

EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

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THE TEACHER'S HIRE

IT is impossible for the public to differentiate in the matter of teachers' salaries. The whole question is a large one. To arrive at accurate conclusions, technical information is essential. The school system is an exact science. The duties, the preparation, the experience and the responsibilities are factors in fixing the value of service. The policy of the system with reference to results to be accomplished, with reference to permanency of the teachers, the amount of money available, the demands upon available funds for extension of building equipment, all these are factors of which there must be exact knowledge before a sound opinion can be formed. Therefore, a labyrinth of complexity opens before an uninformed layman who attempts to determine what shall be a correct distribution in the proposed advances of teachers' salaries. To all these matters great study has been given by members of the school board. Of these there are five. One opposes the plan recommended. Four are in favor of it. Here is the best available knowledge on the subject. It is the business of the board to be thoroughly informed on every point at issue. The probabilities are that it is so informed, and that its conclusions are approximately correct. There is at least the assurance that the board stands four to one in favor of the present plan and that even the one who believes there should be some advance. That is its conclusion after years of experience in the schools, after years of familiarity with all the details of the school work, after years of intimate relation with the instrumentalities and assets in the work, and what is more important than all, after several months of patient study of the salary question itself in all its relations and bearings. Of what value then is an average opinion by the average man as

from the state, with due respect for the ardently partisan editor of the Optimist, it is nonsense. This position that Oregon has taken in the matter of self-government will attract rather than repel settlers. Oregon people are no more "cranks and fools" than those of other states; rather they are more intelligent, progressive and consequently more politically independent. And there is little doubt that if they could get the proper machinery made and put into motion the people of most states would follow the example of Oregon.

CONGRESS AND THE WILLAMETTE. OF COURSE we should all be glad to have the national government bear the whole cost of the Willamette project; but what is the use of talking about that? What single ray of hope is there that the national government will do it? Even with the state standing at the doors of congress and offering to bear half the cost that body does not even hold out a promise that it will act. The only promisees the people of Oregon ever get on the subject is in campaign time. It is two years since the Oregon legislature passed a bill offering to bear half the expense. Congress met and deliberated nearly six months, but gave no sign of action. Senator Fulton introduced a joint resolution asking for a survey of the locks, but even that harmless measure failed to pass. It died the death of the innocent in the capacious bowels of a senate committee, where it still lies buried. Congressman Hawley promised the legislature that if the state's offer would be made to provide half instead of all the cost, as was proposed, he would get the balance from congress. That was a promise that must have called all Mr. Hawley's powers into subsequent play in the effort to make good. It did not succeed then, and from the signs there is little prospect that it will succeed at the present session. What is the use then for us of Oregon to talk about getting the federal government to bear all the cost. We have waited on the federal government for more than 30 years. If we pursue the policy are we not likely to still be waiting, and is not the private monopoly likely to be still collecting its unnatural toll when Gabriel blows his trumpet on resurrection morn? What else do the signs and omens in the heavens and at Washington mean?

Business is business and nonsense is nonsense. The Willamette project and its solution is the test of the capacity of the people of Oregon for progress. The key to commercial thrift and commercial greatness is cheap transportation. If the transportation cost remains high, it sucks the lifeblood out of commerce. If that cost is made low, it stimulates production, stimulates commerce and makes wealth. That is a law as inexorable as the law of gravitation, and the sooner it is accepted as truth by all the people of Oregon the better for the state and its economic life. It is understood in Illinois and that state is spending \$20,000,000 in opening its state waterways. It is understood in New York and that state is spending \$110,000,000 on the Erie canal. If Oregon spends \$300,000 or a million on the Willamette project it will spend but a fraction in proportion to these two progressive states.

EDITOR BENNETT AND THE "FOOL" PEOPLE. THE OPTIMIST, published at The Dalles by that ever active and interesting person, "Old Man" Bennett, not only wants the legislature to elect a Republican and not Chamberlain to the senate, but he wants "the Republicans of the state to get together and decide that we have had about all the crazy legislation we can stand, and then wipe a lot of these fool laws off of the statute books." He says that unless this is done there will not only be a constant political turmoil, endangering Republican success, "but we will make such a name for Oregon that we will not get the settlers we are entitled to, and Oregon will not experience the growth that her sister states will. People will not settle in a state where cranks and fools are the lawmakers, and where the statutes are so framed that the majority is powerless to adopt needful legislation, and just as powerless to prevent fool laws from being adopted."

But it takes a majority to enact or defeat legislation now. And if the people of Oregon are "cranks and fools," wouldn't it be better for the minority to enact laws? But Bennett does not desire the "crank and fool" people to have any such power. He holds them unfit for it, unworthy of it, and frankly says so. Has he considered that it is these same "cranks and fools" that elect members of the legislature and that these members are only just about average men, and so on his own reasoning are "cranks and fools" themselves? Besides that, it is possible to work a good deal of evil among and through a majority of only 90 men, whereas this is impossible with a majority of 100,000 men.

