

COOS BAY TIMES

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Thoughts of the New Year

Which Way.

There's a way to the right and a way to the wrong,
 A way for the weak and a way for the strong,
 And on which of these ways will your banner be shown
 When the new year has come and the old year has flown?

The way to the right is a way that is hard,
 By many a troublesome wall it is barred,
 But out at the end of it, over the hill,
 There is honor that all may share proudly who will.

The way to the wrong is a broad, easy way
 Where the ribald go rollicking day after day,
 Where the dolt and the laggard go sneering at fame,
 And it ends in a bog that is scummy with shame.

There's a way to the right and a way to the wrong,
 A way for the weak and a way for the strong,
 And on which of these ways will your shadow be cast
 When the new year begins and the old year is past?
 —Selected.

TO THE ROMANS Terminus was a God. The limit, in time and space, was divine and sacred. It was sacrilege to remove without grave reason the ancient landmark which the fathers had set. The end of the day, of the month, especially the close of the year were religiously impressive as suggesting the solemn procession of the ages.

The new year is a time for retrospect and anticipation. It is a tribute to the native goodness of human nature, and a proof that life is worth living, that New Year's Day is a joyous festival. Men must find in the past more of good than evil, more happiness than misery, or even that hope which springs eternal in the heart of man could not excite pleasurable anticipation for the coming year, and the greeting "A Happy New Year" must be abandoned as a mockery. Sour and crabbed age, folly and remorse may point to a past of failure and wretchedness and declare that the year to come will be even as that which is gone; but the commonsense of mankind asserts that if a man's past is wretched it is his own fault, and every creature—young, pure, loyal to truth and duty—sees, thru' the swinging portals of the New Year, vistas of worthy achievement, of triumph, and of joy. To such, time is not a Chronos, devouring his own children, not the remorseless one, "fierce spirit of the glass and scythe," but time is the parent of beauty and blessing of the past, and the herald of an infinite good which is to come.

What a round this life of ours is; the seasons are typical of it. Out of the death of the winter the returning sun commands that the stone shall be rolled away, and the life of a new spring shall come forth. Then, even under the snow, the flower starts and in its darkened chamber it puts on its shining garments to make its debut; leaf and bud appear, the world takes on its old robe of green, then bud and flower and the blooms of trees come forth, and the sun grows warm above, then the summer, with its miracles, the autumn with its harvests, then again the wrinkles of the late autumn, the trees lose their garniture and grow gnarled, and then again the cold and the winding sheet. Man walks his rounds, even as does the earth and in a little while is but as the years that have fled. There is but one hope saved from it all, which is that after his final winter here, the spring that will come to him will never lose its blooms and flowers, its sunshine and its joys.

The closing year suggests to the thoughtful mind the end of life, when the stream of our earthly existence shall flow out into the eternal sea. Is not the joyous nature of the new year festival, in this connection, a prophecy of good, teaching us to find.

"On the low dark verge of life,
 The twilight of eternal day."

When Socrates was condemned to death by an Athenian court, he said: "O, judges, be of good cheer about death, and know this of a truth—that no evil can happen to a good man, either in life or in death." Here is the utterance of an invincible conviction of man's moral nature—a conviction which transforms sorrow and misfortune into messengers of good, and sets the bow of promise even above the tomb.

And so the bells which ring out the old and ring in the New Year are vocal with impulses to nobler living. Not to the strained, the unnatural, the mock-heroic, but to that simple, manly, practical type of character suggested in the lines,

"That best portion of a good man's life,
 His little, nameless, unremembered acts
 Of kindness, and of love."

And when the New Year festival comes and you reflect that you are passing another milestone on the highway of time, ask yourself whether your mental and moral growth is toward that state of being where

"Thy mind
 Shall be a mansion for all lovely forms,
 Thy memory be as a dwelling place
 For all sweet sounds and harmonies."

A Happy New Year to every reader of The Times!

A FRIEND OF COOS BAY.

Judge Lowell of Pendleton, has proven himself to be a sincere and earnest friend of Coos Bay. Whenever opportunity offers, the judge is ever ready with the right word of enthusiastic eloquence to voice the merits and advantages of the Coos Bay harbor and add favorable comment to forward its development. At the recent development congress in Vale, Judge Lowell was conspicuous in his advocacy of the merits of Coos Bay and an earnest pleader for securing a railway and harbor improvement.

