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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

CONFLICTING REPORTS ABOUT MANGE.

DOCTORS disagree again. Dr. Hutchinson, United States inspector of the animal industry for Oregon, reported several months ago that some bands of cattle in eastern Oregon ready for shipment were afflicted with mange, and forbade their exportation from the state. This action was severely denounced at the time by eastern Oregon stockmen and local newspapers, who maintained that Dr. Hutchinson was mistaken; that he did not give the animals a thorough examination, some declaring that he only rode around them and looked at them from a distance; that in fact the cattle had no mange whatever, and that his arbitrary and unjustifiable order would and did result in great injury to the owners of the particular bands and to the stock industry of Oregon in general.

Dr. McLean, the state veterinary surgeon, in the case of one band of cattle near Condon, fully substantiates these representations of the stockmen and the local newspapers, notwithstanding Dr. Hutchinson's report was approved by his immediate superior, Dr. Hickox, of Salt Lake. Dr. McLean declares that this band of cattle, when he examined them two months after Hutchinson did, had no mange whatever; that if they had mange in August when Hutchinson examined them they must have had it in October when McLean made his examination; that he made a thorough, scientific examination, as Hutchinson did not; and he confirms the local reports as to the heavy loss to the owner of these cattle in particular and to stockmen generally. Later a special inspector has been out from Washington, D. C., examining this band of cattle, but his report has not yet been made. If he affirms Hutchinson and Hickox, the stockman will probably have no redress; if he agrees with McLean the cattle owners' grandchildren may get some reimbursement from Uncle Sam for his loss.

In the face of these conflicting reports we cannot positively declare what the truth is. The stockmen's representations must be taken with some caution, for they are deeply interested parties. On the other hand their statements are so positive and persistent that they are not to be disregarded. Especially to be considered are the insistent declarations that Dr. Hutchinson made no sufficient or real examination of the animals. If this be true he deserves all the censure that has been bestowed upon him. But what about Hickox? Did he indorse Hutchinson's report without a careful examination? If so the government should make some changes in the personnel of its animal industry service in Oregon. On the other hand if Dr. McLean is wrong the eastern Oregon cattlemen should quit censuring the federal officers and go to work to rid their herds of the disease.

But whatever the facts, it is undisputed that the action of Dr. Hutchinson has resulted in great loss and injury to the stock industry of Oregon. If this action was justifiable and necessary, then the cattlemen must bear the loss and are not entitled to complain; but if they and Mr. McLean are right, the federal officials have done a mischief that they can never repair.

THE LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATION FARCE.

THE MUDDLE regarding the state public lands is another and just now a timely reminder of the biennial farce of special legislative committees. Most such committees render no service of value to the state. Their duties are performed perfunctorily, and in accordance with custom, and they almost invariably report everything to be all right, without knowing anything more about the matter than members who are not on the committee. Membership on one of these select committees sometimes swells the members' mileage, and gives the chairmen, at least, an opportunity to do a favor to some of their hungering constituents. Such committees usually have a chief clerk at $10 a day, and one or more, generally more, assistants and stenographers at $5 or $3 a day, who however small or brief their services, are paid for nearly the whole session. As a rule the members of the committee leave the business to the clerks, who fix up a nice, pleasant little report, which is accepted and adopted without question or interest, and nobody knows any more about the thing supposed to be investigated than he did before.

One clerk of the board of public land commissioners made a good-sized fortune in that office; another stole a lot of money from the state, which theft was undiscovered for years by legislative committees; and the state public land business has been badly botched if not crookedly conducted much of the time for many years, yet the expensive committee appointed at each session to investigate this business invariably reports it in most excellent and admirable shape. And so it is with the committees appointed to investigate the books of the state treasurer, the secretary of state, the state printer, and other things.

The members of these committees are not to be very severely censured for this style of investigation, for it is not only a custom, but they have no time to make an investigation, and attend to their other duties, and most of them are utterly incapable of performing such a task. They are supposed to employ clerks capable of doing such work, but they do not always do so, and then the clerks are sometimes susceptible to the beguiling courtesy of the interested parties. So with perhaps an occasional exception the whole investigating business is an expensive farce.

