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Hurry and cunning are the two apprentices of dispatch and of skill; but neither of them ever learns his master's trade.—Colton.

A GREAT OREGON INDUSTRY

THE FRUIT industry of Oregon is making satisfactory progress. But it is as yet only in its infantile period. The limits of its possibilities are practically boundless. Oregon can be the best and greatest fruit state in the union. Nothing less than this should be the goal of enthusiastic fruit growers.

Many and a rapidly increasing number of fruit growers are deserving of unstinted commendation—even though acting chiefly in their own interest—for the reformatory, progressive work they have done and are doing. Many have acted not altogether or even chiefly from self interest, either, but have broadly and patriotically worked, in some cases self-sacrificingly, for the expansion and elevation of this splendid industry. Their work ought to be recognized and appreciated in their several communities and in the state at large.

It is largely such men that comprise the State Horticultural association. They are doing a noble work and should meet with universal encouragement and support. It is due to this society that the war on fruit pests was inaugurated and is being carried on. And in various ways it has earned vastly more than the state has contributed to its support. The state should still extend its aid to the association and appropriate what it needs for carrying on its work, that will be, as it has been, of immense benefit to the state.

Oregon has already gained a very favorable reputation far and wide as a fruit state—or rather two or three localities have gained such a reputation as to some species of fruit—but this is only a beginning, a starter. This reputation can and should be improved, extended, and made to apply to all parts of the state and to more varieties. This can be done. The foundations for immense production and large and appreciated markets have been well laid.

Keep up the good work. Help this industry to expand and advance until it becomes of mammoth proportions. To this end stand by the Horticultural association, by local associations, by capable fruit inspectors, by all diligent, progressive and conscientious growers. Few people even yet realize what can be accomplished in Oregon along this line.

COUNTRY LIFE

WHETHER OR not it is practical for farmers to concentrate and cooperate for their mutual interest is a question the Country Life Commission is carefully studying. Members of the organization probed deeply into past and present organizations, studying interestedly the causes of past failures and present successes. They studied every phase of the Hood River apple growers' union and were impressed with its effectiveness. They asked numerous speakers yesterday the direct question if it appeared possible that a wide organization of farmers, for the purpose of marketing and distributing products of the farm, could be made effective. They were told usually that in other than a local way a general system of concentration is probably impracticable. That was the opinion of W. K. Newell of the state board of horticulture and of several other speakers, all farmers. The failure of the prune associations and the collapse of hopgrowers' unions were cited. In general, however, the opinion appeared to be that local organizations, confined originally to a single shipping point, but perhaps affiliated with similar local unions in other localities, could be made effective. The report of the commission is very likely to embody findings and after the composite opinion of the whole country is secured and tabulated the result will be watched with interest.

The farmer is at a disadvantage in an attempt at concentration. If he could organize into effective cooperation all the handicaps of country life would be quickly removed. His wagon carries to the market place that which the world feeds on. He is essential to human existence. Sixty millions of the people of the country are absolutely dependent upon him and his family for food and clothing. To get his products cheaply and to sell him what they have at the highest price is the will of all the rest. Compactness of organization and expertness in the affairs of business is what he has to face. They beat him out in legislation because they know how. As a speaker put it before the Country Life Commission: We import much tin plate. The salmon packers and meat packers require great quantities. So does the farmer. The salmon packers and meat packers get 99 per cent of the duty back on what they export, as tinned goods, while the farmers get none back, though exporting his wheat and having its price fixed in a competitive foreign market. Because his interests have not been well represented at Washington the farmer gets the worst of it.

Ultimately education, as suggested by President Kerr of the state college, seems one prime factor for his deliverance. It is a transformation that no commission can suddenly work. It will take years. The men on the farm must grapple with both economic and commercial problems. Sharpened wits and stores of information must be their tools. With these invoked more concentration among them will be possible. Then the bright boys who are leaving the farm for the city will remain in the country. It is the loss of these boys that in part accounts for the low ebb of country life. The farms are being worked by old men, was the statement of a farmer before the commission yesterday, and it is partly true. Sharpened brains and enlightened handicraft on the farm, independence in political action and a studied devotion to the uplift of country life will bring great good to the country. They will be aided if they undertake the movement by the forces set in motion by the Country Life Commission.

