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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, FEB. 28, 1909.

AN ASTORIA FOGHORN.

A man named Whyte, at Astoria, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce at that place, is in distress because the entrance to the Columbia River from the ocean is not deeper than it is; and he attempts to place the responsibility on Portland. Now the ocean bar at the mouth of the Columbia has always been an object of concern to Portland, and at this moment is of greater concern to Portland than to Astoria, in proportion as Portland is the more important city.

Portland, all these years, has been doing everything in its power to deepen and straighten the entrance to the river from the sea; and everything that has been done in that behalf has been effected mainly through the efforts of Portland. Formerly fifteen feet was the maximum of depth at low water at the bar; now it is twenty-six, and with execution of present jetty plans, actively under way, the depth will soon be much increased. The problem is by no means as difficult as that presented at New York, when improvement of the entrance of the Hudson River began, nor will the execution take one-fifth of the time.

But the complaint of the Astoria man is that Portland is pushing its own work on the river, for a deeper channel from Portland to the sea. Portland, it is insisted, ought to give this up. A most silly contention! To suppose Portland would listen to it is to assume that idiocy reigns here. The paranoiac, in this case, appears to have obtained at Astoria a position well suited to him.

Portland is putting her money into improvement of the river. The necessary improvement at the bar is beyond her power. It has been undertaken by the General Government, and Portland's utmost influence has always been used to induce the Government to push it. All the power that Portland ever has been able to exert has been used constantly in that behalf; and results have been gained. But under our system the whole work cannot be accomplished at once. It will take a while yet to effect at the mouth of the Columbia what has required many years for accomplishment at the mouth of the Hudson and at the mouth of the Mississippi. But the progress is more rapid and more satisfactory at the mouth of our river than it was at either of the others named.

The secretary of so pretentious a body as the Chamber of Commerce of Astoria ought to be able to find something better to do than to rail at Portland for the energy she displays in pursuing her own rational and absolutely necessary policy. For Portland must have communication with the sea; of which, however, the most difficult problem is at the mouth of the great river, where only the resources of the General Government are equal to so great and costly a work. As deep a channel from Portland to Astoria as from Astoria to the sea is far less an undertaking, and Portland is steadily working at it—not, however, receiving from the General Government the aid to which so important a work should be entitled. However, it remains that any vessel that can enter the Columbia River can come to Portland without difficulty or delay—though it is alleged at Astoria that a vessel to or from Portland now and then waits for the help of the tide. Just as if this were not the case constantly at New York, at Glasgow, at Antwerp, at Liverpool, at every great port of the world! Let us remark, by the way, that no deep vessel ever gets from the sea to Astoria without consultation of the tide tables. The purblindness of the secretary at Astoria is amazing. They say, however, that he is a newcomer from some distant place in the interior—mayhap from New Mexico or Kansas.

His table, compiled for the purpose of showing the ruin of the commerce of the Columbia River is another achievement of which—with the deductions he makes from it—his employers of the Chamber of Commerce at Astoria, on reflection, scarcely can be proud. For under so doleful an exhibit, where is Astoria herself? Value of imports and exports at Puget Sound is shown to be larger than at the Columbia River; but that is solely because of the maintenance in past years of ocean steamers in connection with transcontinental railroad lines—a policy that our railroads at the Columbia River have not pursued, or but fitfully and feebly. The imports and exports that figure so largely in the statistical returns from Puget Sound have been chiefly those of transcontinental business that merely passed through the Sound ports from great distances—the imports mostly in bond, the exports the products of remote states. Excepting these, as well as the local traffic ferried to and fro daily between Puget Sound and British Columbia, which makes up great part of the tonnage figures, and then making the comparison, we shall find that the Columbia River business suffers no wise in the results; and moreover this business represents production in our own country. In wheat and lumber, which form the bulk of the exports from each of these districts, the Columbia River during the past year has shown great proportional gains over Puget Sound.

It is perhaps too much to expect that any exposition will shut the mouths of those croakers at Astoria, whose real grievance is that Portland exists at all. But they merely foul their own nest; which, nevertheless, is some offense to Portland, since Portland has to carry everything, and the croakers and carpers at Astoria too. The situation, however, has been more serious than it is now; for Portland is gaining strength and position for her necessary work, and making progress with it from year to year. But it delights all rivals and detractors of Portland, up and down the Coast, to see or hear of this belittlement of Portland by any denizen of the fishing hamlet on the lower river.

