Morning Oregonian

ESTABLISHED BY HENRY L. PITTOCK.

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THE NARCOTIC PROBLEM.

The nearly overwhelming dimensions of the narcotic problem which the Salem conference called by Governor Olcott is summoned to face are evident from the large body of official data compiled since it first began to engage the attention of thoughtful citizens. The total number of addicts in the United States, a very large proportion of whom are reclaimable, probably is not far short of a million, and may exceed that. The extent of addiction was taken up for consideration in 1918 by a special committee appointed by the secretary of the treasury, which sent thousands of questionnaires to health and police officials, physicians and others, and received replies from many of them. These estimates were in some respects conflicting and do not therefore obtain the importance of final data, but they show that the evil complained of is grave.

For example, the health officers replying reported that there were 105,887 addicts in their territory. As the number of these officials represented only 26 per cent of those from whom information had been requested, it would seem to be plain that there were at least 420,000 addicts in the entire United States; but the number appears much too low from the fact that the physicians of the country were estimated at the same time to have 237,000 addicts under their care and it is known that only a limited proportion present themselves for such treatment. An intensive investigation was then made in certain restricted communities. Jacksonville, Fla., was found to have 887 addicts, and upon a percentage of population basis the committee estimates that this would give 1,388,000 for the entire United States. The health officer of New York city reported a total of 103,000 addicts, which on a percentage basis would indicate 1,908,000 for the whole United States.

Information in the committee's possession, however, indicated that addiction is less prevalent in rural communities than in cities or congested centers. It would be inaccurate, as the committee points out, to estimate the number in the entire country on the basis of the figures obtained in New York city, while the number in a small city like Jacksonville would likewise give a misleading result. "Taking these facts into consideration," the committee concludes, "we are of the opinion that the total number of addicts in this country probably exceeds a million."

But there are other facts of even greater significance in this connection. A steady increase in the rate of consumption of narcotic drugs is one of them, and the relatively small number—1800—of illicit drug peddlers now believed to be doing business in the country is another. The latter estimate, based upon the reports of police officials, points to the line of least resistance in breaking up the traffic, since the number is not so large as to preclude hope that most of them can be landed behind the bars. The necessity for prompt action is indicated by statistics which show that whereas the population of the United States was two and a half times as great in 1900 as in 1860, the amount of opium legitimately entered for consumption was about five times as great, and at the same time there was a large increase in the use of synthetic somnifacients, which normally might have been expected to diminish to a great extent the use of opium and its alkaloids for legitimate medical purposes. The same is relatively true as to cocaine and other derivatives of coca leaves, the use of which has greatly increased since their introduction, about thirty years ago.

The officials of the treasury department declare, in answer to the claim that a large proportion of narcotic drugs entered at the custom house are used for other than medical purposes, that the people of the United States consume from thirteen to seventy-two times as much opium per capita as is consumed by other countries the records for which are available. Annual consumption in the United States—about 470,000 pounds—is the equivalent of thirty-six one-grain doses for every man, woman and child of the population. Consumption of cocaine is equal to an average of 2½ doses for each man, woman and child.

The figures do not include the quantities of both drugs smuggled into the country, of which no estimate can be made. The so-called underground trade is undoubtedly aggravated by the practice of exporting narcotic drugs from the United States for the purpose of re-entry through illicit channels. Thus it appears that the quantity of morphine imported into Canada from all sources increased from 2038 ounces in 1913 to 27,520 in 1918, while in the same period morphine imported into Canada from the United States increased from five ounces to 9853 ounces. Data for Mexico are not available, but it is believed that a similar condition exists on the southern border. The intricate nature of the organization necessary for exportation and reimportation on so large a scale, and the view of the treasury officials that most of the illicit supplies now being dispensed by peddlers come from these sources, point also to the need for international co-operation such as is asked for in the resolutions adopted by the Salem conference. On this topic the treasury department committee said:

> There also remains the international aspect of the opium traffic, which should receive immediate consideration. If this and the other countries represented at the international opium convention are effectually to control the traffic in opium and other habit-forming drugs, some concerted action is necessary. . . . It is urgently recommended that the United States government take up with the governments of the Dominion of Canada and Mexico the subject of more effective control of the manufacture and exportation of narcotic drugs therefrom for the purpose of securing their co-operation with this government in the suppression of the smuggling of such drugs from one country to the other, which now affords the principal source of supply for the illicit traffic in these drugs.

