

OUR AGE

Some Interesting Thoughts
On Present Conditions

LATER reports from the battle-ground of the Balkan States would seem to indicate a possibility that complications may eventually terminate in a great European conflagration. The united efforts of the powers to forestall such an outcome of the war may be blocked effectively by the stand taken by the Montenegrins to surrender Scutari, a citadel which they conquered at so big a price would in their eyes, be blank foolishness. It belongs to them by right of conquest. The combined European bluff failed of intimidating the small but intrepid nation. Deserted by its allies it defies the combined demands of the mighty powers. The spirit of valor displayed cannot but cause great admiration. In the general run of events, however the weaker must submit to the demands of the stronger, or suffer the consequences. And there is no particular reason for expecting a reversal from that principal in this case. Instead there is ground for anticipating a united and determined demand to be made by the powers that the heroes of Scutari fame shall immediately and peaceably surrender their newly acquired stronghold, or face the stern features of a decisive war with the combined forces of armed Europe. This would present the unprecedented spectacle of a mighty, dominant, European power unsheathing the sword to cover and force a Lilliputian nation into obedience to their dictates. The chances, however, are that it would be but a question of time before the well-nourished jealousies, known to exist between the powers, would bring about some kind of disagreement which in its turn would end concerted action. And this might effect the whole of Europe as the application of a lighted torch to powder magazines. It is evidently a delicate work of diplomacy that must be carried out in the face of such possible calamities. We earnestly hope that a general European war may be happily averted, although it would perhaps greatly re-

lieve the onerous requirements of an armed peace if some bloodletting took place. The problems of the day seem to require much of the men who are to solve them satisfactorily. They present not only their practical but also their theoretical phases. That the people of the United States did not fail in recognizing this, was plainly manifested when it elected a schoolman to stand at the helm of the ship of state. Unfortunately, President Wilson found upon entering office that a number of very intricate and vital problems had already assumed proportions that did easily predict the necessity of an early solution. Judging from present indications, he will not have much reason to deplore a lack of administrative strenuousness. Things are pushed forward at a tremendous pace nowadays and the present administration may mark an eventful era in the history of our country. Meanwhile, it is assuring that the President is a man thoroughly versed in the theory and principles of government. So far as the practical phase of it goes, he will get all the opportunity necessary to acquaint himself with this as questions of varied interests from time to time demand his attention. At present the attitude of California anent the ownership of land by aliens is a question of grave concern. It remains to be seen, if the eloquence and diplomacy of the Secretary of State and the scholarly prudence of the President can solve the problem so as to eliminate all danger of threatened international complications. We may rest assured that they will leave no effort undone that may happily avert friction with other nations. There may not be very much danger that the Japanese will declare war against our country, but it is of vital concern to the chief executive and the party to which he belongs that peace and prosperity may continue to unfurl its flag throughout the length and breadth of this land of freedom and progress. JOHN E. OSUND.

SCHOOL CLUB IS ORGANIZED

OFFICERS ELECTED BY PARENTS-TEACHERS' CLUB—REV. LEWTAS SCORES EIGHTH GRADE STATE EXAMINATIONS

At a meeting of the Marshfield Central School yesterday afternoon a permanent organization of the Parents-Teachers' Club was perfected with the election of the following officers: President, Mrs. J. Wright Wilson; vice-president, A. L. Barker; secretary, Miss Marie T. Maloney. The next meeting will be held on May 23, when a program will be given under the direction of F. A. Tiedgen, Mrs. Ora McCarty and Miss Esther Silverman. Yesterday there was only a fair attendance, not nearly as large as two excellent talks by Superintendent F. A. Tiedgen and Rev. John Lewtas justified. Rev. Lewtas spoke briefly and devoted it principally to an arraignment of the Oregon system of eighth grade examinations. He said that these examinations resulted in and required an unusual amount of "cramping," and were not for the pupils' good. Superintendent Tiedgen said that there was a movement to change this system of examinations and that it would probably be accomplished in the not distant future. Superintendent Tiedgen's talk was along the ideals of the public schools, of what was being accomplished and what he is trying to accomplish. He said the object of the Parents-Teachers' Club was not one of reform, but one of co-operation to pave the way for the introduction of new ideas and development. He said that the Marshfield public schools were far ahead of the size of the town and were laid on a basis for a city three or four times as large. He spoke of the condition at present requiring the principals to devote their efforts largely to discipline and the superintendent to supervision of the grade teachers, the latter's diversity of subjects not permitting them to be the specialists that were engaged for high school work. He said that he made it a rule to go over the grades of each pupil before his promotion, that in case a pupil was not doing good work, an appeal was made to his honor to improve and only as a last resort were notes sent to the parents. He said that it was his belief that superintendents who had a fatherly interest in their pupils accomplished the best results. He said that although this is the age of manual labor, he believed that the development of character in the pupils should be one of the principal aims of the school. To do this he said that he found music in the schools, pleasant rooms and attractive surroundings, etc., accomplished much. He said that a visit to a mill or plant, a trip through the woods oftentimes accomplished more in a pupil's education than could be effected in any other way. He said that not all learning came from books. He said that he believed that the teacher's personality was another great factor in education and regretted that there were not more men employed in the high schools. He said that Marshfield was fortunate in this respect, having three men teachers. He said that the Marshfield school board was acting wisely in advancing the pay of teachers, because in order to retain good teachers it was absolutely necessary to pay them well. He pointed out how comparatively small the cost of instruction is. At present, there is an average of 30 pupils to a room and the teachers' pay average about \$65 a month, which means that the cost to each pupil for eighty hours of instruction is about \$2, or at the rate of two and one-half cents per hour. Mr. Tiedgen said that the high school is now the people's college. He regretted that there were even as many as there are of Marshfield young people going away to schools which are not superior to the local high school. He said that the Marshfield High School is now accredited with the leading colleges, its graduates being given direct entrance. He said that an endeavor was made to keep in touch with Marshfield pupils in the higher institutions of learning. He said that he was greatly pleased with the Marshfield High School at present and that he believed that there was less silliness to the square inch among its pupils than in almost any other school in the country. He said that it was unfortunate that some parents allowed their sons to drop out of school merely to earn the money to buy them a motorcycle or something of less value. He called attention to the art exhibit which is to be given in the Marshfield schools May 6.

