

The Oregonian

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noise" is worthy of imitation generally. Whenever any man wishes to give warning that he is coming or to give notice of anything or to celebrate an event, he rings a bell, blows a whistle, toots a horn, pounds a gong or fires a gun—in other words, he makes a noise. In the aggregate, all these sounds proclaim us a noisy people and perhaps explain our National nervousness. Noise is not a necessary accompaniment to action, and there is no danger that we should fall asleep if we made less noise.

MOTIVES AND WATER SERVICE.

The pervasiveness of Commissioner Daly in adhering to his early misstatement of the facts in his discussion of the Oregonian's reasons for opposing his water-meter policies is worthy of a better cause. Mr. Daly has discovered that Mr. Pitcock and several others desired water service to be established on certain property adjacent to Kings Heights, and he refused, he says, to lend himself to any real estate scheme. To fortify his noble resolution he adds the quite inexplicable misrepresentation that the property proposed thus to be benefited is, or was, outside the city limits.

The kindest explanation of the latter statement that can be made is that Mr. Daly does not know where the city boundaries are—or were before yesterday. It is something of a coincidence, without special meaning on the part of Mr. Daly, that the Supreme Court of Oregon yesterday rendered a decision voiding the annexation to Portland of Sylvan and Mount Zion, in which is included the particular section to which extension of water service was sought.

The aggregate of our appropriations in spending and increasing by loans and bonds, and the tendency of the Senate to go to the Republican party one better. The Treasury is coming to the aid of the fountain of mercy, reachable by all through the agency of the Senatorial Democrats. The Senate has indicated the Republican platform extravagance. Either that indictment was true or it was not. If it was not, we owe an apology to the Republican party.

From a Washington dispatch to the New York Sun this significant information is gleaned: The total value of all manufacturers' plants in the United States in 1913 was \$12,000,000,000, against \$11,000,000,000 in 1912, an increase of 9.1 per cent. The value of the manufacturing plant in 1913 was \$12,000,000,000, against \$11,000,000,000 in 1912, an increase of 9.1 per cent.

Less Governmental revenue, greater Governmental expenditure—these are the early results of Democratic economy. How long till our foremost Democratic orators on the stump will have an opportunity to explain the deficit as one of the beneficent results of a Democratic Administration?

WHAT THE PUBLIC WANTED.

However legally sound or unsound the decision by Judge Cleeton in the tax-penalty case may be it certainly has the approval of the tax-paying public. The court, with Solomon-like wisdom, arose to an emergency. He found an unreasonable provision in the law and he contrived to get the law of its presence without openly violating the accepted restriction on the power of courts to pass on the reasonableness of a statute.

MEXICAN POLICY BEARS FRUIT.

As time clears the atmosphere and gives a true perspective of the problem, the abject failure of President Wilson's Mexican policy is being discerned by the astute and ardent supporters of his mistaken attitude. The latest to see the matter anew and laud President Wilson for his blunders in Mexican matters is Collier's Weekly.

WHITE-SLAVE LAW MISAPPLIED.

The case of an actress married to a man whose divorce from his former wife proves to have been illegal has been made the occasion of prosecution of the husband under the white-slave law for transporting a woman in interstate commerce for immoral purposes. Persons with whom the woman quarreled over business affairs went to the Federal Prosecuting Attorney and made the charge, but that official says "there is not a shadow of evidence that the husband is guilty of a violation of the act."

USING THE PARCEL POST.

The steady extension of parcel post facilities will be welcomed by both consumers and producers in all parts of the country. Its ultimate effect will certainly be the establishment of direct relations between buyers and sellers of country produce and a desirable drop in the cost of living. It will take about a year to bring about a consummation, but it is sure to come.

One great difficulty in the way will be the lack among the farmers of deftness in preparing their produce for the market. This is an art which requires knowledge and practice, and number of which is possessed by many country producers. One of the best courses the Agricultural College could offer, both in its regular and short courses, would take up the grading of fruit, potatoes and vegetables and packing them for shipment.

