

LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER

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TOLEDO OREGON

Without you, gentle reader, the recorded population of the United States would be only 76,205,219.

At the present rate of increase the population of the United States will be 100,000,000 long before the census of 1920.

The man who sells his vote is doing, on a small scale, exactly what Benedict Arnold did in a more conspicuous way.

Teller Alvord seems to have proceeded on the practical principle that it is just as well to get a plenty while you are getting.

A story is told of a wealthy young Englishman who was cured of blindness on his wedding day. With most men it takes longer.

You can tell a man by the books he reads. In the valise of Alvord, the \$700,000 bank thief, were found "In Luck at Last," "Kidnaped," "A Study in Scarlet," and "Around the World in Eighty Days."

It seems like "old times come again once more" to read of battles with Carlisle in Spain. These reactionaries spring up like weeds, and nobody outside the land of the grantees seems to know the why or wherefore.

A collection of political curiosities would properly include President Pierce's Cabinet, the only one in the history of the country which remained unchanged during the four years of an administration. It is remarkable that the cabinet of Lord Salisbury, which consists of nineteen members, has not suffered a single change in the five years since the summer of 1895, when the present government took office.

Women earn their daily bread in almost every branch of human industry. Women make or help to make coffins, bricks, tiles, sewer pipes, tools, boxes, barrels, furniture. They are in all the professions; they are stockholders and partners in various kinds of business, and as to the more conventional occupations of women they are galore. In the more unusual ways we have had a woman anthropologist, a woman forger, women who mine and women who deal in stocks. One woman spent fifty years making a bead house and lately was found dead with her unfinished work before her.

The real "yellow peril" will be present when the Chinese are awakened to the full knowledge of the resources of their empire and have their attention strongly directed to manufacturing. What the civilized world has most to fear is the arousing of China from her present lethargic condition to a realization of the possibilities within her reach. The Chinese are industrious and thrifty. They are willing to work and to work for small wages. They can easily be taught to do almost anything. They quickly become expert operatives in cotton factories and it would not be difficult to teach them to be skillful workmen in all kinds of manufacturing.

To tread on the British lion's tail and make him roar for joy is an exploit worthy of the cleverest Frenchman. At a recent dinner of a London literary club where "Max O'Rell" presided, G. A. Henty, an old African war correspondent, made a vigorous speech, and at its close some one demanded a toast for South Africa. Monsieur Blouet, who favors the Boers, was in a delicate position, but his wit and courage never faltered. He proposed, "God save South Africa!" and the toast was drunk and applauded tremendously. Of course Monsieur Blouet cherished a "mental reservation"—that South Africa should be saved from England instead of to England; but doubtless he is gratefully loyal at least to the English language, which offered him the means to conceal his thought.

Samuel Stoltz, of St. Louis, left his home in Russia twelve years ago to come to America. A wife and six children remained in the old country, Stoltz having only enough money to pay his own passage. He said he would send for them when he had "made his fortune." But fortune came slowly to the peasant emigrant. He was compelled to send for the brood in installments. As soon as he had enough money he sent for one of the children. One by one the youngsters dared the ocean perils to go to father in America. The wife was the last to come. Recently she arrived in St. Louis and the family was reunited. Learn a lesson of patience, constancy and devotion, oh ye prosperous. What think ye? Have you the courage, the endurance, the high spirit of overcoming hardships and of hope long deferred of this Russian peasant? If not, keep still. Your belongings are out of place.

Dr. Arthur MacDonald and Dr. Ella B. Everitt, of Washington, D. C., after

being engaged to each other for a while, have come to the conclusion that one's career is of more importance than the "accident" of marriage. Dr. MacDonald says professional women should not give up their pursuits to marry, and Dr. Ella quite agrees with him. That it is possible to marry without abandoning one's career can be proved by modern instances. Edith Sessions Tupper, for instance, has done more and better newspaper work since she got married than before, and her husband has had remarkable success in his career. Mrs. Mary Ellen Lease is also an example of a career-following woman whom matrimony could not balk of her aims. To turn one's back on Cupid for the sake of science, art or literature is to mistake means for ends. Cupid does not exist for the sake of science. Science, art, literature and the other things we pursue in careers are but the handmaids of Cupid. When the right person of the other sex turns up, both of these career-loving doctors will recognize this fact.

