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PORTLAND, MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 1916.

MERE WORDS ARE IMPOTENT.

No sooner does President Wilson appear on the point of asserting from the Teutonic powers a concession of that for which he contends in regard to submarine attacks on ocean vessels than a new attack reopens the entire controversy. He enters a new protest, and Germany or Austria at its leisure compares the circumstances of the new attack with the principles he has laid down. They attempt to prove that their practice conforms with his principles, that he really has no cause of complaint and that, if anybody is to blame, it is some overzealous officer whom one Kaiser or the other will formally rebuke. The discussion becomes interminable, the slaughter of Americans continues and nothing is actually done to stop it.

That is the disheartening, humiliating conclusion which every American must draw from the sinking of the Persia on the very day after Austria's note on the Ancona had been hailed as a diplomatic triumph. The President has scored a series of such triumphs, but the slaughter goes on. Teuton diplomats solemnly attest their adherence to the principles of humanity and their abhorrence of barbarism, but Teuton naval officers continue to violate those principles and to practice barbarism. Will the President never realize that he, and through him the American Nation, have become objects of ridicule and contempt to the whole world?

After the original notice had been given that Germany would be held to strict accountability for wrongs done to Americans by German submarines, only one more note should have been written. When the Falaba was sunk and when one American met death on that ship, Germany should have been called upon to condemn the act and to make reparation within a limited time and without discussion. The Falaba would then have been the only one in the series. There would have been no sinking of the Lusitania, Arabic, Ancona, Persia and other ships in the monthly lengthening list, each one being a fresh proof that words unsupported by deeds are impotent.

Instead, what have we had? First Germany, now Austria, has been bombarded with phrases ranging all the way from "strict accountability," through "not omit any word or any act" and "deliberately unfriendly" to the peremptory demand that Austria repudiate "an act which is condemned by the civilized world as inhumane and barbarous." Brave words these, but their use has not disturbed the equanimity of those to whom they were addressed, for it did not carry conviction that he who used them would follow them up with deeds.

That would have meant war, some will say. By no means. Those words were made impotent by the knowledge in the Teuton mind that behind them was not even the disposition to use force. The name "Bryan" signed to the February protest against submarine warfare in general and to the first Lusitania note deprived those words of all force. The enervating effect of that name still hangs to the President's diplomacy. Had the first Lusitania note been followed by a summons to Congress to prepare for action, we venture the prediction that full and prompt satisfaction would have been given, that no action would have been necessary and that no more Americans would have been murdered at sea by German or Austrian submarines.

STATE AS NOTE ENDORSER.

One year ago (January 11, 1915) The Oregonian pointed out the superior advantage of a state guaranty of irrigation bonds over a millage tax imposed to provide the principal for constructing reclamation works. It has had no reason to change the opinions then expressed and it therefore lends encouragement to the plan offered by the Oregon Irrigation Congress.

It is to be hoped in behalf of favorable action by the voters on the subject that the difference between a guarantee of irrigation district bonds and a state tax or appropriation for the whole cost of the construction work will be fully understood.

One of the principal objections made by private capital to irrigation bonds as an investment is that interest payments are not met during the construction period or even during the early days of cultivation. The interest is running on while the principal is being expended in construction. This construction may cover a period of several years, during which time the land is unproductive, because it has no water. The settler thereon consequently has no income. He has had no opportunity to set soil production in motion.

A state guaranty of irrigation bonds will mean that the district will sell the bonds to private investors and that if the district is unable to meet interest charges the state will pay them. Such a policy must be undertaken with full expectation that the state will have to advance the interest for probably the first five years, at least, of the life of the bonds. After that the settlers in the district should be able to pay the interest and in due time reimburse the state for the advances it has made. While it may be necessary to apply the guaranty to bond principal in order to encourage ready sale of the bonds, proper supervision by the state over engineering, construction, and due regard for feasibility, should make the obligation of the state finally to pay the principal extremely remote.

To cite a concrete case, the North Unit project in Jefferson County, it is estimated, will cost $3,500,000 to complete. If the state, without co-operation of the Government, should guarantee a bond issue at 4 per cent to construct the North Unit, it would probably stand to pay $220,000 yearly for five years to meet the interest. Thereafter its guaranty would still exist, but its financial aid would likely not be needed. The land owners would be profiting from the land and could pay without hardship. By thus lending the land owners in the project $3,500,000 to pay interest, $5,500,000 worth of work would be accomplished.

