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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND

ABOLISH THE ROBBERS' DENS.

THE VILE DANCE HALLS or combination houses are another thing that will have to go. The longer they are permitted to offend and pollute, the more radical will be their elimination.

Coming nearer home, the Astorian, published in a very wide-open town, after well describing these dens in Portland, which description fits some in Astoria, says: "Public sentiment is changing in regard to tolerating vice and disreputable places, and the time is not far distant when the lower class of saloons will be refused a license."

Councilmen Flegel and Albee are on the right track in moving to abolish these places, which are run chiefly as a base of operation for female and male thieves, who lay for greenhorns to rob them, the women robbers turning most of the money over to their unnamably vile male companions, after dividing with the proprietors of the dens.

These worse than nuisances have been tolerated here too long. There must be strict observance of laws on the part of saloonkeepers, and the city must be served by men who will enforce the laws.

The mayor is accustomed to point with pride to the improved moral condition of the city, but if a stranger were to take these representations as true and then visit some of the robbers' dens and ascertain what is going on there, he would strain his imagination in trying to picture this feature of the city before these alleged reforms took place.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE.

JUDGE WEBSTER is probably to be commended for his decision that an 11-year-old boy must not be permitted by his parents to work as an actor in a theatre.

It would be going too far to say, regardless of any law on the subject, that no child should be permitted to act regularly on the stage. There seems to be an occasional exception to this rule, and the exception may rest upon one or more of several causes. For example, if a child's parents are actor and actress, and they intend to bring it up to the same profession, and do so without neglecting its mental or moral education, this should be allowed.

So, we would not deprive the stage of children entirely. But they should be permitted to go on the stage with much consideration and caution. Mere children, sometimes very small ones, have been seen on the

stages of some vulgar vaudeville theatres where the performances ought to make a graybeard blush. In these or other cases children have been forced or induced at a tender age to go on the stage of such resorts to support dissolute and vile parents. There should be no tolerance of such cases.

The presumption is that a child is out of its place on the stage. This presumption is only to be overcome by such a showing as makes the case exceptional. And in no case ought a child to be allowed on the stage of some of the so-called theatres of this city, where they must necessarily perform in an environment of vulgarity and vice.

HOW NOT TO DO IT.

THE PANAMA-CANAL is another thing that has been put to sleep, that is a victim of the "can't-do-nothing" policy of this congress. Nothing is being done toward digging the canal, nor even in preparing or getting ready to dig it. The credulous country supposed months ago that everything was ready for a beginning of this work, but people are gradually learning that nothing is ready, and nobody knows when anything or anybody will be ready.

The commissioners are contented and even happy. They are drawing high salaries for doing nothing and living in fine style at Washington. Occasionally, when they feel in need of an outing, they take a brief trip down to Colon in a palatial government steamer, with no expense whatever to themselves, spend a few hours on the isthmus, and not liking the climate return. They have done nothing, and apparently don't care about doing anything. A \$10,000-a-year life job is good enough for them.

The commission has not yet decided whether the canal is to be a lock or a sea-level passage way, nor anything else debatable about it. The furthest it has gone is to agree tacitly and tentatively that probably some conclusion must at some time be reached about the disposition of the Chagres river. This partial approach toward a decision so mentally exhausted them that they will not be in a condition for months to come to think about the canal at all.

No wonder the president wants to get rid of the commission. But can he? As canal builders they may be very inert and inept, but as lobbyists protecting their soft job we may be sure they are valiant fighters.

A GOOD BILL—TO KILL.

THE BILL to require all conditional sales, or sales on installments, to be recorded is a good one—as a specimen of needless irritating and bothersome legislation, but not otherwise. Such a law would be productive of very little good and a great deal of inconvenience and trouble.

It is perhaps true that some people are thus tempted sometimes to buy things that they cannot afford and perhaps pay more for them than they are reasonably worth; it may be true that some merchants take advantage of installment customers' financial straits; but on the whole the custom of conditional sales, or sales on installments, as practiced by reputable and reasonable dealers, is a good one both for themselves and for the people generally. Many families get necessities in this manner that could never be obtained if they had to pay cash down.

