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Accept your lot as a man does a piece of rugged ground, and begin to get out the rocks and roots, to deepen and mellow the soil, to enrich and plant it.—Henry Ward Beecher.

PRACTICAL EDUCATION

VARIOUS PEOPLE worthy of heed have been saying recently that our educational system is faulty in paying too much attention to general "book learning" and too little to practical knowledge adapted to the use of students when they leave school; that the expansion and elaboration of education in recent years are in the wrong direction.

A very practical and successful business man, a high government official and for years a member of an educational board, says: "There are too many high schools, and they are turning out legions of incompetents. Common school education without frills is all a boy needs to succeed in commercial life. He ought to be learning business from 14 to 18, and yet he is encouraged to spend those four years acquiring a taste for neckties and fancy shirts. There are too many high schools and not enough trade schools. Cities are filled with small salaried, discouraged men, who instead of being mediocre clerks (and he might have added low rate professional men) ought to be good, self-respecting carpenters, plumbers and electricians. The four years spent in the high schools ought to be spent in learning to make themselves independent. It is special training and not general culture and bolted shirts that make a man valuable."

This and much more like talk should not be accepted too literally, yet there is much truth and wisdom in the idea conveyed, the suggestions made. We would scarcely agree with the assertion that there are too many high schools and other institutions of higher education, but rather that while it would be well if more boys attended them, a considerable proportion of those who do attend would better be learning a business or a trade. All are ground through the same mill, whether they are suitable grist for it or not. Many get a higher education, to a greater or less extent, so as to pursue some genteel and supposedly easy vocation, for which they are not fitted, and are spoiled for an industrial, mechanical or commercial career, to which they are naturally adapted.

The need seems to be, then, not fewer high schools and higher schools so much as a system of education that would differentiate more among youth, and that would turn them into the paths that will most probably and naturally lead to the highest and truest success—remembering that a superior farmer or mechanic is a greater success than a mediocre lawyer, doctor or preacher, and that a farm hand has as much chance to win fortune and happiness as a clerk.

THE NIGHT RIDERS' TRIALS

THAT IS a strange trial, for this age and generation, that is going on at Union City, Tenn. It belongs rather to a semi-barbarous time and people. The defendants and their deeds are combative and contradictory of civilization. It would seem that a painter of genius might find here a subject for a great picture.

These eight men on trial are typical though perhaps extreme examples of the people generally who inhabit certain mountain regions of Tennessee and Kentucky. Among them is an organization known as Night Riders, of which these men are conspicuous members and leaders. The burning of cotton and tobacco warehouses has not been exclusively their work and it was only an incident or phase of their habitual anarchism. They assume to be a law unto themselves, are defiant of all other laws and authority, and

doubtless regard this trial and punishment, if it should follow, as tyrannical deserving vengeance on all engaged in it.

The fight of fishing in Reelfoot lake was the immediate cause of the murder of Captain Rankin and the intent to murder the old man Taylor, who gave the details of the crime. These night riders had been forbidden to fish on private property, hence they went forth to murder. But this was only the climax of a long series of outrages committed by these lawless men. They constituted a despotism throughout a large region and regulated all sorts of private affairs and punished with merciless floggings or otherwise anybody who did not act to suit them. As an instance, they required a woman who had left a brutal and drunken husband to return to him and when she refused they flogged her almost to death.

Eight men are on trial for the murder of Captain Rankin, but there are indictments for murder and lesser crimes against 125, and if convictions can be secured and punishment inflicted, it will be a victory of law over lawlessness in that region that has been already too long delayed.

THE CALIFORNIA REVOLT

THE SEEDS of peaceful revolution are—in the great protest Californians are to make against the railroads December 30. Fifty thousand shippers joining in concerted mass meetings all over the state is a remarkable activity. People met in the same way and in the same way signalled their resistance to aggression in 1776. Events of the kind never happen except as a result of unusual provocation. In this instance the patience of a patient people has been overtaxed. The limit of silent submission has been reached and the sequel is a peaceful uprising.

