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PORTLAND, THURSDAY, JULY 29, 1915.

READY FOR A NATION DRY?

There has been much of late to encourage the prohibition enthusiast into belief that "the time nationally to outlaw the liquor traffic has arrived" and that the movement may gain even world-wide momentum. War's necessities have abolished or restricted drinking in several European countries, nineteen states in America have gone dry, while seven provinces in Canada either have temperance legislation in effect or are facing its seemingly irresistible progress.

But it is not always safe to place reliance on an upward tendency in prohibition. Possibly no other movement can disclose as remarkable a record of ups and downs. Nor is its history wholly modern. The Carthaginians barred intoxicants from their camps. Had wars then been conducted on as national a scope as now, their prohibition would have been quite as revolutionary as Russia's inhibition against vodka. China was the original prohibition nation, if Oriental traditions are to be credited, for there was an energetic Emperor in ancient times who ordered all the vines in the flowery kingdom uprooted in an effort to stamp out drinking. Today Chinese gin is one of the most potent of known intoxicants, and some of the old Carthaginian colonies are engaged in nothing but winegrowing.

In modern times a prohibition wave of even greater comparative proportions than the one we are now witnessing swept over America. About the middle of the last century twelve states in all had prohibition laws. But in some of them the trial of prohibition was only nominal. In others it was almost wholly ineffective. None clung to the principle without a setback except Maine. But the states that adopted prohibition then were among the most populous in the Union and included a much greater proportion of the entire population than do the present nineteen dry states.

In testing the permanency of prohibition today, however, it cannot be overlooked that the principle is better fortified than ever before. Throughout its experimental stage various important things have been learned about its enforcement; the constitutional errors that invalidated earlier statutes have been learned or courts have acquired a different view of the meaning of liberty; some of the loopholes in interstate commerce have been closed by Congressional acts, and perhaps of equal importance is the transition of the prohibition question from almost wholly a moral and sentimental issue to an economic one.

The second great prohibition wave in America, too, has been more firmly built up on the foundation of local option. True, local option is an older plan than state prohibition in this country. It was first adopted in Indiana in 1832, but as a general force it did not prevail strongly until the recession of the prohibition wave in the middle of the last century. It is remarked by the New York Evening Post that under local option there grows up a new generation to which drinking is strange, which knows of it only by the benefit of its absence. The new generation is a power to be reckoned with in a later vote on state prohibition.

This is undoubtedly a sound conclusion as to communities where there has been effective law enforcement. But to the new generation in a local option community the evils of the open saloon are also strange. If it is confronted by blind pigs and bootlegging, it is quite as likely to turn to license and regulation for relief as to state prohibition. Doubtless the failure of prohibition law enforcement was mainly responsible for the recession of prohibition in the last century. The states that have recently adopted prohibition have quite generally had fairly effective local option.

Just as the progress of state prohibition has been built up on local option, probably National prohibition will become sufficiently popular to gain approval only when the larger form of local option has demonstrated its effectiveness. The relation of the Nation to the state is the same as the relation of the state to the smaller unit which was permitted to elect whether it should be dry or wet. The state had to be made ready for prohibition and it had to have a demonstration that prohibition would prohibit.

There is good reason to doubt that the country is prepared for National prohibition. There are actually but two states that supply a criterion as to what may be accomplished with prohibition. And Maine and Kansas are relatively small in urban population—a factor that makes them yield information which, even when favorable to enforcement, is not conclusive. In the South prohibition is tied up with the race question. In short, some of the state units have applied National local option. With them as a whole it is still experimental, and National prohibition, unless established upon a solid foundation, will inevitably yield to reaction.

In proposing a constitutional amendment now the prohibition element is abandoning its policy of slower, surer progress. There is nothing now to justify the effort except the bandwagon tendency that in the end afflicts rather than aids every effort, constructive or otherwise, which acquires a momentum of respectable proportions. And if the unlikely happens and it is attained on a wave of sentimentalism or as a result of a religious or moral revival it is likely to have no firmer footing than the epidemic of 1850.

More persevering instruction might convince the Pacific Mail Steamship Company that their Chinese crews can learn English. Two months' experiment is not decisive one way or the other. The fact that coolies cannot read their own language proves little. Chinese is written with many thousand distinct characters. None but erudite specialists have time to learn them all.

POOR CHANCE.

