

Sunday Oregonian

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view of the accepted fact that in the period in which they were made there was no other fuel than wood. The thought which men now could not be able to create the enormous heat required to smelt iron and copper? The problem is on all fours with numerous others relating to the natives of our own country.

FRUITS IN THE MAILS. The announcement from Washington that 500 cases involving fraudulent use of the mails are under investigation by the department of justice is a measure of the culpability of a good many of the victims as well as of the dishonesty of the postal inspectors.

More than \$140,000,000 reported as lost by investors in variousness of modern scientific operations now being inquired into indicate a high degree of contributory negligence if nothing more. The sum would be enormously increased if all the concerns were included which are in fact lacking in merit but have contrived to keep within the letter of the law.

SCIENCE AND STATEFAITH. The statement of Dr. Edwin E. Slosson in the World's Work that "the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 was a much less important event in the history of the world, even in our own history, than the contemporary discovery of the possibilities of steam power" provokes thought even though it may not invite unqualified assent.

A COMMUNIST SCHEME SMASHED. A good job was done by the people of California in voting down a constitutional amendment establishing a water and power board which would have had absolute authority to bond and tax the entire state for construction and operation of water and power plants.

INTELLIGENCE IN ISOLATION. George F. Brown of Massachusetts, who has lived in the United States with the intention of living permanently in England for the ostensible reason that "there is no intelligent companionship among the rich in this country," will win no more sympathy from Americans who comprehend the genius of the inventor.

STATEMENT MADE BY GEORGE F. BROWN. Statesman may cut up continents into countries, but science knows no nationalities. It is a language that is common to all men.

THE AUTOMOBILE IS, OF COURSE, the outward and visible symbol of the chemistry of gasoline. Dr. Slosson estimates the total number of automobiles in the United States for this one necessity at \$7,783,000,000, which is to say that they find approximately \$8,000,000,000 a year with which to pay for something that did not exist twenty-five years ago.

As if to impress us with the fact that modern science has not accomplished everything, a British antiquarian propounds the question, "How did the ancient Britons manufacture the bronze bowls recently found among their ruins, in

demonstrated by the drift of population to the cities without corresponding diminution in the volume of work which men now could do, whether an essential saving of productive time has been accomplished "is equally unanswerable." Undoubtedly much time is devoted to purely pleasure riding. It does not appear that this is offset by long hours anywhere devoted to work.

It is argued with reason that gasoline has encouraged the spirit of democracy. "Formerly, when a few had buggies and the rest had to ride on lumber wagons, the former set looked down on the latter, but now that all have automobiles they are substantially on a level." This is particularly true in the west, of states which have an automobile to each five inhabitants.

AMITY PRESERVED. That the entente between the people of the United States and Canada, maintained since the conclusion of the Russo-Bagot convention of 1811 which guaranteed against naval armament on the Great Lakes, is in no danger of being disturbed by the recent race off Gloucester, Mass., for the fisherman's trophy is largely due to the fact that the fishermen of the New England coast are not, rather than to the technical aspects of either case.

CENTENARY OF LOUIS PASTEUR. "In the field of observation chance favors only those who are prepared," said Louis Pasteur in his inaugural address on taking up his duties as dean of the faculty of science at the University of Strasbourg.

WHENCE OUR ABORIGINES? Let us hope that "the world is on the verge of the solution of one of its greatest unsolved mysteries" as the advance agent of the Museum of the American Indian, about to be dedicated in New York to public use, says that he believes it is.

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most of them and baffling culs de sac of doubt. Of possibilities and even of probabilities there is a real choice, but all are alike incapable of proof.

"Cogent and a persuasive evidence," in the language of an enthusiastic champion, points to the Columbia river basin as the cradle of the American aborigine if not of the people of the world. It is just half a century since Dr. Lewis H. Morgan pointed out that this region might with reason be regarded as the starting point for a series of migrations which peopled and repopulated the continents of North and South America.

So the half dozen men, after vainly trying to locate the janitor or caretaker by phone, obtained a long board and laid it from a window sill to the fire wall of an adjoining building. Jumped to the roof therefrom, made their way across the intervening space to a hotel nearby, climbed up a fire escape and knocked at a window that was lighted. A woman answered and kindly allowed them to pass through her room to the street when they explained their difficulties.

THE FIRST FROST. But yesterday the garden stood untouched. By the blight; the dahlias in their pride held high their heads in haughty arrogance.

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