Morning Oregonian

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LEAVING TROUBLE FOR HARDING.

Each day adds to the accumulation of evidence that the federal constitution should be so amended that the president and congress should take office as soon as possible after the result of the election is known, and that a retiring congress should cease to function from the day on which its successor is elected. The first effect of the defeat of the democratic party is that the administration has ceased to function on the most important and urgent matters, and that the government is almost in a state of suspended animation from November 2 until March 4, and at best is merely marking time. In fact, it has not done much more for two years. After depriving all other officials of initiative by setting up autocratic power, President Wilson has practically suspended all except routine operations while he was in Paris and during his long illness. Defeat of the administration party aggravates this state of torpor by discrediting the administration in the eyes of the people, by removing its incentive to effort, and yet prolongs it for four months after a new administration has been chosen.

The constitutional provisions for change of administration were adopted for stagecoach days, but they are extended into the days of motor transport on land, sea and in the air. It should be possible to ascertain the result of the election in time for the inauguration of new officials, on January 1 at the latest. In fact, an efficient system of collecting, tabulating, canvassing and certifying returns could make inauguration in the first week of December possible.

As matters stand, the dying administration is saving up trouble for President-elect Harding. It cannot be expected to do anything toward amendment of the league covenant in the direction that the American people desire, and the league assembly defers consideration of the subject until Mr. Harding assumes control.

Mr. Wilson agrees to mediate on behalf of Armenia with that gentle, reasonable, humane ruffian Mustapha Kemal and with the peace-loving bolshevists, but confesses that he has no authority to employ military force, which is the only means by which real relief can be effected.

Extinction of all armed opposition to the bolshevists in Russia puts the question of trade with that country in a new light, but Mr. Wilson refrains from steps which his successor might be unwilling to follow up.

Action on Japanese immigration is postponed, though it continues irritation on both sides of the Pacific ocean, and the whole question of immigration is to be shelved by total suspension until congress legislates further, provided Mr. Wilson does not interpose a veto which cannot be overruled.

Secretary of State Colby seems to be hastening recognition of the Obregon government in Mexico and a treaty for arbitration of claims against that country, though the senate is not likely to ratify any act of Mr. Wilson which would limit Mr. Harding's freedom to follow his own policy.

Adoption of a budget system, reform of taxation, amendment of the tariff, especially for protection of wheatgrowers and woolgrowers and financial relief to farmers should not be delayed. A shipping policy should be immediately inaugurated by a board having reasonable assurance of being able to follow it up through the next four years. All of these affairs must wait until the Wilson administration is formally pronounced dead, though mortification has been in rapid progress since November 2.

Mr. Harding and the sixty-seventh congress will therefore be confronted by a great mass of unfinished business of the highest importance when they assume office, as the consequence of a defect in the constitution, removal of which is long overdue. This inherited trouble will not appal Mr. Harding, for a country editor has the habit of deciding and acting quickly on all kinds of trouble. He has conceded that it is no one man's job by calling on Mr. Coolidge to help and by inviting the counsel of the best minds of the country. He has an equable temper which secures him against being "rattled" by contemplation of the size of his task, he has that calm deliberation which enables a man to get through as much work as a man who acts in a flurry of excitement, and his habit of conciliation will prevent waste of time and energy in conflict and will conduce to action.

But Mr. Harding will begin with several drawbacks as well as advantages. He was elected by such an enormous majority, and his campaign was financed in such a manner, that he will be under obligation, either political or financial, to no particular group in his party. He will be free to appoint men because they fit the office, not in order to please any particular group or man. But, being a compromise candidate, he has no strong personal following in his party, and it will be necessary for him to build such a following largely drawn from the elements which opposed his nomination. The size of the majority in congress which will generally support him will be a source of danger, for it breeds a sense of irresponsibility among its members and tends to split into factions. Administrations backed by small majorities have been far more successful, an example being that of President Harrison backed by the "Czar Reed" congress with a republican majority of only seven. All the ability of Mr. Harding as a conciliator and user of mild political discipline will be needed to deal successfully with the great inheritance of trouble that Mr. Wilson will leave to him.

CANDID MOMENTS.

Senator Chamberlain, in the dead calm of philosophical reflection following the recent election, is disposed to search for and to state the real reasons for the overwhelming democratic defeat. He gave out an interview to the New York Herald, the other day, in which he told exactly what everybody knows and what every democrat in his candid moments will confess. He said:

> The country has by an unmistakable vote decreed a change in the administration of governmental affairs. The unmistakable vote for Harding and Coolidge, it seems to me, is not altogether an expression of confidence in them as individuals or in the republican party, not so much a personal or party victory as it is a protest against a one-man government, against a practical autocracy as distinguished from a government of the people, by the people and for the people, as decreed by the fathers of the republic and voiced by Lincoln.