It is anomalous that railroad freight should be advanced. The claim that it is necessary is peculiar. Inventions and better devices have greatly lessened the cost in freight hauls. Locomotives and tracks are so improved that one train crew handles 50 instead of a dozen cars on many lines. The grades are reduced and every item of outlay minimized. Appliances are no longer crude. The science of railroading has been developed to its highest efficiency. The population, production and traffic tributary to the lines is vastly increased. Traffic in normal conditions is such that the lines are often unable to handle it with dispatch. Every known or visible sign betokens railroad prosperity. In the span of 20 or 30 years men who have genius in the business and engage in it, rise from poverty to enormous wealth. It is notorious that roads pay enormous dividends not only on their legitimate but on a great illegitimate capitalization.

In addition to all this there is a natural law that processes are cheapened by civilization. It is so in every other line and it is a violation of all laws if it is not so in railroad operation. If not so, it is the natural order to go back to the ox, the rude steamboat and the prairie schooner. A reduction of rates instead of an increase is due by the logic and analogy of all experience, and the California Rate Day is a justifiable and laudable resistance. It is a protest that should be carried from the mass meetings to the ballot box, not only in California, but in every state. It is as natural for a railroad magnate as it is for a farmer, a mechanic or any other unit in society to take all he can get and if there be no resistance there will be aggression, such as is manifest in the present increase of rates.

Railroad commissions, state and national, are a means of defense, and they should be fostered, strengthened and safeguarded. Such commissions, state legislatures and congress are the weapons to play, and at the ballot box the people should see that they do play, and that the game is fair.

WHY DELAY IT?

IT IS announced that Mr. McArthur contemplates giving written assurance that if elected speaker the office will be conducted solely in the interest of a business session and that it shall not be used for frustrating ratification by the legislature of the people's choice for senator. In so simple a matter, the wonder is that Mr. McArthur has not already made such a statement. The Journal invited him to do so, and he refused. Why the refusal? Mr. Bean, though not a pro-statement member, did not hesitate to define his views. He declared that the people settled the senatorial question in June and that if elected speaker his office should not be used in any other interest than for a straightforward business session with the interests of Oregon, its people and taxpayers paramount. Is that a hard declaration to make? Why should there be delay by any candidate for speaker in making it? If there is such delay in what but a suspicious light must the delay be viewed by those who want a session of business and not a session of tomfoolery? If we are all on the square in this matter of the speakership in which it is of supreme importance to the people and taxpayers that we be on the square, is it not important that there be neither unwillingness nor delays in giving legislators and the people

exact information as to how we all stand?

The Journal has no candidate for speaker. It has no candidate for any office. It is not concerned with the organization of the legislature except that it wants a square deal for the people and the taxpayers, as well as for the legislators, exactly where candidates stand. It is due to the electorate in this great commonwealth that every man shall put himself on record. In this speaker's matter not a man in Oregon wants to catch a cat in a bag. No speaker is wanted by anybody who will balk like a cayuse after he gets in the harness. No man worthy of the office will shrink from having his purpose and his plans exposed to the open sunlight of the eternal truth. The very unwillingness to disclose those purposes and plans arouses suspicion as to their sincerity. If the report that Mr. McArthur will make a statement is true it is well. It ought to have been made before.

THE CASE IS MADE

BEFORE THE congressional committee yesterday Mr. Carnegie reiterated his statement that "steel can be made cheaper in America than in foreign countries." He added that "the cost of production is cheaper here than abroad; that no tariff is needed and that it is impossible for foreigners to compete seriously with home manufacturers." The evidence is complete. The case is made. There is no motive for him to misrepresent the facts. Yet there is a tariff of several dollars per ton. Mr. Schwab, a steel king risen from poverty, lives in a \$10,000,000 palace. Mr. Corey, another ironmaster, lives in regal magnificence. The American farmer pays more for an American-made plow than the German farmer on the Rhine buys it for. The tariff raises the cost of every nail, every rivet, every tool, every machine the American farmer buys. It adds to the cost of every wagon, every harrow, every mower and every other implement he uses. It is a toll on every household in the land. The cost of living is so high that wages, toil and effort are swallowed up by it. Government commissions investigate the question of how goes it with country life, and find that there is lack of comfort and barriers to thrift. There is an exodus from the country to the city by boys who seek opportunities that country life does not seem to afford. Farms by the hundred in New England have been abandoned as unprofitable. These known and notorious conditions are everywhere confessed and nowhere denied. The annual profits of the steel trust are \$175,000,000. The Carnegie testimony is of extreme value. If the present congress does not eliminate this ceaseless toll by steel some other congress will.