HOW ARE MEN TO ACT TOGETHER?

It will be necessary to devise and to adopt some method under which citizens who have a common idea as to the policy, and of the measures necessary for such policy, can unite for the common welfare and co-operate with each other. The "new system" in Oregon has eliminated this method altogether. Absolutely at variance with the real sentiment of Oregon, at variance with its political purposes and with its views as to general ideas and policy of government, are the two United States Senators—Bourne and Chamberlain.

It has come about in strange ways. One Republican faction has opposed another. One faction has wanted revenge, yet hasn't wished to go to the limit—that is, to give the state and its political policy into the hands and keeping of the traditional and hereditary opposition. But it has worked out in ways that nobody expected. The state voted for a Republican President by an enormous majority; yet two men, who are as distant from the Republican party and its purposes "as from the center thrice to the utmost pole," are the Senators of the state.

Yesterday there was a story telling how scheming individuals, professing to be Republicans, but looking to their own advantage or profit, helped the business. Of course Benson wanted to be Governor. Of course Steel, knowing that his day in the Republican party is ended, wanted to make peace with political opponents. Of course others, connected with the state administration, might be expected to fall in. For every man now is looking out for himself; there is no Republican party in Oregon; such Republican party as there was is dissolved into its original units, and each and every one is hereafter to study his particular, apart from the general weal.

Yet there may be change; doubtless there will be change, one way or another, in time. Possibly men yet may be recalled to the truth that selfish individual effort, each one for his own particular, is not the highest civic virtue. It is now the fashion to cloak all this under the fiction of "the will of the people." That fiction is as sure of failure for those who pursue it as night is to follow the day, or as failure is to wait on profligacy and folly.

Some method must be devised, upon which citizens may combine, through party and by party action. At present nothing of the kind exists in Oregon. "The new system" has completely destroyed party as a basis or instrument of action, and a method must be devised on which men may again, as of yore, unite and act together on a basis upon which all, or many, are agreed. Otherwise everything is chaos.

Governor Hughes, of New York, realizing that party is still an essential thing, has outlined a plan upon which party may still be maintained, for service of the state. He thinks it may be done by modification of the methods of the primary law. At another time The Oregonian will present his plan. Governor Hughes is not an opponent of the primary system, but a warm advocate of it. But he sees clearly that it substitutes selfish mediocrity, or something below that, for best service to the state. It is the worst and greatest evil yet introduced into democratic-republican government.

GIDEON WELLES' DIARY.

The "Diary of Gideon Welles," which the Atlantic Monthly began to publish in February, is continued in the March number. It is an interesting document for many reasons, most of all perhaps because of the great frankness the author uses in expressing his opinions of men and events. Some of his judgments would be called harsh in time of peace, but during the passion and hurly-burly of war, when the diary was written, they are as charitable as could be expected from a man of complete honesty and firm conviction. Gideon Welles was chosen Secretary of the Navy by Lincoln to represent the Democratic element which had passed over to the Republican party and helped to form it. He had been a supporter of Andrew Jackson, but the performances of the slave power in Kansas awakened his patriotism so thoroughly that it got the better of party spirit, and he cast in his fortunes with the rising party of freedom.

When Welles took charge of the Navy Department he knew nothing of ships or navigation, but he made one of the best executives the Government has ever had. In 1861, when he took office, the Navy possessed forty-two vessels of all descriptions, with which it was his impossible task to blockade more than 3000 miles of coast line. By December of the same year Welles had a maritime force of 264 vessels, and at the close of the war the Navy included almost 700 vessels, some of them of the first rank. It was under his administration of the Navy that ironclad ships began to assume their overwhelming importance in modern maritime war.

