

## LINCOLN COUNTY LEADER

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TOLEDO.....OREGON

Wonder who discovered the equator?

Too many a summer elopement winds up in an autumn divorce court.

Why take dogs on a polar dash, when wienerwursts occupy less space?

When marriage is a failure, civilization may as well go into bankruptcy.

Edward VII. has been king for seven years, and he can't think of any job he would rather have.

Incredulous persons, however, will insist that Dr. Cook exhibit a splinter or some other souvenir.

Eighty-four per cent of the people of the United States drink coffee. At least they think they do.

The average woman seldom feels sorry for herself if she can find some man to feel sorry for her.

One nice thing about Minister Wu was the fact that it was almost impossible to misspell his name.

We are dreaming now of Halley, Astronomer Halley, and the mocking birds are singing of his comet.

Professor Starr says the average man looks upon marriage as a joke. But that is before he's married.

The Cuban government will get a large return from the lottery, and encourage one of the worst of human instincts.

Annie Besant says she lived 12,000 years ago. We assume, therefore, that Annie makes no pretensions to being "a sweet young thing."

When you have an hour to spare, try to imagine the effect of booking Cook and Peary to lecture in the same town on the same evening.

The news should be broken as gently as possible to the naked eye that it will not be able to see Mr. Halley's celebrated comet for several months yet.

Complaint is made that the Lincoln cents are too thick to go into the slot machines. But you can slip them into the savings banks, which is a great deal better.

What couldn't Sir John Franklin have done in the matter of finding poles and things if he had been equipped with the ships and devices of modern civilization?

Not the least of the achievements of the year 1909 must be reckoned the evolving of an exposition that asked no donation from the government, was finished on time, has had no official or other scandals, and has made money.

A woman who is serving a term in a Western penitentiary for poisoning people has applied for a pardon on the ground that she is homesick. It is strange that no other convict ever thought of that as an excuse for trying to get out from behind prison bars.

An English medical scientist of the theorist order, who believes that this gives him the right to repeal any of the Ten Commandments, states that profanity is a valuable escape valve and relieves a strain that is harmful to health. Yet statistics show that women, who, as a rule, refrain from blasphemy, are longer lived than men. The doctor will have to guess again.

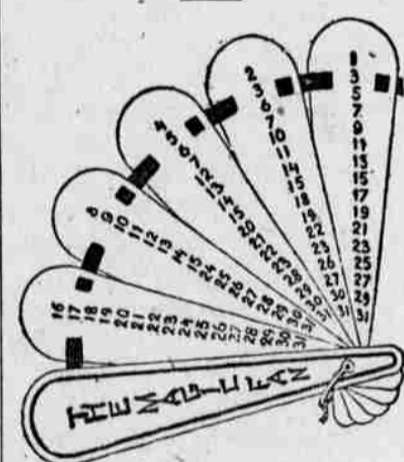
When the detected of other lands are minded to continue here their disaffection and to rail and agitate and conspire against republicanism, just as they had done against monarchism, says the New York Tribune, we must regard their coming as an impertinent and offensive intrusion, which is permitted, if at all, not because of any legal or moral right of theirs, but through a carelessness or a self-confidence on our part which may be more complacent than prudent or patriotic.

Israel is coming into its holy of holies, from which it has been barred for many long and bitter centuries. As one result of the new regime in Turkey all religions are officially recognized on an equal basis, and at last the Jews are allowed to enter the site of their ancient temple at Jerusalem and there worship according to their creed. Since the destruction of the second temple by the Romans under Titus, in 70 A. D., no Jew has been permitted on the spot. For a dozen centuries Moslem soldiers, stationed at the gates, have slain or turned away all who sought to enter; and the devout Jews have had no other privilege than to weep and pray outside the walls. Within

the past generation visiting Christians have been allowed, under guard and for payment of a fee, to enter the beautiful Mosque of Omaha, which stands where the great Temple of Solomon stood, and where Christ taught in its successor, which was erected after the return from the captivity. Beneath its lofty dome is the wonderful rock of numberless traditions, revered alike by Jews, Christians and Mohammedans. Late in July the Jews were allowed to enter and worship for the first time. So 1909 is a notable year in Jewish history, and the promise of the olden prophecy has come to pass.

