

Ashland Tidings

SEMI-WEEKLY. ESTABLISHED 1876.

Issued Mondays and Thursdays

Bert R. Greer, - Editor and Owner
W. H. Gillis, - - - City Editor
W. E. Barnes, - - - Business Manager

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

One Year .....\$2.00
Six Months ..... 1.00
Three Months ..... .50

Payable in Advance.

TELEPHONE 39

Advertising rates on application. First-class job printing facilities. Equipments second to none in the interior.

Entered at the Ashland, Oregon, Postoffice as second-class mail matter.

Ashland, Ore., Monday, July 29, '12

THE TRUE VACATION.

In glancing over our social columns we note many Ashlanders are now on their summer vacation. How much benefit is derived from the outing depends much on the mood of the seeker—how well he succeeds in banishing care and giving over to that which mostly appeals to him.

People find in this world chiefly what they look for. Those constantly expecting trouble find it stretching even into the deepest cavern of the mountain. Those seeking blessings will find them extending everywhere in harvests of luxuriance.

When you start on a vacation be sure to leave your worries and troubles behind. They are the most useless of all baggage. Away—away with all forebodings.

Lightly laden, go forth amidst nature, up in the mountains. Meet rare air with light heart. In the gloaming go down in the depths of the canyon on the banks of the shimmering brook. Standing silently in the moonlight, look down into its glassy waters and you will see a heaven below, then look up and you will see a heaven above, each reflecting in the other, like mirrors, its moons and planets and trembling stars. Merry with ten thousand happy thoughts this experience will be—twinkling worlds innumerable, joining hands of light, going round and round with gleam and dance and celestial song—making old Time itself feel young again.

Lose yourself from worry in the woods where cool and sifted breeze is scented with odors of fir and pine—fragrant and sweet with nature's songs.

Sit where waters leap down off rocks, their crystal heels clattering and glistening over granite cobbles. Then hark to the storm in the distance. Zigzag lightning flashing back to lightning's flash. Hear the fluting winds and long-meter psalms of thunder. And overhead the fitful patter of fairy-footed raindrops dancing on the swaying leaves.

Up early and behold the gray morning striding down the hillside, routing the skulking shadows. And when the day departs heed again the shadows chasing away the light and watch the myriad changing colors in the sky where cloud curtains are drawn aside from heaven's walls of jasper and amethyst.

Look on all of this and feel that God is in his most high place—that there is room enough in your soul for peace.

WANT MEANS EFFORT.

"All want something they have not. I want a cottage, others want castles."

Thus saith the rich Duchess of Sutherland, deprecating the age in which we live. Let not the duchess worry. The wanting something you have not is what moves the world.

Even adversity has its uses. It is the lack of things he wants that keeps man moving upward. Picture a condition under which every man had everything he wanted. Why, it would be a mighty listless, uninteresting old world, wouldn't it?

But nature has provided differently. She has decreed that man, like all other animals, like the flowers, the birds, the fishes, the streams and the hills, shall change, and in each change discover something that he wants.

The rich, the titled, the powerful, all want something that they have not, as well as the poor and lowly. Hence, there is a striving for things. Probably Adam recognized the mercy of the Lord in tempting his punishment with the necessity of earning his living. Anyhow, since Eden's time, or since the time when scientists say man swung from branch to branch in quest of acorns and other monkey food, man has grown through efforts for things he wanted but had not.

THE PANAMA CANAL TOLLS.

Great Britain performs an act unprovided for by the International etiquette book, in asking the United States congress to hold up the Panama canal toll bill until that country can present its case for free tolls.

The phrase upon which it will no doubt depend is the following from the Hay-Pauncefote treaty: "The canal shall be free and open to the vessels of commerce and of war of all nations observing these rules on terms of entire equality." From this it will be argued that if American ships are to use the canal free, all others must have the same right.

An Englishman of high rank recently said, in the expansive confidences of an after-dinner period: "Wallace (said to the former chief engineer of the canal), civilization is to be congratulated that the United States is constructing the Panama canal for the benefit of British commerce."

