EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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Rest not content in the darkness, a clod;
Work for some good, be it ever so slowly;
Cherish some flower, be it ever so lowly;
Labor—all labor is noble and holy;
Let thy great deeds be thy prayer to thy God.

—Frances S. Osgood.

INLAND WATERWAYS

THE REPORT of the inland waterways commission to the conservation congress recently held in Washington was that it has been estimated that the inland waterways could be improved in ten years at an annual cost of $50,000,000 a years—a total of $500,000,000. This would amount to about 60 cents per annum per capita, or a total for the ten years of $6 for every person in the country—certainly not an alarming amount for such a great object. But it will not be money thrown away, for the report further estimates that the direct benefits to accrue from the completed plans are an annual saving of $250,000,000 in transportation, $150,000,000 in flood damages, $25,000,000 in forest fires, $75,000,000 in cheapened power and $500,000,000 through increased farm production, a total of $1,000,000,000 a year, or twice the total cost of the work. Of course this can be only a rough, crude estimate, yet it was not made entirely on mere guesswork, but by capable men who gave the subject much attention. If the estimate be correct, here is an income every year after the work is completed of twice its total cost. And yet there are public men who oppose this project, or seek in every way they can to delay it.

It is objected, too, that it would be unbusinesslike and foolish to authorize the issue of bonds until complete surveys are made of all projects and reports thereon received. This is a dilatory plea. The bonds need not be issued until needed; some projects have been already sufficiently investigated, and with the certainty that the policy had been decided on, surveys and other necessary investigations would go forward much more promptly and energetically than if the matter were still left undetermined.

The champions of this movement in congress have by long odds the best of the argument; they are fully fortified by a great array of facts; there is no real merit in any objection made to the scheme; the people in all parts of the country are unquestionably in favor of it, and therefore these congressmen ought to "go in to win" this winter and press this immensely important project through both houses.

CALIFORNIA PROTESTS

NUMEROUS MASS meetings are to be held in California to protest against the increased freight rates from Pacific coast points eastward, to go into effect January 1, and perhaps it would be well for Oregon to join in this form of protest. The committee of business men and shippers which is directing the movement in California represents very reasonably that this is not a matter which the railroads have, or ought to have, the right arbitrarily to decide. The other party to the transaction is the whole people of California, indeed of the Pacific coast, and they are not even consulted. The railroads claim that they have been having hard times, that freight revenues have decreased, that they are obliged to spend a great deal of money to improve and extend the service; therefore increased rates are justified and necessary. But the Californians respond, "Show us. We only have your word for all this. Lay bare all the facts, the whole truth, about your business, and if an increase is justified we will not object to it." This is a fair proposition, but the railroads will not entertain it because they claim that their business is wholly and exclusively theirs and not the public's at all. It is this fatuity on their part that is the main foundation for the government ownership propaganda. The railroad transportation business is very much the public's business; all the people are directly and vitally interested parties and they have a right to know everything about the business, down to the smallest fact and figure, and then to decide, or at least have a share in deciding, what are reasonable rates. It must come to this, and the sooner the railroads realize this and act accordingly, the sooner will they and the public establish those amicable and mutually beneficial relations that we hear so much talk about and that are so desirable.

AN UNBELIEVABLE REPORT

A NEWSPAPER statement credits some members of the Multnomah delegation with hostility to the Willamette locks project. It is said that they favor repeal of the law by which the state offers to bear half the cost. The report is unbelievable. Every consideration discredits it. There is no reason why any member of the Multnomah delegation should be ready to turn back the wheels of progress in state development. On the broad ground of what benefits Portland, benefits Oregon, and of what helps Oregon promotes Portland, every member of the delegation should have a personal interest in the expenditure by the state of such sum as will eliminate private ownership of the locks and make the river free. For personal and selfish reasons every business man and every property owner in Portland should take the same view. It is not a matter over which there is room for difference of opinion.

