

COOS BAY TIMES

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Dedicated to the service of the people, that no good cause shall lack a champion, and that evil shall not thrive unopposed.

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF MARSHFIELD.

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THE POSTAL BANK.

ON January 3, the first working day of the new year, the postal savings bank system is to go into operation throughout the United States. This is the promise of Postmaster General Hitchcock. Deposits will be received on the morning of that day, and the scheme is expected to be in full operation long before the Post Office Department prepares its annual report in the latter part of 1911. Mr. Hitchcock, it is said, has given some study to the systems in vogue in Europe, and he believes the new departure will be successful.

The scheme will be on a small scale at first. Only one bank in each state will be empowered to do business on this plan, and, in all cases, small towns are selected for it. Our Post Office people evidently believe that it is well to go slow in the beginning with this system. It will be in nature of an experiment with us, although it does well in England, Germany, France and some of the other countries. As the Republican platform of 1908 urged its adoption, it formed part of the administration programme, and, after a long contest, it was enacted. Most of the bankers of the country were against it. As the interest which will be paid by the postal banks will be smaller than that given by the savings banks and the other financial institutions which pay any interest at all, the new scheme will hardly be brought into active competition with the old. Therefore the existing banks were able to make only a weak assault upon the experiment.

"We favor the establishment of a postal savings bank system for the convenience of the people and the encouragement of thrift," said the Republican platform of two and a half years ago. The "thrift" argument has a good deal of force. Many recently arrived aliens are somewhat distrustful of the ordinary banks.

They want something with a governmental guarantee behind it. They had this sort of backing for their savings in the countries of their birth, and they felt safe on that account. For those people the new scheme in the United States will have powerful attractions. Many Americans, too, as we learn every short time through the losses which they sustain, are distrustful of the savings banks, and hide their money in stockings, in stoves during the summer months, and in other places which they consider to be safe. The postal savings banks will gather in these hoards. Thus they will add to the sum of the fluid capital of the country, and will have a tendency to give a stimulus to trade.

DOLL FAMILIES ARE ENCOURAGING SIGNS.

JUST as the Christmas shopping season was drawing to a close there were reports from several cities that there was a scarcity of dolls. This is encouraging information, because it means that the spirit of motherhood is still the supreme delight of childhood and that it has

not been extinguished by the pressure of modern civilization.

The doll is now, and has been for centuries, the toy and joy of children, whether they lived in palaces or hovels. It may be made of rags and sawdust, or it may be of finest material, costing even hundreds of dollars, but it is still a dolly, precious in the mind of its possessor and a source of happiness pure and unalloyed, beyond any other gift at any stage in life's journey.

At the Christmas season the child is king and the new doll a guest of honor at the fireside of every home where children are. Unhappy will be the nation whose little women shall fail to develop the instinct which makes them turn to the dollies as their first companions in the untroubled days of infancy. There are all kinds of dolls in all kinds of homes and fondled in all kinds of tongues, but they idealize one language—the language of baby love for the doll it claims as its own.

"RUN IF YOU LIKE, BUT TRY TO KEEP YOUR BREATH."

"THE world," Wordsworth exclaimed, "is too much with us! Getting and giving, all our powers are spent."

True as this was in the day of the serene poet, a century ago, it is, painfully truer in these strenuous times of railway, steamship and telegraph, telephone, automobile and aeroplane.

What does the average American gain by his hot pace? Chiefly a fortune, mental or physical shipwreck, and utter inability to enjoy the best of life. "Nothing we see in nature that is ours," and little in art or history or literature or social culture.

Dr. Allen Starr of New York city raises a timely protest against the excesses of energy and enterprise. Americans, he assures us, "live too fast, strive too intensely, toil too strenuously." The record of American hustle is read in the insane asylums. Though New York state's population has increased 47.6 per cent since 1900 its insane have increased 103 per cent.

What has been said is not a plea in abatement against hard work. Earnest labor kills no man who lives cleanly and sensibly. The plea is against the loose living and nervous strain that have caused almost half the insanity in New York. Remember the schrewd suggestion of Holmes, himself author and doctor both:

"Run, if you like, but try to keep your breath. Work—like a man!—but don't be worked to death."

OPPORTUNITIES.