"The Supreme Court will eventually decide to what extent it may be perverted. There need be no fear that the Supreme Court will interpret the law as not applying to the man who honestly believed the woman with whom he traveled to be his wife, but as applying to the precious pair of Sacramento rakes."

CONVICTION BY PUBLIC CLAMOR.

After having clamored for the life of Leo M. Frank as a penalty for the murder of little Mary Phagan, Atlanta has been seized with remorse, and public opinion is divided. The demand is growing stronger that, after having been convicted, denied a new trial and twice sentenced to hang, Frank shall yet be granted a new trial before the day of execution, April 17—his thirtieth birthday anniversary—arrives.

The clamor for Frank's execution was first inspired by horror at the enormity of the crime; it was heightened by false charges that he had been guilty of the crime, for he is a Jew, and it was kept at fever heat by repeated asseverations of the police that he was guilty and by sensational statements of newspapers engaged in a circulation war. Now Atlanta has learned that much of the evidence was manufactured in the "sweat box"; that affidavits accusing Frank of nameless vices and supporting the charge of murder have been repudiated by those to whom they were attributed and that the principal witness against him, a pretended accident, was a fraud.

It is surprising that the loss of maintenance and repair work in 1912 was only \$1,000,000. The grafters were quite moderate. Governor Glenn, of New York, has put the detronement of the bosses and the reorganization of the Democratic party up to the voters. Under the plan of direct primary, only 250 enrolled voters in a district can nominate a candidate for the state committee, which is to be composed of one member from each of the 160 Assembly districts. If the Democrats enroll themselves and go to the primaries, they will control the bosses. Will control the committee. The choice between good and bad government is in the hands of the voters.

People who make flower gardens this Spring should plan for future as well as present enjoyment by planting old-fashioned perennials with the pretty but transient annuals. The daisy is a very satisfactory flower in this locality. Lilies are always delightful. But many hold that the Oriental poppy is the queen of Spring perennials.

THE HIGH COST OF SOUL SAVING.

Comment on Returns From Billy Sunday Crusade in Pittsburgh. New York Sun. What is most curious in the Monday meeting of the anti-Sundayists was the economic side of the Pittsburgh manifestation. It cost Pittsburgh \$30,000 to hear Sunday and \$200,000 to convert, or about \$30 per convert. The preachers agreed that not more than 12 of those converts would remain faithful, and the \$200,000 was a high price to pay for them. The preachers said they could do much better themselves at much less cost.

Professor Harry Thurston Peck's suicide is the natural end of an over-extended life. A brilliant man of great attainments, he preferred sensational display to solid work and did not always select conscientiously the means to gain his ends. No doubt he had the right in his literary quarrel with Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, but the outside world looked a little too much like one charlatan accusing another of trickery.

Should fortune smile upon the women who wish to see the Legislature that will initiate a new order of things in that venerable and not too revered body. Women, as we know from the historians and poets, are adept intriguers. Their skill in the delicate arts of manipulation may prove to be a great asset to the converts, and thus the Legislature will be cured of its bad habits.

The Asquith ministry will probably lose ground by its flabby indecision in dealing with bumptious army officers. The loyalty that shrinks from the expansion of the command might turn to cowardice before a foreign enemy. A government that cannot control its own troops will not long command the confidence of an empire. The British Ministry and the British army both seem to need a little revision.

A VALUABLE BOOK.

"The Social Emergency," a new book soon to be issued by Reed College and the Oregon Social Science Society, discusses many of the important phases of the hygiene of the sexes. It contains contributions from several writers, most of whom live in or near Portland and the editor of the book is President Foster, of Reed College. Dr. Foster has also contributed three chapters to the book, the first two and the last. The work is further enriched with an introduction by Dr. Charles W. Elliot.

