

LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER

R. E. COLLINS, Editor
F. N. HAYDEN, Manager

TOLEDO.....OREGON

If drunkenness is an excuse for crime, by the way, what is the excuse for drunkenness?

Love is always the same old story, as will be seen by the love letters that get into court now and then.

The Topeka Journal knows a woman "who will fuss when she gets to heaven because she can't get a halo trimmed to suit her."

Can a farmer who sells preserved eggs, with the statement that they are fresh laid, be a Christian and have hope of a glorious hereafter?

Still, it seems cruel for Tom Lawson to desert the country in its hour of trial, merely for the purpose of making a few beggarly millions himself.

An Ohio convict made \$20,000 while serving a five-year term in the penitentiary. Some people are such financial geniuses that they can make money anywhere.

Mr. Rockefeller is pleased at the thought of being regarded as a patriot. No doubt he finds it a blessed thought that a man doesn't have to be poor to be patriotic.

Tom Lawson hopes the country will sit still and be good while he engages in the unpleasant but necessary job of choking a few millions out of the system for his own use.

Pa Zimmerman, of Cincinnati, is said to be busy settling the debts of his son-in-law, the Duke of Manchester. The duke's creditors will doubtless be glad that pa has decided not to board his money.

The Washington Post has discovered a number of Congressmen in Washington with speeches in their pockets. Inasmuch as there is no law against carrying concealed speeches it doesn't seem that there is anything that can be done.

A public school principal declares that "Chicago boys and girls twist their parents around their fingers." One of time's changes. A generation ago it was the boys and girls who were twisted, and not around the fingers, but over the parental knee.

Premier Stolypin has given the Duma to understand that the Czar's will continues to be the only law in Russia. Perhaps the Czar created the Duma merely because he thought it would be an easy way to keep its members from stirring up trouble elsewhere.

We note that the American press generally refers to Loszlo Czechonyi as "the Vanderbilt count." This is not meant as any sign of disrespect to a noble Austrian house, but merely illustrates the fact that the democracy is acquiring a proper consciousness of its own aristocratic values.

Missouri boasts a new society, "The United Veterans of the Civil War," made up of Union and Confederate soldiers. Missouri was on the borderland between North and South, and "brother against brother" was more than a figure of speech. The Missouri society may lead to a united grand army of blue and gray.

The Finnish Diet has passed unanimously a bill providing that no alcohol shall hereafter be manufactured in Finland or imported into the country. In Russia, of which Finland is a part, the manufacture of alcohol is a State monopoly. The Finns evidently object to many things from Russia besides the government of the Czar.

"Healthy games, healthy foods and healthy homes" would be enjoyed by every youth, if the birthday wish of Field Marshal Lord Roberts could come to pass. "And keep young," adds the famous commander-in-chief of the British army. "I have kept myself young on purpose. I never drink and I don't smoke, and I am really not a day older than in 1880." At that rate "Bobs" who was born in 1882, is 48 instead of 75, and the boys he speaks of so generously need not hesitate to wish him many more happy returns.

Of the many wonderful things in the world, few, if any, are more wonderful than the manifestations of the care which God takes of the helpless. There was a splendid illustration of this care, exercised through human instruments, in the will of the late Robert N. Carson, of Philadelphia. Mr. Carson bequeathed an estate worth \$5,000,000 for the purpose of founding and maintaining a college for orphan girls between the ages of 5 and 10 years who have neither father nor mother. They are to receive such training as will fit them for a life of usefulness, and are then

to be discharged at the age of 18 or less. The girls are not to be dressed in uniform, but are to be allowed the exercise of some degree of individual taste.

