

HERR MOST ON ANARCHY

AGITATOR ADVOCATED ABOLITION OF GOVERNMENT.

Speech Not So Interesting as That of Addis and Meeting Was a Tame Affair.

Johann Most, the anarchistic leader, who disappointed his audience by not speaking at A. O. U. W. Hall Friday night, was present at the meeting last evening and spoke, but the disappointment was equally great.

Herr Most's warmest admirers will never accuse him of being an orator. In fact, Henry Addis can give him cards and spades and beat him. His speech is marred by the fact that his English is broken; and his grotesque appearance, heightened by a facial deformity, does not have a pleasing effect on an audience.

Herr Most spoke first in English for 20 or 30 minutes, and then talked for half an hour in his native German. His theory was exactly that advanced by Mr. Addis Friday night, but his explanations were less lucid.

In his opening remarks he stated that he was suffering from a severe cold, and that he spoke English imperfectly. He said, however, that he would be satisfied with the result if only a few were converted to the doctrine of anarchy.

He made the statement that a free country is one without a ruler, and without a king; where all are free and equal; a country without laws and without superstition; where every man is entitled to his own; where there is no thieving and no robbery; where oppression has been banished and where priests and officers are no more.

He predicted the next revolution would be the entire abolition of private property and it would be as complete as the abolition of chattel slavery.

He spoke of foreigners coming to America as the land of the free, finding here an emperor and no pope, but a land ruled by 800 kings—coal kings, railroad kings and all kinds.

The men who were executed in Chicago in 1887, he said, were murdered because they attacked by mouth and by pen the monopolists and the capitalists of Chicago, and not because they were guilty of any crime.

"We have," he continued, "in America \$3,000,000,000. Yet no one can become a millionaire without stealing from the masses of people. You are in the hands of a band of robbers and hypocrites."

"There are two kinds of parties," he asserted, "and the difference between the republican party and the democratic party is this: One is a band of robbers, the other a gang of thieves; one consists of office-holders, the other of office-seekers."

He compared the whole world to a lunatic asylum. "We go barefooted," he said, "because we produce too many shoes; ragged because we produce too many clothes; and we starve because we produce too much food. In other words, we are not allowed to consume what we produce. The entire system is wrong. The rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer."

"We are ruled by whom? Not by the men we elect, but by those poor devils, the policemen, the private detectives, the hussars and lawyers, and hars of every kind."

The remedy, said Herr Most, is to create a public opinion in favor of anarchy. He said it will not require a majority, but only a simple majority. He said that it will then be easy to overthrow the rulers and abolish all law. He advocated wiping out the state and then all economic institutions would be the property of the people. He proceeded to delineate the theory advanced by Mr. Addis, that in a state of anarchy men would only be required to work two or three hours a day, and that all crime would vanish like dew beneath the morning sun.

At the conclusion of his speech in English, Mr. Addis stated that a collection would be taken up to pay the hall rent and four women passed around hats for contributions. Mr. Addis stated that preliminary steps would be taken at the close of the meeting towards forming an anarchist club in Portland.

Herr Most then spoke for a half hour in German, about one-half of the crowd remaining.

HERR MOST'S VIEWS.

As Related at Some Length to an Interview.

"Johann Most, of New York," as Herr Most subscribed himself, is a little, elderly Bavarian, with a wiry, gray beard that almost covers his face, and a decidedly Teutonic accent as he talks with vehemence on things he is very much interested in. He might pass for a Lutheran minister, as his garb rather indicates the clergyman, though one of his missions in the world is "Down with the church—down with all priests."

"Mr. Most, you have a national, if not a world-wide reputation?"

"Yes. The papers have pictured me as a devil with horns and cloven feet, a torch in my hand or bombs in my pocket, just because I am anxious to free the human race from the insane asylum into which we have drifted."

"What are the anarchists trying to accomplish, anyway?"

"We wage war against private property, against the state and against the church. We repudiate the institution of private property, because its history is that of human suffering. So long as private property prevails, there will be rich and poor, and the poor will be dependent on the rich. Such a condition of things leads to a monstrous accumulation of wealth, to insupportable pride, to insane avarice, ambition and cruelty; and, on the other hand, to an impoverishment of the masses and intellectual decay. Down with private property!"

"The state, so far from being, as many fancy, an institution for securing the general welfare of the people, is simply a measure of defense the rich have set up against the poor. The fewer the rich and the more numerous the poor, the greater the elaboration of this protective machine, and it finally degenerates into the monster with its countless heads in everybody's pocket; with its ropes and halters to hold us fast, with its rifles and swords to club us or swing over our heads; with

its prisons and scaffolds that threaten our destruction. Down with the state!

