

LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER

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TOLEDO.....OREGON

A burnt child may dread the fire, but one's old flames are always fascinating.

The woman who weds to acquire a bank book soon becomes dissatisfied with her taste in literature.

Nowadays no man is a face card in the political deck till he gets his portrait on the souvenir postals.

The world may be getting better in every other way, but it certainly shows a disposition to be aeronautic this year.

In Madrid the police have cleared the streets of all beggars but the blind ones, who probably see no other way to make a living.

"Beware of the cracked mug!" advises the Beaumont (Tex.) Enterprise. Also beware of the line of conversation that leads to a cracked mug.

The deed of that man who shot his wife because she didn't talk enough was shocking, of course; but fortunately such cases are extremely rare.

Count Okuma, who has so much to say concerning the probability of a war with this country, appears to be the Richmond Pearson Hobson of Japan.

It is claimed that a circus elephant at Marion, Ohio, is 212 years old. Possibly Minister Wu would be glad to know something of the pachyderm's diet.

Every little while somebody swims out as far as he can and is supposed to be "fooling" when he calls for help. This is one of the most foolish ways of ending one's life.

When Emperor William and King Edward had their pleasant little tete-a-tete were the big sticks checked in the cloak-room? Court etiquette would seem to have dictated such a procedure.

Our very best aristocrats need not be shocked that one of the German princes has gone to work. As the object is merely the elimination of superfluous fat, there is no real dishonor attached.

"The Niagara Falls are 36,000 years old," says the Chicago Journal. This is probably true, but every time you go there you find that the villagers have a few new ways of separating you from your money.

It is reported that many chop suey emporiums throughout the country have recently been closed owing to a lack of business. This ought to bring a measure of relief to people who have been dreading the yellow peril.

What chance has a young man to rise in the employment of a large corporation? is a question frequently asked. Of course it depends largely on the young man; but according to a statement recently sent out by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, sixty-seven of the eighty-five principal officers of the company started at the bottom and worked up. A fact like this is worth many volumes of theorizing on the subject.

It is quite true that "cleanliness is next to godliness," but in this day of fads and scientific frills the question is whether we are not getting altogether too afraid of a little dirt. Dirt has been defined as matter in the wrong place, and hygiene is the science of keeping it in the right place. But we are inclined to think that we are all a little bit too much up in the air on the matter of cleanliness; a little too afraid of coming in contact with the clean-smelling, kindly earth, and are in danger of becoming nasty-nice.

Widnes, a manufacturing town of about thirty thousand inhabitants, situated on the Mersey, a few miles from Liverpool, is put forward by English papers as enjoying "the world's cheapest gas." Since the latest reduction, made in June, the price to ordinary consumers is twenty-eight cents per thousand cubic feet; to consumers of more than three million feet a year, twenty-four cents; to all users of gas for motive power purposes, twenty cents. In addition to supplying light, heat and power at these low prices, the gas department contributes ten thousand dollars a year to the borough rates—this sum representing profits.

Denial of the probability of war between Japan and the United States would be gratuitous if there were not so much persistent talk about the dreadful possibility. It may be worth while to collect three recent utterances on the subject by persons who know.

A French officer who has been in Japan making a dispassionate study of military matters says, in effect, that Japan is physically incapable of war with the United States. The American ambassador to Japan, Mr. O'Brien, says that war talk is absurd. Marquis Katsura, the new head of the Japanese cabinet, supports his assertion that Japan is bent on peace by pointing out that the financial problem of Japan is sufficient to engross her for some time to come. War between this country and Japan is possible; so is war between any two nations. But it is perverse jingoism which tries to frighten folk with so nebulous a possibility.

The totals of fire loss in this country may signify little to the average mind, but the comparative figures should mean much. The figures issued by the national board of fire underwriters show that the average fire loss per capita in the United States for the last five years was \$3.02, against 33 cents for six European countries, including France, Germany and Austria. It may be objected perhaps that it is unfair to select this particular period for purposes of comparison, since both the Baltimore fire of 1904 and the San Francisco fire of 1906 are included in it. And yet if these two fires, representing about \$350,000,000, were deducted from the total fire loss of the country for the five years—which is estimated at \$1,257,716,955—the total would be reduced by but little over a fourth. And the American per capita loss would remain about six and one-half times larger than the European. What is to blame for this great disparity? Are we so much more careless than Europeans? Are European building codes, fire departments and water supplies from six and a half to ten times better than those found in the United States?

