The Oregonian

PORTLAND, OREGON.

Entered at Portland, Oregon, Postoffice as second-class matter.
Subscription Rates—Invariably in advance.
(By Mail.)

Daily, Sunday included, one year	$8.00
Daily, Sunday included, six months	4.25
Daily, Sunday included, three months	2.15
Daily, Sunday included, one month	.75
Daily, without Sunday, one year	6.00
Daily, without Sunday, six months	3.25
Daily, without Sunday, three months	1.75
Daily, without Sunday, one month	.60
Weekly, one year	1.50
Sunday, one year	2.50
Sunday and Weekly, one year	3.50

(By Carrier.)

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

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

Postage Rates—12 to 16 pages, 1 cent; 18 to 22 pages, 2 cents; 24 to 28 pages, 3 cents; 30 to 40 pages, 4 cents; 42 to 48 pages, 5 cents; 50 to 62 pages, 6 cents. Foreign postage, double rates.

Eastern Business Office—Verree & Conklin, Brunswick building, New York; Verree & Conklin, Steger building, Chicago. San Francisco representative, R. J. Bidwell, 742 Market street.

PORTLAND, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22, 1915.

THE MARRIED SCHOOLTEACHER.

It is quite to be expected that the State Supreme Court will not uphold the legality of a rule which makes marriage automatic cause for discharge from any public employment. The law and the courts generally give more sanctity to the marriage relation than to any other social institution. In a case just decided the right of a schoolteacher to hold her position after marriage in face of a rule to the contrary promulgated by the Portland School Board was involved. The court has wisely held that marriage is not an inherent obstacle to the efficiency of a school instructor.

The court, however, does not say, and no one will dispute, that marriage might not become such an obstacle. The reasons are obvious. Indeed, the same thing may truthfully be said concerning employment of males in certain capacities. It is possible that realization of family responsibilities may detract from the fearlessness which police officers are sometimes called upon to employ. Yet no regulation would appear more ridiculous to the public than one which deprived a Deputy Sheriff of his job in the event he took a wife.

The court expresses further wisdom when it remarks that "if a teacher is neglectful, incompetent and indifferent she ought to be discharged whether she is married or single." And we would add that neglect traceable to home duties or home interests ought to be ground for dismissal. While home-making is a function inviting encouragement it is not one that calls for needless sacrifice of the welfare of other necessary institutions. The School Board's mistake was in the implied assumption that home making and school teaching are invariably incompatible.

Nevertheless, the decision, when considered in connection with recent legislation affecting the schoolteacher's tenure of employment, reveals a definite transfer of autocratic power from employer to employe. Theoretically, it is possible for the School Board to discharge teachers for cause. Practically, it is far short of it. The teacher who is able to hold her position during a probationary period of two years is assured a life job. She may be dismissed only for cause and, if she demands it, after a public hearing.

The effort to remove a teacher for cause may become a procedure of record and the teacher may appeal to the courts from an adverse decision. Everyone familiar with school work knows that inefficiency can rarely be demonstrated by citing concrete incidents. What superintendent and School Board know about pupils' lack of progress is seldom provable. Possibly knowledge that marriage of a teacher may—though not must—lead to inefficiency and knowledge of the difficulties of meeting a situation which might arise caused the School Board to make its rule so sweeping in character.

The permanent employment law affecting schoolteachers applies only to the Portland district. At the time of its adoption, three years ago, and for a long time prior thereto, there had been no general suspicion of understanding that politics or influence or spite controlled discharge of Portland schoolteachers. The law seems to have been inspired chiefly by a desire to relieve the teachers of annual worry over the uncertainty—in most cases fancied or magnified—of their reemployment. The bill was proposed by the grade teachers and it was lobbied through the Legislature by teachers.

The Supreme Court decision in Mrs. Richards' case emphasizes, we think, the impropriety of such a statute. Logically, marriage is not inherent cause for dismissal; the court now says that lawfully it is not. In instances it may, however, lead to neglect and inefficiency. The School Board is powerless to make a general rule; it is practically powerless to determine each case on its merits. The general efficiency of the schools demands that the School Board have broader authority over discharge of teachers, married or single.

PRUNING HISTORY.

Peace propagandists have formed an alliance with certain firms which publish school histories. As soon as school boards can be induced to accept the revised books the plan will be complete. Remove all reference to wars, intrigues, empires and dynasties from the school histories. That is the essence of the movement. In this way the mind of the rising generations will not become contaminated with the micro-organisms of world discord which serve to make war. Instead of war the histories will deal with economic growths and civic activities. Art and literature will be considered where campaigns once occupied the attention of historians.

