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Ashland, Ore., Thursday, June 5, '19

COMMERCIAL CLUB MEETING.

The Commercial Club meeting Monday night was the best meeting held by that organization since the writer came to Oregon. The get-together spirit was there.

It has always seemed to the writer that there was a lack of co-operative spirit among Ashlanders. The commercial life lacks solidarity. The merchants do not co-operate enough for the common good. There seems to be no special bond between the local merchants, as a whole, and the producers of the community.

The valley needs development, not advance in land prices. It needs profitable markets for its produce more than it needs increase of population. It will be little trouble to get and keep the people when conditions are brought about that will insure a good living and general prosperity to those who come.

The writer has always been a stickler for taking good care of those already here before making great effort to get others here. A man will not long remain in an unattractive environment. If he is a producer the big thing to him is a steady and profitable market for his produce. There are hundreds of people who have come to Ashland and gone away. They have left the town desperately in love with its people, charmed with its climate and willing to stay, but conditions were such that they found themselves unable to make a living and had to go. The big thing for Ashland to do is to change the conditions so that it will be possible for anyone desiring to live here to work and gain a comfortable livelihood.

Co-operation between the producer and merchant is creating a healthy home market, in finding profitable foreign markets for surplus products, in getting such a freight rate on valley commodities as will enable this valley to compete with other communities in the larger markets of the country, to secure canneries and driers so that surplus fruits and berries can be preserved against a bad market, these are some of the things that spell vastly more for Ashland and the valley than all the real estate booming that can be imagined. The days of speculation are largely over in the United States. There has already been too much of it. The energy of the people must now be concentrated on development and the intelligent widening of profitable markets. When the lands can be made to produce a sure profit for industry and investment the splendid natural climatic conditions will attract new people to this section and the valley will grow in population and prosperity.

That was the spirit of the meeting Monday night. It was a wholesome spirit, a progressive spirit—progressive along right lines—that of making the best of what we have rather than working out plans to get rid of real estate.

THE FISHING SEASON.

Styles and fashions of amusements change. The baseball that was played twenty-five years ago would be hooted off the diamond today. But the sport of fishing goes on from age to age as ever.

A box of worms catches just as many fish as it did in Izaak Walton's day, and no more. Probably you could get as many ideas about fishing out of Walton's genial philosophy as from the latest copy of Forest and Stream.

When the society man is asked to burrow in some unfashionable resort, put on old clothes and chase the elusive trout or salmon, he chooses rather a hall bedroom in the city. He would pay for the railroad ticket to be able to stay on the boulevards.

However, fishing appeals just as intimately as among the fishermen of Galilee in the year 1. The man to whom the works of nature are more interesting than the works of man will always find rest and diversion in the teeming life of brooks and lakes and grassy banks.

OUR STRONGEST DEFENSE.

Secretary Bryan does well to flay unceasingly the dishonest manufacturer of war sentiment by those who seek a profit out of war scares. In most wars greed is the inciting cause and the victims are men, women and children who would have no hand in the profit.

One of the most hopeful signs of the times is the growing unwillingness of workmen to be stood up in rows facing each other in order to shoot each other when between them there is no quarrel.

A hundred years ago no working-man anywhere would have thought of resisting an order from the sovereign to march to the front regardless of the merit of the sovereign's contention and pump the subjects of the opposing ruler full of lead, if not himself receiving the same treatment.

Today, over large areas in Europe, the bonds of international fraternity among the workers are so strong as to make doubtful how far a war order based on greed or aggression would be obeyed by the men who would have to be relied upon to do the shooting.

The patriotism of the workers is not less than formerly, but their intelligence is increasing. They are coming to feel that if they must supply the targets they should have something to say about starting the fracas.

Peace offers abundant scope for the fullest exercise of the warlike spirit. Persons who enjoy fighting can make war on disease, poverty, on ignorance, on vice, on the various ills which bedevil humanity and obstruct the improvement of human welfare. And they may do so with the knowledge that, in proportion as their belligerency is efficient, they are benefactors, not scourges, of the race.

This is peculiarly true in the United States. We need, of course, a military establishment to do necessary policing in emergencies. But our greatest policing is not in soldiers or battleships, but in the intelligence, welfare and virtue of the people. In building these up we construct defenses which no enemy can surmount.

CABINET MEMBERS RENT.

