

LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER

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TOLEDO OREGON

Porto Rico plums are the tropical fruit most interesting to politicians.

If the automobile does not spread over the earth it's not the fault of its big tires.

People should be very careful in trying to crack a practical joke that they don't make a bad break.

The elephant who was recently choked to death must have realized in sadness that he could not take his trunk with him.

Germany expects to have a big navy, and meanwhile is tending to depend on this country as a kind of coaling station.

The President of Wellesley College says that more Wellesley girls marry than Harvard boys. That all comes of being asked.

Nickel is common in bicycle ornamentation, but an odd fact about the copper-mounted kind is that they lessen the tendency to scorch.

The number of those rules that work both ways has been increased by an observer who has noted that a blow-out generally accompanies blowing it in.

In Paris nowadays it takes nearly an army corps to keep the peace at the theaters if it's a war piece. Over here it takes nearly an army corps to play one.

A cable dispatch says that Captain Dreyfus has taken a villa in Switzerland for the season. Dreyfus, Dreyfus—where have we heard that name before?

Practically all the women of this country are against the Sultan if for nothing else than the fact that the Turk has cheated them outrageously on those rugs.

The total wealth of Europe, personal and real estate, is estimated at \$235,000,000,000. This fact can hardly console the hordes of beggars who swarm in the streets of her big cities.

There is such a thing as too much prosperity. The discovery of rich gold mines in Japan may yet prove a menace to her independence, especially if Cecil Rhodes should happen to wander that way.

Some troublesome questions are doubtless destined to find a solution through the courts. In a case which has just been brought to trial in Indiana, an association of master plumbers in Indianapolis, in order to secure a monopoly of business, drew the leading dealers into an agreement not to sell plumbers' supplies to any except the members of their own "combine." An outside plumber brought a suit against a dealer who had refused to sell him the goods needed in his business. The judge decided that such discrimination in trade is against public policy, and that the complainant was entitled to damages for the inconvenience and loss he had suffered.

A queer case came up in the Senate recently, illustrative of the mixed relation which Cuba bears to the United States. Mr. Stewart presented a petition from certain citizens of that island in regard to the landing of a cable there, and moved that it be referred regularly to the Committee on Military Affairs. Mr. Morgan, of Alabama, called attention to the Senate rule forbidding the presentation of a petition from citizens of a foreign country. Such a petition must go through the State Department. Mr. Stewart argued that these petitioners did not come under the head of foreigners, because Congress had power to legislate on the subject concerning which they appealed, and this view finally prevailed.

At Yale, Charles Andrew Carver, of Chicago, has broken all records for strength tests. A comparison of the physical proportions of young Carver with the best types of ancient Greek sculpture at the very best period shows that the American undergraduate today is as good a man as the winner of the Olympian games twenty-three hundred years ago. Mr. Carver could stand up beside the "Discobolus" or the "Gladiator with the Strigil" without being at any perceptible disadvantage. The most gratifying circumstance in connection with these strength records is that they represent nothing accidental or exceptional, but are the result of a widespread movement in favor of systematic physical culture which has now been going on in this country for more than a generation, and which has developed a higher standard of strength—and presumably of health—among tens and hundreds of thousands of our young people. The athletes of to-day are the healthy sons of healthy parents. They are steadily improving the American physical type. And in estimating the outlook for our physical development it must also be

borne in mind that the athletic girl—who is "far finer, riper and real than all the nonsense of your stone ideal"—has also come to stay and is helping her athletic brother in giving the solar-plexus blow to the gloomy theory of "degeneracy."

