# Morning Oregonian

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## ULYSSES S. GRANT.

In General U. S. Grant, the centenary of whose birth is celebrated today, the American people honor the memory of the man whose virtues and genius saved the union, therefore they think of him first as a soldier. In that capacity he was the peer of any of the world's military chieftains, second only to Washington among American generals. When he took supreme command, he directed the movements of more than a million men—a greater army than that with which Napoleon invaded Russia or probably than any other general had ever commanded. The promptness with which he attacked when given his first small independent command, his vigorous and successful offensive against Fort Donelson and Vicksburg and in Tennessee; the prodigality with which he expended life in the final campaign of attrition against Petersburg and Richmond—all these suggest a splendid fighting animal directed by a superb, trained brain.

But that brief sketch of Grant as a general shows only the high points of the merely professional side of his character. If he had taken delight in war, he could not have spent a night in the rain rather than stay indoors and witness the agony of the wounded undergoing operations before anesthetics were in common use; he could not have made merciful terms of surrender at Appomattox and told the confederate cavalrymen to keep their horses, take them home and use them in plowing; he could not have inspired such devoted friendship, such abiding affection among the people that, despite the errors which marked his first term, he was elected to a second term as president and that the famous 306 stood firm through ballot after ballot for his nomination for third term. When in his last year the people of the nation watched his losing fight against an intensely painful disease, their sympathy was aroused not only by admiration for the general and statesman but by their love for one who had shown himself not only stern and resolute in war, but tender and merciful at all times, loyal to his friends though they played him false, and whose gravest weakness—overtrustful simplicity—appealed to their hearts against their reason. His military achievements served to bring him before the people for their judgment of him as a man, and they found him every inch a man.

Every variety of test brought to light courage of the highest temper. At Monterey he made a ride under fire to obtain new supplies for the troops, but then he was fired by the excitement of battle. Courage of a higher quality was required for his decision to cut loose from his base and make the final attack on Vicksburg. The same kind of courage was needed for the campaign of attrition which would surely cause terrific slaughter and provoke much censure, but which in one year battered the confederacy to ruins. The highest moral courage was that with which he drove himself to write his memoirs while cancer was eating away his life, for that was a test continuing for a year to within four days of his death. He was nerved to it by no battle-fever, by no ambition for future honors, for he had enjoyed all that his country could give; his sole thought was to employ the short and intensely painful remainder of his life in securing his family against poverty after his death.

Grant's failures in business, the errors which marred his career as president, were the result of that simplicity of character which made him too ready to trust others. But that quality may go to explain the readiness with which he forgot the ignominy of his practical dismissal from the army and promptly volunteered his services at the outbreak of the civil war. It may have contributed to his clear understanding of the tremendous issue at stake—the union or break-up of the nation—to his appreciation of the forces with which he must contend, to the relentless character of his attacks, to the fixed determination with which he prosecuted his campaigns, and to the concentration of his powers upon the one great task he had in mind. He had supreme genius for the one art, exercise of which was demanded by his country, and he gave it with a patriotic singleness of purpose and ceaseless energy that would have hardly been possible to a man of more varied parts. Had he not shone so brilliantly as a soldier, we should have expected less of him as a statesman. He gave service without stint and of which the value cannot be measured in the field where his ability lay, and the better the people knew him the more they saw in him to win their love. As soldier, patriot, president and citizen he is enshrined in the nation's heart beside Washington and Lincoln.

The reported success of the giant stabilizer which is being tried on an ocean-going steamship will mean much to those unfortunate ones who like to travel but are victims of seasickness in obstinate form. There are individuals who suffer from this baffling malady and can find no cure. Lieutenant Slaughter, one of the heroes of the Indian wars of 1855, was one of them. General Grant relates in his "Memoirs" how he encountered Slaughter at Panama on the way to Oregon. Slaughter had been sent to the territory by way of Cape Horn, a voyage of seven months, at the end of which he found orders awaiting him to return home, immediately after which he was sent agai to Oregon. He was seasick all the time, even while his vessel was in port. "I wish," said Slaughter, "that I had taken my father's advice and gone into the navy, where I would not have to go to sea so much." Slaughter's death soon afterward in the Indian campaigns on Puget sound was one of the incidents in winning of the west which indirectly operated to restore order by bringing the gravity of the situation to the attention of the previously neglectful national government at Washington.

## PROVING SOMETHING OR OTHER.

The Chamber of Commerce can determine for itself whether it wants to take a referendum on prohibition, as an actuality, or a failure, or an academic question; or whether the beguiling suggestion of light wines and beer has its approval or disapproval; or whether the gentle art of hip-pocketing is really filegal, or unethical or both; or whether some, or all, of these interesting subjects are none of its business as a chamber. One member suggests to the open forum of the chamber that it has a plain duty to act, and another member replies by saying that prohibition is a fact—constitutional and otherwise—and there is nothing more to be said.