Mr. Chamberlain was defeated for his association and identification with the party which had through President Wilson subjected the country to one-man government and practical autocracy. Only that, and nothing more nor less. It is not unfair to his successful opponent to paraphrase the Chamberlain interpretation of the general situation, and to say that the verdict against Mr. Chamberlain was not altogether an expression of confidence in Mr. Stanfield or even in the republican party, except that it reflected a definite intention to give to the new president through a republican senate the political machinery to make effective the policies of his administration.

Senator Chamberlain promises to help President Harding in his great plan for a return to normalcy. President Harding will need all the help he can get. He will need the counsel of the best minds and the service of the best hands. It will not do merely, to surround himself with deserving republicans. He has a definite obligation to his party, of course; but he has a greater obligation to his country. He knows it, and promises well. He can discharge his full duty, and at the same time serve best both party and country by making all thought of country first and of party second.

The course which is safe, sane and patriotic for President Harding will be the same for Senator Stanfield. One of his difficult jobs will be distribution of patronage. He can solve it by selecting the best men. It will be no disqualification that they are republicans, and have worked for the party's welfare; but they should have other qualifications.

BREAKING OUT AGAIN.

Mr. Carter has resigned as chairman of the joint fish and game commission because he has been elected to the legislature and also because there was nothing for him to do. He has journeyed from his distant home in Ashland to the meetings of the twin bodies in Portland, only to find that the differences which are supposed to divide the fish and game interests, and which it was his duty to compose, did not exist.

All this is most strange. The public ear has been hammered for many weary months with the loud lamentations of a clique of sportsmen that the commercial fishermen had succeeded in a criminal scheme to subordinate and despoil the game resources of the state, and the demand has been sternly made that their iron grip be broken. Now it appears that the fishermen for profit have been going their way and the hunters and anglers for sport have been going their way, and there has been no conflict between them, and nothing for Chairman Carter to arbitrate. We repeat that it is very strange. Perhaps Chairman Carter does not recognize a row or discern a conflict of interests or a wicked conspiracy when he sees it.

But evidently the public is to hear more of the old fish and game controversy at the next legislature. There is a new plan to separate the sheep from the goats, though they are already fairly well apart. There is to be a scheme for distinct commissions, with the attorney-general as arbiter between them. Somehow the idea persists that there may be some day something to arbitrate, despite Chairman Carter's experience. The legislature is to be asked to restore to the governor the appointive power for the commission or commissioners. Last year the legislature itself named the commission and the governor signed the bill. Evidently the governor was satisfied. Doubtless also he will not lend himself to any new plan that proposes ejectment of the present commissioners.

The latest news about fish and game matters contains the further information that the most recent compromise over Rogue river does not please Grants Pass. Nobody at Grants Pass, it is said, ever authorized anybody at Portland or Medford, or the Lower Rogue, to compromise for Grants Pass. It appears to be the idea there that any compromise project should embrace all interested parties and sections. If some are included, certainly all should be. But why do not the interested parties get together and refer the matter to entirely disinterested authority?

KEEP UP THE FIGHT FOR PORTLAND

The remarks of Mr. Dodson at the Chamber of Commerce on the means by which the shipping board was led to undo its acts of discrimination against Portland commerce should serve as a guide to the city's future action in similar cases. Only by persistence and vigilance, by refusing to take "no" for an answer, did he obtain substantial benefits and relief from acts of favoritism to other ports. These results could not have been obtained by adoption of resolutions and by sending letters and telegrams; they were made possible by having a man in Washington, constantly on watch and well equipped with information to push Portland's case before the board and to defeat the maneuvers of the opposition.

Great as they are, the battles that have been won were only the first of a long campaign. While Oregon is at present represented on the shipping board, Mr. Teal will have to contend with powerful opposing interests and the board is likely to be entirely reconstructed in a few months. Special vigilance is needed to insure either his reappointment or the appointment of some other man from the north Pacific coast who will stand firm for the rights of this port and against discrimination in favor of any port. Only a man on the ground can get results, and recent results were well worth the cost of keeping him there.

There are other matters besides shipping on which a direct representative of Portland can do valuable service—river and harbor improvement, location of naval bases, reclamation and other public work. The Oregon members in congress can and will do much, but a special representative for the express purpose of watching over Portland and Oregon interests could give assistance in many ways, especially by bringing the Oregon members together and into co-operation. The struggle with competing ports will be the fiercer on account of the points that Portland has won, and this port should not relax its efforts lest it not only cease to win but lose much of the ground that it has gained.

SAMUEL BRUCE HUSTON.