Our taxpayers will find it somewhat difficult to sympathize with this point of view.

If a man posts certain regulations regarding the use which the public may make of his land, does it necessarily follow, in either moral justice or law, that his own family must conform to those regulations? There is a big question whether the words of the above treaty cannot be fairly interpreted to mean all nations outside of the one that is the owner of the canal and that paid the bills.

Of course something can be said in favor of an absolutely free canal. Trying to get the money back spent in construction work by charging tolls is about like paying for a road by charging tolls. That sort of thing was thoroughly tried out in this country, in the old days of turnpikes and toll bridges. Few relics of that custom prevail. It is generally felt that more is lost by hampering business than is gained by the fees.

But the toll on foreign vessels furnishes a convenient method of encouraging the building and operating of American ships, without the evils which many feel to exist in a system of subsidies, and our people will hesitate a good while before dropping it.

GRUMBLING.

It is amazing to hear humanity, set on end for some unknown purpose, devoting so much of their brief time allotted us on earth to a careful detailed diagnosis of our headaches, backaches, stomachaches and other miseries that defy description.

The comical part of this business lies in the patience with which we listen to one another. But he or she knows that his or her turn comes next and the luxury of returning sickening accounts of troubles will be granted.

Many of us are not miserable enough with the pains of the present, but must treasure up the pains of the past, as a constantly accumulating reservoir of misery; and the most woeful and most useless of all is the anticipating of troubles supposed to be coming.

If talk about our aches and pains were suppressed, a third of the conversation of civilized life would cease. If to this be added the weather, another third would be chopped off. Still the female discourse on the troubles of dress and servants would remain.

If we would only forget it all, and permit others to forget it, what a world of joy, now unseen, would open up to us!

ROW BACKED BY RELIGION.

Administration pressure has been brought to bear on Commissioner of Indian Affairs Valentine to resign. The latter declines to do so. The trouble arises over the so-called Valentine "religious garb order." Several months ago, without consulting anybody, Commissioner Valentine ordered that henceforth the teachers in the twenty-three Indian schools should desist from the use of religious insignia or garb while on duty in general assembly exercises or in the school rooms. There are seventy nuns and several priests who for several years have taught in the government Indian schools who would be affected by this order. A protest backed by influential Catholics was at once laid before President Taft, who ordered that the Valentine ruling should be suspended until he could inquire into it. He has been too busy campaigning to attend to the matter personally, and Secretary Fisher has been away on a vacation, so that nothing has been done. Meantime Protestant organizations have become interested on the one hand and Catholic organizations on the other and a determination of the question either way will be the occasion for feeling.

A HOPEFUL SIGN.

(Mail Tribune.)

Most hopeful and most helpful sign of the times is the turn in the balance of trade in favor of the Rogue river valley. An increased acreage in potatoes, melons, berries, grain, hay and small produce has developed a considerable surplus for export, and instead of importing produce, the valley is, for the first time in some years, exporting it.

The extension of the irrigating systems is largely responsible for the change that is gradually and swiftly creeping over the valley. Water is necessary to insure the success of almost any crop and there is no reason why, by use of water, the yield should not be increased tenfold and the land doubled in value.

The Rogue river valley is exporting a considerable quantity of poultry products. It should be sending out a car of eggs a day. Many cars of chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese should be shipped out annually. In no place are natural conditions more favorable.

Diversified production is the key to prosperity in the valley—until an extended acreage of the young orchards come into bearing, and even then it is wise not to put the entire dependence upon any one product or class of products.

The entire valley can be and should be placed under irrigation. Nature has provided soil and climatic conditions, and it is up to man to provide the water and the industry.

POSTOFFICE BILLS REPORTED.

Measures Embrace Revised Parcels Post System.

Washington, D. C.—The postoffice appropriation bills, shorn of the good roads provision proposed by the house and embracing a revised parcels post system, with charges based on zones of distance, has been reported to the senate by the postoffice committee. The total appropriations proposed are above those of the house measure, which carried approximately \$260,000,000.

One of the principal increases is the pay of railroads for transporting mails, the senate committee adding more than \$2,500,000.

