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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, NOV. 18, 1913.

A UNITED WEST CAN WIN.

The united efforts of all the states in the Columbia Basin will be required to procure the appropriation of $1,500,000 for construction of a sea-going dredge, which Senator Lane asks from Congress, in addition to $1,000,000 for the north jetty. Oregon alone probably could not secure so large a sum, nor could Washington alone, but Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana combined have good prospects of success. If these states unite their forces with those of other Western states, their influence may prove irresistible.

All the states named have an interest in the maintenance of a deep channel into the Columbia and up that waterway to the interior. Traffic naturally drains in the same direction as the water, not excluding the smallest tributary, and every cent saved in the cost of transportation by land or water is either added to the producer's price or, if taken from that price and given to the consumer, broadens the market.

The market will be greatly broadened by the reduction in the cost of transportation through the Panama Canal to Europe, North, West and South Africa and Western Asia. Grain, lumber, fruit, hops, livestock and all manufactures of those products will find increasing demand in the old world, when relieved from the high freight rates which render the price wellnigh prohibitive to the masses of the people. Pacific Coast fruit is now a luxury in which only the rich in Europe can indulge, but the reduction in freight rates due to the canal will bring down the price, so that it will be within the means of millions. Every foot added to the depth of the bar channel and every mile added to the navigable length of the Columbia River will enable bigger ships to enter, and will enable river steamers to penetrate farther inland. This will further reduce the aggregate freight rate between points of production and points of consumption, will proportionately reduce the price and will add more millions to the number of consumers of our products.

Thus the benefits of a deep channel over the bar and of an open river are not limited to the ports near the mouth of the river, but extend upward to every man whose products are or could be carried down the river to the ocean. These benefits are not limited to Oregon and Washington. They extend to Idaho and beyond into Montana as far eastward as it shall prove cheaper to haul freight westward to the Pacific than eastward to the Atlantic.

As to other National affairs of interest to the Columbia Basin, other Western states have an equal interest. This is true of reclamation, water power, forestry and land legislation in general. These states have a community of interest strong enough to impel their representatives in Congress to pull together and to demand that, as regards affairs which concern the West in particular, Western opinion shall prevail so far as it is consonant with National interests.

Having such broad common interests the Western delegations should work together for the interests of each particular state and section of the West. The states of the Northwest should help those of the Southwest to procure necessary provision to keep the Colorado River within its banks, and those of the Southwest should reciprocate by helping along improvement of the Columbia. These are peculiarly Western problems, of which the East knows little and in which the East has little interest. Only the massed voting strength of the West can compel adequate attention to them.

If the West thus combines, Congress may as readily appropriate $2,500,000 in one year for the Columbia River jetty and dredges as it appropriates millions for the Mississippi River. We want big things done, and we must exert big power to get them done.

LOUD CALL FOR WAR.

When President Wilson was reported to have sent an ultimatum to Provisional President Huerta, our blow-hot-and-blow-cold neighbor, the Evening Journal, had the following ringing declaration of approval:

There seems no other way. The Mexican despot is oblivious to everything rational. He has gone on in highhandedness until he has lost all sense of propriety and abandoned all the canons of civilization. He has set up a throne at the Mexican capital and there is nothing to do but to pull it down. We were the means by which Maximilian and his brief empire were destroyed in 1867. We can do no less now than we did then except by ignoring American precedents and abandoning American traditions.

Nothing to do but pull (not let) Huerta down and do as we did with Maximilian. So, in the language of armed intervention, the warlike Journal shouts for war when the Administration gives some faint sign of threatening force through an ultimatum, just as the peace-loving Journal cries for patience, love, forbearance, toleration and good will toward Mexico when it transpires that there is no such thing as an ultimatum in the entire vocabulary of Bryan-Wilson diplomacy.

The threat of intervention in 1867, when the United States was on a war footing and Federal troops were already in Louisiana and Texas, caused the withdrawal of the French army and the downfall of Maximilian. Not an American soldier crossed the border line. The assertion of the American attitude, in the polite language of diplomacy, was enough. A firm policy toward Huerta, in place of a vacillating and ineffective course on our part, is the need of the hour. It is the only way, probably, to avoid intervention. It is likely enough that it must be the final outcome. Then we shall have, of course, a renewal of the bellicose demand from our hard-breathing contemporary, to tear down Huerta's throne and to uphold the noble American traditions, just as it had advised all along, etc., etc.

MARTIAL LAW?