A legislature cannot repeal a constitutional amendment. And if it attempts to take the power from the people which they have secured, there will be a good deal worse "turmoil than ever, and the chief victim of it will be the party of which Mr. Bennett is so ardent a champion.

to the equities in comparison with that of the board itself? The Journal regrets that there seems likely to be a lack of funds for making the 20 per cent flat advance in salaries. It would be glad if means could be found for a larger advance of all the grade teachers, particularly those at the lower rungs of the ladder. There is not the slightest question that the latter deserve a greater advance than is proposed. There is not the slightest doubt that some of them are pressed by financial problems. There is not the slightest doubt that it is as essential to have good brains and good experience for the younger children as for the older ones. There is not the slightest doubt but that this is a point that the board should thoroughly recognize and as soon as possible remedy. Along with it, however, there is the knowledge that each year an automatic advance is provided for. This advance is a stable policy designed to secure permanency in the work. It is in line with the best experience and the best intelligence in school ethics and control. It is a means for securing the best service and for lifting the teaching profession to a permanent basis. It is encouragement for those in the lower ranks, who must realize that time will rapidly bring about that which for the moment is denied.

In the whole matter it is of the utmost importance that there be a large attendance of taxpayers at the West Side High school building Monday night. The matter at issue is of much moment. Of all in the community teachers are worthy of their hire. They are, next to parents, closest of all in touch with that which will be the future life of the republic. Their responsibilities are enormous and their remuneration should be adequate. No state, no city, no district can afford to underpay those who are the fountains at which the children drink knowledge, morals and the spirit of living.

everywhere and always bring flocking thousands to a leader's standard. It is an object lesson to the young men of Oregon. It is a rebuke to false leaders in Oregon who counsel other and widely different policies. It is an appeal for a leadership everywhere whose course will lead through pure paths and into the green fields of public virtue.

WHISKEY AND REVOLVER

THE trial of James A. Finch is not yet over, and comment on the probable result is not the purpose here. Certain facts, however, are undisputed and the principal active agencies that brought them about were strong drink and a gun. It is undeniable that he took several drinks—of intoxicating liquor—and that he bought a revolver just before he visited Ralph Fisher's office; that such doubly armed he shot Fisher and killed him, and that in consequence of that act he is on trial on a charge of murder in the first degree. So much is acknowledged by Finch himself.

SOCIALISM AND PLUTOCRACY

THE OREGONIAN quotes approvingly the recent remarks of Leslie M. Shaw against Socialism, and is even more intolerant than the ex-secretary of the treasury against this cult. The Portland morning paper especially endorsed Mr. Shaw's objection to Socialistic literature in public libraries, and because such literature admitted there launched into a condemnation of public libraries in general, saying: "How useful is the public library, when devoted to this description of literature? It is really a menace and a poison. Society and government are using the power of taxation to forge weapons against themselves."

The Oregonian proceeds to give a fragmentary, biased and misleading characterization of Socialism, and then continues to flay the figure of its own creation. The Journal is no believer in Socialism, which it regards as an utterly impracticable social scheme, but Socialists nevertheless tell a good deal of truth, and present many ideas that are worthy of consideration; and public libraries ought to contain Socialistic as well as other kinds of literature, free for everybody to read. The men who are reading Socialistic literature in a public library are not men who are contemplating crime, nor men who resort to beggary to support an existence. They are better off there than in the saloons.

While Socialism cannot be put into practice, and should not be, as some understand it, if it could, yet there is much in the system of government, in the economics of society, which Mr. Shaw supports, that needs correction. That Socialism is not the proper antidote to plutocracy does not prove that plutocracy does not exist, nor that it is not a great evil. Another comment on Mr. Shaw's speech is in part the following from Louis F. Post's Public: Escape from the clutches of plutocracy is the goal toward which society irresistibly moves, with increasing momentum, utterly regardless of the fanatic "warning" of conservatism. If a better way than Socialism shall be revealed to the understanding of the majority, then the country will be saved from Socialism. But not otherwise. In Mr. Shaw's opinion the individual should be rewarded in proportion to his services. But that is precisely where the existing regime fails. The prodigious inequities of the present are what is turning men's thoughts to Socialism as a means of defense. And which were the better—that the great mass of men and women should consent that the more efficient receive less than their due in order that those of less "aptitude" may live in comfort? Or that we continue a regime in which a few individuals, utterly regardless of service rendered, rob the world of half its product, force the masses into desperate jag-handled competition for what they can get of the other half, and condemn multitudes of despairing men, women and children to abject poverty and frequent starvation? The courage and hope of all economic reformers of whatsoever specific faith rise in exultant response to every shriek of alarm from the camp of plutocracy.