I know that death has ten thousand several doors for men to take their exit, sayeth the poet. It is a wise and beautiful provision of nature that no one can fix the hour when the great visitor shall come. Some die peacefully at home; some in the raging storm at sea; some in the fierce collision of battle; some through the unhappy intervention of lethal accident; but none, or very few, at any time or place chosen by them.

Except for the sudden closing of life in the period of its full vigor and usefulness, we should say that Samuel Bruce Huston died exactly as most men and women would choose to die. There was no warning; and no pain. What a terror life would be if any one knew exactly when the curtain would drop. What a solace it always is to be spared long and hopeless suffering.

Mr. Huston had a wide acquaintance in Oregon, for he had long been a prominent figure in public affairs. He was a lawyer of parts, a legislator of idealism and constructive powers, a citizen who sought always to measure up to his responsibilities, and a friend who was esteemed by very many people.

AMPERE.

The centenary of Andre Marie Ampere, the French scientist who one hundred years ago outlined the laws governing the relation between the electric current and the magnet, and made an epochal contribution to the science which he called electrodynamics, will call to the attention of many for the first time the fact that Ampere is something more than a common noun, employed as the name of a practical unit for measurement of electricity. Although the technical nomenclature of electrical science is still a foreign language to most persons, there are practically none who do not now enjoy in some manner the benefit of discoveries and inventions for which the researches of M. Ampere laid the foundation.

The amazing practical results that have followed the researches of theorists like Ampere, Davy, Farraday, Lord Kelvin, Savary, Henry and Helmholtz—to enumerate only a few of those who were not inventors in the modern acceptance of the term, but who made possible the work of Morse, Edison, Bell, Marconi, Pupin and their colleagues in utilitarian fields—illustrated the conditions under which pioneers in science are obligated to labor. Ampere never was requited for his great discoveries, except by the praise of appreciative savants, and he earned a modest living as a professor of mathematics and an author. His avocation was the writing of verse. The versatility of his mind is established by his explorations in natural history, botany, chemistry, geography and languages. He found time while at work on the astatic needle, which led to the modern galvanometer, to produce a treatise in which he demonstrated that the chances of play are decidedly against the habitual gambler.

Living as we do in an electrical age, it is not always easy to realize that almost all of the benefits of electricity that we now enjoy have been ours only a generation or so. The first arc light was not exhibited until 1878 and the first incandescent lamp did not come until the following year, while the first workable electric street car operated by trolley did not appear until 1884. These and other products of the science whose laws he helped to codify probably were not thought of by Ampere, the dreamer, according to the principles of whose discoveries the entire development of electrical power machinery throughout the world is built.

IS ALL MONEY TAINTED?

The abnegative gesture with which young Charles Garland spurns the bequest of a million dollars from his father, on the ground that the money is the product of a "system" which the young man abhors, is deprived of some of its dramatic character and of all of its economic force by the circumstance that Garland, as the news dispatch says, is at present "living at the house with his wife and infant daughter as the guest of his mother, who supplies them with a maid and keeps their larder full." He plans to go to work "eventually," but he thinks that it will be spring before he does anything. Meanwhile the dollars of his mother, or of a stepfather, will serve in a highly efficient manner to keep the fire burning under the family pot. Nothing, it seems, is proved by the young man's refusal to conform to the established order, except that he is a visionary recalcitrant, and that he has no constructive programme for abating the evils of which he complains.

Refusal to play the game of life is more likely to be a symptom of fanaticism than a demonstration of lofty spirit. The vow of poverty is not without precedent, but it is not recorded that this young man, enjoying the services of a "maid" and access to the maternal ice box, intends to take that vow. In any direction that he turns, the dilemma of the hateful system confronts him. Reaching one decision, he may, as has been hinted, qualify as a mechanic and go to work, exchanging his labor and skill for the means with which to sustain himself and his wife and babe; by another he may go on existing in unproductive idleness, as he is doing now. No problem is solved. "It is the man who gives food to the hungry," he declares, "who does good," but no food is supplied to the hungry, and there is small prospect that there will be, unless the labor of some one first creates it. The opportunity to do good may indeed be in men's hearts rather than in their check books, but preliminary thrift is not without value in giving practical expression to good intention. Nothing in acceptance of the bequest in question denies him the high privilege of living his own life, and nothing in its rejection qualifies him for the spiritual philanthropies on which his mind is set.

All money, in the view of young Mr. Garland, is tainted money. He makes no charge that the legatory fortune proffered him is specifically unwholesome. He does not know how honestly, or dishonestly, it was acquired. Without doubt it will find its way though normal channels into possession of others, who do not share his qualms. Not a ripple on the surface of the "system" will be set in motion by his sacrifice, no worthy unfortunate will be helped, no sufferer will be relieved, and nobody's hunger will be satisfied.

