERG, Or., Dec. 28.—(To the Editor.)—This is an age of freedom as well as an age of investigation of truth; but what we are pleased to call "the spirit of freedom" is not everywhere identical with truth and right. In one particular, it is the calm determination to be governed only by just and equal laws; in another, the furious desolating despiser of all laws but those of one's own imagination and selfishness. This is seen as well in the discussion of religious truth as in the vindication of assumed principles of civil liberty. There are certain incontrovertible, just and necessary laws to govern us in reasoning as much as in acting, to regulate the investigation of moral and religious, as well as physical and political subjects.

True liberty of mind consists in the right of being governed by these laws and no other, but under the name of "freedom of opinion" some men would dare to set at defiance all the fundamental laws of reasoning and denounce whatever principles of moral and historical evidence are at variance with their imagination. Mr. Rosenwald has evidently permitted his imagination to do violence to his sense of just reasoning and allowed "freedom of opinion" to control his better judgment and has anchored his faith in and based his opinions on in defense of the position against the historicity of Jesus) a work by Professor Smith as sufficient to explode any claims in defense of such a personality.

Were I to submit his contentions to unbiased minds, who recognize the law of just reasoning for critical analysis, its inadequacy and hopelessness would be strikingly apparent and would be stamped a violation of "the laws of reason." The fact that Professor Smith's work is scholarly carries no more weight of authority than the works of other scholarly disciples of infidelity, ancient or modern, whose contentions have been a direct slap at the sources of human knowledge. Persons are the most real and substantial objects of knowledge and touch us at more points and affect us more, and fit more closely into the faculties and powers of our being than anything else in the universe. A person who has influenced us or our fellowmen leaves a more profound, positive and permanent impression than any other fact. The opinion that the scholarship of the future will regard Jesus as a myth is not new, but the basis for such an opinion will have to rest upon something more tangible than the opinions of Professor Smith, however beautifully clothed those opinions may be in correct language. Their inconsistencies have been apparent from the beginning until now. The doctrines which Herbert and Tindal declared to be so evident were wholly given up by Hume; and the scepticism of Hume by D'Alembert, and what of Voltaire and Thomas Paine, who marshaled such an array of scholarly attainments to defeat the claims of Christianity and make ridiculous the faith of the Christian? In one particular only do we find any marks of similarity and sympathy and that is in the vitriolic nature of their attack—their chief stock in trade. Hereafter, says Mr. Rosenwald, the defenders of the historicity of Jesus will have occasion to recede from their position in defense of so historical a fact. Never! Time has not impaired the strength of those positions but materially added to their impregnability.

The result of all criticism, the verdict of common sense, the law of reasoning—all refute the idea of a non-existent Jesus; his personality men could not have imagined if they would, nor would if they could.

It was not a doctrine or theory that sprang up in the East and spread itself over the world. It was a personality and a gospel inseparable, real and imperishable and stands solidly in the history of man. Not a narrative of common history or phenomena of physical science or a principle of political economy has ever been assailed with such fierce bitterness and caustic effrontery and withstood the onslaught and survived all enemies as the truth relating to Jesus and the faith of the Christian. J. MOORE.

SPEND MORE MONEY ON ROADS

Writer Would Also Prevent Autos From Ruining Highways.

EOLA, Or., Dec. 30.—(To the Editor.)—I believe that a vast majority of the farming class will agree with me when I say that under present conditions the improvements of the public roads are keeping pace with the development of the state in other ways, and that the farmers are marketing their crops at present without any serious trouble regarding roads, as practically all crops are marketed before the rainy season commences.

I realize that mudholes in our roads are not desirable, but they are only temporary and are preferable to financial sinkholes that would last for years and could be filled only by additional taxation.

If the automobile class would be satisfied to go joy-riding during about seven or eight months of the year, and would travel by rail a few Winter months, there would not be any serious complaint about the present steady improvement of the public roads.

In conclusion I will say that the farmers and producers generally who conduct the greater part of the business traffic upon our roads are in favor of spending a larger proportion of all taxes upon the public roads, and paying for roads as we build and improve them. And that the road question is, "Shall the traffic-hauler or the joy-rider rule?" What should the answer be?

GEORGE C. MITTY.

A Peep at Roumania.

Exchange.

Roumania, as we print the name on this side of the Atlantic, is not so printed at home. It would be nearer the mark to give the word as Romania. A Roumanian calls himself a "Roman," that is, a citizen of Roman-ia. We should know less than we do of this country of the Balkans, which thus far has kept out of war with Turkey, were it not for "Carmen Sylva," the poet-queen of that land, author of a number of charming fairy stories which have been evolved from the folklore of that people. It is said that the bagpipes and the shepherd's flute are the musical instruments of Roumania, and that the peasant will have nothing to do with the fiddle, which he despises because it is in favor with the gypsies. The roads swarm, it is said, with beggars, whose requests are seldom refused, for the Roumanian peasant has a faith that alms will be returned to him a hundredfold hereafter.

Effects of Color and Climate.

Indianapolis News.

Sweat-glands and a sufficient number thereof proportioned to the climate to regulate the temperature of the body apparently account for the advantage the colored races have as dwellers in the warmer climates over those of the Caucasian race. The Journal of the American Medical Association, commenting on investigations made by Elbert Clark, of the University of the Philippines, at Manila, gives as his findings: That the Malay possesses 12 to 15 per cent more sweat-glands than the white; negroes an excess of 7 per cent, and negritos an excess of 27 per cent for adults and 67 per cent for youths. The Journal is of opinion that the dark-skinned dwellers of the tropics disclose an advantage over white skin, which the latter can offset only by seeking greater shade.

BLASPHEMY FROM THE SOAP BOX.

Conduct of Atheistic Socialist Deplored by Mr. Rowell.