BENEFITED PROPERTY SHOULD PAY

THE MAYOR and those who agree with him that the cost of laying new water mains should be paid by adjacent property, that chiefly benefited, are clearly right. As The Journal long ago argued, neither the water consumers nor the taxpayers of the city as a whole should be required to pay for an improvement that manifestly benefits principally a limited section of the city and a comparatively few land owners.

There is no more reason for taxing the water consumers, who are practically all the people of the city, to pay for water mains laid in new districts than for taxing them for new sewers. Indeed, there is far less excuse for doing so, for sufficient sewerage conduces to the general health and wellbeing of the city and everybody is to some extent benefited by it, whereas a new water main in a sparsely settled suburb or addition is of no appreciable benefit to anybody but the land owners of that district. It greatly enhances the value of their property, it creates much value where there was little or none before, for it makes such property salable for residence purposes, and this value accrues almost solely to these land owners.

Distributing mains and maintenance are a different matter; once the mains are in others than the land owners begin to get some benefit, but as to the main pipes the property whose value is greatly increased by them ought to pay for them. This seems so clearly a correct proposition that it should need no elaborate argument in its support.

THE OREGON CONSERVATION COMMISSION'S REPORT

THE REPORT of the Oregon Conservation Commission appointed by the governor constitutes a book of 124 pages and is one of the most valuable publications about the state's natural resources ever issued. It pays especial attention to and treats exhaustively of Oregon's waterways, presenting the subject so completely and clearly that the publication will be of great value to the authorities and all especially interested in this very important matter. The rivers and harbors of Oregon are fully described, as well as the work hitherto done in improving them, and what is yet necessary to be done. It shows among other things that Oregon has appropriated, including the unused $300,000 for the Oregon City locks, about $740,000 in aid of open rivers, besides $270,000 for these locks originally, or over $1,000,000, and that the Port of Portland has expended, including the cost of the drydock and interest on bonds, $2,473,561, figures that should make an impression upon congress.

The report next takes up the conservation and uses of water resources, with reference to irrigation, power for mechanical purposes, navigation and mining, presenting this momentous subject in a manner that should arouse the earnest attention of every member of the legislature and of all other prominent or influential citizens.

The report discusses the lamentable situation of the state with respect to its water laws, or lack thereof, showing the urgent need of some very carefully considered legislation on this subject. The water laws of Canada, Italy, Spain and several of our states are summarized, thus furnishing the legislator with ideas from which he can work intelligently; and a summary of what is needed is presented. No more important and difficult problem will come before the next legislature, but because it is difficult is no reason for longer neglecting it.

Land reclamation by irrigation is also thoroughly considered and several amendments to the Carey law are advised. The great timber resources of Oregon receive due notice, also the fishing industry, and urgently needed identical laws for Oregon and Washington are recommended. The book contains several maps of interest and is embellished with many fine engravings of Oregon scenes.

This conservation movement grew out of the work of the national reclamation and the forestry services, but more directly out of the activity of the Inland Waterways Commission. It was finally decided upon by the president when in September, 1907, he with many governors attended the deep waterway convention at Memphis. A year ago many governors of the states met with the rivers and harbors congress at Washington to discuss these subjects, and devise means of cooperation, and again last May at the invitation of the president, when it was fully and formally launched. Each governor was requested and authorized to appoint a conservation commission, which Governor Chamberlain did, and this report is the result.

This is a grandly important movement, and the probable resultant benefits will be beyond computation. As a people we have gone on for generations wasting, squandering, neglecting, abusing and throwing or giving away our immense natural gifts, as in the case of timber, or not conserving and using them, as in the case of streams, and it certainly was high time for the nation and all its states, acting in unison, to take this great subject up and begin to act wisely, prudently and for the benefit of the masses of people, not only of this generation but of future generations. And that this is at last being done is due largely to President Roosevelt and constitutes another large debt of gratitude and esteem owed to him by the nation that is and the nation that is to be through generations and centuries to come.

Mr. Harriman in a rather cynical and arrogant speech in New York said one thing at least that is true enough, that two great evils for a country are idle money and idle laborers. And when one is idle the others are. But it is to be remembered that it is never the workingmen who are responsible for either idle money or idle men—except as a strike may occasionally contribute thereto—while a few men like Mr. Harriman can easily send hundreds of millions of money into retirement and throw hundreds of thousands of men out of employment. It is in fact quite generally believed that a few very powerful men financially did this very thing last year, from purely selfish and the opposite of patriotic motives. Such men surely owe a great duty to the country in consequence of their wealth and power, but Mr. Harriman may not see or be willing to acknowledge this.