The diary touches upon dozens of topics which were once of thrilling interest to loyal citizens, though the present generation finds many of them tame enough. Who could grow angry today over McClellan's dilatory tactics? We languidly declare that he must have been either a traitor or an incapable doctrinaire, and let the matter drop. To our fathers the question of his capacity and loyalty involved the destiny of the country. Welles had no love for McClellan. Though he felt less bitter toward him than either Seward or Stanton did, he played a part in the maneuvers of the loyal cabal which finally stimulated Lincoln to the point of eliminating McClellan and entering upon that long series of experiments which passed through failure after failure to Grant and victory.

Welles experienced his full share of Seward's disposition to dominate everything and everybody. The Secretary of State imagined for some months of Lincoln's administration that he owned the Republican party and the President. He was disposed to issue orders to all the departments in the President's name without even consulting Lincoln. When Welles got one of these edicts, it is not difficult to conceive what he did with it. He had a sturdy Yankee will of his own which bowed not to the mighty Seward. Later on the Secretary of State learned how small he was in comparison with his chief, and then these petty annoyances ceased. Seward was really a great man of the second rank, and when he had found his true orbit he revolved in it with satisfaction to everybody. As early as 1862 Lincoln began to talk to Seward and Welles about emancipating the slaves in rebel territory, but the subject presented itself to them as one of extreme complexity and difficulty. Slaves were private property, which they all looked upon as sacred. Nothing but military necessity could excuse a violation of it, and both Lincoln and his Cabinet were long in doubt whether the military gain from emancipation would outweigh the loss or not. Perhaps if it had come prematurely it would have given the finishing blow to the Union, which it ultimately saved.

SECRETARY BALLINGER.

Richard A. Ballinger, of Seattle, is to succeed Mr. Garfield as Secretary of the Interior. Mr. Garfield has been an earnest and industrious official, and he would no doubt have been glad to continue at the head of the Interior Department with the new Administration. It is no disparagement to him, however, to say that President-elect Taft has acted wisely in preferring the former Commissioner of the General Land Office to the Ohio man. Judge Ballinger made a remarkable record during his short incumbency of that office, demonstrating his entire fitness for the larger duties and higher honors of a Cabinet position. He comes from the West, where the Secretary of the Interior should come from; he has special knowledge of land laws, which he must both interpret and execute; and he has besides poise, judgment, courage, experience and independence. He will not be carried away on the one hand by any fanatical notion that because a section of timber or grazing land happens to be possessed or owned by a corporation, it must have been stolen; nor on the other will he yield to the blandishments and intrigues of the grabbers and looters who hope to work their designs on the public domain through certain pliable Washington officials.

The public may look for a firm and impartial enforcement of law by Secretary Ballinger, and a just and intelligent adjustment of every application or claim made through his department. President Taft, too, will find him a cool-headed and sagacious adviser in the greater affairs of the Nation to be determined by the Cabinet. Indeed President Taft undoubtedly knows all about Judge Ballinger's qualities since the appointment was tendered in face of the judge's known reluctance to leave his Seattle home and his declaration that he desired himself not to be considered in any sense a candidate. Undoubtedly the President will have no reason to regret his choice.

QUESTIONS ABOUT SUNDAY.

Frankly and seriously The Oregonian wishes to reply to some questions which Mr. Seldon Ewing, of Fulda, Wash., has asked. His letter is printed in another column. Here only brief extracts will be made from it, as occasion requires. Mr. Ewing asks, first, "Does The Oregonian believe that Sunday baseball is simply a healthful recreation when it is attended by gambling, profanity and without regard to the wishes of home-loving, God-fearing people living near baseball parks, and who must encounter in the streets at certain hours, if they go out at all on Sunday, a lot of roysterers?"

The Oregonian believes that baseball is a healthy amusement on Sunday, Monday or Tuesday. The day makes no difference as to its healthfulness. Many persons who need outdoor recreation such as baseball supplies must get it on Sunday or not at all. Unless they obtain the recreation their moral and physical health suffers. This is a hard, undeniable fact. To men like Mr. Ewing, who reside in villages and enjoy out-of-door life every day in the week, it seems preposterous oftentimes that to great multitudes the privilege is a rarity and that for lack of it they suffer severely. Hence the apparent hardness of heart and callous indifference which he exhibits to the welfare of his less fortunate fellow-men. The Oregonian does not approve of profanity and gambling at a baseball game, or anywhere else, on Sunday or any other day. One of the principal reasons why it favors Sunday baseball is the indisputable fact that it tends to diminish gambling and every other vice which grows from bad social conditions. Open air and wholesome exercise are the best of all antidotes for every vice in Mr. Ewing's category. Baseball exerts an inestimable moral influence upon its patrons and therefore The Oregonian upholds it. If anybody could show that the game promoted vice, The Oregonian would oppose it.

