

## LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER

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TOLEDO..... OREGON

There is no beef trust. It says so itself.

Men become cranks by confining themselves to the serious side of their views.

The czar's boy may have to go outside and look for a job when he gets old enough to work.

What's the matter with Russia? It would be much easier to enumerate what isn't the matter.

A Russian grand duke's house was rocked by the mob, while most of the Russian fleet was being rocked in the cradle of the deep.

There is a town in Kentucky that bears the name of Pig. As it grows older and larger the name should be changed to correspond.

A leading critic says: "Few of the poets are now working at their trade." How does he know, since the real poets are always dead?

A French physician declares kissing to be a "natural therapeutic practice." It seems to be just as well to take that view of the matter.

A Baltimore couple wants a divorce because they can't agree how the chicken should be cooked. Many a couple would like to get into a stew over a chicken.

A teacher who claims that two pies may be digested where formerly a small piece of one was a sure substitute for hari-kari deserves an ovation from—the undertakers.

It is suggested that John D. Rockefeller offer a large cash prize for the best method of scattering oil on the water. This would be an excellent stroke from a business standpoint.

Little Devereux Blake declares that Eve ate a quince and not an apple on a memorable occasion in the Garden of Eden. But how could anybody ever have been tempted to eat a quince.

"My observation is," observed Senator Depew, retrospectively, the matter of international marriages being under consideration, "that the title generally chases the girl, and not the girl the title."

They keep on discovering valuable things that were hidden by Mrs. Chadwick. She must have been busy hiding them for several months before she didn't know there was anything wrong about it.

Another great thinker has come to the front with a theory as to the forbidden fruit eaten by Mother Eve. He says it was a crab apple. This lets down all the bars. Anybody may enter into the competition now.

Professor Monroe B. Snyder announces that he has discovered the existence of radium in the sun. Now, if he will discover some means of transportation and bring it here the general public will take far more interest in the discovery, if it be a discovery.

A little boy in Berlin only 13 years of age has been convicted of the crime of lese majeste and has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment. In America a youngster of similar age is not accounted guilty of anything more serious than lese paterfamilias, entailing a brief but painful visitation to the woodshed.

If murderers are hanged for the effect on other criminals, it is certainly undesirable that it should be known that they meet their death with perfect composure and in the full assurance of a blissful immortality. There is no objection to their making any preparations they may see fit for another world, but these should be for home consumption. Executions should all be made as free from romantic glamour as possible. Otherwise hanging ought to be abolished.

A report made recently by the British Board of Trade on the naval expenditures of the leading powers for the latest available year presents interesting figures. The report deals with the year ending March 31, 1903. From the exhibit it appears that the United Kingdom spends more on its navy than Russia, Germany and France spend on their combined fleets. The British naval expenditure is more than double that of the United States. Russia's naval expenditure for the year named was five times as large as that of Japan. Russia spent less than 6 per cent of her revenues on her navy. Japan spent 9 per cent of her revenues in this way. The country which now spends most on its navy

next to Great Britain is the United States. The British mercantile marine exceeds in tonnage that of Russia, Germany, France, Italy, the United States and Japan put together. The mercantile marine tonnage of Great Britain reaches 10,268,604 tons.

Santo Domingo is lucky to have an honest, good-natured, powerful friend ready to do her a service. By the protocol recently signed the United States assumes the burden of helping the little nation straighten out her finances, and in addition guarantees her territorial integrity. If the United States were not at hand to give aid the future would be black, for Santo Domingo's European creditors have reached the limit of their patience. The best treatment the delinquent nation would receive from the European powers would be a good deal worse than the worst treatment she will receive from us. It is true our action is not entirely disinterested. We take a small burden upon us now in order to avoid the possibility of a great deal larger burden later on. Nor will we be disinterested in the action we shall take when Santo Domingo's finances are finally put in good order, since we shall withdraw from the custom-houses and rid ourselves of the nuisance of managing them as swiftly as possible. If any of the South American republics are excited or worried when they hear of the new arrangement they will assuredly calm themselves at once when they read in full the terms of the protocol. That document shows plainly enough that we are not seeking to take unjust advantages even over the smallest and weakest of our neighbors. The permanently important feature of the protocol is our guarantee of territorial integrity. Santo Domingo is a thousand times happy to have such protection.

If one were to choose a single word by which to characterize the present age, that word would almost inevitably be "practical." This is by no means the same as saying that the watchword of the day is materialism. The really practical is seldom wholly materialistic. It includes much that is spiritual, sentimental and idealistic. But "practical" the age certainly is, and among practical subjects there are none more vital than work and wages, savings, and the security of income in old age. These are essentially questions for young men, for modern methods of industry and modern tendencies are making this a young man's age. Old men find it more and more difficult to secure or hold profitable positions. Even those who knew that this is so were startled when one of the great steel companies recently established an age limit of thirty-five years—"a dead-line" it is aptly called—for the employment of new men. Argument is of little avail in matters of this sort; protests are of no use. It is the old men who have to bear the burden, but young men must meet the emergency, and meet it while they are young—by thrift. The probable period of their working life is shortened; therefore they must make it yield greater results, must save more and lay aside more for old age. It is probable that few young men have considered how much they should save in order to make the future secure. A New York insurance actuary has lately made an interesting study of the matter, and concludes that at least one-sixth of the income should be set aside for insurance, if a married man with children is to make the future of himself and his family secure in any contingency. But what is most to be emphasized is not so much the need of saving a specific amount or of investing it in a specific way, as the necessity of establishing the habit of thrift in early life. Young men should adopt as a motto to work while it is day, and remember that "the night cometh when no man can work."

