

COOS BAY TIMES

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SATURDAY EVENING THOUGHTS

OUR BOAST.

MARSHFIELD CAN and does, boast honestly of her prime health record.

Think of but 20 deaths in 1908, in this city of 5,000 people. And of these three were suicide and homicide, one old age, and two due to drowning.

No city of this size in all this country can put up a better showing on its official records.

These plain facts, supplemented by the correlative figures of 59 births, 28 girls and 31 boys, including 4 twins, gives the world distinctly to understand that we are "some pumpkins" when it comes to holding our own on a census program.

Beat it, if you can.

LIFE

"SEEKING a definition of life, it is difficult to find one that does not include more than is necessary, or exclude something that should be taken in." This is the opening sentence of an article on "Life" in an encyclopedia of old date. It is doubtful if later writers have been able to define more clearly the exact limits of life, or the qualities of which it is constituted. Herbert Spencer gives a definition of life: "The definite combination of heterogeneous changes, both simultaneous and successive, in correspondence with external co-existences and sequences." This definition is given in very clear and simple form still, there appears to be some little trouble about holding the words in their proper relations, so, as it were, to co-ordinate and hold together as an entity, or solid whole, in explanation of life. Here is a later definition by G. H. Lewes: "Life is a series of definite and successive changes, both of structure and composition, which take place within an individual without destroying identity."

Life is too short to discuss all the theories, definitions and explanations of life. No scientist ever yet has been able to demonstrate just what life is; how then can a common man, groping in shadows, hope to give help in this question of the ages.

Whatever life may be, of this we are cognizant, while we can move, and speak, and think, we know it is by the power of life. Descartes said: "I think, therefore, I am." That is such a positive declaration, it would almost carry conviction without demonstration, yet if we look at it carefully we find it was written wrong end first. The "I am" came before the "think." There could not be a thought without a bodily organism, no one ever yet has found a thought apart from a body, the new born child has no more thought than a lump of dough. It has an inherited instinct or craving for food, but it takes weeks and months before even a nebulous mind is formed in the growing body. The mind is formed from, and is developed from the body, the thought is the product of the mind; body, mind and thought, all are but parts of one complete whole. The rose must first send out its rootlets to gain strength and nourishment from the soil, then it shoots upward forming stem and branches and leaves, then in due time the buds slowly form, after many days the full bloom rose appears in all its beauty and fragrance. The rose could not exist without the stem, that is less beautiful than the flower, nor without the black unsightly roots that supply food, and color and fragrance to the flower. All these are parts, necessary to the completed whole. They are all one in purpose, and no one part is superior to another. So, too, the body is the base in which the mind must find support. The mind expands until intelligence and mental vision are to some degree developed, then thought by slow degrees unfolds until it may be, it dominates and controls the whole being. The thought is powerful, but without the mind through which to act, thought could not exist; the mind is a storehouse that supplies to thought equipment for its many journeys through all the varied mysteries of earth, and sea, and air; the mind, although so great and glorious is helpless, and falls dead, without the body for support. This poor mean body composed of dirt and water, condemned by Christian Science, as "matter material, having no existence," yet at the same time, the mighty mind, and the far-reaching thought, swifter even than electricity, these shrink into nothingness and disappear, soon as death on the body places his mark.

What then shall we say? Is mind greater than the body, out of which it has grown, and is absolutely dependent on it for support? To state the proposition is enough to show its absurdity. The bulb of the calla lily contains within itself all the material necessary to full development; but that bulb must be buried in black earth, must be watered, and given free air and sunlight to bring into being the brilliant leaves of green, and the perfect white flower of unvarnished purity. It is life, produced by earth, and water, air and sun, that works out this natural miracle, that no one can explain or understand. Like the grass the lily and the tree, we too draw from the ground the food we eat. Water to drink is one of the essentials of life, air to breathe, is for every minute a necessity. The sunshine, too is a part of life, and some claim, the sun itself, is the source of life. Here then we have a life made up of four distinct elements, earth, water, air and light, united and fused together by chemical and electrical action, forming a body, producing a mind, and sending out thoughts, quicker and farther than the waves of the wireless can reach, beyond even the billions of miles to the remotest star.