The chamber declines to pick up the red-hot prohibition stove, and there is no appeal. But there are other vehicles of expression and action. A thing may be in the constitution, but there is nothing in custom or practice or the constitution itself to prevent taking it out—if the constitutional method is followed. All the opponents of prohibition have to do is to get a new amendment to the constitution, through the favorable action of congress itself, and of thirty-six sovereign states. It has been done. It can be done again. But it is quite a job. A necessary preliminary is an irresistible public sentiment for it.

Or the Volstead act may be repealed, and congress may pass a law defining anew what is non-intoxicating liquor. There is hope here for the advocates of invigorating but non-intoxicating wine and beer.

They have made a start in the Third congressional district of Oregon. A politician who was disappointed in his application to be prohibition director for Oregon is a candidate for congress on a "light wines and beer" platform. The outcome of his campaign on so attractive and lively an issue should determine something, but just what is not exactly clear. Possibly it will serve merely to furnish another nail for the coffin not a few citizens would like to build for the direct primary.

## AFTER RECLAMATION.

When reclamation of waste land has taken a new start and is soon to be pushed on a larger scale than ever under the Smith-McNary bill, organization for its permanent, successful settlement should at the same time be taken up. Reclamation is simply preparation of land for sale, and formation of an irrigation district is not complete unless it includes a selling agency. But it is not enough to find a buyer without regard to whether he "goes broke" in the effort to make a paying farm. From a land-selling standpoint such failures spoil the market for other land, for one man who fails makes more noise than a dozen who succeed. From the standpoint of the state, a community should be built on each project which will make hitherto barren land productive, will add to the wealth of the state and will reduce the taxes of each citizen by paying its share of the irreducible minimum cost of state administration.

Attention is turning to this necessary next step in land reclamation. Wisconsin has a plan in operation, so has California. The Northern Pacific railroad has made a valuable contribution to knowledge of the subject through publication of a pamphlet on "The Problem of Land Settlement," by E. F. Benson, manager of its department of immigration and industry. Many minds are turned to the need of stopping the desertion of the country and the concentration of people in the cities, and the problem is to place a farm within reach of a man of small capital, to put him on the way to success and to secure for him those conveniences—roads, schools, churches, buying and selling facilities and recreation—which will make him content with country life but are possible only for a community of farmers, not for an isolated farmer.

Land in already developed areas is so high priced as to be beyond the means of the type of man that should be drawn from the city to the farm or of the tenant farmer who desires to become an owner. The opportunity lies in the arid and swamp lands that are to be reclaimed and in such logged-off land as is better fitted for agriculture than forestry. Wisconsin is now working on reclamation of its great areas of logged-off land. Under its supervision the owner contracts to sell a tract of 30,000 to 50,000 acres to a colonization company for $8 to $12 an acre with a small payment down and the balance spread over ten to twenty years. The state's soil experts first determine the fertility and character of the soil. The tract is surveyed and divided into 40-acre tracts, then it is advertised, but settlers are selected by a supervisor of agricultural development with a view to their ability to succeed and their contentment with country life. The settler pays $500 cash on the land, the balance in six to ten annual payments at 7 per cent. The company provides a house, barn, cow, pig, chickens and tools, on which the settler pays half cash, giving a chattel mortgage for the balance. If after three years the buyer has made such improvements that his debt does not exceed 65 per cent of the total value, the company takes a 30-year amortization mortgage, on which it bases sale of bonds, thus turning over its capital. The company provides states and supervision for various community interests, such as schools, churches, hall, store, contests among farmers. Land and mortgage associations exist to make loans on the amortization plan to farmers direct or to buy mortgages from colonization companies, all under control and supervision of the state banking commissioner.

In order that reclamation may be a complete success in Oregon, some machinery should be provided to attract the right type of settler, to finance him, to help him to get established and to win through the first few critical years and thus make him and his farm a new asset to the state. The organization that builds an irrigation plant, drains a swamp or clears a tract of stumps needs to be followed up by another that will sell these things to large groups which will form complete rural communities. It should be practicable for private corporations to do all this under state supervision, as in Wisconsin, and to earn normal mortgage interest without involving the state financially. In this manner the empty places should be peopled and the burden of taxation lightened by adding to the taxable wealth and to the number of taxpayers.

## BOLSHEVIST DECEIT.

Emma Goldman's revelation of the bolshevist practice of maintaining "show schools" at strategic points for the purpose of impressing foreign visitors to unhappy Russia is interesting for other reasons than that it throws light on the sad condition of education in that country. It points to the bolshevists as a group of alleged reformers who, while denouncing the morals of every other class in the world, are quite as capable of deceit as any product of the hated capitalistic system. Bolshevist orators prate of the mighty power of truth, while official bolshevism itself lives a lie.