It would be cheaper and better for the legislature to employ several disinterested experts, not applicants for clerkships, men who would scorn to ask for such favors, non-residents of the state preferred, to make real investigations, and if they could not conclude it by the adjournment of the session to give them additional time, their reports to be made to the next legislature. If this plan had been adopted 30 years ago, and continued at periods of say every six years, and the legislatures had acted on the information thus obtained, Oregon would have been much better off than it is, although a few men might have been poorer.

THE FIGHT MUST GO ON.

THE St. Johns Review criticises The Journal for giving so much space and conspicuity to the exposures of maladministration and grafting in this city, on the ground that such large and bright publicity of official delinquencies, illegal practices and criminal vices "will go a long way toward counterbalancing the glowing picture set forth in advertising the Lewis and Clark fair." The Review intimates that things are not as bad as represented, anyway, though it admits that "the truth is bad enough," but it would have this truth kept in the background, lest visiting strangers should consider Portland a much worse place than it is. The Review agrees that "the city government of Portland should be purged of the thieving and skulduggery which appears to exist to an alarming extent," but regards it as "unfortunate that the clearing process had not been inaugurated before, and had to be put off until the most inopportune period of our whole existence."

Yes, it is unfortunate, but the exposing and purging processes cannot be stopped or delayed. By next summer a good deal may have been accomplished, and The Journal may be justified in making less of a feature of municipal maladministration. It hopes so, but it cannot consent to any truce in the warfare against official rascality or the public practice of criminal vices. The hotter the fight is made in the interim, the clearer and purer will be the municipal atmosphere next summer. That is just the time when a horde of grafters, gamblers, and thieves of various degrees, are especially anxious to ply their vocation here, and to call off honesty's dogs of war now would give them just the opportunity they desire.

No newspaper during The Journal's existence has said so many good words for Portland; no paper is so ready and anxious to say all that can be said—and that is very much—in Portland's behalf and in its praise; but this paper's plain duty is to keep on exposing and denouncing criminality and crookedness in municipal affairs.

THE EAST SIDE HIGH SCHOOL.

NOW THAT IT HAS BEEN DECIDED to build a high school on the east side and pay a price for it commensurate to its dignity and importance it is well to impress upon the school board two things. In the first place the building should be worth while architecturally and in the second place the work should be undertaken so that the building will be ready for occupancy at the opening of the next school year.

All the pupils should have the schools ready for them when opening time comes. It is possible to do this provided the right spirit and the proper degree of responsibility is felt all along the line. Contractors in the past have been indifferent. They completed their work in time if everything went all right; but if it didn't they got through when they could. If the pupils suffered for lack of accommodations and were debarred from the schools for a week or several weeks it was something which couldn't be helped so what was the use of worrying about it. But this happy-go-lucky spirit will no longer be tolerated and the contractors who undertake such work must complete their contracts at the time specified.

As for the school itself it should be a model of advanced ideas in school construction. In lighting, ventilation, conveniences and interior decorations it should embody everything which experience has justified. Its exterior, too, should be dignified and elegant. There should be no gingerbread. In all respects it should be in keeping with the purposes for which it is to be utilized and a tribute to the good taste of the people responsible for its construction.

TRADES UNIONS IN JAPAN.

From Lafcadio Hearn's "Japan: An Interpretation."

Let us suppose, for instance, that you wish to have a good house built. As a general rule you will apply to a master carpenter. You cannot select and hire workmen; guild regulations forbid. You can only make your contract, and the master carpenter, when his plans have been approved, will undertake all the rest—purchase and transport of material; hire of carpenters, plasterers, tilers, matmakers, screen-fitters, brassworkers, stonecutters, locksmiths and glaziers. For each master carpenter represents much more than his own craft guild. He has his clients in every trade related to house-building and house-furnishing, and you must not dream of trying to interfere with his claims and privileges.

He builds your home according to contract, but that is only the beginning of the relation. You have really made with him an agreement which you must not break, without good and sufficient reason, for the rest of your life. Whatever afterward may happen to any part of your house—wall, floor, ceiling, roof, foundation—you must arrange for repairs with him, never with anybody else. Should the roof leak, for instance, you must not send for the nearest tiler or tinsmith; if the plaster cracks, you must not send for a plasterer.

The man who built your house holds himself responsible for its condition, and he is jealous of that responsibility. None but he has the right to send for the plasterer, the roofer, the tinsmith.