If young Mr. Garland makes good his promise to go to work later, perhaps in the spring, he will be confronted by the intimate problem of his own future. If he is industrious he will earn wages which he will not refuse to accept; if he is ordinarily frugal, he will accumulate something against the proverbial rainy day; and he may learn that efficiency in well-doing is enhanced and not diminished by moderation and thrift. Not much good has ever been done by men who only rail against "the times." Meanwhile it is fortunate for Mrs. Garland that she at least has an indulgent mother-in-law. The wives and children of these non-conforming egotists are apt to lead very unhappy lives.

BOORISH.

A Chicago magistrate the other day fined two women for contempt of court because they refused to uncover in his august presence. "If," said he, "women can have equal suffrage with men, they can remove their hats in my courtroom."

Doubtless this jurist believed for the moment that he was asserting a high degree of independence in thus daring the storm that his discourtesy might provoke among the newly enfranchised, yet at this distance it appears only as the parrot-like repetition of the ancient confusion of equal with identical rights and privileges.

There is of course no association of ideas between the franchise and the wearing or non-wearing of hats, but only an issue of etiquette which one less learned than the Chicagoan might have discovered with only a little research. Whereas the judge probably believed that he was upholding his dignity, he succeeded only in putting himself down as one of the most undignified of creatures, to wit, a boor.

Prospective restoration of King Constantine to the throne of Greece may cause the many petty kings and princes of Germany to chirk up and polish their rusty crowns. The present ruler of Bavaria does not think the time ripe to show his hand, but he will watch his chance to be a kingmaker.

If you were an O'Brien now and living in County Clare you'd be stepping around on the side of your feet, awaiting a share of the estate of a man who died in Portland, you being one of a thousand relations more or less; but alas, the estate is not heavy and will spread thin.

From Chicago comes the statement that pinched feet cause wrinkles on the face. Suppose it's true; what of it? The woman old enough to have wrinkles does not worry about the size of her shoe.

The last batch of "conscientious objectors" has been released from Fort Douglas, given new suits, $10 apiece and tickets home. That ought to clear the atmosphere around Salt Lake somewhat.

The Portland boxing commission is making an effort to bring that sport back to normal prices. It is so easy to profiteer in this respect that the endeavor of the commission is commendable.

An eastern college man is announcing the production of the perfect prune. That will bring a smile in Clarke county and up the Valley, where the perfect prune has long existed.

If the Grand Ronde growers can put apples into Portland for a penny apiece, turn loose. Portland does not consume half enough apples. Eating red apples makes for rosy cheeks.

When the Pilgrims' tercentenary is over, perhaps something can be done for those who trace back to the wheelbarrow limited and other popular means of transatlantic travel.

All the vessels of the Pacific fleet were sunk theoretically in maneuvers. It would be just as well for other nations to remember, though, that it was all theoretical.

A French girl has made the record high jump by clearing a bar over four feet; but any American girl can beat that two feet if a gentleman cow is pacing her.

No matter what reapportionment plan is followed for representation in the legislature, Marion county will get them all—when the legislature is in session.

This movement to buy a seismograph for Portland seems just a trifle previous. Who knows but the league of nations will abolish earthquakes?

The middle name of Secretary of War Baker is Diehl. That explains why the country has had such a poor Diehl since he took the job.

When Leonard Wood gets recognition for anything, foreign or domestic, it will be after the time of Wilson, Baker and others.

Accidents at grade crossings can be greatly reduced in number by following one bit of advice: Don't try to beat the train.

With Plymouth Rock restored to its original site, all can set foot on it and swell with Pilgrims' pride.

Bill Hart surely is a thriller when he can pick up three quarters of a million in a judgment.

Nothing wrong with Mexico just now, but peaceful inauguration of a president is unusual.

Portland's greatest need at present is more sunshine and less moonshine.

BY PRODUCTS OF THE TIMES

O. W. R & N. Girls Club Discusses Entente, Cordial and Fashions.

The proceedings of the latest meeting of the O. W. R & N. Girls Club is reported by the Pacific Semaphore:

After having transacted the routine business, the president of the O-W. Girls' club asked: "Has any one anything to offer under 'Good of the Order?'"

"Miss President, What's 'Entente Cordial'?" queried Ethelwyn.

"Some kind of home brew, I imagine. Why?"

"I read that they were going to have it in Washington, and I wanted to know what it is. But, never mind. I'll ask Dick."

"Has he been giving you any more political pointers?"

"A few. I can tell you all about any question. I didn't answer at the last meeting. Dick took me to a musicale, and he talked all the time except when I was talking. He must have talked at least five minutes. But I know all about politics from pro to con.

