

## LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER.

CHAS. F. & ADA E. SOULE, Pubs.

TOLEDO.....OREGON.

There is a demand for an enlightening work on "How to Be Happy Though an ex-President."

We wish Mr. Wu joy in his efforts to solve our race problem for us. At any rate, he can tell us some very true things about the outrage of lynching.

Fashion is beginning to comport with good sense in one particular. A Washington fashion expert says small contracted waists are no longer fashionable.

It has been discovered that some of the young Vanderbilts pay taxes on nearly a sixteenth of their possessions. Obviously they lack the genius of their progenitors.

New ruins are being discovered in Rome, but so far no proof has been brought to show that some dealer in antiquities did not manufacture them in his cellar.

A Pennsylvania man and woman who have been engaged for fifty-seven years have decided to get married. We hope he has thorough confidence in his ability to support a family.

The country needs an author with the genius of Mrs. Stowe to write a book which shall do for the lynching evil what "Uncle Tom's Cabin" did for negro slavery in the South.

Speaking of Senator Davis, his colleague, Senator Hoar, said: "No spark from his wit was ever a clinder in the eye of a friend." Both as a tribute of friendship and as an epigram Senator Hoar's sentence deserves to live.

Alvord, the bank embezzler, has been sentenced to thirteen years in the penitentiary. Good conduct may cut this down to about ten years. Alvord's stealings amounted to nearly \$700,000, or almost \$70,000 a year for the term that he will have to serve. The punishment is not severe enough to restrain other men from committing similar offenses.

One Sunday evening a rough-cast man rose in the Reform Club meeting, and said: "I believe in owning up. When I get into trouble by making a fool of myself, or by letting somebody else lead me out of the way, I ain't goin' to shirk the blame. I am goin' to take my own load on my own shoulders. I shall just speak up and say, 'I, Bill Pike, did that!' There's an example, as well as a rebuke, for several kinds of whimpering sinners, in high places and low.

No reform would ever have been accomplished if the element of self-interest had been wholly eliminated. Every advance in the direction of popular government has been due to the dissatisfaction of men with existing conditions and their determination to get more out of life than had been allotted them under monarchical institutions. So, also, with the trusts. When the people of the United States feel that they have the "losing end of the transaction" they will, purely as a matter of self-interest, apply the remedy which they may conceive to be most effective.

After a recent contest it came out that in some instances the struggling athletes were sustained by the use of arsenic, strychnine and nitroglycerine. The winner in a close trial may triumph because the trainer has been judicious in administering tonic drugs. But does not the pharmaceutical road to victory seem less attractive than the old way which led through physical strength and skill unaided by the stimulants which medicine offers? There is a modernness about the possibility of being beaten by a sixteenth of a grain of strychnine, which to earlier athletes would have brought both wonder and regret.

One of the most astonishing achievements of the Victoria era is the rapidity with which news is transmitted. The New York Herald finds, in looking over its files of 1837, that when William IV. died (June 20) and the young Victoria was awakened and saluted as Queen, the news of the King's death was brought to this country by the packet ship St. James, hailing from London, and did not reach New York until forty-five days after the event. Contrast that tedious delay with the posting of physicians' bulletins and state proclamations in America, Australia, and India almost before the ink with which they were written at Osborn or London was dry! Even Shakespeare's Puck was slow when he proposed to "put a girdle round about the earth in forty minutes." Sixty-three years from now will our methods of transmission be considered as slow and antiquated as we consider those of sixty-three years ago?

The cadets at West Point Military Academy, realizing the storm of indignation that gathered as a result of the

Investigations concerning hazing, have voluntarily signed a pledge to abandon entirely that practice which has brought the institution so much discredit. The cadets have done well. The military academy belongs to the people and not to the cadets. The cadets are not even patrons of the academy. The people are the patrons. Students attending other institutions where they pay tuition may be said to be patrons of those institutions. The cadets at West Point pay no tuition. The people pay for their education and pay the cadets a salary besides. Therefore the people have a right to dictate how the academy shall be run as the managers of no other institution have a right to dictate. When the people learned how their academy was being conducted the cadets knew there would be a change. The latter have wisely determined in advance that they will reform. The people will expect the pledge to be kept.