**A Bald-Headed Monarch.**  
Edward VII. is the first English sovereign to figure on the coinage as bald-headed. It is very possible that several of his predecessors had less of nature's crown than his majesty and that when taken to pieces for the night they became almost unrecognizable instead of remaining in the ever-the-same condition of present-day kings and emperors. However, their coinage represents these bygone monarchs in caps and crowns or voluminous wigs and wreaths or skillfully arranged toupees that are very like the genuine thing.

**Natural Gas Plentiful.**  
Contrary to a growing impression that the supply of natural gas is giving out and is of small importance in the industrial development of the nation, a report of the United States Geological Survey shows that the volume of natural gas produced in 1903 was 238,769,067,000 cubic feet, with a value of \$35,815,360. Indiana was the only gas-producing State in which the amount of natural gas decreased during the year.

**Particulars Demanded.**  
Blonde Girl—I want some rice; let me see, how much do I want?  
Green Grocer—Wedding or pudding?  
—Yonkers Statesman.

# PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

## IT DOESN'T PAY TO BLUFF.



"Bluff," like America, the country where it originated, is a new expression, but the thing it stands for is as old as the world. Two nations go to war. The first care of the belligerents is to make the world believe that they carry victory in the folds of their respective flags; that large numbers of the enemy's soldiers are killed in every battle while their own loss is slight; that their wounded are almost miraculously healed. Again, two political parties struggle for supremacy. At every election each party boasts of victory. The opposition press, in its effort to make a defeat appear like victory, often goes to ridiculous extremes. The defeated candidates themselves put on a sanctimonious look and assume to congratulate themselves on results which are gall and wormwood to their self-love.

So strong a factor is "bluff" that should some innocent person admit defeat he would almost be held responsible for the reverses of the party. Nevertheless, in political battles, as in others, there are victors and vanquished. It is useless to play the triumphal march in the face of defeat, because it will soon be necessary to change the tune.

Thus in little things as in great; in national and international quarrels whose noise fills the world as in private differences; in vast enterprises which involve millions as in petty speculations—in everything, in fact, the same method is employed to gain the same end, and always with the same awkwardness and the same unscrupulousness. The success of the instant usually is paid for by a long series of reverses—the chimerical advantages which may be gained almost invariably are expiated in the real evils that come after.

While chance may give a clever and crafty player a momentary advantage, the final outcome generally favors him who really holds the best cards. Here, as in everything else, "bluff" is only "bluff," and its resources are soon exhausted.

## THE ART OF CRYSTAL GAZING.



When seventy years ago the Oriental scholar, Edward William Lane, published his "Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians" surprise was caused by his account of a seance during which a Mugheree magician summoned visions in a crystal of people whom the writer recognized from description. His curiosity regarding this subject had first been roused by hearing from the British consul general that a servant who defrauded him, and of which no suspicion had been entertained, was described from a vision seen in the crystal, and on being charged with the theft had confessed his crime. Possibly Mr. Lane was unaware that the same means of detection was common in England until "the wisest fool in Christendom," James I., passed laws making crystal gazing a serious and punishable offense.

Inducements to hypnosis, which are used in all forms of so-called magical rites, are the monotonous repetition of charmed verses, the burning of incense, and the continuous stare at any object. These induced the hypnotic state in Mr. Lane. Possibly the most logical, clear and concise analyses of telepathy will be found in Dr. Hudson's "Law of Psychic Phenomena." Briefly speaking, his theory, now widely accepted by the scientific world, is that the human mind is dual in its nature; the upper, or objective mind being the means by which we reason and conduct the business of life; while the lower, or subjective mind, is the storehouse of memory, where every circumstance of life from the dawn of reason is carefully chronicled and remembered, though forgotten by the objective mind. The subjective mind of one individual is capable of sending messages to the subjective mind of another without the

## DOOM OF AFGHAN SPIES.

Offenders Are Blown to Pieces by the Sherpur Midday Gun.

Among Afghans one person in particular is held in abhorrence, and that is a spy of their own people; and such, when found out, receives sudden and summary justice. On a low flat hill near the Sherpur cantonments is a large old-fashioned gun which for many years has boomed forth the hour of midday, and on some occasions it

person a certain amount of satisfaction, inasmuch as it is swift.