"What else did you talk about?"

"The fashions. There were some swell folks across from us in a box. I asked Dick how he liked the costumes, and he said he couldn't see while the wearers were sitting down, but that north of the floating ribs there was no costume to criticise.

"We also talked about the girls bobbing their hair and about the new jewelry—ankle watches and knee bracelets."

"Going to wear them, Ethel"?

"Catch me. I've got a bracelet that I wear on my wrist and I've got a wrist watch. I'm wearing them where they should be worn. Girls ought to be a little more careful. I draw the line at doing things that are done just to attract attention."

"How about having your hair bobbed?"

"That is not a bad idea. When I think of the time we put in doing our hair, getting our puffs to match and to be even, and then to have our hair marcelled, and then having to be so very careful, I think it would be a great relief just to run a comb through it, brush it some and then be ready to dress. I could sleep half an hour longer in the morning, and I am told that some girls put in more time than I do."

"Miss President, if this club isn't organized for the discussion of politics and fashions, I'd like to say a few words—"

"Shoot!" came from a little miss from Disbursements, and Flora proceeded:

"I just want to say for the good of the order that I wish you girls would park your gum somewhere else than under the table tops and chair seats in the rest room. There's wads everywhere. I left mine under this table yesterday, and when I reached for it a few minutes ago there were four pieces right there. How can I tell mine? I wanted to—"

"Why didn't you? I wonder the boss stands for the perpetual motion of the chin and jaws that goes with gum chewing. It reminds me—"

"Ladies," said the president, "You are out of order. One would think that this is a sewing society instead of a meeting where we are to learn something."

"What have we been taught to date?" came from the interrupted speaker.

"Miss President, I stand on a point of order," said Ethlwyn. "I've told you all about politics and I'm going to tell you about that new cordial as soon as I see Dick. If you haven't learned a lot it's your own fault."

"Time to adjourn," said the president. Ethlwyn, you get Dick to tell you the inside facts about the proposed increase for gas and phone rates and be ready to report at the next meeting."

* * *

Ida Rubenstein, the beautiful Russian tragedienne, who jilted Gabriele d'Annunzio in 1912, now wants him back again.

A friend who called in Paris to convey to the actress news of the latest exploit of the Fiume dictator, stumbled into a curious sight.

An entire large room had been transformed into a chapel, in which the central piece of furnishing is a life-size statue of the poet, surrounded by photos and portraits of him in every conceivable costume.

Daylight was carefully kept out of the room, which drew its only illumination from pink wax tapers, the tall candlesticks dating from the fifteenth century, which is the poet's favorite art and furniture period.

Night and day these tapers burn, while incense from an urn sends up its scented fumes toward the impassive marble features of the towering statue. Dressed in a white cassock, Ida Rubinstein thus spends her time in her extraordinary chapel, waiting for her Gabrielle's return.

She has sent innumerable messages to D'Annunzio at Fiume, it is said, but all remained unanswered. Now and then, in the last few months, she has interviewed friends of the poet and implored them for every scrap of intimate news about him.

They all told her the same thing: Gabriele has set his heart upon the fulfilment of a patriotic duty; his personal feelings are nothing to him until his "sacred duty" is done.

So Ida Rubinstein waits in her self-chosen seclusion, believing she may thus expiate for her act seven years ago, when she spurned the poet in the most flippant manner she could muster. To Anatole France, the poet-warrior confided he was driven to suicide by the jilting.

* * *

A wealthy gentleman has a brother who is hard of hearing, while he himself is remarkable for having a very prominent nose.

Once this gentleman dined at a friend's house, where he sat between two young ladies, who talked to him very loudly, rather to his annoyance.

Finally one of them shouted a commonplace remark and then said in an ordinary tone to the other:

"Did you ever see such an ugly nose?"

"Pardon me, ladies," said the gentleman. "It is my brother who is deaf."—New York Globe.

* * *

The famous humorist, Bailey, of the Danbury News, made his fame writing an article about a man putting up a stove pipe. There is a garland for the funny man who will embalm the scene of a man getting out and under an automobile.—Los Angeles Times.

* * *

At a wedding recently when the clergyman asked the bride, "Wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband?" she, with a modesty which lent her beauty an additional grace, replied, "If you please."

Those Who Come and Go.

