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Coke Building

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To Better Serve The People

The first rule of a modern utility organization is that customers must be pleased.

Towards realizing this ambition the Oregon Power Co. established its new Business Department.

The purpose of this department is to study the needs of customers in order to better serve them.

Expert assistance has been secured to help make the New Business Department value to patrons of the Oregon Power Co.

Our representatives will respond to all requests for advice on illuminating and power questions.

A telephone call from a cottage is honored as readily as a call from a large factory.

Telephone 178.

Oregon Power Co.

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FRENCH REALTY CO.

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Marshfield, Ore.

OUR AGE

Some Interesting Thoughts On Present Conditions

(Written for The Times) Our age is intensely practical, Everything serves to remind us of this. Only that which distantly carries the earmarks of practical utility re-ceives any considerable attention. And this rule is made to apply not merely to men, but also to animals and implements as well. Whatever it may be that wishes to gain recognition in the chance and change of human affiars is forced, more or less, to make this appeal on the basis of practical usefulness. This alone seems to constitute the magic power which swings open the gates of opportunity, advancement and success

Under such circumstances, stands to reason that the unpractical will be accorded scant attention, costly lodging and poor rations by the energetic people of today. None but the unpractical class of people, those generally known as the "old-timers," old-fashioned," "the dolts," of civilization will have anything to do with it. This class is considered unfortunate in not being able to follow time in its rapid forward strides and thus of necessity forced to cling to that which by common consent has become unpractical and antique. After all, they may be the most fortu-

The majority of men, however, realizes that the pressure of the times demands that everything and everybody furnish the greatest possible returns, or be thrust on the rubbish pile of the has-beens. The situation reminds one rather forcibly of the homestead boots that our forefathers used in the pioneer days of American settlement. These served the purpose without fail in their day, but no one could today be induced to wear them, Times have changed, customs likewise, and the past has evidently been forced to relinquish to a considerable extent its hold upon the present generation. The present day calls for different men and different achievements. It is practical and enlists only men of practical utility to carry out is designs.

Only that which is readily seen to be of practical use, or else without any difficulty can be rendered useful, retains its full value on the market today. Especially that which may be turned into dollars and cents. This is, no doubt, a most serious defect in the trumpeted advance of our modern era which greatly hampers its general efficiency, as it is productive of all sorts of dissatisfaction and disorder. Indirectly it gives to the covetous and greedy after wealth too much territory for self-aggrandizement. And not only the Good Book, but also the experiences of times past and present, pronounce avarice to be the root of all evil. More restlessness, disorders and crime are to be traced to these practical demands of the day than most men would incline to believe. may pass under different terms, but it is nevertheless the characteristics of an age whose demands for utility is already evidently beginning to defeat its own purpose. At present it seems as if this vigilant search for, and the endeavor to monopolize, that which passes as practical on the would eventually against each other individual, classes and organizations in grim determination to solve, with whatever means there are at hand, the ever multiply-

ing problems of an increasingly pro-

gressive age. Perhaps, it is to come to the question of the survival of

the fittest; the more humane principle of live and let live is obviously

losing ground. But this trend of affairs is making sad havoc of those higher enjoyments in life which, after all, are designed for entering largely into the warp and woof of existence. The unsympathetic criterion of practical worth does not consider the finer sensibilities and aspirations that give tone impulse and significance to the endeavors of man. In consequence, man no longer very much inclines toward intellectual conceptions excellence, beauty and nobility soul-life, nor endeavor to follow those in ordinary vocations and to embody them in his personal life.

The incessant demands of this electric age, where everything is pusher or pushed, tend to rob the individual of his individuality, make him a soulless automaton, or a heartless despot, and, in either case, to deprive him of the enjoyment higher ideals would furnish. As a resultant we are becoming wide-awake. active and aggressive in our respective fields of activity, but at the same time also prone to forget that there is something nobler in an occupation than living-getting, or money getting, and, that a man may amass millions and still be a failure. The maxims of low prudence are daily dinned in our ears until we begin to repress the longings for the pleas ures of a higher life and forget that the hand can not safely reach high-er life than does the heart.