It is no very unusual thing for a man to become totally unconscious of his acts from liquor, and yet be able to walk and talk so that an observer would consider him but slightly inebriated. In such a condition a man may talk quite rationally and may go to his home or lodging place, or to other places, just as he would when sober, and yet remember nothing whatever of his talk or movements. But in such a condition a man does not plan or, except in the pursuit of a purpose already formed, commit a murder or other crime. In this state of unconsciousness a man does only what he is accustomed to do, or what he had theretofore planned to do, or at least had it in his mind to do.

The Dalles Observer says: "Who will be the next United States senator from Oregon? It will not be Chamberlain, and it now looks very much like a clean cut Fulton victory. The Wilcox interview in Washington sounded the death knell to Chamberlain's senatorial ambitions." Indeed! And what magic power is there in an opinion, or an expressed desire, of Mr. Wilcox, over members of the legislature who have bound themselves to do a certain thing compelling them to make liars and traitors of themselves by doing the opposite thing? Possibly the senatorship is not to be so easily bought as it has been in the past.

According to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the initiative and referendum amendment to the constitution of Missouri has carried by a majority of 30,942 votes. When the amendment becomes effective the people may, under its initiative feature, propose to the general assembly measures for enactment into laws. Under the referendum clause the people may require enactments of the general assembly to be submitted to a vote of the people for ratification. Instead of any state that has thus moved in the direction of direct legislation and government by the people taking any backward step, other states are following Oregon, the pioneer in this reform movement.

President Woodrow Wilson in a recent address at Toledo, Ohio, said:

The large corporations have got into the habit of paying to be let alone and into the more serious one of paying to be helped, and every campaign they pour into the coffers of that party which is most likely to foster a high protective tariff their money, expecting the first money to come back from that tariff will be theirs. There was a time when a high protective tariff was justified and when it was worth while to try the experiment, but we have passed that stage. There is never a legitimate argument for a protective tariff except for the benefit of the nation and not for the benefit of a special few.

The Dalles Optimist, the only paper in Oregon that comes out boldly and unequivocally in favor of the violation of their Statement No. 1 pledge by legislators, says: "The country papers which want to get into the band wagon of the victors can still do so by coming out for the defeat of Chamberlain. It is not too late." Yes, it is too late. Rather it is too early. Or better still, the time never was, much less ever will be, when more than a very few "country" or other papers have advised or will advise such an act of perfidy and dishonor.

A More Radical Senate

From the New York World.

The Iowa legislature answers the question "Shall the people rule?" by electing to the United States senate, as the successor of the late Senator Allison, Governor Albert B. Cummins, leader of the reform wing of the Iowa Republicans. Governor Cummins is pledged to advanced tariff revision and corporation regulation, and his election is a direct response to popular progressive sentiment.

The people of Kansas gave their answer before the question was asked, when in the August primaries they substituted Joseph L. Bristow for Chester I. Long.

If the Oregon Republican legislature keeps its pledges and obeys the popular mandate Governor George E. Chamberlain, twice elected Democratic reformer, will succeed Republican Senator Fulton.

In both Dakotas the present senatorial incumbents have been repudiated for men of more radical views. Senator Kittridge, leader of the South Dakota stalwart Republicans, will be succeeded by Governor Crawford, leader of the progressives. In North Dakota, Senator Hansbrough is to be retired to private life.

In Missouri, where the reactionary Democratic forces beat the progressives by nominating Senator Stone over Governor Folk, there are premonitions of a revolt which threatens to deprive Stone of the fruits of victory. Although Folk was personally defeated in the primaries he carried the legislature. Folk legislators outnumber Stone legislators nearly two to one, and indications of frauds and tricks under the imperfect primary law point to an investigation, in which event a better representative of the state's sentiment than Stone may possibly be elected.

Hemenway of Indiana, will in all likelihood be succeeded by John W. Kern, a radical Democrat, and Foraker's successor in Ohio will not be an attorney for the Standard Oil company.

Thus even the United States senate, the legislative body further removed from popular control, constitutionally created and traditionally regarded as the bulwark of conservatism, promptly responds to the popular will. The notable gains of the progressive elements of the west, not only in senatorial primaries, but through state legislatures without direct mandate, are convincing proof of popular rule in this country.