The young man that thinks that there are any God-given qualities in him that will enable him to achieve success without hard work will live in disappointment and die in remorse. As a matter of fact, we are not all born equal, so far as our mental capacities are concerned. Most of us have inherited some peculiar and undefinable predilections—some for music, some for languages, some for mathematics, some for the acquisition of wealth, and so on. But you may set it down as an undeniable fact that the young man that has inherited the love of work is going to live the most satisfactory life and is going to do the most good during his brief span on earth. Genius has been defined as "an infinite capacity for taking pains," and while the definition has been attacked by some philosophers there is the best evidence to prove its correctness. Demosthenes is generally accepted by scholars as the greatest orator we have record of. As a young man, he was not only an awkward stammerer, ridiculous in gesticulation and rhetoric, but his early utterances gave absolutely no promise of originality of idea. How he overcame by patient study and practice not only his physical defects, but acquired the learning which found expression in his oration, "On the Crown," is well-known history. The greatest scientists of modern times—for instance, Lord Kelvin, Helmholtz, Robert Mayer, to whom we owe the doctrine of the conservation of energy—were or are almost recluses in their devotion to their vocation. Given a mind of ordinary normal strength to start with, some equipment of early training and a healthy ambition, any young man may reasonably hope to succeed if he has the industry to pursue persistently the purpose he has chosen. He need not bother to ask himself whether he has genius or has talent. The capacity for hard work is true genius. He may be quite sure, however, that unless his ambition includes something outside of himself, the winning of it will give him in the end no satisfaction. That is one of the curious laws of life, one of the compensations that tend to equalize in a way the conditions of existence. If you want money or power, for the sake of money or power, you might just as well be breaking butterflies.

Estimation of Servants.

"Ah, ye never say her lift a finger in the way o' wurruk," said the cook. "Sich a perfect lady, shure, as me furrst mistress was. Niver fustlin' round a kitchen nor followin' the girl up after she'd cleaned the parlor, nor tellin' ye what nor what not ye ought ter do an' how ye ought ter do it. Faith, an' she didn't know how to do it nor what there was to be done. No toime had she to bother her head about my wurruk, for she was too busy doin' nothin'." Ah, with a deep sigh in which the housemaid joined, "my furrst mistress, she was a perfect lady—she was." And the present mistress, who chanced to overhear the conversation, pondered upon the way it tore to tatters those cherished theories that in order to command the respect of her servants a housewife must know all and more, too, that they ought to know and be able to teach it to them.—New York Sun.

Another Article Tabooed.

If a man refrained from eating things which from time to time are placed under the ban by doctors the chances are that he would soon starve to death. A Spruce street physician who is a dietician to the extent of being known as a crank on the subject is warning all his patients not to eat celery, which has always been regarded as not only harmless but actually beneficial. This doctor claims to have discovered that the soil in which celery is grown is laden with germs of enteric fever, and that in the ordinary process of washing it is impossible to remove all of the soil, any portion of which, he says, if taken into the system, would contain enough germs of typhoid to fill an hospital. And now his patient patients are wondering what is to come next.—Philadelphia Record.

Training a Nose.

Mothers should care for the noses of the children and see that they grow properly. The soft tissues of the organ can be molded in early life. A thick nose can be made thinner by regular treatment, such as compressing it daily, either with the fingers or with instruments made with strings and padded ends, so as to clasp the nose. A clothespin has been used and so adjusted as to bring about the right amount of compression. Many noses are wrung and twisted out of shape by the vigorous use of the handkerchief. The delicacy of the structure of the nose is not appreciated.—Harper's Bazar.

In accord with the eternal fitness of things the use of grape shot would give the enemy appendicitis.

When a man gets too lazy to fish there is no earthly hope for him.

MANY MILLION PINS.

GREAT NUMBER USED IN AMERICA EVERY DAY.

Daily Demand Is Almost Fabulous—Complex Processes Through Which the Simple Little Implement Passes in the Course of Manufacture.

It requires an average of more than twenty million pins per day to sustain the falling skirts, replace the missing suspender buttons and meet the other needs of the American people. What becomes of all these pins is a question that nobody has been able to answer, but there is no falling off in the demand, so that this number must disappear in some manner every day.

It is hard to imagine anything simpler than a pin, and it is a striking proof of the complications of our modern industrial system that every pin in the course of its manufacture passes through a dozen separate processes, involving the greatest skill on the part of the operatives employed and the action of a great amount of automatic machinery.

The pin makes its appearance at the factory in the form of barrels of coiled brass wire. The first process is that of straightening this wire. The coils are placed on revolving racks, and fed from these into little machines, from the vise-like grip of which they emerge perfectly straight. Thence the wire is fed into the pin-making machine, which is almost as complicated as a printing press. A sharp knife cuts the wire off into uniform lengths of the desired size. As each little length of wire drops from the knife it falls upon a small wheel, the edge of which is notched into grooves just large enough to hold the bits of wire.