Governor West threatens martial law for the town of Florence as a sequel to the recent deportation of six or seven I. W. W. agitators from that place. We assume that it is an idle threat, for it will be recalled that the Governor was similarly enraged when sundry undesirable citizens were made to move on from Coos Bay; but, so far as now appears, nobody has been put in jail, nobody impeached and nobody removed from office—except that Mayor Straw was incontinently dismissed from one of the Governor's boards.

Why martial law for Florence? All is now peaceful there. The I. W. W. disturbers are gone and the ordinary pursuits of the citizens have been resumed. The mills are running, the stores and schools are open, the local courts are dispensing justice and no crisis of any kind confronts the satisfied population. Infractions of law, if there were any, should be punished by due process of law.

Martial law is the suspension of all civil processes and the substitution of military rule. The constitution is superseded, the writ of habeas corpus is suspended, statutory laws are ignored and the will of the executive is supreme. It is the substitution of force for civil law, the assertion of a paramount physical fact over all the forms and guarantees of established government through civil law and order.

No commander or executive is justified in invoking martial law except in the face of open rebellion and great public peril, or of general lawlessness with which the civil authorities are unable to cope. Obviously it is an extra-constitutional expedient to preserve the constitution.

There is no such situation at Florence and has been none at Coos Bay. The Governor who imposes military law upon a community for doing something not pleasing to him, or for any reason not obviously designed for the protection of that community and the safety of the state, commits an act far more lawless than the populace commits when it uses the implements of coercion to rid itself of citizens who are there for no good.

LAST WORD ABOUT A "CURE."

The Oregonian prints herewith for the general benefit extracts from an editorial article in the Journal of the American Medical Association on the Friedmann tuberculosis cure. It is apparent that the results are not only disappointing but in some cases actual harm has been done to the patients who have been experimneting with the cure. The Journal says:

Dr. Mannheimer reported on the results of 18 cases in New York in which the Friedmann "treatment" was used, and stated that in "not a single one of the 18 cases was there definite improvement to date that could be attributed to the treatment."

A committee of some of the foremost physicians of Canada was appointed to watch the patients inoculated by Dr. Friedmann in the Canadian hospitals. These physicians made a similar unfavorable report.

Dr. Anderson, acting under the authority of the United States Government, watched the progress of the patients treated by Dr. Friedmann in this country. He also gave an unfavorable opinion as to the effect of the treatment.

A report from the Rhode Island State Sanitarium on the results in 120 patients treated by the Friedmann method states that the patients have shown none of the immediate and wonderful results reported by Friedmann, but that, "on the contrary, about 17 per cent of the cases" are worse than they might have been expected to be under ordinary sanitarium treatment.

It is difficult to measure the mischief wrought by the widespread advertisement of the Friedmann cure, obtained through the sensational methods of its original announcement and exploitation in America by a so-called news agency and by the theatrical invasion of America by Dr. Friedmann himself. The cure has cured nobody, so far as the records show. It is discredited and condemned by the medical profession and it is time that it be relegated to the limbo of forgotten things.

NEW ERA IN CONSERVATION.

The Conservation Congress which opens in Washington today gives promise of doing more practical good in the work it aims to promote than have former gatherings of the kind. It may be expected to be free from fierce contentions like those provoked by attacks on the Taft Administration. Those who have distorted conservation into reservation will no longer have the backing of the Interior Department, as in the days of Secretary Fisher. We have in Mr. Lane a man who knows the needs of the West and who is in sympathy with Western aspirations, but no one can truthfully question that he is as earnest in his purpose to conserve our resources as he is in his purpose to give the settler a square deal. He is surrounded by Western men, well informed on the West by personal knowledge and of like mind with him.

No man dares assail Secretary Lane as Secretary Ballinger was assailed a few years ago. If any man should at this Conservation Congress revamp the slanders on the West, the charges of fraud, monopoly and land-grabbing which were heard at previous sessions, he will be confronted with Mr. Lane and his associates. They may be expected to tell how honest settlers have been bedeviled in the name of conservation and how the public domain has been kept in chancery. They may be expected to lay more stress on development in connection with conservation.

We shall look to hear the voice of the West at this convention. It has been drowned at former conventions by the voice of the East.

ALCOHOL AND RACE SUICIDE.

In reference to Mr. Pendell's letter, which is printed today, The Oregonian does not for an instant deny that alcohol may under certain conditions become a factor in "race suicide." This truth was brought out long ago by Dr. Saleeby in his excellent work on "Parenthood." Alcohol, like the virus of syphilis, according to this authority, actually poisons the germ plasm and either destroys offspring utterly or renders it defective. Epilepsy, idiocy, insanity are some of the known consequences to children of alcoholism in their parents.