DEFYING THE FIRE FIEND.

From the Minneapolis Journal.

The Baltimore architects have drawn plans for a building entirely without wood. It is to be built for Mr. Hilgenburg, who does not wish to be burned out again. It will be six stories and will have a frontage of 41 feet 6 inches. The entire structure is to be of reinforced concrete and steel.

Even the doors, trims, window sashes and door-jambs are to be of metal. The windows will be glazed with wire glass. The frame for the show windows will be of steel, into which the plate glass will be fitted. The side walls, columns and rear walls, as well as the supporting columns of the front walls, will be of concrete. The floors will all have a top-dressing of cement one and a half inches thick.

The stairs will be of concrete, with slate treads and wrought-iron balustrades. The elevator shaft will be of concrete, as will also the inclosure around the stairway and the elevator hall. The cellar and roof are to be of cement. In order to eliminate all wood the two flagstaffs on top of the structure will be of steel. If this mass of metal, stone and cement can be crumbled or destroyed by fire, the struggle for an absolutely fireproof structure might as well stop.

THE "PERFECT MODEL."

From the New York World.

According to testimony given in Part V. of the City Court, dressmakers have established these as the proper measurements of a well formed young woman 68 inches in height: Bust, 36 inches; waist, 25 inches; hips, 43 inches.

A curious instance this of the scientific fact of "modification by environment." For the proportions indicated are as far from the beautiful as they are from the natural. The "perfect model," according to the unchangeable canons of art, with a bust measure practically unchanged, would have a waist at least five inches larger and hips at least five inches smaller, and be far more graceful in repose as well as more vigorous in movement. A small waist does not give the figure a slender appearance, but by the law of contrast quite the reverse. The athletic young man has naturally a smaller waist in proportion than the athletic and healthy young woman, but he does not appear more slender.

It is not "tight lacing" that so affects beauty of form. The inevitable result of hanging many heavy garments from the waist is to constrict it and force the flesh down into the clumsy hips which are such a common modern defect. It is unfortunate that a flaw due to ill-adjusted clothing should be labeled "perfection."

PENNY VAUDEVILLE.

From the New York Sun.

Penny vaudeville is the latest of New York's cheap amusements. It is nothing more than a development of the old penny in the slot idea, with up-to-date inventions and contrivances.

The business began in a modest way in Buffalo about 12 years ago. Two young men opened a small place, filled it with phonographs and charged 5 cents to hear the reproduction of a song. Later they introduced the mutoscope, or moving pictures.

The enterprise prospered. With the invention of other automatic contrivances the business was increased and finally found its way to New York.

Today the originators of the idea are at the head of a stock company capitalized at $500,000, with branches in all the principal cities. Not long ago the idea was taken up in Europe, where it has been just as successful.

About five years ago the price to enjoy the attractions was cut to 1 cent. An idea of the magnitude and profit of the business, even at this price, may be had from the fact that it costs from $25,000 to $150,000 to fit up a complete penny vaudeville hall. The machines cost from $50 to $1,500 each.

Europe contributes considerable in the way of the novelties used in these shows. A machine showing the head and bust of a woman in gypsy costume telling fortunes by cards, a German invention, cost $1,500 to bring to this country. Another, representing Cupid distributing fortune telling cards, cost $700.

Everything in the large shows, even to the counting of the daily receipts, is worked on the automatic principle. The machine for counting the cents can register 1,000 cents in less than a minute and a half, and 100,000 cents in less than two hours.

The phonograph and moving pictures are the most popular attractions, but the athletic machines, such as strength testers, punching bags, muscle developers, etc., are all well patronized.

The average daily attendance at these halls may be anything between 5,000 and 25,000, according to the location.

Small Change

Try to start even, at least, next year.

Only three days more till Dave Hill swears off.

The machine will try to grind out Booth, alias Kuykendall.

Port Arthur may want to lie in the lap of spring when it falls.

Begin Monday to make 1905 a great year for Oregon and Portland.

These are called holidays—perhaps by courtesy to the vanishing year.

Gallantry is not dead—behold the offers of bail for Nan and Cassie.

Perhaps the Riners may conclude to make some interesting disclosures.