The Salem conference is in line with enlightened modern opinion in urging that courts impose maximum sentences on narcotic peddlers when caught. Its recommendation that curable addicts be treated when necessary by the state, being given employment where this is feasible, also corresponds to the views of thoughtful students of the subject. Work is both therapeutic in its effects and a fortifier of self-respect, and, moreover, it is only fair that patients should pay part of the cost of their reclamation. A humane policy toward present victims and a vigorous and unrelenting war on the main conspirators, waged by local, state and national authorities, with international co-operation, form the key to a problem the gravity of which ought not to be underestimated.

USELESS PAMPHLETEERING.

The Corvallis Gazette-Times finds one of the suggestions for reducing taxes made by Earnest Teightwod, Salem satirist and economist, not at all funny. The suggestion is that the voters' pamphlets be dispensed with.

We concur in the opinion of the Corvallis paper. The election pamphlet printed by the state and sent free to every voter costs upwards of $100,000 in a biennium, depending for exactness of cost upon how many elections are held and upon how many measures are submitted.

In Portland, in virtually every election, ordinances and charter amendments are submitted to the people. The submission of local measures is common in every other incorporated city in the state. Here, and probably in every other city, failure of the municipality to distribute printed copies of the local measures with arguments thereon is never missed. At least there is no outspoken complaint about the omission. And the voters seem to get along very nicely. They approve or reject measures with understanding.

But in the state each of the 364,000 registered voters gets a printed pamphlet containing proposed laws and amendments, interspersed with arguments. Some families, where sons and daughters are grown and still at home, get a half dozen copies. In the last election 117,000 voters, who presumably had received pamphlets, did not even go to the polls. That part of the circulation—nearly one-third—was wholly wasted without a doubt. Nearly all the others either gave the pamphlet only casual inspection, or did not open it. The disposition, as the Salem correspondent remarked in that connection, is for each voter to rely on his favorite newspaper for information about measures.

There are also primary election pamphlets and general election pamphlets in which the candidate may say all the nice things he pleases about himself and thus be presented to the electorate. It is not a free service to the candidate and the sum he pays reduces somewhat the cost of pamphleteering to the tax payers. On the other hand, it is doubtful if all the overhead expense of the secretary of state's distributing organization is included in the appropriation for election pamphlets.

Theoretically the pamphlets are helpful to the voters. Practically, they are not, for they are generally cast aside. Elections are still free in one sense, as enjoined by the constitution. In another sense they cost like sixty.

STICK TO THE FACTS.

Enemies of the Pacific treaty are driven to describe it as "the old balance of power proposition" and as a practical agreement on the part of the United States "to protect the empire of Japan against invasion." They cannot find anything in the treaty that will bear this construction, if they take words in their proper sense and do not read hidden meanings into them.

Four nations agree to respect one another's rights in the Pacific islands. Should that alarm any American? Do we want to steal any islands? Then why worry when other nations pledge themselves not to try to steal ours?

The United States does not agree to protect any country against invasion. It agrees, in case the rights of any of the four powers in the Pacific "are threatened by the aggressive action of any other power," to communicate with the other three powers "as to the most efficient measures to be taken jointly and separately." That only obliges us to talk, and Mr. Wilson has proved how wide a gulf there may be between talk and action. The administration of the time will be free to agree on any action of which the people approve, or to do nothing.

In saying that Mr. Wilson and his league were defeated by "the lowest kind of partisan politics," a recent correspondent does not give enough attention to the part played by Mr. Wilson's partisan politics in that catastrophe to the Wilson ideals. The anti-league irreconcilables could not have defeated the league unaided; they succeeded with the aid of the pro-league irreconcilables, led by Mr. Wilson. Defeat of the league was accomplished by these two bodies of men actuated by directly opposite motives. But for Mr. Wilson's partisan politics, which would not permit a republican senator to have a hand in his work, the United States would have been in the league.

Another correspondent denies that "the senate was justified in rejecting the league of nations because the one who proposed it had slighted the senate." Far more than a "slight" to the senate was involved. The constitution gives certain definite powers to the senate. Each senator is sworn to uphold the constitution. Fidelity to that oath binds senators to resist encroachment on its powers by the president or any other branch of the government. By yielding to the demand of the president that it ratify the Versailles treaty without change when it believed change to be wise, the senate would have been false to its duty to give or refuse advice and consent and would have conceded that it must ratify a treaty negotiated by the president just as it is laid before the senate. Surrender to the president of absolute power to make treaties would have disturbed that division of power which is at the heart of the constitution.

PORTLAND'S FIRST NEWSPAPER.

The verities of history will not permit to go unchallenged the statement printed in the advertisement of a well-known undertaking establishment in The Oregonian yesterday that an event dated in 1854 occurred "seven years before The Oregonian began publication." The first number of The Oregonian, as a matter of fact, was published on December 4, 1850. It was then a weekly newspaper; it was the first to be published in Portland and the fifth in all the Oregon country. Moreover, it is the sole survivor of them all. The Oregonian of today has a record of uninterrupted publication of more than seventy-one years. It is a record which cannot be duplicated, either in Oregon or elsewhere in the vast territory between the Rocky mountains and the Pacific ocean.

