

LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER

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TOLEDO OREGON

Will the pedestrian finally be compelled to equip himself with a gong?

The latest deceased epicure left recipes for no less than fifty soups and how to get into them.

Henceforth the story of the average Methodist minister's wife will not be such a moving one.

Two Texas cowboys who fought a duel with Winchester escaped arrest, but the coroner got them both.

The owners of the land in Pennsylvania where successful wells have been driven struck oil practically and financially.

Two American vaudeville companies have sailed for Manila with a few kegs of salted coon songs and pickled jokes of the 1899 vintage.

As a recognition of the progress of women's rights the old expression, "Paste this in your hat," has been changed to "Stick this in your millinery."

Automobiles and bicycles may come and go, but they won't starve out the horse. These shows he's having indicate he'll never be without a bit in his mouth.

Love's goddess, all-compelling Venus, being born of the waves is not so much a symbol of the summer girl's effectiveness, as that sea power must rule the world.

An Italian scientist announces that dreams are inherited. People who have the nightmare may, therefore, conclude that away back somewhere their ancestors were hostlers or jockeys.

The appellate division of the Supreme Court of New York has decided that, despite the decision of a jury, six cents is not to be accepted as the value of a life or a boy killed by a trolley car.

Dr. Edward Everett Hale, who is an alumnus of Harvard College, braved Boston and all its classical perils the other day by saying in a lecture that for half a century Harvard College had a fashion for teaching fads.

Many of the officers now in the Philippines, who were appointed from civil life because they had a "pull," are now ready to admit that the fellows who lacked influence and had to stay at home are the fortunate ones, after all.

Two men emptied their pistols at each other in Chicago without hitting any innocent bystanders. Experience seems to be counting for something here, at last. In this case the innocent bystanders ran with all their might as soon as the shooting began.

Subscriptions are being raised to provide a home for sick and indigent actors and actresses. We suggest that it be located somewhere near the geographical center of the country, so that the winking distance to it may be about the same from all sides.

In view of the amazing delirium of Great Britain over her victories in South Africa, it is to be hoped that we have heard the last of the sickening cant about the calmness of the British character in adversity and prosperity. The Briton as he is painted by British journalists is a myth. The reality is very much as other men. There is nothing discreditible in the patriotic emotions of the masses and the masses, so why should the publicists keep on prating about a stoicism which is unknown, invisible?

Must the Japanese "go" too? Ten thousand of them are said to have landed on our Pacific coast during the first three weeks of April, and for several months they have been arriving at the rate of a hundred thousand a year, ten times the normal immigration. Some are known to be contract laborers, and will be deported; others, later on, may wish they, too, had been sent back. It is suggested that many of them flee to this country because they fear war between Japan and Russia; but probably, if they had heard the story of a certain labor war in which the Chinese once figured, they would have preferred to take their chances at home.

Those who travel much will be interested in some statements of the Financial Chronicle regarding the passenger cars which railroads now regard as most desirable. They will be glad to learn that "the modern passenger car is being developed into an armored car—armored not to make it bullet proof but collision proof. The damage and risk to life must be minimized to the most perfect degree possible in case of a collision; and by increasing the resistance at the ends this can best be accomplished. So great has

been progressive development along these lines that it is now the passenger car, not the locomotive, which is likely in the event of a collision to escape with the least damage. The telescoping of such cars becomes almost a structural impossibility." When such cars are in general use all the traveler will have to do will be to sit tight and "let 'er rip," secure in the knowledge that any bull-headed locomotive that tackles his train will get the worst of it.

