

The Oregonian

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The Harvard professor is wise to prefer the influence of athletics. He would be wiser still if he would speak of the influence of the modern variety of the perilsous arts of modern life.

OPENING COLLEGE DOORS.

The excellent courses of study which the Agricultural College offers at Corvallis this summer exemplify the wonderful advances which have been made of late in popularizing education. The old notion that a college must pain-

fully each, are sought, and of ages from five to eight years, though good animals far above that age find ready sale. The animals need not be broken to drive or ride. If halter-broken they are accepted at the full price.

We take the following from the Concord Times, which shows how the money is pouring into the pockets of Oregon horseowners: A brown mare made an advantageous sale of horses last week to S. H. Turner of the noted horse dealer from Caldwell, Idaho.

AN ESKIMO BOOK.

From Greenland's icy mountains comes a book by an Eskimo author, Mathias Storch is his name and his book is the first ever published in that forbidding clime. It is in the Eskimo tongue with the engaging title of "Singmagtug," which means nothing more than "the story of my life."

MORE ABOUT EXTRAVAGANCE.

A communication which we publish in another column about the Government debt and expenses illustrates how easily figures can be quoted to produce a false impression. Without any desire to reflect on the accuracy of the World Almanac we have gone to what will be admitted as a better authority for statistics as to Government revenue and disbursements.

EGGS IN ONE BASKET.

We have patiently examined in vain the ninety-six-page report of the Port of Seattle Commission for some information that justifies a city in incurrence of an expenditure in anticipation of a growth in water-borne commerce. The nearest approach is a quotation from an unnamed engineer who dogmatically asserts that facilities created for the port would be self-paying.

Substitutes for War.

The Harvard professor of physiology thinks that in case war should be abolished mankind might find a sufficient outlet for its military ardor in athletics. Even at present it is a little difficult to find a sufficient difference between some forms of athletics and war as far as danger is concerned.

WAR'S LEVY ON HORSELESS.

From various sections of Oregon come reports of the activity of horse buyers, men who are supposedly purchasing horses to fill contracts for mounts and artillery animals for some one or more of the armies now operating in Europe. Horses of various weights, ranging from 950 to 1400

the \$1,115,000,000 of appropriations under discussion is all the money which the Sixty-third Congress appropriated. That was the sum appropriated at the recent short session for the fiscal year 1915.

Early-Day "Custom Milling" in Oregon Recalled.

Hiselots Made From Grist Ground in Crude Flat Leger in Memory of T. T. Geer Yet, as He Delives Into Pioneer Lore of State. BY T. T. GEER. HOWELL'S PRAIRIE, lying seven miles east of Salem, ten miles in length and varying from one to three miles in width, is one of the richest bodies of land on the Pacific Coast.

In some of the published accounts of Howell's prairie it has been stated that in the early 1800s he built the pioneer mill at Pratum which is still in successful operation. This is not true so far as the particular mill is concerned, but, delving a little further into Marion County history, it is found that the first mill built at Pratum was a grist mill.

Fritz Kresler, the violinist, described his war experiences in books called "Four Weeks in the Trenches." We dare say the time passed a little more drearily for him than for the other units of common fodder because of his probably felt, but upon the whole he probably did not suffer any more than the rest of the world's ruffians did.

Readers who like poetry that deals with real things will miss something good if they fail to look into Brinsford's "Trail Dust of a Maverick." He sings of the range life that is almost gone and his notes ring true. He does not spoil the cowboy by romanticizing him, but gives us the real "puncher" and his crudeness, his bravery and his poetry.

We wonder if Montague Glass can create any characters which do not move or less closely reproduce his Abe and Mawrta. If he can and ever does, he may be a great master of fiction. If he cannot, he simply adds one more to our National collection of literary skyrockets which, after a brilliant flash, go out forever.

Some oppose "birth limitation" for good reasons, some for bad. Rational people will, as a rule, prefer the new methods of limitation to the old. What the old methods were is vividly shown by a current cartoon which depicts a man carrying a man over his shoulder at night with her undesired baby in her arms.

The policemen's band, the firemen's band and the letter-carriers' band each have a warm spot in the hearts of the people of this city. While "every kid on the street" does not get lost for a week when they turn out, a great many men and women drop work and business to look and listen.

The manager of Diego Garcia Island will never recover from the bargain he must have felt on learning that in welcoming the Emden he entertained an enemy unwares.

Germany cannot expect a speedy end to the war, since it is listening to a proposal to put its military prisoners into wooden shoes to save the leather for its armies.

There are ten women applicants for every job suitable to the sex at the Panama Exposition, and the warning to keep away has gone out.

Lloyd-George's plan to put an enormous tax on spirits will lead the Britisher into drinking something cheap and much worse.

Again the official press bureau is proving their unreliability by contradictory versions of the battle on the Dardanelles.

In the Colonel's estimation a boss is a very useful institution, so long as he does not try to do too much bossing.

Railroads do not put on trains until there is business for them, and the railroads are adding trains now.

Democracy is defended. Champion of Defeat Party Figures Think Out to His Licking. PORTLAND, April 27.—(To the Editor.)—Your interesting editorial on Monday last, particularly those somewhat headed "Dilemma of the Democracy" and "The Splendid Little War," has been read with interest.

Howell's prairie, lying seven miles east of Salem, ten miles in length and varying from one to three miles in width, is one of the richest bodies of land on the Pacific Coast, and, naturally, was "taken up" as soon as the earliest American pioneers reached Oregon.

A popular delusion seems to be shared by our correspondent, namely, that the more money the Government spends, the more is in circulation. If the money unnecessarily paid in taxes had remained in the people's pockets, there would have been a surplus.