The Oregonian's only predecessors in the field in Oregon were the Oregon Spectator, first printed at Oregon City on February 5, 1846; the Free Press, of Oregon City, first issued in March, 1848; the American Unionist and Evangelical Messenger, printed at the home of the Rev. John S. Griffin, near the present site of Hillsboro, in the Tualatin valley; and the Western Star, founded by Lot Whitcomb, who was heavily interested in Milwaukie, then a promising rival of Portland and Oregon City for metropolitan honors. The establishment of The Oregonian was due to the faith of the early builders of Portland in the future of their town—a faith which events have proved not to have been misplaced. It was first printed on a press formerly utilized at San Francisco by the Alta California, of historic memory, and it is a fact of added interest that when The Oregonian in 1852 outgrew its first mechanical equipment this pioneer press was employed in printing the first newspaper in the region which is now the state of Washington. This was the Columbian, founded at Olympia on September 11, 1852, chiefly as an advocate of the creation of a separate territory north and west of the Columbia river.

The Star, which was removed from Milwaukie to Portland in June, 1851, changed its name to Oregon Weekly Times and was the second newspaper published in this city. The first Portland daily newspaper was the Daily News, not Daily Journal, which appeared on April 16, 1859, and lasted about a year. Two others essayed daily publication without achieving permanency before The Daily Oregonian was issued for the first time on February 4, 1861, and thereafter, as students of Oregon history know, it has continued without interruption.

SMUGGLING OF IMMIGRANTS.

Increase in smuggling of immigrants across the Canadian and Mexican borders should remind congress that an immigrant restriction law is no stronger than the provision made for its enforcement. We are proud of our long unfortified frontier on the north as a proof of the confidence prevailing between the United States and Canada and, regarding the sea coast as the front door by which immigrants enter, we are disposed to forget that this is a side-door of almost equal width. Since liquor-smuggling across the border became common, the prohibition forces have been strengthened, but there are many places along that 3000-mile line where aliens can slip across unobserved.

The percentage limit on immigrants of any nation doubtless excludes many who might prove good citizens. The odds are that men whose advent to the United States is marked by violation of the laws will prove undesirable acquisitions. Those who would be refused admission by the regular channels are likely to choose this means of entrance, and those who are otherwise qualified will start their life in America with an adventurous delight in breaking our laws. If the naturalization law requires evidence of lawful entry, smuggled immigrants will add to the large number of aliens who cannot become citizens. They are not welcome.

There should be no difficulty about adequate protection of the land frontiers against immigrant-smuggling without adding to the cost of government. Revenue already exceeds expense in the immigration bureau, and the tax could safely be increased in proportion to the reduction in the number to be admitted, that funds may be available to close the gaps in the northern and southern fences. Immigration should not be regarded as a source of revenue beyond support of the bureau. If any balance should remain after provision has been made for examination and for exclusion of the unfit and the smuggled, it might be applied to distribution of immigrants where they are wanted and to their education for citizenship.

THREATS OF NEW STRIFE IN IRELAND.

Is Ireland to become the scene of new strife between those who would in good faith live up to the treaty establishing the Irish Free State and the unyielding confenders for an independent republic? That grave question is raised by the attempt to re-elect Mr. De Valera as president of the Irish republic after the treaty providing another form of government had been ratified, and by the narrow majority against him, by the remarks of De Valera and his supporters, and by their refusal to participate in the election of Arthur Griffith as president of Dail Eireann and head of the provisional Free State government.

Throughout De Valera's speech runs a purpose to keep in existence the republican government of Sinn Fein side by side and in rivalry with the Free State government, obstructing execution of the treaty and ready to step into the place of the Free State, repudiate the treaty and proclaim Ireland an independent republic. No other interpretation can be put on the retiring president's advice to the Dail to "keep a reserve power in the interests of the Irish republic behind the men in contact with the British ministers"; to "keep the republic in being and give it a ministry"; or on his threat that, "if the republic as it existed were abandoned, he and his followers would walk out." His pledge of support to the new government "so long as it was marching along the road to independence" is proved worthless by his desire to maintain a rival government and betrays an intent to use the Free State government merely as a device to get rid of the British army and officials, then to overthrow it and set the republican government in its place.