A few years ago the state appropriated $450,000 for the completion of the Tumalo project. That appropriation likewise was equivalent to a loan. But for the expenditure only $450,000 worth of work was secured. The expenditure of a like sum, paid out not in a lump, but in five yearly installments of $90,000 each in the form of interest advances, would have secured $2,250,000 worth of work. As guarantor the state, in short, is not the borrower of money, but takes somewhat of the position of an endorser of a note.

But before the state can thus encourage reclamation an amendment to the constitution must be adopted. It is pertinent to recall that in 1914 the people by a large majority voted down an amendment which would have authorized the state to go into debt to the extent of 2 per cent of its assessed valuation for constructing irrigation and power projects and developing untilled land. The amendment was so sweeping in its removal of state debt restrictions, however, that it would have permitted bonding of the state to the sum of $18,000,000, for purposes which might include various forms of public ownership.

It is clear that in submitting an amendment designed to permit the state to guarantee drainage and irrigation bonds the measure must be held down to that specific purpose in order to be adopted. The people of Oregon stood nearly three to one in opposition to the broad amendment of 1914.

A REPUBLICAN AFTER ALL.

The greatest force in re-uniting the Republican party is Woodrow Wilson. That is apparent in the statement of the Boston Transcript in commenting on George E. Miller's interview with Colonel Roosevelt. Referring to the Colonel's promise of support to either Justice Hughes, ex-Governor Hadley or ex-Secretary Knox, the Transcript says:

> Judging by the general drift as it is seen here, the former President is inevitably coming back into the Republican party, for reasons so simple that they need hardly be explained. His one passion is the overthrow of the Wilson Administration, for which he has supreme contempt, and he knows that this can be accomplished only through a reunion of Republicans.

President Wilson personifies Democracy and all that it stands for. Republicans are of one mind in opposing Democracy and all that it stands for. In order to overthrow Democracy, they must overthrow Mr. Wilson. That is Colonel Roosevelt's one desire as well as theirs. When this test is applied, the Colonel finds that he is still a Republican.

What is it that makes Colonel Roosevelt of one mind with Republicans on the main issue of 1916? Surely it is the miserable Mexican fiasco, miscalled a policy; the long-drawn-out dickering over the Lusitania massacre; the division in a great National party on the supreme necessity of National defense; the escapades which Bryan was permitted to indulge in while Secretary of State; the marplot schemes of shipping legislation; the menace that the Underwood tariff will again blight industry when peace returns. The Colonel realizes that, no matter what quarrels and differences on minor questions he may have had with former party associates, he is after all a Republican. As his gorge rises with disgust at Wilson and all Wilson's works, he looks around for a sturdy, red-blooded American and he instinctively seeks one among Republicans.

CATCHING COLD.

Catching cold or contracting la grippe is a misadventure that seems to overtake those who are most scrupulously careful in safeguarding themselves. Fleece-lined underwear, blood-heat temperature in homes, a careful avoidance of draughts and open air, these are expedients of those who seek to escape. If their aim was to secure that which they seek to prevent their methods could not be directed to better advantage. It is not the cold, clear air that causes epidemics of those germ diseases which are peculiar to the cold weather season. The workman with his shirt open at the neck is infrequently the victim. The man who takes a dip in the open river may escape. But the occupant of ill-ventilated, overheated living apartments or public places is reasonably certain to be overcome.

A useful statistician has calculated that the annual death rate from pneumonia in the United States is about equal to that from bubonic plague in India—in proportion to population, that is. Bubonic plague flourishes in the cold weather even as does pneumonia. The reason in both cases is not difficult to discern. In India the natives are driven by the cold into their little mud huts where they live in stuffy rooms infested by disease-carrying rats. In Summer natives and rats take to the open places. Pneumonia and the other cold weather afflictions of Americans are aided in the same manner by crowding of individuals into small, foul places for warmth, there to sneeze and cough their ailments into the confined air.

The Indians have one excuse which we have not. They are ignorant and unwarned. We are enlightened and are being warned eternally. Hence these cold weather epidemics must belong in the column of those dereliction which are to be charged against American indifference, negligence and inefficiency.

GOOD NEWS.