Yet all this soaring thought, this all comprehending mind, are but the outgrowth of the body, deriving its life and strength from earth and water, air and light. Take away food, and at the end of certain days, the body dies; take away water, in shorter time death comes; shut off air and it is but a question of minutes till life is gone. From these sources, life is ever being supplied. We eat, we drink, we breathe life day by day. We are absorbing and giving off life continuously, without ceasing. There can be no individual possession of life. The life we hold is composed of elements, free to all, whether plant, or animal, or humanity. Then what is death? It is but shutting off the supplies that give vitality to life. It is as fuel to the fire, as oil to the lamp. If through accident or disease the functions of the body are impaired, so that we cannot assimilate or use to good purpose the elements of life we lose strength and vigor, and it may be life itself goes out, as a lamp without oil ceases to burn. There is a man in Denver, who claims to be in telepathic connection with the sun, and to those who pay the price, he claims to send out vibrations that give "health, prosperity and happiness." Even if all his claims are true, what would all his great powers be worth if he had no body through which to operate. Spiritualists profess to bring the spirits of the dead, to talk with them, and even to re-materialize them again in bodily form. If what they claim is true, the results so far would indicate, that spirits apart from the body become weak and degenerate. They bring nothing but maudlin triviality from the blank spaces they inhabit, leading us to believe that a spirit without a body has not the means of supporting life with the fullness and strength of the bodily incarnation.

Observation, study, experiment would seem to indicate we have not a dual existence of body and of mind, but that the life of the body is the life also of the mind. The body may exist when the mind is a complete wreck, but when the body dies, there is no thought, no intelligence, nothing to indicate the continual existence of the mind apart from the body. The body is a workshop where various elements are wrought and combined into that unit of existence we designate as life. Out of this body, by force and power of life, develops that power of observation and comparison and still increasing becomes an intelligent understanding that is known and labelled—mind. One life in man, one life in all that live, in earth, or air, or sea.

WHAT SOCIETY IS DOING



CONTRIBUTIONS concerning social happenings, intended for publication in the society department of The Times, must be submitted to the editor not later than 6 o'clock p. m. Friday of each week. Exceptions will be allowed only in cases where events occur later than the time mentioned.)

A Good Time.

I've had a good time.
Life came with rosy cheeks and tender song
Across the morning fields to play with me,
And, oh! how glad we were, and romped along,
And laughed and kissed each other by the sea.

I've had a good time.
Love came and met me half way down the road;
Love went away, but there remained with me
A little dream to help me bear my load,
A something more to watch for by the sea.

I've had a good time.
Death came and took a rosebud from my yard;
But after that, I think there walked with me,
To prove me how the thing was not so hard,
An angel here of evenings by the sea.

I've had a good time.
A good, good time.
Nobody knows how good a time but me,
With nights and days of revel and of rhyme,
And tears and love and longing by the sea.

MOUNCE BYRD.

AS A SORT OF "breather" between the little social affairs of the week the more placid and it may be more engrossing subject, "Are there any women angels?" has been taken up for the dilettante discussion on Coos Bay in those circles where argument never wanders away from amiability and no one is deeply enough fired with his theme to become intolerant.

We pass over the general concession that mortally speaking many Coos Bay women are angels, and although we do not admit the contention of some theologians that all the celestial angels are men, if it is true it is quite likely, because women reach that seraphic state on earth and are therefore not so transfigured in the realms above.

There are only two angels mentioned by name in the Bible, Michael and Gabriel, except the one that fell and established an outer empire, where those rejected at the other place are forced to repair.