Every facility that is added in making it easy for products to reach Portland gives impetus to the growth and establishes more firmly the destined supremacy of this city. Every move that lessens the transportation cost between this city and adjacent territory is one more rivet in the structural formation of a greater Portland. It was the rivers, the Willamette and the Columbia, that made Portland a possibility. It is the greatest utilization of those rivers that will more firmly fasten Portland to a position of supremacy. Why is it that Chicago and Illinois are spending $20,000,000 on waterways and canals in the state of Illinois? Why is it that New York city and New York state are spending $110,000,000 on the Erie canal? It is because the men who are men in those states and cities know the laws of transportation, and the relation of city growth and state growth and the promotion of community life and wellbeing thereto. By every law of progress and thrift, by every consideration of business and enterprise, by every known influence trending in the direction of Portland's commercial success, not one man in the Multnomah delegation should hesitate for one single moment to be an earnest advocate and a persistent supporter of any appropriation necessary to secure at once the opening of the Willamette river and the deepening of the channel in that river to Corvallis and Eugene. It will be amazing if any other view is held by any member of the delegation. So far as The Journal has ever been able to learn the only opposition to the plan of a freed river comes from the railroads and private interests that profit from a monopolized river.

GOVERNMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES

IT IS intimated in a news dispatch that Mr. Taft, when he becomes president, will inaugurate a considerably different policy in the Philippines from that hitherto pursued. The past policy, due in large part to Mr. Taft himself, has been to confer most of the local offices upon the Filipinos, and as far as possible treat them as equals—the McKinley policy of "benevolent assimilation." Mr. Taft in a recent speech at the ceremony of unveiling a McKinley monument praised that policy and lauded the assassinated president for that among other things, so this report may be unfounded; yet probably nobody knows better than Mr. Taft that except as a shadowy theory or a political pretense benevolent or any other sort of assimilation, except in a very small degree and at few points, is an impossibility. There is but slight and strained assimilation between the whites and blacks in this country, though they have lived together for hundreds of years, and must live together in the future, and are all Americans; much less can there be assimilation between the Americans, most of them officeholders or soldiers, in the Philippines, and the natives. Undoubtedly our military operations and schools have been very instructive to the Filipinos, and our people over there have learned their character pretty well, so there is a sort of enforced and surface amity and comradeship between them, but the American is the Anglo-Saxon still, and the Filipino is the Malay-Tartar oriental still, and so will remain, spite of armies and school teachers.

A Montana man, out hunting, heard the bushes rattle, and supposed it was a deer. He fired, as they often do. Four hours later, his brother nearly frozen and bleeding to death was found at the spot. The victim expired before the nearest farm house could be reached. And thus the day's sport by the two brothers had its terrible sequel. And thus the harvest of death through the carelessness and recklessness of the hunters goes tragically on. In Michigan 11 hunters fell by accidental shooting within two weeks. Thereafter the legislature passed a law and now the man who shoots another for a deer goes to the penitentiary for 10 years.

IMPOSSIBLE, MR. FULTON.

SENATOR FULTON'S letter to an Oregon legislator is a practical avowal of his own impossibility. It ought to be so accepted by his friends. They wrong him by adhering to, or tempting him to, a candidacy. It places him in the wrong light before the electorate of Oregon. It puts him in the attitude of an insurgent. It makes him the apparent foe to the orderly flow of affairs. It ascribes to him a purpose of setting the will of the people at defiance. It is an impossible attiude for any public man. It is an attitude that the electorate will not forgive, and that is a reason for his friends to cease tempting Mr. Fulton to be a candidate. They are his best and truest friends who frankly tell him that he is not even a remote senatorial possibility at this time.

His letter practically admits as much. It recalls that he was an anti-statement candidate before the people, and that pro-statement won. That alone eliminated him and by every consideration of good faith should have been final. He was a candidate before his party and his party rejected him and chose another. That eliminated Mr. Fulton, and by every consideration of good faith it should have been final. He declared at Corvallis in a public address before hundreds of people that if defeated before the people his name would not go before the legislature for senator or any other office, and by every consideration of good faith that should be final. With the people of all parties voting, Mr. Chamberlain was selected as the candidate for senator, and by every known consideration of good faith that should be final. Mr. Fulton went to Washington and sought the aid of the administration, but failed. The sequel to his effort was that the president frankly declared it the duty of Oregon to ratify the people's choice. Along with all this there is a rising tide of revolution all over the state in which the granges are indignantly protesting against the election of any other candidate than the people's choice. At the same time a united eastern press and an almost unanimous state press in Oregon is denouncing any plan of interfering with the regular and peaceful order programed by the people.

To all this there is but one meaning. It is impossible to overturn the majestic mountains or drain the ocean of its waters. It is impossible to count the sands of the seashore or to enumerate the raindrops that fall from the clouds. There is an irrevocable fixity in the political events of recent date in Oregon and their inevitable logic is the impossibility of Mr. Fulton. It harms him for his friends to attempt to make him possible. It wrongs him for them to suggest him as a possibility. The rivers cannot be reversed nor the ballot box defied.