On P. D. Armour's tombstone might well be inscribed: "The young man who wants to marry happily should pick out a good mother and marry one of her daughters—any one will do." For P. D. Armour never said a wiser thing, and no man ever paid a finer tribute to the mothers of this country. It is easy to imagine the woman Armour had in mind. She is a type of the times. She is not too modern, and there is nothing ancient about her. Her social qualities are unquestioned, and yet she does not live for society. She reads and dresses and worships as her conscience and inclination direct. In the home is found her kingdom. By her example she teaches her daughters how to become good wives. The things that she teaches are less than the things that her girls actually learn from her. Association as well as inclination draw the daughters into the channels that lead to domestic happiness. Her example is stamped on their young lives. She is the queen of a home to which the mind of the husband and parent is ever turning. Peace abides there, and the household machinery does not jar. That is the woman P. D. Armour was thinking of, and what she is it is possible for her daughters to become. The young man who studies the mother of the woman he wishes to marry is wise.

Rural free delivery is an addition to the postal facilities of the country that has come to stay. When an appropriation of \$200,000 was asked for to inaugurate the experiment, Mr. Loud, chairman of the House committee on postoffices and post roads, objected; but when it was proposed to appropriate \$3,500,000 to go on with the business the chairman of the committee had nothing to say. Mr. Sperry of Connecticut, a member of the committee, had much to do with getting the matter started. He was for many years postmaster at New Haven, and his practical ideas with reference to the conduct of the business of the Postoffice Department have been of much service. Mr. Sperry gives it as his opinion that it would be useless now to try to prevent the spread of rural free delivery. In which opinion, doubtless, the other members of the committee, and the department itself, agree. Rural free delivery has commended itself to the people of the farms, and since they like it Congress would not presume to withdraw or do much hanging back. The wonder is that free rural delivery was not undertaken before, but now that it has proved of such utility and popularity, the whole country is reaching out its hand, and expansion of the system must go on until there are no more townships to conquer.

Albert Edward comes to the throne of England at an age when most men consider their active life work practically over. He faces a task calling for every energy of brain and body and freighted with the gravest responsibilities. As an offset to this, he is stout of frame, rugged of constitution, and generally in robust health. He is idolized by the English, a fact that is accounted for by his democratic habit of making every man he meets his friend. His princely bearing has been agreeably shaded with courtesy to his inferiors in rank, and he has been active in his support of deserving public charities. In entering upon his reign he has the good will of every subject—a condition that lessens the difficulty of his position. One of the penalties of royalty is the obliteration of private feeling. The state demands of the new king the performance of certain public ceremonies with which his personal bereavement must not be permitted to interfere. His mourning for his mother must be observed in secret. Before his subjects he must bear himself with cheerfulness and dignity. It is a situation identical with that of the favorite actor, who must strut and grimace for his public, even though his heart be breaking. In his youth this king was a rollicking, devil-may-care prince. He had the follies of youth and outgrew them. By his acts as Edward VII. will be discovered the exact strength and quality of his manhood.

One of the things a man can't understand is why his sisters get offended when he doesn't rush in to see the new little red babies at their house.

## PRACTICE OF HAZING

### CUSTOM ORIGINATED IN COLLEGES OF THE EAST.

#### Atrocious Brutality to Defenseless Students Has Stirred the Country—Merits Penitentiary Term—Rules of Conduct Prescribed for Freshmen.

Great interest in the subject of college hazing was stirred throughout the entire country by the startling charges which were made in connection with the death of Cadet Booz of the West Point National Military Academy. The



PAINTING A CADET'S FACE.