As a class, the patrons of baseball love their homes and fear God just as much as Mr. Ewing does. They do not find that the enjoyment of a Sunday game interferes with their family relations or impairs their religious convictions in the slightest degree. On the contrary, by recruiting their bodily health and purifying their morals it makes better parents and worthier Christians of them. The Oregonian is of the opinion that Christianity is, or should be, a robust, healthy religion, fitted to hold its own on a baseball field just as well as by a quiet fireside. It is adapted to all relations and every condition of life. It seems a little unreasonable for any particular class of people to claim the exclusive use of the streets on Sunday. To call those who go to a baseball game "roysterers" begs the question. It would be equally fair, and no more unfair, to call those who object to the game "bigots." This is a world where none of us can have his own way completely. We must all make concessions to those who differ with us, and if we go out upon the streets it is always at the risk of meeting people whom we dislike and with whose opinions we do not agree. It is difficult to see how Mr. Ewing could ever arrange things to his satisfaction in this particular, even if Sunday baseball were forbidden. The "roysterers" could still walk upon the streets if they wished, and we would find them no more agreeable company because they were deprived of their recreation.

Mr. Ewing asks further: "Does The Oregonian believe the Catholic Church less rigid and hence more calculated to further the right advancement of the country's interests?" This paper believes that each body of Christians has its faults and its merits. To compare them is not its mission. In so far as the Catholics keep their churches open all the week, permit wholesome recreation on the first day of the week, and encourage innocent amusements on other days, they undoubtedly have the advantage of those who oppose these things. As to "laxity," that is a matter of controversy. What appears to one man to be sinful laxity is to another an uplifting recreation. About such things we must consent to differ. Nobody can hope to make everybody else adopt his views about them. It is certain, however, that no very close connection exists between the country's interests and any particular method of spending Sunday afternoon.

"Does The Oregonian believe the Puritanism at which it sneers basic for the high moral tone of our country?" No, it does not. Puritanism confers no benefit whatever upon morality. Fundamentally it is immoral because it decries the best gifts of God and makes the world a poisonous desert. The belief that innocent enjoyment is wicked is responsible for endless misery. It is irreligious and false. God gave us pleasure as well as pain, and it is his will that we should make use of both. Puritanism denies that he gave us anything but pain. Hence no rational man can make it a rule of life.

"Does The Oregonian believe that we want more discipline for the youth of America, or less?" We want more of a certain kind of discipline and much less of another kind. More parental control, a deeper and firmer home life, and stricter government in school would be excellent things for the young. On the other hand, it would do them no good to be compelled to sit in the house all day on Sunday. Discipline of that kind is an evil and we have all of it that can be desired by any sensible person. The attempt to confuse Sabbatarian superstition with morality, religion and discipline is not ingenuous and it will not succeed. The public is too intelligent to be misled by any such humbug. The "tone for righteousness" which this country has acquired did not come from Puritanism. That tone is common to all branches of Christianity, and it ill becomes the members of one denomination to deny it to the others. Rigid Sabbatarianism is not identical with righteousness. The sooner Mr. Ewing gets the distinction between them clear in his mind the sooner he will understand the position of The Oregonian on these great moral issues. That he does not understand it now goes without saying.

JAMES B. ANGELL.

When the history of education in the United States during the last fifty years comes to be adequately written, the names of four men will head the list of those who have determined its aims and methods. It is to Andrew D. White, of Cornell; Daniel C. Gilman, of Johns Hopkins; Dr. Eliot, of Harvard, and James B. Angell, of Ann Arbor, that American ideals in the higher education owe their origin and present stability. To Dr. Gilman, who has passed to his reward, we owe the concept of what a true university is as distinguished from the high school and the college. To say that he acquired the concept in Germany is not to discredit him. It is sufficient praise that he recognized the denseness of our pedagogic ignorance and perceived the cure for it. Whence he imported the remedy is of no consequence. Dr. Charles W. Eliot, who has retired at the age of 70 years, will be numbered among the great emancipators of the human race. He it was who broke the power of educational tradition in this country and left us free to make our studies contribute to the efficiency of life.

