

Ashland Tidings

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REMOVING THE MYSTERY.

Mr. Abbott of Chicago, in an address to the Missouri Bankers' Association in session in St. Louis, expressed the opinion that the bankers of the country should remove the mystery that has too long enveloped banking. He is strong in the belief that when the public knows the bankers as they are and understands their purposes and the functions they perform, there will be less hostility. No doubt Mr. Abbott is right as to the bankers, and the same is true as to men of practically all other professions and businesses. It is true of individuals, in or out of business. The fact was put in attractive form by a Missourian who devised a commercial club slogan: "Get acquainted with your neighbor; you might like him." Half the friction in the world comes from misunderstanding.

The day of mystery has passed. Railway presidents have discovered it. The public made up its mind to find out things about railways. Sometimes its surmises were worse than the facts. The leading railways of the country now maintain departments of publicity and the facts are no longer "doctored." The public curiosity is keen and it is suspicious of any lack of frankness. Manufacturers of drugs and articles of food have noted this determination of the public. Packers have also been urged to speak. Even the physicians have had to break the reticence of long habit. Courts have often felt impelled to write their decisions in language comprehensible to the laity. Newspapers have been compelled to file sworn statements as to their circulation and ownership. In short, nothing can be done in a corner any more. Every institution of a public or quasi-public nature or depending upon the public for patronage must be ready at any time for pitiless publicity, and even the privacy of individuals is often invaded.

While there are many old-fashioned folks who are often annoyed by some of the aspects of the changed condition of affairs, the change as a whole will prove beneficial. There is nothing more healthful than light. No more significant saying words were ever uttered than those attributed to Goethe, when he wrote with his hand in the air, "Light, More Light!" The Nazarene gave the reason for some people's preference for darkness. There are few callings among men that will not bear light. The great mass of men engaged in every calling should welcome publicity. The few whose dark practices cause them to shun it are those who have given the calling whatever bad reputation it may have. Nothing will do more to bring a general recognition of the brotherhood of man than perfect understanding, such as Mr. Abbott urges the bankers to establish with their customers.

THE GREAT ADVENTURE.

The top of the morning to Uncle Jimmie Corcoran and his good wife, of Belle Plaine, Minn., he 89 and she 84—they've just celebrated the sixty-second anniversary of their wedding, and look good for many happy returns of the day.

Seven children, 42 youngsters once removed and 13 in the third generation live to bless the day when Uncle Jimmie, a bold buck of 23, came to this country from Old Erin, the flame of love in his heart for the bonnie lassie of 18 who came over upon the same ship and later linked her life with his.

And say, maybe it wasn't some celebration when four generations met to wish them well!

Sixty-two years of joy and trouble, storm and sunshine—62 years in the most interesting period that the human race has ever known. And through it all, lovers and comrades, share and share alike.

Nightfall finds the mists together, rich in memories, calm in acceptance of what is to come.

No question there that marriage pays.

Phone news items to the Tidings.

THE FACTS ARE STILL ALIVE.

Mr. Mellen of the New Haven, on the stand before the Interstate Commerce Commission, recalled those French officers in the Dreyfus trial who, whenever a particularly odious thing in the conspiracy was brought out, ascribed it to that one of the conspirators who died before the trial began. In law, one man cannot make a conspiracy, but the conspiracy proved in the Dreyfus case showed a dead man as the only one, and in the case of the New Haven road, according to Mr. Mellen, the late J. Pierpont Morgan was about the only man in on the deal for despoiling investors of millions.

The Dreyfus conspiracy was proved on the admitted facts, and the New Haven conspiracy is being proved in the same way. The fact that the man is dead to whom all responsibility is now imputed, cannot change the record. Mr. Mellen went into sickening details of how he and other directors in the West Chester deal were only puppets of Mr. Morgan. He told how New Haven stockholders, protesting to him at the expenditure of \$11,000,000 of the company's cash for a losing property, when told by him to complain to Mr. Morgan in person, shrank in admitted fear from such an ordeal. There were several men in the group, he said, who saw both the danger and the crime, but they all were afraid to speak. One man terrorized all of the others into an evil partnership, and yet, in the vernacular of the world of high finance to which they all belonged, they had all long been known as "strong men."

It is not necessary to think that Mr. Morgan was the only evil spirit in the group to see the evil that was done. "The evil men do lives after them," Mr. Morgan was the dominating figure. He could set up and pluck down men in the chief executive office of great railway lines in which his banking houses could raise a controlling voice through its representation in stock and bond boards. The story has not yet progressed far, but it has progressed far enough to show the vital necessity of that degree of government regulation of railway securities which some capable men at the head of solvent lines are now saying is needed for their own protection and that of the investing public.