In 1910 Argentina will celebrate its centennial, and will erect in the harbor of Buenos Ayres a gigantic statue with the inscription, "Peace and liberty for all men of the world wishing to live on Argentina soil." Argentina is a progressive and rapidly developing republic of 5,000,000 people, living in a country capable of sustaining 50,000,000. Its government closely imitates that of the United States, its position in the southern hemisphere corresponds to ours in the northern, and its great export staples are wheat and beef. It leads commercially all the Latin nations and its trade per capita is greater than that of the United States or any large nation of Europe. Buenos Ayres has a population of about 1,200,000, fourth on the western continent, and only New York and Chicago are growing faster.

There has been all along an unexplainable lack of enthusiasm with reference to the Willamette project. The Journal has several times called public attention to this listlessness. A local newspaper now comes forward with a claim that there are interests that oppose the project, and that want repeal of the state law appropriating $300,000 in aid of the open river. We know now that the fine Italian hand of secret interests want the people of the Willamette region to continue until the crack of doom to pay the same old freight rates exacted of them for the past 30 years. There was manifestly method in all this madness of secrecy and silence. Is this why the Willamette project cannot get a hearing on the floor of congress? We shall see what we shall see.

Every possible influence should be invoked to bring the Liberty Bell to the Rose Festival. Its educative influence alone is worth all the trouble it may cost to bring it. Every time we are reminded of the day when the old bell pealed out the notes of a new freedom, the best impulses in the American heart are stirred and new supports nailed to the fabric of liberty. Then there is the absorbing interest with which all would feel the desire to get a view of the famous bell, symbolic of the most notable event in the history of the human race. Governor Chamberlain's assurance that earnest effort and cooperation with the Alaska-Yukon exposition people will secure the bell, will doubtless inspire the Rose Festival committee to renewed activity.

Economy in expenditures should be practiced, as far as is consistent with desired progressiveness, but increasing tax burdens ought to impress people with the need of a somewhat different system of taxation, so as better to equalize the burden.

Letters From the People

Letters to The Journal should be written on one side of the paper only, and should be accompanied by the name and address of the writer. The name will not be used if the writer asks that it be withheld. The Journal is not to be understood as indorsing the views or statements of correspondents. Letters should be made as brief as possible. Those who wish their letters returned when not used should inclose postage.

Correspondents are notified that letters exceeding 300 words in length may, at the discretion of the editor, be cut down to that limit.

The Train Holdup.

Portland, Dec. 21.—To the Editor of The Journal—The promptness of the train crew in obeying every command of the robbers in Friday night's holdup shows them to have been as well trained as the usual college football team.

The strategy of the conductor, turning off the light so that the robbers could not "wing" him as he ran off to hunt a phone, and the forethought of the messenger in opening the safe, taking from and concealing the valuable packages and replacing them with "fool" valuables, then recklessly opening the car door in the glare of electric lights, that so blinded him that he could not shoot, but could plainly see the robbers' guns; the brakeman who at command reentered the car and with remarkable coolness advised the passengers to conceal the valuables; in fact, they did everything the robbers could ask. But there was one thing they failed to do—"defend the train."

Is there not a radical shortcoming here? What advantage, man for man, would robbers have over a train crew? On the contrary, trainmen are under cover to some extent; robbers mostly in the open. Under these conditions two trainmen are more than the equal of three robbers in a fight. I am not prepared to admit that courage is monopolized by highwaymen, even if most holdups are in evidence that such is the case.

Have maudlin sentimental laws disarmed the trainmen? Why should not messengers, firemen and brakemen have arms ready loaded in convenient places and have the backing of public opinion to use them? More—they should be held accountable for any failure to shoot, when they have the advantage.

These robbers were really quite modest in only requiring the engineer to take them near the streetcar line. They probably could safely have made him run them to the west side and saved the nickel car fare.

There was at least one brave passenger—but that was a woman. Brave woman, we take off our hat to you. You certainly will not raise abject cowards.

The report is published that three or four passengers having firearms resolved, as soon as the robbers left, to defend the passengers. They should have loaned the brave woman a "gun," and followed her lead in an attack on the holdup men. In the name of all the gods at once, let us awake a more courageous public sentiment. Otherwise we will soon be sneered at as a nation of cowards.

