

Coos Bay Times

Entered at the postoffice at Marshfield, Oregon, for transmission through the mails as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

In Advance.
DAILY.
One year\$5.00
Six months\$2.50
Less than 6 months, per month .50
WEEKLY.
One year\$1.50
Local readers, 10c per line.

AN INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING EXCEPT SUNDAY, AND WEEKLY BY

THE COOS BAY TIMES PUBLISHING CO.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
COOS BAY DAILY TIMES
Marshfield Oregon

HANGING AS A SPORT.

We would not deny the gravity of death. It is a quite serious matter even to those of us who, while conscious of, or at least admitting, no really sinful performances in the past, would nevertheless, if pressed, confess to certain minor indiscretions which we would be only too willing to forgive with the Lord in forgetting. Nevertheless, if form or ceremony or general interest be considered the criterion, dying is one of the most popular shows one can do. Nobody goes to see a man born, but the entire community turns out to see him buried. Indeed, it is well known that many people, perhaps a majority, derive actual enjoyment from beholding with their own eyes life flicker out of a person's body. The almost universal satisfaction found from time immemorial in witnessing a hanging we can understand. The event is more spectacular and less expensive than a circus, possesses a grisly human interest to a distinctive degree, is presumably grimly just and, in any case, is unpreventable. If the hanging is to take place anyway, why shouldn't we see it? That is the reasoning, and it seems good enough if one cares for that variety of sport. — George Harvey in North American Review.

The White Line.

The late David Christie Murray on one occasion told the story of the champion printer's error of his experience to this effect: "I wrote at the close of the story of 'Grace Forbach': 'Are there no troubles now?' the lover asks. 'Not one, dear Frank, not one.' And then, in brackets, thus [] I set the words [White line]. This was a technical instruction to the printer and meant that one line of space should be left clear. The genius who had the copy in hand put the lover's speech in type correctly and then, setting it out as if it were a line of verse, he gave me: 'Not one, dear Frank, not one white line.' "It was a custom in the printing office to suspend a leather medal by a lead or boot lace round the neck of the man who had achieved the prize betise of the year. It was somewhere about midsummer at this time, but it was instantly unanimously resolved that nothing better than this would or could be done by anybody, and the medal was presented at once." — Westminister Gazette.

The Quicker Way.

"There goes a man," observed a steamship agent as he directed attention to a surly looking individual who had just engaged passage for Europe, "whose efforts are devoted to constructing short cuts in business methods and in eliminating all time-consuming men and their propositions from his busy existence. He is a man of very few words. "Some years ago this gentleman crossed the ocean and had a very unpleasant trip. One morning a sympathetic passenger offered him a lemon, expressing a sincere wish that it would give relief. "The pale traveler seized the lemon, sucked it viciously into the ocean and growled: "This is a quicker way than the other."

A Curious Tree.

In the village of Clynog, Wales, there is an old cottage, formerly a country tavern, upon the roof of which there is a full grown sycamore tree. About fifty years ago a seedling from a neighboring churchyard, where other sycamores are growing, found a resting place in the corner of the wall above a slab of stone over the entrance to the building. The young tree thrived for a time on the small quantity of soil collected in the corner of the walls and finally forced its roots downward through the walls into the earth below. From the outside no trace of the roots can be seen.

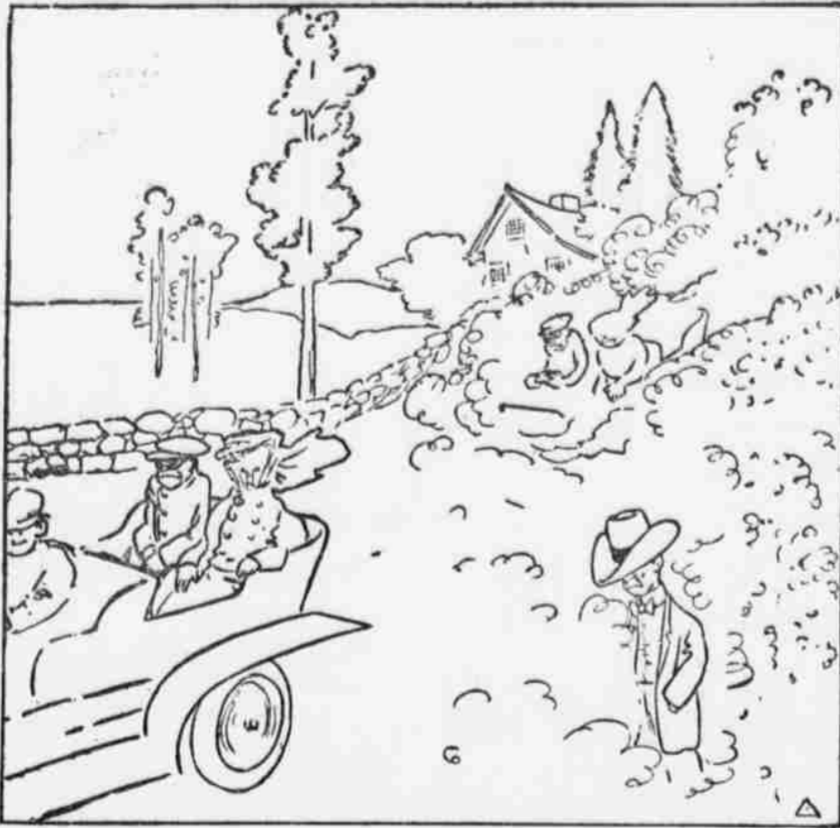
Cutting Big Diamonds.