A weird plan, indeed. Since all nations have been delivered from the womb of war, since wars and the development of civilization have gone hand in hand, it would be a hopelessly ignorant young person who was permitted to know nothing of those things. There is no doubt but that the plan would meet with a measure of success so far as multiplying the ignorance of the young is concerned. Witness the provincialism which has grown up in the country largely through our time-honored school histories. Do they not glorify American arms and American military achievements? Is there one suggestion in any of them that America has always presented a clumsy and unwieldy aspect in war, requiring two and three men for every man of the enemy's force and then has suffered frequent reverses? Do the school histories tell the story of Bladensburg in the same detail that Cornwallis' surrender is noted? Hardly a word regarding Bladensburg. Had the generations now grown up been taught that a handful of British regulars drove off 6000 American volunteers, headed by the President in their flight, and then burned the National Capital, perhaps the course of preparedness would not be so rugged in the present hour.

If the new histories are adopted in great number school boards which embrace this fantastic idea will be responsible for the crop of misinformed and uninstructed young people that are certain to follow. So far as having any effect in preventing war is concerned the plan is no more sensible than that of preventing all mention of death and disease in the school physiologies in order to end those twin scourges of mankind.

SOUND AMERICANISM.

The Mayor of Philadelphia is Rudolph Blankenburg, recently defeated for re-election, but nevertheless a sound and true American, cherishing American ideals, breathing American patriotism and revering American institutions. Not long since, in the presence of the President of the United States, this fine American citizen of German birth made an affecting and powerful appeal for American unity; and lately he delivered an address before the Pennsylvania Society of New York that contained these striking sentences:

> To me neither British nor German-Americans, nor Irish, Scotch, French, Italian or Russian-Americans, as political entities, appeal.
>
> The action of a small but clamorous section of Americans, who blazon forth their fancied claim to superiority over the rest of their countrymen by calling themselves the Anglo-Saxon race, is as absurd as it is unwound.
>
> An overwhelming majority of our white population is a mixture of all the white races of Europe—Teutonic, Latin and Slav. Let us, therefore, abolish all distinction that may lead to ill feeling and let us call ourselves, before the whole world, Americans first, last and all the time.

The American of foreign ancestry may well have affection and sympathy for the land of his birth; but, as one great American said, the "man who has two flags must put one above another."

The example of this one citizen who exalts no hyphen may well be commended to native Americans who do not value their patrimony at its worth and other Americans who have forgotten why they left another country to make their homes under a new flag.

THE JACKSONIANS.

A single term for any public official is naturally a delicate question among Democrats nowadays. The Democratic National platform of 1912 declared for one Presidential term, and "pledged the candidate of this convention to this principle." The candidate was Woodrow Wilson, and there is nothing about the conduct of Woodrow Wilson, either political or marital, to suggest that he regards the battered old wreck of a platform, adopted in the exigencies of a doubtful campaign, as aught but a scrap of paper.

One may well imagine that if the question of a single term for its President had been submitted to the Jackson Club in the dark days of 1912, it would have been adopted without a dissenting vote. When a Democrat has no job, he is content to have a single term; but when he has the job, the reasons why a limit should be placed on his tenure cease to have any cogency whatever.

The action of the Jackson Club of Portland, adopted amid much tumult and shouting, in favoring any number of terms for its officers, may be regarded as the opening gun for 1916—or, to change the figure, the very keystone of the Democratic arch. It is to be made as easy as possible for President Wilson to declare his candidacy for re-election. It will follow, as the night the day—or, rather, as one bright day in a fat and prosperous season follows another—that the faithful and far-seeing servants who helped Woodrow to hold his job will be able to persuade him that they should again have their jobs.

INTO THE YAKIMA COUNTRY.

Any truth-telling map of the state of Washington will disclose the interesting fact that the great county of Yakima, popularly thought to lie in the heart of Washington, closely borders the lower Columbia River territory, and that its southern boundary for a great many miles almost exactly parallels the Columbia River at a distance of thirty or forty miles. The county of Klickitat is the southern neighbor of Yakima, and Klickitat, for obvious geographical reasons, is distinctly a part of Portland's trade territory.

There are a few hills between Klickitat and Yakima, and there is an Indian reservation which has offered a practical barrier to the tide of easy travel between the river and the towns and country of Yakima. Nevertheless, Yakima has always been within speaking distance of the river and of Portland—nearer certainly than to Puget Sound—and it has seemed strange that more diligent effort has not been made to establish closer lines of communication between Yakima and the Columbia—we mean the Lower Columbia—and Portland.