Senator Kern, of Indiana, is the leader of the United States Senate. Representative Hay, of Virginia, is chairman of the military committee of the House. Both are Democrats. Both are in supposed accord with the purposes and policies of the National Administration.

Yet Chairman Hay, in opposition to the sound opinion of the country and in substantial defiance of the President, Secretary of War, chairman of the Senate committee on military affairs (Mr. Chamberlain) and the military advisers of the Administration, publicly attacks any adequate policy of preparedness. Leader Kern repeats his peace-at-any-price sentiments. Kern and Hay are mere echoes and pawns of Bryan.

The people of the United States are with President Wilson, and not with ex-Secretary Bryan, in his championship of American rights and in his leadership of a united Nation. They are with President Wilson, and not with ex-Secretary Bryan, in his plan to strengthen the Army and Navy.

But there is a poor chance for the President to accomplish anything in the way of real preparedness through a Democratic Congress more strongly attached to Bryan than to Wilson.

CLEAN AND PURE.

The Portland Evening Journal gives a certificate of character to the present city government by testifying that "it is not probable that any city in America has cleaner or purer government than has Portland." We can't think of any governments that we should be willing to say are cleaner or purer; but there are some which we surmise are better—far better.

It is pleasant to be able to agree with our contemporary that it is a clean and pure government by clean and pure men, of whom there are many in Portland; but not all of them are City Commissioners, or are fit to be. Something more is required. If there has been in the city administration any voice effectively raised for retrenchment and economy the public has so far failed to hear it. If any Commissioner has devised a plan of systematic reduction of expenses, in keeping with the general spirit of the times and in consonance with the expectations and sore needs of the taxpayers, it has escaped attention in the general hubbub over the higher cost of public living.

It is to be noted further that our virtuous neighbor corrects the Seattle Post-Intelligencer for saying that the "expenses of government in Portland are $950,000 higher than in the two preceding years under the old system." We beg to assure the Seattle Post-Intelligencer that it has not been found in any substantial error.

THE FLY PEST.

Something like 75 per cent of all the flies "born" are brought forth in stable refuse. This is a statement indorsed by all scientists who have made a close study of the subject, and the observation of inquiring laymen bears out the accuracy of the figures. Admitting that the fly is a dangerous enemy of the human family and a great and expensive nuisance as well, it goes without saying that every person who owns or controls a breeding ground in or around stables should be active in taking advantage of the methods laid down by scientists to reduce the fly output. These methods are simple and inexpensive.

It has been taught for years that borax is the best "medicine" to place upon the breeding grounds of the fly, but this has the disadvantage of reducing the fertilizing value of the manure. During the past couple of years science has gone many steps beyond the borax period and as a result we have the maggot traps which are very effective where there is a large amount of manure to handle. Farmers' bulletin No. 679, which may be had by application to the Department of Agriculture, gives a full description of it and shows how it can be cheaply constructed.

For the small stable where from one to four horses are kept, splendid results in the prevention of the breeding of the fly may be secured by sprinkling the manure piles with a solution prepared by adding one-half pound of powdered hellebore to ten gallons of water. This will destroy from 88 to 99 per cent of the larvae, from which the flies are hatched. The solution should be allowed to stand twenty-four hours after mixing to get the full strength of the hellebore disseminated throughout the water. The ten gallons of solution will treat about eight bushels, or ten cubic feet, of manure, without deterrent effects upon its fertilizing value.

The cost is a mere trifle—about 1 cent for every two bushels treated. The borax treatment is as effective as the hellebore remedy, and in towns and cities it can often be used to great advantage. But for stables of considerable size the hellebore treatment is the best.

FROM 1815 TO 1915.

Has civilization advanced or receded during the last hundred years? We commonly assume that we are far ahead of the world of 1815, but do the facts bear us out in our complacent self-congratulation? William D. Howells, writing in Harper's Magazine, finds grounds for the opinion that we are somewhat better off than our forbears of a century ago. Chattel slavery has gone and he thinks that "industrial slavery is greatly tempered."

The latter may be true of some countries, but hardly of the United States, since in 1815 we had no industries on the modern scale where great armies of workmen were employed. Mr. Howells stands on more solid ground when he says that the century has witnessed a real advance in "arts and letters," but in some other matters we feel less confidence in his position. It would be pleasant, for instance, to agree with him that "we no longer have the wild revivals of old" and that we do not use so much strong drink or chew so much tobacco as our predecessors did a century ago.