Oscar II., King of Sweden, who died recently after a reign both long and prosperous—except for one incident—amid the sincere mourning of his people and the esteem of good men of all nations, was one of the most accomplished gentlemen and best men of his time. By every standard of public devotion and private morals he measured well. It is an ironic comment on certain traditions once potent and still regarded that Oscar of Sweden, who became the kingly office so well, had scarce a drop of so-called "royal" or even "princely" blood in his veins. His paternal grandfather was John Bernadotte, a French peasant who found a marshal's baton in his soldier's knapsack. His paternal grandmother was the daughter of a Marseilles stock broker of plebeian extraction. His mother was the daughter of Eugene Beauharnais, with no claim to higher rank by birth than that of the distinctly "lesser noblesse" of France. Oscar II. was the second king of distinction of his family. There is no question that John Bernadotte managed his affairs well. Called to be heir of the childless ruler over a people of whose language even he was ignorant, he adroitly preserved and enlarged the dominions of the dynasty into which he had been adopted. None of the princes "made" through the successes of the great Napoleon saved so much from the Napoleonic wreck. His son and the first grandson who succeeded him made no notable mark upon history. The second grandson of Bernadotte and third king of the race had abilities suited to his times. Intelligent, cultivated, realizing fully the force of democratic ideas and the change from the traditional attitude of the king toward his subjects which they involve, he conformed cheerfully to the facts. He was required to be a thoroughly "constitutional" monarch, and he played the part with enthusiasm. He deserved and won for himself and his country the respect of all nations. He deserved and won the love of his people. He was the only king of his time who could go about his country like any other man and be unattended when he so desired without fear and without danger. In the closing years of his prosperous reign he met with what was, from certain viewpoints, a misfortune and at least a mortification. There came a day when there must have echoed in his ears the words of an ancient Scandinavian king, so finely paraphrased by an American poet:

"What was that?" said Olaf, standing on the quarter deck;
"Something heard I like the stranding of a shattered wreck."
Einar then, the arrow taking from the loosened string,
Answered, "That was Norway breaking from thy hand, O King."
Yet Oscar of Sweden had not the mortification of Olaf of Norway, that misfortune had come to him from going too fast and far and getting ahead of his times, and he had the consoling knowledge that through no fault of his were the lands over which his scepter extended and the dominions of his house diminished. Two peoples had got at cross purposes, and it was not in the power of a constitutional king to lead together those who had to be driven if they were not to separate.

The "Femme de Luxe."
There are in these days the train de luxe, edition de luxe and hotel de luxe, but it seems to have entirely escaped attention that there is also the femme de luxe. The femme de luxe associates only with the rich and prominent, lives but for amusement, spends money recklessly.
This femme de luxe and homme de luxe difficulty is the disease which, spreading with enormous rapidity, threatens to remove good conduct from the civilized world. A handful of men break every law, divine or human, swindle with impunity, and behave like hooligans, and with them are a handful of women who have abandoned all restraint. These are held up to the rest of the community as of such social importance that their misconduct is to be admired.—London Truth.

Up Against It.
Viskey, of the Russian secret police, clapped his hand on the tourist's shoulder.
"You must not stay in this country," he hissed.
"Then I'll leave," the tourist mildly answered.
"But have you a permit to leave?"
"No."
"Then come with me," said Viskey harshly, leading the way toward the Kremlin. "I'll lock you up till you decide what to do."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

What an added respect a little boy has for his sister's knowledge when he sees her mixing his favorite kind of cake.
A woman never calls another woman "a snake in the grass" unless they have had trouble over some man.

SAYS ERRORS IN NAVY UNFIT IT FOR BATTLE

Expert Declares the Boasted Fighting Ships Are Merely Death Traps.

ARMOR BELT IS TOO LOW.

Defects in Construction Pointed Out and Promotion System Is Scored.

Henry Reuterdahl, associate of the United States Naval Institute and American editor of "Fighting Ships," is the author of a startling article on "The Needs of Our Navy" in the January McClure's. Mr. Reuterdahl's expertness on naval matters is not disputed and neither is his patriotism. He agrees with President Roosevelt that a navy must be built "and all its training given in time of peace" and with this in view he exposes defects in our first-class battle ships and armored cruisers which all but make them useless as efficient units in a fleet on heavy sea and in real action.