True, the bill does not prohibit such sales, but it seeks to make them difficult and disagreeable to all concerned. To keep the record of such sales would require several clerks and the court house would soon be filled with the documents. There is no more need of keeping a public record of such sales than of every bargain of every kind that people make.

The bill is simply a piece of foolishness, and we presume the legislature will so regard it.

Small Change

From now on the county division bills will keep a big third house at Salem.

What is the use of a dozen or more members of a committee if the chairman is the whole thing?

Mrs. Chadwick is completely shattered and can't undergo a trial. But she may be only acting some more.

Hop raisers are learning that they must keep their contracts and cannot evade them if the price goes up.

A French scientist says dyspepsia can be cured by smiling. But how can a person smile when he has dyspepsia?

A Minnesota man who died recently had no stomach. He needed them to grind fuel enough to keep warm there in the winter time.

A man dropped dead in a Seattle restaurant the other day. Whether the cause was the grub or the amount of the check is not known.

If Attorney-General Moody persists in attacking the beef trust, it will have to raise the price of meats and lower the price of cattle some more.

If the precedent be established in the Duke case that a man's marriage is evidence of his insanity, there is likely to be a large crop of insane divorce suit plaintiffs.

The Springfield, Or., News thanks the "dailies" for giving readers a "glorious relief" from tales of woe of Nan Patterson and Mrs. Chadwick. Yes, they did get rather stale.

A New York man sued his wife for a divorce because she always went to bed with her shoes on so that she could be ready to run in case of fire. Some men have an sympathy with their wives' reasonable precaution.

Representative Humphrey tells no news when he declares that the government transportation service across the Pacific is "rotten," but nobody could expect anything else with a man like Representative Hull in charge of legislation on this subject.

The latest, Vol. I, No. 1, of a journalistic long-felt want is the Montavilla Vigil, issued in the growing suburb of Portland east of Mt. Taber by Keeler H. Gabbert, an experienced newspaper man, who will give the Montavillians a good local paper.

The bill to make subsistence on the earnings of fallen women a felony is a good one, especially where the woman is a moral monster who should be sent to the penitentiary and made to work there. Portland has tolerated these loathsome vermin on the body of society much too long already. Make their business a felony; run them down and convict them, and give them heavy sentences; thus they will soon disappear.

Senator N. Wheelon of The Dalles was elected over A. S. Bennett by only a small plurality, and it was the Hood River districts that saved him from defeat. His own city having given Bennett a plurality. Now the Hood River region wants to be created into a new county, and Senator Wheelon, though a resident of The Dalles and therefore opposed to the Hood River project, cannot forget the voters of Hood River, not to those of The Dalles.

Oregon Sidelights

The Independence postoffice receipts increased notably last year.

The new broom factory at Roseburg is manufacturing 50 dozen brooms a day.

The Amity Advance is well named. It is a better local newspaper than some published in towns four times the size of Amity.

Chenawa American: Miss Eugenebel is the happy possessor of a skirt support, which was manufactured by Mr. Mann. Her girls are working on apron check and apron straps.

The Hood River Glacier has a new simplex typesetting machine, something it needs in its business, for the Glacier prints more matter than any other weekly in a small city in the country.

Port Simcoe correspondence of the Chenawa American (Indian pupil paper): The boys and industrial teacher killed five hogs this week, and we had a great time cleaning them in the kitchen.

Publishers of the Eugene daily papers, the Guard and Register, will reduce their rates and raise advertising rates, such action, they say, being necessary. They are good, new papers, and deserve liberal support.

Warm Springs Indian reservation correspondence of Chenawa American: The Indians had Christmas and New Year's dancing about six or seven nights. The girls have new fascinators, but the smaller girls are careless with theirs.

From the Scottish-American. Land of the rising sun, all hail! Scotia to thee a greeting sends. Before tyranny thou didst not quail.

Scotland: she knows the combat fierce. The stealthy foe that would beguile. Saw tyrant sword her patriots pierce. Who scorned the proud usurper's wile.

The little and chrysanthemum. May freedom there be thy denote. Until we see Christ's kingdom come. And earth becomes a peaceful spot.