English's mills supplied much of the lumber used in the first buildings in Salem and surrounding country, though its quality was as varied, from second grade lumber, and the other a grist mill which flour was manufactured for the sustenance of the population of the new country.

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Twenty-Five Years Ago. From The Oregonian April 20, 1890. For several days past there has been a great deal of commotion between the Columbia River fishermen and the cannerymen. The fishermen refuse to fish unless they receive \$1.25 for each fish.

Ellensburg, Wash.,—Tomorrow will be the opening of the eighth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic of the State of Washington.

The towns of Whatcom and Selma, Wash., have agreed to consolidate under the name of New Whatcom with a population of 5000, and the towns of Fairbank and Bellinham will amalgamate with a population of 7000.

During the month of March Coos Bay exported 3200 tons of coal and 5,264,000 feet of lumber.

W. A. Grendahl, Southern Pacific engineer and a very capable man, will superintend the building of the new bridge at Salem.

Levi Scott died in Malheur County, Wash., at the age of 83 years. He came to Oregon in 1847 and was a prominent figure in the frontier life of the Northwest.

"A Gold Mine," with Nat. C. Goodwin as the principal character, will be shown at the Marquam Grand Theater next week.

Collis P. Huntington, the railroad magnate, was greeted at Silverton yesterday by the famous Silverton troupe band. When asked if the present railroad gauge was the standard gauge he intimated that it would, Mr. Huntington also visited Coquille.

A number of hotel men arrived at the Portland Hotel yesterday from San Francisco. They are looking for a site for the Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago; A. B. Durling, of the Fifth Avenue Windsor Hotel, New York, and J. E. Kingsley, of the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia. They will make a trip to the coast to see the site.

Major Sears, who left here for London to dispose of some Russian bonds for land, has written that he will soon leave London for Peru and will stop in Portland en route.

C. S. Schenck, better known as "Boss" Schenck, United States Appraiser, has returned to his home in New York in search of health. He visited San Francisco and New York on his tour and returns in fine shape.

John McMahon, the circus man, while at Vancouver, invited the mutes in the school there to attend the circus free of charge. The mutes were accepted by Professor and Mrs. J. Watson, who are in charge of the school.

ON PAYING FOR "LUCKY STONES." Near-Believer Would Buy Them on "Time" and Pay if They Worked. PORTLAND, April 28.—(To the Editor.)—I read an editorial in The Oregonian about Captain Rind's lucky stones. I receive his letters, in shape of advertisements, quite often. Once, when I was somewhat needing a change for the better in my affairs, I answered one of these pamphlets and asked the writer to send me a "lucky stone" and trust me to pay him as soon as things began to come my way. I was in earnest and would have paid for the stone. He refused to sell me a "lucky stone" but offered to let me have one for nothing. I accepted, but would you believe it! He never did bring me a letter, except by sending more printed matter to tell of the wonderful results of the "stones."

Now, don't you think it would be a good idea if the department stores would keep them, and we could have them put on our charge accounts? If they did not bring me a letter, we could take them back and not have to lose the dollar; or could at least change them. A READER.

Ditch and Creek Problem. KEATING, Or., April 28.—(To the Editor.)—A puts in a reservoir and ditch and has it recorded by a surveyor. Afterwards he changes the ditch and creek, but the surveyor's part way and making a new ditch, taking with it what little water was in the creek. The ditch crosses a private road which has been recorded. The owner of the road has a right to have the ditch cleaned out of the ditch. B takes up a 160-acre homestead, two forties of which the lower ditch cuts in two. He proposes to dig a new ditch, but the 160 acres can't be split. Can B compel A to put his ditch back on this recorded right of way? Or does A have a right to leave the road impassable when cleaning the ditch? The road has been in use for 15 years. A. G. DALGLIEST.

Private Road Width. ROLAT, Or., April 28.—(To the Editor.)—General times are being run by the law allows for a private road. A.—The law cannot regulate the width of a private road any more than the law could designate what size shoes a man should wear. A READER.

KING OF KNOWNOTHING LAND. Ignorant lived in distant clime. In distant age as well. With awe he viewed the heavens above. His mystery, deep, did dwell. In fear he spent his days on earth. (For here was mystery, too). While from the day that claimed his birth His weird imaginings grew. He fancied trifling gnomes and sprites. In regions dark must be— Dread things that prowled around at night. But in the morn did flee. This worthy king naught of his kind— Just how they came, or why? Of his own kind, he was the only one. Thought could no truth supply. At first his mind was all a blank. "Twas but a dream, he still must rank. Through lack of matter gray. He built a world, and gazing, quite (Like Antipod, and dumber) said: Some claim he was an ape by right; As to this we would not say.

But sure the fact is very plain. His wits were much like theirs. While ages were required to gain the light, he was a fool. When this result had been attained You'd be surprised to know How he in self-importance soared. And how content could grow. Now he had found that he was king Of fish and fowl and brute. Through wondrous wit a stone could fling. Or with an arrow shoot; And with a look could land his fry; With pitfall trap a bear; Could wing the eagle, soaring high— He'd conquered earth and air. E. PLACKETT.

Reports of Cello Canal Opening in the Oregonian. Arrangements have been made by The Oregonian to report the ceremony of the opening of the Cello Canal in a manner commensurate with importance of this event to the Pacific Northwest. A special writer will accompany the steamer Undine and will give the Oregonian readers daily reports of the ceremony along the Columbia and Snake Rivers, culminating in the programme at Big Ledge next Wednesday. Correspondent Reynolds is also on the Undine and will sketch the people and places connected with the Cello Canal, and the Oregonian will be represented by a photographer.

Next Sunday more than two pages of news and illustrations will be devoted to the Cello Canal, and in the week-day issues adequate space will be set aside for this event of first importance to the Columbia Basin.