The church, no matter what the denomination, is the condensation of the most enormous swindle ever perpetrated on humanity. It controls several millions of crafty scoundrels, who, year in and year out, in every country, are let loose upon people, that they may fill their brains with such nonsense as only a true enemy of mankind could invent. Down with the church! Down with all creed swindlers and priest humbugs!"

"Do the anarchists expect to accomplish their purposes?"

"Certainly we do. The revolution is coming every day. The trusts and combines are oppressing the poor until the poor can stand it no longer. There is plenty in the world for us all, and yet some are rolling in luxury while others are starving."

Herr Most makes his living by publishing a weekly paper, the Freiheit, in New York city. This periodical is printed in German, and is devoted to the further-

ance of his peculiar ideas. He is making a trip out here under the auspices of the anarchists, who have local lodges in San Francisco, Portland and Seattle, the three cities in which he is booked to speak. He says he had large houses in San Francisco, but the organization in Portland is as yet very small. He goes from here to Seattle; thence to Denver, Omaha, Chicago, and back to New York.

The great apostle of anarchy is 54 years old, though he might pass for 70 if he desired. His left cheek is swollen very much, and thus gives the right side of his face a sunken appearance. He was asked yesterday if he had been suffering from toothache, and said:

"No, sir. If you had suffered as much as I have with that face, you wouldn't smile. When I was 4 years old I had the toothache, and was doctored by 13 different physicians and surgeons, who left me in the state you see. One of these wretches is alive today, and he thanks God that he has cured me."

Herr Most's pictures are usually taken in profile, as a full-face view would disclose this swelling, that perhaps has given rise to his contempt for physicians, as well as clergymen, officials and capitalists.



JOHANN MOST.

of his beard, which partially hides his deformity.

OREGON HUMANE SOCIETY.

Preparing to Celebrate Its Twentieth Anniversary.

At the regular meeting of the board of trustees of the Oregon Humane Society, it was decided again to offer prizes to the pupils of the public schools for essays on kindness to animals and kindred subjects. D. P. Thompson, president of the society, who for many years past has given cash prizes, will again award two general prizes of \$10 and \$5 for the best two essays on subjects which will be given out later.

Mrs. R. F. Burrell, as heretofore, will again award prizes of \$12 and \$8 for the best two compositions on "The Native Birds of Oregon." Competition for the Burrell prizes is open to all pupils in the state of Oregon, between the ages of 13 and 15 years. Rules governing competition will soon appear in the columns of the daily press. The coming 20th anniversary of this society is looked forward to with unusual interest.

THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER.

R. L. Sabin, trustee of the stock of the Boston shoe store, sold the same to P. Peters, of the Portland shoe house, 247 Morrison street, at 23 cents on the dollar. Sale begins Monday, February 5, at 9 A. M. These goods will be closed out at prices that will be a surprise even to bargain-hunters. Men's shoes from 35 cents up; ladies' Oxfords, worth \$1.50, for 50 cents; ladies' shoes, worth \$3 to \$4, for 50 cents; rubbers, from 5 cents a pair up. Don't fail to attend this sale and save money. 247 Morrison street, between Second and Third.

McKay Sets Matters Right.

Lieutenant Grant McKay, of the Volunteers of America, says some statements in an article in The Sunday Oregonian of last week do that organization an injustice. He avers that the Volunteers take up no collection on the streets; that they have no band, except a bass drum, and that "Ho Ho Kelly" was never one of their number, but was helped by them to a bed and food on one occasion; was then weighed in the balance, and being found wanting, was "released."

Beginning Monday morning, we will begin the greatest slaughter sale of clothing of the season.

We have decided to close out our entire line of clothing at prices way below manufacturers' cost. We want the cash, and don't want the clothing. Here are some of the prices:

Men's suits that sell anywhere for \$12 to \$16, we sell for \$5 to \$7. Suits that sell elsewhere for \$25 to \$35, our price \$10 to \$12.50. We have a large line of trousers, sizes from 28 to 34 waist measure, that cost us from \$4 to \$6; sale price, \$2.50 to \$3. All must be sold without delay. Come early and get your choice.

This is no fake sale. We mean business, and want our money.

229 Morrison, between First and Second. Billings & McArdle, managers.

"Beauty and folly are old companions." Likewise Hood's Sarsaparilla and good health.

A PROSPEROUS COMPANY

THE PENN MUTUAL, MAKES AN EXCELLENT SHOWING IN 1899.

Largest Business Ever Transacted in One Year by This Grand Old Quaker Company.