These facts are probably beyond all dispute and Mr. Pendell expends some superfluous energy, perhaps, in defending them. We know of no reputable medical authority which does not substantially agree upon them. Physicians more and more incline to cease the use of alcohol in medicine, not only because other fluids serve the same purpose better, but also because of its deleterious effects on the present and the coming generations. All this is admitted, but it is not exactly the point in controversy.

Mr. Pendell stated explicitly, as we understood him, that the low French birth rate was caused by alcohol. Two hostile facts confront him. In the first place, the French peasants, among whom race suicide is most disheartening, are not excessive users of alcohol. In the second place, they are notorious practicers of preventive devices. Mr. Pendell seems to question this. He says that "preventive devices are not particularly prevalent in France or other countries among the poor." The truth is that they are extremely prevalent among the French peasants.

Nobody who has read Zola's novels would think of doubting this circumstance. Indeed, it is one of the main cries through all French reformatory literature and has been for twenty years. State and church have combined their influence in vain to induce the thrifty but obstinate peasants to cease their preventive measures. Our purpose in differing from Mr. Pendell's statement is not by any means to encourage the use of alcohol, but merely to set him straight upon a well-known fact of current history.

MISSED.

Another attempt to hit the target at long range with the usual miss is observed in the revered New York Sun. After reproducing a brief dispatch reciting that the entire Hood River County Court had been recalled on charges that the court appointed a road supervisor at exorbitant salary and "performed other acts in an unsatisfactory manner," the Sun makes this sage comment:

An object lesson to all judges in Oregon. The people make and unmake them, and discretion is surely the better part of justice in the Webfoot State.

Oregon's judiciary will fail to observe a warning or lesson in the Hood River recall, because the "County Court" in Oregon in the inclusive way the expression is used in the dispatch is not a court of justice. In its essentials it is what some states term a "Board of County Commissioners," others a "Board of Supervisors."

In the smaller counties of Oregon the County Judge, who has jurisdiction over probate proceedings, also transacts ordinary county business. In some counties one or two Commissioners are elected to sit as members of the "County Court" in performing administrative duties. The acts complained of in Hood River County had no connection with judicial procedure. The judicial recall has never been invoked in Oregon.

VACATION WORK.

There is a fabulous notion afloat in the world that the city high schools attract only pupils whose muscles are flabby and whose minds are steeped in effeminate dreams of high society and luxurious gayety. Nobody who really knows what American boys and girls are has ever believed this piece of fiction, but still it is well enough to have a supply of facts at hand to contradict it when necessary. Facts of this kind have come to light abundantly in The Oregonian essay contest. Competing for the prizes offered, a large number of young people have described the avocations they followed during the Summer to replenish their purses for the following year's study. Their employments were as varied as human taste and ingenuity, and the determination they manifested in undertaking disagreeable tasks and carrying them through to the end proves that the American fiber is as tough as it ever was, and that we still have young people who are ready to make stern sacrifices for the sake of attaining their ambitions. Their stories prove also another fact which ought to be encouraging to those who wish well to the country.

This fact is that a spirit of genuine democracy pervades the student body of the high schools. Girls who are willing to "do housework" during their Summer vacations to provide funds for the coming school year are not likely to be carried away with silly aristocratic longings. They possess that sturdy mental and bodily energy which is characteristic of the genuine American and which it is hoped the youth of this Nation will never exchange for any quality more decadent. The young woman who took up housework for her vacation task was fortunate enough to have two positions offered her, both of which paid fairly well. The first paid $40 a month, the other only $35. But at the head of the first household was one of those women who make the life of a domestic unbearable. It was not that she was proud merely, for pride is not offensive when it is based on merit; nor that she did not herself take a hand in the work, for many housewives have duties outside their families which fully occupy them. The trouble with this dame was that she despised domestic vocations and despised her "help" for taking them off her hands.

Sentiments of this kind always create an impossible situation in a household if the domestic is intelligent and capable. A girl who does her work well and knows it will not be satisfied with scornful toleration from her employer. She demands at least a little appreciation. With thoughts of this nature in her mind, our ambitious high school girl declined the better-paying situation, with its supercilious mistress, and accepted the $35 place, where the matron of the house was sympathetic and civilized. But this place, in spite of its kindly mistress, was no sinecure. The domestic fresh from her Cicero and algebra had to cook, wash, scrub, bake and clean, to say nothing of the thousand minor tasks which fall to the lot of the "general" in such an establishment. The chaotic condition of housework without system, regular hours or much consideration for the welfare of workers illustrates the primitive state of our domestic arrangements. While every other form of industry has been transformed in the last fifty years, housework still remains the same servile drudgery that it was in the Middle Ages.