It ought to warm the cockles of the heart of every Oregonian to read the reports from various counties in section three of the New Year's Oregonian. Not only does this section have articles dealing with the various counties, it has many special articles on our railway development, the resumption of the lumber business on a sounder basis than ever before, the great strides in road building and in irrigation. Perhaps no branch of business affects our state like the lumber industry. When there is a brisk demand for lumber at fair prices it stimulates every other industry.

That we are to have a wonderful uplift in the lumber trade there is no doubt. In fact, the orders have been pouring in for some time and will continue in even larger volume. It must be remembered that the foreign trade in that commodity has been almost entirely cut off by the European war, and that hundreds of thousands of buildings meantime have been destroyed by that war. Hence with the close of hostilities there will be a foreign demand never before equaled, for everything in the shape of a board, shingle or beam, and at good prices.

Surely the Oregon people are entering the new year with good times plainly in sight. This is clearly proved by the various industrial articles in the section of The Oregonian mentioned as well as by those in the other sections.

GIVE REGULATION A CHANCE.

The present boom in railroad traffic and the utter unreadiness of the railroads to cope with it have been made the occasion by the New York Times for a plea that the regulators be regulated. It says that regulation has been "applied inflexibly to changing conditions;" that regulation "denies railways an increase of rates when there is a business boom, and allows it, if at all, when there is business reaction." The Times thus puts the case:

> The regulators have proceeded on the idea that there was discoverable a rate which would be reasonable at all times, like a proposition of Euclid. The fact is that the reasonableness of a rate depends upon the conditions of the time when it is declared, and that when the conditions alter the reason for the rate alters. The practice of the railways is to average their earnings and their expenditures, making their betterments in boom times, and in times of reaction living on their fat. The theory of the regulators has been that there should be no fat. The returns of the railways should be on the basis of interest on a mortgage, never large, never small, always just right. The country sees that cannot be done. Railways are business enterprises. They must be allowed to earn the going rate of profit or capital will be withdrawn from them.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has been hampered by the passions, prejudices, misdeeds and rivalries which survive from pre-regulation days and for which railroads and public must share the responsibility. Having no datum of value from which to start in adjusting rates, the Commission has been left somewhat at sea. Valuation of railroad property will be completed within five years and the Commission will then have such a starting point. It has been necessary to arrive at certain basic principles of ratemaking; that has been a slow process. The task laid upon the Commission has been much heavier than any single tribunal could do well and expeditiously. It should be organized on the lines of the Circuit Courts with the Supreme Court at their head.

But it is quite practicable to arrive at a value for railroads and much progress has been made towards uniformity of accounting and of freight classification and towards establishment of basic principles for rate making. These principles recognize an allowance for betterments and for replacement of obsolete plant. Hence when those principles are in full operation railroads will have a fund always available for improvements. There is no reason to doubt that, when railroad property value has been ascertained, when these principles have been fixed and when the work of the Commission has been subdivided among subcommissions, rates will become as flexible and can be as promptly determined by public tribunals as they have been hitherto by the freight departments of the several railroads.

SYSTEM IN THE HOME.

The budget system of household operation has been widely recommended by authorities on home economics. That and a rigid bookkeeping would appear to be quite as necessary in spending the family income as in earning it. There are many who would meet ruin promptly if they exhibited the same carelessness and laxity in earning their incomes that they display in spending their money. Suppose a man with a business yielding $2000 a year in net profits should neglect to maintain a careful relationship between operating expenses and income. Suppose one of his necessary expenses for operation were an item of $500 a year for freight and cartage and he should permit that item to be doubled without any corresponding increase of gross earnings. Four similar oversights would wipe out his profits for the year.

Yet this same thing happens in the operation of households which are conducted without any regard to system. Incomes are spent in many instances without attempt at maintaining proportion. A salary of $2000 a year from which half is paid out for clothes and luxuries is being misadministered. That is obvious. Yet how often is this the case! How many families with an income of $2000 a year end the twelve-month period with a deficiency simply because the volume of expenditures has not been gauged and guarded? Ask the custodians of such a misdirected income what has become of the year's earnings and the chances are they cannot give an accounting. "Money just simply goes" is the characteristic excuse of the inefficient and improvident.