Investigations of the military board appointed to look into the accusations brought by the young man's family were closely followed by the public, and every average American citizen read with horror and disgust the allegation that the life of the boy was ended by hazing of the most outrageous character. The blood of all decent and intelligent men or women boiled when they read the revolting story that tabasco sauce had been poured down the throat



HAZERS AND ONE OF THEIR VICTIMS.

of the student, who was at the mercy of the hazers. The victim was so terribly injured by the fiendish act, so runs the story, that death at last came to his relief as a natural consequence of the wounds inflicted. When the barbarity of this inhuman treatment of a defenseless student was realized there was a demand for an investigation and the detection and punishment of the students who were guilty of such atrocious brutality.

The demand resulted in the appointment



TOSSING IN A BLANKET.

ment of the military board, which at once began taking evidence. The case was not more than fairly started when a second incident was brought to light through the statements of other parents, who alleged that they had lost a son whose death was directly traceable to hazing which he had received at West Point. These two cases prove quite conclusively, if any proof were needed, that the infamous practice of hazing is far from extinct, at least in some parts of the country. Hazing is distinctly a product of eastern college life. It originated there and there has

never been much of it indulged in outside of the colleges of the East. It has been practiced to a limited extent in the universities of the West, but it never found a strong foothold in the Mississippi valley nor in the States beyond.

#### Origin Is Hazy.

College hazing is so old a custom that its origin is somewhat hazy. One theory is that it was at least a partial outgrowth of the fagging system of English colleges, in which it was the custom to make new students do menial work for the upper classmen. The hazing which has been indulged in has largely been practiced upon freshmen, but occasionally other classmen have been hazed. To haze means to disturb, harass, annoy, and it was in some way figured out that this was just what ought to be done to men entering college for the first time. It was decided that they should be servile and that they should do whatever they were told by upper classmen, no matter how absurd or degrading an act should be demanded of them. As early as the year 1700, sixteen years before the breaking out of the Revolutionary War, the following regulations were enacted at Yale University:

"It being the duty of seniors to teach freshmen the laws, usages and customs of the college, to this end they are empowered to order the whole freshman class or any particular member of it to appear, in order to be instructed and reproofed, at such time and place as they shall appoint, when and where every freshman shall attend, answer all proper questions and behave decently.

"The freshmen are forbidden to wear their hats in the college yard until the May vacation, and whenever a freshman either speaks to a superior or is spoken to by one he shall keep his hat off until he is bidden to put it back on.

"A freshman shall not play with any of the members of an upper class without being asked.

"Freshmen are required to perform

all reasonable errands for any superior.

"Freshmen shall not run in the college yard nor up and down stairs, nor call to any one through a college window."

In the "Ancient Laws and Liberties" of Harvard similar restrictions upon the freshmen are found. Among them are:

"No freshman shall wear his hat in the college yard unless it rains, hails or snows, provided he be on foot and have not both hands full.

"Freshmen are to consider all other classes as their seniors.

"No freshman shall speak to a senior with his hat on, nor have it on in a senior's room, nor in his own if a senior be there.

"When any person knocks at a freshman's door, except in studying time, he shall immediately open the door without inquiring who is there."

#### Fighting Freshman Sustained.

The death blow to the hat law and most of these other absurd regulations was struck over 100 years ago, when Levi Hedge, who was afterward a famous professor, threatened to knock down a senior who demanded that he remove his hat. The trouble was brought before the president of Harvard for adjudication and he decided in favor of Freshman Hedge.

Although these regulations were early overturned the spirit underlying them was kept alive and frequently manifested itself in the mistreatment of members of the freshmen class. The new college men were "smoked out," taken from bed at midnight and doused under the town pump, painted with green or red paint, made to eat or drink vile combinations, blindfolded and made to run three or four miles, made to sing or dance or deliver orations, while very often they were shorn of

their hair completely. There have been many instances of the most vicious kinds of practices. Young men have been thrown into rivers or lakes, headed up in barrels and rolled down hill, etc. Occasionally freshmen have resisted the perpetration of these outrages. Revolvers have been drawn by both sides, but when the freshman who was thus inclined to defend himself has been caught unarmed he has often been made to pay dearly for his self-defense.