If the allegations made by an Indiana clergyman in the suit he has brought in court are correct the sympathy of most people will be with him. He is pastor of a church, to which he was called in December, 1898. The trustees agreed to pay him \$100 a month, which he was to receive monthly. The pastor has performed his share of the contract. He has preached regularly twice each Sunday, has conducted a weekly prayer meeting as well as other church assemblies, and he has devoted his time to consoling his parishioners in seasons of distress and visiting the sick and afflicted. But he has received no salary for more than a year. The officers of the church contend that they cannot afford to pay him his stipend, but the Rev. Mr. Williams has brought suit against the trustees, claiming that it is their business to see the funds are provided from which his salary is to be paid. He says that he proposes to "teach his flock that it is a part of religion to pay the preacher." The lesson is one that is needed if the stories current among ministers have any ground. There are scores of ministers who fail to receive their salary regularly, and in many churches the janitor is much surer of getting his pay. It requires a great deal of moral courage for a preacher to bring a suit such as has been brought by the Indiana man, but there can be no doubt that he should win if the facts are as stated.

So much has been written—and well written, it may be added—on old age and longevity that it is difficult to say anything absolutely new upon this always interesting subject. Dr. Cyrus Edson, in an address on the topic "The Causes of Natural Death and How to Attain an Active and Useful Old Age," at least succeeded in giving emphasis to one requirement in regard to longevity. According to the New York physician rapid thought, other things being equal, is conducive to longevity. From this cause men in cities have an advantage over the farmer, though the latter from his open-air life often attains old age. "Not only is a well-balanced mind essential to old age," said Dr. Edson, "but a well-balanced, active mind." The point is one well worth emphasizing. There are many things tending to a "green old age," or, as Adam in "As You Like It," defined his, "a lusty winter." Some of these, as Dr. Edson pointed out, have reference to the calling or vocation, whether merchant, lawyer, farmer, physician, editor, writer or common laborer, etc. The business or pursuit, in other words, may have in its requirements influence to lengthen or shorten the life of the one who follows it. His own habits of diet, exercise, work, recreation, etc., are also important, but the one factor running through all these and making in all circumstances for longevity is the "well-balanced, active mind." Lear was unwise for reasons Shakspeare so well portrays in endeavoring "to shake all cares and business from our age." He could not have been happy or have lived to a great age, however kind his daughters might have been to him, for he lacked the well-balanced mind, and he attempted to remove all necessity for mental activity. While age should not be compelled to concern itself with the struggles of life such as are appropriate to youth, it should not look forward to calm as the highest enjoyment in store for it. Cato learned Greek at 80, but he was probably on earth at that time chiefly because of the well-balanced, alert mind that accepted no goal as the measure of its activity and acquisitions. As Longfellow in his "Morituri Salutamus" says:

Age is opportunity no less
Than youth itself, though in another dress.

Father of Forty-one Children.
In the town of Foster, R. I., resides Levi Bresson, a well-to-do French-Canadian farmer, who arose from his bed on a recent morning to find that his forty-first child had been born. Thirty-six of the children are living, and they are all worthy citizens of various parts of the Union and Canada. The present Mrs. Bresson is Levi's third wife, and each of the three has a good family to her credit. Wife No. 2 gave birth to three sets of triplets. No. 1 had several pair of twins, and the present wife bids fair to keep up with those who have gone before. Many of the thirty-six living children have families of their own. Eight of the grandchildren of Levi have families also, and none of those seen could give any kind of an idea how many grandchildren and great-grandchildren Levi Bresson has. He owns considerable good farming property.