A legislature which goes about its business in a calm businesslike way and brings results of value to the people is the pride of any state. If its deliberations are orderly and its enterprises constructive, the favorable publicity that comes commends the state everywhere and causes people elsewhere to think of that state as a desirable one to live in. It is a sign that such a legislature is not in the hands of bosses and it is a better advertisement than all the work of all the commercial clubs, all the advertising and all the booming methods of all the real estate promoters, combined. A good, straightforward session of the coming Oregon legislature would be of infinite service to the state in what it does and what it does not do.

Judge Crane, who is trying the Hains case, seems to mix a whole lot of plain common sense with his judicially. For one thing, he will tolerate no "brain storm" or "dementia Americana" defense; for another, he believes that jurors fit to try such a case are to be trusted to separate during an adjournment over Sunday, and go home, or where they please. May his precedents become popular on the bench.

THE HARRIMAN DECISION

JUDGE CLEMENTS, a member of the Interstate Commerce commission, takes issue with the report sent out some days ago that the recent decision of the United States supreme court in the Harriman case was of little or no consequence, and would not hamper or materially restrict the work of the commission. On the contrary, Mr. Clements declares that it will have precisely this effect, and will prevent the commission from pursuing investigations to what it deems in many cases a necessary length.

It will be remembered that Mr. Harriman declined to answer certain questions regarding his notable Alton deal, and his dealing in stocks for and with railroads of which he was a controlling or influential director. The New York federal court held that Mr. Harriman must answer these questions, but the supreme court, three justices dissenting, held that he need not do so, saying in effect that no authority could be given to any official body to pry into a man's personal affairs to this extent. This seems good doctrine to the average layman, but it is still to be remembered that as to these transactions Mr. Harriman was in popular if not in legal estimation something more than a private citizen. He was handling money paid in by hundreds of thousands of people and in a measure dealing with their interests as well as with his own. A common opinion will be that the privacy that would and should be held sacred in the case of a private stockholder ought not to veil the tremendous transactions of Mr. Harriman, who buys railroads as an average man buys sheep or poultry. However, a majority of the supreme court says that Mr. Harriman in his great and powerful position is no different from a little man who has but small affairs, and so such is now the law.

Various leading newspapers also, on a reconsideration of the decision, agree with Commissioner Clements that the decision will have a weakening restriction on the work of the commission. Yet the commission will have scope enough yet to do much good and necessary work and so need not be utterly discouraged at this adverse decision.

So as to Fly Off.

From the Hamilton News and Courier. What a pity it is that men, whose heads are lighter than air are not driftable.

Time Is Flying.

From the Washington Star. The time is almost over when anybody would be eligible to the early Christmas shopper class.

In the election of senator by the legislative process, of which we have heard so much in Oregon of late. The constitution is a convenience over which politicians become greatly concerned, at times. In Oregon, for instance, they have never considered it unconstitutional to buy legislators to vote for senator, either individually, in pairs or in blocks. The constitution is never violated until the whole electorate, through the ballot box, attempts to direct affairs. Yet a fundamental constitutional guarantee is the rule of the majority and the ballot box the only test of where the majority lies. If the Indiana program is carried out as now projected, the taxpayers of that state will have a pretty bill to pay and the outcome of the session will be mastery legislation.

The tragic sequel to a shocking marriage was enacted in Illinois Monday, when the white wife of a Chinaman poisoned her four children, stabbing the one who was a girl to make doubly sure of her death, and then killed herself by falling in front of a streetcar. After 13 years of the incongruous yoke-fellowship she could endure it no longer, nor could endure the thought of her halfbreed child growing up to become the scorn of their fellows. Girls who are prone to "fall in love" with Chinamen, however worthy men of their sort they may be—and not a few young women have had this fever—should learn a lesson from this tragedy. A white woman who marries a man of another race invariably makes her bed in hell while on earth.

A legislature which goes about its business in a calm businesslike way and brings results of value to the people is the pride of any state. If its deliberations are orderly and its enterprises constructive, the favorable publicity that comes commends the state everywhere and causes people elsewhere to think of that state as a desirable one to live in. It is a sign that such a legislature is not in the hands of bosses and it is a better advertisement than all the work of all the commercial clubs, all the advertising and all the booming methods of all the real estate promoters, combined. A good, straightforward session of the coming Oregon legislature would be of infinite service to the state in what it does and what it does not do.