The United States, which was a country of inferior cities up to the time of the Civil War, is now rapidly becoming the country of great cities. By 1890 the urban tendency had grown so marked that our larger towns outnumbered those of the British Isles. We had twenty-seven cities with a population of more than 100,000 each, against the twenty-six of Great Britain and Ireland, and we had fifteen against fifteen containing a population of more than 200,000 each. Of course there has been an increase in the old country since, but it is equally certain that we have increased our lead. Of cities of more than 200,000 population it is possible that there are now eighteen in Great Britain and Ireland, while we have nineteen, and one of these, Greater New York, represents a combination of two which counted separately in 1890. Then, too, our cities of over 100,000 have increased to thirty-eight, which must leave the islands hopelessly in the rear. The towns containing 25,000 inhabitants and more now number 159, as against 124 in 1896, a gain of about 20 per cent, and one which indicates that there is no such concentration of industries in a few hands as to prevent a wide distribution of business. But it is naturally the older sections of the country which have the greater number of these populous places, just as it is natural that England should have more large cities than New York State. The proportions given are 51.3 per cent for the North Atlantic division, 30.8 per cent for the north central division and 17.9 per cent for the southern, western and Pacific coast divisions. In time the west and far west will approximate the gains of the east, since the conditions along the same degrees of latitude should grow to be very similar with the increase of population. The country which had but a little more than 3,000,000 people when the republic was established, and which is still reckoned as a wilderness by many foreigners, needs but a few years in which to far surpass all records for urban population. It will have to be compared not with other countries but with continents, and it will be a marvelous and inspiring spectacle to see such a great population of one speech and one flag, bound together by the closest ties and enjoying the most perfect political liberty, equality and authority that were ever conferred upon the citizens of any land.

The Girl and Her Vocation.

"The future wage-earning girl should have in her mind during the latter part of her school life the selection of her profession," writes Margaret E. Sangster in the Ladies' Home Journal. "I think it well for her, too, very frequently, but with intention, to cast about among her friends for suggestions, to ask the kind offices of one and another, and to make known her need of immediate employment so soon as she leaves school. Many good positions are lost because of indecision, or false pride, or unwisdom reticence on the part of those who seek them. The mental attitude of the girl in search of employment should be neither indifferent nor patronizing; she should set in motion every legitimate means, and let those who may be able to assist her know something of her situation. They can help, and she can seek with much greater hope of success if the goal in view be something definite."

Poison in Growing Pineapples.

The juice of the green and growing pineapple is accredited in Java, the Philippines and throughout the far East generally with being a blood poison of a most deadly nature. It is said to be the substance with which the Malays poison their kreeses and daggers, and also the "fingernail" poison formerly in use among the aborigine Japanese women almost universally. These women cultivated a nail on each hand to a long, sharp point, and the least scratch from one of these was certain death.

What He Writes.

Miss Wunder—They say Mr. Longhore writes for the magazines. I wonder what he writes.

Mr. Soudropp—Oh, he writes, "Please send me a sample copy."—Baltimore American.

If ignorance is bliss it must be folly to be otherwise.

NEW CENTER OF POPULATION.

Census Officials Place Incribed Board on a Farm Near Columbus, Ind.

Ten years ago the census bureau located the center of population of the United States eighteen miles east of Columbus, Ind., just over the line in Decatur County, near Westport, 39 degrees 11 minutes and 50 seconds west latitude and 85 degrees 32 minutes and 53 seconds north longitude. Since 1890 the center of population has shifted a little to the north and a little to the west. It is still in the State of Indiana, not far from Columbus, in the southern central part of the State.

The center of population is the center of gravity of the population of the country, each individual being assumed to have the same weight. The method of determining that center is as follows: The population of the country is first distributed by "square degrees," as the area included between consecutive parallels and meridians is designated. A point is then assumed tentatively as the center, and the corre-

wish to represent themselves as older than they are, while those who have passed their teens cling to the age of youth to the extent of even deceiving the census enumerators. Young ladies who are sensitive on the subject of their ages fear that the enumerator, who generally lives in their neighborhood and frequently knows them, will "blab" their ages to all the marriageable young men and perhaps interfere with some attachment that bids fair to ripen into mellow love. The fact is, the enumerator, as a rule, is perfectly callous to the significance of the census figures and forgets them as soon as he records them. In Cuba 19 is equivalent to 25 years in the age of a young lady living in the northern portion of the United States.