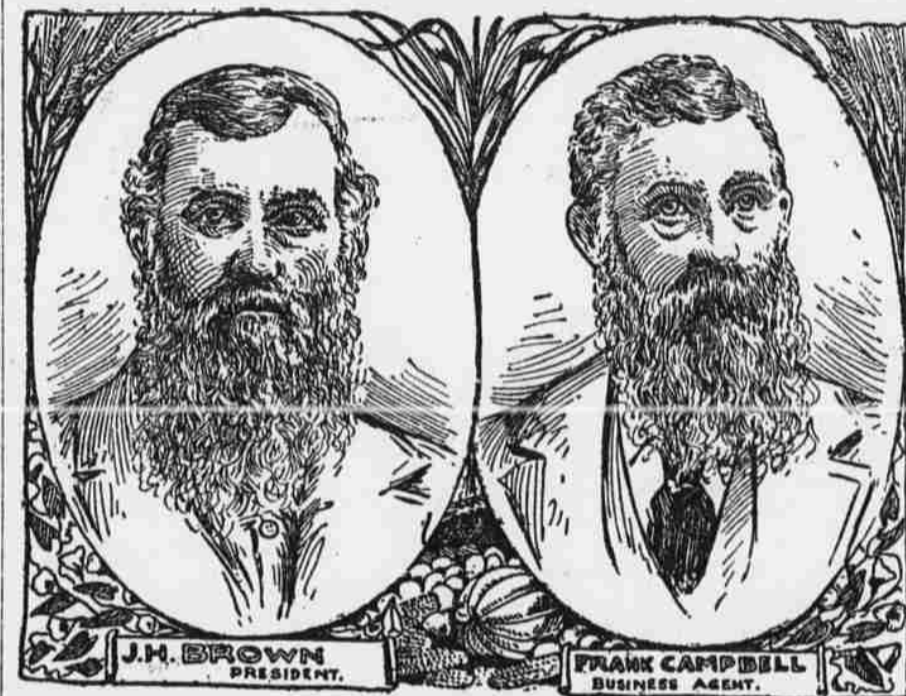
Some men are successful because they have too few friends, and some because they have too many.

IDEA FOR FARMERS.

THE CO-OPERATIVE COLONY OF ROCKWELL, IOWA.

Nearly Six Hundred Farmers Combined Twelve Years Ago—Plain Business, with No Philosophy, Creed, Politics Nor Factions.

Co-operative living without community life; active practice in buying in the cheapest market and selling in the highest; without a common religion, common politics or daily association—all the elements that control "the new idea for farmers," as comprised in a model co-operative colony at Rockwell, Iowa. Here 600 farmers combined twelve years ago, eliminating all middlemen, starting out on the basis of



plain business, with no philosophy, creed, politics nor factions, and their scheme is described as a success.

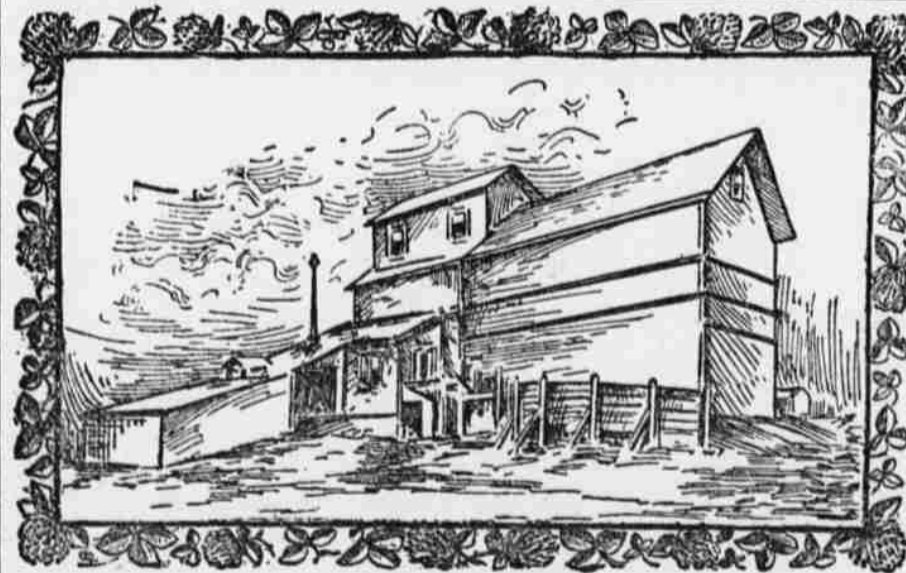
Rockwell is eleven miles south of Mason City, on the Iowa Central Railroad. Twelve years ago the community now centering there adopted a basic principle of co-operation not following "trust" lines. The association was not conducted for profit, but the cardinal doctrine of the society was this: The middleman is always an instrument of injustice toward the buyer and the seller. The character of the competition of the association with the private stores in Rockwell has been such that the population of the town