The burning question in Washington is whether \$2,000 a year is sufficient for a cabinet officer to spend for rent. Vice-President Marshall started the game by announcing that he would not spend over \$1,800 and he is still looking for a house. The secretary of labor, Mr. Wilson, is living at a hotel because he cannot afford exorbitant house rent. Mr. Daniels says he will try to bring his rent allowance within \$2,000. Champ Clark is for the \$2,000 proposition and so is Mr. Redfield, although he is able to pay more. Mr. Bryan has exceeded the speed limit and rented a house which is to cost \$4,000. This is excused, however, by the fact that he is secretary of state and is bound to do a considerable amount of entertaining. He has taken Mrs. Logan's house on the brow of Fourteenth street hill. He also can afford the expense, being now, as a result of lecturing and newspaper work, a member of the capitalistic class. The real estate men think cabinet members ought to pay ten or twelve thousand dollars a year for a house, and many who have been interviewed say it is not possible to obtain one suitable for entertaining at a less figure. Mr. Marshall replies, "Well, then I won't be entertaining."

That was a hot shot the sugar trust got at Grand Junction, Colo. Grand Junction is a great sugar beet center, and the minions of the trust arranged for a mass meeting of the citizens to protest against the new tariff bill. Lawyers of the sugar trust had written furious resolutions denouncing President Wilson and the majority in congress because of the reductions in the sugar schedule. But after the citizens of Grand Junction, Colo., had heard the resolutions read they peremptorily refused to vote for them. And the hired lawyers of the sugar trust tucked their manuscript in their pockets and took a sneak. Colorado has a lot of sturdy manhood in its population, and the sugar trust cannot fool nor buy them.

Wireless for Arctic Regions.

Scientists who plan to explore the Arctic regions in the near future will carry wireless apparatus to enable them to communicate with the wireless station at Spitzbergen, which is only 1,000 miles from the pole.

Those flimsy feathers the girls are wearing on their hats look as if they would be much braced up if enclosed in cages of chicken wire.

Love is thin when faults are thick.

The Home Circle

Thoughts from the Editorial Pen

Clean Up and Keep Clean.

This paper will have much to say this spring about the above subject. There is no reason why we should not have the cleanest town in the state, even if we cannot boast the largest. Every man, woman and child in our town ought to respond to the appeals that are being made to make the town neat and attractive and clean and sanitary. It is only a small matter for each family to clean up its own premises, but with every family in town doing this the whole town will not only present an attractive appearance but will be more healthful as well. Let everyone join in this war against dirt, rubbish, ugliness and indifference to the public good, and when the town is in the condition it should be, let everyone help to keep it so. The town is in urgent need of cleansing and purifying after the long winter and the dampness of early spring, and all effort to this end will bring reward a hundred fold.

If a man had a fifty-dollar pup he would look after it carefully and not let it have the run of the town day and night. But if he has a child it is different. They are turned loose at a tender age to go where they will and do what they please. People wonder where the great army of tramps, deadbeats, gamblers and disreputable women come from. They are germinated from the seed gathered in countless homes and sown broadcast upon the streets of our cities and towns. There are thousands of children who are heading in that direction, who, as far as care is concerned, are not given equal showing with a valuable pup.

The man who has enemies amounts to something. He is a live man. He is a fighter. People don't kick a corpse. A live man can swim against the current; a corpse floats down without hindrance. God bless our enemies. We love them. They make life worth living.

After July 1 C. O. D. packages will be transmissible by parcel post. This will be a great convenience to the business community, but what is more needed is some arrangement whereby we can all get things on credit.

This is the time of the year when the old hen never fails to get into your neighbor's garden. You know the result. One good scratching hen can in five minutes scratch up all the friendship that has been growing for many years between neighbors. Keep her at home or cut her head off.

We have now reached the barefoot season, when the small boy is unhappy if he is not allowed to blister his feet on the hot walks, cut them on sharp edged objects, run pieces of glass into them and knock off the nails from the big toes. Such is life—with the small boy.

Have something for your children to do each day. Work makes things sacred. The child whose home memories are not halved by work, who is not needed and does not feel that need, will not love honor.

If you cannot speak a good word for your home town and your home business men, then "silence is golden."

Good schools, good chickens and good roads never fail to make a good town.

Make it a rule to have the back yard, at all times, as clean as the front one.

"What is laughter?" asks a scientist. It is a sound that you hear when your hat blows off.

The prosperity of a town depends chiefly upon the confidence the people have in it. No town can prosper whose citizens are untrue to it.

The automobile is no doubt a fine thing and it may bring all the joys to the family that the salesman says it will, but it is doubtful if it brings the real joy to the grownups that a new sled brings to a healthy country boy who lives near a hill.