Our revivals may have lost some kinds of wildness, but they have acquired others. The Billy Sunday performances in Philadelphia and Patterson present as many aspects of picturesque barbarism as any old-time camp-meeting. Public drunkenness is not so common as it was in 1815, but statistics show that the per capita consumption of alcohol is greater. This is explained partly by its enormous use in patent medicines, partly by the drinking habits of women. In 1815 a woman who drank liquor was the scandal of her neighbors. Today she can toss off her grog and excite no remark.

Mr. Howells justly remarks that we have escaped from the bonds of "the terrible, unscriptural, New England Sabbath," but we have escaped at the same time from the New England church-going, which may not be altogether a gain. In still other matters our progress since 1815 is questionable. That year saw the world just emerging from the wars of Napoleon. This year sees Europe well immersed in the war of the kaisers and it will hardly be claimed by anybody that the horrors of the present struggle are less shocking than those of the Corsican conqueror.

In regard to progress, the truth probably is that while we have bettered matters in some particulars during the last century we have allowed them to grow worse in a great many others.

PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS.

A bulletin issued by the Agricultural Department shows that the prices of farm products all over the country have, as a rule, greatly advanced over those prevailing a year ago, particularly in Oregon.

Butter, eggs and poultry have slightly declined, the former a cent a pound, eggs 3 cents a dozen and chickens 1 3-10 cents per pound. Potatoes have advanced from 46 cents to $1.02 cents; rye from 77 cents to 92 cents; barley from 53 cents to 57 cents; oats from 37 cents to 43 cents; wheat from 77 cents to 89 cents, and corn from 75 cents to 85 cents.

At the prevailing prices our agricultural communities ought to be more than ordinarily prosperous. With the single exception of potatoes the prices quoted can, if the bulletin figures are accurate, be realized by the farmers as quickly as the crops can be sent to market. For potatoes the price fluctuates with the demand and the prices of even a week hence may be 25 per cent higher or 25 per cent lower. The potato is like the hop. It is hard to find the psychological moment for its marketing.

SELLING MUNITIONS.

Theodore S. Woolsey, formerly professor of international law at Yale University, has an article in Leslie's Weekly explaining and defending the American trade in munitions of war. It is in accord with international law, and it is expressly sanctioned by The Hague conference (session of 1907). It is to be noted that Germany, which is regarded as the chief sufferer from the general exportation of arms and munitions to the allies, has made no protest whatever to the United States. It would be useless and inconsistent, for, as Professor Woolsey says:

> Professor Gregory, in an interesting article, gives statistics of the large German exports of arms to the British forces in the Boer War at time Boer trade had been cut off. In the Russo-Japanese war Krupp notoriously supplied both sides. In the Balkan War there was said to be competition between Krupp and Creuzot in furnishing cannon. No state in the nature of things can satisfy its needs in war completely from its own resources. Every belligerent has bought, every neutral has allowed its citizens to sell, munitions since modern war began. England sympathized with the South in our Civil War, yet sold to the North. How did the Alabama in 1870 to France.

It is clear that the United States could perform no more markedly unneutral act than now to forbid the export of munitions and supplies. Germany has withdrawn her navy from the sea, and has left Great Britain and her allies in undisputed command, except as to the submarines. The reason Germany has declined a test of naval strength is confessedly the great superiority of the allies' fleets. The United States is, of course, ready to sell munitions to Germany and her allies, but we cannot deliver, since Germany has abandoned the seas to her enemies. Shall the United States, by refusing to sell to Great Britain or France, seek to equalize an advantage that even their enemies concede?

There is complaint, too, that the United States is seeking to benefit by trade with the warring powers. Why not? The United States as a neutral power was and is vastly hurt by a war which was not of its making. If its great trade losses may in part be recouped through the very condition which has imposed them, the United States is but taking advantage of a legitimate opportunity.

A PRODIGIOUS PROBLEM.

Word from Washington that the Administration has taken up seriously the problems of National defense will be received with general satisfaction. There never has been a time when the whole people so fully realized the helpless condition of the country nor when the public mind was so ready for the development of an adequate military policy. Military pessimists have long predicted that the American mind was beyond hope of an awakening. A disastrous invasion, they have contended, would be required to stimulate us to action. The error of this dire prediction has not yet been proved, but there are evidences that an awakening is well advanced and that military and naval impotence will be changed anon into a considerable degree of potence.