Now there is a proposal from Yakima for Portland to lend its moral support to a plan to build a road through the Simcoe Reservation and on to the Columbia at White Salmon, there to connect with the Columbia Highway by ferry. It is said that Klickitat and Yakima counties are ready to finance the road, if right of way can be secured through the reservation. The Federal Government ought to give its assent to a project so worthy and necessary; and of course Oregon will help.

COMPULSORY SERVICE.

Compulsory military service is a subject which even the boldest of our statesmen and military advocates are content to avoid in public utterances. Only such firebrands as Colonel Roosevelt come out openly for a system of compulsion. The average man, even though he favors the idea in his own mind, is loath to drag it into the open to offend the ideals of that individualistic democracy which is part and parcel of the American temperament.

The general idea of compulsory service is that it is a monster of the first magnitude; an agency of autocracy and monarchy which would poison the wells of freedom. Yet on closer inspection the system appears less ominous even in its relationship to the very ideas that it is commonly thought to oppose. Military service is a great leveler. Rich man and poor man serving side by side in the same company of the same battalion of the same regiment become fast friends. Class distinction is done away with. In fact the poor man, by reason of a greater ability, may rise to command his rich associate in the service.

When war comes another strong argument appears for compulsory service. Every able-bodied male citizen must go until the military needs are filled. Under the voluntary system in Great Britain only the strong, willing and virile go forth, leaving their weaker brethren behind to look after posterity. If the system were different the whole burden would not fall upon the patriotic and self-sacrificing. The thin blood would go to the front along with the rich red blood of the land, and that division of responsibility would be true of those who remained behind. So far as the economic and military aspects of the subject are concerned, the advantages of compulsory service are not debatable. Compulsion produces an adequate army amenable to strict discipline at a relatively small cost. Viewed from close range, the monster of compulsory service is less of a monster than we have been wont to believe.

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

The bounteous spirit of Christmas is in the air. It is reflected not only in the shop windows and street decorations but in the faces of those you meet. The children are all excitement, their little souls stirred to a high pitch of pleasant anticipation. There is a more kindly spirit among the elders in this moment of good will among men.

It is well that tradition has brought the influence of the Yuletide season into our lives to soften the natures that may have grown callous during long months of work and competition. Perhaps this influence is more important this year than ever before, since there are evidences that the human family has lost something of its finer sensibilities under the influences of the red monster on the distant horizon.

There is that in the gentle atmosphere of this eventful week that brings to the surface the best in men's natures. A more charitable spirit toward fellow travelers on the journey from cradle to grave. A putting aside of dissensions and harsh judgments. A kindly helpfulness and prodigality which may have lain nearly dormant through the year. Christmas is essentially a season of kind acts, of thoughtful consideration for others. The man who does not find it within himself to perform some helpful deed in this season should be suspected of having no seeds of gentleness within his nature. Or if the seeds are present they have not flourished in the barren soil.

A thoughtless, hurried giving does not meet the spirit of Christmas. The man who hands his wife a check and leaves the Christmas details to her is open to the suspicion that he possesses a harsh nature. He is missing the true delights of the occasion. The matter is one requiring personal thought and attention, whether in buying those presents which are designed to delight one's friends and family or in meeting that greater obligation to help someone who is in need. To give alms is nothing unless you give thought also, as Ruskin once remarked. It is written, not "blessed is he that feedeth the poor," but "blessed is he that considereth the poor." A little thought and a little kindness are often worth more than a great deal of money. Ruskin's words provide noble guidance for those who find within themselves in this happy season the inspiration for adding something to the world's brightness.

THE REPUBLICAN OUTLOOK.

An exhaustive canvass of Republican editors and members of Congress by the Literary Digest as to Republican candidates and issues for the Presidential campaign of 1916 reveals certain outstanding facts. One is that ex-Senator Root has most support for President outside of his own state, being favored by 249 editors out of 751, and Justice Hughes second with 152, their support being more widely distributed than that of any other man mentioned. Senator Burton comes next, but his endorsements are most numerous in and around his own state, and he is the second choice of many in the Atlantic states. Senator Sherman has 144 votes, but they are mostly from his own state, while Senator Borah has 108 from all sections and is highly favored as second choice. Senator Cummins is next, with a large following in the upper Mississippi Valley and few votes elsewhere. Ex-President Taft has a faithful 51 and ex-President Roosevelt 47. Senator Weeks is strong in New England, but nowhere else. Ex-Vice-President Fairbanks, Governor Johnson, Governor Brumbaugh and Senator LaFollette are only favorite sons of their own states.