Most of the pastors lean to the belief that mortals never become angels at all, but that those illustrious beings are an order subordinate only to their Creator, a sort of heavenly hierarchy who assist in the administration of affairs on high.

We know that Gabriel is consecrated to the mighty task of summoning the world to judgment when all the nations shall have run their course; and that Michael is the militant archangel who with his host consigned Lucifer and his rebellious followers to the pit of perdition when it became necessary to put down sedition, but to this supernatural company none of us earthly creatures can be admitted, say the theologians; neither men nor women. It is not even certain that we shall have wings. The hymnist who wrote "I Want to Be an Angel" was not well posted. Crowns and harps are nowhere promised.

It is to be a sufficient reward to be among the redeemed, and we feel that the suffragettes, though they may secretly resent the sacerdotal dictum that there is no coequality of the sexes among the archangels, they may at least rejoice that the bright souls of their departed sisters will gain that state of perfect equity of rights in the life everlasting so long denied them and still denied them on this earth.

The Beautiful America club of North Bend Tuesday afternoon re-elected the old officers of the organization despite the determination of

some of the officials that they would not serve again. It was pointed out that much important work was just well underway now and to change officers might seriously hamper it and finally for the good of the club, the officers consented to serve again. They are as follows:

President—Mrs. C. S. Winsor.
Vice President—Mrs. Brigham.
Secretary—Mrs. Burmister.
Treasurer—Mrs. L. J. Simpson.
Reporter—Mrs. T. B. James.
The old executive committee consisting of Miss Anne Flanagan, Mrs. James, Mrs. Brigham and Mrs. Winsor will probably be reappointed.

The Oklahoma Whist club was entertained Wednesday evening by Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey Krietzler. The home was prettily decorated for the event. Fred Haines and Mrs. Farringer won the prizes. The club will meet January 20 with Mr. and Mrs. Warwick.

Dr. and Mrs. Ingram were hosts to one of the most delightful watch parties New Year's Eve. Their apartments were prettily decorated in ferns and Oregon holly. Cards and musical games made the old year pass too quick and the New Year was born almost unawares to the merry-makers. Refreshments were served. Mrs. Gettins and Mr. Sullivan won the prizes. Among the guests were Dr. and Mrs. Thayer, Mr. and Mrs. John Sullivan, Mrs. Farringer, L. A. Liljeqvist, Mr. and Mrs. F. K. Gettins and Mr. and Mrs. Dorsey Krietzler.

Mrs. G. W. Kaufman was hostess to two delightful gatherings this week, a sewing on Thursday afternoon and bridge this afternoon. The home was attractively decorated for the events and refreshments were served on both occasions. Among Mrs. Kaufman's guests were Mesdames M. C. Horton, Henry Sengstacken, M. D. Poyntz, C. A. Sehlbrede, I. S. Kaufman, Traer, Sandberg, Sweetman, Bradley, Nicholson, of Spokane, McFarland, Minot, Jones, W. T. Merchant, Mings, Coke, Oren, H. S. Tower, J. A. Matson, Stafford, Perry, Schetter, Gettins, Straw, Ingram and McPherson and Miss Traer.

Mrs. J. S. Coke was hostess to the 500 Club Wednesday afternoon. The home was simply but artistically decorated for the event. Mrs. E. K. Jones won the first prize and Mrs. W. T. Merchant second honors. Refreshments were served.

Miss Mary Minot will leave next week for San Francisco to spend a few weeks with her father there.

The Progress club held a pleasant meeting with Mrs. J. M. Upton Tuesday afternoon. After the regular program had been carried out, Mesdames Kate Lando, W. C. Bradley and G. W. Kaufman were elected as the executive committee. Delicious refreshments were served. The next meeting will be with Mrs. W. C. Bradley.

The Chaminade club met Wednesday at the Finnish hall and rehearsed for the grand concert to be given by the club at the Masonic opera house January 27. The program for the concert will be announced next week.