The idea of a board to seek a solution of our military and naval problems strikes The Oregonian as the proper method of procedure in the matter. In fact, the idea was put forward by The Oregonian several weeks ago, when it was urged that the biggest minds in the country be included in such a board. Secretary Garrison has chosen as his advisers some of the best-equipped men of high rank in the Army and Navy. The data and recommendations they present will be made the basis of his report to the President, who, in turn, will pass along his conclusions to Congress.

The unanimous hope will be that the programme, when completed, will suffice to meet the requirements of an effective military and naval policy for the United States. No definite announcement has been made as yet, and very little in the way of speculation has been offered as to the proposed measures. In some circles the report is out that a standing army of half a million men will be proposed in the programme. Reports vary as to the number of war vessels that are to be added to our Navy. But, after all, these are minor details. The big phase of the problem is a modus operandi of recruiting and maintaining whatever new forces may be decided upon. Certainly we could not keep up an Army of half a million men on the basis of recruitment that now exists. Difficulty is experienced in maintaining the little National police force which we now dignify with the name of Army. Naturally there has got to be some entirely new way of acquiring and maintaining a first-line Army. Whether this solution will be found by a species of compulsory service of by an arrangement of short enlistments remains to be seen.

The mainstay of National defense, of course, must be our citizen soldiery. What shall we do with our National Guard to bring it up to the highest standard? The National Guard is sadly in need of encouragement. The patriotic young men who have been performing this service of arms for years with little reward and less public recognition must be stimulated. More must be required of them, and at the same time more must be done for them. Given adequate Federal support and public encouragement, the organized militia of the country offers possibilities of development which will have to be given full consideration in any measure looking toward a bolstering up of our military policy.

Nor is the problem settled when a substantial first line has been established on land and sea. Even a standing Army of half a million men would be of little consequence in a real war. The problem of reserve forces is big. At least we must have the nucleus. At least we must know where the officers and the supplies and the munitions are coming from. What will be done along these lines? The deeper the problem of our military inadequacy is entered into the more hopeless it appears.

It must not be expected that Secretary Garrison and his advisers will solve the problem all at one stroke of the pen. At present we have only chaos so far as a military policy is concerned. The transition cannot be effected in the same manner that the saving of a soul can be consummated at a revival meeting. We have been so weak and wobbly and groping in these matters that regeneration will have to proceed by degrees. The fortunate thing about it all is that we have the opportunity to wrestle with these problems unembarrassed by the operations of a hostile foe on our flanks.

Sentiment at the Eugene church conference seems to favor the union of rural churches. One strong church in a community is better than half a dozen weak ones. But before the rural church can come into its own we must have ministers educated to solve its peculiar problems. The village congregation is hungry for bread, but too often it is fed on stones.

Congressman Frank Smith, of Maryland, has a project for "eugenic peace." His plan is an alliance of the United States, England, France and Germany. The only difficulty is that peace must be secured before the alliance could be formed, like the Irishman's boots, which he thought he would wear a few days before trying them on.

The aeroplane attacks on Verona and Ancona proved futile, as they have everywhere else. The airmen must invent some new and more efficient missile before they can accomplish much. At present they can scare peaceable citizens and kill a few non-combatants, but anything else is apparently out of their power.

There were 22,000,000 pupils in the public schools last year, with 700,000 teachers. The total expense of the system was $750,000,000, a little more than $1000 for each teacher. This includes janitors' wages, fuel, apparatus and new buildings as well as salaries. The cost per pupil is a trifle more than $34.

Dr. Forester Smith's figures regarding the success in life of college athletes are not encouraging to "rooters." He says a baseball or football hero has far less chance of distinction than an ordinary graduate. And common experience confirms his remark.

Secretary Lansing's interference in the case of the five Mexicans to be hanged in Arizona tomorrow is a bit of officious officialism. Their execution can have little effect on the political situation in Mexico, which cannot be worse.

The submarine "terror" being constructed at Los Angeles is somebody's plaything. A 13-foot boat cannot hold men enough to operate her, not to mention carrying torpedoes that must be longer to be effective.

Time for Idaho to organize Borah for President clubs. The current issue of Collier's has an extensive history of the Idaho Senator, with sidelights on the Bill and Billy phases of his Western career.

Mobilize the Third Oregon! An Oregonian is held by Germany for attempting to leave without passports. This is bringing the war situation to an understandable degree.