Political weather forecast for 1907—severe squalls and storms at Salem.

General Smilnoff has been wounded. But it is supposed he will smile it off.

The tail-end of December is making up some of the year's rainfall deficit.

A railroad reform bill fathered by S. B. Elkins is properly an object of suspicion.

It may soon come to the point that an indictment is the test of a man's political prominence.

It is the more competent and earnest of the grade teachers who most deserve the increase of salary.

Southern planters are burning their cotton, to raise the price. This remedy is of the fool-heroic type.

Togo is on a visit to Tokio, where he will be greatly lionized, but he should beware of accepting a house.

Some single women will characteristically put it off till about 11:55 Saturday night, perhaps at a watch meeting.

If Addicks should be "elected" and allowed to take his seat, what a farce the prosecution of Smoot would appear.

If Uncle Chauncey is not re-elected, perhaps he will be given Ambassador Choate's job, it being reported that he is tired of it.

Portland merchants have done an immense holiday trade, but every succeeding year may be expected to be a record breaker in Portland.

Portland should, and will, duly appreciate the good work to be done by the Northern Pacific in the interest of the Lewis and Clark fair, as well as its own.

The Colorado supreme court appears to have unlimited power to count in Republicans, but anything demanded or requested by Democrats is unconstitutional.

Director Wittenberg objects to young women teachers taking their knitting to teachers' institutes. Is it possible that any young women knit any more? And if so should they not be encouraged in that grandmotherly occupation?

And there are those who pretend that John Hall would permit the persecution of Senator Mitchell for "political revenge." What next, in the way of absurdities?—Salem Statesman. Perhaps that there have been no land frauds but would have been except for B. H.

Oregon Sidelights

Prineville cast 112 votes, Bend 117.

Still one of Oregon's greatest needs is more laying hens.

Fossil has concluded that it needs no salaried city marshal.

In John Day city minors are punished for going into saloons.

Woman suffrage has won—in the Mapleton debating society.

County division is again becoming a warm question in central Oregon.

The Condon Times indulges in this fling at Dr. Hutchinson: "A man who stands off and looks at a bunch of cattle and announces they have the mange can hardly be classified as a careful official."

A man who abused five horses at Bend by leaving them in the cold open air without food or water for two or three days, had to sell two of them to pay a fine of $20 and costs, and he doesn't deserve to own the other three.

A Lakeview councilman has given notice that the first man caught using the town scraper for his private benefit will be hanged to the nearest lamp post.

The Foresters' lodge and G. A. R. post of Bandon are having a quarrel, but so far the old soldiers have not resorted to their rifles, nor have the Foresters taken to the Coast range woods.

The Malheur county representative is going about making speeches and finding out what the people want him to do. This is an agreeable innovation on the custom of making speeches only during a campaign.

A new buggy which a Tygh valley man had just bought and was trailing home broke loose, went off the Tygh hill grade and was smashed all to pieces, and he has concluded that he didn't want a new buggy this year, any way.

Blinded by the glare of a headlight, a large flock of geese in Umatilla county flew against and around the cab windows and the boiler, three that flew into the cab being caught. The engine crew thought there were a thousand of them, but could not swear to it.

An Albany man has received a canine curiosity which appears to be a cross between a shepherd dog and a black bear, the head, face and fore feet being canine, the rest of the body that of a bear. One eye is brown, the other white. The animal came from eastern Oregon Indians.

A Salem paper evidently meant the Capital City is a central place for two-legged buttinskies, but not for Angora goats. There is not an attache of a paper in Oregon from "devil" to editor but knows Polk county leads in fine goats and the sale of mohair.

The new mayor of Seaside finds the treasury depleted and $300 due as interest on the water bonds, besides other obligations due. The business affairs of the city are in a badly tangled up way, and it is his intention to procure the services of an expert to learn where the money went and if it was distributed legally.

Buchanan Backs Up Lawson

From the New York World.

Fully as sensational as Thomas W. Lawson's own story of the Bay State Gas receivership is the history of that affair given in a suit, the sequel to the receivership, in which Receiver Dwight Braman was defendant.

It is the untold chapter of Lawson's story, and supplies unexpected corroboration of his narrative. From it the inference is almost inevitable that the Standard Oil furnished the money to end the receivership, just as Lawson says.