The photo of the men just starting to hunt up and arrest the robbers, as seen in a morning paper, was a happy thought. It is almost as good as an introduction. OLD PIONEER.

Plea for Early Hours.

Portland, Dec. 21.—To the Editor of The Journal—It is quite a surprise that no cognizance has been taken of "dance halls," "clubs," and "orders" in the city.

Even the "women's clubs" have ignored this. I mean the very early hour when young people return home from such gatherings.

We as citizens are fighting against tuberculosis. Our youngest, fairest, best are very rapidly going under.

Stand at the corner of Third and Morrison, count and see which are the healthy and strong between 15 and 30. You cannot pass 70 per cent.

The early closing movement is in use here; but entertainments, even church services, commence at 8, 8:30 and dances at 9 p. m. To take supper, wash, dress, does not require these three hours, but it is not that. Mission meetings up to 11 o'clock; dances until 1, 2 or 3. The tired feet that have stood all day, the courtesy of manner kept up, the strain of pleasing so many, then the hydra steps in and tuberculosis as an octopus seizes its victims, and the sleep so necessary after these affairs is but five hours.

Let the mayor and councilmen enact that every public hall and church be promptly closed at 12 midnight, especially those for dancing. Cinderella will keep her glass slipper, youth and beauty; Samson his strength and vigor; employers will find good service; patrons a pleasing manner.

Lodging and apartment houses should be compelled to have a bath service. How lovely are rosy cheeks, bright eyes and health! How grand an erect figure, strength and nobility of carriage! Yet these are only preserved by good food, cleanliness and rest—sleep.

ELINOR M. DAVIS.

This Date in History.

1790—Thomas Mifflin became the first governor of Pennsylvania under the constitution of 1790.

1804—Lord Beaconsfield, English writer and statesman, born. Died April 19, 1881.

1807—Embargo act passed, forbidding the departure of any vessel from the United States for a foreign port.

1854—Armed collisions took place in eastern Kansas between the two political parties.

1864—General Sherman entered the city of Savannah.

1894—Sir Mackenzie Bowell became premier of Canada and formed a new ministry.

1900—Martial law proclaimed in Cape Colony.

1902—Remains of Julia Dent Grant placed in the Grant tomb on Riverside drive, New York.

Charles Homer Haskins' Birthday.

Charles Homer Haskins, a noted educator who has been mentioned as a possible successor to President Eliot of Harvard university, was born in Meadville, Pa., December 21, 1870. He was graduated from Johns Hopkins university in 1887, and took advanced study at Johns Hopkins and the Universities of Paris and Berlin. He was instructor in history at Johns Hopkins for one year, and was assistant professor of history in 1891 and 1892, and professor of European history from 1892 to 1902 at the University of Wisconsin. He was a lecturer on history, 1899-1900, and professor of history at Harvard, where he has been since. He has contributed numerous articles on the Vatican archives, mediaeval student life, the study and teaching of history, the Inquisition and the jury. He has served as corresponding secretary of the American Historical association and as state historian of the Wisconsin Historical society.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

An old question: "Who is my neighbor?"

* *

Some people are having another vacation.

* *

Have some robbers really been captured?

* *

A hard week this, for the store employes.

* *

Last call to buy them comparatively early.

* *

But some who bought early will buy late also.

* *

It is unlikely that Castro is broke, financially.

* *

Why should anybody want to be a councilman?

* *

Most former necessaries are becoming luxuries.

* *

As to the robber-catching business—nothing doing.

* *

As to the pubic schools, this is a $1,000,000 city.

* *

The mayor insists on letting light in on dark places.

* *

Get all ready for a year of big development in 1909.

* *

There's no use wishing some people a merry Christmas.

* *

Perhaps Castro expects to see the Monroe Doctrine revived.

* *

The judicial murder mill is working quite busily these days.

* *

"Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ."

* *

It is already being discovered that rather small orchards pay best.

* *

Coming on Friday, Christmas will be unlucky for some people, of course.

* *

After the holidays it is supposed the ship subsidy bill will bob up again.

* *

Secretary Wilson says bleached flour is adulterated. Same as bleached complexion and hair.

* *

These be prosperous times for those who sell; to consumers the cost of living increases constantly.

* *

"Shall congress abdicate?" asks the New York World. Well, it might be well if a majority of it did.

* *

An exchange alludes to the president's last message as his "swan-song." Another case of nature faking.