"No man," said the late E. H. Harriman, "is absolutely necessary or even very important. If I did quit nothing would happen. This world is full of men ready to take the place of anyone. The fellow who takes hold where I leave off will go right ahead. Trains will run just the same, dividends will be earned as before; so it is with every man." The views thus expressed were not startlingly original, but coming from Harriman they showed that his head was not turned by his extraordinary success. He belonged to the common-sense school as opposed to the miracle-worker school, some of whose adherents would have ranked him as the greatest miracle-worker of his time. And the soundness of his judgment is proved by what has occurred since his death. Following the announcement of that event, the stock market was noticeably strong. In the ordinary course there will be short-lived sensations and changes in the prices paid for stocks. But it is plain that Mr. Harriman, with all his ability and all his power, was not the whole thing. In a discussion of the estimates of his wealth it is pointed out that while he held controlling interests in the larger corporations with which his name is identified he did not actually own them. His authority was by no means that of an absolute monarch, but was conditioned on his retaining the confidence of other capitalists. Standard Oil, Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and the National City Bank come to the fore again. However large the Harriman estate may be, a combination of interests more or less closely woven together is to determine the future of the so-called Harriman system. There must, of course, be an active manager at the head of the system, and he may acquire as much power and prestige as Mr. Harriman himself enjoyed. He will certainly be unfit for his job unless he possesses a strong will and exceptional ability and intelligence. But we may be sure that the miracle-worker school will be ready to acclaim him on slight provocation. For it must have its indispensable man. It will turn lightly from one to another and repudiate Mr. Harriman's declaration that no man is absolutely necessary. As for the sentiment that no man is even very important, it will look upon this as the worst kind of heresy.

### FIND THE AGE OF YOUR FRIEND BY THE MAGIC FAN.



If you wish to know the age of a friend—always supposing the friend not to be older than 31 years—just show him this picture of the "Magic fan" and ask him to tell you on which of the blades his age appears. Then the only thing you have to do is to add the numbers at the top of the blades indicated and you will know the correct answer. For instance, suppose your friend is 19 years old. The number 19 will be found only on the blades under 16, 2 and 1, the sum of which is 19.

#### No Harm Done.

Old Gentleman—"You idiot, you thickheaded numskull! This isn't the tree I told you to cut down. It was that one."

The New Man—"Oh! That one! Golly, boss! 'Yo' didn't come roun' one minnit too soon."—Life.

#### Suggestive.

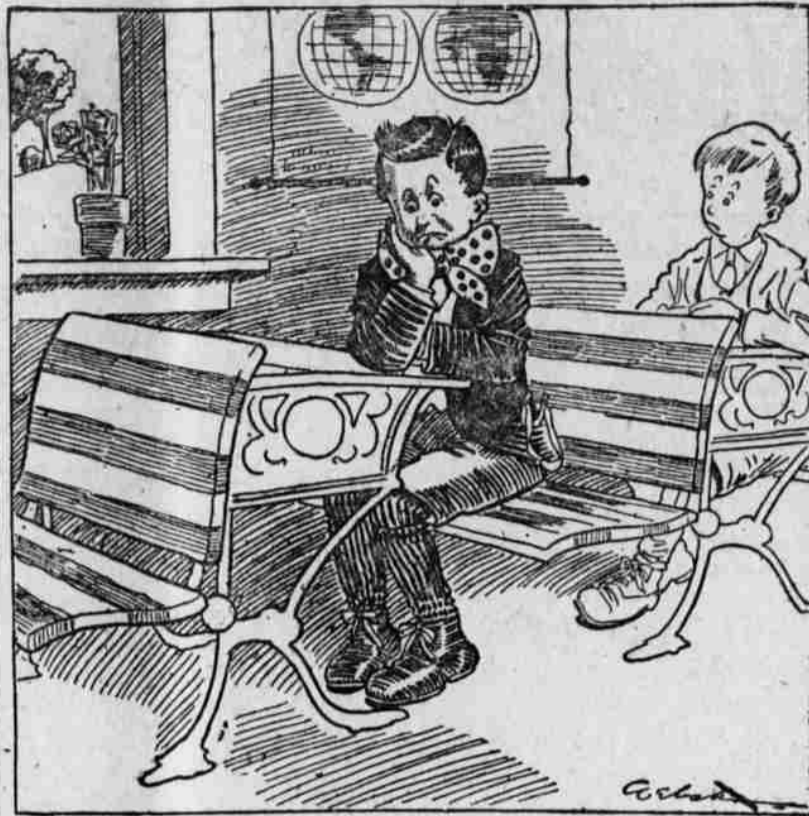
Yeast—"He got that black eye and that scratch on the cheek while he was in Philadelphia."

Crimsonbeak—"Is that so? I didn't know his wife went over there with him."—Yonkers Statesman.

Occasionally a man breaks his word while telling the truth—if he stammers.

Loyalty is sometimes but another name for stupidity.