The charm of this tale is that the high school girl persevered through all her hardships and discouragements and came off victor at the close of her vacation with a pleasant roll of substantial dollars in her purse. The money will be just as helpful to her in her future career as if it had been donated by a kind uncle or left as a legacy by a departing grandmother, perhaps more so. Housework was not the only occupation into which the high school girls found their way during the Summer vacation. One made a neat sum of money carrying newspapers. She reduced the business to a system and even enlarged it to wholesale proportions in the brief term of her connection with it. It seems pretty certain that this young woman with her remarkable gift will achieve distinguished commercial success later in life unless something diverts her energies into other directions. Still another girl replenished her means by teaching English to a class of foreigners. This was not only a comparatively agreeable resource, but it paid well. Her monthly income during the vacation was $30.

The boys were as ingenious and courageous as the girls. One of them, whose essay has already been published in The Oregonian, undertook a road-building contract. A woman homesteader, who lived two miles from his father's place, was cut off from the outer world by a high mountain. This high school boy, with a companion, agreed to build a road around the obstacle. Their soft muscles at first made the task painful, but work quickly hardened them and they found real pleasure in circumventing the difficulties which nature had placed in their way. Of course, the value of these experiences lies quite as much in the pluck they developed as in the cash they yielded. Young people who want an education keenly enough to do hard physical work in order to pay for it are not likely to waste their opportunities. They are not the ones who cause disciplinary troubles in school nor is it necessary to prod them to their studies. Best of all these stern experiences of their youth will prepare them admirably for the duties of mature life.

In a letter to the Brooklyn Eagle Samuel S. Parrish says four-fifths of the people of Mexico are nearly equally divided between pure-blooded Indians and people of mixed blood, all in a state of peonage. He then says:

In other words, political conditions in Mexico can be likened to what they would be in our own country if about four-fifths of our population consisted of a combination of North American Indians and half-breeds, ruthlessly ruled from New York City, so far as great distances would permit, by a military Tammany Hall, with the "Chief" not only in command of our Federal Army, but also in a position, as shown lately, through sheer decree, to increase that army to any extent that his necessities might require and his enforced exchequer pay for.

We all know what prospect there would be of a constitutional election if Tammany had an unlimited army and could impose any taxes it pleased, even with four-fifths of the people free and intelligent instead of in peonage. Then what chance is there that any boss who gets control of Mexico's military Tammany will permit a fair election? If Huerta should resign, we should have the same difficulty again with the new boss.

Mr. Hearst proposes the Oregon system as the best and surest means by which New York can destroy Tammany and all other machines. In a signed editorial in the New York American he offers direct nominations, the Massachusetts ballot, the initiative, referendum and recall as his programme. The new Legislature is practically sure to call a constitutional convention, the delegates to which will be elected on the main issue of the Oregon system.

Apples are delicious, no matter how you cook them. Their sapidity is indestructible and persists through a thousand disguises. But the fruit is best of a Winter night along toward Christmas, served in a big pan with a basket of hickory nuts, a flat iron and a hammer, before a roaring fire, with father reading the paper in the background and mother knitting. For this function Roxbury russets are preferred, but any apples will do.

The Minnesota Development Association has taken a step that similar societies in other states might well imitate. It is preparing to have a soil survey of the state made, so that it can give accurate information to settlers about the proper crops to grow in the sections where they wish to locate. No work could be more valuable. A soil survey is needed as much in Oregon as in Minnesota.

Sharpers in Chicago are always on the lookout for game, and the Polk County man who lost $80 pitching pennies had a run for his money, at least. The Oregonian abroad would better limit his sporting activity to pitching horseshoes.

England reciprocates for our kindness in not returning Mrs. Pankhurst by permitting Harry Kemp to stay on the other side. Both seem comparatively docile, when out of their native element.

An anonymous gift of $4,350,000 has been made to Cornell medical school. All users of gasoline will hope that John D. isn't behind the donation.

In seeking to impress the world with our fairness we have merely gained international fame as spineless and stupid.

In Chicago dancers must remain four inches apart by order of the public morals censors. Are they trying to kill the dancing game?

Jessie Wilson's fiance presents his views of public morals. Let's see, what's the young man's name?

The boy who tries to shoot himself to avoid school will live to kick himself for having missed school.