* *

Being now assured of the speakership, Uncle Joe is talking out pretty saucily. But he never was a hypocrite.

* *

It is reported that Abruzzi will climb Mount Everest, 29,000 feet high, next summer. He feels about that cold now.

* *

A New Jersey man took 30 baths in 30 hours. But the item doesn't say that he was connected with Standard Oil.

* *

Senator Depew sarcastically remarked that being only a senator he had nothing to do with federal appointments. He shouldn't have.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS.

Streams are lower than for many years at this time of year.

* *

Nearly 50 W. of W. were initiated at Drain one evening lately.

* *

A place in Lane county is named Wineberry. That sounds good.

* *

A Mayger carrot is 11 inches long and 18½ inches in circumference.

* *

The Clatskanie Cooperative creamery is reported as progressing favorably.

* *

A fair question: Does our streets need paving?—Roseburg News. Hardly fair, grammatically.

* *

The mayor of Medford will hereafter receive a salary of $100 a year, and councilmen $50 a year.

* *

A farm of 773 acres near Dilley was sold last week for $22,000, and will be subdivided into 20 and 40 acres farms.

* *

The Gervais Commercial club has already begun the work of advertising this vicinage and results will soon begin to follow, says the Star.

* *

Gervais Star: Sixty acres of apple and peach trees are set on the (former) Hubard place and 1300 trees are on the ground to plant. The ground is being plowed 12 inches deep.

* *

A Jasper, Lane county, woman gathered from her garden a few days ago a number of green pea pods in which the peas were fully matured. There are also a number of vines in bloom.

* *

The Dalles and vicinity produces some of the best celery that reaches the local markets. The flavor of home grown celery here outclasses any from any other locality, says the Chronicle.

* *

Hubbard has had more new sidewalk built this winter than any other small sized town along the S. P. R. R., says a correspondent. And more than as much more will be built before spring.

* *

An estate case has been in the Klamath county courts for 17 years, the circuit judge recently reversing the present judge and affirming a decision of the county court 13 years ago. Now it will probably go to the supreme court.

* *

A St. Helens citizen, says a correspondent, led water going to waste by troughs to a vacant lot, and with a very little leveling down, now has a fine looking garden spot, where only rocks were in evidence before. Other owners with larger holdings are also building troughs and if the mud holds out, will soon be setting out walnut trees.

* *

While Carl Aglesly and Charles Lane of Eugene were walking along Smith river with their packs on their backs on their backs they came to a sudden declivity to get down which they would have to slide down to a narrow shelf of rock and then worm their way along the mountain side until they got to the bottom of the canyon. Just beyond the narrow ledge there was a sheer precipice of fully 50 feet. Carl made the slide first, struck the ledge all right and held on, but when Lane attempted to make it he shot clear over the ledge, falling on the rocks below, but as he fell on his pack, he was but slightly injured.

FAMOUS GEMS OF PROSE

"The Bell *of* Liberty"—By Joel T. Headley

[From chapter 5 of "The Life of George Washington."]

The representatives of the people assembled in solemn conclave and long and anxiously surveyed the perilous ground on which they were treading. To recede was now impossible; to go on seemed fraught with terrible consequences. The result of the long and fearful conflict that must follow was more than doubtful. For 20 days congress was tossed on a sea of perplexity. At length, Richard Henry Lee, shaking off the fetters that galled his noble spirit, arose on the 7th of June, and in a clear, deliberate tone, every accent of which rang to the farthest extremity of the silent hall, proposed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That these United Colonies, are, and ought to be, free and independent states, and all political connection between us and the states of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."

John Adams, in whose soul glowed the burning future, seconded the resolution in a speech so full of impassioned fervor, thrilling eloquence and prophetic power, that congress was carried away before it, as by a resistless wave. The die was cast, and every man was now compelled to meet the issue. The resolution was finally deferred until the first of July to allow a committee appointed for that purpose to draft a declaration of independence. When the day arrived the declaration was taken up and debated article by article. The discussion continued for three days, and was characterized by great excitement. At length, the various sections having been gone through with, the next day, July 4, was appointed for action.

It was soon known throughout the city, and in the morning, before congress assembled, the streets were filled with excited men, some gathered in groups engaged in eager discussion, and others moving toward the state house. All business was forgotten in the momentous crisis which the country had now reached. No sooner had the members taken their seats than the multitude gathered in a dense mass around the entrance. A bellman mounted to the belfry, to be ready to proclaim the joyful tidings of freedom as soon as the final vote was passed. A bright-eyed boy was stationed below to give the signal. Around the bell, brought from England, had been cast, more than 20 years before, the prophetic motto, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof." Although its loud clang had often sounded over the city, the proclamation engraved on its iron lip had never yet been spoken aloud.