Despite the steadily improving industrial conditions, we still occasionally read of the suicide of some man who has searched in vain for work and despairs of finding it before his last cent is spent. Such suicides are often due in reality to other than industrial causes, but when they are the result of inability to find employment they are among the most pitiable facts of our national life. Helpless to put an end entirely to the conditions that bring them about, society must for the great part watch them as one of the symbolic indications of good or bad times. Fortunately the number of genuine cases of this kind has this year been very small. Of late factories that were closed have been reopening their doors, and others that were working part time have increased their forces. It is true that the applicants for work under such circumstances are still almost certain to be more numerous than the places to be filled, but the disproportion is steadily decreasing. The statistician of the state bureau of labor statistics for New York has recently given out figures of the extent of lack of employment during the first quarter of the year. Whereas in some previous years industry has been so active that the weather conditions have been chiefly responsible for the idleness of such men as had no work at that season, this year the closing of factories and reduction of forces have been responsible for many times as much idleness as all other causes combined. That, however, was for the first quarter of the year. For the second quarter the compilation of figures has not gone far enough to permit results in percentages to be announced, but the returns already show a very great improvement. The middle of May was the time when the marked improvement began, and now the improvement is evident in all leading lines of industry. The indications all are that the industrial backset was only of a temporary nature, and that it will pass away without leaving serious scars.

A Victim of Leprosy.

"On my travels in Venezuela," said a New York man, "I stayed in a hotel with a young man in whose family there was the taint of leprosy, though he apparently did not have it. One night sitting at dinner he became angry at a waiter and brought his hand down on the table with full force. He instantly realized that he did not feel the blow and sat looking at his hand, his face whitening with horror. 'Give me your knife, Bob,' he said to his chum. He grabbed the pocketknife in a frenzy and stabbed the side of his hand with vicious cuts from finger tips to wrist. You may not know that leprosy appears in the side of the hand, numbness being a sign. The man did not feel the cuts. He arose from the table, knocking over his chair, rushed out into the courtyard of the hotel, and we heard the quick tang of a revolver shot, telling us how he had conquered the leper's curse by ending his life."

Couldn't Risk It.

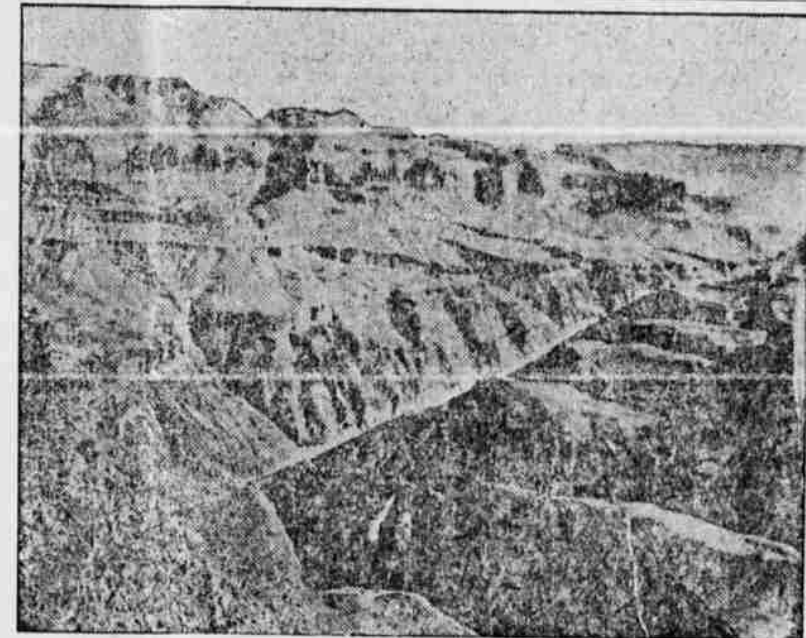
First Sportsman (after jumping a stile)—Come along. Do have a try!
Second Sportsman—Oh, it's all very well for you to risk your neck, but I'm going to be married next week! —Punch.