Before Dr. Eliot became president of Harvard the aim of education in the United States, both in school and in college, was formal discipline; discipline for the sake of discipline, without ulterior motive. The ideal was to produce a perfect being who should show his perfection in what he was. What he did was of no consequence. If he did nothing at all, perhaps he was all the better for it. Our concept of the ideal man was that of an Oriental Buddha who blessed the universe by the mere fact of dwelling in it. Dr. Eliot did not discard the concept of discipline, but he dethroned it. Under his guidance it became something less than the be-all and end-all of education. Discipline with him was subordinate to efficiency. It was good for what it led to, and if it led to nothing it was good for nothing. His ideal man is an individual who does things and to this ideal, by freeing the curriculum, he made education contribute. His emancipatory influence has permeated the whole realm of pedagogy. It is felt even in the primary school where we are learning to make our teaching wholesome by directing it to the results from the beginning.

Dr. Eliot found American education floating about in the air much like a soap bubble, an iridescent, lovely thing, but frail and useless. Andrew D. White taught us to respect the sciences as a means of cultivation. He rescued nature from the supercilious contempt of the students of language and formal logic, successfully waged the battles of science against tradition, and in Cornell University founded an institution of higher learning where for the first time in America the works of God stood on an equality with the words of men. Cornell University has been the inspiration and model for all the state universities. Before Dr. White established himself at Cornell and began his revolutionary enterprise he dwelt for a time at Ann Arbor and it was largely to the work he did there and the spirit he inspired that the University of Michigan owed its all-conquering impulse.

In 1871 James B. Angell took the helm at Ann Arbor, which had had an experience of some years under persons who understood neither the problems to be solved by the state university nor the means of solving them. He was a man full of the spirit of the new time. He had studied in Germany, and knew what the German higher education was. His pedagogic experience had been full and varied. He knew men, he weighed measures. He understood the value of experience, a knowledge as rare as it is precious in this country, where contempt for what men have done and learned in other lands is almost the universal sentiment. Of broad culture, liberal opinions and resolute will, he was master of a consummate diplomacy which enabled him to lead the new democracy of the West to the difficult mountain tops of science without exciting rebellion. His students became his disciples and friends. The politicians, who would have sneered at an idealist and ruined a mere man of business, turned zealously to help the president of their state university, who combined the shrewdness of business with the high ambition of the idealist. Dr. Angell was what Bacon calls a full man, and for that reason men understood him and gave him their best all through his long career.

In the University of Michigan he created the immediate model which all the successful state universities have followed. Cornell was their remote ancestor, but Ann Arbor had possession of the field and its influence was the more powerful as it was intimate. Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas and finally Illinois followed the example and repeated the educational triumphs of Ann Arbor, where through almost forty years Dr. Angell has conducted his benign rule. He established in the state university the pedagogic freedom which Dr. Eliot had achieved for Harvard. He followed Dr. Gilman in drawing a distinct line between college and university methods. He took advantage of Andrew D. White's victorious championship of the sciences. Language and logic were not by any means belittled at Ann Arbor, nor have they ever been belittled at any good state university; but they were no longer dominant there. The school grew to greatness by cultivating the sciences both in theory and application, and the same is true of every other state university which has been successful. The appeal of these schools is to democracy, for the people have but little patience with formal studies destitute of content or application.

Now, at the age of 80 years, Dr. Angell retires from his work, leaving behind him a success which the most gifted of men may emulate, and a work for his kind which gives him a noble place in history. The university at Ann Arbor is the creation of the common people of Michigan led by a great commander. Like the career of Lincoln, it shows the inner meaning of democracy. Crowned with achievement, full of promise, surrounded with intellectual progeny from Ohio to the Pacific, the University of Michigan is typical of the future wonders which the people shall work not only in education, but in everything else. Dr. Angell retires to a serene old age which the memory of great deeds will adorn and the love of loyal friends will cheer. He is the intellectual and spiritual father of his students, and there are thousands of them to arise and call him blessed.

