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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

WEATHER.

Oregon and Washington - Rain, south to easterly.

STEPHEN S. WISE.

Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, of Portland, has wakened some of the Hebrew dead in the effete East by promptly declining a call from the greatest temple within the gift of that people, in the whole country, upon the ground that he would preach only from an "unmuzzled pulpit." Good for Dr. Wise! It is a pity there are not more like him in, and out, of his faith. The idea of a leader with a "ring in his nose" is contemptible, and the men who give up their lives to the tremendous task of guiding men and women to the heights of wisdom and virtue and right living, should be, beyond all others, free from the restraints of cliquery and claquery and answerable only for the sin of transgressing the law of morals. The doctrinal law can take care of itself and will do so, just as it has for the unnumbered centuries it has contended for existence. Such manliness as his, in boldly standing for an unfettered expression of the best that is in him to do and say for the real good of the people, is a monumental example that many another pastor might well follow. Unhappily, the pulpits of the country are dominated by the influential few of the congregations, and the men who are supposed to teach, direct, care for and pilot the erring, sustain and help the strong, and do for all, what the Master did for the world of men, are hampered at every turn of their careers by the limitations set up for them by people they are supposed to govern under the code of morality and the ethics of religious life. It is a pity there are not more preachers with the backbone of Rabbi Wise. The pulpit might be far more potential than it is, and the churches have less to complain of by way of attendance and support. There are exceptions to this course of restriction, certainly, but they are wonderfully in the minority considering the vastness of the profession and the infinite scope of its calling in this world.

STICK TO IT.

The late Judge Andrew Wylie of Virginia had a happy gift of illustration. The judge cast in 1860 the only vote for Lincoln that was given in Alexandria Va. In an address on Lincoln he once illustrated in an odd way the power of perseverance. "Lincoln persevered," he said, "and it is only those who persevere, they who concentrate their energies, who succeed. Don't give three years to journalism and then, discouraged, try the law awhile. Don't learn the grocery business and in a little while take up placer mining or plumbing. Consider, rather the postage stamp, whose usefulness depends on its ability to stick to one thing until it gets there."

BOSTON HOME OF BEAN EATERS.

So tremendous has become the demand for baked beans in Boston that more money is spent each year on this

vegetable than would buy the biggest battleship in our navy. In 1904 more than 68,000 barrels were used. In each barrel are five bushels and the average price at which these were sold by the wholesalers was one dollar and eighty-five cents a bushel, and when these were again sold to consumers they brought an average of twelve cents a pound, or a total of \$6,398,272 for a year's supply for the inhabitants of Boston who are great lovers of the delectable dish. Accepting as the population of Boston approximately 353,000, this would give each inhabitant, men and women, boys, girls and babies, an average of thirty-seven quarts. These thirty-seven quarts of beans would weigh 148 pounds.

TOO MANY DOCTORS.

The overcrowding of the medical profession in Germany is a matter of grave concern. There are now in the empire 29,200 physicians, which doubles the number found in 1876. In other words, there is one physician in German for every 1700 inhabitants. In the city of Berlin 46 per cent of all the physicians have an income of less than \$700, and five per cent of the whole number do not have a sufficient income to return it for taxation. On the other hand, in the legal profession in Germany 80 per cent of the lawyers have an income exceeding \$2000. It is estimated that the preparation of a man for the duties of a physician in German costs about \$6000, and thus it is seen that the income is often less than 10 per cent of the fixed charge of the capital invested. This leaves practically nothing for the reward of his own personal services, not for wear and tear.

THINK FIRST.

Right thinking is the foundation of right living. To live the highest life of which we, as human beings, are capable, we must firmly believe and live up to our belief that we can, should and must resolutely master our thought as well as our action; and that we must control the mental pictures in which we indulge as much as the words which issue from our lips. As a man "thinketh in his heart, so is he." Thoughts generate feeling. When discouraged and depressed, lift up your chest, take an attitude of courage and speak these words several times, slowly and earnestly: "Faith, hope, courage." When sensitive over ill-treatment, take the correct physical attitude and say, several times, slowly and earnestly: "Love, patience, forgiveness," and see if you don't feel better.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

You've heard people say that they had "worked like a dog all day." An exchange has figured that if this were literally true, the twenty-four hours would be spent thus: One hour digging out a rat, two hours gnawing a bone, one hour waiting for a cat to come down from a tree, half an hour begging to get into the house and the balance of the time sleeping on a mat in the cold doorway.