The "Social Emergency" in question has arisen, according to Dr. Foster, by the lifting of the taboo which withheld sexual subjects from common mention in the schools and in few years. Now they are discussed everywhere with appalling freedom. The new state of things has come about before the world is prepared for it and the authors of this book express a more or less lively apprehension that the consequences may be more destructive than the taboo itself was during its uncanny reign. Dr. Charles W. Elliot's introduction is particularly provocative of thought. "The book," he says, "is a sincere effort to supply the needed knowledge of terrible dangers and to point to a moderate, cautious and tentatively the most available means of attacking the evils described." It is not intended for children, or even adolescents, he cautions us, but rather for parents, teachers and ministers who have to answer the natural questions of children and youth about sexual matters. We all know only too well how often and by what insidious evasions these questions are thwarted and the young person turned over to vicious companions for the instruction they so sadly need. "Most of our boys and girls," says Dr. Foster, "have no opportunity to hear sex and marriage and motherhood discussed with reverence, heard these matters discussed in the welfare of the young withheld the truth those who could profit by their downfall poisoned the minds with error and half-truths." Dr. Foster goes on to assure us of the fact, which almost everybody well knows, that "nearly all children gained information concerning sex and reproduction from foul sources."

Now the miserable taboo has been lifted and we could give young people plenty of instruction from pure sources if we only knew how. That is the burning question. This book on the "Social Emergency" has been written mainly, we take it, to warn the zealous public that not all methods of instruction are to be trusted and that some are not wise. This is a situation where enthusiasm, however ardent, cannot take the place of competent scientific knowledge.

It is probably true, as some of the contributors to "The Social Emergency" assure us, that mistaken ideas in this field are likely to be more disastrous than in almost any other. Dr. Elliot is of opinion that the problem of adequate sex instruction is more important than any other that confronts us unless it be "the warfare between capital and labor." He believes that the first experiments in applying the theory of sex instruction to the home" for warnings and teachings, but Dr. Elliot reminds us sadly that "family instruction is in most cases impossible, because neither father nor mother is competent to teach the children what needs to be taught about both the normal and the disordered sex relations." The questions are difficult to the last degree, but it is one that must be faced and solved. This book will contribute substantially to the solution.

Good roads work in New York proves to have been a "good thing" for the politicians. The Highway Commission, according to James W. Osborne, Governor Glenn's special commissioner, left the maintenance and repair work to Charles F. Foley, the first school, whom Mr. Osborne finds to have been "totally unfit for the work." The men whom he employed to inspect work under maintenance contracts were barbers, tailors, prizefighters, bartenders, bankers, bakers—anything but road builders. It is surprising that the loss of maintenance and repair work in 1912 was only \$1,000,000. The grafters were quite moderate.

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SAYS MR. DALY MISQUOTED HIM.

William De Veny Replies to Attack on Watershed Road. PORTLAND, March 24.—(To the Editor.)—Owing to the condition of my health I have been away from Portland for two weeks and upon my return I was confronted with an interview of Mr. Daly in the Journal, in which Mr. Daly has misrepresented me in reference to the Bull Run watershed road. In this connection I wish to state that it is a position to say positively that Mr. Conway has never had any interest in the road, but has unqualifiedly refused to discuss the matter with me. I am sorry to hear that Mr. Daly has been so misrepresented, stating that as a forest service employe he was forbidden to discuss matters of this nature and what mention has been made of the matter to Mr. Conway has always been met with the statement that he did not believe it possible to get this road open.

What's the Use. She is skilled at calligraphies. She's an expert in eugenics. She has studied music, medicine and law. She can dance the tango lightly. And her conversation's sprightly. But she fails to sparkle brightly. When she's needed to the kitchen to assist her weary ma.

An Electric Sign. O Sweetheart, thou art dear to me— But I'm not a pretty man, I'm afraid. Thyne eyes are incandescent lights, So luminous and clear. Thyne amber locks electrify My heart as they brush my cheek. Fair maid, pray give me but a sign That I may love thee true.

My arm about her waist I stole— The circuit was complete. And thus, by wireless means, I sought My message to repeat. She turned the current of her thoughts On me without ado. No wonder when she gave the sign It proved electric too. —Blanche Elizabeth Wade.

An Indignation Meeting. Said the grizzly to the bunny, "Ain't these modern dances funny?" "With their movements and jerky?" "And to think that they have blamed them Onto inoffensive us." "And with our good names have named them?" "It is simply libelous. Why, I wouldn't act so foolishly for a cent of money." Said the grizzly to the turkey to the bunny.