Emma Goldman's admission that she has been disillusioned by what she has seen may well be credited, not withstanding suspicion that she herself may not be free from guile. Her picture of life in Russia corresponds circumstantially with that painted by other observers. She tells how at first she was deeply impressed by the evidence of progress in the care of children under the dictatorship of the proletariat. She was permitted to visit schools in which the children "were given the best of everything—food, clothing, rooms, concerts, dances." But it transpires that these were but the window-dressing of bolshevism. The masses of the children of Russia were not so favored. The following is from Miss Goldman's description in the New York World:

> The bolsheviki thought it necessary to have a few show schools in each city for the benefit of the foreign missions, delegations and reporters. The children were exhibited, paraded on every occasion and written about. These schools had the cream of everything. . . . Persons that visited the show schools only and judged of the care of children in Russia by them were utterly ignorant of the true conditions of the mass of children in Russia.

Dictatorship of the proletariat, it seems, does not mean the doom of special privilege, as apologists for bolshevism would have us believe. In the ordinary schools there were no food, no clothing, no lodgings, no concerts. We are not surprised that the very elements of sound education were neglected, since the supply of teachers must be unequal to the task, even if the bolshevists meant to establish a national system of education. But it seems also that the schools which were on exhibition were reserved for the favored few. Favoritism was rampant. There is even less of real democracy under the soviets than there used to be in the regime of the czars. The child of the proletariat has no more chance on the whole than he had in the days of old.

Russia has unfortunately but exchanged the tyranny of one set of oppressors for the tyranny of another. This applies to industries as well as to the schools. There are "show factories," too, which visitors are permitted to see who are carefully excluded from others which do not make so favorable an impression. The soviet leaders are not candid with the world.

## AN ENOCH ARDEN LAW.

A law just passed by the New York legislature and signed by the governor makes it possible for a person to obtain annulment of a marriage if the husband or wife has been absent from home for five years, during which time diligent effort to obtain evidence as to whether the defendant is living or dead has gone unrewarded. This is hailed by the proponents of easier divorce as a gain, since New York has heretofore permitted divorce for only one cause—adultery. Yet a peculiar situation still exists in New York which will be interesting to students of the legalistic philosophy of marriage and divorce in general. For while in effect the new law adds another ground for divorce—desertion for five years—to the single one already existing, in a more restricted sense it but revises the old precedent, founded in the common law, for assuming a person dead, from whom no tidings have been received for a certain period. This period is seven years by common law and the statutes of many states, including Oregon.

So it is affirmed with some reason, and with at least a plausible ground for argument, that what New York has done in reality has been to reduce by two years the common law period beyond which the person may be assumed to be legally dead. That the statute does not apply to the seven-year period in general, that for the purpose of probating estates and so forth, proof of seven years' absence is still essential, and that it applies only to the marriage status of the person make a good deal of difference in the discussion. The intent of the legislature is plainly betrayed and that intent is to let down the bars and make divorce a little easier, yet avoid the issue of the expediency of divorce in general. For, of course, calling a divorce an annulment of marriage does not make any material difference to the individual who by the decree is restored to the pre-married status. Yet a curious reluctance, and perhaps a vague sense of shame, is exhibited in the fact that it is sought to accomplish this purpose by indirection. The thought that it would have been an even simpler matter to amend the divorce law itself by adding desertion for five years to the list of causes seems not to have occurred to the New York lawmakers, or if it did it was rejected for some prudential reason.

New York now accomplishes all that it could have done straightforwardly but does it by setting up the convenient assumption that one who has been continuously absent and has not been heard from for five years is "dead" for domestic purposes, although not for others. The procedure required, however, belongs in the divorce category rather than in the province of the surrogate. A petition is filed as in a divorce action and evidence is taken in the usual way, whereupon the court if duly convinced is empowered to "dissolve the marriage." In our own state divorce is granted for desertion for one year; New York by the new practice prescribes five years, though it preserves the figment that the marriage is thus ended by death rather than by operation of a "divorce" law. On the assumption that the defendant is in fact dead, it makes provision for the dissolution of a tie that Providence already has severed. Suit is brought against a person presumably dead.