The same thought is in the speeches of those who expressed determination to "fight out the republican cause." Michael Collins' proposal to summon a ratifying body of members from southern Ireland was met by the objection that Trinity college members would not take the republican oath, when the Dail has just ratified a treaty of which that oath is a violation. Austen Stack's suggestion of a referendum as "the people's free choice between the republic and the treaty" assumes ratification of the treaty to be of no effect. An act of perfidy is suggested in the remarks of James Fitzgerald that "the army was overwhelmingly in favor of an ultimate republic" and that "the only way to keep it united was to maintain De Valera and the Dail government, while leaving the majority party free to have Ireland evacuated by the British troops." His words gave Mr. Griffith good cause to say that the move to re-elect Mr. De Valera president was "a mere political maneuver to get around the treaty" and that the intention seemed to be to have two sets of governments and create chaos." Though De Valera said that talk of fratricidal strife was "all nonsense," no other result could follow the carrying out of his opinion that "he and his friends must be regarded as an auxiliary army with the certain object of completing the independence of Ireland."

If the small majority by which the Dail ratified the treaty and the still smaller majority by which it defeated re-election of Mr. De Valera, and if the speeches made on the latter subject were a true reflection of the minds of the Irish people, the immediate future for Ireland would be filled with internal strife hardly excelled by that through which it has just passed. But opponents of the treaty admit that the great body of their constituents favor it, and from other sources comes confirmation of that opinion. Revolution always brings extremists to the front, and we must expect to see a body of Sinn Fein die-hards similar to that among the unionists in the British parliament, whose activity will be deceptive as to their numbers. But peace gives the moderates an opportunity to make themselves heard, and election of a new parliament to maintain a provisional government and to prepare a constitution for the Free State may greatly strengthen this moderate element. It will reflect public sentiment while the country is at peace, with no British troops present to keep animosity alive, and will contrast with the cruel guerilla war of the past.

Against this hope is to be set the habit of violence and intimidation which has grown throughout centuries of strife with England, and is now strong through practice in the Sinn Fein rebellion. The Free State party is no less adept in these practices than are the republican die-hards. If the great majority should stand by Arthur Griffith, the newly elected president, and the free staters, they may use these weapons so effectively as to crush the extremists. The latter's appeal to hereditary hatred of England would not easily win adherents when British officials, constabulary and troops were no longer present to provoke that sentiment and keep it at fever heat. The people must by this time be so weary of conflict that they will not fight for such a mental abstraction as the difference between the Free State and the Republic.

There are die-hards among the Irish of America and the British dominions, but they doubtless constitute a minority, and the sympathy with Irish aspirations which has gone out from other nationalities will now be enlisted in support of what is considered a reasonable settlement. There should develop among the Irish people an ambition to prove that they are able to govern themselves well. Their efforts will be watched by the democratic world with a keen desire for their success and with condemnation for the faction which seems determined to thwart them.

By electing as president one of the authors of the treaty and by installing a cabinet appointed by him, the majority of the Dail representing the people has established a provisional government. It has put all who resist that government in the position of rebels, not against Great Britain but against Ireland itself. It should be able to convince the people that the people are in fact independent, as completely so as the people of Great Britain or of any of the dominions, with which they hold equal rank in the British commonwealth. The Irish are now to undergo the test of their quality as a nation.

After the experience of the ten church elders, even the drys will have to agree that varnish as a substitute lacks considerable of being "just as good" as the original.

A fast freight took toll from a school bus in Ohio yesterday. This will happen while the grade crossings and heedless drivers exist anywhere.

Those Methodist ministers who condemn dancing in the public schools seem determined, none the less, to make the school board dance.

If the new senator from Pennsylvania, Mr. Pepper, can inject a little spice into the Congressional Record, the country will bless him.

Beyond Portland crackers and Tillamook cheese, how many Oregonians know what edibles and other goods are made in Oregon?

When a woman wants a pair of these new-fangled knickerbockers, does she go to a dress maker or to a tailor?

Is the country long on coconuts? The finding of 200 at Minneapolis "stuffed" with rum is good publicity work.

Anybody got a line on the smelt?

The Listening Post.

By DeWitt Harry.

EFFICIENCY experiments have proved that more and better work can be accomplished under favorable conditions. For this reason we have daylight factories, employes' rest rooms and other innovations born of late years.

Experiments in the classroom with typists laboring while music was being played showed that they work faster. The feeling and spirit of the music seemed to aid them. Though phonographs have not been installed in many offices as yet, the day of their invasion may not be so far distant.

Then why, if music helps in typing, cannot it assist in other work? A Portland housewife says it does. In her case, as in the case of most women who have the care of homes, there is a great amount of drudgery that has no element of attraction—scrubbing, or bedmaking, or sweeping and dusting. The day may be bright and clear outside, but the home woman is doomed to stay indoors with bent back while she carries out the daily share of the unending cleaning grist wherein there seems to always be a pile of dirty dishes as a set task.