In these days of more or less depression, it is pleasant to learn that man's value is rising. A Salem woman wants $45,000 for alleged breach of promise.

Bryan deprecated the "raw meat" policy of Roosevelt at Sacramento and may be expected to repeat here tomorrow night.

There is a good deal of dry humor in Arizona. A Tonto Apache has been hired for official executioner at a dollar a drop.

Lowering clouds and gloomy sky would lead one to think this was hop-picking time and the State Fair in sight.

Perhaps they don't raise their boys to be soldiers in Russia, but she is calling out the 19-year-olds just the same.

Six will be held responsible for the Eastland horror, which gives all opportunity to dodge on technicalities.

The Leelanaw case will occupy about the usual space in the filing cabinet, that's all.

What the Haitiens need for president is a white man who can shoot with both hands.

Oil has spread on the troubled waters at Bayonne and all strikers are at work.

New horror for England. Germany is making invisible aeroplanes.

Did the grocers mind the rain? Ask the boy this morning.

Hereafter a jag of wood must be a definite fraction of a cord.

Naturally, Becker is a little uneasy today.

Stars and Starmakers

By Leone Case Baer.

Time was when the Rialto was located in New York and had its habitat right where the Lamb's Club gambols. But no more. If one is to believe the personals in the daily papers all the actors in the world (with the exception of Walter Gilbert, who is camping on North Beach, and J. Forbes Robertson, who is vacationing in England with his family), are gathered together in California. Those who aren't being made into screen dramas are just seeing the fair. David Warfield is in San Francisco, resting and visiting his mother, a Summer habit he has kept up for years. Jesse Lasky is there. Jesse used to write and produce vaudeville sketches, and still does when he isn't managing his big motion-picture concern. Other motion-picture magnates in San Francisco are D. W. Griffith and Mark Sennett. Also in the fair city is Morris Gest, some time since the promoter and owner of a turgid Russian ballet with great music, and now the impresario of Geraldine Farrar, the opera star, temporarily gathered to the reel life; there is Geraldine Farrar herself, just up from the Southland between pictures; there is William H. Crane, who isn't a veteran actor for nothing and who is going to add to his holdings by a revival of an old success; there is Raymond Hitchcock and his wife Flora Zabelle there, and so are Jean Schwartz and his dancing wife, Rozsika Dolly; also, Sidney Grant and Charlotte Greenwood, James Buchanan Brady, Fannie Ward, Blanche Ring, Lou Tellegen, Donald Brian, Nat Goodwin and his latest wife, Marjorie Moreland; Maurice Farkoa, Melville Ellis, Charles Chaplin, Douglas Fairbanks and Harry Williams; there is House Peters, a monarch of the movies; there is Mabel Normand, whose pretty countenance has been seen in the pictures many times, and there is E. J. Carroll, who controls a string of 26 theaters in Australia. And Frank Keenan is in San Francisco, and Guy Bates Post, and Richard Walton Tuely, and Alfred Hertz, one of the Nation's greatest conductors.

* * *

And now comes confirmation of the report circulated months ago that Peggy O'Neil is married. Her husband is Timothy Daniel Frawley, who used to manage stock and traveling troupes on the Pacific Coast and who has in recent years been general stage manager for Oliver Morosco. It was Mr. Frawley who gave Peggy O'Neil her first chance on the stage. "You're Irish and I'm Irish; haven't ye got some sort of a job for me with my funny face?" Peggy whimsically pleaded with T. Daniel just as he had finished telling her there was nothing in sight. And T. Daniel looked again, and looking remembered the Peg o' My Heart companies then forming and Oliver Morosco's call for a half dozen types who could follow Laurette Taylor's creation of homely, queer little Peg. So he hesitated—and like all who hesitate, was lost. Or won. It all depends on one's viewpoint. Anyway Peggy got the role, and now she has married T. Daniel, who is over twice her own age. Upon investigation it has been disclosed that their marriage license and certificate were filed with County Clerk Sweitzer in Chicago on January 28. And how Peggy did strenuously deny any ideas of matrimony when she was in Portland!

* * *

The first news of a new play for David Warfield—always an interesting topic—has come from Laurette Taylor by way of London. According to a letter just received from her by a friend, David Belasco is importing for Warfield the play, "The Laughter of Fools," which is now current in London.