Mr. Harriman has the rheumatism again. Perhaps the winter climate of Klamath county would be as good for him as the summer climate.

This Date in History.

- 1620—Landing of first settlers at Plymouth, Mass.
168—Stephen Day, who died the first work done in the colonies on a printing press, died in Cambridge, Mass. Born in England in 1811.
1719—The American Weekly Mercury, the third newspaper in America, made its first appearance in Philadelphia.
1789—Ann Haseltine Judson, first woman missionary, born in Bradford, Mass. Died October 24, 1826.
1823—Thomas Wentworth Higginson, American author, born in Cambridge, Mass.
1836—Principal Grant (George Monroe), whose writings first revealed to the world the possibilities of the Canadian northwest, born in Nova Scotia. Died in Kingston, Ont., May 13, 1902.
1891—Jerome I. Case, millionaire manufacturer and horse breeder, died at Racine, Wis.
1894—Captain Dreyfus found guilty and sentenced to Devil's island for life.

Solon H. Borglum's Birthday.

Solon Hannibal Borglum, the sculptor of the General Sheridan statue recently unveiled in Washington, was born in Ogden, Utah, December 22, 1848. After spending several years at the Cincinnati Art school he went to Paris and studied under the direction of Louis Riboussin and other famous masters. It was not long after his return to America before his work began to attract the favorable attention of the critics. He made a special study of western life, living among the cowboys and Indians. The exhibits of several pieces of his statuary were rewarded with medals at the Buffalo and St. Louis expositions and at the Universal exposition held in Paris in 1900.

Time Is Flying.

From the Washington Star. The time is almost over when anybody would be eligible to the early Christmas shopper class.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Let'er rain.
Become as a little child.
Now it's late to buy 'em.
Be a smile manufacturer.
Old 1908 is becoming very thin.
If you like to be in a crowd go to the stores.
Only a few days more in which to buy Red Cross stamps.
A little freezing weather "goes a long way" with Oregonians.
Snow and ice would be fine Christmas presents for boys.
How would it do to swear off about December 24?
Perhaps Castro foresaw a revolution and wanted to be out of it.
Has this been the hard winter that we heard about?
Will there be Daughters of the Amana a century hence?
The birth rate troubles only those who travel.
Turkeys will be cheap again after Christmas.
Mail nothing without one or more red stamps.
Congress is now resting from its long and arduous labors.
Still the question, "Who got the money?" is not answered.
Evidently the holdup men also want to have a merry Christmas.
A Chicago girl is going to marry a Jap. The Japs are noted for bravery.
Tennessee can go far toward redeeming its reputation by hanging a lot of those night riders.
Schwab is in favor of maintaining the present duty on steel. He has it near as much money yet as Carnegie.
Senator Platt is writing his memoirs. His collaborator, Mr. Mae Wood, he might make them salable.
Some congressmen evidently believe in the maxim, "Assume a virtue though you have it not."
O yes, there is a Santa Claus, but he rides in an automobile now—or maybe an airplane.
Mr. Harriman has the rheumatism again. Perhaps the winter climate of Klamath county would be as good for him as the summer climate.

At a recent election in Somerville, Mass., five Smiths were elected aldermen. If anything goes wrong in that town lay it on the Smith family.
The kaiser's official income is \$10,000,000 a year, yet he can't live on it. The only cheap thing he could indulge in, talk, has been sold him.
An Indiana woman accepted a bulldog as alimony—perhaps suspecting that her ex-husband would come around to make up.

Prospects were never brighter for the future of Columbia county than they are at the present time, says the Review. During the past few weeks there has been a real revival in the business depression that has been felt for nearly a year, and in every line of business the outlook is hopeful. Columbia county has resources that are not surpassed by any other section of the state or country.