Mrs. Kate Lando pleasantly entertained the A. N. W. club Thursday afternoon. As usual, the afternoon was devoted to fancy work and discussion. The club has been notified that the new fountain that it will erect on C Street near Broadway was shipped from New York December 4, and should soon be here. It is sent for inspection and if not found to be what the ladies desire will be returned and another secured. Owing to the uncertainty of its acceptance, no definite plans have been made for the program for the installation or unveiling of the fountain.

Mrs. Fanny Hazard pleasantly entertained the Evergreen Whist Club last Saturday afternoon. Mrs. W. P.

PERSONAL notices of visitors in the city, or of Coos Bay people who visit in other cities, together with notices of social affairs, are gladly received in the social department. Telephone 1331. Notices of club meetings will be published and secretaries are kindly requested to furnish same.

Murphy captured the first honors and Mrs. Kate Lando second. The club meets this afternoon with Mrs. Christina Kruse.

One of the big events of the year in "Stagdom" was the annual duck-feast of Marshfield Aerie of Eagles Wednesday evening. Over three hundred ducks were served to a jolly, big bunch, but the story of it was told in detail in Thursday's Times.

Miss May Smallwood was surprised at her home in Eastside by a few of her friends on her sixteenth birthday anniversary Wednesday evening. Games were played with dancing and later a delightful luncheon added to an event that made one merry night for all the happy participants; and the lady of sweet sixteen. Those present were Mr. Smallwood, Grace Smallwood, Carl West, Victor West, Hildur West, Genevieve Tellefson, Blanche Tellefson, Mrs. Martinka, Maggie Robertson, Estella Peterson, Martin Peterson, Budd Vineyard, Irven Vineyard, Clyde Vineyard, Elma Sailing and Elester Sailing.

One of the most pleasant events in the social calendar of lodges the past week was the installation of officers of Mascot Lodge No. 5, Degree of Honor. While it was for members only, there was a good attendance. Mrs. Hattie E. McCormac, Past Grand Chief of Honor was the installing officer and inducted the following into office:

Past Chief of Honor—Mary McKnight.
Chief of Honor—Lilly L'erron.
Lady of Honor—Jennie Rasmussen.

Chief of Ceremonies—Annie Holland.

Recorder—Fannie Hazard.

Financier—D. L. Rood.

Receiver—Dora Cathcart.

Usher—Lizzie White.

Inside Watch—J. D. Johnson.

Owing to Miss Cora Bowron being unable to serve as Outside Guard, a special election will be held to fill the vacancy.

Following the lodge work the members were taken to the banquet hall where they enjoyed an excellent spread. T. J. Hall acted as assistant toastmaster and Mrs. D. L. Rood, August Carlson, D. L. Rood, C. F. McKnight and others responded to impromptu toasts. There were a few invited guests to the banquet.

Miss Alice Butler entertained the Biographic club at her home Thursday afternoon. The next meeting of the club will be with Mrs. Flanagan.

J. H. Flanagan and wife left this week for San Francisco where they will visit with relatives for a few weeks.

The members of the Swastika club met Wednesday in the Redmen's hall and elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

President—Geo. N. Farrin.
Vice-president—Miss Alda Cannon.
Secretary—Mrs. Mae Pettijohn.
Treasurer—Chester Wolcott.
Board of Directors—Miss Ada Chapman, Mrs. F. M. Rummell, T. W. Lynch, Geo. Dindinger and Robt. Dillard.

The next dance of the club will be held Wednesday, January 13.

A very pleasant party was given by Jack Cotter in Millington in Mr. Coddling's hall on New Year's eve. The evening was spent in games, dancing and other amusements. Among those present were the following: Allen Knight, Mable King, Lola Montgomery, Eddie Parsons, Boyd Keith, Martha Ross, Jennie Ross, Margaret Ross, Jack Ross, Irvin Ross, Annie Cotter, Lily Cotter, Bertha Phillips, Jack Cotter, May Durrand, Roy Coddie, Fred Bentz, Will Durrand, Eddie Campbell, Selby Cotter, Hubert Cotter, Tom Cot-

ter, Will Cottle, Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery, Mr. and Mrs. Bidwell and Mr. Watkins.