Now this woman uses her phonograph at the hardest period. She has dusted miles of enameled woodwork to "Ain't We Got Fun" and runs the vacuum cleaner to "Wabash Blues." As Harry Lauder sings she tidies up the living room, and to the stirring strains of Sousa she airs the bedrooms. A phonograph, she says, should not merely be for dancing, for its prime mission is as an aid to housework.

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Other lines always have their appeal to the man bound down with the deadly sameness of his work. There is the bookkeeper in the office building across from the millinery shop. He stood at the window adjusting his sleeve protectors before plunging into a sea of figures and moralized:

"Look at them girls. Pretty soft. Nice easy job, nice room, plenty of company, they can talk all they want and enjoy themselves as they work. They take $3 worth of ribbon and straw, and, even with their gossip, about 50 cents of time, and presto—a $40 hat. Why did I ever learn to keep books anyhow?"

* * *

The mysteries of the hereafter have a fervid appeal to many of us. Hanging in the art section of a department store is a color lithograph of a huge angel embracing a beautiful woman. The title is "Reunited." The splendid winged creature wears a halo and the entire subject is a combination of the earthly with the heavenly, the vision of the fond belief that many entertain of future after death.

Our first spectator is a young matron radiating happiness, a woman evidently who loves her husband above everything else. In the picture she sees their future. The glow on her face is heightened, for death will not mean their parting. "It's glorious, and so true," is her comment.

Next comes the elderly woman, possibly with quite a heavy church connection. "Just as our life after death shall come," says she in portentous tones to the saleagirl, "I know. Those that go before will meet those who come later."

Then the two skeptics, modishly garbed, just a few too many clothes and a little too much color. "Look at the man-angel," the first squeaks. "Ain't he a dear?" "Huh, who ever heard of a man-angel?" countered her chum. "Put tails and horns on them to make them look natural. The picture's no good."

And the couple of cuties. "Mable, come looky here, see the couple jazzin' on the clouds. Heavenly I say," chirps number one. "They ain't got nothing on me and George," from the littlest one with the rabbit fur collar. "When that feller grabs me and trots I float higher than them."

* * *

A friend who writes advertisements sends in the following with a request that it be printed. Our suggestion is that it would do for any case. Just change the occupation. Thus if you are a taxi-driver, insert "taxi-driver" for ad writer, if a dentist, put "dentist" in, etc.

"An ad writer has a very arduous, fatiguing and nerve wracking occupation. He returns home after a hard day's work in a very exhausted condition. In order to withstand the terrific strain on his nervous system and to be in shape physically properly to perform his duties he should have the most cordial co-operation of his wife during his leisure hours.

"She should never ask or require him to help care for or dress the children, run errands, tend the furnace, carry out ashes, change the buttons in his shirt, mow the lawn or above all to beat the rugs. She should always be very kind and never speak to him in a harsh or brutal manner.

"As he needs the most rest possible he should sleep until the house is warm and should have his breakfast served while in bed. His slippers and the evening paper should be ready when he comes home from work and everything possible should be done to make his home life congenial. I hope all ad writers (dentists, taxi-drivers, etc.) in this broad land will show this to their wives and insist on getting their just dues."

* * *

Most of the local hotels permit smoking in their rest rooms, and on the mezzanine floors if several men and women sit together. There was a dearth of matches in one of those places one day last week, and a girl, after taking out her cigarette case, found she had no light.

"Lend me a match, old top," was her greeting as she approached a man sitting alone a few seats away. He recognized the equality of sex, for he produced the matches in the same way as he would have done for any man who came with a similar request.

* * *

She was a glowing young creature and he a snappy-appearing chap. They entered the library together, just at dusk, she en route to the reference room, he to kill time among the periodicals until she should reappear.

"I'll be out in 45 minutes," she said. "Meet me outside. On the Bret Harte bench."

"No, that one's too prominent; let's go up to Robert Louis Stevenson instead. Maybe we can sit there for a few minutes."

The stone benches about the building are all named for authors.

Those Who Come and Go.

Tales of Folks at the Hotels.

"Astoria is a fine town and I still think the world of it," confided Thomas H. Lipps, now a practicing attorney in Los Angeles, who is registered at the Multnomah. Mr. Lipps owns considerable real estate in Astoria, which he acquired in the days when he was private secretary to Mr. Harley, the most spectacular mayor that the city-by-the-sea ever had or probably ever will have. After leaving Astoria Mr. Lipps joined the army and landed as a sprucer in the wilds of northern Washington, where eventually he became a sergeant. When there was a congressional investigation of the spruce production division Mr. Lipps met the committee in California and talked a book full of testimony. Now he is attorney for the tailors' association in Los Angeles, and that is the excuse for his being in Portland today. Speaking of Mr. Harley, his methods were startlingly original. Entering an elevator at the Hotel Portland one day, he handed the operator $2 and asked to be let off on the second floor. Half an hour later he entered the elevator again. "What did you do with that money?" he casually inquired of the operator. "I've still got it. Here it is," beamed the operator, holding up the greenback. Making a quick grab, Mr. Harley seized the bill and placed it in his own pocket. "You've had it too long," explained Mr. Harley. "Money was made to keep circulating."