Philadelphia. Stay-at-Home Voters. From the New York Sun. The total vote for president in the late election was 13,508,496. This was 469,078 less than the vote in 1926; notwithstanding an estimated increase of nearly 1,000,000 in population and of 1,469,000 in eligible voters. What should the total vote have been in November had the interest of citizens in the result been the same as in the election of 1926?

A Eugene doctor went to church on Sunday for some unknown purpose, and when he left could not find his valuable pearl handled umbrella. A few days later he saw it in possession of a woman whom he knew, but lacked the nerve to demand it until after he had consulted a lawyer, who braced him up, and the next time he met the woman he demanded his property, which she refused to give up until he threatened her arrest, when she did so. How? When you go to church hang on to your umbrella.

Sunday School Lesson

By H. D. Jenkins, D. D.

January 22, 1929—Topic: "The First Miracle in Cana." John 2: 1-11.

Golden Text: "Whatever he saith unto you, do it." John 2: 5.

Responsive reading: Psalm 103.

"We are now entering on the ministry of the Son of Man, marked in its contrast to the preparatory work of the Baptist, with the asceticism symbolic of his mission, but with the reality mingling with humanity, sharing its joys and engagements, entering into its family life, transforming and hallowing all its experiences by his presence and his blessing; transforming the water of the purification into the wine of the new dispensation; and, more than this, changing the water of our life into the wine of his giving; and lastly, as the Son of Man showing himself to be also the Son of God and the King of Israel."—Ederheim.

"The presence of Jesus at this purely festive gathering so soon after his public appearance, is in itself significant. It is another illustration of the Baptist, and his renunciation of all his modes of life. The presence of his mother at the wedding and the part she played in it, is another illustration of the relations that existed between them. The violent expulsion from Nazareth came upon her as a great shock. It was with trembling anxiety for his safety, with the hope of some illuminating hope that Cana might in some way atone for the rejection at Nazareth, that she set out with him across the hills to the wedding of her kinsfolk."—Dawson.

"Wedding ceremonies began at twilight and the custom in Palestine no less than in Greece. To bear away the bride from her home at blushing shut of day, or even later, far into the night, covered from head to foot in her loose, flowing, white, embroidered robes, and dressed in her finest robes. She was heralded by torchlight, with songs and dances and the music of the drum and of the flute, to the bridegroom's house. The guests were seated on the benches of her village, and the bridegroom came to meet her with his youthful friends."—Farrar.

"It was in the atmosphere of this entirely human event that Jesus showed his true nature. He was not the follower of John. He would be soon preaching repentance, but here, in the midst of this social and turbulently joyous scene, he would prove himself no ascetic, but rather a man among men."—Gannaway.

The lesson. It seems reasonable to understand that Jesus was already a marked personality in his Galilean environment. He had a few friends and held a certain respect among them. Any good man will have who is prominent for virtue. He had been cast out of the city where he spent his early life (Luke 4: 16-21). Whichever of the two lakes it is, the Galilee, it was not more than eight miles from the scene of his recent rejection. This wedding was in a circle where his mother was intimate, and tradition has asserted that it was the home of a family closely related to him by his mother's line.

Verse 2. That Jesus was hidden, says not a little of the kind of reputation he had acquired. It is not nothing in the middle ages the saint who starved himself into his grave was considered next to a martyr. That Jesus hid his presence from the guests, and that his most jubilant festivity appears to have been believed by his hosts; and that his new disciples were also asked shows a willingness upon the part of this household to receive him, and that he was not a bitter enemy of the neighboring, larger town of Nazareth.

Verse 3. The prompt interference of Mary, our Lord's mother, in the affairs of the wedding, would indicate that the two families were more than ordinarily intimate. Mary appears to have learned very early of the failure of the wine, which was in all the east the most precious food, and that it had been caused by an unexpected addition to the number of guests in the persons of the disciples. Her words to Jesus may have been only an exclamation of embarrassment. In certain localities the wine is as readily still as in Elisha's day (II Kings 2: 19-22).