Senator Root's strength on the face of the returns is lessened in fact by the strong objection of many Progressives, who cannot forgive him the part he took in the convention of 1912. Although the rejected new constitution of New York State was his handiwork and was decidedly progressive, the Bull Moose doubts that he has really been liberalized. Medill McCormick says that, as between Root and Wilson, the Progressives would vote for Wilson, though the Chicago Tribune says Root "unquestionably is the biggest National character in good standing in the Republican party."

The only obstacle to Justice Hughes' availability seems to be his scruples about stepping from the bench into the political arena. In this connection the Digest quotes the New York Sun as saying that Chief Justice White recently talked with Justice Hughes "in a most impressive strain." He said that "the Supreme Court might find itself standing some day between sane and authoritative government and anarchy;" that it "must ever remain the bulwark of the people's liberties, and it could not preserve that indispensable function if the Justices exposed themselves to the suspicion of coveting the Presidency." If Justice Hughes adopts that view, his nomination is out of the question.

Assuming that this man, who by common agreement could unite all elements of Republicanism, is eliminated, we find that either Burton, Sherman, Cummins or Borah would be acceptable to Progressives as well as to the old-line Republicans. The Progressive leaders express determination to nominate a ticket, but the general opinion is that with a candidate of this type at the head of the Republican ticket these leaders would have few followers, for the rank and file have already returned to their former party, the great majority to the Republicans.

As to the issues, the tariff takes first place in the opinion of almost all. There is a general agreement that careful revision in the direction of protection will be more than ever necessary after the war, and some editors are emphatic in advocacy of a tariff commission. Preparedness for National defense takes next place, although that may be eliminated as an issue if the present Congress takes adequate measures by non-partisan action. Some editors say that Wilson will be much stronger if the war continues until after the election and if he keeps the United States out of it and at the same time maintains our neutral rights. Other issues would be the Mexican muddle and the Administration's failure to protect American lives there and in other foreign countries; Democratic hostility to business; wasteful and incompetent Administration; the merchant marine, and misgovernment of the Philippines.

The expressions of opinion show that, while reactionaries of the Barnes type have learned nothing and forgotten nothing and while radicals of the Hiram Johnson type are as radical as ever, the mass of Republicans are averse to either extreme. They would unite in support of any man whose identity did not revive past dissensions and whose record and character constituted a pledge that he would carry the Nation forward in development of its liberties and of its prosperity during the difficult times ahead of us.

Mr. Lloyd-George says that "the success of the allies in the war depends on the attitude of organized labor—whether it will allow the government to recruit a sufficient number of skilled men for the factories which the munitions department has brought into being." No government at war should need to ask anybody to "allow" it to do anything that is necessary to success. It should take what is needed in men or material without asking the permission of any citizen. One of the greatest weaknesses of the British government has been its failure at the beginning of the war to limit war profits and to set aside union restrictions on production. It has ever since shown a timid subservience to the unions which has prevented vigorous conduct of the war.

The eleventh-hour Christmas shopping rush is on. Tens of thousands have just awakened to the fact that Christmas is right upon us. Thousands more have not awakened and will not until late Friday night. They are becoming restless under the thought that a dozen and one presents remain unpurchased. But this restlessness will not drive them to action until the last possible moment. Some people go through life that way, performing all their allotted tasks in just such a manner.

Happy days these for the President. The bride of his choice; seclusion, homage, every wish met; Christmas near at hand. No doubt it will be Mr. Wilson's happiest Christmas. A quiet tree with only a few friends and relatives to share the happy event. Christmas is a happy event in itself, but when its gladness is heightened by the sweetness of honeymooning days the cup of happiness should be brimming full. Happy days these. What does it matter as to Austria and the next election!

The well-oiled machine may put the Ferris water-power bill through the House, but it will strike a snag in the Senate if Western Senators are loyal to Western interests.

If Oregon had more men like A. S. Kerry and gave them more encouragement, there would be less talk of business depression and unemployment.

About the time of the heat of the campaign next year this country will get mad at the activity of foreign warships just outside the three-mile limit.

Anent the local Democratic squabble, it may be said that Honorable Milt Miller was eating with a fork when many others were on the bottle.

Protests to Germany, Austria, Britain and France—Secretary Lansing is filling the air with enough scraps of paper to make a stage snowstorm.

Washington society is shocked at the radicalism of President Wilson in setting aside one of its rules of etiquette. Well, it needed a shock.

If England had compulsory service, it might keep the suffragettes quiet by putting them to work in the munition factories.