Oakridge, Or., is where E. E. Hyland registers from at the Hotel Oregon. Years ago Oakridge was on the military road which meandered between Eugene and Klamath Falls. The road is now almost a memory. In the early days of the state highway commission this road was voted on the state map by the commissioners and was called the Willamette highway. When the road map was published, however, there was no trace of the Willamette highway upon it. Lane county has $248,000 of bonds to place on this road if anything is ever done toward developing it. The forest department has recently been looking into the situation to discover what happened to the Willamette highway as a state road and why it was left off the map. It is said that somewhere in the minutes there is a record showing that the road was voted unanimously by the commission.

To get a few pointers on how the bond market is working, Harry C. Brumbaugh, secretary of the state bonus commission, was down from Salem yesterday. The commission intends selling $10,000,000 of bonds on January 16, which will be the first chunk of bonds disposed of under the bonus act. This money is to be used in the payment of bonuses to former service men of Oregon. Almost 50 per cent of the applications to the commission are for a cash bonus instead of a long-time loan, which means that approximately $5,000,000 in cash will be in circulation as soon as the service men can get hold of it. What interest the bonds will bear is not known, as the buyers will name the interest rate in their bids. The big block of bonds so soon to be dumped on the market had an influence on the bidding for the state highway bonds disposed of yesterday.

Jazz dinner coats; golfing coats, the last word in this article; riding breeches carved out by a London expert; nifty browns and greens for nobby dressers, these and other styles are shown for men in the fashion display which the tailors' convention has brought to the Multnomah. Sam G. Levy, past president of the Pacific Coast Merchant Tailors' association, says it is the swellest line of exhibits that he has ever seen, and he has attended a number of the national conventions. With pride there is pointed out an evening coat whose feature is that the coat opening, instead of a "V," has a swelling horseshoe effect. This particular mode was evolved in France. It shows a greater expanse of the shirt bosom than the common or garden variety of dress coats, the lines being like those of the new white evening waistcoats. Another knockout is a pivot sleeve, very fine for golfers and horsemen.

Not long ago lambs were selling for $2.50 and $3. The price is about twice that at present. However, two years ago John Machem of Boise, Idaho, was buying lambs at $12.50 a head and was making big money at this price. Mr. Machem, who is in the city on business, bought all the lambs that one outfit had when he paid the fancy price, and other buyers who were bidding against him offered $10. The ewes of these particular $12.50 lambs had been bought for $4.50 a head. Mr. Machem cleaned up between $4000 and $5000 on his deal. That was the year following the war, however, when prices went sky-high and the sheep owners appeared to have an idea that there would never be a readjustment in the market.

Sam Kozer, secretary of state, returned to Salem last night after a meeting here with the state highway commission. The subject of the conference was how the highway regulations shall be enforced. The secretary of state has jurisdiction over part of the motor regulations and the highway commission over another phase of the work, and the two offices have come to an amicable understanding.

Ross A. Farr of Astoria, president of the state board of pharmacy, is at the Benson. Mr. Farr is here to attend the conference to be held today, which is intended to place a curb on the narcotic evil in Oregon. The conference has been called by Governor Olcott.

C. S. Murphy, J. O. Farmer and J. G. Houser are in town from Coos county. They appeared before the highway commission yesterday to oppose a local location of the Coos Bay-Roseburg highway near Bridge.

Mrs. I. E. Mulholland arrived from New York yesterday and registered at the Multnomah. She has come to take the position of buyer for a local concern.

Patrick Welch, well-known railroad contractor of Spokane, is among the arrivals at the Benson.

F. J. Huber of Medford is attending the tailors' convention at the Multnomah.

Capital of Oklahoma.

OAK GROVE Or. Jan. 9.—(To the Editor.)—To settle the question we leave it to your paper: One of the teachers here asserts that the capital of Oklahoma is Guthrie. A new student, who came from that state, contends it is Oklahoma City. Both are positive they are right. If Oklahoma City, which the writer thinks is right, when was it moved to Oklahoma City and by what act of the people?

SUBSCRIBER.