Hitherto Warfield has used plays written especially for him and under the supervision of Mr. Belasco himself. There seems to be no doubt that Mr. Belasco has evinced interest in "The Laughter of Fools," and unless he intends the play for Warfield, Miss Taylor writes, then everybody concerned in its production is being sadly misled.

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John Hyams and Leila McIntyre, who just now are in vaudeville, are to be starred next season in a musical play called "The Girl From Grand Rapids." It will open in Chicago, in October, at the La Salle Theater.

* * *

John P. Campbell, one of the directors of the Irish Theater of America, is inviting native playwrights to submit their work to the newly-formed organization, which is planning an active season in New York.

* * *

Max Rabinoff, managing director of the Pavlowa ballet, has sent out announcements from Chicago giving details of arrangements he is making for the combination of grand opera with ballet for the coming season. Two large organizations will be brought together for joint performances: The Pavlowa Company, which is already complete and has been for several seasons, and a new grand opera company which he is now forming, and in which grand opera stars of international repute will be featured.

For this new grand opera organization he has obtained from the Boston Opera-House the complete productions of "Othello," "L'Amore Del Tre Re," "Carmen," "La Gioconda," "Rigoletto," "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Pagliacci." Some of these equipments were designed and made by Urban and others by Stropa. To the productions of these two famous scenic artists will be added others upon which Bakst, Urban and Sime are now working.

The entire Boston Opera-House orchestra and chorus will be brought to this new opera company, which, when combined with the Pavlowa forces, will form what Mr. Rabinoff states will be the largest organization that has ever been sent on tour in America.

While Mlle. Anna Pavlowa will be the star of the choreographic portion of these presentations, the operatic portion will present such stars as Maggie Teyte, Riccardo Martin, Marie Nedlizova from the Imperial Opera in Petrograd, George Baklanoff, formerly primo baritone of the Boston Opera Company; Gaudio Mansueto, said to be one of the world's greatest bassos, who has appeared in the leading opera-houses of Europe and South America, and Ippolito Lazzaro, a young Italian who has been acclaimed as one of the world's stellar lyric tenors at La Scala, Milan, and at the National Opera in Buenos Aires. These are only a few of the principal members of the new organization, and Mr. Rabinoff is now negotiating with many other international grand opera stars, whose names will be announced as soon as their engagements are completed.

IS LIFE FIRST CONSIDERATION?

What of Honor, Virtue, Patriotism? Asks Democrat of Mr. Bryan.

PORTLAND, July 28.—(Open letter to Hon. W. J. Bryan.)—Will preface this brief note with the statement that I have supported you most loyally in three Presidential campaigns and have always been a Democrat politically. I am still a loyal supporter of your position as a Democrat, but the subject upon which I most respectfully address you, and in which I cannot support you, is that of peace, and the price you seem willing to pay therefor.

As a student of history, and as a just and careful observer of what has taken place in the records of the achievements of the human race, you cannot but admit that many, many wars, in fact the majority of wars of which accounts have been chronicled, have been for just purposes and have brought about improved conditions of the human race.

Whether providential, or otherwise, wars seem to have been necessary, both in the remote and in the rather immediate past. The wars of the Israelites seem to have had, in instances, the aid of the God of the Jewish race.

Pagan history records worthy wars and highly commends patriotism and love of country.

To die for one's country was thought the most noble of deaths, among those whom Christians choose to call the Pagan peoples. The wars of the Crusaders were Christian wars and furnish most noble examples of love of country and readiness to die for the cause of God and country.

The Prince of Peace seems to have been known and understood in the days of the Crusaders and in later years fully as well as in the 20th century, but it seems to have remained for a type of 20th-century Christians to proclaim war as unchristian.

To take care of one's life seems to be the highest duty of the modern Christian who opposes war as war, and makes no distinction between the just and the unjust war.

If war may ever be just, it behooves the wise nation to be prepared to carry on a just war when necessary. To submit to injustice, either as individuals or as a nation, through fear of the consequences, seems a pitiful condition of mind, and to reason that we can avoid trouble by being unprepared seems a failure to understand human nature, and a childish faith that nothing can justify, reliance upon which might result in national disaster.

When wrong has been done and law violated we do not enter into lengthy discussions with the individual accused of the crime, but according to our various systems, we punish the violator of law. Why use a different method when a nation becomes an outlaw and sets at defiance international law?

When the German submarine sent the Lusitania to the bottom of the ocean with innocent noncombatants on board and without giving them any chance for life, murder was committed by a nation and international law violated.