THE CO-OPERATIVE OFFICE.

has doubled since 1888, and the business last year aggregated nearly \$400,000. The association now controls two grain elevators, a lumber yard and a supply house of paint, oils, salt, fish and other commodities. How all this prosperity has been brought about is an interesting story. A strong sentiment that has been enunciated by an active member well covers the theme: "The only tie that binds us together is that of financial need. We have nothing else in common. Aside from financial need, each farmer in our association walks his own way."

Rockwell has a population of 1,000. A farming community of several thou-



THE ROCKWELL ELEVATOR.

sands surrounds it. The village was once Lynn Grove. The soil is fat and rich; corn is produced in abundance; also wheat, rye, oats and timothy. Hogs thrive in the region, as do beef cattle, and many fine horses are bred. The community is made up of Germans, Irish, some Americans, some Scotch, no Scandinavians. There is a school-house every two miles in the country, and weekly and daily newspapers are liberally taken. Works on communism,

socialism, community life or social democracy are not found in the homes or the store places. Rockwell is practical, and common sense has made it so.

Twelve years ago the farmers in and about Rockwell decided to become merchants and grain dealers. At that time two brothers owned the main store of the town, charged what prices they liked, and had a practical monopoly on trade, such as exists in hundreds of country towns. The farmers protested against the rates current, but the merchants pointed to the long railroad haul, to the capitalist jobbers of the big cities. A fight was started to battle the wrong use of money and power with the right use of money and power. The farmers of Rockwell incorporated under the title of the Farmers' Incorporated Co-operative Society. The limit on the capital stock was not less than \$1,000, and no more than \$25,000, the shares being \$10 each. No member

was allowed to own more than ten shares, and had only one vote in the conduct of affairs. Only "practical farmers" were admitted. A business agent was appointed, and the start made to put in store such goods as were wanted. The manufacturing companies objected to allowing a community to buy at wholesale and sell at the same prices. The result was that the association turned farther away from home trade centers until they found concerns that would sell to them. Each farmer reports the amount of his sales on honor, and pays a certain percentage that enables the liquidation of association expenses. When the company has a surplus of profits the same runs at a 6 per cent. interest rate. In 1899 the expenses of the society were \$6,007, of which \$2,092 was paid to the business agent and his clerks. In permanent improvements \$1,236 was invested. The same year the liabilities of the society amounted to \$10,677.55, and the assets to \$22,131, represented by lumber, grain and seeds, elevator property and cash. In 1897 the assets exceeded the liabilities by \$6,459. Nearly half a million bushels of grain were handled, the volume of business generally reaching up to nearly \$300,000.

To demonstrate how business may be done, it is stated that the association sees to it that the lowest shipping rates are secured, that grain is sold only when the highest rate can be obtained, and that the home elevator charges and facilities are made so as to favor members always. In the store a member buys a sack of flour, for instance. He gets it for 95 cents, or at a profit to the society of 2 1/2 cents. If a non-society member buys it, he pays \$1.05. Outside of Rockwell it would cost him \$1.25. The illustration shows the effect of co-operation has on Rockwell prices. If the society price of corn is 31 cents, and track agents offer 33 cents, the member selling at the latter figure turns in one-quarter of a cent to the association for every bushel sold.

According to recent reports, Rockwell is handling more grain than any interior point in Iowa. The people are prosperous, the motto of the society is "Honesty among ourselves, small profits and large sales." Nothing can destroy the society but individual dishonesty. As to expansion of their trade, members do not believe in it. They have an elevator capacity amounting to 65,000 bushels, a lumber yard, a fine office and good storage sheds. Their

advice to communities is to imitate, not join the original body.