The Oklahoma enabling act made Guthrie the capital until 1913, but at an election in 1910 it was voted to remove it to Oklahoma City. This gave rise to litigation and the supreme court of the United States decided that the part of the enabling act naming Guthrie as the capital was unconstitutional. The issue was thus finally determined in favor of Oklahoma City in 1913.

Burroughs Nature Club.

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Can You Answer These Questions?

1. Do all birds have air chambers in their bones.

2. What makes butterflies shut their wings together when they settle on anything?

3. How long has the bubonic plague been known?

Answers in tomorrow's nature notes.

* * *

Answers to Previous Questions.

1. How long can bed bugs live without food?

Adult bugs seem to stand long fasts without suffering. We cannot give any exact period of duration. They have been found alive in houses that had been untenanted for some time.

* * *

2. Do we have any gray jays in southern Iowa?

We have no local information to guide us in replying. "Any" is an elastic word—stray specimens of various birds are occasionally seen outside their normal range. Bailey's Handbook of Birds of Western United States gives the range of perisoreus obscurus griseus ridgw, the gray jay, as from British Columbia south to northern California, east of the Coast and Cascade ranges.

* * *

3. Can you identify the enclosed tail of a small animal. Our cat constantly brings home tails like this, but nothing else of his kill.

The tail was about four inches long, very flat, a soft mousy gray fur with brownish streaks showing faintly, and with a very slender central shaft. It was the flying squirrel's tail, soft and fluffy, and is used to help steer the squirrel in its scaling downward plunge from limb to limb of a tree. Of course this is not real flight, but a sort of parachuting.

STOCK ISSUE TO FINANCE FAIR.

Correspondent Proposes Plan for State-wide Co-operation.

PORTLAND, Jan. 10.—(To the Editor.)—Regarding the financing of the "All-Oregon 1925 Exposition" allow me to suggest a plan which appears feasible, though there may be legal questions involved with which I am not competent to cope.

Let a corporation be formed to issue $5,000,000 in participating stock and $1,000,000 non-participating stock. Let each county select in such manner as it may adopt one representative to sit on the board of directors, with one additional from Portland. Apportion to each county such an amount of stock to be subscribed for voluntarily as would be raised by the first proposed property tax, including Multnomah, and allow to each county a certain percentage of the amount so raised for the purpose of making a county exhibit, this stock to be paid for by bankable notes running over three years in equal installments; put it up to each director to manage a campaign for the subscription of the stock so assigned; any profits arising from the exposition to be returned pro rata to the subscribers.

Let Portland alone subscribe for the $1,000,000 of non-participating stock. This will allow each county to show how strongly it is in favor of the fair and will demonstrate Portland's unselfishness in the matter.

I am aware that a plan as roughly outlined above would require a spirit of comity and team work in directorial matters. As the various outlying counties have almost invariably expressed a friendliness to the fair and deny any animosity toward Portland this will give them a chance to make good on their claims.

PORTLANDER.

COOS HARBOR PLANS ARE AIDED

Editorial Commending Jetty Projects Deemed Helpful at Marshfield.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Jan. 9.—(To the Editor.)—I desire to thank you personally for the splendid editorial in the New Year Oregonian recommending the jetty projects for the improvement of the entrance to the Coos Bay harbor.

The improvement of our harbor is vital to the development of this entire part of Oregon; without this improvement in the very near future all that has been done by both the federal government and the people through their port commission will be entirely lost.

To those of us who have given this project our constant study and personal attention your sincere and broad recommendation, carrying as it does the great influence of The Oregonian, encourages us to continue the campaign and urge with renewed vigor the claims of Coos Bay to congress for this federal appropriation.

Your assistance to Coos Bay comes at a time when it is needed and doubly appreciated.

JOHN C. KENDALL.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Jan. 9.—(To the Editor.)—We wish to thank you for the mighty fine editorial in The Oregonian January 2. It is indeed gratifying to have your wholehearted support, such as this editorial indicates.

MARSHFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
C. W. Parker, Secretary.

TIMID BECOME WALL FLOWERS

It Is Assertive Girl Who Gets the "Fellows," Says Writer.

PORTLAND, Jan. 10.—(To the Editor.)—I should like to reply to the letter of M. F. Gohre as from one "Goer" to another.

I think Portland men no worse in respect to seeking the butterfly than men of any town, yet it is quite true that the girl who is a little timid is usually left deserted. The girl who flings herself at the fellows' heads and permits a certain amount of familiarity is the popular girl. One of the other type rarely holds a fellow very long.

For myself, I have seen this thing worked out by a number of girls who were of the good, clean type and it has happened time and time again. It really makes a girl wish she could meet a man who only wished to be a pal and did not expect a return for every little attention he gave.