We are not unmindful that the protection of the innocent often requires many legal formalities the reason for which may seem obscure to the layman. Assumption of the death of a person not heard from for seven years, for example, would be permissible in Oregon, and in most other states, to the extent of warranting remarriage of the survivor without formal court proceedings, such as would be especially abhorrent to those conscientiously opposed to divorce and to remarriage while there is a living spouse. Yet it sometimes happens that the good faith of the person is questioned and New York puts this beyond cavil by provision for formal decree. In Oregon we have a corresponding safeguard in the general practice which would permit the taking of testimony for perpetuation, by which the petitioner would be allowed to make a showing of good faith which would become a matter of record, though not of final adjudication—an issue of interest in this state only to those who desire to avoid divorce, since our desertion statute is liberal enough in this regard.

The most interesting aspect of the New York amendment is the particular manner by which it seeks to liberalize the divorce law without admitting that it is doing so. Evidently there is a sentiment worth taking into account in the Empire state which would protest against any general movement to let down the bars.

## NO LONGER A "RURAL MIND."

The passing of the rural districts, which Peter Clark Macfarlane comments on after a lecture tour which has taken him into forty-two states, has not escaped the attention of other observers. It has been noted recently that the confidence man with a gold brick or its equivalent to sell no longer goes into the country districts with his wares. "Rubes" are no more numerous in proportion to population in the country than in the town and are easier to reach in the latter. The improvement in rural conditions is due to no single incident, but probably has been most greatly influenced by development of means of communication by which all people are made one.

Waldemar Kaempffert in his "A B C of Radio" has this thought in mind when he visualizes the Canadian woodsman, weary for the moment of his eternal round of chopping, sitting down on a log, unfolding a private radio set and listening to a Broadway concert. There are no longer any remote corners of the earth—only places where one may take one's self if one cares to do so, but still remain in touch with all that is going on in the world. The day is not only approaching, but to all intents and purposes it is here, as those are aware who have kept informed of the progress made by the new radio science. The fact that a book issued early in the present year is not quite up to date in April is a commentary on the amazing speed with which it moves.

In the phrase "better means of communication" is embraced all that goes to establish a bond between the people of town and country. The railroad, practically the development of half a century in the west, the automobile, less than a quarter of a century old, the rural telephone, free rural mail delivery, better roads have made it possible for country people to keep pace with the rest of the world. The whole movement for betterment of rural conditions is the product of better communication, which has created desire and set people thinking. It is not by mere coincidence that a manufacturer of radio appliances reports that a large part of his orders come from towns that are supply centers for farming regions.

The country ought even to have definite advantages over the city as a place to live in when the new order is perfected. People on the farms will have the option of holding communication with their neighbors or shutting it off, as they desire. To the dweller in Arcadia alone will the great boon of privacy be vouchsafed, if things keep moving as they are. And it must be admitted that even with the most gregarious there are moments when there is no happiness quite comparable with being let alone.

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If ever the corner drugstore handles much of that grayish powder, a pinch of which makes a man tell the truth, uneasiness of wives regarding husbands will either subside or grow into magnificent proportions.

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This radio thing is going a little fast. The smack of a kiss has been broadcast. A kiss with soul in it may be too sacred to be thrown to the world; but perhaps this was another kind.

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Those mutineers in Ireland are not fighting fair like real Irishmen. A brigadier in the republican army was shot dead after complying with an order to throw up his hands. They will get no sympathy for such work.

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The "Sesqui-Cents" at Philadelphia have some grand ideas of expositions. One wants to pay the head of the affair $50,000 a year for five years. They are thinking in big terms back there; yet why not?

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Fine thing they caught the man-eating shark off the California coast early. He was a chump to miss the layout farther south.

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Nearly 7000 voters are registered in Clatsop and it will be a very cold day that keeps all of them from the primaries this year.

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The search for the plesiosaurus was futile. Patagonian moonshine seems as "deludering" as the North American brand.

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The mire in this campaign is deepening. After awhile it will dry up.

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Uneasy lies the head of the man that runs for office, but not the mouth.

## Stars and Starmakers.

By Leone Cass Baer.

From Los Angeles comes news of Mayo Methot La Mond, who, with her husband, John La Mond, is touring California by motor with the Robert Bruce Film company. Mr. La Mond is camera man with the Bruce productions and Miss Methot is to appear in various plays.

She has seen any number of former Portland folk during their stops at Coronado, Del Monte, Carmel-by-the-Sea and at Tia Juana. Last week Mr. and Mrs. La Mond were guests one day of Theodore Roberts, with whom Mayo played at the Baker here, when he and Florence Roberts and Thurlow Bergen were tri-stars in stock. The La Monds visited also Wallace Reid, whom they both know, and Rhea Mitchell, a former Portland girl.

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Katharine Graham, who is appearing this week at the Baker in "My Lady Friends," is in receipt of a letter from Edward Horton, telling her that at last he has succumbed to the call of the "fillum." Mr. Horton has been approached over and over by managers of film companies, but heretofore he has turned an unlistening ear to their importunities. Now he has accepted an offer of the Jesse Robbins productions to play in "Too Much Business," a six-reel light comedy now being distributed by Vitagraph. Horton is continuing his stock engagement with the Wilkes company in Los Angeles and giving his talent to the screen in the daytime. His second subject is temporarily titled "The Ladder Jinx," from the story of Edgar Franklin.