With the progress of education and civilization these practices have become less common in many of the large universities, but that they still exist to some extent and in their worst form is evident from the developments in the West Point case. This fact led an old college man to remark the other day:

"The time has come when the brutal college hazer should be treated in exactly the same way as any other criminal. No effort should be spared either by the college or civil authorities to catch the culprits and when apprehended they should be given the full penalties allowed by the law. If a few of the young wretches, who are nothing but brutes in human form, were sent to the penitentiary as they should be for five or ten years it would have a most salutary effect upon college hazing."

## AMERICAN POETS LONG-LIVED.

### With Some Exceptions, Our Bards Have Reached the Allotted Age.

A most striking fact is the longevity of our poets. The typical American poet—when one thinks of it and notices the faces that look down from his library walls—is found to be an aged, hoary man, says Oscar Lovell Teigs in the Forum. Of the eight poets pictured on the frontispiece, six are gray-beards and incline to baldness and of the black-haired heads, Lanier lived to be 39 and Poe to be 40. No American poet has had the advantage of John Keats of dying young with still enough accomplished to be compared with Shakespeare on the ground of his promise. Many fair hopes centered in Cora Fabri, Anne Aldrich and Winifred Howells, the youngest of the sisterhood to lay down their pens; but their work was too incomplete to give prophecy of their maturity. Joseph Rodman Drake at 25, Stephen Crane at 29, James Berry Bensen at 30 and Francis Brooks at 31 had hardly begun their true poetic career. Probably our literature sustained its greatest loss in the death of Richard Hovey, who was destined to accomplish great works and to win high renown; at 36 he was just prepared for bold adventure. Timrod and Emma Lazarus had fulfilled much of their promise at 38. Edward Rowlands Sill and Bayard Taylor, whose premature deaths were much lamented, had yet time at 46 and 53 to accomplish not a little well-rounded and well-proportioned work. Longfellow, Lowell, Whitman, Story and Halleck entered the 70th; Emerson reached the 80th mark; while Freneau, Whittier, Holmes and Bryant passed it. Dana lived on into the 90th.

Some few sensitive natures, like Poe and Richard Realf, suffered pain and travail, largely the fault of their peculiar temperament; ill-health affected the output of some; the Civil War cut short the lives of several; accident closed a few careers; and four suffered violent death at their own hands. But for the great majority the currents of life ran smoothly, and, save the ordinary incidents of change, they lived in serenity of spirit.

## A Female Electrician.

Mrs. Ayrton, who is well known for her researches in the field of electricity, had the honor the other evening of dining with the 360 members and guests of the Institution of Electrical Engineers at the Hotel Cecil, in London. Her presence brought up the novel question how she should be recognized by the speakers at the dinner. The earlier speakers said, "My lords, lady, and gentlemen," which sounded odd. The Lord Chief Justice improved on this with "My lords, Mrs. Ayrton, and gentlemen," while Sir John Wolfe Barry struck out the formula, "My lords, madam, and gentlemen." Mrs. Ayrton some time ago justified her election to membership by a thoroughly scientific essay, "On the Hissing of the Electric Arc," a subject which she still further investigated, and on which she read a paper, in completion of her inquiry, at the recent meeting of the institution in Paris.

## The Largest Incubator.

New South Wales has not only the largest duck farm in the commonwealth, but also probably the largest incubator in the world. The farm and incubator are situated at Botany, near Sydney, the latter, according to a Sydney paper, having a capacity of 11,440 duck eggs, or 14,080 hen eggs. It is not necessary that it should be filled at any one time. The eggs can be put in at intervals, as they are available. With fifty eggs only it will work just as well as if it were filled. The incubator was designed and constructed by its proprietor, with the aid of an ingenious local mechanic.

A woman's beauty is never considered a good recommendation by another woman.

Matrimony often means a month of honey and years of vinegar.