HOMES FOR CONSUMPTIVES.

Four modern tenements for consumptives will be built this year on a large tract near East River, in New York, through the munificence of Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, for the care and treatment of persons suffering from tuberculosis. The apartments will be strictly modern in construction, great care being given to ventilation. The enterprise is not strictly a charitable one, as a moderate rental will be charged for rooms and a small fee for medical attendance.

The great city is a natural hotbed in which germs of tuberculosis are constantly being sown, and abundantly nourished and from which they are widely distributed. All classes of people are under the menace of that most dreaded of all diseases which goes under the name of "consumption." Being a communicable disease, any one may, under suitable conditions, acquire it. Though the fetid air and the pervading twilight of the tenement-houses are specially conducive to the culture of these germs, the homes of the well-to-do and the wealthy are often invaded by it, with consequences only less fatal, and a fading of its victims scarcely less pathetic than are noted in the reek of the homes of poverty.

Much effort and large means have been given in recent years to the alleviation of the conditions which invite the invader to enter these homes and fasten upon the very life blood of their inmates. And, though progress is reported from time to time in the efforts that look to the succor of these unfortunate people, the death roll of tuberculosis is still long; indeed, but for the assurance given to the contrary by statisticians, we should be convinced that it was increasing year by year.

That sanitary science has at last got this pallid foe of the human race under partial control, however, we are glad to believe. The effort looking to this object has been an earnest one and philanthropists have contributed liberally to the need that it represents.

PROSPECTIVE ORIENTAL COMPLICATIONS.

Rear-Admiral Evans, one of the most popular men the United States Navy has developed, is delivering lectures in the East, and quite naturally the possibilities for trouble on the Pacific are given considerable attention in these lectures. In an interview printed in a Chicago paper Admiral Evans is reported as saying: "A few days ago when the Russian government floated a loan of $250,000,000 which was subscribed thirty times over, that was Russia's notice to Japan 'to get ready for war and stay ready, for I am going to lick you.' When this second chapter of the Russo-Japanese trouble is opened, according to Admiral Evans, we will find Germany, France and Austria espousing the cause of the Russians, while England, by virtue of existing treaties, will be practically forced into an alliance with Japan."

In his interview, "Fighting Bob" does not assign the United States to any particular part in this predicted international conflict, but the inference gained is that this country is to act as stakeholder and referee. Admiral Evans, by reason of his long and active career with most of the world as a field for action, has had exceptional facilities for keeping in touch with international conditions as they appear to the men of the Navy. Even these advantages might not guarantee the accuracy of his predictions on the future in the Far East. It is true that Russia floated a $250,000,000 loan which was heavily oversubscribed, but the Japanese must have observed with grim satisfaction that, after paying up a portion of the deficit from the last budget and liquidating some overdue obligations for which bonds were already out, there remained actually available for use less than 10 per cent of the enormous loan and even this bagatelle was doomed to sudden disappearance before the heavy demands of the latest budget.

Not much preparation for war can be accomplished with funds which are borrowed from Peter to pay Paul, and, were it not for the fact that Russia is so hopelessly in debt to France that the latter country is through necessity compelled to protect the Russian credit, there would have been no such heavy oversubscription to the loan. Russia has enormous resources as well as an enormous debt, and any event which would so seriously impair the integrity of the country as to jeopardize this latest loan would also play havoc with the almost fabulous amount which France has already loaned Russia. Under existing conditions there is more likelihood of France and Germany forming an alliance to prevent Russia from again mixing matters with Japan than for the purpose of assisting in the war after it is under way.

All of the European countries have interests at home and abroad which require so much of their attention that they are not hankering for the chance to go into a fight that some other country has started. Russia and Japan may and undoubtedly will fight again, but they will hardly succeed in dragging all of their European commercial connections into the trouble.

