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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The first of June is near at hand, the date set for checking off all delinquent subscribers. On running through our list we find a number of subscribers who are delinquent. We do not want them to miss an issue of the paper, and we hope that all subscribers will respond to the notices now being sent out. Please pay this month and do not miss an issue.

EVERY MAN HIS OWN CONSCIENCE.

The American nation was founded upon religious liberty. Plymouth Rock has been termed the cradle of liberty and the constitution of the United States guarantees the inalienable right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Legally and theoretically this is true, and there is no more legal or physical persecution for conscience sake, yet there is far from being perfect liberty of conscience granted to all in religious matters.

There are few of us who would at first glance admit to himself or herself that he or she is not granting liberty of conscience to every one. Yet few of us are broad enough and Christ-like enough to do this. We do not directly attempt to control what a man shall think, but we do attempt to control what he shall do. This is right so far as his freedom of action injures another. But do we not carry it farther than this? Are we not apt to discriminate against the man whose conscience leads him to pursue a different course of life from what we do? And is this right? Are we giving a man religious liberty when we refuse to give him our patronage in business or our friendship in life, simply because he sees things either material or spiritual in a different light than we do? We have no more right, morally, to say how a man shall spend his time, so long as he is not harming another, than we have to say how he shall spend his money, providing he is not using that money for criminal purposes.

In too many cases we take the view that a man is not doing right, simply because he is not doing what we believe to be right. As some writer has said: "It is easy to be sure one is right as to believe one's own will to be the will of God." This is a fault which is all too common, and is even more common among the highly religious than among the atheistic and profane. From a determination to do the right and a firm belief that one is in the right to the "I am holier than thou" spirit of the Pharisees is so short a step that many of us take it without realizing it.

Is it not too often the case that we object to people's doing things not so much because they are intrinsically wrong as because they disagree with our preconceived opinions?

Have we, or has anyone a right to criticize anyone else unless he harms a fellow man? His attitude toward his Maker is a matter of his own, and with all reverence can it not be said that God is able to take care of his own? Is it incumbent upon any of us to mete out our displeasure as punishment to another because of his beliefs or his actions? There are some things upon which all Christians and practically all non-Christians agree, and these are honesty, kindness and brotherly love. If a man has these have we any right to criticize him?

Is the church member with an uncontrollable temper or a disposition to make others uncomfortable, or one whose word is not to be absolutely depended upon, any better than the man who has not these faults, yet who does not subscribe to any church creed nor manifest his faith in God by his words? God knows, not we. "Let him that is without sin first cast a stone."

The treasury officials say a \$10 bill will last ten months, but in a summer hotel you are lucky if it lasts ten hours.

SOMEBODY'S BABY.

In America today there is a gallant battle raging. Brave men, with a keen sense of justice and the love of God in their hearts, are striving to uproot evil; forcing the selfish and greedy to adhere to conditions that will help the great mass of working men and women to live in decency.

Pity for the girl of the underworld has taken the place of scorn. There is many a generous helping hand ready and willing to place her back where the things that make life worth living may be within her reach. Good men and good women are trying to place before the working girls of America the hope of a home of her own and the respect of her fellows.

All these things are possible, even for the girl who has overstepped the border line of convention. For in all humanity dwelleth God, with His almighty wonders awaiting the touch of the truth-seeking soul and to reveal undreamed-of possibilities.

Into thousands of American homes tiny babies are coming every day. Mother kisses the little helpless feet, never knowing into what paths those tiny feet will stray. Far better the sword of Herod would destroy those babies in their innocence than that they should be forced through unjust conditions and unlovely surroundings into lives of vice.

Mother, broken by work, nerveless for the want of nourishing food, loses day by day her interest in life and becomes one of the thousands of neurotic patients who haunt the public hospitals. Baby grows and develops amid unwholesome surroundings. She goes into the world with the ignorance and credulity of childhood. We know what the world today holds for those born and bred in such environment.

Why not try to do something now for that mother, for that baby?

Every woman that walks the street with flaunting plumes, hawking her womanhood, every painted woman of the world, was some mother's baby once. Sometimes some mother held her tight, crying "my baby, my baby." Are these other babies to go the same way, to be forced the same way?

Why wait until more mothers' hearts break? Until thousands of other babies have tasted the bitter fruit?

Good men and women are trying, all the world over, to insure better conditions for boys and girls. Why not help? Wouldn't that be better than planning new laws to penalize the criminal, new ways to eliminate those who have already fallen?

Can't we in our government and in our civic and private life do something to help the mother to lead a wholesome life; to help in preserving the fragrance of childhood; to help those children to bloom into clean-bodied, clean-hearted, clean-minded maturity—a blessing to the nation in a generation of worthy fathers and mothers of the race to come?