## SCHOOL DAYS.



### EXTRACT FROM TEACHER'S OPENING ADDRESS.

"Children, I can't tell you how much it pleases me to see so many bright and happy faces here this morning, all radiating ambition and energy for the coming year's work."

## POPULAR SCIENCE

A year ago the announcement was made of the discovery of petroleum on the shore of the Red Sea. Since then a well has been sunk to a depth of 1,400 feet, the estimated daily yield of which is 300 barrels. The petroliferous strata are found at Jemseh, on the African shore of the sea, about 150 miles south of Suez.

Very little is yet known in Europe and America of the many varieties of mushrooms that grow in Japan. The most famous of these is the shi-take, which is the name of the evergreen oak on the wood of which it is principally grown. Trees about six inches in diameter are felled and cut up into lengths of six feet. The logs are scarred on the back, and laid on the ground for about three years. Then they are stacked in rows in a shady place, and soon become covered with the mushrooms. Two crops are gathered in a year. After yielding one crop the logs are soaked in water, beaten with a wooden mallet, and again set up. In a few days new mushrooms begin to sprout upon them. The shi-take is a great favorite in Japan, being used in many dishes, but more frequently in soups. It is also largely exported.

The opening of a railroad from a point near Luxor into the Libyan desert has rendered easy the approach to the oasis of Khargeh, which is regarded as a typical example of these isolated centers of life. For three years just past H. J. L. Beadnell has resided in this oasis, studying the phenomena of springs, moving sands, wells, and so forth. The Libyan oases are deep depressions in a lofty plateau, which has a maximum elevation of nearly 2,000 feet, but the bottoms of the oases are only from 100 to 300 feet above sea-level. They are underlain by beds of sandstone which are the sources of the water-supply. Artesian wells 400 feet deep form practically inexhaustible means of irrigation, and such deep wells have been used from ancient times. The depressions were once the beds of lakes, and the water in the sandstone probably has its sources in the Abyssinian highlands.

Although the objects are often only such as would be called "sentimental," there are no stronger supporters of movements for the protection of remarkable natural phenomena than scientific societies and individuals devoted to scientific work. Prof. John M. Clarke calls attention to the lead that Germany has taken in this matter. There a hundred motives induce interference for the protection of "natural monuments." In the forests of Luneburg an old gnarled fir tree is guarded "for its very age and fascinating ugliness." Near Hamburg a patch of dwarf birch is protected as a rare survivor of the postglacial flora. Schleswig has set aside a low knoll crowned with a huge glacial boulder. Brandenburg cherishes a swamp wherein rare botanic specimens are found, and Marienwerder a little lake in the woods where rare water-birds nest. Professor Clarke remarks upon the richness of our country in such monuments, and the constant danger of their extinction.

#### Odd Little Farms in Japan.

Land is so scarce in Japan and the people are so numerous that a farm rarely consists of more than an acre or two. These little farms are divided

up into tiny fields. During the season of the year in which we made our journey one of these fields is filled with sprouting barley, light green in color; another field—perhaps the next—with vetch, a lavender-colored, clover-like fodder; a neighboring field with a dark green grass, from the seed of which a lamp oil is manufactured; another with the pale yellow flowers of the mustard, and scattered here and there fields filled with what looked like a variety of lily—some white, some red, some yellow, but all equally brilliant.

Then, to get the complete picture, you must imagine patches of flowering azaleas dotting the roadside; towering, round-topped camellia trees breaking the skyline with frequent splashes of bright green; usually in the shade of these trees houses with white plastered walls and red tiled roofs; about the more pretentious of these houses were white plastered walls, above which appeared a profusion of palms, roses and strange native flowers; and in the doorways of the garden walls kimono-clad Japanese girls, the kimonos as many and as gayly colored as the garden that framed them.—Outing.

#### OLD RAILROAD STRINGERS.

Roadbed Used Before the Time of Iron Rails and Crossties.

The warehouse of G. S. Mercier in this village has some curious and historic timber in it, a Point of Rocks correspondent of the Baltimore Sun writes. The joists are made from the "stringers" which were used on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad when the cars were drawn by horses, before the days of the locomotive. These "stringers" were oak timbers, about 6 inches square, laid longitudinally on the track just as the T rails are now laid. Upon these timbers iron straps about two inches wide and a half inch thick were spiked, and upon these straps the wheels ran. To fit upon these thin straps the flanges of the wheels must have been very slight. Now and then the end of a strap would get loose, the wheels would get under it and the iron would penetrate the floor, and sometimes passengers were severely wounded by them. They were known as "snake heads." To several of the stringers now used as joists in Mr. Mercier's warehouse the straps are still attached, and it is doubtful whether anywhere in the world there is another specimen intact of this kind of "rail" used in the infancy of railroad construction. The warehouse was built about sixty years or more ago, at the time the primitive rails were supplanted by crossties and iron rails.