In striking out the Shackelford good roads feature, which provided for federal improvement of highways, the committee recommends an investigation by a special congressional committee and provides for no highway improvements until this commission has reported.

The Barnhardt amendment in the house bill for the regular publication of the names of stockholders of newspapers and periodicals is changed to provide for publication once a year.

The parcels post section of the house bill provided a flat rate of postage for all distances. The senate provision is that of the Bourne bill, slightly modified.

Senator Bourne recommends that third and fourth class mail matter be combined for the parcels post service, but the bill makes the parcels post apply only to fourth class matter.

The senate committee struck out of the house bill the provision giving to postal employes the right to combine in labor unions and the right to petition congress for redress of their grievances.

Steel cars for railway mail service, which were required by the house bill to be in universal use by American railroads by 1917, also are required by the senate bill. The house bill required the railroads to replace 20 per cent of their wooden mail cars every year, while the senate bill would give the railroads one year of grace and then require them to replace 25 per cent of their cars each year for four years.

Senator Gardner of Maine declared the senate committee on postoffices had been unfair to a parcels post bill he had introduced, and denounced the Bourne plan as a "mockery." He criticised its limitations and declared its effect would be to give the railroads higher incomes for postal shipments than they now enjoy from express packages.

MILLIONS WERE STOLEN.

Swindlers Operating Through Mails Reap Harvest.

Washington, D. C.—One hundred and twenty million dollars was filched from the American people during the last fiscal year by swindlers who operated largely through the mails, according to a statement made in a formal report to Postmaster General Hitchcock. This was an increase of approximately \$50,000,000 in the aggregate over the previous year.

Of those who are alleged to have operated the fraudulent schemes, 1,063 were arrested by postoffice inspectors. During the year ended June 30 last, 452 persons were convicted and sentenced and 571 cases are awaiting final disposition.

The report says that these fraud manipulators, who usually exploit bogus mines, fake remedies and worthless lands, constitute a distinct class of lawbreakers. Among those who have been caught by the inspectors are criminals who have posed as respectable citizens, leaders in their communities and personages in the highest social and business field. Some of them are millionaires, enriched by their plunder. Some of these men now are serving prison sentences.

Part of the bridge across the Willamette river at Jasper fell the other day, injuring three workmen.

The Home Circle

Thoughts from the Editorial Pen

We hear considerable complaint nowadays that the art of letter writing is a lost art. In one sense, this is true. A generation or so ago, as a glimpse through any bundle of old letters will convince, stilted even though they might be as to style, a letter contained only the precious bit of home news refreshing to the heart of the wayfarer.

Now, when Henry is away buying goods for the store, and the letter from back home is received, he opens it with avidity, hoping that he will be able, after mastering its contents, to see the family circle, know what each one is doing, and so keep in touch with them all.

It does not interest Henry to know that Mrs. Algernon Jones is going to give a bridge party, and that the hateful old thing has left his Maria out. Neither, if his Maria is of a poetical turn of mind, does it matter that the apple trees are in blossom and shedding their prodigality and fragrance all over the place.

What our Henry wants to know: Will they yield a good crop this year? And did little Sarah pass in school? And what did the butcher offer for the calf? And did the last rain fill up the cistern? And did Johnny get over his stone bruises? And have they drowned the last batch of kittens yet?

For our Henry has a practical turn of mind, and it is the practical thing that appeals to him—all of the little every day familiar things of life are of interest to him, and he cares not at all for abstract discussion as to whether basques will be worn short or long, or that the Browning club had decided at its last meeting to take up the reading of Mary Jane Holmes' works next winter.

We are tending more and more to this display of literary ability in our letters, and less and less to the things that our correspondents really long to know.

Now Henry is a far better correspondent than his Maria. He makes no attempt to clothe his simple news in metaphors, or to have his news masquerade in borrowed finery. He knows what he likes to hear from back home, and by the same token he sends out his daily or weekly budget, as the case may be.

His Maria may be of the sentimental sort who sighs because he does not tell her every line of his passionate adoration of her, his longing for her, and the fact that the days seem like months while he is absent from her. It would be a lie if Henry should write it, for he is having a very good time in the city, and has no leisure for sentiment.