Senator Fulton's Mistake.

From the Scio News.

Senator Fulton either does not understand the political temper of the people of Oregon, or his egotism is obscuring his vision. An official who attempts to set aside the will of the people is sure to come to grief in the end. The 51 pledged Oregon legislators are honorable men. They are closely in touch with the people whose votes elected them. They know, too, that the electorate of Oregon would not countenance for a minute the violation of the pledge which made their election possible. Senator Fulton, knowing these facts, says, in effect, that these pledged members are without honor; that their fealty to party and the bosses is greater than manhood and honorable citizenship. The senator has yet to learn that Oregon is peopled by citizens who are actuated by highly honorable motives and not by a gang of dirty little politicians whose purpose in life is to serve the bosses.

Joseph Leiter's Birthday.

Joseph Leiter, capitalist and mine owner, was born in Chicago, December 4, 1868, the son of Levi Z. Leiter, the millionaire Chicago merchant, who died in 1904. The younger Leiter was educated at Harvard university, where he graduated in 1891. After he left college he acted as an agent for his father in some of the latter's commercial enterprises. In the autumn of 1897 he came into public prominence in an endeavor to "corner" the wheat market. He bought wheat on the Chicago board of trade to such an extent as to make him, at the beginning of 1898, the largest individual holder of wheat in the history of the grain trade. His deal collapsed, however, and the consequence was that the Leiter fortune was depleted by several millions of dollars. The late Lady Curson, whose husband was the British viceroy in India, was a sister of Mr. Leiter and another of his sisters is the countess of Suffolk.

This Date in History.

1682—First meeting of the provincial legislature of Pennsylvania.

1746—Genoa surrendered to the Austrians.

1798—Luigi Galvani, discoverer of Galvanism, died. Born September 9, 1737.

1833—The American Anti-Slavery society was organized in Philadelphia.

1839—The Whig national convention at Harrisburg nominated William H. Harris for president.

1859—Province of Queensland, Australia, established.

1890—King Kalakaua of Hawaii landed at San Francisco.

1907—Secretary Taft visited the Emperor Nicholas at St. Petersburg.

A Klamath county man claims to have killed 14 wild geese at two shots.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Roads.

Good roads.

Good roads pay.

Build good roads.

Towns need good roads.

The country needs good roads.

The state should help build good roads.

Just three weeks till Christmas. Buy 'em now.

Every community should spend money liberally for good roads.

Bryan is dead, says Mr. Hearst's papers. How's Hisgen?

Mr. Archbold says rebates are a blessing. Surely—to Standard Oil.

Oregon doesn't need any instruction or advice from Mr. Hitchcock.

Now everybody can do a little to help fight the "great white plague."

Uncle Joe seems to intimate that he is willing to be revised a little.

Another need of Oregon—a few prompt convictions and hangings.

Mme. Calve advises girls to marry. Most of them need no such advice.

By sending Brother Charles to the senate Ohio would handicap President Taft.

Mr. Kern may go to Washington, but he won't be invited to live in the White House.

The play, "Miss Innocence," must be a great farce, with Anna Held playing the title role.

A new burlesque is entitled, "The Follies of 1908." Mr. Bryan might like to insert a scene.

The oil business certainly was "hazardous" to any one who would not surrender to the trust.

So it was only an $11 ring that Miss Elkins got. No wonder the Elkinses were mad about it.

It ought not to surprise anyone to read of the foot and mouth disease during the football season.

Don't despise the members of the Farmers' Uplift commission; they may know a little something about farming.

The next legislature cannot afford to spend any time playing politics or wrangling over the senatorship. It has very important business to attend to.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS.

Turkeys were only 12 cents a pound at Prineville on Thanksgiving.

The attendance on Salem's public schools is 1908; 83 more than a year ago.

Property owners of The Dalles seem determined to do some paving. It will pay.

The Canyonville district has 160 school children, as against 125 last year.

Walla Walla valley poultry raisers have formed an incorporated association at Milton.

Women of Astoria are organizing an athletic club. Husbands and young men take notice.

An orchard near Albany produced about 3000 boxes, or five carloads, of apples this year.

A lot of big horses were sold at North Powder to Portland buyers at an average price of $200 a head.

Milwaukie is to have an overall factory, and the Record hopes that everybody will get a pair and go to church.

There was never before so fine a prospect for a big wheat crop at this time of the year in Morrow county as now.