RISE AND DECLINE OF TRADE.

Gibbon wrote a famous history on the "Decline and fall of the Roman Empire." In the power and pride of Rome on the ascending scale, few would have thought ruin possible. Similarly in many well-established business houses there are the seeds of decay.

The merchants of any community range themselves into two classes. There are those who have an established trade, great or small. Some of them think they can now live on the fruits of their past efforts. All they have to do is to sit still and their regular customers will come around and buy their goods.

But population changes more rapidly than it used to. Few people send out roots deep into any soil. Death claims its share. Any given body of people, accustomed to buying goods in some one place, will be cut in two by death and removal in five years.

The older people who bought goods regularly at one store were almost ashamed to be seen going into another place. They felt as if it were almost an act of disloyalty. Nowadays no one is tied up anywhere. All go where the best bargains are offered. Few places have any regularly established trade that can be counted on without persistent solicitation. New customers must constantly be sought to take the place of those that drop out.

The other class of merchants are those that are coming. In a year, by persistent efforts to tell the public what they are doing, they build up their own constituency. It is made up not merely of the drifters and floaters, but from wide-awake people who are drawn from less aggressive and enterprising stores.

The business that does not advertise is usually the business that is going down. The business that advertises is the business that is coming up.

The Canadian parliament is expected to pass an anti-tipping law. The Americans have such a feeling of pity for the poor hotel and restaurant keepers that they will keep on paying their bills twice for the same service.

Winston Churchill, the British lord of the admiralty, having looped the loop six times in an aeroplane, Secretary Daniels will probably attempt some dare-devil feat.

T. R. is finding that it is as hard to keep possession of a river as it is of a bunch of colored delegates.

Phone job orders to the Tidings.

AND YET THEY COMPLAIN THAT THE PEOPLE ARE LOSING RESPECT FOR JUDGES.

Read through this narrative and see whether you do not agree that truth is stranger than fiction.

Terre Haute's wealthiest citizen is Crawford Fairbanks. He is the proprietor of a big brewery and has run the town, politically, for many years. Vice is rampant, elections have become a farce, because of false registrations and other election frauds. Early this year a circuit judge by the name of Charles M. Fortune impaneled a special grand jury and appointed a special prosecutor. They went diligently to work and the mayor of Terre Haute, prosecuting attorney of the county and others were indicted for election frauds.

The trial of the case against the mayor was in progress. The grand jury was still at work. It had found a number of indictments which had not yet been reported, and was still prosecuting its investigations. It was currently rumored that the grand jury and the special prosecutor were trying to get not only the tools who had committed the election frauds, but the men higher up who had furnished the money. Crawford Fairbanks had absented himself from Terre Haute during the investigation, and it was understood that a subpoena would be served on him if he came within the jurisdiction of the court. Fairbanks' machine officials declined to make any appropriation for the expenses of the special grand jury and prosecutor, and they had offered to serve without pay.

Sunday, April 26, Tom Taggart and Crawford Fairbanks, the political bosses of Indiana, met at the Dennison Hotel in Indianapolis. The same day the mayor of Terre Haute, the defendant whose case was on trial, and Judge Fortune, the judge who was trying the case, journeyed to Indianapolis and went into conference with these two political bosses. What passed between them is not disclosed, except that the judge said he reported the political situation in Terre Haute. The next day Judge Fortune called in the special grand jury and summarily dismissed it, without consulting the special prosecutor, or even giving the grand jury an opportunity to report the indictments which it had already found. The grand jurors united in a public statement, in which they state:

"We wish the public to know in the past two years there is not a law on the statute books governing elections which has not been repeatedly violated; that there is absolutely no enforcement in any part of the county of the laws regulating the sale of liquor; that there is no officer of Vigo county whose duties involve the enforcement of law who is making any pretense at performing the duties of his office; that the warrants on the indictments which were returned early last week against the runners of blind tigers in Fayette township, of which there were sixteen, have never been served.

"That in our efforts to arrive at the truth and to obtain evidence of violations of law, we have been hampered, delayed and thwarted by officers of the county who have taken solemn oaths to enforce the laws; that at no time in our investigations have we ever received willing co-operation or assistance from the county officials who are drawing their salary from the people's money, for the performance of the duties imposed upon them by law."

This performance in Indiana is entitled to go down in history with the one in Cincinnati, where Boss Cox called the three judges of the circuit court before him and told them how to decide a case.

And yet there are those who complain because the people have lost respect for judges.

IT'S TIME TO PAINT.