The 52d annual statement of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company of Philadelphia makes interesting reading to its policy-holders who now number more than 80,000, distributed over the heathy sections of the United States. The Penn Mutual regards this country as affording ample scope for its operations, refusing to go abroad for business because it recognizes the peculiar hazards to which it might thus be exposed. During the recent war with Spain, for instance, some of our companies were paying for dead Spaniards, killed by Americans, with money collected from our own people. When questioned on the subject of foreign business, the president of the Insurance Register, President West shrugged his shoulders and said: "The United States is good enough for us. Being a mutual organization, we have no right to assume hazards which are sure to increase the cost to our members. It is not so much the danger of international complications followed by war, though this is considerable, but it is the difficulty of proper medical selection and the burdensome taxation and deposit laws."

The work of the Penn Mutual during the year 1899 fully sustains the just position taken by its president. Its achievements are at home. It wrote nearly \$4,000,000 of new insurance on approximately 14,500 lives, and renewed policies on 65,000 lives, aggregating \$11,000,000. These are big figures, but growth has little weight with those who thoroughly understand life insurance. Growth must be healthful, consistent, just, gainful. There are many elements of fine business. Those who recognize their trust obligations must so manage a company that while it shall grow, it shall not do so by disregarding any of the equities of its membership. This is particularly so in the case of a mutual company, and a close analysis of the 52d statement enables us to commend the management for scrupulous integrity in this respect.

Parallel with the notable increase in membership there has been a corresponding addition to the premium and interest incomes, gain in assets and a substantial gain in surplus, which guarantees a further increase in dividends to members, thus materially reducing the cost of their policies. The total surplus now carried is \$9,212,221, and while this is apparently a very large sum, it illustrates the conservatism of the management, and a determination to fully safeguard the members. The current year's dividends will be deducted from this amount. There is in many quarters a strong conviction that some of the life companies are too extensively managed. Whether well founded or not, this opinion has no application to the Penn Mutual, which transacted the largest business in its history in 1899 at a less ratio than in 1898, the percentage of 222.92. The gain in the face of the well-known fact that the tendency of interest is downward. While there have been occasional surges in which old-time rates of interest have been commanded, it is not now in the nature of the well-known fact that the tendency of interest is downward. While there have been occasional surges in which old-time rates of interest have been commanded, it is not now in the nature of the well-known fact that the tendency of interest is downward. While there have been occasional surges in which old-time rates of interest have been commanded, it is not now in the nature of the well-known fact that the tendency of interest is downward.

The interest earnings of the company were decidedly favorable. It realized from this source \$1,948,921 85, which is an increase of \$22,929. The gain in the face of the well-known fact that the tendency of interest is downward. While there have been occasional surges in which old-time rates of interest have been commanded, it is not now in the nature of the well-known fact that the tendency of interest is downward. While there have been occasional surges in which old-time rates of interest have been commanded, it is not now in the nature of the well-known fact that the tendency of interest is downward.

The total payments to policy-holders during 1899 reached the handsome sum of \$2,965,047 05, of which \$865,538 77 was in the form of dividends; by this much reducing their stipulated premiums. The surrender values paid to withdrawing members amounted to \$277,844 40, or about \$10,000 less than was paid in 1898. Perhaps no better test of general business conditions could be found than this feature of the company's statement. With a larger amount of business in force, fewer members withdrew their accumulations. During the year the company added to the reserve upon policies the sum of \$3,300,000, the total fund now carried for the protection of the members (exclusive of surplus) being \$34,127,478. This fund has been prudently and wisely invested under the direction of the committee of finance, in city loans, mortgages and ground rents, railroad and water bonds, in loans to policy-holders, and on collateral and real estate in use by the company. The exceptionally favorable rate of interest realized by the company last year is itself the best evidence of the security and desirability of its various investments.

While the 52d statement makes no mention of the various kinds of insurance issued, it is well known that no company in this particular embraces a wider scope than the Penn Mutual. It has plans adapted to satisfy the needs of all classes of insurers, and at rates corresponding to the indemnity granted. Its policy contracts are free from conditions from the start, requiring only the payment of premium. Large withdrawal values are stipulated. Loans are granted, there is an

Advertisement for H. E. Edwards, established 1878. Features various furniture items like beds, desks, and chairs with prices. Includes the text 'OUR GREAT REDUCTION SALE' and 'CONTINUES ONE MORE WEEK'.

Advertisement for White Bread, 'The Reasons Are Told Below.' Includes a testimonial from 'The Tailor' and the address '108 Third Street, near Washington'.

Large advertisement for EATA BISCUIT, featuring the text 'WHY NOT EATA BISCUIT?' and 'BISHOP & COMPANY PORTLAND LOS ANGELES'.