The Grand Canyon of the Colorado River

Congress, at its last session, was asked to appropriate money for a monument to John Wesley Powell, to be erected somewhere on the rim of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, which he was the first white man to explore. His achievement differed from those of other explorers in that they followed routes or trails more or less known to the aborigines, while his way was through a chasm so tremendous, so appalling in its vastness, so filled with hidden perils that even the natives feared and shunned it. Until after Powell and his companions passed through the terrific depths of the Grand Canyon what the world had known of it was mostly based upon mythical tales told by the Indians, or some hunter or prospector. Stories were related of parties entering the gorge in boats, and being carried down with fearful velocity into whirlpools, where all were overwhelmed. Others told of underground passages of the madly rushing

way to the Grand Canyon. Last year, which was the first since the railroad was opened, about 12,000 people came. This year, if the present average keeps up, there will be from 20,000 to 25,000 visitors, and every one who comes goes home a walking advertisement for the place. There is nothing to compare with it anywhere in the world. It is impossible to exaggerate the grandeur, the sublimity, the impressiveness of the scenery; and its fascination cannot be accurately described. It is impossible for one man to express his emotions to another.

It is a singular fact that three-fourths of the people who come to the canyon are women. A large number of them are well along in years, and the endurance and the nerve they show is extraordinary. Nearly every woman who comes insists upon going down to the bottom of the canyon, while only half of the men show that amount of energy.



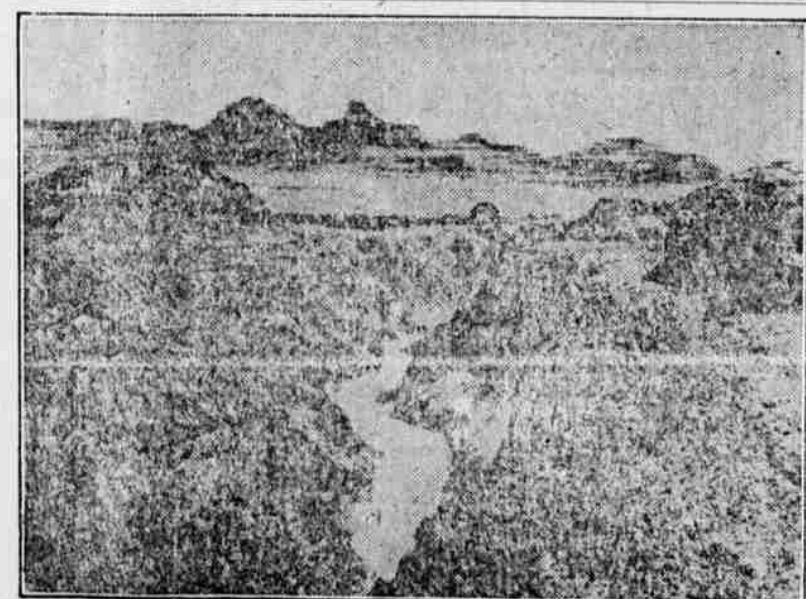
GRAND CANYON FROM SCENIC DIVIDE.

river, into which boats had been carried, never to reappear. It was currently believed that the river was lost under the rocks for several hundred miles, and that any attempt to ride its surface meant certain death. There were stories of great catraets, from which the roaring music of the waters could be heard on the summits of distant mountains, and there were accounts of parties wandering on the brink of the canyon, vainly endeavoring to reach the waters below, and, finally dying from thirst within sight and hearing of the river, which seemed to mock their distress. The mysteries of the canyon were woven into the mouths of the religion of the Indians.

The Grand Canyon of Arizona is within a government forest reservation sixty by eighty miles in size. About two-thirds of it is on the eastern and the other third on the western side.

Were a canal of the size of the projected cut at Panama to be dug in the Grand Canyon it would appear hardly larger than a baby ribbon to a spectator on the rim. It is estimated that to obtain enough earth to fill the Grand Canyon it would be necessary to excavate 20,000 Panama canals.

The Grand Canyon is like an inverted mountain range, 217 miles long, reaching a depth of 7,530 feet, with a series of depressions averaging 6,000 feet chiseled out of the earth by the erosion of ages. It is the generally accepted theory that this great chasm is solely the work of water—of the floods that come down from the mountains every spring and summer—but Mr. Ordonez, a distinguished Mexican geologist, who came here not long ago, made a suggestion which may not be entirely new but is worth mentioning. It is his idea that, while the earth was cooling, the



VIEW OF THE RIVER FROM ANGEL PLATEAU.

The timber is in fairly good condition. There was a bad fire two years ago which ruined several hundred acres of fine forest, but there is little danger of its recurrence because of the vigilance of the superintendent and his corps of foresters.

It is thirteen miles from one rim of the canyon to that on the opposite side, and there are two trails by which the western side may be reached. One of them, the Bright Angel Trail, is opposite the new hotel, and although it is eighteen or twenty miles to the top the climb is comparatively easy. It follows a stream of clear, pure cold water which comes tumbling down a narrow canyon on the western side, and Major Powell during his first memorable exploration of the canyon called it the Bright Angel River because it was such a grateful discovery.