Each piece is carried along by the wheel until an iron finger and thumb seize and hold it firmly, while an automatic hammer, by a single smart blow, puts a head on one end. Then the embryo pins fall upon another grooved wheel, which revolves horizontally. As they move on in the clasp of this second wheel the projecting ends pass over a number of circular steel files, which neatly grind them to a point. Further on they encounter a pumice stone, which smooths off the filed end, and then they drop into a wooden receiving box. So far no workman's hand has touched the pins in their progress from the reel. The cutting, heading, pointing and smoothing have all been done by the wonderful automatic machinery.

From the wooden boxes the pins go to the "whitening" room, where they are cleaned in revolving barrels filled with sawdust and receive a nickel coating in big vats. Then they are dried in the sawdust barrels and are run through a "sorting" machine. It is impossible to get the better of this machine.

The big department stores and wholesale dealers buy their pins by the case. A case contains 108 dozen papers, 360 pins in each paper. A single order from the largest stores usually calls for 100 cases, or nearly 50,000,000 pins.—New York Herald.

WAYS OF TURKISH CENSORS.

Violation of Their Rules Brings the Most Exemplary Punishment.

It is well for those having business with the Turks to have a good understanding of the laws and regulations in force in the sultan's domain if they would avoid trouble. An honest German merchant met with a sad adventure a few weeks ago on account of something which he had not dreamed of—violating the laws of the Turkish censor. The German was in the porcelain business, and the only thing that he ever thought of writing was entries in his ledger. But he got an order from a Turkish merchant for 25,000 coffee cups, and he filled it, and straightway he became a violator of literary laws. He had packed up the coffee cups in old German newspapers, and that settled it. The Turkish censor seized the whole shipment. He insisted on reading each newspaper, and only after he had become convinced that there was neither intention nor danger of smuggling insults of the sultan or of his harem into the country of the prophet was the shipment released. Now the German is wondering whether, if he packs his next shipment in straw, the Turkish censor will hold it up as being a reflection on his mental furniture.

ELOPEMENTS RARE IN FRANCE.

Parental Consent Required No Matter What the Age of Parties.

Elopecments are of very infrequent occurrence in France, a fact that is due in large measure to the peculiarity of the French law pertaining to marriages. Not only must the contracting parties—up to any age—have the written consent of their parents, but also in case of the death of their parents they must obtain the consent of their grandparents. Here is a case instanced by a correspondent whose friend Suzanne B. was engaged to Henri S. Both were orphans, yet it was several months before the ceremony could be performed because of the number of

papers and certificates which were necessary for the celebration of their nuptials. No less than fourteen certificates were absolutely indispensable, and Suzanne, as well as her fiance, was obliged to show in default of their parents' presence or written consent: First, her father's death certificate; second, her mother's death certificate; third, her father's father's death certificate; fourth, her father's mother's death certificate; fifth, her mother's mother's death certificate; sixth, her mother's birth certificate. Several months elapsed before all these papers could be got together.

When at last all was ready Suzanne B. appeared at the mairie and inquired when she might be married. "Have you the consent of your conseil de famille?" (family council, which regulates the affairs of orphans and minors) was the question. "No. My parents died intestate." "Then you can't be legally married." "But I have no conseil de famille." "Well, then, get one as soon as possible," was the reply. And poor Suzanne was forced to write to all her relatives in all corners of France—many of whom she had never seen—and ask them to come up to Paris to form a conseil de famille. After much expense, worry and trouble, not to speak of lawyers' fees, etc., the various members of the conseil de famille were at last collected together to give their consent to the marriage of Suzanne and Henri.



The French peasants who live near the sewage farms have entered a protest because of the contamination of their wells.

The population of the earth as estimated by Ernest George Ravenstein some few years ago for the Royal Geographical Society was 1,487,900,000.

The velocity of light is 192,000 miles in a second of time. From the sun light comes to the earth in eight minutes. From some of the fixed stars of the twelfth magnitude it takes four thousand years for the light to reach us.

In the London Hospital for Consumption the basis of treatment is rest in the open air, graduated exercise and good feeding. No window in the open-air ward is ever closed, and during the cold weather the consumptive patients are kept warm with extra clothing and artificial heat. It is encouraging to note that practically all the early cases and 70 per cent. of all cases improve considerably under the open-air system.

Last summer a Norwegian mariner, Captain Grondahl, succeeding in transporting two young musk-oxen alive from northeastern Greenland to Tromsø. These are said to be the first living specimens of their species ever brought to Europe. It is reported that they are doing well amid their new surroundings. The musk-ox, next to the white bear, is the largest land mammal inhabiting the Arctic regions. It attains a height of nearly, or quite, four feet, and is clothed by nature to endure extreme cold. During the Arctic summer musk-oxen become very fat from feeding upon the pasturage which grows in every sheltered spot, but in winter their long fasts make them gaunt and thin.