The Christmas turkey does not seem to be agitated as the day draws near, perhaps because he is dead but not decollated.

One good effect of the war is to change the name of Novogeorgievsk back to its historic Polish name of Modlin.

Asquith says Great Britain needs a million more soldiers and in truth she does. By the same token she will get them.

The man who carries a heavy valise home with him each day may or may not be doing his Christmas shopping.

It may be Portland has the lowest death rate because it has the most doctors and fewest undertakers.

The only fun which Henry Ford will derive from his peace expedition will be footing the bills.

When the wind blows here at thirty miles an hour most people think it is blowing "like sixty."

It's great to have a lawyer in the family of a teacher in danger of losing her job.

The excess of rainfall continues under three inches despite appearances.

Reichstag adopted a credit of ten billion marks to scare the dove.

Three days more to Christmas and the children are all agog.

These shortest days are plenty long enough of their kind.

Loosen up, Woodrow, and let the camera click.

Mr. Taft is better and the country feels better.

Snow in Eastern Oregon and roses in Western.

All Santa Clauses look alike this week.

Do your New Year's shopping early.

How to Keep Well

By Dr. W. A. Evans.

Questions pertinent to hygiene, sanitation and prevention of disease, if matters of general interest, will be answered in this column. Where space will not permit or the subject is not suitable, letters will be personally answered, subject to proper limitations and where a stamped, addressed envelope is inclosed. Dr. Evans will not make diagnosis or prescribe for individual diseases. Requests for such service cannot be answered.

(Copyright, 1915, by Dr. W. A. Evans. Published by arrangement with Chicago Tribune.)

Health Rules.

The following Washington health rules, 12 in number, were formulated, adopted and copyrighted by the Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis of Washington, D. C.:

(1) Good Air—Avoid badly ventilated, badly lighted, dusty, dirty, overheated, crowded or damp rooms.

(2) Avoid House Dust—Breathing dust, notably house dust, often causes disease. Have no tacked-down carpets and mattings. Have loose pieces of rugs and clean them frequently outdoors. Use a hair broom for your floors and keep lower sashes closed while sweeping or dusting. Open upper sashes if possible. Never sweep rooms with a broom that raises dust.

(3) Pure Water—Drink pure water. Avoid water from shallow and unprotected wells and from ponds and streams. If in doubt boil the water. Avoid public drinking cups.

(4) Safe Milk and Cream—Tuberculosis, typhoid fever and other diseases are often caused by drinking raw milk and raw cream. Get milk properly pasturized or home pasteurize it or simply scald it. All cream, including that used for ice cream and butter, should be properly pasteurized to be safe.

(5) Sleep—Get enough sleep. Sleep with windows open, or, better still, outdoors.

(6) Keep Clean—Take a bath or sponge daily, and a warm bath, followed by a cold splash, plunge or shower, once or twice a week or oftener. Use soap freely. Wash your hands before handling food. Don't put fingers, money, paper or pencils in your mouth. Don't bite your finger nails.

(7) Food—Don't eat food that has been exposed to flies or dust or touched by unclean hands. Raw fruit or vegetables so exposed should first be rinsed or washed thoroughly. Chew your food well.

(8) Breathing and Exercise—Breathe through your nose. Practice deep breathing. Sit and stand erect. Take plenty of outdoor exercise, but avoid excess in athletics; it may cause heart trouble. Don't eat or drink when overheated by exercise.

(9) Care of the Teeth—Clean your teeth in the morning and at bedtime; use a brush and prepared chalk. Teeth decay principally during the night. A quarter teaspoonful of milk of magnesia taken without water and kept in the mouth just before retiring will help to preserve the teeth. This applies even to young children. Teeth should be frequently inspected by a dentist.

(10) Liquor and Tobacco—Avoid tobacco and liquors. They are especially injurious to the young.

(11) Don't Neglect Colds—Do not neglect coughs or colds. If you do not get well soon go to a doctor or dispensary for treatment. Never cough, sneeze or breathe into another person's face. Don't spit on floors or sidewalks.

(12) Sunshine—Admit plenty of sunshine into your houses and into your lives. Cultivate cheerfulness and kindliness; it will help you to resist disease. Your mind acts on your body.

Hygiene helps the strong to remain strong, the weak to become strong, and, by preventing sickness, lengthens the average span of human life.

Baby Improperly Fed.

Mrs. R. M. F. writes: "My baby, 18 moths old, has lately been in the habit of awakening several times during the night and crying for a short time as if some pains were the cause of her restlessness. I know some of her teeth are bothering her and would like to know if her stomach teeth could be the cause of this condition. Also, lately, upon arising mornings, her breath has a bad odor. Can this be a result of her stomach teeth coming through or is it attributable to some irregularity in the feeding or the moving of the bowels?"