The men of Big Horn County, Wyo., are about to advertise for 1000 single women. They have prepared a census of the county, showing that there are ten bachelors to one unmarried woman.

Keep your eyes open for new ideas. Whenever you come to anything that you think would be worth remembering, cut it out and paste it in a book.

Fifty thousand people can seat themselves in Chicago's playhouses at one time, and over 25,000 a night the year round through the theaters of the city.

Austria is the country most lenient to murderers. In ten years over 800 persons were found guilty of murder of whom only twenty-three were put to death.

It is stated that in Australia there were in October only 3500 unemployed persons in a male adult population of 1,371,000, the smallest proportion in any country.

If the sweet girl graduate of last June hasn't got a school or an engagement yet, it is high time for her to study shorthand and hustle around to get a job at typewriting.

The Christmas trade in Chicago this year is shown by facts collected on State street to be by \$20,000,000 greater than at any Christmas in the city's history.

If Carnegie has started out to patch up the differences between all the married couples who drift apart he will discover presently that this world has some kinds of trouble he didn't know about before.

WATCHING AMERICA

Britain Would Regulate American Insurance Companies.

URGES ANNUAL INSPECTION

London "Post" Favors Election of Britisher to Inspect Operations of American Life Insurance Companies in England—30,000 British Policyholders

LONDON, Jan. 7.—The "Morning Post" is continuing its agitation in favor of circumscribing the activities of American life insurance companies in Great Britain by rules of the most stringent character. For the past few days the paper has devoted considerable space in its editorial columns to criticism and suggestions, and in its most recent attack it advocates the election of an English man to the presidency of the Mutual company. In this connection it says:

"The British policyholders in the Mutual number apparently nearly thirty thousand, and their interests must be protected. We hold that the first step to be taken is a thorough examination of the Mutual's books by a reputable firm of English accountants, and that for the future English policyholders should be represented by at least one director on the board. It has recently been suggested in our columns that 'the liabilities incurred to British policyholders should be mathematically valued by independent British actuaries, and a sufficient sum in good securities, not necessarily British, deposited in the name of British trustees to meet those liabilities thus ascertained,' and that this deposit should be 'adjusted year by year as an annual valuation might require.' The suggestion, which has already been incorporated in the French insurance law, is, in our opinion, an excellent one.

"But no regulations will be of much avail unless the new president of the society is a man of character and one who is already known to and trusted by the British policyholders. All agree in praising the personal qualities and business capacities of D. C. Haldeman, the Mutual's general manager in England. Were Mr. Haldeman to succeed to the presidency of the company he would carry to the discharge of his duties a reputation untainted by what the American journals call 'McCurdyism,' proved administrative capacities based on a thorough knowledge of the business, and, what in our opinion is most important of all, the confidence and esteem of British policyholders, who at present are without either voice or influence in New York. That also, we believe, is a suggestion which the American officers of the company will find it to their interest to take into consideration. Nothing at any rate could do more harm to the company in British opinion than that the new president should be an unknown man or an outsider ignorant of insurance problems or a man who was suspected of being closely allied with Wall Street."

Of Interest to Clergy.

The Astoria & Columbia River Railroad Co., having been granted membership in the Trans-Continental Clergy Bureau, the name of that company will appear in the clergy application blanks and clergy certificates issued by the bureau for 1906, and commencing January 1st, of the coming year. These permits will be honored by all agents of the A. & C. R. R., thus eliminating the individual half-fare permits issued by that company in former years. Requests for official application blanks should be made to J. C. Mayo, general passenger agent, Astoria.

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