Mrs. Henry Sengstacken and Misses Genevieve and Doris Sengstacken will leave next week for San Francisco. Miss Genevieve Sengstacken will remain with friends there while Mrs. Sengstacken and Miss Doris will proceed to Santa Barbara where they will spend the remainder of the winter.

On Monday, January 4th, Sacajawea Council, No. 9, and Coos Tribe, No. 33, held a joint raising up of chiefs in the Redmen's hall. About sixty invited guests were present and witnessed the installation ceremonies. The first number on the programme being a selection by an orchestra of six pieces. Mrs. R. M. Wieder, Deputy Great Pocahontas, assisted by Past Pocahontas, Mrs. Anna Farrin, as Senior Past Chief, Then installed the following chiefs of Sacajawea Council:

Pocahontas—Emma Seaman.
Wenahah—Mrs. Vincell.
Powhatan—R. E. Pinegor.
Keeper of Records—Ora McCarty.
Keeper of Wampum—Nora Daley.
The ladies then gave way to the Redmen, and Deputy Great Sachem Hugh McLain assumed charge of the meeting and raised the following chiefs of Coos Tribe to their respective stations:

Sachem—Geo. D. Harding.
Senior Sagamore—J. W. Chapman.
Junior Sagamore—H. R. Robinson.
Prophet—C. W. McCulloch.
Chief of Records—Geo. N. Farrin.
Collector of Wampum—C. L. Pen-nock.
Keeper of Wampum—R. E. Pinegor.

After the installation ceremonies were concluded, dancing was indulged in by the members of the lodge and their guests until midnight at which time all adjourned to the banquet room in the I. O. O. F. hall where a delicious banquet was served by the ladies.

Great credit is due to the members of the council for the very able manner in which the affair was conducted. Mrs. B. D. Jones being chairman of the committee, and left nothing undone to make the affair a success. In the early part of February another point meeting will be held in which Coos Tribe will be host.

The Ladies Art Club was entertained Friday afternoon by Mrs. Edman and a very pleasant time was enjoyed. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Frey next Friday afternoon.

OPEN TO BIG HOUSE.

James Keane and Company Play at North Bend to a Packed House.

James Keane and his company of fourteen opened their season last night at North Bend in Fabio Romani, or the Vendetta, to a packed house. It was more than packed as Keane was compelled to borrow over one hundred chairs from the Past-time theatre, to accommodate the people. The star and company were given a tremendous reception and the play went like wildfire. There were four curtain calls after the first act and six after the third, and Mr. Keane made a speech after the third act. Miss Neva West, the beautiful leading lady, made an immense hit and the gowns she wore were very beautiful. The big feature was the vaudeville between each act and they brought down the house. As the audience left the theatre the unanimous verdict was that the Keane company is by far the strongest organization ever seen on Coos Bay. They play here tonight at I. O. O. F. Hall. Mr. Keane has purchased from William Merchant the big stove he used to heat his store and is being installed in the I. O. O. F. Hall today so that the hall will be well heated.

TAFT'S CABINET.

Almost Complete List Announced New York Paper.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—The Tribune prints what it claims will be President-elect Taft's final cabinet, as follows: Secretary of State, P. C. Knox; Secretary of Treasury, John J. Mitchell, president of the Illinois Trust Savings Bank; Postmaster-General, Frank Hitchcock; Secretary of Navy, Geo. V. L. Meyer; Secretary of War, Luke Wright; Secretary of Commerce and Labor, Wm. E. Loeb; Secretary of Interior, R. A. Ballinger of Seattle; Secretary of Agriculture, John W. Wilson. The attorney-generalship not mentioned.

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