American tars on shore leave in Italy are showing the natives they are not dead ones, by any means.

Unsettled weather is forecasted in the weekly forecast from Washington. Aren't they the real wizards?

The figure au naturel is announced as the new rule in fashion. That rule is as old as Eve.

Now, Jupiter Pluvius, if you have any patriotism, cork the spout for this afternoon.

Naples is tiring of the visit of American sailors. Their money must be gone.

Some men get married so often that you never know whether it's again or yet.

Another big strike ended by mediation. The strike has had its day.

The Wilson-Bryan Mexican policy would make good in comic opera.

The price of the Thanksgiving turkey is the vital issue now.

We don't see how Huerta could make himself any clearer.

Checkers have replaced poker at the police club. What stakes?

The cook who makes an apple pie just right is a jewel.

Be sure to tickle your Adam's apple with apples today.

Just for a change: "Remember the Alamo!"

Order a box by telephone.

Do not forget the cider.

EVIL IS GREATLY EXAGGERATED

Commercialized Exposure Feeds on Commercialized Vice, Writer Asserts.

PORTLAND, Nov. 16.—(To the Editor.)—One begins to grow somewhat weary of hearing about this overexposed evil called "white slavery." The business of uncovering it is coming to have a suspicious look. Its "exposure" and denunciation is too regular. One begins to question the existence of the evil in anything like the proportions claimed by certain self-styled investigators. The conclusion is being more and more forced on the thinking citizen that while commercialized vice is undoubtedly highly profitable, the "exposure" of vice also has its substantial pecuniary rewards. It furnishes material for writers of lurid and hysterical articles and books which sell by the thousand and enrich both authors and publishers. It has been found to be a good field for playwrights and theatrical managers to exploit with excellent returns. It keeps a small army of "investigators" and "rescue workers" in jobs that pay fairly good salaries. It furnishes a topic for sensational lecturers who attract large audiences of the inquisitive and curious, and who succeed in drawing down a snug stipend for a couple of hours' talk, with lantern slides, nightly. Thus out of commercialized vice has grown another paying business, namely, commercialized exposure.

What is meant by "white slavery"? The only legitimate definition of the term is the abduction or luring of girls and women and their forcible detention in houses of ill-fame in order to make profits for the proprietors thereof. To identify all forms of the social evil with "white slavery," as some people do, is stupid—when indeed it does not happen to be deliberately mercenary, in order to promote the sale of a book, hold a job, advertise a series of overdrawn illustrated lectures or increase patronage at a playhouse.

Those who have looked into the alleged white slave trade most thoroughly declare it to be largely a myth. Such gross exaggerations as that of Mrs. Kate W. Barrett, National president of the Florence Crittenton Mission, as to the extent of the white slave traffic, discredit themselves by their inherent absurdity. Mrs. Barrett claims that this traffic includes more than 350,000 women in the United States today, and that over 20,000 new victims are added yearly.

Against this grotesque statement may be placed that of A. W. Elliott, president of the Southern Rescue Mission, and editor of the Young Woman's Magazine, who says in the latest number of that publication:

We frankly say there never was a joke of more huge proportions perpetrated upon the American public than this white slave joke. I surely do not believe that there are a dozen girls in America today that are in houses of ill-fame that could not walk out if they wanted to. They love that kind of life and will scoff at the reformer and even kick him out if he does not get out when asked to.

I could go into detail, writing hundreds of pages of my various efforts to redeem them, but it would be useless waste of time; it is only necessary to tell you that women of the underworld will not reform, and there is positively no use in wasting your money on them. I have positively entered at least 2000 houses of ill-repute and have talked face to face with possibly 15,000 of these women, and I pledge you truthfully that I know them just as you know your own little children. I do not hesitate to tell you that they are wedded to their ways and that they laugh at and make fun of those who try to help them.

Mr. Elliott sensibly holds that it is better to concentrate attention upon girls and women who have not yet fallen into the ways of the underworld. His reliance is on education, training and the creation of opportunity for employment at adequate wages, in order to prevent recruits from voluntarily entering the ranks of these unfortunates. Mere repressive or punitive legislation accomplishes nothing. And he especially denounces those who indulge in reckless exaggeration of the fictitious white slave trade in order selfishly to exploit the uninformed but sympathetic public.

If he can restore some of the shrieking professional "exposers" and their hysterical followers to something like sense and reason, he will have rendered a real public service.

TRUTH SEEKER.

ALCOHOL AND THE BIRTH RATE

Use of Intoxicants and Its Bearing on Race Suicide Discussed.