It may be just possible that this type of young man is not in evidence at the places suggested, as he prefers to sit at home and read and study. Though many a girl likes to study, she occasionally, also, desires a less weighty diet and would like to dance but finds that those of more frivolous character get the dances while she sits out and looks on.

I'm sure the Portland boy is a good mixer but he only mixes with a certain type of girl.

A "GOER."

Vote for Legislators.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 9.—(To the Editor.)—I wish you would publish which of the 12 representatives from Multnomah county received the largest vote at the last election, and what was the vote?

C. O. R.

Lee 54,365, Leonard 54,064, McFarland 53,672, Lynn 53,601, Hosford 53,333, North 53,305, Korell 53,081, Hindman 52,593, Wells 52,558, Kubli 51,462, Richards 50,554, Gordon 47,832.

More Truth Than Poetry.

By James J. Montague.

THE RETURN OF AN OLD FRIEND.

We find but scant reality
In dramas of rascality
Which lack the bold vitality
Of loudly spoken speech.
When crooks, their luck forsaking them—
Their friends and fortune shaking them,
Find fate is overtaking them
We like to hear 'em screech.

When maidens shriek appealingly,
When infants cry out squealingly,
And villains curse unfeelingly,
We're always moved to tears;
The clarion note of bravery,
The sputtering hiss of knavery,
We deem extremely flavory—
They're music to our ears.

The movie play amuses us,
But always it refuses us
The heart throb that enthuses us
To hoarse, approving hoots.
It may be educational,
It often is sensational,
But it's not inspirational
To watch a lot of mutes.

But now we're going to hear again,
The hiss in full career again,
And we may sit and cheer again
As loudly as the claque.
The hero's strident spluttering,
The villain's mordant muttering,
We'll hear, with hearts a fluttering—
The melodrama's back!

* * *

Room for Extension.

New Yorkers think that disarmament ought to include the dis-elbowing of the subway guards.

* * *

A Good Start.

Anyway, France has signed a pledge to keep the peace in the Pacific.

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Tea Leaves.

By Grace E. Hall.

The cup is drained of its amber drink,
The lights at the board grow dim,
And tea leaves cling to the thoughts I think
As they cling to the china rim.
And old Cathay is a block away—
With mystery full to the brim.

The amber drink and its aftermath
Of visioning clarity—
They carry me far on a sunlit path,
In a garden that's fair to see;
And I watch quaint maids where the bamboo shades
The land of the tamarind tree.

The tea leaves cling to the china rare
And are mute with the dreams I dream,
For I speed queer ships from a million slips
To the lands I have never seen;
And a leaf of tea is a craft to me,
A sail on a shoreless stream.

In Other Days.

Twenty-five Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of January 11, 1897.

Harper & Brothers are issuing in book form a series of connected papers upon the times and public life of George Washington by Professor Woodrow Wilson.

The wonders of mesmerism will be exhibited at Cordray's theater during the coming week by Professor T. A. Kennedy.

Blanche Bates will appear at the Marquam Grand theater this week in a series of plays produced by the Frawley company.

Dickies and neck bands are very stylish with the new spring suits, being decorated with jet beads, cut-steel buckles and braid.

Fifty Years Ago.

From The Oregonian of January 11, 1872.

Paris.—General Sherman and Lieutenant Grant arrived at Marseilles yesterday from Gibraltar.

The Stark-street ferry boat got lost in the fog yesterday morning, ran down to the O. S. N. company wharf and collided with the Hayward, which was tied up there.

On the Union Pacific railroad some days ago 55 locomotives and all the passenger cars of the company except two were stuck in the snow drifts.

It is stated that as much as $260 changed hands in a single evening on cock fighting in a saloon in this city.

MORE IS TO BE MADE AT HOME

Writer Sees Fallacy in Investment in German Marks.

PORTLAND, Jan. 10.—(To the Editor.)—I read with interest in The Oregonian the article headed, "Mark Investors Buy German Goods."

To those who have studied this matter the prospects may appear very alluring and the article in question is liable to prompt others quickly to invest in German marks.

The value of 1,000,000 marks in United States coinage is around $5000. It will cost Mr. Marvin C. White about $2500 to make his round trip, leaving him the munificent sum of $1500 to purchase "German toys, cutlery, aluminum ware, hosiery, drugs and other articles" to flood the United States and otherwise net the investors with problematical thousands per cent on their investment.

We read in the daily papers that France and England have bought up for the next six months ahead the total production of Germany of all the articles named above, so I fear Mr. White's enthusiasm will likely be considerably dampened and this said dampening will react on the investors to their financial detriment.

I feel it is to the benefit of Portland generally to retain all the money possible in our city rather than throw it away on false hopes such as this scheme surely promises.

A. W. PETERSON.

MEN DON'T LIKE TO BE