"Devil's Den is in the Owyhee country, Malheur county, and it's all that the name implies," began Wes Cavness of Vale. "If you go to Devil's Den you want to wrap leggings around your legs from your heels to your hips; about three sets of leggings to the leg will be about right. Then you want to carry a long, sharp knife, like a machete. You won't get far in the den, which covers several acres, before you'll hear the rattle snakes humming and singing and dancing on their heads. They'll begin striking at you from all sides, and as they strike your legs their fangs will catch in the leggings. Then you want to take your long knife and slash right and left, severing the bodies leaving the heads clinging to the leggings until a more leisurely time for removing them. Excitement? Well, I'll tell the world. There is no better snake country out of doors than Devil's Den. I've been in it several times and I know. The snakes live near the Owyhee, but they never go into the water and they never drink water, either. And say, did you ever hear of Cougar Canyon? I'll tell you about it—you won't wait?"

"With hay that cost us $14 a ton selling at $9, the situation doesn't look any too good," declared Al Hendricks of Cecil, at the Hotel Oregon. "The cattle business is in a bad way and it will take ten years to bring it back to normal. Some herds will never come back because the owners have gone broke and left the country. Many of the ranchers in my section have lost from $10,000 to $20,000 and more this year. Young stock has been sold out and the district more or less depleted. Some of the stockmen are sacrificing their cattle because they need money and are unable to borrow from the banks." Mr. Hendricks is here with his son Oral, who has been operated on for appendicitis at a local hospital. The young man had a pain in his side since being mustered out of the navy, and as X-rays showed nothing wrong, it was decided to cut him open to see how his insides looked. The appendix appeared healthy but was removed on general principles.

"With a rifle, I rode herd on 1500 head of cattle in 1878 in Lake county when the Bannock Indians were on the warpath and the few white settlers in the region were forted up at Lakeview," said Frank P. Lane of Lakeview yesterday. Mr. Lane is a cousin of the late Dr. Harry Lane, United States senator, and grandson of General Joe Lane, who made the Indian treaty at Table Rock, in Sam's valley, when the Rogue River Indians were hostile. "I saw none of the Bannocks," continued Mr. Lane, "but I saw some Klamath Indians, and when they would see me they would stick closely to their horses and ride like fury. A couple of years later I returned to Lakeview and have been living there ever since. We had a bumper wheat crop this year, but the market dropped, and our cattle and sheep business has been badly crippled because of prevalent conditions.

Every one in Grants Pass is interested in construction of the dam across the Rogue river, a few miles from that town. The construction work started late in the year, and so when the river began to act up recently about $40,000 worth of work was swept away. The task of damming the river is now being resumed, and under the glare of powerful searchlights the workmen are laboring as long as possible these days of short daylight. A tented city has been constructed along the Pacific highway for housing the crew of the contractor. The dam is primarily for irrigation purposes; but there is talk of having it generate enough power to illuminate Grants Pass. C. A. Lindh is down from the Pass and is registered at the Imperial.

The best way to sleep in the snow when riding with cattle, according to A. Roberts of Redmond, Or., who arrived from the south at the Imperial yesterday and is headed for the Metolius country, is to scrape out a trench in the snow, build a fire and thaw and dry the ground. Then place an old piece of canvas on the bared spot, next spread tarpaulin and then spread the blankets. This forms a snug, warm sleeping bag, if the blankets are double you slip in between them. Of course, it takes time to get wood and start the fire and warm the ground and things of that sort, but the results are eminently satisfactory. Mr. Roberts has been riding the range for the past four years, deciding that riding is better than trying to farm single handed.

"The county seat fight is a forgotten issue in Medford now," states Dr. J. E. Hamilton, who arrived in Portland yesterday on No. 16. "Medford lost the county seat by its own inactivity. People who wanted the county seat retained at Jacksonville went around the county saying that if the shift was made to Medford that an expensive courthouse would have to be built, and that this would mean a heavy increase in taxes. Medford people considered the argument a joke and did not try to follow up these antagonistic speakers until too late." Mr. Hamilton is registered at the Imperial.

Military training for boys is a valuable asset for the boys and for their country in time of need, according to Major A. W. Cleary of the United States infantry. Major Cleary is at the Multnomah and came to Portland for the purpose of inspecting Hill military academy, it being the policy of the government for a regular and thorough inspection of all military academies in the country.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Wick of Lone Rock, Or., are arrivals at the Hotel Oregon. Lone Rock is named from a rock as big as the hotel and there doesn't appear to be any special reason why the rock got there as there is nothing similar to it for miles around.

J. C. Hostetler of The Dalles, who owns quantities of land around Chenoweth creek, where the Columbia river highway was once located and later shifted away to a straight course, is registered at the Imperial.

Grace M. Stevenson of Fairbanks, Alaska, who has been at the Seward, has sailed on the steamer Alaskan for San Francisco to spend the holiday season with relatives.

D. E. Hunter of the Hunter Land company and also president of the Central Oregon bank of Bend is registered at the Hotel Portland.