It was perhaps necessary for Luther Burbank to call a syndicate to his aid in the distribution of the products of his patience, energy and skill in the development of plant life. "Unresting and unhasting," but forever unspent are the talents that he has brought to bear upon his work. Naturally the commercial spirit does not enter into this work, yet to make it widely available this spirit must be enlisted in the distribution of its products. We have been wont to regard Mr. Burbank as a philanthropist in an unique sense, working diligently for the benefit of mankind, without thought of remuneration beyond the pleasure that the work itself brings. Hence his name coupled with a syndicate in which is vested the exclusive right to handle the products of his wonderful work causes something of a shock, or at least a twinge of regret. The public is assured, however, that it will be the gainer from this transaction, and as the reasons given for this estimate are sound, they will readily be accepted.

The bungling execution that took place in the Oregon Penitentiary last Friday will doubtless form the basis of many a labored argument against capital punishment. The scene presented by a man slowly strangling to death at a rope's end can be nothing less than revolting. So also was the sound of the blows, mingled with the half-stifled cries of the woman—this man's wife—for whose murder he paid the penalty exacted by law. Neither picture is one to be contemplated, even in imagination, without a feeling of revulsion and horror. It is not worth while, however, to waste wholesome sympathy upon a man so lost to all sense of common humanity as is the wife-murderer. His execution according to law is not a matter of regret, though the manner in which it was carried out may have been a reproach to those charged with the duty of executing him.

The real reason why the normal schools have been abandoned lies in the belief that there is no reason to educate and to graduate school teachers at the expense of the state. It is believed that school teachers, as others, preparing for professions, should educate themselves. The state doesn't educate plumbers nor boiler-makers, nor sheep-herders. Yet all these, and many more, are essential to the state. Besides, it is believed there is too much merely literary education these times, and not work enough to furnish supply of milk, eggs and butter, pork and beans. Again, members of the Legislature, moved by the crowd of normal school advocates, were trying to trade and to log-roll everything, to get what they wanted.

The secretary of the Bowery Mission, in New York, says farm jobs in the West are a myth and he cannot place any men. To be sure he cannot. Correspondence school farmhands are not wanted. The man who walks up the lane to the barn and shows his ability gets the job.

Guess what the vote would be if the following amendment to the unwritten political constitution of Oregon were submitted next November: Be it enacted, etc., that hereafter one-half the Federal offices shall be given to Democrats.

Of the late Edwin Goodall it may be said that he more than any other man or set of men tied coatswise traffic to San Francisco. His big shipping concern was always conducted as a servant of commerce.

Senator-elect Root calls the Japanese a "gentle, polite, sensitive, imaginative and delightful people." For the benefit of California, he might have added "warlike." But that ought to hold Japan for a while.

Not to boom the insurance trade, but to show how a man gets credentials for the Better Land—a Corvallis merchant who died a short time ago left a $3000 stock of goods and $10,000 life insurance for his wife.

How time flies! With memory of the January blizzard not yet effaced, we have to wait only four weeks to learn whether McCredie's men after the first game at Los Angeles will be 1.0001 or .0000.

Now suppose Councilman Wills were Mayor and ex-Mayor Lane should "butt in" and "turn up" gambling in the North End. Would he like it? We trow not. But then Wills isn't Mayor.

They have incorporated Luther Burbank. Living progeny must regret now that similar steps were not taken with James Watt, George Stephenson and Robert Fulton.

Neither Oregon nor Washington needs an additional Federal judge. In neither state is the present judge worked overtime.

Eugene, though in a dry county, shipped another car of Royal Anne cherries East last week to figure in epicurean cocktails.

Will Mrs. Sheldon's portrait adorn the walls of the Statehouse as one of the Governors of Oregon?

A rise in wheat boosts flour, but until yeast, too, ferments, there is no raise in bread.

All things may look different to a special session under a Republican Governor.

Interested spectators will have to buy telescopes to follow the price of wheat.

Married yet? No? Well, Kay and Kienlen will get you if you don't watch out.

SILHOUETTES

BY ARTHUR A. GREENE.

IT'S a pity Roosevelt couldn't have served as President for seven or eight years more, so that the other half of our population might have learned how to pronounce his name.

* * *

The most worthless man is worth something to the undertaker.

* * *

The reason why married women do not spend more money is that their husbands have no more money to give them.

* * *

It doesn't take much of a man to inherit a reputation from his father.

* * *

He who waits long for a gift pays dearly for it.

* * *

It is easy to risk when one has nothing to lose.