This suit, brought against Dwight Braman to compel him to give an accounting for his receivership, takes up the story where Lawson leaves off. The suit against Braman was brought by William Buchanan, the solitary bondholder whose belongings were made the basis of the hurried receivership, and in this suit Buchanan declared that he had been deceived throughout by Braham.

Buchanan is a multi-millionaire, 89 years old, formerly a member of the tobacco firm of Buchanan & Lyall, which was later sold to the tobacco trust. He is now a jute manufacturer in Brooklyn. He was one of the early bondholders of Addicks' Bay State Gas company, and when that Delaware politician ran the stock down to such a point that the company was threatened with bankruptcy Buchanan consented to allow Braman to bring an action for a receiver.

Braman was a member of both the New York and the Boston stock exchanges. Buchanan met him at the brokerage offices of Taylor & Mayer, No. 11 Wall street. When Braman learned that Buchanan had $100,000 of the gas company's bonds he began an inquiry.

One of the things which Buchanan's counsel says Braman found was that Addicks, a candidate for the United States senate, had arranged to make over the control of the Bay State Gas company to the Standard Oil company to get the money he needed for election.

"Knowing that Addicks badly needed the money at this time for election purposes," reads the brief of Buchanan's counsel, William Goldbeck of No. 120 Broadway, "Braman conceived the idea of trying to throw the gas company into a receiver's hands, so as to obstruct the Standard Oil deal, thus hoping to corner Addicks and make him settle for Buchanan's bonds rather than let the Standard Oil deal fall through.

"The scheme worked with astonishing success. Braman took matters into his own hands. The cards were well played. Gaston & Snow got all the Boston facts, Roger Foster figured in the suit as the attorney of record and drew up the papers, and in Wilmington Braman retained ex-Senator Anthony Higgins, the arch enemy of Addicks, to present the papers to Federal Justice Wales (since deceased), a personal friend of Higgins."

Braman did the whole thing. Buchanan took no hand. At this stage of the game Thomas W. Lawson appeared, and calling himself "the fiscal agent of the Bay State Gas company," began negotiating for a settlement. Settlement was made as Lawson describes, $125,000 in money being paid to Braman and Roger Foster and a $50,000 note signed by Lawson & Weidenfeld.

Up to this time, Buchanan was perfectly satisfied, but the division of the money received for the settlement is where the real trouble began. He declares that at 2 o'clock in the morning Roger Foster, the lawyer, reached his house with $50,000 in bills, which he turned over to him as his share, saying that he would receive the $50,000 note the next morning.

Not until two or three days later, Buchanan says, did he learn that $125,000 had been paid. Of this he declares that Braman had taken $50,000, paying the outside attorneys and retaining about $40,000 for himself, and Roger Foster had kept $25,000, paying $2,000 or $3,000 to assistants.

Buchanan employed William F. Goldbeck and began suit against Braman for an accounting. In this suit he alleged that he had been deceived throughout by Braman. Of Braman's action Buchanan said in his suit:

"On the evening of October 29, 1896, the defendant called upon plaintiff and stated that negotiations for a settlement of said suit were then pending between him and said Lawson, Weidenfeld & Co., and falsely and with intent to defraud plaintiff, then and there represented that said firm would pay $100,000 and no more in settlement of the suit, and defendant, with like fraudulent intent, advised plaintiff to accept said sum of $100,000 in settlement, falsely stating that all litigation expenses would be paid by said Lawson, Weidenfeld & Co., leaving $100,000 clear for plaintiff.

"That plaintiff, believing said statements to be true and knowing naught to the contrary, authorized defendant as his agent to accept said terms of settlement and to accept a six months' note of said Lawson, Weidenfeld & Co. for $50,000, properly secured, as part of said $100,000.

Litigation followed. Lawson was sued on the note. Braman brought counter-suits against Buchanan. Finally there was a compromise, and Buchanan's counsel says that Braman paid Buchanan a sum of money to call it even.

Roger Foster, when asked about the matter yesterday, said: "It is true that I went to Mr. Buchanan's at 2 o'clock in the morning and gave him $50,000 in bills. I was not going to take the risk of keeping that much money in my house over night, and perhaps being robbed. He is mistaken if he says that I did not explain to him how much money had been paid. I told him fully I acted throughout on the authority of an agreement he had given Braman to settle the suit for $100,000."