Mr. Horton was one of the most popular leading men the Baker company ever gave us and he has many friends made during his stay here.

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Having run the justly famous gamut of theatricals all the way from the drama to the films, Grace Valentine has decided to take a flier in vaudeville.

Miss Valentine's vehicle will be a comedy playlet by Hal Crane entitled "The Four-Flushers," and in her support will be seen James Mitchell and Carlo de Angelo.

* * *

Zeh Prevost, who was a member of the party at which the late Fatty Arbuckle was host, is going into vaudeville, if vaudeville wants her. She is making overtures through Harry Weber's office for a vaudeville route. Miss Prevost proposes to do a sketch, in which also will appear Mrs. Wally Schang, wife of the regular catcher of the Yankees.

* * *

Maude Hannaford writes that she is on her way back to this country after two years of theatrical work in Australia. Miss Hannaford was last seen in New York in "Crooked Gamblers." Following that engagement she left for the land of the kangaroo and since then has appeared in all the principal cities of Australia and New Zealand as the leading figure in such American works as "The Sign on the Door," "Scandal" and "Adam and Eva." She is due in New York early next month.

Maude Hannaford was at one time in her early career a player at the Baker. She appeared three years ago in "The Jest," which brought her her first recognition in the east.

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Marguerite Sylva has returned to New York, following the completion of a concert tour which carried her through Florida and Cuba.

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Eileen Wilson, who is best known for her work in "The Lady of the Lamp" a year back, is now safely ensconced in the leading role of "Ladies' Night" in Chicago. She has the part created by Clairborne Foster, who was recently severely injured in an automobile accident.

Eileen Wilson is a pretty brunette, who was for a few months ingenue with the Baker Players and who later was married to William Powell, who also was a member of the Baker company. Later they were divorced.

* * *

Max Hoffman Jr. will not continue with his mother, Gertrude Hoffman, in her act. He is to resume a vaudeville tour, a dance act, with his wife Norma Terriss.

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Isadora Duncan's mother died in Paris April 12. Raymond Duncan, who is in Paris, directed that the funeral services be conducted according to the ritual of the ancient Greeks.

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James Dutton, who was in Portland at the Orpheum a few weeks ago with his troupe of trained white horses in an equestrian act, is in a hospital in San Francisco, suffering from a severe case of blood poisoning, which will keep him confined for several more weeks.

* * *

Another Orpheum actor who is in the limelight just now, is George N. Brown, who was here about a month ago in "Pedestrianism," an act in which he and a husky girl walked several million miles along a treadmill. Mr. Brown has been made defendant in a suit for divorce, filed in Kansas City, by Mrs. Lorena Brown. According to the petition, the couple were married in New York June 16, 1918, and separated in Kansas City April 15, 1922.

The plaintiff, as a cause of action, claims that her husband beat, cursed and otherwise abused her. She asks that her maiden name, Lorena J. Chapman, be restored and that she be granted alimony.

Lorena probably wants George to keep on walking.

* * *

Geraldine Farrar is selling the costumes she wore in her famous opera roles. The flaming red gown from the last act of "Tosca," the vivid Spanish "Carmen" dresses, the dainty kimonos she wore as Madame Butterfly, and dozens of others used in her 20-year operatic career, are being bought by admirers and friends in the Metropolitan company. Only the simple blue gown she displayed as Marguerite in "Faust" at her debut in the Berlin Royal Opera house in 1901, will be kept.

* * *

Richard Herndon has secured the rights to "For Value Received," a new play by Ethel Clifton, who was a Baker player a dozen years ago. Miss Clifton has written many sketches and is also appearing each season in some playlet of her own in vaudeville.

## Grant: The Soldier.

By Wallace McCamant.

GRANT'S military career falls under four general subdivisions. I eliminate the Mexican war, because he held a subordinate position in that conflict and had no opportunity to prove himself other than a brave and cool subordinate officer.

Grant's victory at Donelson was the first decisive victory won by the federal forces in the civil war. He was outnumbered and was confronting an enemy strongly entrenched. James Ford Rhodes gives him the highest praise for the quickness with which his mind acted and for his coolness in the critical moment of fighting at Fort Donelson. He had found in the knapsacks of prisoners three days' rations. He at once reached the conclusion that the Confederate commanders were panic-stricken and endeavoring to retreat. He sent them his famous message: "No terms except unconditional surrender," and thus won a victory which put western Kentucky and Tennessee in federal control.