Thomas Chappell and R. H. Dickson were among the original incorporators of the association. J. H. Brown is its present President, and Frank Campbell the business agent. No saloon exists in the town, churches are plentiful, law and order is visible everywhere. There is no philosophizing, no theories—it is all cold-blooded, practical business. The main officers and directors receive no salary, and the dividends paid are given out in stock. A clean-posted ledger shows what a few hard-headed farmers can do in the matter of selling their products for an honest price, and buying their supplies at the lowest figure. Rockwell is an interest point for any practical co-operator to visit and study. Twelve years of success, without extermination of competition, mark the history of the little village—a place of peace and real, not political nor legislative, prosperity.

HAIR TELLS OF NATIVITY.

Results of Observation by Hotel Clerks and Commercial Travelers.

Commercial travelers, and no men it is said are better judges of character, claim that they can always tell to what part of the country a man belongs, and this by looking only at his hair. They say that in Kentucky the hair is worn long behind, so long that it is caught over the ears, permitting the oft-repeated gesture of smoothing it with the fingers as the wearer talks to you. The ends are cut square, and the fashion requires a certain amount of pomade to keep it in place. This gloss is imperative. In Indiana, they claim, it is worn equally as long, but with the ends curled in about the neck almost touching the collar. Further West, across the Rockies, and in the southwest, especially in Texas—where barbers are scarce, or were scarce when the fashion was set—the hair is worn cowboy fashion, loose over the shoulders, the untrimmed ends flying in the winds. In the Eastern States, however, and along the whole Eastern border of the country, except in North Carolina where among the cornercrackers it grows wild, the hair is cropped short, especially behind, where it is shingled evenly from the top of the head to the neck.

Hotel clerks add to this knowledge of the hair one of the wearer's shoes. It makes all the difference in the world whether they are square, pointed or round. Each fashion proclaims a district of its own. Patent leather shoes with extremely pointed toes belong to the South; while people from the North and West wear square toes and heavy shoes. These fashions, however, are due more to climatic conditions than to local tastes.—Harper's Bazar.

Japanese Imitation.

The Japanese are almost universally condemned by writers for the imitation practiced by them of late years of Western literature, art, science and invention. And yet this imitation seems natural and right. Imagine, if possible, the nation of Japan leaping across the civilization of hundreds of years in half a century. Think of her emerging from the darkness of the middle ages and standing suddenly forth in the light of the nineteenth century. Would it not have been worse than madness for her to have said, "This new civilization is better than ours, yet we will not imitate it. We will retain our originality, and perhaps in ages to come we shall reach the enlightened state now enjoyed by the rest of the world."

But fortunately the Japanese did not say this, but gave themselves up to the acquisition of the wonderful stores of knowledge opened to them.—Lippincott's.

A Dry Niagara.

A few miles southeast of Syracuse, N. Y., in a cavity whose bottom is 220 feet below the surface of the adjacent upland, lies Jamesville lake, a body of water 500 feet in diameter and sixty feet in depth. Eastward from the lake extends a gorge through which flows Butternut creek. Professor Queereau of Syracuse says that in former times a river flowed here and that Jamesville lake is the pool that was formed under a great waterfall. Steep cliffs rise around it on three sides, and "all the features of a dry Niagara are here disclosed in great detail."

Damascus Sword.

It is but seldom that a real good specimen of the Damascus sword can be obtained, for the art of working and engraving this kind of steel is dead. These swords are made of alternate layers of iron and steel, so finely tempered that the blade would bend to the hilt without breaking. The weapons had edges so keen that no coat of mail could resist them, and surfaces so highly polished that when a Moslem wished to rearrange his turban he used his sword for a looking-glass.

Harmonious Bicycle.

The latest thing "made in Germany" is a "harmonious bicycle." This terrible invention is constructed to grind out 500 tunes, and has been given the name of "Il Trovatore." The contrivance is fixed to the handle bar, is worked by the front wheel, and will play for an hour while the cyclist is pedaling at a speed of ten miles.