

COOS BAY TIMES

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF MARSHFIELD.

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TREATING RUNAWAY HUSBANDS LIKE HORSETHIEVES.

IN THE opinion of a member of the Oregon legislature a runaway husband is no better than a horse-thief, and if the bill under consideration by that body is passed the commission of such a crime will be punishable by imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than 10, and runaway husbands may be extradited to Oregon from any other state to which they may have fled.

Such a punishment is none too severe for the commission of such a crime.

Rightly considered, the man who desert his family is a far greater enemy of society than the man who steals a horse. To steal a horse in this day and age is merely to deprive another individual of a comparatively small portion of private property, but to desert a home is to deprive a wife and usually a family of the means of support and bring incalculable unhappiness and suffering upon innocent and defenseless people.

It is high time that marriage should be considered a contract which imposes obligations quite as inviolable as those of any civil contract and responsibilities far more exacting. It is a notable fact that desertion by a wife is practically unheard of, while every day increases the number of men who, tired of domestic association, trip away as lightly as if they were crossing the street to buy a new brand of cigar.

Severe punishment will not make faithless men true, or blackguards men of honor, but such legislation as the Oregon lawmaker proposes will do much to give the lax and careless a realizing sense of what the marriage contract means.

OBSERVATIONS.

BACK TO THE SIMPLE LIFE.

The holidays are ended. We'll go our husbandly way Of pain and pleasure blended. Of hard work for our pay, Of fumes when getting gay, Of efforts well intended, Of having much to say When least said's soonest mended. Of too much cash expended— Hetch-ho and welladay— Till we learn what's portended. One week hence, ground hog day.

Plenty of people notice that their neighbors are not happy or prosperous or well, but not all of them "come over to see why." That's a splendid way to begin the new year—to see why your neighbor is not sharing in the good things in which the whole city abounds. The mere eering whether others are comfortable is the fine part of the beginning. There are sad faces and sad hearts and sad homes all about us. Can there be a more generous or kindlier search than that for the "reason why," supplemented by an

effort to remove when the neighbor next door "comes over to see why?"

"Fully one-fourth of the people in hospitals today are there through sickness acquired by the insidious kiss," declares an Eastern physician. This is probably a gross exaggeration but it cannot be denied that much disease is spread by the wholesale and indiscriminate kissing habits of womankind. Not only their sisters and their cousins and their aunts are saluted with a rousing smack, but casual acquaintances and practical strangers. This is the kiss of feminine etiquette, which has nothing whatever to do with the blissful prerogative of Cupid's captives. It might be called the "how-do-you-do" kiss, and if it were abolished it would only take away one of the conventional formalities of social hypocrisy.

A Swedish man of letters and student of languages, so says the "Corriere della Sera," is at present engaged on a unique work, on which he is laboring with great enthusiasm. He is endeavoring to collect the phrases used by the various people of the world to express "I love you." Wherever there are human beings, he says, declarations of love are made, and there are one thousand languages in which the tender passion may be expressed. The Chinese say "Uo ngal ni," the Armenian expresses his love with "Se siren as bez," the Arab is content with the short "Ne habbek," while the Turk murmurs "Sidi sevelorum." In India "Main syne ka pisar karim" is the declaration, but the Greenlander holds the palm for the word of love. When he does not stammer it has fifteen syllables and has been recorded phonetically thus: Unifgraern-dlinalerfironajunguarrigujak!

WITH THE TOAST AND TEA

GOOD EVENING.

If manliness demands for itself a right of way, womanliness demands it also; you cannot claim for one half of humanity the open road and the "illimitable veldt," while you are driving the other down a cul-de-sac into a compound that is not of her own choosing. Woman must be given, like man, a deciding voice as to her own career; she must be free to make her own risks, her own adventures, her own experiments and discoveries.—Laurance Housman.

THE OLD VILLAGE.

I've been back to the village, Tom; I've been around to see The dear old town and all the folks that once knew you and me I thought I'd write and tell you, Tom of some of them you know. They haven't changed since you were here, some 20 years ago.

There's old Alonzo Wombat, Tom, you'll think of him, I vow. He used to keep a meat shop then; he keeps a meat shop now. And Abner Jinks, your old chum, Tom, he's little Podanap's bean. Just as he always used to be, some 20 years ago.

I called on my old sweetheart, Tom, the girl I worshipped so; She's still a blonde, just as she was, some 20 years ago. But there has been one trifling change since happy days of yore; For she was twenty-seven then and now she's twenty-four.

CHEERFUL THOUGHT FOR THE DAY.

We may not have the get-there price, but nobody can stop us from imagining that we're going to take a Pullman the next trip we make from Coos Bay to San Francisco.

It's hard to make a grip victim believe that this world deserves all the kind words it gets.

Luther Burbank's new and wonderful strawberry may be all right, but the shortcake next spring will not look a bit more beautiful on account of the discovery.

A San Francisco man started a fight in a restaurant by offering to pay for two fried eggs he had order-

ed if the proprietor would eat them. Naturally, any restaurant man would regard that as a bad break even if the eggs were good.

STORY OF THE DAY.

The recent cold snap was the cause of much conversation and discussion. G. N. Bolt and F. E. Allen were disputing as to which had experienced the greatest cold in winter. F. E. Allen told about one winter he spent in the north where the ground was frozen so hard all the year around that when they want to bury a man they just sharpen his feet and drive him in with a pile hammer." Bolt never batted an eye as he replied: "Yes, I know that place I have been there. Didn't stay there long found it not bracing enough for me. Went on to a small town further north. The hotel where I was staying caught fire. My room was on the top story. No fire escape or ladders in that primitive settlement. Staircases burnt away. Luckily kept my presence of mind. Emptied a pitcher of water out of the window and slid down the icicle.

PROGRESSIVE FARMING.

"Well, yes," confessed Ivy Condon the while a grim grin wrinkled his weather-beaten complexion. "It's a good deal of trouble, but the satisfaction I feel amply repays me for the extra work. Ye see, by degrees I'm sharpenin' up the top of every stump on the place, and in the course o' time I hope to have matters arranged that the hired man will find it fully as comfortable to stand up durin' the day as to set down."

The report that residents of Alaska are being eaten by wolves may partly reconcile San Francisco folks to the continuous performance of their fens.

HOW WOMEN SHOULD DRESS.

Artist Lays Down Rules for Fat, Thin, Tall and Short.

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 25.—Henry Turner Bailey, one of Boston's best known artists, has laid down a set of rules whereby the fair sex of high and low degree, fat, thin, tall or short, can achieve esthetic perfection in style.

Here are the rules: "If you are tall, wear gowns made on horizontal lines and never have dresses too long or too short.

"If you are short, your costume should be made on vertical lines; never have your dresses short, regardless of style.

"If you are stout, dress plainly in a one-color scheme.

"If you are thin, a mixed goods is permissible.

"Women possessing large feet should never wear tan shoes.

"Whether feet are large or small, the broad bulldog toe is faultless from every point of view.

"Puffs are condemnable, because they are false."

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

With all the world's wonderful advancement, there seems to be no way of finding out how much of the road to hades has been paved with this year's good intentions.

Secretary MacVeagh appears worried over the great demand for paper money, but he can rest assured that there will always be plenty of persons who will accept any kind that is offered them.

HOWS THIS

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligations made by his firm.

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