PORTLAND, Dec. 31.—(To the Editor.)—I have been present at several of the soap box debates on religion and Socialism held on our public thoroughfares. Atheistic Socialism seems to be the particular brand that the Socialistic propaganda thinks we are in need of here. Making faces at God seems to be the prime object of the soap box Socialist. For months I have tried to gather from these talks whether Socialism is simply an animosity against religion or a dynamite that is to blow society as it is into atoms. The violent animosity of the soap box orator seems to be in direct proportion to his paucity of ideas. I listened to him for two hours one night to see if he could advance a step beyond vulgar jibes at a God he confessed he knew nothing about. He says not only in his heart but openly, vauntingly, "There is no God." Now, how a man who professes to reason can build a positive demonstration upon a negative proposition, which is itself unproved, I cannot understand, and he fails to make clear, though claiming to demonstrate, that there is no God. I submit that only he who personally has been in every part of this infinite universe can say with assurance, "There is no God," while on the other hand all the powers of Nature speak with a thousand voices, telling us of the God who made and is over all.

Still further, his atheistic Socialism has had its chance. In France, Christ was publicly denied and burned in effigy. Bibles were destroyed. A leading French actor said: "If thou be God, avenge thy injured name. I bid thee defiance. From henceforth who will believe thy existence?" Proudhon says: "If God exists, he is man's enemy." Bebel, in a speech in the German Reichstag, February 3, 1893, said: "We Socialists are against all authority, both heavenly and earthly." Carl Marx says: "Abolition of religion is necessary for the happiness of the people." Morres and Bax, in "Socialism," page 300, says: "The family will be based on mutual inclination and affection, and association terminable at the will of either party."

All this from the boasted and revered leaders of Socialism is but the echo of the gross teachings that plunged France into that bloody Reign of Terror, which sent a shudder of horror over the whole earth. The teachings as above quoted and as advocated on the streets of Portland, would, if carried out here, plunge us into scenes as much worse than the Reign of Terror in France as our country is larger and better equipped with the implements of destruction.

EARLE ALBERT ROWELL.

SOCIALIST DEFINES HIS CREED

Harry Lewis Goes Into the Subject as He Sees It.

PORTLAND, Dec. 27.—(To the Editor.)—An article appearing in The Oregonian lately in which I essayed to give a definite impression of Socialism has received two answers; one from John Olsen and the other from C. W. Barzee. John Olsen is very much inclined to think that because we have never had Socialism, we shall never have it. At any rate it will never amount to anything as it is only a theory.

Now, to begin again at the beginning. Socialism of the present day (and we need consider no other) deals with existing economic conditions in their historic connection; to put it briefly: Socialism is an explanation of the change taking place in society as such it is concerned with two theoretic principles, namely: surplus value and the economic interpretation of history; the one arrived at by an analysis of the capitalist mode of production and distribution, the other by a critical examination of history. Needless to say both are of quite modern origin, since the necessary data was not collected before the present capitalist regime. This is the method of scientific Socialism by which the working class arrives at a clear comprehension of their relations in and the nature of this present system. It points unerringly to the way out of their present insecurity, misery and degredation by democratically managing the socially owned means of obtaining the necessities of life.

The theory of Socialism, then, is not an apocalyptic dream of kingdom come but is concerned with the living present and as such it must be met.

Now, if on one hand, John Olsen, though unacquainted with the theory, nevertheless has a vision of the "ruins of smoking governments and other institutions"; on the other hand, Barzee accepts the theory in full, but balks at its only logical conclusion, the social revolution.

He accuses me of misrepresenting the attitude of the Socialists. Now let us see. This from the platform of the Socialist party of 1912: "The capitalist class absolutely controls the Government—legislative, executive and judicial. It subsidizes seats of learning—the colleges and schools and even religious and moral agencies."

This is a significant statement but let us pass on to the literature officially endorsed by the Socialist party, say to Marx himself. He brings much evidence to show that revolutions occur in society whenever the superstructure of an economic system turns from a means of helping production into "fetters" of production. This superstructure he describes with the very words used by me, namely, "religious, judicial and political institutions." The works of Marx, Lubknecht, Kantsky, DeVille and others all proclaim all modern governments to be an instrument of oppression against the working class and once the coming change is effected to be useless and cease to operate.

Having now seen the destructive tendencies of Socialism where orthodox religion and patriotism is concerned, let us not be afraid to speak out, "for men in earnest have no time to waste, in patching fig leaves for the naked truth." HARRY LEWIS.

Boys Prefer Jail to Drill.

Australian London Chronicle.

English suffragists are not to have a monopoly of conscientious jail-going. Australian boys are preferring prison rather than comply with the new compulsory military service law of the commonwealth. At Broken Hill, the great silver mining city, a boy was ordered by the court to put in his statutory number of drills and pay the cost of his prosecution, or go to jail. He promptly accepted sentence, would give no undertaking to parade and refused to permit his father to pay the costs. An "Australian Freedom League" has been formed to oppose this law and obtain its early repeal.

Sweetest Thing in the World.

Exchange.

Silicus—She's just the sweetest thing in the world.

Cynicus—That's what the fly thought when it got stuck on the molasses.

Habits of Our Sins.

Philadelphia Record.

"Our sins are sure to find us out," quoted the Wise Man. "Yes but they have an unpleasant habit of calling again," added the Simple One.

Influence of Oil.

Philadelphia Record.

Wigg—Old Gotrox made his money in oil. Wagg—Well, I can't see that it has had a refining influence on him.

Dr. Jekyl and Mr. Hyde.

Chicago News.

Most men have two dispositions—one they exhibit in public and the other at home.

Growth of Auto Fire Apparatus.

Chicago Record-Herald.

Ninety-three United States cities now have automatic fire apparatus.