There is more building on a large scale assured for Eugene next year than ever before in the history of the city, says the Guard.

The farmers all along Willow creek are harvesting their crop of honey these days, and the quality is of the best, says the Ione Proclaimer.

There is admittedly as much drinking as ever in this county, says the Tillamook Herald. The only difference is it is now purchased by the bottle or jug instead of by the glass.

Mayor Rodgers in company with the city's engineer, Perrott, will visit all the property owners of Salem during the winter and secure their views on the question of street improvement.

Medford Tribune: Neither the fabled skies of Arcadia, the amethyst hues of Italy or the amaranthine tints of California surpass the splendor of the heavens that arch the Rogue River valley in this most delightful season of the year. The noonday sun showers the multicolored hills with gold; a delicate touch of winter has painted in brilliance the fast falling leaves, and yellow and crimson and the dark of the evergreen mingle in tangled profusion along river bed and hill slopes; the russet summer brown of the fields is changing as if by magic into a tender green; the stubble of grain fields is losing itself in long, straight black furrows.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Really Believe It After While.

Ashland, Or., Dec. 2.—To the Editor of The Journal—I read somewhere a short time ago a statement, claiming to be set forth by a professor of science that the success that almost always followed the preachers of the "Billy" Sunday type was almost wholly due to the continued reiteration of any assertion that they saw fit to make from the pulpit.

The human mind being most of the time in a receptive mood, would soon get to seeing things in the same light as the speakers, regardless of their merit. Now the object of this communication is not to discuss the merits of religion of any kind, but to ask if it may not be a fact that the professor is right in his theory. And will it not work in other as well as religious matters? It certainly seems so, considering that so many letters are being published by the Oregonian wherein the writers take sides with the editor in trying to corrupt the legislature of Oregon, and more especially the Statement No. 1 men. I cannot believe that the writers are wholly responsible, but have by continued reading that perjury was not perjury and that black was always white, when it happened to serve the ends of a scheming scoundrel, come to believe in what they advocate, while the instigator of this "pious lie" sits back and chuckles over the ease with which he is throttling the rights of the people.

How proud we Oregonians were when we realized that within our borders two thirds of the voters were ready to lay aside party lines and prejudices and demand that the legislator for whom we cast our vote must pledge himself to do our bidding. But if every promise is not lived up to, it is the duty of every man that desires to be called by his neighbor a good citizen and even a decent man, to sign a petition to invoke the referendum and recall every blackleg that will allow his personal politics or any other incentive to make of him a perjurer. I notice by a news item that the little village of St. Johns has "fired" one of its employes, even though he was a councilman. And why should not the state do likewise if her instructions are not obeyed?

Everybody should read "Just a Plain Answer" in the editorial columns of the Morning Oregonian for November 26. The Oregonian says not a man that voted to have Governor Chamberlain sent to the United States senate meant what he said, but merely voted that way to defeat Cake, "intending and expecting (after having taken the pledge) that the legislature would choose some one else." Now if this isn't farcical, I don't know the meaning of the term. But still, a good many people read these statements and believe them to be real "messages from the spirit world." The danger to the people lies not in whether Chamberlain or Fulton or whoever it might fall upon, be elected, but in the fact that if this arrogant presumption should bear fruit, it would bring the enemies of the people just one step nearer their ultimate designs, the nullification of the principle of the initiative and referendum.

Just one other thought before I close. I read from the last column of the same paper, in an extract taken from the Washington (D. C.) Post, these words, "Can they transfer to another body (speaking of the legislature) even if it be the people, the right to choose a senator?" JOE LINSKY.

Says Workingmen Robbed.

Portland, Dec. 2.—To the Editor of The Journal—Now that our city is about to open a free employment bureau, I wish to bring before your readers and the public in general what I consider one of the greatest bunko and graft schemes now existing in our beautiful city—the employment agencies. To illustrate the manner in which these grafters operate, I will cite the experience of a young engineer friend of mine, who temporarily being out of employment, sought a position through one of these agencies.