Verse 4. Do the best we may, something of the character of the wedding, and the little we know of what passed between Jesus and his mother. But what is abrupt in one country and age is courtesy in another. The address, "Woman," is used in Homer to queen; and "Aunt," so, according to Cleopatra (Peloubat). We know that social custom is arbitrary. What is manifestly a source of embarrassment at one moment may be a source of relief 10 minutes later. But the one lesson we should be sure to learn is that even the dearly beloved mother of our Lord could dictate to Him what to do or when to do it. Prayer may be persistent but it never may be presumptuous. That is the lesson to be learned today.

Verse 5. Mary knew how to interpret her son's words. She was confident that he would find some way to relieve her kinfolk from the confusion of fate that would come to them from the failure of their supplies. Hospitality is the one virtue upon which upon which not the shadow of suspicion of economy must fall. It is doubtful if Mary had the slightest anticipation of any miraculous interference, but as a child learns to rely upon the resourcefulness of its parents, so Mary had come to know that Jesus could find a way out of many situations which seemed to others, herself included, to be impossible.

Verse 6. That which impressed the disciples was the abundance of the supply Jesus quietly brought in. The largest vessels about the premises were used for the storing of water, for they used so freely by the Jews for "purifying" their bodies. They always bathed their hands before a meal (Mark 7: 3), and not infrequently their eyes (Luke 11: 4). For such a thing as this an unusual supply of water had been provided. The incident is recorded that we may realize that when Jesus gives, it is not in a niggardly or grudging fashion.

Verse 7. In the same way and for the same purpose the words of our Lord are given, and the way in which his command was literally executed is narrated. The words constituted an inexhaustible source of life. We can hardly believe that the servants would have obeyed such singular bidding from a comparative stranger had not the word of Mary reassured them. It may serve as a lesson to us that however little we may understand of our Saviour's words, we should fulfill to the very jot and tittle of his word the behest he lays upon us. When he says "Fill, we are not to put in simply enough to cover the bottom."

Verse 8. More strange than the com-

Letters From the People

To the Editor of the Journal.

Portland, Or., Jan. 19.—To the Editor of the Journal.—The magnificent fight made by you two years ago against the attempt of the timberland corporations to secure prohibitive franchises over the logging streams prompts us at this time to call your attention to what is apparently a more effective and certainly more manly attempt to absolutely monopolize the logging streams of the state. This appears in house bill No. 4, introduced in the house by Vawter of Jackson.

This bill provides, among other things, that "the corporation organized for the purpose of transporting logs, lumber or other material by means of a dam, or for the purpose of securing a reservoir or pond for the purpose of floating or booming logs, lumber or wood, and may condemn rights of way along said rivers or streams and acquire by purchase or otherwise any land necessary for the purpose of improving said rivers or streams and rendering the same navigable for floating logs, lumber, wood, etc."

No one who has mastered the lesson of the first miracle, and formed such a conception of salvation. The quality of mercy is not strained. Jesus Christ gives when he gives, abundantly, gives richly. This miracle, strange as it may seem, is the most significant within the marrow of the gospel.

Verse 11. The words of the evangelist make us know that the chief end of this miracle was the strengthening of the faith of the Lord's disciples. Many things had happened to the disciples were to occur, which must surely try their fidelity. They knew comparatively little of Jesus yet, and most of their expectations as to the Messiah were entirely wrong. It was their duty to straighten the bruised reed rather than to break it. He did not denounce their misconceptions but corrected them.

Paul Morton, secretary of the navy and formerly vice-president of the Atchafalaya, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad company, is the author of an article on the railway rate question in the Outlook.

Secretary Morton and Railroads

He in the outset expressly disclaims writing as a representative of President Roosevelt. He writes, however, as one who speaks merely, as one with somewhat extensive experience pertinent to an important subject.

The secretary in the article says there are very few complaints against the railroads rates per se in the United States. The chief trouble being with "the relation of rates as between markets." He says there are so many rates that are too low as there are rates which a court would deem to be too high, and that either class of rates may be equally disastrous to communities. He expresses the opinion that federal supervision of the rates is necessary, but adds that regulation and protection should go together.

He says that one of three conditions must come about—legislation of pooling, further unification of ownership, or government ownership, and of the three he favors the first.