Big diamonds lose a great deal in the cutting. The Robinoor was reduced by an unskillful stonecutter from 785 carats to 280 carats, a second cutting brought it down to 186 1-10 carats and a third to 101 1-10 carats, or less than a seventh of its original size. The original weight of the 1911 or "Great Diamond" was 110 carats, but in the hands of the cutter two-thirds disappeared, while the Star of the South, which was picked up in a river by a negro, lost a little over half its weight by cutting.

Read the Want Ads.

With the Toast and Tea

"COUNTRY LIFE IN AMERICA."



Puzzle.—Find the man who has gone out to enjoy a quiet stroll and get a breath of the fresh country air. —Triggs in New York Press.

GOOD EVENING.

A new chance, a new leaf a new life—this is the golden, the unspeakable gift which each new day offers to you—Fredric Farrar.

"They Say."

A petty falsehood, started by a gossip loving tongue, Grew into dire proportions, and upon its blackness hung A woman's reputation (pure, unsullied as the day) And her whole life was darkened by the fatal words—"They say."

A man of worth, with honest work earned both success and gold, Then envy pointed at him with a nod and pointed bold: He fills a suicide's lone grave, yet (doubt it ye who may), His death was but the poisoned fruit of these two words—"They say."

Oh, you who list to slander's tongue, I charge you in God's name, Have care! lest at the harvest time you reap a double shame: And dare not for your own soul's sake invite the dreadful day When Justice must hand forth to you the fruit of the words "They say" Fanny Herron Windgate.

A WALL FLOWER

Far from the crowd, he sits apart And wearily he breathes a sigh; The laughter dells upon his ear The dancers flit before his eye. He is the cause of much remark— A victim of the vagrant glance— How hard to be a man at a leap year ball And not be asked to dance. —THE WALL FLOWER.

Spring is here. Evidence of its coming is proven by the arrival of the Spring Poet and by the unusual activity in the Poets' Corner at the Millicoma club. The "Toast and Tea" man has received the first invoice of Spring poetry of the season. Here it is:

The Leap Year Girl.

Come along little girl Before it's too late, Take your choice of boys While it's nineteen-eight.

For if you don't You may sit in tears And have to wait Another four years.

The Leap Year Boy.

Boys be careful Don't jump at every chance Find out before you answer How many uncles and aunts.

For if you go it blind You may rue the day And wish to goodness Leap year had stayed away. W. T.

It is to be hoped the spring will be no worse than the poetry.

I noticed in The Times the other evening a statement as to the number of apples Adam and Eve ate," remarked the Philosopher, "but it did not cover the question fully. Here is a more accurate statement as to the exact number" and the philosopher handed the following clipping: How many apples did Adam and Eve eat? Some say Eve ate and

Adam 2, a total of 10 only. Now, we figure the thing out differently. Eve ate and Adam ate also; total 16. We think the above figures entirely wrong. If Eve 8 and Adam 8 2, certainly the total will be 90. Scientific men, however, on the strength of the theory that the antediluvians were a race of giants, reason something like this: Eve 8 1 and Adam 8 2; total 163. Wrong again. What could be clearer than if Eve 8 1 and Adam 8 1 2, the total was 893.

If Eve 8 1 1st, and Adam 8 1 2, would not the total be 1623? This is better: Eve 8 1 4 Adam, and Adam 8 1 2 4 Eve; together they got away with 8938.

Again: If Eve 8 1 4 Adam, Adam 8 1 2, 4 2 oblige Eve; total 82,056. We think this, however, not a sufficient quantity, for, though we admit that Eve 8 1 4 Adam, Adam, if he 8, 0 2 8 1 2, 4 to keep Eve company; total, 80, 282, 056.

All wrong. Eve when she 8 1, 8 1 2 many, and probably felt sorry for it, but her companion in order to relieve her sorrow, 8 1 2. Therefore, Adam, if he 8 1, 8 1 4 2 40fy Eve's depressed spirits. Hence, both ate 81,896,864 apples.

Adding to this a slight variation on the Gaelic World's suggestion that when Eve, to satisfy the curiosity of her (Gaelic pronunciation) 6, 8, 1, 8 1 2 many and felt sorry; Adam, when asked to eat though he first said (in German) 9, 8 1 2. Consequently if Adam after saying 9 8 1, 8 1 4 2 40fy Eve's depressed spirits. Hence both ate 982,505,864 apples.

The Deutcher Tageblatt proposes, however, that when Eve to satisfy the curiosity of her (Gaelic pronunciation) 6, 8, 1, 8 1 2 many and felt sorry; Adam, when asked to eat though he first said (in German) 9, 8 1 2. Consequently if Adam after saying 9 8 1, 8 1 4 2 40fy Eve's depressed spirits. Hence both ate 982,505,864 apples.

A Coos Bay girl who recently refused to sing was asked if she had lost her voice. "No," she replied, "just found my senses."

—At the Masonic opera house Tuesday and Wednesday nights, February 11 and 12, The Pavilla Comedy Co. in "The Higher Life" and "Chums." This company's productions are based upon the fundamental elements of human nature and appeal to interests and emotions that are universal.

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