FAMOUS GEMS OF PROSE

Our Plymouth Forefathers—By John Quincy Adams

(Closing paragraphs of an oration which was delivered at Plymouth, Br. "the meeting house of the first precinct"—the third place of worship of the original Pilgrim church, December 22, 1802.)
In thus calling your attention to some of the peculiar features in the life of our forefathers, and the history of our forefathers, it is as wide from my design, as I know it would be from your approbation, to adorn their memory with a chaplet plucked from the domain of fiction. The occasion and the day of others, more peculiarly devoted to them, and let it never be dishonored with a contracted or exclusive spirit. Our affections as citizens embrace the whole extent of the union, and the names of Raleigh, Smith, Winthrop, Calvert, Penn and Oglethorpe, excite in our minds recollections equally pleasing and grandly equalled by those of Carver and Bradford. Two centuries have not yet elapsed since the first European foot touched the soil which now constitutes the American union. Two centuries more and our numbers must exceed those of Europe itself. The destinies of this empire, as they appear in prospect before us, gladden the powers of human calculation.
Yet, as the original founder of the

Who Got the Money?

From the New York Journal.
Charles P. Taft seems to regard the World's challenge of Mr. Roosevelt's misstatements of fact as a personal attack upon him. If full publicity of the facts about the Panama transaction implicates any of the Tafts, he has only himself to blame.
William Nelson Cromwell is primarily responsible for the bringing of William H. Taft into this matter. It was Mr. Cromwell who conferred with Mr. Taft at the Hotel Manhattan the day before Mr. Taft went to Oyster Bay, and who met him again on his return. It was Mr. Cromwell who visited Mr. Taft at Hot Springs and secured the appointment of George E. Sheldon as treasurer of the Republican national committee. It was Mr. Cromwell who undertook to manage the Republican campaign.
But it was not Mr. Cromwell who replied to the question "Who got the money?" with "Har," "abominable falsehood," "not merely scandalous but infamous." Not Mr. Cromwell, but Mr. Roosevelt said:
"The United States did not pay a cent of the \$40,000,000 to any American citizen."
"The government paid this \$40,000,000 direct to the French government."
"The United States government has not the slightest knowledge as to the particular individuals among whom the French government distributed the same."
"So far as I know there was no syndicate."
Mr. Cromwell's testimony before the senate committee in 1906 contradicts each of these statements of Mr. Roosevelt.

His Silly Question.

From the Cleveland Leader.
Him—Am I the first man you were ever engaged to?
Her—Don't insult me. You know perfectly well that I am 25 years old. Do I look like a lemon?

OREGON SIDELIGHTS.

Albany is gazing at its first electric car.
The Dalles Fruit cannery did a very good business this year—7514 cases.
Again the prospect brightens for Pendleton to keep its woolen mill.
Tillamook's Christmas presents in competition in the transportation business.
Because old people don't care about or have in their hearts any reason why children don't or shouldn't.
Levi White of West Roseburg recently became a father for the twenty-first time. This is the tenth child born to him and his wife, having been born to his first wife.
An Irving man is milking four cows, one a Striped and is making 18 rolls or 26 pounds of butter a week. This at 70 cents a roll makes \$12.60 per week.
A Dalles gardener of years of experience in truck gardening for the Chicago market, says that the soil and climate conditions are excellent for the production of first class celery.
Enterprise's assessed valuation for 1908, is \$588,195 or almost \$600 for every acre. The gain over a year ago is \$114,123, an astonishingly rapid growth in wealth, says the Chief Clerk.
Pendleton's railroad business has shown no decrease this year. The postoffice business has shown a heavy increase over past years; the school attendance this year is 10 per cent greater than in the past and at this time a suitable dwelling house can hardly be found by a prospective renter.
Echo Register: We have too many large ranches in Umatilla county. While they are growing larger in some parts of the county they are being split up in others. There will soon be 50,000 more people in Umatilla county, but they will be in the irrigated lands, not on the wheat ranches.
Last spring a Dufur man had some of the old trees in his orchard cut and graded. He took no particular notice of the trees, except that they appeared to be doing well, until just recently, when he found a full grown apple on one of the grafts.
Prospects were never brighter for the future of Columbia county than they are at the present time, says the Review. During the past few weeks there has been a real revival in the business depression that has been felt for nearly a year, and in every line of business the outlook is hopeful. Columbia county has resources that are not surpassed by any other section of the state or country.

R. C. Spink of Klamath agency, has succeeded in securing a five year lease on lands along both sides of Spring creek for a distance of a mile. This includes practically all the choice camping and fishing grounds along this stream. It is the plan of Mr. Spink to form a resort for the tourists who pass this point. Spring creek is said by some anglers to be the best fishing stream in the country, but could not be fished in much because within a reservation.