PORTLAND, Nov. 16.—(To the Editor.)—On November 7 The Oregonian published a communication from me, discussing the relation of alcohol to race suicide, with an editorial criticism softly denying my conclusions.

I agree with you, of course, that technically the word "suicide" means intentional self-destruction, but in discussing the question of "race suicide" the word has assumed a broader meaning to apply to those various elements which from any angle contribute to the destruction of the race. Therefore, the application of the term "race suicide" to the sterilizing effects of alcohol does not at all strain the meaning of the word, in the mind of the layman.

Your statement that France's low birth rate is caused "by well-known preventive devices" is only partially true. It is true, mainly, among the rich in France, and other countries as well, including America. Preventive practices are admittedly more prevalent in France than in most countries, but they are not particularly prevalent in France or other countries among the poor.

The scientific fact that alcohol is a sterilizing agency in every grade of animal life cannot fail to have a strong bearing on the question of "race suicide" in the broad meaning of the term. The use of alcohol by generations of the past is now developing its final results in the sterilization of a large portion of the civilized world.

The "loss of 1,000,000 babies a year" is not a reference to the death of babies that have been born, but represents the loss of babies that ought to be born and are not.

Dr. T. Alexander MacNicholl, whom I quoted before, explains the process of deterioration or sterilization in the following language:

The germ cell that is to be evolved into another being is the most highly organized of all the cells in the body. In its protoplasm lies the material and pattern of the perfected organism. Should such poison as alcohol lessen the nutrition of the cell or impair the quality of the protoplasmic material and deface the pattern, these shortcomings and defects would be manifested in the subsequent stages of development. A defective germ cell cannot evolve a normal body—the degenerate factor becomes more potent with each transmission and renders posterity more and more susceptible to disease.

Still using the term "race suicide" broadly, the effects of alcohol in producing and promoting conditions of disease which in turn contribute to the destruction of the race, are so manifest that there is practically none to dispute the "logic of events."

The present generation is reaping the results of the "sins of our fathers," aggravated and increased by the almost wholesale indulgence in the use of the alcoholic drug in our own day. Most of us are ready to admit the deteriorating effects of opium, morphine, cocaine, arsenic and even nicotine. Why are we so loath to accept the conclusions of science in its condemnation of alcohol, the "poisoner general" of the race?

GEORGE G. PENDELL.

Question in Grammar.

PORTLAND, Nov. 17.—(To the Editor.)—Please tell me which expression is correct, "A rise in salary" or "A raise in salary," and why?

A READER.

"A rise in salary" is preferable. The other expression, formerly considered incorrect, has through persistent usage, become acceptable and is not objected to by many critics.

BIG SMOKE FROM LITTLE FIRE

Writer Objects to Manner in Which East Side Clubs Are "Put on Record."

PORTLAND, Nov. 17.—(To the Editor.)—It would seem a proper time after reading the "extracts" from a communication from the "head of East Side Clubs" criticising the city's administration in The Oregonian Sunday, to arise and remark a remark or two.

In the first place there appear in the list of booster organizations given as making up the "Greater East Side United Improvement Clubs Association," 43 clubs, nine associations, two Boards of Trade and two leagues—a total of 56 organizations as being represented by and indorsing the promulgations of the writer of the aforesaid communication. From this array it would seem that Portland is well boosterized and if all these organizations were as formidable as their names appear our city officials might well tremble on receipt of such a chokebore charge as this last fulmination.

But let the Commissioners be not afraid for the powder behind this charge is the good old-fashioned black variety that makes lots of smoke. I venture a guess that there were not over 10 or 15 people present when the G. E. S. U. I. C. A. loaded its blunderbuss this last time, and I doubt very much if the records of these various organizations will show more than ten who have regularly elected delegates who regularly attend the business meetings of the "Gesuica." I am not finding fault with the principle of neighborhood organizations—the idea is right, but it can be carried too far and lose its force and this is a case in point.

It is all wrong for a little bunch of people, no matter how well meaning they may be to attempt to speak for the whole community or for 56 booster clubs, unless their authority to do so is unquestioned, for eventually they get into bad hands and the real welfare of their several neighborhoods suffers.

Attacks on the city government, the streetcar company, etc. of ill-advised and ill-digested character written and inaugurated by a few disgruntled persons put the improvement organization in a bad light in its own field which it does not fairly represent, for the bulk of the citizens will stay away from it and leave it alone.

It seems to me—with all due respect to Mr. Lepper and whom we all love for his disinterested and exceedingly valuable work done for the East Side and the city at large, and done without pay or hope of adequate reward—that this is a good time for The Oregonian to prepare a careful article on boosteritis.