Professor Laura Comstock, who conducts the home economics department of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, contributes some ideas on the budget system to the current Housewives' Magazine wherein an apportionment of the income, no matter how small it may be, is strongly recommended. The average family budget is adjusted in this wise: Food, 25 per cent; rent, 20 per cent; operating expenses such as light, fuel, servants and laundry, 15 per cent; clothes, 15 per cent; incidentals including luxuries, reading matter, insurance and savings, 25 per cent.

For the household with $2000 or less per year such an apportionment ought to work out very well. Say the family must live on $100 per month. Twenty-five dollars is spent for food, $20 for rent, $15 for clothes, $15 for operating incidentals, while $25 remains for special expenses and the savings account. As the income mounts higher the percentages for food and rent naturally become lower, but the extraordinary demands on those of larger incomes will add to the percentages for other items of upkeep. Dress, entertainment, charity, education and travel all press forward to make legitimate inroads upon the larger income although these may readily be met out of the percentage reduction on food and rent and without disturbing the apportionment for savings.

It need not be pointed out that intelligent effort and persistent determination are necessary if any system of household business is to succeed. If the budget for clothes is fixed at $300 per year for the housewife whose husband earns $2000 then the agreement must be adhered to religiously. An increase to $500 without a complete readjustment of expenses is calculated to upset the whole household budget.

Preparation of the family budget is another matter that should receive the most careful consideration. Family needs should be anticipated well in advance. If there are insurance bills to be met and other fixed expenses the date of their payment should find the necessary reserve of funds at hand for prompt liquidation. All too often this is not the case. Families living on the hit-and-miss plan spend their incomes as rapidly as they accumulate, reserving only small amounts for needs arising from day to day. The result is that a heavy drain in one month brings embarrassment. A visit to some loan agency may be the result or a skimping for several months until the financial equilibrium is recovered. System would end these unpleasant incidents. A few dollars laid by each month to meet an approaching obligation does away with inconvenience and discomfort. The same rule applies to purchase of Spring and Winter apparel. The careful person has foreseen these needs. The improvident must meet them with denials in other particulars.

Systematic and efficient conduct of household expenses has been known to overcome the disadvantages of very small incomes. Conversely, extravagance and inefficiency have been known to do away with the possibilities of large ones. The man with $1200 a year who, through the aid of a systematic wife, saves 25 per cent of his income is vastly better off than the man with an income of say $8000 a year whose bills read something like this: Clothes, $2000; rent, $1200; food, $1200; operating expenses, $1000; incidentals and luxuries, $3000. The little man ends the year with a $300 surplus. The big man faces a deficit. And there are thousands of just such cases, as everyone knows.

The seven Justices of the State Supreme Court during 1915 disposed of 181 cases, an average of a fraction above one a week if vacation days are not counted. The work is seven months behind and as the state grows, and litigation increases with population, there is not much prospect of clearing the calendar.

The political season begins today with opening of the registration bureau at the County Clerk's office. Registration is a civic duty that must not be neglected and the earlier it is attended to the sooner it is done with for years.

A harrowing thought arises and will not down. If, in testing near-beer, an officer finds it altogether too near and is affected in the old-fashioned way, will it also affect his standing?

According to Poincare, French troops must cheer up and win, for peace at present would bring dishonor. That is about the way all, even Belgium and Serbia, looks at it.

Tacoma, Seattle and Olympia felt two distinct earthquake shocks. The superstitious, of course, will connect the incident with the ghost of John Barleycorn.

If the American republics continue to draw together commercially as they do politically and sentimentally, Europe will not have "a look in" after the war.

Ezra Meeker is one lobbyist to whom no man will venture to apply the adjective "insidious." The old trail-blazer is the devotee of an idea.

Thousands of Massachusetts women are now at work at a minimum wage of $8.50, which means more than a lettuce-sandwich and slate-pencil diet.

Not quite fifty weeks to Christmas. Begin to save now and avoid the necessity of giving the folks the threadbare excuse forty-nine weeks hence.

Have you sent a copy of The Oregonian annual to your friends in other states that they may know the true greatness of this favored land?

Those who call this Winter are reminded that in some quarters such weather would bring out fans and peek-a-boo waists.

If it does not snow it may rain, and if rain comes an old-time silver thaw may follow; on the whole, it is better to hope for snow.

So many saloons are becoming restaurants that their owners must imagine that, since we drink less, we shall eat more.