One of the many to whom the aesthetic takes off his hat is the paint man. If there is any one class of business which comes more nearly being a benefactor than the man who sells paint, it is the mechanic who spreads it. Inside or out, the sign of fresh paint is a sign of cleanliness and health; it gives a new smell, a new appearance and even a new taste to things. Outside it kills rot, and inside it kills germs. On top it spares leaks and at the bottom it keeps out the damp. A clean, freshly painted town spells progress and taste and wealth.

Of course the paint man and the painter are not the "whole show." Sambo with his whitewash brush is entitled to credit; the man-of-all-work with his pitch bucket helps out; the scrub woman with her lye and her soap and her mop comes in for a lot of credit. But we're for the man who paints, just the same.

It seems very careless of the Mexican warriors to go on fighting while Richard Harding Davis was locked up and unable to write up the battles.

TROUBLES OF MR. FORD.

The fact that Mr. Ford is to gradually lay off factory hands until the number of 6,000 will be without employment for a time has attracted several times as much attention as similar action by numerous employers of the country. Word comes from Washington that the federal government is to begin an inquiry into causes. Whether Haman's gallows is to be used or not only the results of the inquiry will determine. The management announces that the retrenchment is due to slack business and the cause assigned for such slackness is reasonable on its face. It is explained that the operation of the factory continuously, night and day, in three eight-hour shifts, enabled it to fill all orders. It is not customary for factories to accumulate a great surplus of products and store the same. When the surplus has been disposed of abroad at reduced prices in competition with foreign goods it has given rise to a charge that American customers were being robbed. Every tariff campaign has been calven with discussions of this practice.

The mediators cannot object to the Mexicans blowing up their own bridges any more than they could interfere with their amputating their proboscises to spite their faces.

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United States of America

The man under arrest on a charge of swindling does not help his case any with surgeons by declaring that he has a silver plate in his skull. This is one of the hardest dying delusions extant.

Mr. Rockefeller is furnishing additional employment. He has hired some more guards for his home in New York.

The Tidings is on sale at Poley's drug store, 17 East Main street.

The Boy Scouts are drilling in many places with wooden guns, but so far Huerta has not claimed that this violates the armistice.

\$2 THE YEAR \$2
Strictly in Advance

Southern Oregon's Big Twice-a-Week newspaper

The Ashland Tidings
STRICTLY IN ADVANCE.

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Dry Goods
Fancy Waists

VAUPEL'S
The QUALITY STORE

Butterick Patterns
SHOES
GENTS' FURNISHINGS

We Give 5% Cash Coupons With Every Cash Purchase

Just received another lot of
Pneumatic Dress Forms
Sizes 38 and 42
YOU SHOULD HAVE ONE

Cleanup Sale of
Men's Straw Hats

Regular \$3.00 hat, now \$2.00
Regular \$2.50 hat, now \$1.50
Regular \$1.50 hat, now \$1.00
Regular \$1.25 hat, now 75c

Prices Slaughtered on Ladies' Outing Suits

Kahki suits, consisting of coat and skirt, sizes 36, 38 and 40 bust measure, regular \$6.00, now \$4.00

Linen Suits---Coat and Skirt

Sizes 32 and 40, regular \$5.00, now \$2.75
Sizes 32 and 38, regular \$7.00, now \$3.00
Size 36, regular \$8.00, now \$3.50
Size 40, regular \$8.50, now \$3.90
Sizes 38 and 39, regular \$8.50, now \$3.90
Sizes 37 and 43, regular \$9.00, now \$4.00
Sizes 38 and 40, regular \$12.00, now \$5.00

Ladies' Linen Auto Coats

Regular \$3.50, now \$2.00
Regular \$5.00, now \$3.00
Regular \$7.50, now \$4.50
Regular \$9.00, now \$5.00

LADIES' ALL WOOL SUMMER

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YOUR CHOICE \$10

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Here you will find the best, in all styles.

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And buy your choice of land now before the inevitable jump in prices.

My clients are continually raising prices or withdrawing offers, but I have a few SNAPS left.

Don't think that because I sell the STANLEY STEAM AUTOS that I can't find you a bargain in land. That's why I can do it.

If you want money, land, a home, an automobile, timber lands, remember that a man in the real estate business is a good one to interview. I am one of them.

Would any of the following interest you?

22 acres, alfalfa ranch, close to town, on perpetual stream. Splendid building site. \$4,500. Easiest kind of terms.

An 80-acre alfalfa and grain farm well improved, nicely located, offered for a short time at \$12,000. Ought to and no doubt will bring \$16,000 within a year.

A cottage on paved street leased for a year at \$15 to responsible tenant, \$1,200.

A mountain ranch, well improved, on Williams creek, to trade for Ashland property.

E. T. STAPLES
Hotel Ashland Bldg. Ashland, Oregon