Another pretty trifle for the dressing table is a suit received made of pretty embroidered handkerchiefs, drawn together in a cornucopia. The meeting of the embroidery are then caught together, leaving the spaces between them for the half inch ribbon which is run from top to bottom and tied in a bow at the ends. This is eminently practicable, as it can be untied without undoing the stitches. Sew the ribbon together about half way up the side, leaving a hanging fringe of the other points. This is a very nice idea for making more sewing make dainty boxes of heavy paper, tied with holly ribbon and fill with small home made candles made by your own willing hands.

Better Farm Conditions.

By Mrs. H. H. Anders.
THE question that is uppermost in the minds of many is "How to better the conditions on the farm?"
First, I think one should practice thrift, economy, and industry. An industrious and prosperous farmer is known to all. He is a man of energy, passing along the highways seen in the comfortable home, and the fences in good repair, his home surrounded by beautiful flowers, corn and other crops that that farmer is prosperous. We should endeavor as far as possible to live within our means, and to get ourselves with everything that is beautiful.

Beautiful trees, beautiful gardens, beautiful home and above all a beautiful character.
The farmer has the advantage over the city man in many ways. He has plenty of wholesome food, breathes the fresh, pure air and, in his own home, close to nature as any one could get.
The table is supplied with plenty of fresh fruit and crisp vegetables from the garden, and the chickens are at their disposal, fried chicken whenever it is wanted.

Plum Pudding.

ONE cupful suet chopped very fine, one cupful light brown sugar, one half cupful three nibs sugar, one half cupful sour milk, one half cupful two cupfuls state bread crumbs, one cupful flour, one level teaspoonful soda, one fourth cupful cold water, one cupful raisins, one cupful currants, one half a cupful of citron, one teaspoonful cinnamon, one half a teaspoonful each of nutmeg, mace, cloves and allspice.
Thoroughly mix these ingredients and pour into a buttered mold and steam seven hours. When done, dip in a mixture of powdered milk and steam three hours.

Ancestral Pride.

From the Cleveland Leader.
"Do you still want this genealogy?" asked the man three times.
"Sure I do—why not?"
"Well, I've found that your great-grandfather was hanged for murder, your great-grandfather was imprisoned for robbery and your grandfather was hanged and feathered for beating his wife. That's not a very proud record is it?"

A Cloud of Prophets.

In predicting the defeat of Bryan in 1912, the New York World is merely getting in early to avoid the risk.

The Realm Feminine

LAST call for home made gifts in the sewing-room, might be the cry that sends nimble fingers busy with these last two days before Christmas. There is always a demand at this time for last suggestions, for something that can be made quickly, and which does not mean a long shopping trip in the crowds at the department stores. So, a few hints for the eleventh hour gift.

You have noticed the pretty haphazard holders made of rose petals contrived from satin ribbon, but a new idea in the line is to represent a carnation instead of a rose, which is easier. Take pink baby ribbon, or red, with good carnation color, make a loop of loops of this ribbon about the mouth of the glass test tube which can be purchased at the nearest drug store, fasten the fringe of petals first, the woman who make the calyx of the flower of the green baby ribbon. Leave loops of ribbon on the pink or the green with which to hang it up.

Have you seen the pretty sewing sets made of crocheted covered strings strung together with two strands of colored half-inch ribbon?
The outfit consists of a collar and is hung over the sewer's neck; the four ends of ribbon are left long enough to reach her lap with the sewing implements. The outfit is made of such a pretty little trifle for the girl who likes to take her sewing to another city.

Another pretty trifle for the dressing table is a suit received made of pretty embroidered handkerchiefs, drawn together in a cornucopia.

The meeting of the embroidery are then caught together, leaving the spaces between them for the half inch ribbon which is run from top to bottom and tied in a bow at the ends. This is eminently practicable, as it can be untied without undoing the stitches. Sew the ribbon together about half way up the side, leaving a hanging fringe of the other points. This is a very nice idea for making more sewing make dainty boxes of heavy paper, tied with holly ribbon and fill with small home made candles made by your own willing hands.

Various recipes for these from the first mixing of the fondant up to the finished product, are given in the December 11, 14, 15, 16 and 17 in this column.

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