The Vicksburg campaign was, in my opinion, the most brilliant military achievement of the civil war. The tenacity and resourcefulness with which Grant transported his army to the south of Vicksburg, the Napoleonic genius with which he attacked and defeated in detail Confederate forces largely outnumbering his own army and the cool courage with which he put himself out of communication with the war department to the end that he might have a free hand, all attest his supreme excellence as a military chieftain.

When Grant reached Chattanooga the Union forces were in a critical situation. The promptness with which Grant grasped the situation, broke the Confederate blockade and insured the safety of the army was regarded by General Thomas M. Anderson as the most brilliant piece of military strategy in the history of the Union armies during the civil war. The overwhelming victories at Missionary ridge and Lookout mountain crowned Grant's career in the west.

It would unduly prolong this article to discuss Grant's campaign from the Rapidan to the James. Three years of warfare had demonstrated that in Lee and the army of northern Virginia Grant had no ordinary antagonist and that victory could be won only by hard fighting and a policy of attrition. Grant's plans called for a great deal of bloodshed, but in my opinion there was no other way out of the situation. He kept Lee fighting at all points all the time and thus took advantage of the superior population and resources of the north. The campaign in the spring of 1865, which terminated at Appomattox, was brilliant and decisive. General Morris Schaff has written the best characterization of this campaign which I have seen and he announces the opinion that Grant was a greater soldier than Lee, basing his conclusions chiefly on the strategy of this last campaign, but to some considerable extent on the previous careers of these two great soldiers.

One of Grant's strong qualities was the affection he inspired in his men and especially in the officers with whom he was associated. The warm friendship existing between Grant on the one hand and Sherman and Sheridan on the other is a bright chapter in civil war history. George H. Williams told me that Grant could not find language strong enough in which to express his admiration for Sheridan.

Another strong point in Grant's career is his chivalry and gentleness toward the enemy when they were once within his power. The order he issued at Appomatox stopping the salute which the artillery had started to fire stamps him a thorough gentleman. His generosity to Lee's army in the matter of horses needed for the spring plowing and his plea in his first inaugural: "Let us have peace," entitled him to rank as a broad-gauge chivalric leader.

## READY TO PROMISE ANYTHING

**Prescribed Marriage Vows Take Advantage of Lovers' State of Mind.**

PORTLAND, April 26.—(To the Editor.)—If the marriage vows are to be changed, they should be so changed that the parties would make only such promises as are possible for them to keep. Obey? Yes! Cherish? Yes. But no matter how earnestly they may desire to do so, they cannot make themselves continue to love and honor where love and honor are not due.

It does not seem fair that a body of church dignitaries, many of whom have gone far along life's way and seen many disillusionments, should take advantage of the beatific state of mind that leads a couple to the marriage altar, to exact promises from them that they may not be able to keep.

Why not have the woman promise to obey and endeavor to be worthy of love and honor, and the man promise to cherish and endeavor to be worthy of love and honor? Such promises might put a curb on selfish, grouchy husbands and frivolous, nagging wives. In any case they would be promises much more possible to keep than loving either one of them. Loving neighbors and enemies is easy in comparison, for with them there is not the daily contact.

Regarding the promise "with all my worldly goods I thee endow," that never has meant anything. If it had, the men would have had it taken out long ago. It never has been in accord with the civil law. M. S. B.

**Speaker and French President.**

ALBANY, Or., April 25.—(To the Editor.)—Please answer who the speaker of the house is (in congress), and who the president of France is. MARGARET E. HOLMES.

Speaker, Frederick H. Gillett of Massachusetts.

President of France, Alexandre Millerand.

**A Threat Is Implied.**

Banter.

Patient—Doctor, I've known you so long now that it would be an insult for me to pay your bill, so I've arranged a handsome legacy for you in my will.

Doctor—You don't mean it—I am overwhelmed—by the way, just let me take a look at the prescription again.

**Dates and Days of Week.**

PORTLAND, April 26.—(To the Editor.)—Please give the day of the week on which the following dates fell: (1) December 22, 1866; (2) December 22, 1909.

SUBSCRIBER FOR 20 YEARS.

(1) Sunday. (2) Wednesday.

## Those Who Come and Go.

Tales of Folks at the Hotels.