CHERUBS IN ART

"LEARN ONE THING EVERY DAY"

No. 6. Angel Heads, by Reynolds.

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THE English can hardly be called an art producing nation. A former director of one of their largest museums has said that their greatest artists have come to them from without—Holbein, Vandyke, Rubens. And, with not more than a dozen exceptions, this is true.



But one of the most important of these exceptions is Sir Joshua Reynolds. And the appreciation of those who have not been able to see his work in England will be increased when they can study the portrait group of "Lady Betty Delme and her Children," included among the pictures loaned to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York by the late J. Pierpont Morgan.

Sir Joshua Reynolds was born at a time when much that was very bad in French and Italian art was being greatly admired in England. Guido Reni, one of the worst of the Italian sentimentalists, and Domenichino, a painter with almost no strength of character; among the Frenchmen, Claude and Poussin, gifted, but cold and lifeless painters of landscape—to such as these was

the popular-taste directed as being the best of their kind. When 26 years old Reynolds went to Italy for three years of study. Instinctively he seems to have turned to the greater artists. Their influence in his later work is very plain. He did not hesitate to show his appreciation of the Venetian school—at that time in some disrepute because their manner of painting was different from the bad work of Guido and the rest of his kind. But he seems to have made no effort to correct the popular idea; probably because he was naturally modest.

Perhaps Sir Joshua's greatest work was putting new life into the traditions that existed. But he did not hesitate to set aside tradition, when occasion offered, although his imaginative pictures are his least successful ones.

His pictures of children are his happiest efforts. In the picture before us he has painted the face of Frances Gordon in five different positions, going back to the Italian idea of a cherub to cloak this fact. By doing this he has made a picture of what would, in the hands of most painters be but five different studies of one head.

This picture rests today in the National Gallery at London, along with "The Age of Innocence," and other important pictures by Reynolds. This group of pretty faces, all of one child—has always been a popular and well-loved picture.

Every day a different human interest story will appear in The Times. You can get a beautiful facsimile reproduction of this picture, with five others, equally attractive, 7 by 9 1/2 inches in size, with this week's "Mentor." In "The Mentor," a well known authority covers the subject of the pictures and stories of the week. Readers of The Times and "The Mentor" will know Art, Literature, History, Science, and Travel, and own exquisite pictures. On sale at The Times office. Price ten cents. Write today to The Times for booklet explaining The Associated Newspaper School plan.

95-YEAR OLD FATHER HOLDS FAMILY RECORD

WALNUT, Ark., May 2.—In Thomas Ellison, better known as Uncle Tom, who resides in Newton, it is believed the real champion of the principles of Theodore Roosevelt has been found. Uncle Tom is 95 years old.

The birth last week of a son to one of his granddaughters caused a re-creating of Ellison's record. Here it is:

Married three times.
Father of 50 children.
Grandfather of 126 children.
Great-grandfather of 60 children.
Great-great-grandfather of 27 children.

READY FOR CHRISTENING.

Fastest Line Between Seattle and San Francisco.

SEATTLE, May 2.—Word was received at the general offices of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company here that the new liner Congress will be ready for launching at Camden, N. J., May 17. The Congress, which will be the largest and fast-

est liner in the service between San Diego, San Francisco and Seattle, will be christened by Miss Mary Phelps Jacob. The new steamship is expected to enter the coastwise service early in September.

GUARD MRS. PANKHURST.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.) LONDON, May 2.—Mrs. Pankhurst, militant suffragette leader, was removed today with the consent of the authorities from the house in London to a sanitarium where she will remain under the supervision of the police.

The great calamity in Omaha was quickly overshadowed by the terribly disastrous floods in Ohio. Great suffering and sickness from colds and exposure resulted. L. Poole, 2217 California St., Omaha, writes:—My daughter had a very severe cough and cold but Foley's Honey and Tar Compound knocked it out in no time. Refuse substitutes. Owl Prescription Pharmacy, Frank D. Cohan, Opposite Chandler hotel, Phone 74.

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NOTICE.
In the District Court of the United States for the District of Oregon.
In the matter of the estate of Arthur S. Blanchard, a bankrupt. Notice is hereby given that the Trustee herein has filed his report on the sale of personal property of the above estate and that I appoint and fix Saturday, May 3, 1913, at 10 o'clock p. m., as the time for hearing any and all persons interested therein to protest or show cause why said report should not be approved and said sale confirmed; and hearing to be held at my office in Marshfield, Coos County, Oregon.
C. A. SEHLBREDE, Receiver.