He tells his Maria in plain words that he had been to Coney Island the night before; that he shot the chutes and went up in the Ferris wheel; that his dinner cost him 80 cents, and that he has bought her a perfectly good percale suit at a bargain.

Not long ago I received a letter from a dear old lady of whom I am very fond. It was written with a lead pencil, and was nothing wonderful in the matter of grammatical construction or spelling. But it was right to the point. She told me just the things I wanted to know; told them simply and directly.

It was like a visit with the old lady. I sat and smiled to myself

Pure Mountain Water Ice

Reduced Prices on Ice

FOR SEASON OF 1912

Save money by purchasing coupon books. Issued for 500, 1,000, 2,000 up to 5,000 pounds.

This is the cheapest way to buy your ice.

Delivery every day except Sundays.

ASHLAND ICE AND STORAGE CO.

TELEPHONE 108

with pleasure over the letter. I was able to follow her through her sweet, quiet life for the few weeks intervening since her last letter.

I sat with her as she knitted on the shawl which was for the comfort of some one. I shared with her her simple repast. I assisted at the little task of cleaning up afterwards. Then I watched while she took her afternoon siesta, her dear old gray head leaning to one side of her chair, her glasses gently sliding down over her nose, her hands idle in her lap. And so, with a whispered "good-bye, and God bless you," I left her to her pleasant dreams.

Then I vainly tried to piece together the little daily occurrences in the life of my friend beyond the big range of hills, but found it a Chinese puzzle—a following of the seasons one upon the other—the wonders of nature with which we are all familiar.

I recalled that in the spring I was made aware that the birds were singing, and that the crocuses were peeping from beneath their blankets of snow. I was informed that the still, hot days of summer were upon her, with their suggestion of drowsiness—and this was followed by the knowledge that autumn tints were on the foliage, and that the crispness of the air brought with it renewed vigor and the ambition to take up life again. But of that life—nothing!

This, then, is the secret of successful letter writing. To write as one would talk—as one would read if from Shelley or Byron. To tell the things the correspondent wants to hear—to put the thrills and thrills if one must—but stick to the original melody through it all!

M. D. Boardman, 573 West Main street, Helena, Mont., after giving a detail account of his case, says: "I am almost 79 years old and have spent hundreds of dollars for medicines, but find that I have received more benefit from Foley Kidney Pills than from all other medicines." East Side Pharmacy.

"Everybody's doin' it." Send your social news to Miss Hawley. Phone 3-9.

OPERA HOUSE BILLIARD PARLOR

Cigars, Tobacco, Candy and Soft Drinks

J. P. Sayle & Son

Successors to Ruger & Sayle.

Practical Shoe Repairing

Done promptly, with the best materials obtainable, by

J. H. WILL

Cor. Fourth and Main Streets.

Signs and Banners

MADE TO ORDER

ON SHORT NOTICE

Also House and Carriage Painting

HUGHES & EMERY

PHONE 86.

Phone 129 27 Main St.

C. H. GILLETTE

Real Estate, Loans, Rentals, Conveyancing

SEE ME BEFORE BUYING.

Attention, Wood Consumers

Sound dry red fir and yellow pine, 16-inch block body wood, delivered in your wood shed in orders for not less than 10 tiers to a place, at \$2.25 per tier.

E. J. MAHAN

Leave orders at office, 290 East Main st., or phone 168.

SALE OF Ladies' Silk Waists

\$4 to \$6 Values at \$3

A remarkable offer to you, for it brings you handsome Silk Shirt Waists worth from \$4.00, up to \$6.00 at only \$3.00.

There are many waists made up of taffeta and messaline silks in colors blue, brown, black, gray and white. They are handsomely trimmed with lace to match silk. Others are trimmed with silk cord. Sizes are 34, 36, 38 and 40. Not a waist in the lot worth less than \$4.00. We offer you your unrestricted choice for only

\$3.00

\$1.50

The Store with a Rest Room

VAUPEL'S

The Store with a Rest Room