Lawyer Goldbeck declares that Roger Foster receipted for the $125,000 paid over in Wilmington. The written authorization which Buchanan gave to Braman to settle the case follows:

"New York, October 29, 1896.

"I hereby authorize D. Braman to settle the suit on the following terms:

"1. J. Edward Adicks to retire from all the gas companies as an officer.

"2. That D. Braman be elected president of all companies for one year.

"3. That we realize $100,000 cash or $50,000 and a note for $50,000 secured by collateral in the sum of my bonds.

"4. That Camille Weidenfeld make an apology for his treatment and actions towards me."

Under this Mr. Braman claimed that Buchanan got precisely what he agreed to settle for. He further urged a claim of $25,000 against him for his services in settling up the affair.

WHEN ROOSEVELT BALKED.

Secretary Taft, who made Tom Reed's claim that "no gentleman weighs more than 200 pounds" fit his own case by changing it to read, "No gentleman weighs more than 300 pounds," pushed his huge bulk through the cabinet-room door at the first cabinet meeting after the election, just as the president said: "I feel so good about the result I'd like to wheel somebody around in a wheelbarrow."

"Well," said Postmaster General Wynne, "there's Taft."

The Play

Although it has been presented in Portland a number of times, the pretty pastoral drama by Carrie Ashley Clark, "For Mother's Sake," was greeted by a fair-sized audience at the Empire last evening upon the occasion of its return. The story is well-known, and as an artistic creation this piece stands high above the large majority of melodramas and "idylls" usually presented in the popular-priced houses.

The management this year is featuring Marie Heath in the role of Joe Pemberton, "a bright little diamond." A lot of good things may be said about Miss Heath's splendid impersonation of the boy hero. When she was on the stage all others were forgotten, but this is not to say that the company is incompetent. Far from it. In the cast there are several lights more than ordinarily bright. Joseph Schafer, Jr., as Sherley Keith, and Harry Clare, as Major Brewster, were deserving of special mention. Among the women the notables were Adelaid Plunkett, as the prime old Yankee maid, Alnina, and Mary Tracey as the mother from which the piece derives its title. The play is well mounted.

During the intermission between the second and third acts Frankie Richter, the blind boy pianist, played and was warmly encored. The house was well pleased from the beginning, in fact, and there is no reason why "For Mother's Sake" should not enjoy a prosperous engagement. RACE WHITNEY.

Lewis and Clark

December 30.—The weather was cold, and the thermometer 20 degrees below zero. We killed one deer, and yesterday one of the men shot a wolf. The Indians brought corn, beans and squashes, which they very readily gave for getting their axes and kettles mended. In their general conduct during these visits they are honest, but will occasionally pilfer any small articles.

GREAT INEQUALITY.

From the Eugene State Journal.

When a man steals a scrub horse, worth perhaps $30, he is usually landed in jail as soon as arrested, and there awaits his trial, which may be in two or three months. Then he is tried and convicted in one day, sentenced to hard labor in the penitentiary the next day, and the sheriff takes him and lands him in the pen, where he must perform hard labor and undergo very unpleasant and sometimes cruel treatment for one to five years, usually not less than three years. These kinds of thieves are usually poverty stricken and have no money to spend on lawyers or juries or witnesses, although usually in Oregon lawyers are the only persons who receive money in such cases. They have a right to receive it, and juries and witnesses have not, and rarely if ever do in this state. But when a man has stolen or obtained fraudulently tens of thousands and perhaps hundreds of thousands of dollars by entering into a conspiracy to rob the government, which means everybody, instead of one person, as in the case of the horse thief, and commits perjury, forgery, bribery and every crime known to the moral, the criminal or the statute law, then, under the laws and regulations of the United States government, it takes a year or more after he has been indicted to bring him to trial, during which time he can be out on cash bail, having plenty of stolen money to put up, and having a high old time. Then, after spending much time and money in the prosecution, he is convicted, but instead of being railroaded off to the pen, handcuffed and guarded by the sheriff, the next day, he is boarded at the best hotel in the city for a few days, until some gambler or "bird of a feather," who makes his living by robbing people in a different way, goes on his bond, when he is again set at liberty to await the further delay of the law. And this is not the fault of the judge, the district attorney or the jury. They have all done their duty faithfully and well, but it is the fault of the law, which provides a limited term of imprisonment, or a limited fine, or both, not at all in proportion to the $30 thief, and allows a cash bail, which the $80 thief cannot take advantage of, the amount stolen not being sufficient to furnish bonds, even if he should be permitted to do so. There is a vast difference between the United States law and the state law in punishing the taking of money or property unlawfully from the private individual or the government. He who takes an almost worthless pony works in the pen from three to five years, but the high-roller who takes tens of thousands of dollars lives better than any farmer, banker or merchant in the state for years on his stealings, until convicted, and is then treated much more tenderly than the poverty-stricken wretch who did not take one-hundredth part as much of what did not belong to him. The laws seem to be framed so as to encourage people who live at the expense of others to get a plenty while they are getting, so they can have money to spend lavishly and enough left to hire able lawyers and put up cash bail and keep out of jail, as is now being illustrated in Oregon, and on a larger scale in the Mrs. Chadwick case in the east, where millions are involved.