What, then, does it mean to have a country and what is citizenship in our country worth if our Government will stand by and not resent, with war if necessary, the murder of its citizens?

If life alone is the only thing to save, what do we mean by honor, virtue, patriotism? What of the Christian martyr who gloried in death for his religion, when by yielding principle he might have lived?

What of the noble women who have died rather than be dishonored, when, by the sacrifice of virtue, they might have lived?

What of the heroes of the Civil War who died that the Union might continue, when by allowing the Union to be disrupted their lives might have been spared?

What of the heroes of the Revolution, who died to give us these United States, when by taking the easiest way they could have remained subjects of King George and saved their lives?

Do you not think that by making life paramount or superior to all other things you pay too high a price?

Must honor, patriotism, virtue, even Christianity itself, all be sacrificed in order to usher in a philosophy that would avoid war, no matter what the cause?

After applying the new philosophy to the nations, would you apply it to the individual?

Is the new philosophy not a coward philosophy and unworthy of the great Commoner?

As a friend and admirer, I candidly submit these few observations for such notice as you choose to give them, but confident that my countrymen will never follow your views on this subject.

I am for peace, but not at the price you seem willing to pay.

J. P. HENRY.

CRUELTY CHARGE INSISTED UPON

President of Humane Society Condemns Methods at Dog Pound.

PORTLAND, July 28.—(To the Editor.)—The Oregon Humane Society lifted the cover from the city dog pound and found that appalling deeds had been committed under Mr. Welch's management. We have sworn statements, together with the ax that has mutilated and killed at least 1500 poor, helpless pets. While this brutal slaughter was taking place the gas chamber was in running order, and this awful work was uncalled for. These helpless creatures were hit one to three times before death ensued.

Witnesses testified that it was nothing unusual for dogs to go from one to three days without food. Is it any wonder that these dumb brutes became so hungry that twice during the month of March they ate one another up?

Just to show that Mr. Welch was lacking in more than one way, we wish to state that fat dogs were often sold for rendering out fat for the use of consumptives. However, for this purpose dogs should be killed in a sanitary way and the blood drawn from them immediately. On several occasions the dogs were sold after lying in the gas fumes all night and were no doubt poisoned through and through.

The Oregon Humane Society invites all the people of Portland to come at any time and watch them put these animals to sleep without pain or blood. When the 15 dogs were killed on March 26 and loaded into the wagon it was an easy matter to trail them from the barn to the incinerator by the blood which flowed from the wagon in which they were hauled.

Some years ago the Humane Society got the city to put in a gas chamber, so as to put the dogs out of the way in a humane manner, but it seems the ax was preferred to this method of killing.

Several witnesses stated that it was nothing unusual to come to the dog pound in the morning and find three or four dogs that had been killed during the night and partly eaten by dogs that had become famished. One incident was the putting to death of a large Newfoundland, at which time Mr. Welch administered cyanide of potassium. This caused extreme pain for an hour, after which she was hit with a pick about ten times. After all of this the deputy poundmaster was ordered to cut her throat with a knife before death occurred.

With all of the above evidence, Mr. Welch was found not guilty of cruelty to animals. Is it any wonder the public mind is being turned against such work as the above? If the city treasury must be cursed with money taken for such work as this, I, for my part, would rather see the city go bankrupt.

A. COWPERTHWAIT,
President Oregon Humane Society.

Income Efficiency.

Life,

Agnes—Marion has become an efficiency expert. She goes about telling women how to live within their incomes. Gladys—Nothing doing here. I'm looking for some one to teach me how to live beyond mine.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of July 29, 1890.

A mountain of stone is reported to have been found about nine miles from Grants Pass that will make grindstones.

It is thought it will require the services of 1000 to 2000 men at least four months to complete the contemplated changes in the railroad through the Cow Creek Canyon.

The following notice is posted on Main street, Athena: "To my neighbors: If my Spring chickens are disturbing your garden, kill them and eat them.—John Edington."

Arthur M. Plato writes the following note to The Oregonian: "Allow me to tender the free use of Masonic Hall any evening to any organization wishing to arrange a benefit for the sufferers by the fire in Wallace. Provided that the entire proceeds be forwarded to be used where the most good can be accomplished."

Government Census Agent Kruse left for Minneapolis yesterday morning, to superintend the work of patching up census matters there.

The Czar has issued an edict forbidding applause in Russian theaters. The explosion of bombs in the vicinity of the Czar has made him very sensitive to noises of all kinds.