* * *

It is better to avoid one mistake than to correct a dozen.

* * *

The high-flyer seldom has lofty thoughts.

* * *

When you hear a woman criticising others because they hold their skirts too high, you may depend upon it she has something the matter with her own ankles.

* * *

Too many men in this world are trying to make home runs on two-base hits.

* * *

A woman with a pretty face usually wins her case.

* * *

Most sermons are wasted on those who don't want to be saved.

* * *

Proverbs are the subsidiary currency of wisdom.

* * *

A woman seldom resents a man's efforts to flirt with her, provided the man is well dressed.

* * *

Most people who seek credit for themselves strive to obtain it by discrediting others.

* * *

A statesman is a politician who has moved away from home.

* * *

The ugly baby is always said to resemble its father.

* * *

When you discover a bachelor gazing into milliners' windows you may be sure he's slipping.

* * *

Songs are not made for singers
Nor pictures for those who paint.
But the melody rare
And the canvas fair
Are meant for the ones who needs must be
Uplifted to know God's sublimity.

Brave tales do not arm the teller,
Nor does precept embolden the wise;
But the deeds of the great
Which poets relate
Bring courage and hope to the struggling throng
Of wavering souls as they pass along.

* * *

Happy is he who begins life with a mother's kiss and dies with a wife's.

* * *

The folly of sheep lies chiefly in the fact that they make wolves their confessors.

* * *

With Paul Gilmore in town this week, the women will have small reason to complain of the scenery.

* * *

A Spring Pome.

When the wind gets warm and balmy
And the sun begins staying up late;
When show windows are full of shirt-waists
And rhymsters start in to dilate
On "crocosus deep in the wildwood"
And chestnut bells gaily ring:
When the scores get back in the dope-sheet,
And the reed-birds begin to sing,
You take a straight tip from a tipster,
It is Spring—yes, by jing, it is Spring.

* * *

No, Adebert, that low, moaning sound you seem to hear is not made by the taxpayers sighing because the Legislature has adjourned.

* * *

When you are in the dumps remember that many a gorgeous sunset follows a cloudy day.

* * *

Every fool woman thinks she's pretty because some fool man has told her so.

SUNDAY BALL AND OTHER THINGS

Being a Few Questions Which Are Duly Answered Elsewhere.

FULDA, Wash., Feb. 25.—(To the Editor.)—I am a subscriber and reader of The Oregonian, but wish you may explain your attitude with regard to some moral issues, concerning which your Protestant readers are in doubt. Does The Oregonian believe that Sunday baseball is simply a healthy recreation when it is attended by gambling, profanity and without regard to the wish of home-loving, God-fearing people, living near baseball parks and who must encounter on the street at certain hours, if they go out at all on Sunday, a lot of roysterers?

Does The Oregonian believe the Catholic Church less rigid and hence more calculated to further the right advancement of the country's interests?

Does The Oregonian believe the Puritanism at which it sneers basic for the high moral tone of our country?

Does The Oregonian believe we want more discipline for the youth of America or less?

A great many deluded people like the writer have thought we have independent youthful impulse run mad in some parts of America, and that the Puritan gave to this country, in spite of bigotry, a tone for righteousness never yet stilled. Many of us believe that Protestantism has made a great civilization, in which conditions exist that makes The Oregonian possible, quite as possible as Spain or Italy or Ireland, all Catholic. Be fair, brother Oregonian; don't take Protestant money to further your interests, nor draw your financial strength from men whose ideas you now almost discourteously oppose and upon whose religious faith you seem to trample. If you are not afraid, tell us about it in The Oregonian. It will make more than interesting reading for more than one-half of your readers. SELDON EWING.

Parable of the Delaware River.

Philadelphia Ledger.

Congress had been asked would it please do something for the Delaware.

"Delaware?" repeated the members, "what's that?"

"It's a river that Washington once crossed," explained an advanced representative of the people.

"Well, he got across all right, didn't he?" responded the inquirers. "What's the use of improving the river now?"

Social Surprise.

Washington Evening Star.

"So the reception interested you?"

"Yes," answered Mr. Meekton, "I'm glad my wife took me. It was a novel experience to find everybody talking at once instead of listening to Henrietta's opinions."