A spy who crosses the frontier into Afghanistan carries his life in his hand, and from that time until he returns nothing is known of him. Should he never return, who can say what his fate has been—whether killed by the hill people when traveling through the country (for they are not kind to strangers) or imprisoned in some obscure town until he dies, or whether tortured



BLOWING AN OFFENDER FROM THE SHERPUR GUN.

also tells the passing of some poor wretch: for such people as spies are tied up against the muzzle of the gun and at the same time are blown to atoms. In that country there are various ways of executing people, but for the punishment of crimes intended to strike terror into the hearts of others, blowing from a gun is resorted to; and in view of other methods of execution in vogue there, it is one which ought to occasion a condemned

to make confession and then killed in the capital?

**Count Boni's Palace.**  
The house that Count Boni de Castellane built in the Avenue du Bois de Boulogne, Paris, is once more the sensation of the hour. Since its outer walls, forming an almost exact copy of the Grand Trianon palace at Versailles, were first displayed to an admiring public, a few years ago, it had

objective mind of either being aware of the fact. Such messages are called intuitions. It is the subjective mind that flashes the whole panorama of his life upon the dying man.

## CIVILIZATION PRECEDES GROWTH OF POPULATION.



Far from being an initial cause, a motor of social evolution, the progress of population is never anything but an effect thereof. In China population has become extremely dense, yet civilization is not progressive in the least. In Norway population has remained exceedingly sparse, still civilization is most exalted and ever increasingly higher.

Look at the country of North America, a tribe of Redskins dispersed throughout. It does not progress; it remains a hereditary huntress and savage. On the same territory later immigrants from Europe commenced to live in a state of dispersion, as in the far West to-day. Nothing serves to hinder these giants in enriching themselves and in civilizing themselves. Cities, the foundations for density of population, did not come until afterward and as a necessary consequence of the mental state of the scattered population, of its acquirements, of its laws, of its institutions imported from Europe. At the present day the United States is one of the nations of the world where density of population is the feeblest, and it is one of the highest places in the scale of civilization.

What happens when a savage or barbarous tribe, such as still inhabits the Caucasus districts of Europe, produces more children than it can nourish, because of its ignorance of agriculture and industry? Is it because of the sole fact of its multiplicity, its biological expansion continuing every day, or, oftener, the agricultural or industrial progress which permits this ever increasing number of mouths always to find nourishment? No. The excess of population emigrates, the tribe stagnates, that is all.

## CONFIDENCE AND FALSE CREDIT.



Commerce is necessarily based greatly on credit, and credit on confidence; even cash transactions require confidence in the parties who may make warranties connected therewith. The basis of confidence should be substance, not shadow, actual not artificial.

In regard to corporations the State requires actual financial resources as the basis of confidence; in some States banks, insurance companies, building associations, and perhaps others, must deposit actual cash or collateral with a public custodian for the security of the creditors. This is a step in the right direction, though as yet not entirely efficient.

Our people are encouraged, indeed exhorted, to follow habits of industry and economy; they deprive themselves of luxuries and even of necessities throughout earlier life in order to provide at least comfort for their later days, only to find all swept away by misplaced confidence and an obsolete jurisprudence. The ensuing disappointment, bitterness and despair pervert every sentiment, and thrift instead of being the handmaid of prosperity becomes the mother of anarchy.

Abolish all the misleading attestations as to the amount of capital of the corporation, the million of dollars on which it is organized and the many more millions authorized; stop deluding and robbing the public with these falsehoods, and let the act of incorporating consist merely of a public declaration that the incorporators expect the business to continue, no matter who dies, and that they do not expect to pay any of its debts themselves, but that the obligations must be met from the assets of the concern and not otherwise. Some such system would tend to invoke confidence only where it is deserved.

ceased to be much talked about. Now Count Boni de Castellane and the countess, nee Gouglé, are astonishing Paris again by the splendor of its fitting up. After a lull of some years work has been resumed in the palace, and again Versailles is being copied. The grand drawing room is being decorated in exact imitation of the Salon d'Hercule in the palace of Louis XIV. The walls are to be almost entirely of white, pink and saffron yellow marble, with "dashes of emerald, ruby and opal," whatever those may be. The painted ceiling of the Hercules room is being exactly copied. The salon is 37 by 40 feet. There will be no curtains to the immense windows. In the evening gigantic mirrors, hidden in the woodwork, will be slid out in front of the panes, and will completely conceal them. The flooring is also to be an accurate copy of that of the Salon d'Hercule. In this respect, however, difficulties are met with. Louis XIV. had each piece of oak, after shaping and polishing, put away in the lofts of Versailles for five years before it was laid down. The result is that not a board has warped by a fraction of an inch to this day. Such elaborate thoroughness is, it appears, impossible now.—London Telegraph.

**House Hunting.**  
She—You say your brother is house hunting?

He—Yes.  
"Funny time of year to be house hunting, isn't it?"

"Oh, no; you see, he lives in Kansas, and they had a cyclone come along the other day and took away his house, and now he's hunting for it."—Yonkers Statesman.

"Of course I don't want to be foolish, like most mothers, and brag about my baby's smartness," a mother will say, and then she will go on and tell how smart it is as long as the hearer will stay and listen.

The breath of suspicion is often flavored with cloves.