The Archduke Franz of Austria has a large and interesting collection of relics of criminals who have been executed. Among the relics are portions of the ropes used in hanging the Chicago anarchists.

Montesano Vidette: Montesano is becoming metropolitan. During the past few days we have the patent medicine man on the street corner, a medium or fortune teller and a street fakir. Beside this there is a distant rumor of an onslaught by the Salvation Army.

Philadelphia, July 28. — Clayton French, aged 70 years, founder of the extensive wholesale drug firm of French, Richards & Co., of this city, died at his country home near Logan Station, Pa., today, of paralysis. He left an estate of about $5,000,000.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of July 29, 1865.

The attention of our city fathers is called to the process now going on to convert Hall street, at its junction with Front, into a duck pond when any considerable amount of rain shall fall. Front street is being filled, completely burying even the cultus wooden culvert placed there when the fill was first commenced, leaving no exit for the water except over the "dam" or by the speedy (?) process of evaporation—breeding wigglers, mosquitoes, gallnippers, frogs, lizards, etc. A fine location for a naturalist.

The farmers near Albany are to meet on Saturday next at the farm of Mr. Hackleman and contest for prizes in plowing. The first prize of $10 is for the best plowing; the second best, $5; the third and fourth prizes will be awarded for the best and second best plows. A gang plow for three or five horses and some implements from this city will be exhibited and used and hereafter it is expected the "June plowing match" will be one of the regularities in Oregon agriculture.

The boys and girls have found out that strawberries are ripe, but patresfamilias do not care to know it. The delicious fruit retails from 50 to 75 cents per pound. Too extraordinary for luxury at the present time.

Maine and Missouri, that came into the Union together, one a free and the other a slave state, ratified the constitutional amendment abolishing slavery on the same day, February 7.

On Saturday, at precisely 10:30 A. M., the people of this section hailed the advent of a pouring down from the atmosphere of an abundant mass of aqua, not in the shape of vapor, but the real substance, distinguishable from mist by the size of the drops. Soon the pouring process assumed the mixed form of rain and hail and came down much in the manner of the latter. The concretions continued to fall for some minutes, when all cleared off, leaving the sun to shine gloriously and warmly upon the whole face of nature, which smiled beautifully, thankful for the favors.

Way to Blast Stumps.

CORVALLIS, Or., July 28.—(To the Editor.)—After having read an article on stump blasting by someone who signs himself "California Cultivator," I would like to say a few words which may be of use to those wishing to blast not only stumps but rock or anything.

I like California's suggestions—they are all right—but there are other things to be considered. A good way to blast a big stump is to bore a hole well down under it with an augur; get a little past the center if possible; then lower about one-fifth of a stick of powder on the end of a fuse; be sure it is well connected in such a way that it can't get loose from the cap and fuse; then touch it off and spring the hole. One can burn out a hole as big as one's hat, or in fact, any size to hold the required amount of powder, in this way.

In blasting in wet ground put plenty of soap on the cap; work it in around the upper end of cap. Be sure it is well connected, as it is the miss-shoot that is liable to kill someone.

After springing a hole as I have suggested never load it until after it has had two or three hours in which to cool. Better let it go half a day, as there may be a fragment of fuse still hanging fire in the hole. It is not necessary to tamp a hole when springing it, in fact it is not necessary to tamp giant powder so hard as one would black powder. Just make it airtight is all that is necessary. Be sure to give it enough powder to turn the trick the first shot. Better spend a few cents more for powder than to fool with it a day or two afterwards. Use stump powder for blasting stumps. It is most decidedly the best.

G. G. BOOCO.

British Columbia Marriage Laws.

PORTLAND, July 28.—(To the Editor.)—(1) Kindly publish the charge of the marriage licenses in Victoria, B. C. (2) Also if first cousins can marry in said place.

A CONSTANT READER.

(1) Five dollars is the license fee. (2) There is no legal bar to the marriage of first cousins.

Put the Goods in the Window

Mr. Retailer, your windows are worth money to you—they are the periscope by which passersby see your store.

Put goods in the windows the people want to see.

For one thing, put in the products the manufacturers are advertising in this newspaper.

Put them in at the time they are being advertised.

Swinging your window in tune with the newspaper advertising puts your store in the public eye.

People who read the advertising and see the goods begin to think of those brands in connection with you.

This is advertising your store.