The last census showed that in the United States there was an excess of girls between 15 and 19 years, but this age, as the favorite of young ladies, is the general average of north and south. If the statistics could be compiled separately it is thought by census experts that the Northern States would

many Germans, as in some of the cities of the Northwest, we sell but little chewing gum. The young people like it, but the old people won't let them use it. I have seen many a boy spanked by his German mother for using chewing gum."

The American Parlor.

"We have a prevalent folly of setting aside a room in our houses which we very rarely use," writes Edward Bok, protesting, in the Ladies' Home Journal, against the bad taste exercised in furnishing our homes. "If means are at our command we crowd such a room full of puny gilt chairs, upon which no one dares to sit; on the walls we hang impossible paintings, with equally impossible, massive gold frames; an 'elegant' sofa upholstered in silk or satin, with a gilded frame, is introduced; a gold clock which never runs is put on a mantel of solid onyx; a 'Chippendale' cabinet is added—which always harmonizes so superbly with a Louis XV. sofa or chair—and we have what we call a 'drawing-room.' If we are of

MAP SHOWING WESTWARD MOVEMENT OF THE POPULATION'S CENTER.



tions in latitude and longitude to this tentative position are computed. In 1890 the center was assumed to be at the intersection of the parallel of 39 degrees, with the meridian of 86 degrees west of Greenwich. This would have made the center of population of the United States just two miles due north of Seymour, in Jackson County, Ind. From this assumed base the verifications were made and the true center was located.

The movement of the center has been steadily westward. On the accompanying map its unwavering march toward the west, with occasional dips to the south and the north, is shown. In 1790 it was east of Baltimore twenty miles. In ten years it had moved forty miles westward. The annexation of Louisiana brought it south and west, and in 1820 it was sixteen miles north of Woodstock, Va. In 1840 the pioneers of the West brought it north, and in 1850 it had moved south again. Texas had come into the Union. The growth of the great West had switched it back to the north in 1860, and it was near Chillicothe, Ohio. War reduced the population of the South in the decade between 1860 and 1870, and the center moved north near to Cincinnati. In another decade it had cleared Cincinnati in its westward progress, and in 1870 it had settled in central southern Indiana. The past ten years has carried the center westward about twenty miles and northward about seven miles.

Upon information given out by Government Census Director Merriam, a party at Columbus by mathematical calculations located the center of population in a wheat field on the farm of Frank Wright, nine miles north of the city and one and a half miles north of Taylorsville, in the southwest corner of the northeast quarter, section 15, town 10, range 5 east. An inscribed board marks the spot.

LIE TO THE CENSUS TAKER.

Women and Boys Misrepresent Their Ages from Different Motives.

Feminine vanity, as it is related to the desire to be esteemed young, and boyish ambition to attain the manly and voting age of 21 years, are plainly shown in census figures. This is no new revelation in the taking of the twelfth census, but it is an old tendency which has been shown by the figures of the past censuses of the United States, as well as of other countries. It has again been exemplified in the figures relating to the census of Cuba. A study of the statistics of Cuba has shown an excessive number of females between the ages of 15 and 19 years, inclusive, when compared with the number of males of that age. It looked, in fact, as if there were a good many thousands of girls of that age in Cuba who would never find mates in life and who would end their days in single blessedness simply because there were so many of them compared to the youths who were growing up with them. That is what the figures would appear to indicate to the layman, but to the census expert they mean something else. They simply mean that girls below the age of 15

show the favorite age to be two to three years older, while in the south it would probably be a year or so younger.

The census statistics of England show an excess of women between 20 and 24 years of age, which indicates the favorite age of ladies in that country. The degree of error which is introduced into census figures by this systematic fibbing of young ladies about their ages is readily and unmistakably detected.

In the case of the young men the number of those who are shown by the statistics of the United States to be 21 is far in excess of what it could be, according to the number of those who are under and above that age. This is simply the result of ambitious youth to reach the voting age. In Cuba, where expectation of voting has not been nourished by the boy all his life and induced a preference of 21 as a desirable age, the last census showed no excess of men of that age.