H. N. Ord of Horst Ranch is among the arrivals at the Hotel Portland. Horst Ranch is a hopyard down the Willamette valley.

R. Robinson, the cheese man of Clatskanie, arrived at the Perkins yesterday on his way home from a visit to the east.

At the Multnomah is the football team of the Pacific fleet, marking time for their game with the Multnomah team Saturday.

Bringing stock to the local market, W. H. Osborn of Spray, Or., is at the Perkins. Mrs. Osborn is with him.

E. P. Mahaffey, banker of Bend, Or., breezed into Portland yesterday on matters financial.

GERMAN RATIONALISM FEARED

People Must Be Vigilant If School Pupils Study Religion,

McEWAN, Or., Nov. 30.—(To the Editor.)—The effort on foot in New York to get one hour each week for the religious instruction of the school children will commend itself as one worthy of consideration by thoughtful people in many other cities. According to its promoter, "Instruction will be based upon Bible history, Christian citizenship and the life and teachings of Jesus Christ."

This upon its face seems worthy of the best efforts of every citizen of America's greatest city, and also of every right-thinking citizen of the whole country. It is said, however, in Holland "that eternal vigilance is the price of life," and it is just as true that no less a price must be paid for religious instruction, otherwise more harm than good may come with the teaching. There are today many things parading as religious instruction that upon a complete analysis are far from being true to name.

It is well known to all students of current religious thought that the study of the Bible has in the last three decades undergone almost a complete revolution. What is commonly called German rationalism, from a small start in the German universities a century and a half ago, advancing by a very slow process, has in the last half century, and more particularly in the last three decades, advanced with ever-accelerating speed, until today it fairly covers the land. It is the dominant teaching in practically all the so-called "Bible" and "theological" schools, which has for its object the discrediting of the Bible as far as it is the revealed word of God. And if this system of so-called criticism is followed to its logical conclusion that result must inevitably follow.

It is a well-known law of psychology that whatever is learned wrong involves at least twice the effort to unlearn and then learn right, than if not learned at all. And further, all teachers of psychology agree that not to know a science at all is better than to learn it wrong. This is absolutely true of the study of the Bible. And when we consider, as above stated, that our so-called higher institutions of learning are shot full of this destructive teaching—denying the Mosaic account of creation, the origin of man, the introduction of sin into the world, the flood, the divinity of Jesus Christ, the resurrection of the body, etc., we cannot be too cautious what the children are taught. In the present state of average Bible study the probabilities are much more than even that these children will be in the hands of these destructive teachers. It takes no keen insight to see that after being taught this destructive philosophy concerning the Bible that they will emerge practical agnostics and their religious life brought to naught. It is plain to the mind of the thoughtful that it were infinitely better that the children be taught nothing about the Bible rather than to be handicapped for life with this false teaching.

Let us scrutinize carefully what our children are taught concerning the Bible. L. N. B. ANDERSON.

FIXED NURSE WAGE IS UNJUST

Proposed Scale Too High Except for Exacting Cases.

KELSO, Wash., Nov. 30.—(To the Editor.)—Kindly allow me space to express part of my opinion concerning the controversy which has been going on concerning graduate nurses' increased wage charge, namely, $7.50 for 12 hours' time.

I read all letters the "graduate nurses" contributed on said subject and as yet have not seen one letter that I thought presented a just opinion. I have had much experience and knowledge of graduate nursing, and, as everyone knows who has ever had the service of a good nurse, she is, indeed, a blessing and an essential in time of sickness.

In my case it was my good fortune to have as my nurse a woman of exceptional natural ability, thoroughly conscientious, just and kind.

I have reason to know that all nurses are not just, or good, or kind, for in that profession there are all types of humanity, the good and the evil, as in all walks of life.

I say that I believe $7.50 a day for 12 hours' nursing is not a just charge.

That price would be right in certain cases where very critical, 24 hours' constant nursing is necessary. Then $15 for the 24 hours would be a fair charge, but I say to the fair-minded person I know that he knows $7.50 should not be charged in all cases of sickness. What is the mother in childbirth days and nights to do? She of all persons in this world is entitled to a good graduate nurse. Must she be forced to do without such service or else pay the exorbitant price of $15 for her nurse? I hardly think so; that the mother of a baby must be cared for both night and day.

At the present rate of graduate nurse charge only the wealthy mother can afford such a nurse.

It seems to me that certain nurses are trying to play into the hands of a certain class of people—the rich. For where is the average citizen going to find the money with which to pay all his increased expenses—his housekeep at $60, his nurse $15 for 24 hours, the food bill, rent, etc.?

I think this matter should be adjusted to all parties concerned. The price should be fair and reasonable—$30 or $35 a week. In that case the nurse could live very comfortably and would be doing the fair, square thing. No person wants to ask charity, remember that. MRS. B.