He was assured by the proprietor of this agency that he would secure him a position as engineer in a logging camp at a salary of $2.50 per day, and furthermore that the position was an all winter's job. So upon this assurance the man bought the position, for which he paid $4.50 and moved his family that same day to this logging camp. I did not mention that this agent also represented that the company would furnish a free house, water and wood. After an afternoon's trip on the boat and a seven mile walk back to this camp he arrived at the logging camp and was shown the house, or barn, that was to be his future home, a pile of wet slabwood and a small stream about one half mile away, where he was told there was plenty of water for every one. The foreman then told him to be prepared for work the next morning. So following instructions, he went to work loading logs upon cars and finished the day, supposing his time for the day was $2.50. After supper the timekeeper came around and told him he had pay coming for four hours, for that day's work, as the loader engineer did not receive pay unless the "donkey" engines were pulling logs from the woods. But they expected steam kept up and logs loaded on the cars for nothing. This is only one case in 10,000 where men with families as well as without have been deceived and robbed. Why not let our city run these agencies and do away with these grafting robbers and set up ourselves as an example? Others will follow. E. M.

Finch Insane, He Says.

Salem, Or., Dec. 2.—To the Editor of The Journal—In your paper of November 30 an article appeared entitled "The Mystery of a Murder." The writer claimed that James Finch is sane and sound and ought to be dealt with as such and promptly. I know Mr. Finch's history for the last 15 years, and he has led a wild and reckless life. Whiskey has wrecked his brain and he is now a paretic in the first stages. His hallucinations were active before he committed that horrible deed, those voices hounded him and compelled him to commit it and at that moment he didn't know what he did, and to the day he dies he never will be able to remember anything about it.

I claim that James Finch has softening of the brain, and for humanity's sake he ought to be sent to the asylum. The lifetime of this disease is from one to five years. The majority of paretics die in about three years. When you say that it was deliberate, wilful, malicious murder, I can't see how I can agree with your theory of the crime. James Finch knew not what he did. He is a dangerous insane person and the guards that are taking care of him now want to always be on their guard, for the time will come when he will lay them low if he can secure a club or a weapon to down them. The last time I talked to him his speech and walk was impaired and in my judgment he showed considerable symptoms of a paretic. He has fixed delusions of persecution. Also, he has exalted ideas about himself. At present Mr. Finch is rather cunning and keeps his delusions to himself, but I know enough about him to know whereof I talk.

JOSEPH KING.

Restrict Sale of Pistols.

Portland, Dec. 2.—To the Editor of The Journal—Pistols (or revolvers) are not made for hunting purposes. A pistol caused the death of Abraham Lincoln, one did the same to President Garfield, another caused the death of President McKinley. Your turn may come next. They are simply destroyers of human life. In addition to your remarks or recommendations, make every little second hand joint in Portland take out a heavy license to handle them, at least $50 per annum. All the little pawnshops and second hand stores have thousands for sale at present. Any hobo with a quarter can get a pistol in Portland and is then ready for the warpath. COMMON SENSE.

Expounding the Constitution.

Gearhart, Nov. 30.—To the Editor of The Journal—The expounding of the constitution of late, by sages old and young, called for the liberating of great quantities of potential energy, but the disciples so far have failed to make a right angle out of an obtuse or acute one. But in their greed to foster self-sustaining motives they have rolled into the limelight, where a silent public beholds it, a better image of the hydra that tries to coerce honest people to repudiate the wishes of the masses.

CARL KRUSE.

The REALM FEMININE

Christmas Giving.

IT IS a sad thing when a child wakes on Christmas morning and finds nothing unusual waiting for him. When outside there is a stir of merriment and bustle of preparation, when joy is in the air, when people bearing many parcels tied with red ribbons and stems of holly and mistletoe hasten along every street, and yet it all passes by the little wistful, longing one; when childish faith and credulity break down at last and the sad conviction comes to a burdened baby heart that "there ain't really any Santa Claus."

"We have organized charities," exclaims some business man, "and we are paying as much as we can afford to them to take care of such cases."

Truly, we have organized societies, and sometimes it seems as though the demands upon the ordinary man of affairs or woman with her own family to look after are too many—so many at least, and reaching such widely different fields, that surely every part of the city is covered. But this is a plea for the unorganized kind of charity, the old-fashioned neighborly, unofficial kind; the kind that does not act through boards of directors and secretaries and records and card systems; the kind that comes from the heart and goes to the heart; the kind of which no record is ever kept, save by the recording angel who sets down in an imperishable ledger, those few really good things that a weak community occasionally accomplishes.