Said the grizzly to the turkey, "Said the turkey to the bunny: 'Every young man fresh and perky is cavorting with his honey.' At the Sunday school picnic, 'I will soon cease to be a joke. Every cabaret's overflowing. With a crowd of dancing folk. Every afternoon and evening, be the weather fine or drizzly." Said the bunny to the turkey to the grizzly.

Said the turkey to the bunny, "Said the bunny to the grizzly: 'Don't know what you call it, sonny. But it's called a dance.' When they lay such nonsense arant To an innocent like me And pretend that I'm a parent To such utter lies." Let us beat it quickly, brothers, To the forest deep and murky." Said the grizzly to the bunny to the turkey. —Woman's Home Companion.

Eugenics. He chose her, not because her eyes Were like the stars that glow at night. Her lips were of goodly size. And she was of superior height. He chose her, not because her hair Was like the sun in his socks. For that, to tell the truth, was small. He chose her for her rugged health. Her beauty pleased him not at all. Her nose was big, her jaw was square. Her height was suited to her weight. 'Twas not because he thought her fair Or that she had a pair of eyes. To state the facts and nothing less, She did not have a lovely face. He chose her, as you doubtless guess. The two might improve the race.

He looked on him with favor, not Because of honors he had won. She did not waste a single thought Upon the deeds that he had done. She gave herself to him because He measured six feet in his socks. And, being free from ailments, was About as strong as an ox. Love did not figure in their case. They sternly thrust all that aside: 'Twas solely to improve the race. That they in marriage were allied: To give the world a city rat. Their joys were won, their circle small. In time they both grew coarse and fat. And never had a child at all. —S. E. Klier.

CLEVER PLAN TO CHEAT CLOCK. Busting Ohio City—Discovers Way to Gain Needed Hours of Daylight. Philadelphia Press. Cleveland, Ohio's bustling city on Lake Erie, has hit upon an ingenious way of gaining an hour of daylight at the close of the day's work. Being in something less than 82 degrees west longitude, Central time has heretofore prevailed between the 75th and the 90th meridian. Cleveland has now decided to set her clocks in accordance with Eastern time. By the simple method of working day begins an hour earlier and ends an hour earlier, with the result of giving the worker in the Spring and summer months an extra hour of daylight in which to enjoy relaxation or recreation.

A few years ago another scheme to cheat the clock was proposed in England and widely discussed. This suggestion was to move the hands of the clock back arbitrarily in the long summer days of the high latitude, without any regard for sun's time at all. But that was too radical a proposition for the tradition-respecting Britisher, and it was never adopted. Cleveland is less conservative, and also more scientific. Eastern time as well as Central time is determined by the sun. The seconds and minutes are the arbitrary distance of 15 degrees of longitude and set her clocks by the 75th instead of the 90th meridian. Cleveland is to gain an hour, such as England would gain by a similar method, for the days are never so long in summer in her latitude as in the latitude of the British Isles, but an hour of sunlight at the close of business hours is not to be scoffed at. It would be a boon to thousands who know the value of the pleasure and profit to be gained out of doors. Nor will the getting to work an hour earlier to gain the added hour at the end of the day's work be a hardship on a bright summer morning.

Income From Cows. PORTLAND, March 24.—(To the Editor.)—KINDLY tell me how many cows will average per month on a cream route? SUBSCRIBER. It depends on the breed of cows, and the feeding and care they receive. A definite answer cannot be given. Proper Credit for Characterization. RICHMOND, Ind., March 16.—(To the Editor.)—In your editorial February 1, "An Asher Bush as a Boss," the keen and discriminating characterization of Mr. Bush, beginning "A ready and trenchant writer," etc., taken from my book, should be credited to T. W. Davenport. I refer to him indirectly in the text and directly in a footnote, page 88, in "Political Parties in Oregon," but the sentence in question should have been placed in quotation marks. In fact, my statements on pages 87 and 88, relative to the peculiar supplementary influence of the personality of Bush as a boss, were taken from a Statesman, are based largely on Mr. Davenport's able article in the Oregon Historical Magazine for September, 1908. W. C. WOODWARD.

Topical Verse

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