It is a mooted question whether the advantages offered by a money-crazed and luxury-loving age increase the contentment and happiness men, or vice-versa. A considerable number of philosophic as well as untutored minds would tell us that the people of today do not enjoy so full a measure of satisfaction as did the aboriginees of this country following their ideals. Our people enjoy superior advantages, are highly endowed in various ways, but notwithstanding, to often pursuing with fickle ardor the cloudy countenance of a distorted idealism. The multitudes generally discover the idealistic, or rather what is left of it, in the unattractive garb of material interest and gain. Prevailing ideas, senti-ments and aims obviously corroborate this state of affairs.

A cheerless compacency settling over the general pursuits of men, a disheartening sense of the emptiness of earthly pleasures and glory, and a deep-rooted and widespread dis-satisfaction at the trend of affairs constitute the silent, but not less eloquent, dissapprobation with which nearly all classes of men greet the increasing demands of an age too

one-sidedly practical. And time has few constructive measures of a cheering nature to offer, it seems. But then, reconstruction must inevitably be preceded by more or less destructive forerunners The ground must be cleared for the erection of the more magnificent edifice of the future. And it may be that our age stands before the portals of an era of reconstruction the like of which the annals of history hitherto have not had occasion to link in that mighty chain of events which encircles humanity on its march from the cradle to the grave. JOHN E. OSLUND.

HOW TO MAKE A HAPPY YEAR

Some Suggestions For 1913 That Are Worth Reading

tains of eternity, resolve to walk onward, taking the sunshine and the rain in good spirit, helping anyone whom you will meet on the

Suppose your life is in the home. Resolve to make that home brighter and better for your presence. not spoil the happiness of life that is every human being's beritage. Rather add to the joy of the hearth, so that when you go, never to pass this way again, a loving thought will be your meet.

Have you children? Then remember that once you were young. Be kind to them. Never let it be said that you needlessly turned a child's

laughter to tears.

If you have gossiped either over the back fence or over the tea cups, here is your opportunity to make a change for the better. Of course, you cannot recall the unkind word that has gone on the snowball proclivitles growing to unrecognizable propor tions. But you can resolve to guard your tongue and to think twice be-

fore you speak once. Each day read one beautiful thought, do one beautiful deed. It may be just a phrese of your favor-ite author. The sunset or a sunbeam or a child's golden curls will give you a picture, if you are looking for it. And as for doing something that's easy,

Don't polish the waiting bench with "hard luck" stories. Stir your-self. Hard luck never caught up with a hustler. This is true of any kind of work. Resolve to fight your battle minus weak excuses.

Look at your face. Do the lines curve down or up? It's never too late to smile. A frowner is an un-welcome companion. If persons make an effort to miss you, change

Be honest! Even with yourself. Some beings can believe their own lies. Don't enroll your name on the | best of your life.

N THIS valley of life, on each self deceivers list. There is no hope side of which are the moun- for you if you do so, for you if you do so, Have you been a little bit shaky

toward any ideal of conduct that you have formed? Surely you have a conduct standard! Well, what's the use if you have ignored it? Make it as potent factor in the coming year. And may the standard be the best

Whatever your work, let it be done better that it has been done before. In this world each one is fil-ling a place. If you haven't any special work, make it. Don't be a

If you have cheated any human being of his right, be ashamed and be penitent. And don't stop there. Resolve to make restorations of thak which you have stolen. This may be a word of praise; it may be a dollar and it may be-many things. Who are you in this great scheme that you should withhold that which in due?

Don't be a doormat. The homely rug on which people wipe their dirty shoes has a place; but you are a human being with a spine and a heart and a soul. Doormats must not be on your calendar. Being a human being, you have

the ability to grow in all ways to-ward the superhuman, the ideal! If you grit your teeth and hold back as a recalcitrant, ignorant child, you are shining. You cannot stand still; you either move forward or backward.