REPLY.

The trouble is not with her teeth. You are not feeding her properly. A child 18 months of age should be fed four times a day. As soon as dressed, orange juice. At 7 o'clock, cereal, bread and butter, and milk. At 10:30 o'clock, milk and cracker or toast. At 1:30 o'clock a little meat or meat juice, baked potato, one additional vegetable, milk, bread and butter, and a simple dessert. At 5:30 o'clock, cereal, milk, bread and butter, apple sauce or prune juice. Let her have water several times during the day.

Neurasthenia.

Troubled writes: "What constitutes a neurasthenic? Does dread and fear to meet people; fear and loss of confidence in oneself when attempting to undertake a difficult proposition; frequent fits of despondency; the former two conditions evidenced by trembling of limbs; cold hands, flushed face, rapid beating of heart? Will these conditions grow worse? And what would you give as the cause? Can it be inherited?

REPLY.

My guess is that you are neurasthenic. Whether your condition will grow worse depends on you. You will make more headway if you will take the blame, go to work to train your mind, and leave your grandparents out of it.

Fat Food for Elderly.

Mrs. J. H. T. writes: "Would you advise a person of 60 to use olive oil? Does one get enough fat in cream (mostly in the morning on cereal) and butter? I drink milk, but no tea or coffee. I use a little meat."

REPLY.

The fat which you get from meat, butter and cream is enough for your needs.

Prenatal Care.

Mrs. W. writes: "Will you kindly publish in your columns a book or books that you would recommend a prospective mother to read?"

REPLY.

Slemon's "Prospective Mother," "Prenatal Care" and "Infant Care," published by the Children's Bureau, Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

Acidity of the Stomach.

H. H. H. writes: "In reading your reply to an inquiry about bicarbonate of soda, you said it neutralizes the acid in the stomach but stimulates that organ to produce more acid. Also you said, 'Why take it?' What would you advise for acidity of the stomach instead of bicarbonate of soda; that is, something which will reduce the acidity and not stimulate the organ to produce more acid?"

REPLY.

Up to a certain point hyperacidity can be regulated by care in eating—as to quantity of food, articles of diet and method of eating; by exercise or work, and by mental calm. Any case of hyperacidity which cannot be cured by that plan should be cared for by a physician.

A Good Cribbage Hand.

NICHOLS, Or., Dec. 20.—(To the Editor.)—To settle an argument, please tell me how many points are in a cribbage hand of four fours and a trey and oblige. A SUBSCRIBER.

Four combinations of three fours with the trey are possible to make 15, namely, diamonds, hearts, clubs; diamonds, hearts, spades; hearts, clubs, spades; diamonds, clubs, spades. Four 15s count eight and the four fours count 12; total, 20.

THEORY OF EVOLUTION DOUBTED

Mr. Cline's Youthful Enthusiasm for Doctrine Cools Under Thought.

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(To the Editor.)—I used to reckon myself an evolutionist. For just what reason I am unable to say, only it seemed necessary to harmonize with popular opinion. The very air was full of it 40 years ago.

That man began his career a little marine ascidian, eyeless and limbless, in the ooze, and worked his way to his present state of civilization by ceaseless struggles upward, through countless forms of brute life, each succeeding one in the series a little in advance of that which went before it till a tailless ape was reached, which all men may now call grandpa, was so scientifically clear to those who knew everything about the matter that I got behind the door and swallowed the whole dose.

Age and reflection have brought modifications. It now appears that there is a common plan in all animals, and in all parts of animals, as well as in all plants; a common unity for the whole organic part of the world—plant and animal alike. That there are similar manifestations of mind in the human and brute creation is clear, but it does not follow, therefore, that one organ may be evolved into another organ, or one kind of animal into another kind of animal. That a higher creature may develop from a lower is a well-known fact, when the same archetypal unity of plan underlying the two is present; but that is far from being a transmutation of species.

Eastern Oregon some years ago was overrun by a scrawny little animal known as the Cayuse Indian pony, in size well nigh good for nothing, great numbers of them being rounded up annually by cattlemen and shot, for the good of the range. Others of them were roped and brought to imported horses till now we have the well-known "Oregon horse," for beauty, speed and endurance without a peer, the Kentucky thoroughbred not excepted. Turn this improved horse back on the range undisturbed, and in due time the original scrub crops out.