Morris Gibbs describes—what probably thousands of our readers have observed—the very curious hovering, or dancing, habit of a species of two-winged flies, which assemble in groups of from 20 to 100 or more, in some spot sheltered from the wind, and indulge in a fantastic dance for hours at a time. The motions consist of alternate rising and falling in periods of a few seconds, and over a distance varying from one to four feet. The insects seem to become so interested in their sport, if sport it is, that they cannot be driven away from one another, but immediately reform their companies when disturbed. Many species of insects have the habit of hovering in the air, some in parties only and some singly.

Recent experiments at Sheffield, England, suggest the possibility that in the twentieth century shields may once more form an important part of the equipment of an army. Steel shields, three millimetres in thickness and about 150 square inches in area, have been devised, which afford complete protection against bullets fired from the service rifle at a range of 400 yards. The small size of the shield, which weighs only seven pounds, requires that the soldier shall lie prone on the ground in order to be sheltered. Each shield has a loophole for the rifle, and studs at the side so that a series of them can be linked into a continuous screen. The idea is that by the use of such shields the necessity of digging trenches may often be avoided.

Big Apple Tree.

A few years ago there was on a farm near Stuart, Va., an apple tree which produced at one bearing 130 bushels. It shaded at meridian ninety feet of ground in diameter.

The most of our troubles are two-thirds anticipation and one-third realization.

THE FREIGHT BUSINESS.

It Is Not the Haphazard Thing Many Suppose.

Most people have an idea that freight is the last thing that railroads look after. Many profess to believe that a piece of freight once started on its journey is allowed to loaf along at its own sweet will and pleasure, stopping where it wishes and staying as long as it likes, and only bringing up at its destination when there is nowhere else to go.

When you have waited day after day for that piano which was shipped a month ago you are ready to adopt that opinion. But don't be in a hurry. When that piano box shows up in Poughkeepsie at the time it should be in Portland the Poughkeepsie agent does not uncase the instrument and give a series of box car recitals for the next two months. You may think he does, but he doesn't. Not a bit of it! There is no welcome anywhere for the wandering Willies of freightdom. No agent wishes to be caught with missing freight piled up in his yard or house. The truth of the matter is the railroads are continually punching it to move on.

It is an interesting study to see how the railroads handle their immense freight business. To the outsider a freight office seems like confusion worse confounded, but to the men who have been trained to the work it is all as simple as a problem in short division. No matter how far from home a car is it is always in touch with the home office. If the car has had bad luck and one of its trucks is sprained the home office knows about it and sends an order to have it placed in the nearest car hospital and doctored up to working condition. The office knows just what the car is earning, and if it thinks its traveling expenses are getting too big it shifts its route or calls it home. It is only once in a while that a car gets away from the home office altogether, and when one does there is no sleep for any one till the runaway is found and started in the right direction.

After you have listened to a freight agent's description of the elaborate plans to look after freight, you will marvel that a single package ever goes astray.

But—the man who is waiting for that piano knows that it does.—Lewiston Journal.

The Land of the Lazy.

"In a late sojourn in Honduras," said L. B. Givens to a Washington Post reporter, "I came to the conclusion that it was a paradise for a lazy man. Everything grows luxuriantly, with but little labor on the part of the natives, and many crops do not need replanting more than once in eight or ten years. The country offers fine inducements to enterprising men, but it is hard for a white man used to civilized ways to go down there and dwell among an ignorant lot of natives who are 100 years behind the times. A man would have no congenial society, and might as well be in exile. The natives usually live in bamboo houses, though in the towns the dwellings are of adobe. Children go naked for the first two or three years of their life, and the attire of the adults is rather scant. The Government is liberal with concessions in order to encourage the development of the country's resources, but there is no general rule governing the granting of privileges; it all depends on how good a bargain may be driven. The climate is very salubrious, and laziness is about the only prevailing disease."

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"Then talk around," replied the father.—Savannah News.

Put His Foot in It.

Miss Fisher—I really don't think I shall take part again in theatricals. I always feel as though I were making a fool of myself.

Pikins (who always says the wrong thing)—Oh, everybody thinks that.—Harlem Life.