Having sunk another liner it is now up to the Teuton allies to send us another printed slip containing a partial disavowal.

When Sun Yat Sen breaks loose, there is always a revolution in store for China. He is China's stormy petrel.

The editor of the Heppner Herald says an empty saloon is an economic loss. It may be he is a landlord.

First thing she knows, Oregon will be known as the Loganberry State and the name will have a meaning.

The joint conciliation board is a convenient bridge on which capital and labor may meet.

The pink wrappers are much in evidence as testimony of appreciation of a good article.

Snow does not feaze California. Look at the ready-made business she has acquired!

Paraphrasing, one might say you'll never miss the liquor till the state goes dry.

However, we suspect that many families will have more to eat this week.

What better cure for unemployment could there be than the Pisgah Home?

Who would not like to see a real genuine snow storm for a change?

It will take a month to adjust the new year to our correspondence.

This is the day when New Year resolutions begin to dissolve.

In the matter of weather California has nothing on Oregon.

Near-beer is likely to come nearer and nearer beer.

The cellars did a fair business yesterday.

The allies are optimistic. Over what?

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 diagnoses or prescribe for individual diseases. Requests for such service cannot be answered.

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An Important Question.

Mrs. T. W. Y. writes: "I am seeking information concerning certain details of sanitation in my home. Potted plants and cut flowers do not live in my rooms. The cut flowers wither almost immediately and plants die very soon. Our house is heated with combination furnace and hot water. The standard temperature in the rooms is 70, more often below than above. We keep pails of water in the furnace pipes under the registers.

"What is the probable cause of the air in our house being so bad for flowers and plants?

"If the air is bad for the plants, is it good for us? The family is in fair, though not vigorous health."

REPLY.

I am making your letter public in order to put the same question into the minds of a great many people. Most women have noticed that flowers will not live in bedrooms in Winter. They have tried it and given it up and forgotten about it. They tried it because they wanted to have a bit of green and color under eye in the season when all nature is drab, but they found the sickly, dying plants a source of depression. Beyond this, they gave the matter no thought. Your letter should cause them to think.

Because flowers are pretty and green is one reason for trying to grow them in the living-room, but it is not the best reason. The best reason is because they furnish a means of measuring living conditions. Thermometers, hygrometers, katathermometers and barometers are good as means of measuring living conditions, but they are not the best means.

The best means of measuring living conditions in a room is to grow plants therein. Plants are the thermometers and hygrometers combined in a single instrument. A thermometer will record a very high or low temperature, a hygrometer a momentary dryness or wetness of the air. Wilting flowers tell you of the insidious, little by little, day by day, slow, immeasurably small but relentlessly cumulative evil influences which cause people to pale slowly, to become susceptible to colds, to become flabby and listless.

If the plants do not thrive, the people will not. Your last sentence states the case very well. The family in fair though not vigorous health. The plants usually live, but not in vigorous health for several months.

Would it not be a good idea to try to grow potted plants in schoolrooms, offices, factories and homes? Suppose a school teacher found that plants would not grow in her schoolroom, or a chief clerk that they would not grow in an office, or a mother in the home. There would be proof enough that the air was not fit. Why puzzle over thermometer or hygrometer readings or reports of engineers or statements by janitors? Each of these is rolled together in the life-story of the plant.

I have not forgotten that you asked what is the matter. That I will answer in a day or two. It is better to keep this answer to one thought.

Rooms in which plants will not live are not fit to live in or to work in. The simplest test of fitness is the flower test.

Nosebleed.

M. J. C. writes: "For the last month I have been troubled daily with a bleeding nose. At times, generally when I am hot or when I wash my face with hot water, a few drops of blood come from my nose. Another time I may be sitting at my desk writing when my nose commences to bleed drop by drop. The blood will never come fast, but if I let it bleed without trying to stop it it will bleed for five or ten minutes and then stop.

"This, as you will readily understand, is very troublesome and annoying. Will you kindly give me your advice as to what remedy should be used?"

REPLY.

To bathe your face in cold water, drawing some of it into your nostrils—doing this every morning—may bring relief, but my advice is that you see a physician. An sure an examination will show a bleeding point in your nose. It may be a polyp, a tumor or some other variety, an ulcer, or a varicose vein. This bleeding point should be touched with caustic or otherwise treated.

Eczema of Hands.