I believe heartily in the associated forms of charitable societies in the city. I believe in the Visiting Nurse association, and the Children's home, and the Baby home, and the Crittenton home; in the Flower mission, in the Neighborhood house, in the People's institute; in the guilds and aid societies and relief societies of the various churches. I am proud of them and of the splendid work they have accomplished in their many years of usefulness.

But there is another kind of brotherly kindness that I believe in, too, and that is the kind that nobody but the recipient ever knows of. The sort of which nobody speaks; the sort that is unrewarded, save by a look of gladness or a tear which starts unbidden at unexpected mercies.

And it is a great pity for a man or a woman to go through life dealing kindness only through societies, and never knowing that joy of service which comes from doing a lawlessly kind act; something which goes by the opprobrious name of "spasmodic" or "emotional" or "indiscriminate" charity.

The original charities need generous help, of course, but it is the same kind of support that we give to rose festivals or merchants' fairs or horticultural associations. It is one of the give-and-take propositions that we merely consider our part of a common duty.

And it has not at all the same flavor as a surreptitious kindness done to one who is not looking for it, and in a way which makes impossible any return.

Do you not remember the story of the humming top? In this story, you remember, the rich old man who had lived according to his own rigid rules, came to the gate of heaven when his earthly tasks were done, and asked admittance. St. Peter was about to turn him away when there came a little dirty, ragged boy, holding his own precious possession. In a moment of "spasmodic" charity the rich old man had given the poor child a humming top. It was all that he had to his credit, but it gained him admission. There is no time like the blessed Christmas season for opening the purse strings and the heart strings and letting that well trained, carefully considered charity, out. No time like this for going out of one's way to see that the boy has his humming top and the little girl her doll. No time like this for leaving a box of groceries upon the back porch of the struggling washer woman. No time like this for finding out the state of health of the janitor's family and the condition of the news boy's wardrobe. No time like this for forgetting the extraordinary intrinsic value which attaches to dollars and dimes, and finding out what other uses they have, in the way of bringing happiness to those who have no sort of claim upon one.

Is there any little child in your block who will look with tear-dimmed eyes upon the Christmas morn at a limp, empty stocking? If not in your block, how about the next block, or the one next to that? Does your little boy know of a child who goes to school who is cold and ragged? Has he told you of such a one and expressed the determination to give him a Christmas present, and have you idly laughed and said, "Oh, very well," without taking the trouble to find out about it? Indeed, these cases do not have to be sought for so very hard. A few minutes' time will put you in possession of the knowledge. A little walk, not far away from your own comfortable residence will bring you to the house where want and the pinching of poverty are known. It is very near the Christmas time. Don't write a check to the associated charities and let it go at that. Remember, "these things ye ought to have done, and not left the other undone."

Shall there be a sorrowful child in Portland on Christmas morning, who, because of our preoccupation believes "there ain't really any Santa Claus"?

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Hint on Breakfasts.

QUICK cooking does not insure a digestible cereal in spite of claims to the contrary. Long cooking in a double boiler will improve any of the grains served at the breakfast table no matter what has been its preparation for market. Three quarters of an hour is little enough time to allow. Put the cereal into the correct proportion of water in the top of the boiler, cover and let its starch cook thoroughly; the grains will then separate and a nutty flavor will be developed. Change the cereal often unless the family favor one kind exclusively; even then it may be advisable to have a variety. Oatmeal is served too exclusively and often disagrees where some wheat preparation would be acceptable.

Place two or three spoonfuls of the cereal on a plate and in the center an apple cored and cooked through, but not enough to break in pieces; drop a few seeded and cooked raisins on top. Serve with sugar and cream.

Beat the white of an egg until stiff and dry, then turn into a small buttered dish or ramekin, and drop the unbroken yolk into the center. Place in the oven just long enough to set the white, which will also cook the yolk sufficiently.

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Little Helps.

A GREEN pepper cut in rings or minced is a tasty addition to almost any vegetable salad.

An onion sliced and left for a few hours in a freshly painted room will absorb the unpleasant odor of turpentine and leave very little trace of its own.

To remove wine or fruit stains, sprinkle salt upon the spot, and pour boiling water through to prevent the stain from spreading. If the stain is fresh, or if the fabric is white, you may plunge it into boiling milk.

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Apples and Tapioca.

PEEL five or six apples, core without dividing the apples, fill the hole with sugar and cinnamon and on top of each place small piece of butter. Place apples in baking dish and put around them half cup of tapioca, half cup of sugar. Cover apples with water and bake slowly.