It was expected that the final vote would be taken without delay, but hour after hour wore on, and no report came from that mysterious hall, where the fate of a continent was in suspense. The multitude grew impatient. The old man leaned over the railing, straining his eyes downward, till his heart misgave him, and hope yielded to fear. But at length, at 2 o'clock, the door opened and a voice exclaimed, "It has passed." The word leaped like lightning from lip to lip, followed by huzzas that shook the building. The boy sentinel clapped his hands and shouted to the bellman, "Ring! ring!" The desponding bellman, electrified into life by the joyful news, made the bell ring out with a clang that startled every heart in Philadelphia like a bugle blast. "Clang! clang!" the bell of liberty resounded on, higher and clearer, more joyous, blending in its deep and thrilling vibrations and proclaiming in loud and long accents, over all the land, the motto that encircled it.

Prosperity's Surest Indication.

From the New York Times.

Perhaps the most convincing evidence that prosperity has returned, or at least is on the way and close at hand, can be found in the fact that the immigrant ships are coming into port again, crowded with passengers confident that we have work for them to do and eager to exchange their strength for our good dollars.

Of course no one individual among the thousands now daily landing from the steerages knows very much about economic conditions in the United States for the great majority of them are neither observers nor thinkers, but each man has his particular source of information, and, as a whole, they never make mistakes in deciding when times are going to be good or when the outlook is bad. Their foreknowledge has much the appearance of being a sort of instinct, but that is because we do not know much about the data on which they act.

It is the movement of the mass that seems mysterious. In each case, if proper inquiries were made—and answered—the course of the immigrant or the emigrant would be found determined in some very simple and easily comprehensible way. The man hurriedly quits the country, because, having lost his job, and being unable to get another, he hurries home, where his savings will be a little fortune and support him in comfortable idleness vastly longer than they would here; he comes back because he hears from a relative or friend that the old job is waiting for him, or because the ever watchful agents of the transportation companies carry the same news to him.

Somehow or other, these foreign laborers get what for their purposes is accurate information as to American conditions, and they often get it before we have made up our own minds as to what is going to happen. Their incomings and outgoings are therefore of great diagnostic value. And now they are all coming back, 5000 a day—some days. If they are sure that all's well, the rest of us might as well be.

Bad Outlook for Bachelors.

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

A St. Louis temperance worker—a woman, of course—says that one real evil that afflicts the country is the bachelor. Perhaps the new president or some of the new governors will look into this. It is a good while since the bachelors as a class have had an overhauling and perhaps they need it.

A Practical Movement.

From the Bohemian.

"George," spoke his better half, "you are interested in the temperance movement, are you not?"

"Why, certainly I am," he answered.

"Well, suppose you go out and make a few of them with the pump handle. I am in need of a pail of water right away."

The REALM FEMININE

The Neglected Child.

HOW is one to find those who need help at the Christmas time, if one does not know? Do you remember that that question was asked us not long ago by a mother who wanted her child to learn to do something for others?

An answer is waiting for her if she will telephone Main 3158. A teacher in one of our public schools has in her room several motherless boys from whom a choice could be made. Many of the children have not a handkerchief, and several have no more than a change of stockings. In fact, save perhaps in some of our most exclusive residence districts there are little children in each public school so poorly clad, so ill fed, so neglected that it moves one to pity to see them.

We have been making quite a to-do about our school teachers' wages. Has it occurred to you that many of these teachers are contributing from their slender store to buy underwear, shoes, and stockings for these little neglected waifs who are sent to school so poorly clothed?

This is a problem that is hard to reach. Many agencies are trying to get at it. The Home Training association, for instance, is making a great effort to interest the mothers in each school district in the welfare of their children; trying to get better ideals of child rearing and of home keeping before the mothers, circulating books on child culture, bringing physicians and lecturers to the schoolhouses to talk to them. You would suppose that this must be a great help in having better homes. And it is—but as we all know in an effort of this kind it is the women who need it least who attend. Unless they come the other women will not, and yet the more ignorant the mother is the harder it is to induce her to come to hear the talks, to read the books, or to arouse in her any interest whatever in the matter of caring for her children.