R. W. writes: "When I was 60 years old I developed eczema in the palms of my hands. I took X-ray treatments every other day for two weeks. This cured me and my hands have remained free from eczema for five years."

REPLY.

We print your letter, since it will serve to call attention to one method of treating eczema suitable for many cases. But readers with trouble in the palms of the hands should be certain the disease is eczema before taking treatment. Many cases of so-called eczema of the palms are syphilis and require specific treatment.

Hypertrophied Tonsils.

Mrs. W. E. S. writes: "I am advised by school inspector that my little daughter, age 8 years, is suffering from hypertrophied tonsils. Kindly tell me, through your columns, what hypertrophied tonsils are. Does it interfere with the general health and development of the child? What treatment is usually given?

REPLY.

Enlarged tonsils are hypertrophied tonsils. Enlarged tonsils are reasonably certain to interfere with the general health and development of the child. Removal of the tonsils is the treatment frequently given. Massage, cleaning and treating of the tonsils are better adapted to certain cases.

GRANTS' POLICY STILL FOLLOWED

His Attitude as to War Munitions Same as That of Today.

PORTLAND, Jan. 2.—(To the Editor.)—In The Oregonian December 30 I notice a letter from O. E. Frank, Reedville, Or., that is rather sarcastic in its tone, and in which he makes the statement that this Nation is earning the everlasting enmity of the Teutonic allies by letting its citizens sell all sorts, kinds and conditions of supplies to their enemies, and makes the erroneous statement that General Grant placed an embargo on the shipments of munitions to France during the Franco-Prussian war.

That is rather a shallow subterfuge to dodge behind, for every well-informed person knows it to be a matter of history that General Grant did place an embargo on arms and munitions being shipped to France which had at one time belonged to and were part of our Government equipment in defense, but did not place an embargo on individuals or firms making such shipments. Our present Administration I do think would not sanction the National Government selling arms and munitions to any of the belligerents. However, there is nothing to prevent individuals from doing so.

Germany did not gain our everlasting enmity through letting her subjects sell arms and munitions to Spain and later to the Filipino insurgents, with whom we were at war. It is a matter of history that 98 per cent of the rifles captured in the Philippine Islands, even as late as 1913, were all German Mausers. Not a single Belgium, French, English or Italian make of rifle has been captured on the islands in recent years, and it is within the memory of Mr. Frank that this Government imposed a blockade to prevent guns and ammunition of German manufacture from reaching Huerta. It is Germany's business to stop the shipments from going to the allies, or the allies' business to stop them from going to Germany.

It would sound strange to Mr. Frank and be queer reading for him to be told that Germany is still buying ammunition in the United States from private individuals. Would it be right to refuse to sell them and still maintain our neutrality? H. P.

WHY IS MR. BRYAN OPPOSED?

Writer Thinks Ex-Secretary Is Entitled to More Consideration.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Jan. 1.—(To the Editor.)—The writer, together with a large number of readers of your valuable paper, cannot comprehend the motive or wisdom of a great editor of a great paper like The Oregonian in continually knocking W. J. Bryan.

It seems strange that a man that has the largest and most steadfast following of any single individual, with or without the power and prestige of high public office, in this country should constantly be advocating policies and principles subversive to the highest and best interests of our people. It is more than strange that this large body of people, the majority of them, the peace-loving people of our country, not only in principle, but in practice, should continually hold their strong allegiance to such a consummate blunderer. Are they blind or is it possible that some one else might be mistaken, at least sometimes?

Another thing that is more astonishing, that you and other editors, all professing their strong devotion to peace, are holding up to ridicule, if not contempt, any and all persons who are earnestly advocating peace, while you are vehemently insisting that the true patriots and peacemakers are those who are loudly proclaiming for military preparedness.

Remember, this same preparedness in time of peace has either attacked some other nation in defense of so-called national honor or provoked some other nation to attack it.

What nations are at war today? Surely not those nations that were so manifestly unpatriotic as not to prepare for defense in time of peace. No, strange to believe, it is those adequately prepared for national defense—nations that have been striving diligently for years to build up an army and navy sufficiently strong to keep away other grasping nations and allow them to work out their own peculiar national problems unmolested.

You tell me we can start down that military road and that you militarists-for-defense-only can stop at the right point to stop aggression. I answer, no nation in the history of the past ever stopped or turned back. They traveled to the inevitable end—destruction.