HOW TO TAKE A WALK.

From Emerson's Lecture on the Country Life.

Walking has the best value as gymnastics for the mind. "You shall never break down in a speech," said Sydney Smith, "on the day on which you have walked 12 miles." In the English universities the reading men are daily performing their punctual training in the boat clubs or a long gallop of many miles in the saddle, or taking their famed "constitutionals"—walks of eight and ten miles. "Walking," said Rousseau, "has something which animates and vivifies my ideas." And Plato said of exercise that "it would almost cure a guilty conscience." "For the living out of doors and simple fare and gymnastic exercises and the morals of companions produce the greatest effect on the way of virtue and of vice."

Few men know how to take a walk. The qualifications of a professor are endurance, plain clothes, old shoes, an eye for nature, good humor, vast curiosity, good speech, good silence and nothing too much.

LIGHT THAT WILL NEVER GO OUT.

A 36-candlepower light which will never go out has been discovered by an inventor in London. While experimenting with photographic chemicals some years ago, Magrady's attention was attracted by a glow in a small globe caused by a chemical compound. Magrady enlarged the glow and perfected the light by placing it in an airtight glass. He says there is no reason why the light will not remain brilliant forever if the glass is not broken. A company has been formed to manufacture the light.

The Market Basket

It may not be generally known, but it remains a fact that the products of a country are no more honored by the people thereof than are its famous men.

One of the instances of this is Oregon potatoes. In every other part of the coast Oregon potatoes are noted for their excellent flavor and uniform size. Oregon potatoes are not large potatoes. They are of moderate size—just the kind that are handy to peel. They are firm, and in cooking the quality cannot be duplicated by any other section in the country. There may be potatoes that look as good or even better than those from this state, but the quality is not there.

It has often been asserted that a person must go away from home to be appreciated, and this seems to prove true of the Oregon potato. In California, where the potato crop each year is an enormous one, the best families would think of using no other potato than those coming from Oregon. The word "Oregon" on a sack of potatoes in the San Francisco or other California markets is taken as an indication of true merit. Here in Oregon things seem to be different. According to the grocers and the wholesale men they cannot obtain the price for Oregon fancy potatoes here that they can elsewhere, and the result is that but few sacks of the famous Oregon Burbank are consumed in this city.

On every steamer that goes to the south many hundreds of sacks of the best Oregon potatoes are sent. They are sold in the bay city at $1.10 per 100 pounds at wholesale, and retail around $1.50@$1.75 per 100 pounds. In that market Oregon potatoes successfully compete with the potatoes from Nevada, those from California, and even those from far away Colorado. The famous Greeley potato from Colorado does not sell at within 15 cents per 100 pounds of what the Oregons do.

Speaking of potatoes, it is a fact that almost every community has a taste for a different class of potato. What the best trade in the California markets want is a smooth, medium-sized Burbank with thin skin.

Texas wants a very large potato, the larger and uglier the better. Fancy Oregon potatoes when sent to Texas will not bring within 25 cents per sack of what the second-class Oregon stocks sell at. Give the Texan a large potato, and he is happy. It takes less work to peel large ones. Texas secures most of her supplies from Colorado.