The city is peculiarly in the eye of the country just at present and it is a poor time for attacks on our Commissioners and their conduct of the city's affairs in the public press unless absolutely sure of the grounds on which the attacks are based. And even then they come with bad grace from one who tried to get there but did not.

As I said before I love Mr. Lepper, but he can make a bigger showing with seven or nine men in the basement of Hotel Clifford than any man on the East Side, and we have some others over here with vivid imaginations besides him. Would it not be well for the 56 varieties and the "Gesuica" to be a little more conservative, a little more studious and attentive to facts and be very sure that he who does our publicity work for us carries into it a sense of high dignity and worth, and does not give expression to his own unauthorized and uncensored opinions in such a way as to cause the city at large to think that the sentiment expressed is the vox populi?

O. G. HUGHSON.

MANY BAD THINGS ARE GOING ON

Moralists and Physicians Must Amend or Nation Will Go to Dogs.

HILLSBORO, Or., Nov. 15.—(To the Editor.)—Every year we innoculate our school children with filthy serums, producing no one knows how much actual disease and misery, as a preventive against the largely-mythical dangers of smallpox. Everywhere thinking people are beginning to protest against this infamous practice. But the crime against the children perpetrated in the name of medical science is insignificant when compared to the crime committed in the name of morality and purity by the Purity Congress at Minneapolis the other day, when the school children of that city were innoculated with the virus of Comstockitis—vaccinated mentally and spiritually with the most deadly and filthy of moral disorders, to-wit, a morbid prurlency and propensity to meddle in the private affairs of others—against the mythical dangers of nude art, comfortable swimming garments, healthy frankness regarding sex, and, finally, against that stupendous fabrication of the moralist's imagination, the white-slave trade.

The dimes contributed by the children to Anthony Comstock's moral crusade are of comparatively little importance; but, with each dime contributed, the child is made to feel himself an active participant in that crusade, a co-worker with the most pernicious meddler and most unclean-minded enemy of art and freedom and beauty of our day, if not of all time. If none but the school children of Minneapolis were in danger of this loathsome infection, perhaps we should keep silent regarding it; but the event is significant of the force and inclusiveness of the "moral wave" which is sweeping over the country.

With a National society for moral education, with social hygiene societies in many states entangling physiology, hygiene and morals, with morals always in the ascendency; with morality courts, with official spies and guardians of our morality at every turn, even to the police censoring the dress of women, we are in danger of becoming mentally the most immoral and debauched nation the world has ever seen. To the pure all things are pure. To the moralist, intent upon his crusade of moral reform, all things are impure. As a man thinks, so is he. And the moralist goes about propagating his unclean ideas about himself and about his imaginary or real discoveries concerning others, contaminating everything and everybody he comes in contact with.

It's bad enough for grown people voluntarily to join such a crusade. But to pervert the fine enthusiasms and desire for useful activity of children to such base ends is an unspeakable crime.

L. OLIVEREAU.

Why Boys Leave the Farm.

PORTLAND, Nov. 16.—(To the Editor.)—The average farmer treats his hired man with due respect, pays him a fair wage and gives him his room and board.

On the other hand, his son, doing the same work more thoroughly, working for his father's interests, receives his room and board with all the complaints. He sees the hired man receive pay for the same work which he (the son) does, and he asks for a nickel or a dime to take in the show.

The boy's spending money is reluctantly handed to him. He is then told: You receive your room and board; what more do you want? He then reasons: "If I go to the city and work I will receive wages as does John, the hired man, and be independent." He then starts out to seek his fortune in the city.

Can you blame him?

M. E. G.

Foreign Fire Insurance.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

There are 17 British companies transacting fire insurance in the United States and the premiums received amounted to $56,634,390. The losses paid are given as $29,484,500, which is equivalent to 52 per cent of the premiums.

Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of November 18, 1888. Willamette Valley Edition.

Omaha, Nov. 17.—Henry W. King, Jr., of the firm of Browning, King & Co., was shot dead by his former wife this morning.

Olympia, Nov. 17.—Lieutenant Mayo, of the surveying schooner Earnest, has been called East by the dangerous illness of his mother.

December 5 has been set as the date for the initiation of Mr. Moody's work here.

H. T. Scott and wife and L. B. Bentley, of San Francisco, are at the Holton.

The city and school tax roll is now completed, so H. S. Allen, the school clerk, informs The Oregonian.

John M. Breeb, Jr., lies dead at his home, 231 Main street, from an overdose of morphine.