GOOD CHEWING-GUM TOWNS.

Salesman Says They Are Most 'y in the West and Northwest.

J. J. Amend, traveling representative of one of the largest chewing-gum manufacturing companies in the United States, expressed surprise, in speaking to a New Orleans Times-Democrat reporter, that the establishment of a chewing-gum factory at that point is talked of.

"It is true that much of the gum we use comes by way of New Orleans, in its raw state, from the tropics," he said, "but I can see no other reason for putting up a factory here. I don't believe sugar is any cheaper here than it is in the North, and glucose is no cheaper, if as cheap. Then this is a very poor market, locally, for chewing gum."

"Why is that?" "I don't know the reason, but it is a fact, nevertheless. Why, I know lots of towns in other parts of the country that use ten times as much chewing gum—yes, fifty times as much—as New Orleans, and they are not nearly as big as this city, either."

"Where's the best market for chewing gum in the United States?"

"All west and north of St. Louis. Lots of gum is sold throughout Kansas, Nebraska, the Dakotas, and Minnesota. Kansas City is a great town for it."

"How about Chicago?"

"Oh, Chicago is one of the greatest chewing-gum cities in the country. Chicago has gone ahead of New York in this respect. New York used to be a great town for it, and one couldn't go anywhere in the city without seeing girls working their jaws as if their lives depended on it. But the caricaturists and the paragraphists made such fun of the habit that a good many of the girls stopped chewing, and the sales fell off very heavily. Boston was a pretty good gum town at one time, but never so good as our Western cities."

"As a rule, the newer the city the better the chewing-gum trade in it. In an old city, like New Orleans, the people don't seem to take to the habit at all. The French element here hurts us, for the French are not gum chewers. The Germans don't chew gum, either. In some of the places where there are

moderate means, then we make the 'drawing-room' as closely resemble one in some wealthy home we know of as possible, only with limited means we must purchase cheaper articles. Then, we have as good an example of the showroom of a cheap furniture store as it is possible to obtain. If we are poor, then we set around stiffly four or five black haircloth chairs; we put a marble-top table with a plush-album on it in the center; a haircloth sofa which no can possibly stick on; a Franklin stove that is never lighted; we hang a wreath of wax flowers in a glass case on the walls; a carpet riotous with the most gorgeous roses is put on the floor, and then, after we have carefully pulled down every shade in the room, so as to exclude God's pure sunshine and get a nice, musty and cemeterial smell in the room, we have what we call, in America, a parlor. And in either case we have a 'best room,' so best that we never use it, and people shown into it are always glad to get out of it. But we have a 'drawing-room,' or a 'parlor,' and, in the minds of some, without such a room no house is complete."

King Oscar Was His Host.

A story illustrating the simple bonhomie of the King of Sweden and Norway is told by M. Gaston Bonnier, the botanist. M. Bonnier was botanizing near Stockholm, when he met a stranger similarly occupied. The two botanists fraternized, and M. Bonnier suggested that they should lunch together at an inn.

"No; come home and lunch with me instead," said the stranger; and he led the way to the palace and opened the gate.

M. Bonnier was naturally astonished, but his new acquaintance was most apologetic.

"I'm sorry," he said, "but I happen to be the king of this country, and this is the only place I've got to entertain anybody in." So they went in and lunched, and talked botany together all the afternoon.

Zangwill's Estimate of Fame.

Israel Zangwill, the Jewish novelist, wrote his first book when he was a student at London University. The effort occupied four evenings—he always works in spurts—and he and a friend paid £10 to have the tale published in pamphlet form. It sold well at a penny a copy! One little shop in Whitechapel alone sold 600 copies, and it even got on to Smith's bookstalls. Zangwill's advice to would-be authors shows that he has not made a name without suffering. He says: "If you are blessed with talent, great industry and conceit, it is possible, by dint of slaving day and night for years during the flower of your youth, to attain to fame infinitely less widespread than a prize fighter's."

When people say they will do anything in the world for you, they mean about as much as a candidate when he says his ambition is to serve his country and his countrymen.

Why doesn't someone build a monument to the man who was able to keep his mouth shut