In Arizona the Oregon potato is just beginning to secure a good hold. For several years you could hardly give away a sack of the finest Oregon Burbanks in that state, because they were not of the large size and rough looking. Arizona seems to be cultivating a better taste for the Oregon potatoes and the sale is rapidly increasing even when the product of other states can be secured at less money.

Green cucumbers all the way from California are now frequently seen in even the smaller markets. They are selling around 15@20 cents each. At this price the demand is small. Oregon hothouse cucumbers will be in within the next month or so.

California is also sending to this market very large supplies of tomatoes. Stocks are of good quality, but the price is too high for general consumption.

Strawberries were dirt cheap this week on account of the very heavy arrivals from the south. Quality was not good, and demand was small.

Oregon cabbage is now hard to obtain, and most of the supplies are coming from the south. The quality is not good, and at a big advance in price, the home product is preferred by the general trade.

Oranges continue to cheapen as the season advances. Quality is also improving.

Turkeys will be rather scarce for New Years and the price will be held fully up to that on Christmas—25 cents a pound for the best dressed stock.

Chickens are rather scarce, and the price is showing a small advance.

Wild fowls are hard to obtain, and the small supplies are sold at an advance.

The prices on various products at retail are:

Chickens, 10@20c; turkeys, 20@25c; tame ducks, $1 each; tame geese, 16@20c pound; mallards, 85c@$1 pair; teal, 40@50c pair; widgeon, 80c pair.

Oranges, 20@30c dozen; tangerines, 15c; bananas, 25@30c dozen. Grapes—Tokays, Verdals. Cornishons, 40@50c per five-pound basket. Apples—Fancy Spitzenbergs, $1.50@1.75 per box; Baldwins, $1.50; Rhode Island Greenings, $1.50. Pears—Winter Nelis, $1.50 per box. Grape fruit, three for 25c; Jersey cranberries, 15c quart; strawberries, 15@25c pound.

Steaks, 8@10c pound; mutton chops, 8@15c pound; veal cutlets, 10@12½c pound; pork chops, 10@12½c pound; roasting beef, 10, 12½@15c pound; boiling meats, 6@8c pound; pot roast, 8@10c pound; corn beef, 8@10c pound; ham, 15c pound; boiled ham, 30c pound; spare ribs, 8@10c pound; pork tenderloin, 20c pound.

Crabs, two for 25c; lobsters, 20c pound; eastern frog legs, 50c dozen; shrimps, 20c pound; eastern prawns, 30c pint; salmon, two pounds 25c; flounders, 10c pound; rock cod, 12½c pound; California soles, 15c pound; perch, 10c pound; California striped bass, 15c pound; Sacramento shad, two for 25c; smelt, Columbia river, 10c pound; Puget sound, 10c pound; catfish, 10c pound; black cod, two pounds, 25c; halibut, two pounds 25c; sturgeon, 12½c pound.

New potatoes, six pounds for 25c; radishes, turnips and green onions, two bunches 5c; water cress, 5c bunch; lettuce, fancy heads, three for 10c; egg plant, 15c pound; mushrooms, 25@35c pound; tomatoes, 20c pound; huckleberries, 10c pound; rhubarb, four pounds 25c; sweet potatoes, 12 pounds 25c; walnuts, two pounds 25c; others, 20c pound; beans, string, two pounds 25c; limas, green, two pounds 25c; artichokes, small, three for 25c; large, two for 25c; celery, 5@10c head; peppers, 12½c pound; cabbage, 10@15c head; cauliflower, 10@15c head; Oregon garden peas, three pounds for 25c; cucumbers, 20c each.

DON'T RECOGNIZE DEFEAT.

From January Success.

He is a pretty poor sort of man who loses courage and fears to face the world just because he has made a mistake or a slip somewhere, because his business has failed, because his property has been swept away by some general disaster, or because of other trouble impossible for him to avert.

This is the test of your manhood; how much is there left in you after you have lost everything outside of yourself? If you lie down now, throw up your hands, and acknowledge yourself worsted, there is not much in you. But if, with heart undaunted and face turned forward, you refuse to give up or to lose faith in yourself, if you scorn to beat a retreat, you will show that the man left in you is bigger than your loss, greater than your cross and larger than any defeat.