That question of love-how aryou going to answer it this year? If you have closed the door of your heart against it, be mercifu to yourself, if to no one else. Le love for some human being ente your door. It is the greatest fores in the world. Let it come into your

Whatever has fallen before you in the past, remember that there is another day, and with it another chance. Make the present year the

"SONG OF THE ABSENT" A PARODY

(Written for The Times)

By the cold blue waters of Coos Bay, with the frowning crags o'erhung,

Where the rocky cliffs are steep along the shore;

Where the stalwart pines, that firmly to the rocky ledge have clung With the years are bending downward, more and more; Where the waves are gently lapping at the foot of mountains grim, And the current, ever running, sweeps along; Where the mountain streams come dashing from the peaks so far and

dim. And in eager haste seem bursting into song.

O, it's back again to Coos Bay where my heart it fain would be, There where countless peaks on peaks arise;

Great grim glants ever in a far stretched cloudy sea, Thrusting up their heads towards the skies; And where'er I wander in the world so far away, Where above is clear the Heaven's dome,

Still I see the mountain shrouded in the mist so gray, In my Coos Bay home. And along the valley, where the mist is floating low,

When the mountain sides are dark with rain-Thro' the misty curtains distant hills are capped with snow-Here the lingering autumn would remain, Joiden streaks are showing on the hills that late were green,

Where the spruce and alder strip beside the pine; And one feels the good of living in the air so crisp and keen, When old winter creeps adown the steep incline.

Back again to Coos Bay there my heart is turning now, Now I breathe again the mountain air. Now I drink in nature as my heart remembers how

And anon to me the world is fair. Let them sing of other lands that are to others blest, But altho' in distant parts I rorm, Still my heart goes backward to the mountains of the West, In my Coos Bay home.

Where the old Coos River sweeps along to join the ocean's tide, Edging little clearings here and there;

Carrowing 'neath the mountains to again be spreading wide, Where the valley opens broad and fair; y the sedgy marshes with the wild duck in the reeds,

By myrtlewoods, with roots beneath the stream, By the beauteous meadow where the deer at evening feeds-There it is that nature reigns supreme.

Backward, ever backward, O, it's there my heart would be, What altho' I wander far away, Still the call of nature blus my heart be bounding free,

So the cities cannot make me stay, et me see the torrent and my heart is satisfied, Where golden falls go rushing into foam,

And let me see the mountains towering upward in their pride, In my Coos Bay home.

-M. E. H., Marshfield.

The Family Man

—BY—— BOB STANLEY.

He's goodnatured fellow with clothes old and yellow and hat that's misshapen and worn. He finds all his pleasure in drinking a measure of good tnings in books that are torn, and marked with the fingers of small boy who lingers in ecstacy over each page where pictures are printed in ink that is tinted, attractive to youth and to age. Ho saves at his money to buy milk and honey for wifey, and daughters, and boys, and ne'er spends a dollar for shirt or for collar, nor glances at world and its joys. His coat is all sticky from hands that are tricky in searching his pockets for sweets. He once was a dresser, but no husky presser now hands him a bill on the streets.

His friends in the city look on him with pity-this man who was once beau ideal—and whistle that sonnet with whiskers upon it, about wedding bells, ever real. But, these do not matter. It's all idle chatter to pity the poor family man. He's happy as ever. Change this life? Oh! never. Just beat his home life if you can.

FRANK WAITE'S VIEWS.

Towards Coos Bay.

The Roseburg Review says:

"Frank B. Waite of Sutherlin, left here last evening for San Francisco where he was called on urgent busi-ness. Like all residents of Douglas county. Mr. Waite believes that the Oregon Electric is headed for Rose-burg and that construction work on the line will commence some practical age, under the tributes of which we all in a measure groan, will stand forth but as a brilliant link in that mighty chain of during the present year. Mr. Waite also believes that a branch line will Hill interests terminal grounds and \$100,000 in cash in the event they coughs and colds and avoid this an-will build their extension to the noyance. For sale by Lockhart & Coast from that place instead of Parsons, the Busy Corner.

from Roseburg. Whether this offer is being considered by the Hill in-Says More Railroads Are Headed terests at this time is not known."

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When Burton Holmes recently gave his celebrated travelogue on 'Panama" at Orchestra Hall, Chicago, he was seriously interrupted No one annoys wilingly and ness, and tickling in throat, would pound, they could quickly cure their

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