Consolidation of Portland and East Portland was discussed at a meeting at Hall & Stott's Hall last night. Speeches in favor of the movement were made by A. H. Breyman, Mayor Wheeler, Cyrus Buckman, Mr. Warner, Mr. Wyncoop, Judge Mayo, Captain Kerns, Judge Woodward, William Dalton, E. Shannon and Mr. Wittenberg. A motion to indorse consolidation was carried, 50 to 13.

The School Board decided to stand by its determination to make vaccination compulsory.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of November 18, 1863.

Eugene City, Nov. 14.—Captain Pease's new steamer, which is just about to take its place on the river and is partially owned at this place, is expected to make regular trips here.

Stockholders of the California & Columbia River Railroad Company met at Jacksonville on November 7 and elected the following directors: Hon. George H. Williams and Hon. Amory Holbrook, of Portland; C. P. Crandall, of Salem; Hon. F. A. Chenoweth, of Corvallis; B. Underwood, of Eugene; John Kelly, of Roseburg, and J. C. Tolman, of Ashland. Officers were elected as follows: President, Amory Holbrook; vice-president, J. C. Tolman; secretary, J. Gaston, of Jacksonville; chief engineer, S. G. Elliott; local engineer, C. W. Burrage, of Portland; consulting engineer, Colonel I. R. Moores, of Portland.

Warrenton, Nov. 8.—Upon the lifting of the fog our forces commenced crossing and found little or no opposition. They are pressing forward to Culpepper. General Kilpatrick occupied the city and heights of Fredericksburg yesterday.

M. Turley will deliver an address this evening at the Courthouse upon the subject of the Pacific railroad.

William Grooms has received the appointment of assistant assessor of internal revenue for District No. 3, which embraces Multnomah County, vice H. C. Coulson, resigned.

Tonight "Robbers of the Forest of Bohemia" will be presented at the Willamette Theater.

Minimum Wage Costs Position.

PORTLAND, Nov. 16.—(To the Editor.)—Will you please inform me what disposition is going to be made of girls like myself by the Welfare Commission?

I am working near home as a clerk and receive $7 a week. I go home for lunch and have no carfare to pay. If I am any judge of my own welfare, I think I am a great deal better off than girls who work downtown for the Commission's minimum wage.

I am satisfied with my wages and I think my employer is satisfied with me. I have been working at my present position one year, and have had no occasion to think of looking for another position.

I received notice yesterday that I would have to look for another position after the new law goes into effect. I fail to see where my condition is improved any. I am going to be without a position at a time when I need one badly.

CATHERINE TYLER.

Substitutes for Tobacco.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

Almost innumerable substitutes for tobacco have been devised by thrifty or experimental souls, from the brown paper and cabbage leaves smoked by small boys, to dried lavender. A favorite substitute is dry tea, which many people seem to think has medicinal value, whereas it is positively harmful. Liszt was a dry smoker of a peculiar type. Massenet, who knew him well in his later years, reports that Liszt could not play unless he had a cigar in his mouth, which he never troubled to light. He would sit down to the piano with a cigar between his teeth and keep munching it all the time he played. When the cigar was quite eaten up the abbe would rise from the instrument exhausted.

THE LAST ROSE.

"'Tis the last rose of Summer,"
All withered and lone,
Who lingers thus sadly,
The others have gone.
All faded we see her
And note with a sigh,
That the twilight of Summer
And roses is nigh.
Oh, fair was the beauty
That bloomed on the hour,
In the sunlight of Summer
So queenly a flower.
All vanished her glories,
Her triumphs are o'er;
She must follow the Summer
To life's other shore.
Oh, sad are the breezes,
And gone is the charm,
Where the lonely are sighing
Forsaken, forlorn.
But beauty must perish
And withered be torn,
From the conquest and glories
Of life's early morn.

GEORGE H. SANDS.

The Art of Giving

Have you ever received a gift that somehow seemed to lack the personality that a gift between friends should have?

To be a real and satisfactory gift it should carry with it the personality of the giver and show the thought and care used in its selection.

A real gift is one that is warm with the friendship that prompts it.

The Christmas season approaches with swift foot—we hardly realize it! It is therefore a wise person who begins now to pick and choose and consider in order that the gifts selected may represent a great deal more than so many dollars' worth of merchandise.

Each day advertisers in The Oregonian are suggesting and calling to your attention countless articles of every price, kind and description.

If you will begin now to take advantage of these daily offerings your shopping will be made easier and your gifts will be more than mere presents.—Adv.