I think that the sentiment of the great mass of people that follow conscience instead of personal or political interests is that men who ridicule peace advocates, men that are anxious to manufacture munitions of war for present destruction and to continue for future wars are not patriots, but rather that men like Henry Ford and millions of other peace advocates, who are willing to try, however fruitless the effort may be, to stop the fearful wars now raging and to keep our own country on the true road to peace and happiness, showing the world that in the future, as it has been in the past, national existence and wonderful growth do not depend on large armies and strong navies are the real patriots. They deserve the respect and homage of all persons who really want peace instead of war. U. G. BEAN.

We had supposed that it was generally conceded that the human family will and has a right to differ in its honest opinions. That Dr. Bean finds such a condition strange is in itself strange. We doubt that Mr. Bryan's following is as large as the correspondent assumes, but it also seems strange that that following, such as it is, hangs together behind a man who is so intolerant of independent thought that he persistently accuses the opponents of his views as having ulterior purposes.

If Mr. Bean will heed the words of other great men as well as he does those of Mr. Bryan he may some day discover that intelligent thinkers do no look for motives behind every expression of opinion contrary to their own.

Types of Skin Disease.

PORTLAND, Jan. 2.—(To the Editor.)—An article in The Oregonian headed "Manila Itch" contains information which might easily mislead your readers. Having had some experience in the neighborhood of Singapore as surgeon, the nature and story of "Doby-Itch" is quite familiar to me.

It is a popular term for contagious skin disease supposed to have been contracted through the laundry or doby. The doby-man is the laundryman. Any contagious skin disease may therefore be doby-itch, but the most usual form is a ring-worm. Impetigo, or scabies, might just as correctly be so called if the source of infection was the doby.

The native remedy is Gos powder, rubbed into the eruption moistened with a little water, or better, vinegar. It is very effective; and in European ring-worm, in my hands, has proved more effective than chrysophanic acid itself.

H. B. PULLEN-BURRY, M. B. C. S.

Mothers' Day.

WARRENTON, Or., Jan. 1.—(To the Editor.)—Where did the idea of celebrating "Mothers' day" originate? Was it recognized as such in Europe before being held in this country in the various churches? INQUIRER.

The United States was the first nation to give National recognition to Mothers' day (second Sunday in May). It is now designated by Presidential proclamation, the first proclamation having been issued by President Wilson in 1914 in accordance with a resolution passed by Congress in 1913. In nearly every state it had for several years been customary for the Governor to issue a Mothers' day proclamation. National recognition was the culmination of several years of work. The idea originated with Miss Anna Jarvis.

FARMERS' WEEK.

So Liza and I are off today
To spend a week at college,
To learn if we may a new fangled way
To grow tomatoes and cabbage.
They're teaching everything up there now,
From sewing and canning beans
To making hay on a rainy day
And milking cows with machines.

I reckon the boys are big enough
To run the farm a few days,
So's Liza and I can say good-by
To the broom and the span o' grays.
'Twill do us both a heap o' good
To mingle with college people,
And learn their brogue and style in vogue
And try to look their equal.

Shall we step in and learn the secrets
The Lord has writ in the soil?
Be taught how a knight of modern might
Can grow things without toil?
And learn to mix our brains with work
So kale will spring from the ground,
And earn us gas for our modern jackass
To haul the children around.

Then step in yonder and learn the frills
That'll make you dignified,
And I'll stay here and try my deer
To keep up with the tide.
And if you're spoiled for work and worry
When Saturday night draws near,
I'll take the blame and suffer the shame,
'Twas I who brought you here.

MILO MAYS.

Forest Grove, Or.

In Other Days

Twenty-Five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian, January 2, 1891.

Pine Ridge Agency, S. D., Jan. 1.—The Indians have shown their hand and are now in open rebellion. Three thousand Indians under Big Rod, Kicking Bear, Little Wound, Short Bull, Jack Red Cloud and Red Cloud have turned against the Government. Troops have been ordered out to intercept them.

P. J. Corbett, father of Jim Corbett, the pugilist, says his son shall not disgrace the family by fighting Peter Jackson in San Francisco. He said the fighters would have to go elsewhere.

Dublin—O'Brien has cabled Dillon that Parnell will retire if O'Brien is made leader of the Irish party.