Now, young fellow, don't whine that there is no such a thing as opportunity any more and tell everybody that will take the time to listen to you that there is no chance for a young man. There is plenty of chance. Right now, everywhere, there is a chance for young people who will work. The farms, the business houses, the banks are all looking around eagerly for young men and women who have brains, energy, common sense and getup to them, says an exchange. They want somebody that is not a machine—somebody that can do things "different," as they say. They despise the machine in human form, the clock-watcher, the drone, the sport, the blase woman and the professional salary-grabber. They want somebody who will get at work on time and stay at work until the clock strikes or the whistle blows, instead of eternally watching the clock and figuring out little schemes to best the boss. When they find the right person, that person is not "ground down" or "held back" for a minute, but is pushed forward, helped and raised in salary. The big business interest is always on the lookout for timber for department heads. The men in those positions wear out every now and then and new blood must be secured. It must be taken from the younger people, hence there is always an opportunity for advancement there. The country editor who makes good in his little home town can always find a good job at a city newspaper desk at a good salary if he wishes to take it. The country banker can always go to the city and find big money with large financial institutions. The traveling salesman who attends to business and gets the orders can always find plenty of houses willing to give him a larger salary on a long-time contract. Opportunity not only knocks at your door, but actually goes into your bedroom and yanks you out by the hair of your head. If you go back to sleep again it's nobody's fault but your own. But

opportunity is not hanging around to seize hold of you if you smell of cigarettes and booze, or if you insist on always talking religion instead of business. Sensible business people don't use cigarettes and booze, haunt moving picture shows and eat late suppers with painted beauties. Neither do they parade their religion in the business places, rather they wrestle with their conscience and do their praying in the privacy of their homes. Business of the progressive kind does not want a lot of false hair and face powder scattered over the top part of its stenographer, either. Neither does it buy her flowers and take her out to lunch. Young man, young woman, do you know that success is spelled with just four letters? It is. Here's the way to spell it: Work.

THE REFORMATION.

I feel it wrong to stroll along The idle path of pleasure, And wish to say that I today Renounce a life of leisure.

My mind's made up, and I will sup On dainty fare no longer, But have instead a crust of bread (This coffee should be stronger).

Expensive dress spells wickedness, I've come to that decision, I'll wear a sack—or something black (My new pink frock's a vision!).

Through rain and snow, though winds may blow And roads be rough and hilly, I'll take my way from day to day (Please shut the door; it's chilly).

Thus on I'll tread with lifted head And footsteps brave and steady, For luxury is wrong, I see (Goodby, my car's ready;

So we must part). When do I start My pilgrimage of sorrow? Oh! well, it's late; I think I'll wait At least until tomorrow.

NOTICE TO SPORTSMEN.

All persons interested in the change of the present game laws for Coos county are hereby notified to be present at a meeting to be held Friday, December 30, at 7:30 p. m., at Farrin-Farrin's office, Mfld, Coos county, Oregon. COMMITTEE

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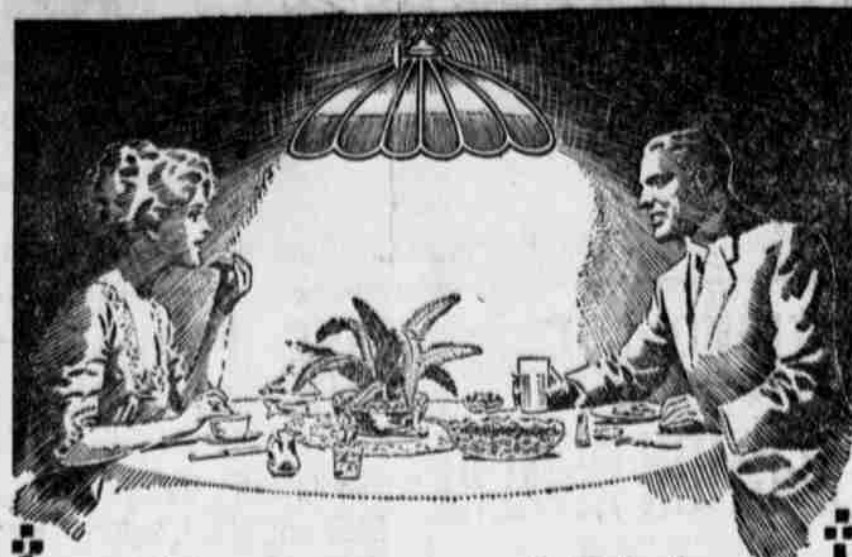
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