THANKS.

Do not borrow for tomorrow
And burden, grief or care;
Live today as well you may
While above the skies are fair,
Let your motto be "Don't worry"
Over any sudden flurry;
Strike your pace, but do not hurry.
Catch the troubles unaware.
Wealth has always got one guessing;
Health is your most sacred blessing.
Swim in sunshine all around you;
Splash its spray; it will not drown you;
Take your tonic from the ether
That's distilled from autumn weather.
Mix your food and smiles together,
And you'll find in the end
That this old world is your friend.
—MILTON C. ARMSTRONG.

Talked Like a Tailor.

The members of the choir were practicing the well-known anthem, "As the Heart Pants After the Water Brooks."

The rendering of the open stages was apparently not quite to the satisfaction of the gentleman who wielded the baton.

He considered it necessary, therefore, to tender some advice to the tenors, and caused great consternation and not a little embarrassment among his little flock by the following announcement:

"Gentlemen, your expression is simply splendid, but the time is very poor—really, your pants are far too long."—London Ideas.

Carnegie Hero Fund.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Dec. 1.—(To the Editor.)—Where can I get information concerning the Carnegie life-saving medal? IN DOUBT.

Address Carnegie Hero Fund commission, Oliver building, Pittsburg, Pa.

More Truth Than Poetry.

By James J. Montague.

SELF EXPRESSION.

To discipline children prevents the self-expression by which they form their minds and discover their souls. —An Authority on the Better Child.

When baby, who ought to be dreaming sweet dreams,
Emits a succession of blood-curdling screams;
When Fido turns somersets down the front stair
And hides himself nimbly behind the arm chair;
When bath tubs run over and plaster lets go
To land with a crash in the hallway below;
And the cat is marooned on the top pantry shelf,
We know it is Bobbie—expressing himself.

When the cook, in a rage, hunts in vain for the cake
And vows it's the last that she ever will bake,
With neighborhood kids swarming round in a drove
And grabbing it when it comes out of the stove;
When father's new necktie is nowhere in sight
Until it appears as the tail of a kite,
We take it quite calmly, for that's how we find
That dear little Bobbie is forming his mind.

When we suddenly make the discovery that
We can't use the car, for the tires are flat;
When baby's new carriage is shy a front wheel
Which Bobbie has nailed to his pushmobile;
When the lady next door rings the bell to report
That three of her clothes posts are broken off short,
We know that because of our lack of control
Our bright little Bobbie's discovered his soul.

* * *

The Lessons of Experience.

If we were Mr. Carpentier we would follow the example of his country and get a few allies before we went into the big fight.

* * *

Good Prospect for a Tug of War.

Every time the Greek king goes out he meets himself coming back.

* * *

Thoroughly Safe and Sane.

They never have to put on extra police in Washington when the electoral college boys are in town.

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John Burroughs' Nature Notes.

Can You Answer These Questions?

1. Are crows noisy?
2. Does a chipmunk lay up winter stores?
3. Does the hermit crab depend upon the sea anemone?

Answers in tomorrow's nature notes.

* * *

Answers to Previous Questions:

1. Will a rattlesnake strike after its head has been cut off?

Dan Beard, in his delightful "Animal Book," says that a rattlesnake which had just had its head cut off, coiled and struck him with the bloody stump when he touched it as promptly as it would have done with its head on. So it is doubtless true that all creatures do many reasonable and natural things without possessing the faculty of reason.

* * *

2. Does a parrot know the meaning of the words it uses?

The parrot, of course, does not know the meaning of the words it repeats so glibly; it only associates certain sounds with certain acts or occasions, and says "Good-by," or "Come in," at the right time because it has been taught to connect these sounds with certain sense impressions through the eye and ear.

* * *

3. On what does the young ichneumon-fly feed?

The ichneumon-fly lays its eggs on or near some caterpillar or beetle grub. When the eggs hatch, the young ichneumon burrows into the body of its host, feeding on its tissues, but not attacking such organs as the heart or the nervous ganglia. Injury to these organs might mean immediate death to the host, and consequently death to the young ichneumon.

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In Other Days.

Twenty-five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of December 2, 1895.

Dr. J. B. Pioda, minister to the United States from the republic of Switzerland, was extensively entertained yesterday by the local Swiss residents.

If four hustling managers can make a baseball league a success, the success of the Pacific league is assured. They control franchises in Portland, Tacoma, Seattle and Victoria.

Mrs. Nancy Bates Atkinson, widow of the late Rev. George H. Atkinson, pioneer Congregational minister, died at her home, 395 Salmon street, yesterday.

The Oregon Railway & Navigation company's new light-draft river