"I saw a man who had a $5 radiophone which worked without antennae. He would take the box and put it on the dining room table and hear stuff while the family was at meals. The machine was small and cheap and while it caught and reproduced sounds it was like an old scratchy phonograph," said T. H. Foley of Bend, at the Multnomah. Mr. Foley has the radio fever in severe form. He is here for the express purpose of getting an instrument to install in his office at Bend for the benefit of the public. The only one he found in Portland that fits his purpose is in the hands of a local firm, which is using it for demonstration purposes. "If it were in Bend I'd find a way of getting that machine," says Mr. Foley, "but in Portland I'm not so well acquainted and don't know what pressure to apply." An extra strong instrument is needed in Bend because it is so far from the broadcasting stations. Mr. Foley says he saw a machine made by a Portlander who took a curtain rod, wound wire around it and has been catching messages from Honolulu on the contraption. "Phonograph companies and telephone companies will be viewing the radio with alarm," says the Bend man, "so they will be devising some method of taking advantage of the radio or applying it to their own purposes. Say, a radio set on the high desert in central Oregon in the cabin of some lonesome homesteader would be a great thing."

Headed for the China coast and the ports of Japan, A. F. Cook registered at the Multnomah, is almost ready to check out. Mr. Cook, who is well known in the lumber trade on the Pacific coast, is to establish his headquarters in Tokio, representing a lumber exporting concern. Mr. Cook is to make a survey of the lumber market of the orient, discovering what particular sizes and lengths are most in demand and getting any other information that may be useful in developing the market and then supplying it. Japan is now a particularly active customer for the woods of the Pacific coast, and scores of shiploads of red cedar and Lawson cypress have been sent overseas. The Japanese are now beginning to use great quantities of Douglas fir, and there is a growing demand for hemlock blocks.

C. L. Ireland, editor of the Observer, published at Moro, Sherman county, is registered at the Perkins and, like all newspaper men at this season, is inquiring around regarding the political situation. Mr. Ireland predicts a good wheat crop in his county this year, but says it will not be a bumper, nor, for that matter, will it fall below normal. The county is much interested in the development of the state road programme and when the highway commission next month awards the grading and surfacing contract for the section between Wasco and Biggs the Sherman highway will have only about 30 miles unfinished.

In the coming primary campaign Loyal M. Graham of Forest Grove occupies a peculiar position. He is the only man in Washington county who has filed as a candidate for representative and the county is entitled to two members. Consequently Mr. Graham has a cinch on his nomination. Someone's name will be written in on the ballot, however, and someone will win the second nomination. Mr. Graham, who is registered at the Multnomah, was a member of the 1919 session and had much to do with the writing of the highway legislation in that year.

When a man in Sherman county is called a "good farmer" it means something. There are many farmers in Sherman county who are successful, but the adjective "good" is applied to only about half a dozen and among this select few is Fred Hennagin, who farms two or three sections of wheatland west of the town of Wasco. Mr. Hennagin and his wife, registered at the Imperial, drove to Portland to visit their daughter Katherine, who is attending a private school in this city.

Mrs. C. P. Bishop of Salem, one of the few women in the state who have offered themselves as candidates for the legislature, is registered at the Hotel Portland. Mrs. Bishop is running in the republican primaries in Marion county. Her brother, Thomas B. Kay, is another of the candidates for the legislature in the same district.

Being justice of the peace in a small town is a sort of incidental job. It is with L. W. Ross of Moro, Or., whose regular occupation is that of jeweler. As justice of the peace one of the duties of Mr. Ross is to perform marriage ceremonies, and sometimes, as was the case within the year, he is asked to unwed those he has joined.

Kodiac promises to be one of the important oil fields of the west and much is expected of the district by those who have made an examination of the formation. J. W. McCord arrived at the Hotel Portland yesterday from Kodiac, where he is interested in an oil operation which is now preparing to drill.

R. M. Betts of Cornucopia, Or., is at the Hotel Portland. Mr. Betts is a member of the state board of geology and mines and is in the mining industry in the Cornucopia district, which same is in Baker county.

James Allen, state highway commissioner for Washington, was at the Multnomah yesterday. Commissioner Allen was here to consult with Charles H. Purcell of the federal aid bureau.

After a sojourn in a hospital for an operation, D. Comier of Lebanon returned to the Hotel Portland yesterday and will go to Lebanon within a few days.

C. V. Essroger, vice-president of the First National bank of Chicago is in Portland on business and is registered at the Multnomah.

E. E. Calvin, vice-president of the Union Pacific system, and R. L. Huntley, chief engineer, were among the Multnomah arrivals yesterday.

J. P. McGoldrick and George L. Gardner, lumbermen of Spokane, are among the Hotel Portland arrivals.

L. R. Vonlee, a grocer of Moro, Or., is in Portland on a business trip.

**SENATOR McNARY NOT INVOLVED.**

Senator McNary is taking no part in the contest between Mr. Williams and Mr. Fithian for republican national committeeman for Oregon. A misleading headline—"McNary's support given Mr. Williams"—which ran over an interview with Thomas H. Tongue Jr., through several editions of The Oregonian yesterday before correction, gave an entirely contrary idea. The telegram of Senator McNary to Chairman Tongue, of the Oregon republican state committee, under date April 22, is as follows:

Am taking no part in contest for national committeeman nor in any other political contest. Indeed, no one has ever requested an expression from me concerning any of the candidates and I have authorized no one to speak for me.