J. B. Montgomery returned yesterday from a business trip to New York, Pittsburg and Washington.

George W. Lynch, manager of the Portland Cable Railway, was presented with a diamond-set locket yesterday, a token from fellow workers.

Noel H. Jacks, secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association, has received an optimistic telegram from Tacoma telling of the success of the campaign for funds and members there.

The new Perkins Hotel was besieged by applicants for rooms yesterday. The hotel will be formally opened January 10.

A prominent Portland society lady will make her debut on the stage at the benefit at the Marquam Grand tomorrow, for the discharged men of the Union Pacific. Louie Belmour and John J. Williams will assist in the comedy "Uncle's Will."

Half a Century Ago.

From The Oregonian of January 3, 1866.

T. G. Young, having qualified and entered upon his duties as chief engineer of the Fire Department, last evening tendered his resignation as foreman of Columbia Engine Company No. 3. In accepting his resignation, the company gave Mr. Young a handsome vote in compliment of his late efficient service.

Bishop Scott is to deliver a lecture on "The Rule of Faith" at Trinity Church, in this city, on Friday evening next, the 5th inst.

The first successful attempt of the colored people to get up a ball in Portland occurred on Monday evening at Cook's building on First street. There was a very good attendance, some 25 couples, and the participants enjoyed themselves much.

On Monday numerous of our citizens kept open house and many were the calls from umbrella brigades to pay their respects to friends and to renew acquaintances, receiving and exchanging the congratulations incident to the advent of 1866.

Thomas Corwin, former member of the House of Representatives, died at Washington on December 19. Mr. Corwin also served in the Ohio State Legislature, as Governor of Ohio, and as Minister to Mexico.

THE LAST GLASS OF BEER.

Thy bubbles rise up through the amber,
And merge with the form at the top,
I quaff till the chalice is empty,
Down, down to the uttermost drop.

And I ponder in reminiscence,
Of thy origin long ago,
The upland, the field, and the river
That flows from the mountain of snow,

The hops and the barley that bred thee,
The water that blended thy brew,
And I dream of the mountains and valleys,
And Oregon's skies, Summer blue;

The rattle and click of the reaper,
As it garners the grain from the field,
The odor of hops from the upland,
And the harvest of joy that they yield;

The laughter of red-lipped maidens,
The warmth of September's mild sun,
The showers of rain in the valley,
Where harvest is over and done.

But the wraith of the old god Gambrinus
Arises with gloom in his eye,
For the righteous have issued the edict,
That the god of the jovial die.

No more from the field and the upland
Are garnered the fruits of earth,
To be malted and brewed and lagered,
For social or bibulous mirth.

Oh, Macbeth hath murdered but slumber,
While the Prohi hath slaughtered our dreams,
Of gastronomic perfections,
Of the blends that our palate esteems.

No more the hot dog and the crawfish
Shall take of thy flavor for me,
No more the cream brick and the Schweitzer
Thy comrades celestial be.

We'll drink of the fruit of the logan,
And resort to the afternoon tea,
We'll develop a brain like Bill Bryan,
And, then, where the deuce shall we be?

We shall dwell at peace with all mankind,
And with womankind—well, we shall see.
And all the ills of the human
Shall be sunk fathoms deep in the sea.

For the Prohi hath set his John Henry
Attest with the great seal of gloom,
That none may partake of thy nectar
From now till the cracking of doom.

So thy bubbles rise up through the amber,
And my thoughts on old memories dwell,
I greet thee, and say with the ancients,
"I loved thee; so hail and farewell."

J. H. PEARCY,
115 Willamette boulevard.

It Is Unlawful.

PORTLAND, Jan. 2.—(To the Editor.)—A private conveyance, such as one's own automobile, not being a common-carrier, is it lawful to go from a California town to an Oregon town with your tonneau packed with liquor, such liquor to be for private consumption? UNSLAKED.

GOOD RESOLUTIONS

Still time to make them and too early to break them.

Here is one that if you try you will not want to break.

Resolve to become a student of the advertising in The Oregonian.

It will interest you in the first place and will profit you in many places.

It will guide you in a wise selection of purchases. It will post you as to markets.

It will keep you from paying excessive prices.

It will enrich your pocket-book as well as your mind.

Make the resolution. There will be no trouble about keeping it.