MANUFACTURING WAR SCARES.

It is being openly charged that the present Japanese war talk is being largely fomented in both countries by the builders of warships and the manufacturers of arms. This is far from impossible. It is no more unreasonable to believe this than to believe that Wall street creates panics for its own benefit, and this has been long considered to be a certainty. It is charged also that the Krupp has a subsidized press employed in both France and Germany to foster race hatred so as to compel the purchase of heavy ordnance. If this be not true as to the United States and Japan it is certain that it is aggravated by those who hope to profit by the scare if not by the actual war, including the yellow papers who hope to sell more copies by lurid headlines. Sober-minded people will accept the war talk only with a large amount of seasoning.

The Sheep.

The other day in a Cleveland school this composition was handed in by a little German boy:

"The sheep are weak and foolish animals. They are very useful. We can use everything on them except their bleat. The sheep learn their shepherd very easy, but otherwise they are dumb animals. They eat hay, grass and carrot soup. And the captain of the sheep is called Belle-buck."—Woman's Home Companion.

There is a law in many states requiring automobile drivers involved in accidents to report the damage to the authorities. That must be why so many of them speed away in such a hurry after running over people.

The congressmen have got to the point where they shake their fists in each other's faces, but the reporters for the Congressional Record are too slow to get out a story on it.

BEST ASSURANCE OF PEACE.

The removal of Dr. Lyman Abbott from the list of vice-presidents of the American Peace Society, as a rebuke for signing an appeal for naval appropriations, falls in its intention of advertising the doctor as an enemy of peace. To all except persons of the queer turn of mind of those in present control of the society it will emphasize his position as an advocate of peace—a reasonable and sensible advocate.

The principle to which the American Peace Society appears to have committed itself is, in brief, that the best assurance of international peace lies in national helplessness. The fewer ships in the American navy, the less prospect of an American war. The weaker its navy, the stronger grip has the nation upon the respect of great nations armed to the teeth, eager to bully, hungry for land, ruthless and utterly selfish of policy. This, the logic of a "peace" society.

If a man living in a rough country, surrounded by neighbors whom he mistrusted and who were, as he knew, quick upon the trigger, should be asked to throw away his own rusty arms, the man would have no answer save of indignation and disgust.

The American Peace Society, in principle, asks just this thing of Uncle Sam. It asks it at a time when southern Europe still flames with war. It asks it at a time when a north European country frets daily against its narrow quarters and talks of the coming day when it must "expand." The society finds virtue in disarmament at a time when public meetings are held in the capital of an Asiatic nation at which the government is urged to descend on Uncle Sam's coast as descent was made upon Port Arthur without the time-honored formality of declaring war.

A peaceful man, but practical, would look for signs of his quarrelsome and burglarious neighbors—if such he had—throwing away their weapons before he'd throw away his own. Are there such signs among the nations who jostle the elbows of Uncle Sam? None at all perceptible—not even to the peculiar vision of the American Peace Society.

Far Western Babies Are the Best.

The Woman's Home Companion is carrying forward its fight for "Better Babies" by offering prizes for the best babies exhibited at the new kind of baby shows. At this new baby show, which is being held this year in various parts of the country, children are judged, not for their beauty, but for their health. At a recent show in Oregon cups were won by Robert Chauncey Bishop, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chauncey Bishop of Salem, Ore., and Henrietta Bishop, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Bishop of the same city. These two prize winners had the same great grandparents. With respect to these two children the article continues:

"Robert was nearly three years old when he became the champion boy of Oregon. He had been breast-fed at regular intervals, and slept in a room with wide-open windows. He comes of a long-lived family. Two grandmothers, three great grandmothers, two grandfathers and one great grandfather were living to applaud his triumph. His score was 98 1/2."

"Henrietta outclassed her small relative by just half a point. Her score was 99."

"All the prize winners showed a preponderance of foreign blood, and 90 per cent had been breast-fed until six months old or more. As a whole, the Oregon babies passed the 100 per cent standard established in the score cards supplied by the Iowa physicians. All through the far west children are heavier, taller and farther advanced than babies of the same age in the east or middle west."

To Save the Oregon From Use as a Target.

Portland, Ore., May 20.—According to a letter received from Senator Chamberlain, every effort is being made by the Oregon delegation not only to save the battleship Oregon from being used as a target, but to have the grand old ship stationed in the Portland harbor to serve as a training ship for the Oregon naval reserve. The matter has been taken up with Secretary Daniels of the navy department.

Oregon organizations are continuing their efforts to prevent the Oregon's destruction, regardless of Secretary Daniels' announcement that the recommendation of certain naval officers that the battleship be used as a target had not been seriously entertained.

Ex-President Taft begins at the bottom of the ladder by coaching the debating team. He could not expect to get a job as football coach all at once.