In a telegram to Charles T. Early, president of the Fithian club, Senator McNary again declares his neutrality, saying he "is taking no part in this or any primary contest in Oregon."

## More Truth Than Poetry.

By James J. Montague.

**WHAT STOPPED THE CHINESE.**

The Chinese child has little ease in
studying his A B C's,
He pegs away the livelong day
Nor dares to rest a minute.
Inside his head he has to get the
copious Chinese alphabet,
Which has about—we've figured
out—
Three thousand letters in it.

The Chinese poet who essays to sing
his pink-cheeked flapper's praise,
And softly rhyme the thrill sublime
Of love's delightful fetters,
Gets wearied out before he's done,
for really hardly one
Can well enthuse who has to use
Three thousand wriggly letters.

A Chinese printer has to sweat a week
to get a column set;
It takes an age to set a page,
And there would be a riot
If, when the type was in the chase,
some clumsy bungler round the
place
Breezed through the room and
sealed his doom
By happening to pi it.

The Chinese have not got as far as
almost all the nations are;
They had the start in wealth and
art,
But their great days have faded.
And we'd be back as far as they if, in
our nation's younger day,
Our chief concern had been to learn
An alphabet like they did.

* * *

**Stirring Young Ambition.**

If great ships are to be named after presidents, the kids of the country will be almost as eager to be president as they are to be home-run kings.

* * *

**Accounted For.**

The railroads are prosperous again. Crooks bound for New York boost passenger traffic and the lost they send home to the folks helps the freight business.

* * *

**Impossible.**

Tariffs can't be revised by their friends any more. After they have been in effect a year or two, they haven't got any friends.

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## Burroughs Nature Club.

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**Can You Answer These Questions?**

1. Are bats dangerous?

2. Why do corn kernels come in even numbers of rows?

3. Please tell me what sort of place the cardinal uses for a nest. One has been about my grounds all winter, and I want to keep it if I can.

Answers in tomorrow's nature notes.

* * *

**Answers to Previous Questions.**

1. Do the warblers all keep to the tree tops?

No, though this is a characteristic place to find many varieties of warbler. The Maryland yellowthroat is a haunter of bushes, in marshy places, and the worm-eating warbler is another bush-dweller. The yellow palm warbler lives in trees or bushes, but often eats on the ground. The redstart is found in tree tops.

* * *

2. Is dogwood ever used as a medicine in hydrophobia?

Not nowadays, certainly. There was a superstition that it was efficacious. The word "dogwood" has an ancient history, originally coming from the old-English habit of calling fruits worthless-to-man "dog-berry." The drupes of the cornel—which we call dogwood—were thus dubbed dogberries and from the habit of calling them by this name, came the ignorant idea that the leaves alleviate dog bite.

* * *

3. Why does coating stagnant water with oil kill mosquitoes?

Because it suffocates the mosquito stage of life passed in water. The eggs are laid in stuck-together batches, from which the larvae or wrigglers escape from the under side. This wriggler, and its next higher form, the pupa, both need to come to the surface for air. If they strike a film of oil their breathing tubes get clogged. The mosquito adult comes out of its pupa case at the surface, also, and shakes out its wings preparatory to flight. The least speck of oil on the wings makes it helpless and it drowns.

## In Other Days.

**Twenty-five Years Ago.**

From The Oregonian of April 27, 1897.

London.—The Turks are reported to be within an hour's march of Vole and the Greek troops are being withdrawn from the city.

New Yprk.—General Grant's tomb is being dedicated today and many notable people are in the city to witness the ceremony.

A little German band, the like of which has become a rarity in Portland, has been discouring music about the city recently.

Dr. Byron E. Miller's handsome span of cream-colored horses ran away yesterday and collided with a streetcar, breaking the buggy to fragments but not injuring themselves or Dr. Miller.

**Fifty Years Ago.**

From The Oregonian of April 27, 1872.

Washington.—The Goat Island question has been the subject of debate for the past three days in the senate.

Naples.—The eruption of Vesuvius is at its greatest height. New craters have formed and streams of lava are pouring down the mountain sides in different directions.

A railroad company is being organized at Denver for the purpose of building a road to Salt Lake City by way of Georgetown and the North Park.

The band will discourse music at the plaza this afternoon, commencing at 6 o'clock and ending at 7 o'clock.

## TEN REPRESENTATIVE PAPERS

**Those by Which an English Correspondent Gauges American Feeling.**

From "After the War," by Colonel Repington.

Sunday, November