As to pending legislation, Mr. Morton favors the continuance of the interstate commerce commission in substantial form, but with invitation to the most jubilant festivity appears to have been believed by his hosts; and that his new disciples were also asked shows a willingness upon the part of this household to receive him, and that he was not a bitter enemy of the neighboring, larger town of Nazareth.

Let it go on making investigations and findings. If it finds a rate is unreasonable, either too high or too low, everything else being considered let it have power to create, to adjust, to increase, or to decrease rates, and if the railroads do not make them effective in 30 days, then the entire matter to be referred to a central court of transportation, of say, three or five to be created, to consider, to investigate, to consider and expedite all questions of interstate commerce so far as the transportation of the country is concerned, it being understood that this central court shall have power to make such orders in all such cases except those involving constitutional questions; and the findings of this court in interstate matters to be final.

It would urge severe punishment for railroads or steamboat lines engaged in interstate commerce, which, by any device, pay rebates, commissions, or in any way afford preferential rates, and that the government should have authority to shippers or commission agents seeking or receiving them.

"I would permit the railroads to divide their earnings or tonnage among themselves, filling all such agreements with the interstate commerce commission for its information, and I would make these contracts enforceable as between the railroads. I would do this as an insurance to the same shippers securing the lowest rate, and as a protection to the transportation lines against the vast tonnage and consequent temptation offered by the big shippers, which so frequently have been used to secure ineffectual rates. If these contracts were illegal or against public policy, or unreasonably in restraint of trade, then let them be reviewed by the same court of commerce.

"I would favor, even if it were necessary to have a constitutional amendment to accomplish it, the declaration that all transportation by rail was hereafter to be under the control of the federal government, thereby relieving the states of the prerogative and establishing one central regulation, the federal power.

"I would make it impossible for others than those directly interested as shippers or commercial bodies to bring suit for action under the interstate commerce act.

"I would favor an agitation and shaping of public opinion that would not tolerate such a thing as a preferential rate, and would make it equally disagreeable to grant or receive it. The president's message on the subject needs the views of all good citizens, whether engaged in railroading or shipping."

Lewis and Clark

In winter quarters near Mandan, North Dakota. January 21.—The weather was fine and moderate. The hunters all returned, having killed during their absence three deer, two porcupines, a fox and a hare.

Silver Plains, Thompson. From the Chicago Record-Herald. The superintendent of the mine at Philadelphia says the country is on the verge of a silver famine. He announces that there is no more bullion from which to make dimes and quarters. Mr. Bryan will not doubt watch anxiously for the effect a shortage of change will have upon the public.

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Most Wonderful of Show Edifices

Portland Letter in the Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The Forestry building at the Lewis and Clark centennial will go down in history as the most unique structure of all exhibitions. Not only is the building out in exposition, but it is a marvelous modern example of the pioneer architecture of the great Oregon country—a gigantic log house.

It is not a log cabin; it is a log palace, exemplifying in its composition the forest wealth of Oregon and Washington. Giants of the forest, perhaps old when those sturdy explorers, Lewis and Clark, penetrated into what is now termed the Pacific northwest 160 years ago, have been sacrificed in building this monument to those men's memory.

This mastodon structure of rough hewn logs, typically American in design, stands out in striking contrast with its stately neighbors of beauty and grace in the style of the Spanish renaissance. Situated on an eminence at the edge of a natural park, overlooking Guild's lake and the Willamette river, with five snow-capped mountain peaks bounding the horizon, the view from the galleries of this building far surpasses anything of its kind in exposition history.

The Forestry building, besides being a timber exhibit itself, will contain all the finished products of the forest, as well as the woods in their native state. The structure is 208 feet in length by 102 feet in width, and its extreme height is 70 feet. In its construction two miles of five and six-foot fir logs, eight miles of poles and tons of shakes and cedar shingles were used. One of the monster logs weighs 32 tons and many of this size were used. The logs have been left in the rough with the bark on, and lichens, the delicate tracery of fern against the rugged brown of the bark, climbing vines and rustling hanging mosses, and flowers will add a touch of picturesque wildness.