Coos Bay people are not unmindful of these felicitous actions of Judge Lowell, and if ever opportunity presents itself to return in a measure some of his kind favors, he will find they are not ungrateful.

DAMAGE HOTEL BY MEAN ACTS

UNKNOWN MISCREANT PERPETRATES DASTARDLY OUTRAGES IN NEW MARSHFIELD BUILDING—HAVE CLUE TO IDENTITY.

The contractors of the new Chandler hotel are the victims of two of the most dastardly tricks that have been known to Coos Bay in a long time, and if the effort to ascertain the identity of the responsible parties is successful, proper punishment will be imposed.

About a week ago, some one entered the building and with a hammer proceeded to pound the enamel off the bath tubs and wash basins. The deed was done between 5 o'clock in the afternoon when the men quit work and 6 o'clock when the night watch begins duty. The loss falls on Contractor Rust as he has not completed the work and turned it over to the owners.

Tuesday evening, between the same hours, someone entered the building and turned on the water on the fourth floor and before it was discovered the floor was flooded and the water was leaking through into the floors below. The damage was considerable and it will cause some delay in drying out the rooms.

There are several clues to the identity of the guilty parties and it is sincerely hoped that they will be captured. It will be difficult to fix adequate punishment for the crimes which show pure, unadulterated meanness as they could not benefit any one but impose loss and grief upon others. What the motive could be, no one has the slightest idea.

ALLIANCE FOR PORTLAND.

Carries Good Cargo of Freight and Many Passengers.

The Alliance sailed for Portland with a good cargo of freight and the following list of passengers.

L. Chapin, Mrs. L. Chapin, E. Chapin, Geo. Fraley, J. E. Bullington, Mrs. J. T. Jenkins, Jack Jenkins, Eva Jenkins, A. L. Hembree, John Steele, W. E. Smith, Mrs. N. Jones, P. N. Washan, E. L. Mills, Mrs. E. L. Mills, Lillian Mills, B. W. Lambliu, E. H. Jones, C. Johnson, Ed. Johnson.

Not Expected to Live.—Mrs. Benjamin Roberts, a pioneer settler residing at Templeton, near Ten Mile, who has been ill for some time, is reported unconscious and is not expected to live but a very short time.

Presbyterian Pastor.—The members of the congregation of the First Presbyterian church will hold a meeting Sunday for the purpose of extending a call to a new pastor for the vacant pulpit in their church.

Land Opening.

There is going to be a land opening at Roseburg, Ore., January 20, 1909. For lists, blue print maps with vacant lands marked thereon and full information regarding filings, etc., send \$2.00 to ROSEBURG ABSTRACT COMPANY, Roseburg, Ore.

HOLIDAY SNAPS.

We will allow a discount of 10 per cent on all purchases of East-side property, between now and January 1, 1909. Don't overlook this. TITLE GUARANTEE AND ABSTRACT COMPANY.

New Year's BALL at Finnish HALL, THURSDAY evening, December 31.

Steamer BREAKWATER sails from Coos Bay for Portland SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 7 A. M.

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CANDY BARGAINS.

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—at—
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 202-03 Coos Building.
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 2 to 5 and 7 to 8 p. m.
 Phone:
 Office 1051 — Residence 165.

D. R. A. C. BURROUGHS
 Homeopathic Physician
 Chronic Diseases a Specialty.
 Residence and office, corner 'C' and Second Streets, Marshfield.

D. R. GEORGE W. LESLIE
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 Graduate of American School of Osteopathy
 Kirksville, Mo.
 Office Hours:—9 a. m. to 4 p. m. Other Hours by Appointment. Office over First National Bank
 Phone 1611. Marshfield, Or.

D. R. GEO. E. DIX
 Physician and Surgeon
 New Flanagan & Bennett Bank Bldg.
 Phone 1641
 Residence Phone 1655.

D. R. J. W. INGRAM
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 Office 208-209 Coos Building
 Phone—Office 1621; Residence 1623

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