People are beginning to find their

soil and the rocks contracted and split a deep and wide fissure in the surface of the plateau, and that its sides have since been worn down and polished by the action of the water. That seems reasonable.

All Signs Fail.

"You seem to need rain very badly," "Yes," answered Farmer Cornstossel in a tone of patient resignation. "We've done our best, but it doesn't do any good. We've given one Sunday school picnic after another, left the rockin' chairs an' hammocks an' buggies out over night an' painted all the buildings fresh. But none of the things that used to bring rain seem to work any more!" —Washington Star.

It is not what you think of your employer, but what your employer thinks of you.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY

The horses of Iceland are shod with sheep's horns.

Turkey holds the record for the number of aged persons in proportion to the population.

Some of the screws made for the use of watchmakers are so tiny 100,000 could be placed in an ordinary thimble.

There is an average of seven car collisions a day on the steam, subway, elevated and surface railroads of New York.

During the summer season the borough of Richmond, New York City, doubles its population on every pleasant Sunday, but only for that one day.

The newspaper was invented by a Paris physician, who, finding his visits welcome whenever he brought any news or gossip, applied to Cardinal Richelieu for a patent to publish the Paris Gazette in 1622.

Several German firms (in Elbenstock and Zwickau) have purchased large forest sections in the vicinity of Chiojdu, Roumania, where they propose to erect sawmills and ship from there annually about 40,000 cubic meters of lumber to Italy, France and Germany.

Negotiations among the German manufacturers of wall paper have finally led to the organization of a trust. The seven leading manufacturers who have already joined have a combined annual production of about \$2,020,000. The total output of wall paper in Germany is estimated at \$7,000,000 per annum.

Miss Jean Gordon, who has won a national reputation by her work in behalf of women and children, done as factory inspector in Louisiana, is not to be re-elected to her office. It is asserted that she has incurred the enmity of the manufacturers and the politicians and in spite of the protests of the women of the State she will be turned out of office.

The blood of the rhinoceros is very highly esteemed by Burmese and Chinese as a medicine for all kinds of ailments. Whenever a party of hunters are successful in shooting a rhinoceros—they are less numerous than they used to be—the native beaters carefully draw off the blood and bring it to Rangoon stored in hollow bamboos. The precious liquid is worth its weight in silver.—London Standard.

The sheath skirt is not new in Burma, where the women wear a garment split to the waist, "now concealing, now revealing." The men wear the same sarong, unsplit. In Cochinchina and Travancore, India, the reputable native women wear nothing above the waist except noserings and earrings; the Syrian Christians wear a jacket and a comical little "Cochin tail," something like the obi of Nippon, on their skirts.—New York Press.

Pear-shaped balloons are the fashion in Belgium. The point is upward, the base of the balloon is spherical. It is claimed that balloons of this shape pierce the air vertically with far greater speed than the ordinary spherical balloon. Consequently they are steadier. Also the upper pointed end prevents the accumulation of moisture or snow on the surface, which frequently weighs a balloon down and destroys its power to rise.

Though Russia has much coal and iron, her industries are quite undeveloped. Her industrial backwardness may be gauged from the fact that with a territory and a population twice as large as those of the United States, Russia produces only one-tenth of the quantity of iron produced in the United States, and that she raises only one-twentieth of the quantity of coal. Agriculturally and industrially, Russia is a medieval country.—New York Evening Post.

Dr. H. C. Stevens, of Seattle, reports recent experiments which show that objects seen by indirect vision ordinarily appear larger in the right half of the field of vision than in the left. With a smaller number of persons this is reversed. From these facts he deduces a possible origin of right and left-handedness. Right-handedness, or its reverse, develops at about the age of seven months. Dr. Stevens suggests that they may be due to the phenomena of vision just described. By a reflex effect the infant reaches after the object best seen with the arm nearest to them.

Miss Martha Van Rensselaer, supervisor of the reading course for farmers' wives conducted by the Agricultural College of Cornell University, believes that there should be a woman judge in juvenile courts where girls are tried. She bases her opinion on personal observation of various juvenile courts, notably those in New York City. She believes that there are many questions which girls would answer truthfully if there was a woman on the bench, but which they now invariably lie about when questioned by a man. This is one of the very few instances in which Miss Van Rensselaer believes segregation of the two sexes would be beneficial.