So practical observation rather puts the doctrine of self-upward evolution out of business. At any rate, the change produced, by whatever method, is never beyond variety. Let the restraining influence be removed and the highly bred Guernsey or Holstein cow soon reverts to the buckhead from whence she came.

There is, therefore, plainly an insurmountable barrier between the species throughout animal creation, preventing even those most nearly akin from passing progressively into the other. It may go one step, but only one, when it is halted in the mule, a creature produced by mixing the species, with no power to propagate itself.

So, in regard to the facts which geology is supposed to furnish as unequivocal testimony to the doctrine of evolution. Here "time is the substance of the doctrine." But if the rock in which the skeleton of the "plesiosaurus" is embedded had been deposited as slowly as it is claimed to have been, the carcass, if the elements then were anything like they are now, would have decomposed and disappeared long before it could have been covered up.

For the skeleton to be there at all is proof that the material for embedding it must have been deposited before decomposition had time to do its work. And withal it should not be forgotten that fossils are found confusingly out of place in the various stratas required by the theories of evolution.

So, under the "law and evidence," it is easier to believe that each creature, man, animal, fish, bird or plant, was constructed on its own "architectural" design and by a competent architect, with its relations to all other creatures and to the universe of which it is a specific part. C. E. CLINE.

LET BUTCHERS BE INSPECTORS

Mrs. Sharp Proposes That Dealers Be Made Responsible.

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(To the Editor.)—The article in The Oregonian, "Half the Meat Inspected," is a revelation and should arouse a thinking public to action.

Would it not be a long step in the interest of "Safety First" if an ordinance were adopted requiring butchers to be inspectors and making every butcher responsible and liable for diseased and "over-ripe" meat he offers for sale? The license of any butcher violating the ordinance should be revoked and he should be punished according to the seriousness of the effect following the use of bad meat sold by him. Such a law would keep the incompetent and unscrupulous man out of business.

"Safety first" on the part of the housewife will prompt her to visit her butcher occasionally and look into every nook and corner of his shop, taking with her a flashlight, that she may see conditions in the dark recesses of the cold storage room. Her visits will be more effectual if a few of her neighbors accompany her. No honest, clean butcher will resent his patrons' investigating his premises; but rather would encourage it, because of the free advertising these visits would give him.

To be refused admittance to a shop by a dealer would be strong evidence against any butcher and a wise woman placing the welfare of her family first would not patronize a man who would refuse her the right to see for herself how the back rooms are kept.

JOSEPHINE R. SHARP.

Sending East for Clothes.

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(To the Editor.)—A friend showed me a copy of an Eastern paper published in Ohio containing a letter from Portland, Or., in which the writer stated that many people are sending to Chicago for their goods, as they can get them much cheaper there and of as good quality.

Now I am not "kicking" on Portland, but eight others besides myself—we are bachelors of course—expect to buy our clothing in Chicago. We find we can get as good suits made to order for $25 as we have to pay $40 for here. As we all use a little wine, the difference in saving will pay for all this, so we will be at no extra expense on that account. But the money will all go out of the state.

Are we doing right in looking out for our own interests or not?

M. T. LUPLOW.

The saving you expect to make is probably only superficial. A difference of $10 to $15 in a suit may be in the linings and workmanship and not readily detected on first inspection. A correct fit is also worth something. But conceding for purposes of illustration that you would save some money. Would you uphold your employer if he replaced you with a Chicago man solely because the Chicago man would work for less than you were paid? As an experiment, see what you can do in Portland by offering some responsible tailor orders for nine suits which he ordinarily makes for $40 each.

Let Candles Shine.

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(To the Editor.)—May I suggest to the readers of The Oregonian that on Christmas Eve we people living in Portland observe the beautiful custom of placing lighted candles in the windows of our dwelling houses, in remembrance of the coming of the Christ child and to give a gleam of cheerfulness to the homeless wanderer?

Green wreaths should smile from every window and candles shine there on Christmas Eve, so that every passer-by may know it to be a Christian home.

A. E. BRECK.

In Other Days

Twenty-Five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian December 22, 1890.

Washington—If President Harrison is a candidate for re-election it is more than likely he can be renominated in 1892.

Washington—Henry A. Brown, of Massachusetts, believes that three-fourths of the duty recently taken off sugar will have to be restored at the next session of Congress. Mr. Brown is a tariff expert.

The importance of the Parnell fight in Ireland, in world events is evidenced in the fact that yesterday more than 2500 words were cabled in the regular news dispatches besides many special dispatches.

Miss K. L. Miller, of Roseburg, is spoken of as a successor to the postmaster at that place. At Ashland and Eugene women now fill the place.