To say that some of the base logs of the building are six feet in diameter and 32 feet long means little to the average person. A more comprehensive idea of the immensity of these logs may be had when it is stated that one of the logs contains enough lumber with which to build a one-story cottage, 40x49 in size; a fence to surround it, board walks to lead up to it, and then sufficient wood remaining with that to kindle a fire for many months. Or, if one of these logs was cut up into standard six flooring boards three inches by one inch and these boards were placed end to end they would reach for 13 1-2 miles.

The interior of the building, as well as the exterior, will be an exhibit of the forest wealth of the northwest. Here a colonnade of 33 columns of fir and cedar

gently dealt with. But little good can be accomplished if there is an attempt made to evade the issue. That issue is so plain that it cannot be unintentionally overlooked. It is this: "Outside shogmen have come into this country, and in the manner of grazing violated moral rights in all cases and legal rights in many."

Any adjustment that considers this as the leading fact may succeed; if it ignores it, the result will be failure, as in many previous attempts. The consequences of disputes alone need occupy but little time in the deliberations of the members. Remove the cause and occasion of disputes and the disputes will disappear. All overhanging difficulties should appear between men who should be neighbors public sentiment may be depended upon to set it right.

trees 40 feet high supports the roof. Rustic stairways and inside balconies running around the entire building enable the visitor to study the wonderful virgin display of native woods and the other products of the forest. In the construction of this log palace primitive methods were adhered to as far as possible. There was no carpentry work whatever, the logs being framed together with iron nails and big old-fashioned wooden pins.

The forest giants used were felled in the woods bordering on the Columbia river. After being shorn of their branches they were placed in cradles to guard against the bark being peeled, and drawn to the river bank. Here they were formed into large rafts and floated down the river. From the Columbia river the logs were guided into the Willamette river. From this stream they were floated at high tide over a narrow strip of land into Guild's lake, the natural grand basin of the exposition. The distance traveled by these logs was 18 miles.

From the lake the trees were raised to the site of the forestry building in Centennial park by means of a skidway 1,500 feet in length. The giants were lifted into place on the building by a donkey engine of 40-horse-power, which was built specially for this work; the ordinary donkey engine being only about 16-horse-power. Twelve thousand feet of wire cable were used for hoisting and guiding.

The finishing touches are now being added to the Forestry building, and within a few weeks it will be ready to receive the exhibits which, like itself, will show to the world what vast riches are contained in the timber lands of the Pacific northwest.

A feature of the forestry display will be one of the largest fir trees ever felled. The log is 12 feet in diameter at the butt, 8 feet at the top and 190 feet long. It grew near the coast in Clatsop county, Oregon. The logs above the base are three feet in diameter and vary in length. Colonnades of immense fir trees 80 feet high and six feet in diameter are striking features of the building. A veritable forest of these trees columns support splendid loggias or galleries over the main entrance. Besides the galleries there are picturesque balconies on each end of the building. The portico over one entrance is supported by giant spruce trees and the other shows a colonnade of magnificent hemlocks that will be the marvel of all visitors.

The upper part of the building is constructed of cedar bark shingles, 18 inches to the weather. An overhanging gabled roof adds much to the attractiveness of the structure.

THE RANGE TROUBLE. From the John Day News. The Stock association meeting at Hamilton on the 25th of this month will in many ways be the most important gathering ever held in the county. Cattlemen, sheepmen and horse raisers are expected to be present and take part in the deliberations. It is in such representative meetings and on the range that the question can be most intelligently

dealt with. But little good can be accomplished if there is an attempt made to evade the issue. That issue is so plain that it cannot be unintentionally overlooked. It is this: "Outside shogmen have come into this country, and in the manner of grazing violated moral rights in all cases and legal rights in many."

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In this county there is grass enough for all who are entitled to it. Some of it is adapted to sheep and some to cattle grazing. The whole aim and effort of the association should be to see that its members are put into undisturbed possession of their rights. Notice of this intention will inspire respect at home and abroad.

SCOTLAND TO JAPAN.

From the Scottish-American. Land of the rising sun, all hail! Scotia to thee a greeting sends. Before tyranny thou didst not quail.

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