Sometimes the Visiting Nurse association, or the Fruit and Flower mission, or the Associated Charities, finds these families where the children are neglected and ill fed; then the father and mother are reasoned with, the cause of the distress is investigated, the remedy is applied, if possible. But often the real underlying cause of the children's condition is beyond the powers of any sort of charity to reach.

More frequent than any other cause is the drinking habit of the father. He is able to work, he does work; he earns enough money to keep his family decently—but instead of doing so he turns his wages into liquor and lets the children go hungry and cold.

Who can give definite assistance to a family in such plight as that? And it is so common—oh, so common that it is almost commonplace. And yet it is not the children's fault. They, poor little things, worse off than if they were fatherless, accept their rags and their semi-starvation with childhood's wonderful philosophy and try to catch some brightness from the days as they come.

Let me tell you some real true stories of little children in our own public schools, in our own prosperous city of Portland. A teacher felt so sorry for one poor little lad who was in her room, so cold, so dirty, wearing an old thin pair of girl's shoes without rubbers during a spring of sleety, rainy days, that she spoke to some of the other teachers about it, and together they raised some money. After school that night she invited the youngster to go down town with her, and with the generous assistance of one of the proprietors of one of our largest department stores, the little fellow was fitted out completely with new warm clothes, probably the first time in his life that he had been comfortably clad throughout. The little chap didn't say much, but the next day he came with a little bunch of wild flowers tightly clasped in his grimy fist and presented them to her.

"I could have cried," she said.

Another teacher told me this. It happened some years ago, but it is none the less real for that. She had a boy in her room who was not progressing as she felt he ought, and one day she asked him to stay after school so that she could talk to him. The little fellow was shy and not at all eager to talk about himself, but little by little, by showing real interest and putting an arm around the little thin figure, she won his story from him.

"Have you a mother?" she asked him. "No'm." "A father?" "No'm." "Where do you live?" "With my brother." "Just you two alone?" "Yes'm." Then she found that these two children, the older one a lad of 13 or 14, were living in a little shed together. The older boy carried papers in the morning, and they both came to school. The older boy's wages were absolutely all they had to live on, and their food, morning, noon and night, was—what do you suppose—pancakes, made of flour and water, which the older boy cooked for them on an old stove that they had in the shed. Flour is pretty cheap, you know. It will make a good many pancakes.

"And I might have scolded that child," said the teacher, with tears in her eyes at the recollection.

Now I would not wilfully harrow your feelings if that were all. But the point is that such things are actually happening right here in our midst now.

Our various agencies and societies are doing all they can. They are supported by personal contributions from those who have enough and to spare, and they are in constant touch with the problems of cold and hunger and sickness and wickedness which are the constant surroundings of many.

And yet, there remains a great field for personal individual effort in alleviating the sorrows and troubles of those whose cases do not properly come within the limits of these agencies.

Perhaps some way will be found next year so that before the Christmas season comes the teachers and the mothers and the little cold and neglected children may be brought into closer touch. And yet teachers are such busy people and so tired when the day's work is done.

Suppose you call up the principal of your school today and see if he knows of any child who is likely to have no Christmas.

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A Novel Turkey Stuffing.

MOISTEN three cupfuls of soft bread crumbs with one half cupful of melted butter. Add one cupful of butternut or black walnut meats, blanched and broken, one calf's sweetbread which has been blanched, cooked in water containing a bay leaf and the juice of a lemon, and cut in small pieces with a plated knife, one teaspoonful of salt and a pinch of cayenne. Toss these ingredients together and lightly fill the body and the neck of the bird. Never "pack" stuffing in fowls unless you wish it heavy and solid.

For a turkey weighing 15 pounds two quarts of soft bread crumbs will be required. Moisten them with a teacupful of melted butter, and season with one and one half teaspoonfuls of salt, one half teaspoonful of pepper, one tablespoonful of poultry seasoning and one small onion grated. Add one pint of raw cranberries and one cupful of blanched chestnuts chopped coarse. F. E. P.

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Dainty Pudding.

PUT into a dish some coarsely crumbled sponge cake, over it spread a layer of whipped cream sweetened and slightly flavored with vanilla. Then add some more cake crumbs, more cream, etc., until the dish is full. Set away on ice until needed and when turned out serve with chocolate sauce. This dessert decorated with candied cherries and leaves of angelica, makes a beautiful Christmas dish. Serve the sauce from a silver pitcher.