For a year or two, beginning in 1832, Point of Rocks was the western terminal of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, pending the litigation and the settlement by the Legislature of the right of way between the river and the mountain at this place. Large quantities of goods and produce were brought here, and the old warehouse in which they were stored is still standing and in good repair. It is now used as a hotel.

#### Beginning of Hostilities.

Mr. Perkly—Oh, if you could only learn to cook as my first wife did!

Mrs. Perkly—If you were as smart as my dear first husband was you'd be rich enough to hire the best cook in the land.—Brooklyn Citizen.

#### Needed Higher Wages.

"There, Fanny! You have broken another vase. Your breakage this month amounts to more than your wages. What shall I do?"

"Give me a raise."—Fliegende Blaetter.

## SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY

Mercury freezes at minus forty degrees Fahrenheit.

The first biblical illustrative art consisted in the symbolic frescoes of the Catacombs.

Cheap labor has been the principal handicap in introducing modern machinery in India.

The first printed Green Testaments were those of Erasmus, published at Basel by Froben in 1516.

Berlin has about a hundred factories for linen goods—forty more than the kingdom of Saxony.

Seventy thousand Americans will settle this year on 20,000 to 25,000 farms in the Canadian Northwest and take with them a wealth of \$70,000,000.

The Bug Bible is so called because of its rendering of Psalm xcii, 5: "Afrail of bugs by night." Our present version (A. D. 1551) reads: "Terror by night."

There are 251 postal savings banks in operation in the Philippines with 8,408 depositors and \$717,000 on deposit. Filipino depositors number 4,591 and Americans 3,375.

The German government has on Lake Constance a nineteen-knot, 350-horse power boat for raising kites in weather observations. The results are daily telegraphed to the chief forecasting offices.

Ex-President Castro's decree canceling the contracts of the "National Match Manufactory" and the "Venezuelan Salt Monopoly, Limited," has been annulled by the federal and cassation court of Venezuela.

To celebrate the advance of the printers' art, particularly its increase in speed, a Caxton memorial Bible was wholly printed and bound in twelve hours in 1877. Only one hundred copies were struck off.

In the annual report of the Russo-Chinese Bank it is stated that the closing of the free port in Vladivostok has led to a commercial crisis in the Far East. Before the closure took place goods were imported in such large quantities that for a long time new import sales will be difficult.

Labor distress in New Zealand is sending many skilled and unskilled workers to Australia. Public works expenditure is reduced from \$12,000,000 to \$7,000,000 a year. One-seventh (130,000) of the people depend upon the state for their living, and all departments are retrenching. That is one of the chief dangers of public ownership of public utilities and producing works.

English vegetarians are awfully sore on the Japs for proving traitors to their old vegetarian mode of living and are predicting endless calamity, even ruin, saying: "When rice-eating peoples take up meat the result is always disastrous to their health." Japs know what to eat and are too wise to listen to any British advice intended to weaken them as warriors.—New York Press.

The Germans are developing their high school at Kiao-chau, China, with their usual thoroughness. Its scope is even larger than the proposed Hong-Kong University. Except a grant of \$10,000 from the Chinese Government, the whole cost is paid by the German Government. German text-books and other works are translated into Chinese in a department of the school, says the London Times.

The industrial census of Germany for 1907 (just published by the German imperial bureau of statistics) gives 4,025,591 industrial concerns, employing 14,348,389 persons, of whom 3,510,466 were women. The increase in twelve years is 4,079,120—a ratio about four times as great as that of the employing concerns. These figures do not include railroad, postal, telegraph and telephone employees.

"Adventurer" is a word, once highly respectable, that has degenerated with the lapse of time. It was once a compliment to call a gentleman an adventurer, and the Merchant Venturers of Bristol, England, are still respected. The Hudson's Bay Company dates back from May 2, 1670. In the royal charter it was described as the "Governor and Company of Adventurers of England Trading in Hudson's Bay."

What is perhaps the most curious book in the world is possessed by the Prince de Ligne. This work is neither printed nor a manuscript, the text being formed of letters cut in vellum and pasted on blue paper. Notwithstanding this extraordinary method of presenting the text, the book is as easy of perusal as if printed in the boldest type. All the characters shown are cut with marvelous dexterity and precision. This unique volume bears the title, "The Book of All Passions of Our Lord Jesus Christ, with Characters Not Composed of Any Materials." It is said that Rudolph II. offered no less than 11,000 ducats for this wonderful product of the bookmaker's art, but the offer was refused.—London Globe.