Mr. Reuterdahl's criticisms appear to be the more amazing on account of the contention that most, if not all of the weak points he emphasizes, will be acknowledged by sea-going officers, "or, if the reader is sufficiently interested, by the testimony of his own eyes." His principal points are the following:
That the shell-proof armor of the American battle ships is virtually below the water line where it will do no good, leaving the broad side of the vessel exposed to the shells of the enemy. That this defect has been pointed

DISASTROUS MINE ACCIDENTS IN RECENT YEARS.

| Year | Location | Lives lost |
|------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| 1894 | Albion colliery, South Wales | 280 |
| 1902 | Fraterville, Tenn. | 130 |
| 1902 | Rolling Mill mine, Pennsylvania | 105 |
| 1903 | Hanna, Wyoming | 175 |
| 1904 | Lackawanna mine, Pennsylvania | 70 |
| 1904 | Tercio, California | 21 |
| 1905 | Virginia City, Ala. | 152 |
| 1905 | Ziegler, Ill. | 55 |
| 1905 | Welsh coal mine | 120 |
| 1905 | Diamondville, Wyoming | 78 |
| 1905 | Kurtisk, Russia | 290 |
| 1905 | M. K. & T. Coal Company | 13 |
| 1905 | Princeton, Ind. | 13 |
| 1905 | Coal mine in Prussia | 55 |
| 1905 | Wilcox, W. Va. | 35 |
| 1906 | Bluefields, W. Va. | 21 |
| 1906 | Johnstown, Pa. | 25 |
| 1906 | Century, W. Va. | 15 |
| 1906 | Durham, England | 25 |
| 1906 | Dutchman mine, Blossburg, N. M. | 15 |
| 1906 | Courriere mine, near Calais, France | 1,490 |
| 1906 | Japan | 250 |
| 1906 | Oakhill, W. Va. | 28 |
| 1906 | West Fork, Va. | 75 |
| 1906 | Quarto, Colo. | 22 |
| 1907 | Saartius, Prussia | 22 |
| 1907 | Primer, Colo. | 20 |
| 1907 | Fayetteville, W. Va. | 80 |
| 1907 | Saarbruck, Prussia | 200 |
| 1907 | Las Esperanzas, Mexico | 75 |
| 1907 | Forbach, Germany | 123 |
| 1907 | Monongahela, Pa. | 30 |
| 1907 | Toyoka, Japan | 470 |
| 1907 | Tsing Tau, China | 112 |
| 1907 | Negaunee, Mich. | 17 |
| 1907 | Monongah, W. Va. | 248 |
| 1907 | Toisande, Ala. | 81 |

FARMING IN A DESERT.

There Are Colonizing Possibilities Even in Death Valley.
The craze of "homesteading" which is seems to have reached its limit in the choice of Death Valley as a colonizing possibility. With the idea of transforming the most arid and most desolate portion of the great American desert into farm land, a number of tracts have been homesteaded, irrigation systems have been planned, and other preparations are now in progress for beginning the reclamation of Death

BILL IN CONGRESS TO CURB GAMBLING

Measures Introduced by Texas Members Would Prevent Operations in Cotton and Grain.

MAY COVER DEALS IN STOCK.

Idea Threatens to Place an Embargo on Market Speculation of All Kinds.

Washington correspondence:



HERE has been a sudden awakening throughout the country to the fact that something is going on in Washington which threatens gambling in cotton and grain, and possibly, too, which aims to place an embargo on speculation in stocks. Indications of this awakening appear in a regular flood

of letters from the interests threatened to the members of Congress, who are identified with the proposed restrictive legislation.

The reason which calls forth these letters lies in two bills introduced by Senator Culberson, of Texas, and Representative Burleson, of the same State, designed to wipe out speculation in cotton futures. The bills are identical and while they apply only to cotton, as originally drawn, there is likelihood that if either of them is reported out of the committee to which they have been referred the provisions will be extended to apply to wheat and other grains.