Mr. J. G. Holcombe, who for the past three years has been assistant engineer on the Nicaraguan Canal, is in the city and in an interview said he believed the canal would be practicable and a success.

Edward Dekum is about recovered from his long illness.

Dr. Simon Quinlin who is at the head of the Order of Elks in the United States is in Portland.

New York—George Gould is about to receive a handsome Christmas present from his father. He is to be made president of the Union Pacific.

Half a Century Ago.

From The Oregonian December 22, 1865.

Washington—Senator Wilson has offered and had adopted a resolution calling on the Secretary of War for a statement of the numerical strength of the Army. Mr. Wilson has also introduced a bill to provide more effectually for the National defense.

Mrs. Henry W. Corbett died at Albany, New York, July 27, 1865. She was the daughter of Ira Jagger, of Albany, N. Y. The Oregonian prints an obituary of the death today to which is appended an appropriate poem.

Mr. Bennett ran two double sleighs for the accommodation of parties attending the ball at the Fulton House last night. The sleighs called at the different hotels, starting at 7:30 and 8:30 o'clock.

A movement is under way to get a suitable public cemetery for Portland.

The Wilkes' Spirit speaking of the performance of the horse Dexter in trotting a mile in 2:18 1-5 says: "The mile made by Dexter is the fastest ever made by a trotter."

IRENE.

There's a tendency seemingly modern
To misname the daughters of Eve;
There's expostulation at such appellations
As Mary or sweet Genevieve,
For they have been ordered to leave;
A maid is now called Esmeralda,
Drusilla, Genevra, Corinne,
She's in a dilemma when christened plain Emma;
It at least could have been Emma-jean;
So I'm loving the name of Irene,
That old-fashioned name of Irene;
A call from the past, 'tis the first and the last,
That sweet-sounding name of Irene.

You may talk of entitlements clever
That you find in the new novelette;
They seem so mysterious, light and delirious;
So subtly attractive, and yet
It seems that I cannot forget
The names that our mothers were given—
The names that our grandmothers had,
For there's no name that's neater or purer or sweeter
Than these; and it's making me glad
When I hear the dear name of Irene—
That old-fashioned name of Irene;
Aye, 'tis rest to my ear when I happen to hear
That sweet-sounding name of Irene.

LOUIS BALBACH.

Naughty Man—Tax Him.

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(To the Editor.)—Bachelor, in a leter a day or two ago, says that he neither wishes to do his part in the world as "man or husbandman" nor pay the penalty and be taxed. He, like Adam, makes poor Eve the excuse and, big man though he is, hides behind her. Her clothes are the excuse. It is not warm enough in this climate to do without. There may be a few foolish ones who, as he says, bedeck and unbedeck themselves, but they should be pitied for their foolishness and poor taste.

If we investigated Mr. Bachelor we should probably find he was not qualified to cast stones, that his mode of living was not calculated to uplift the world nor qualify him to marry any girl. His excuse will not relieve him of his duty in the world. There are hundreds of sensible women who dress both sensibly and economically.

No, if that bachelor were a nice young man he would have fallen in love and been married long before now. So tax him, and tax him plenty.

A LITTLE WIDOW.

Possible Origin of "Oregon."

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 21.—(To the Editor.)—From time to time I have noticed discussions in The Oregonian, and elsewhere, relative to the derivation of the name Oregon. As far as I know, it has never been satisfactorily explained where this nmae came from. So I offer the following suggestion:

About the middle of the 16th century the Spaniards, who had conquered the races generally known as the Incas, which dwelt in the extremely mountainous regions of Western South America, gave to certain tribes the name of "Orejones." In the Spanish language this word is pronounced exactly as would be the word "Oregones," as both the "j" and the "g" have the sound of our "h."

Is it not possible that the Spanish settlers in California gave this name to the mountainous country to the north of them? And that the "Orejon" of the Spaniards has not survived in our name—Oregon? R. C.

Yes.

WEISER, Idaho, Dec. 20.—(To the Editor.)—In cribbage A plays a 6; B plays a 3; A plays a 4; B plays a 7; A plays a 5. Will A be entitled to a run of five? A READER.

Truth

"Advertising," says Newspaperdom, "has had a tremendous effect on marketing morals—this because of its public character.

"A business requires a great many years of steady, profitable business in order to pay back the investment.

"The product must be good, and the truth must be told about it to keep up the business.

"A firm cannot talk to millions of people and expect to get away continuously with a lie.

"It cannot afford to reduce or wipe out its future profits.

"Telling the truth in advertising really is business insurance."

Read the advertising in The Oregonian.