The tongue is a little thing, but it is mighty in power. It can make or mar the happiness of a life or of a home. It should be closely guarded. The saying of one unkind or unselfish thing makes the next easier, and so on, until a habit is formed that can never be entirely overcome.

Thank God some of us have an old-fashioned mother. Not a woman

GREATEST USER OF ASBESTOS.

Domestic Mine Production Small as Compared With Canadian.

If the United States cannot boast pre-eminence in asbestos production, as it can for many other minerals, it is at least a matter of some gratification to know that the bulk of the world's production comes from America and that the Canadian deposits yield by far the larger part of the total. In this, too, the United States benefits, for the nearness and reliability of the Canadian supply, largely owned in the United States, afford the basis for our eventual unquestioned supremacy in the development of asbestos manufactures. Even as it is, there are, according to J. S. Diller of the United States Geological Survey, some valuable deposits and promising prospects in the United States, and these would undoubtedly be much more largely developed were it not for the extent of the Canadian deposits. The domestic production in 1912, according to Mr. Diller, was 4,403 short tons, valued at \$87,959, and although this was a decline of 42 per cent in tonnage compared with the output for 1911, it was only 27 per cent less in value, owing to the larger quantity of higher grade asbestos in 1912. Georgia, Vermont and Wyoming are the three states which mine asbestos. The Canadian exports of asbestos in 1912 amounted to 88,008 tons, of which 71,426 tons, or more than 81 per cent, was imported into the United States. This quantity was 67 per cent of the entire Canadian production.

Asbestos is the most important fireproofing material known. Its fibrous structure adapts it to a wide range of applications—from woven fabrics, such as theater curtains and articles of clothing, to asbestos shingles, stucco, plaster, asbestos "wood," and various other forms of building material that render structures thoroughly fireproof. Its lightness, strength, durability and insulating properties against heat and electric ity give it special advantages for use in constructing cars and electric motor subways.

The most common uses of asbestos are for asbestos paper, millboard, pipe covering, and lagging to inclose heat pipes, furnaces and locomotives in order to prevent loss of heat in transmission. As a nonconductor of heat it may be used not only in the preparation of fireproof safes and vaults but also for cold storage and cooling structures. Houses made of asbestos materials or coated with asbestos throughout are not only warmer in winter but cooler in summer.

British Parcel Post to Far East.

Herbert Samuels, the English postmaster-general, announces that the British postal service is planning to establish a parcel post to the far east by the way of the Transiberian railway. Arrangements for this innovation, which has been demanded for some time, are understood to have passed the preliminary stage.

Postmaster-General Samuel also hopes to extend to India and the far east in general the system of week-end cable letters at greatly reduced rates. At present, however, he is not prepared to introduce the measure in behalf of the government.

Mr. Samuel also refers to the proposed chain of imperial wireless defenses, stating that sites for stations have been picked out in England, Egypt, India and South Africa. Sites are also being looked for in the Straits Settlements and East Africa.

About Pins.

In England every day there is an output of more than 54,000,000 pins. Birmingham, the greatest center of the industry in that country, alone produces 37,000,000 pins a day. The output of other pin manufacturers in England is only about half that of Birmingham. In France the daily production is 20,000,000, while Germany and Holland produce 10,000,000 a day. The total output for Europe each day is, therefore, 84,000,000.

One person in five in South Africa is white.

of the period, painted and enameled, with all her society manners and fine dresses, whose white, jeweled hands never felt the clasp of baby fingers, but a dear old-fashioned mother with a sweet voice, eyes into whose clear depths the love light shone, and brown hair, just threaded with silver, lying smooth upon her faded cheek. Those dear hands, worn with toil, gently guided our steps in childhood, and smoothed our cheek in sickness, ever reaching out to us in yearning tenderness. Blessed is the memory of the old-fashioned mother. It floats to us like the beautiful perfume of some wood blossoms. The music of other voices may be lost, but the enchanting memory of her will echo in our soul forever.

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The Army and Navy Journal is worrying over the peace talk. That organ of legalized murder denounces Secretary of State Bryan for talking of peace—universal peace. We are of the opinion that the people of this country have had enough of war; we believe the masses do not hanker after being shot down. And the masses are the ones who are shot down, in case of war. The bankers, lawyers, merchants and doctors seldom are foolish enough to risk their precious lives in battle, at the price of \$18 per month. Let Bryan talk. He has more followers than all the army and navy officers on earth. Those fellows are spoiling for trouble—trouble is their profession.

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