The central idea in the Burleson bill is the application of the power to regulate interstate commerce so as to restrain telegraph and telephone companies from transmitting messages relating to a contract for the future delivery of cotton. The use of the mails also is prohibited to publications containing notices or records of the transactions of any produce exchange wherein the contracts aimed at in the measure are made. Heavy penalties provide the means of restraining the telegraph and telephone companies. It is the contention of Representative Burleson that if information of the kind prescribed can be kept away from the people living outside New York and New Orleans it will put the New York Cotton Exchange out of business. Frankly, it is admitted, that such is the object of the bill.

The Boards of Trade in several cities are aroused. Probably what they chiefly fear is that public sentiment against speculation in both stocks and bonds, which has been accentuated by the recent financial condition, may hasten a demand for the passage of the bill.

In addition to the Burleson measure, Representative Hepburn, of Iowa, has in hand a plan to regulate dealing in stocks.

Both France and Germany have adopted radical restrictive measures relating to dealings in stocks, grain, cotton and other things on margins, and their example is being pointed to by American legislators who are earnest in their intention of doing something along the same line. The laws of France prohibit gambling in several securities and provide heavy fines and imprisonment for infractions thereof. The French penal code also prohibits "corners" or attempts to control the supply or affect the prices of grain, flour, bread and other food products.

SHORT NEWS NOTES.

St. Christopher is the patron saint of motoring.
Brazil has no middle class. There are but two classes there—the rich and the poor.
Countess of Warwick, on return to London, says America's only hope is in socialism.
The grand jury at Oakland, Cal., refused to vote an indictment against Harry Kleinschmidt, accused of murdering his friend, Frank Bellows, and the young man was released.

A BLOT ON THE LAST CHAPTER.



out time and again; that other nations years ago recognized it as fatal and now have armor wrapped around the sides of their war vessels from five to seven feet above the water line.

That, despite repeated accidents on board our ships, the Navy Department year after year has approved of plans by which the greatest guns on the ships are directly above an open shaft leading to the powder magazine.
That other nations long since recognized the criminal stupidity of thus endangering the lives of officers and men and have remedied the defect by use of common sense and ordinary precautionary measures.

That, without regard to the protests of experts, our battle ships have been built so low that if the sea is heavy and ships are in action, the sea would wash over the vessels, render some of their most effective guns useless and practically leave the ship to the mercy of the enemy.

The officers in the American navy who command the battle ships and squadrons are too old; that under existing conditions young men cannot attain command, and that the service is badly crippled as a result.
That there is too much "bureau management" in Washington; too much red tape in the Navy Department; that American genius is stifled because of the bureau's immersion in details, and that with the Secretary of the Navy a civilian, he should have a board of expert advisers.

Other matters are dwelt on, but the foregoing are by far the most important. An afternoon's fight on water sealed Russia's fate in the recent war with Japan, says Mr. Reuterdahl, and the same may well be true of the next war into which this nation is plunged. The issue is so important and the stake so tremendous that the sea power which is prepared in every respect to meet the crisis will be the victor.

Valley. A railroad is already built from Greenwater, at the southern end of the valley, to the borax works owned by the celebrated "Borax" Smith of 20-mule team fame, and there is an automobile stage line through the valley.

Even enthusiasts do not claim that piping water from Telescope Peak across the Funeral range into the valley is also under consideration.



Money is suffering from bad circulation.

An Aurora (Ill.) physician has discovered that peanuts are a beauty diet. This ought to be a circus for some people.

An Eastern banker says, "We want more common sense." We want also more dollars, which are not so common now.

If prices of bread and meat keep on coming down, pretty soon the average man can afford to eat three meals a day.

Chief Spryback, the Indian who drank a quart of blue paint, is carrying the "decorative interior" fad to an extreme.

With 1,300,000 divorce suits in ten years, the United States is plainly in need of a national "Stay-Married Association."

After a while it may dawn on the army recruiters that the average soldier doesn't look upon \$13 a month as any great graft.

Secretary Cortelyou is trying to impress us with the fact that stockings were made to be worn and not to hoard money in.

James J. Hill says the railroads need billions of dollars. From present prospects, it will be some time before they get 'em.

An Italian count one American heiress married turned out to be an ex-convict. Some of the other counts haven't yet been convicted.



C. A. CULBERSON.



W. P. HEPBURN.