Montreal expects to see about \$40,000,000 worth of new buildings constructed this year.

Odds & Ends

Picked Up by the Reporter.

The reporter wishes it distinctly understood that the Tidings is not responsible for the recent rainy and cold weather. Of course the local paper is responsible for most of the ills of a community, but it draws the line on being blamed for the weather.

Here's hoping the proposed rebuilding of the opera house will proceed at once. Ashland needs a good playhouse. It would improve that corner immensely.

There are several propositions in sight from private schools for the state normal sight. It might be better to accept a private school than to go to the expense of a fight for a state appropriation and then be defeated.

It is safe to say, however, that the Commercial Club and the citizens of Ashland are through paying bonuses and guaranteeing scholarships. A burned child dreads the fire. Besides, a school which has a guarantee is liable to flag in the effort to get scholars.

The old rumor of railroad shops for Ashland is being revived. It will be time to advance property values on that account when the shops are built and not before. Information which leaks from railroad officials of such a move is often permitted to leak for a purpose and cannot be implicitly trusted.

The fact exists, however, that in the event that the proposed segregation of the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific interests the Sacramento shops would undoubtedly go back to the Union Pacific and the Southern Pacific would be left without any large shops. In that event stranger things have happened than the establishment of big shops at Ashland, which is just about midway between Sacramento and Portland. Here's hoping there may be something in the rumor.

Even railroads sometimes start things they can't finish. At least that they don't finish at once. The Southern Pacific bridge crew started nearly a month ago to put a new roof on the Ashland round-house and went off and left it in an unfinished state, and it is still in that condition.

Ashland's greatest asset is her beauty. You can add to that asset by keeping your place neat and the lawn well trimmed. A well-trimmed lawn and a well-painted house will give a better impression than a place which cost twice as much if the latter has a run-down look.



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And Jack Johnson must go to the pen. How are the mighty fallen! Yet Johnson is to be pitied rather than to be blamed. He was dragged out of honest obscurity to pander to the brutal tastes of the white sports. If he has learned the lessons of brutality, cupidity and the like all too well, he is not so much to blame as the men who exploited him for revenue. So long as Jack Johnson could make money for the sport promoters his sins were overlooked. When he ceased to be a drawing card there were none so low as to do him reverence.

His fate is that of so large a proportion of the professional pugilists, whether white or black, that it merely serves to prove anew that pugilism should be suppressed along with black and white slavery and other forms of brutality. But Jack Johnson is no worse than many a white pugilist and race prejudice is in part responsible for the persistence of the prosecution. 'Tis passing strange that a white man can ruin the life of a woman or of many women and not only keep out of the toils of the law, but even hang on the ragged edge of respectability—even embraced by the so-called "best society,"—while a colored man guilty of the same thing is hounded to the limit or lynched.

The writer does not mean by this that the punishment is undeserved or should not be inflicted, but he does believe that when respectable society turns from the vile man with one-half the self-righteousness that it turns from the woman who, perhaps, has erred from love or misplaced confidence, it would not be five years until white slavery would be unknown. When the frequenter of a fancy house is as completely ostracized as is the inmate the question will solve itself.

Helen Gould Shepard has returned with her husband from their wedding trip, and only 12,376 people asked her for a million dollars the day she got back.

Famous Negro Entertained in Hotel Where He Was Once a Waiter.

In the "Interesting People" department of the June American Magazine Booker T. Washington writes about William Henry Lewis, one of the country's most eminent colored men. Lewis was a star football player at Harvard, a member of the Massachusetts state legislature, and recently assistant United States attorney-general. Booker Washington writes about him in part as follows:

"In 1911, when he was appointed to the position he occupied until recently, that of assistant attorney-general of the United States, the colored men of Boston gave him a banquet at one of the leading hotels of the city. At this banquet, in reply to the congratulations showered upon him by other speakers, Mr. Lewis made a speech in which he made two references that particularly impressed me. He recalled the fact that in this same hotel in which he was at that moment an honored guest he had once served in the capacity of a waiter; and in reference to the honor that had been conferred upon him, he declared that he had no illusions, he knew, he said, that it was not in spite of, but because of the fact that he was a negro that he had been honored with this high office. He added that he accepted the responsibilities of the position not merely as a distinction conferred upon himself but upon the whole race which he represented.

"The reason I mention this fact is because it is not always comfortable to be a colored man in this country, and the inconveniences frequently increase as individuals, either by fortune or through their own particular merits, succeed in rising to a position above the masses of their fellows.

"One reason why I, with most other colored people, believe in, honor and respect Mr. Lewis is because, in the high position in which he has risen, he has neither forgotten his own path nor sought to separate himself from the race to which he belongs."

Phone job orders to the Tidings.