THE NATURE OF HAZING

RESIDENT JAMES OF the University of Illinois recently took a decided stand against hazing, saying in an address to the students that all of them found guilty of this offense would be summarily dismissed from the university. As a justification for this rule, he said: Hazing is a violation of good manners and of the right of individual liberty. It is provocative of public disorder. Public opinion throughout the state has very properly set its seal of condemnation upon it. On all counts it must be put under the ban of the university. In its milder forms it is a nonsensical and almost idiotic form of amusement, unworthy of the support or favor of any sensible university student. It was looked upon as a comparatively slight offense perhaps 20 years ago in small institutions. It is today altogether unworthy of the traditions and reputation of a national institution such as this has become.

In its coarser forms hazing is a vulgar, brutal, always demoralizing and sometimes dangerous form of sport which the university cannot countenance or tolerate. It naturally leads to reprisals, and may thus become a source of serious disorder within and without the university. In its worst forms it may not inaptly be compared with night-riding, white capping and other similar

FAMOUS GEMS OF PROSE

"Nothing New Under the Sun"—By Professor John Tyndall

(From pages 487-490 of "Heat a Mode of Motion," London, 1875.) Science has asked daring questions, and will, no doubt, continue to ask them. Problems will assuredly present themselves which will appear to be insoluble, which, if enunciated now, would appear to most people as the direct offspring of insanity. Still, though the progress and development of science may seem to be unlimited, there is a region beyond which we cannot pass, and which we do not even tend to inoculate. Given the masses and distances of the planets, we can infer the perturbations consequent on their mutual attractions. Given the nature of a disturbance in water, air, or ether, we can infer from the properties of the medium how its particles will be affected. In all this we deal with physical laws, and the mind runs freely along the line which connects the phenomena, from beginning to end. But when we endeavor to pass, by a similar process, from the region of physics to that of thought, we meet a problem not only beyond our present powers, but transcending any conceivable expansion of the powers now possessed. We can think over the subject again and again, but it eludes all intellectual presentation.

The origin of the material universe is equally inscrutable. This, having exhausted science, and reached its very limit, the real mystery of existence still looms around us. And thus it will ever loom—ever beyond the bourne of man's intellect—giving the poets of successive ages just occasion to declare that— We are such stuff As dreams are made of, and our little life is rounded by a sleep.

Still, presented rightly to the mind, the discoveries and generalizations of modern science constitute a poem more sublime than has ever yet adorned the human imagination. The natural philosopher of today may dwell amid conceptions which beggar those of Milton. Look at the integrated energies of our

A Sermon for Today

On Making Our Own Climate.

By Henry F. Cope.

"Light is sown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart."—Psalm, xxxvii:11.

WE TALK about the "sun" south" and "sunny" days; "are not all lands sunny? Does not the Eskimo have his sunbaths and enjoy it? Do not the shores of Newfoundland have their clear days? Are there not sunny lives in the north and shadowy ones in the south? The truth is we are seeking for joys in circumstances that are found only in character.

We talk of sunny and favored lots; are not all lots happy and all lives rich in favor? Those burdened ones, those who waste their lives in fight with poverty, do they not talk of happy hours, and have moments when the cup of life is brimming full? No life, at all, is so constituted as to be normal or natural, or so constituted as to be happy without some special circumstance that happens to be possible to it.

A Poem for Today

The Old and the New.

(Alfred Tennyson (1809-1892), poet laureate of England, reached the height of his powers in "In Memoriam," a tribute to the memory of his friend, Arthur Hallam, which was published in 1850. The selection here is the one hundredth and sixth canto of this poem.)

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky; The flying cloud, the frosty night; Ring out the year that is no more; Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the old, ring in the new; Ring, happy bells, across the snow; The year is going, let him go; Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind; For those that here we see no more; Ring out the feud, ring in the love; Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out a slowly dying cause; Ring in the nobler modes of life; With sweeter manners, purer laws.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin; Ring in the faithless coldness of the times; Ring out, ring out my mournful cry; Ring in the fuller minstrelsy.

Ring out false pride in place and blood; Ring in the civic splendor of the night; Ring in the love of truth and right; Ring in the common love of good.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease; Ring out the narrowness of old; Ring out the thousand years of peace; Ring in the valiant man and free; Ring out the darkness of the land; Ring in the Christ that is to be.

By Alfred Tennyson.

Conjugal Bliss in 1950.

"My love," mentioned Mr. Sufferer-Gette. "I wonder—I wonder whether you would let me have the use of my latches this week?"

"Latches?" bellowed his wife. "What the dickens do you want with a latches, my good man?"

"Well, my love," coughed Mr. Sufferer-Gette. "We are holding a series of fathers' foregatherings in the mission hall this week, when we hope to do a little needlework on behalf of the parish poor. Miss Nancy has kindly consented to come and talk to us about her recent farthest north trip, and—"

"Great heavens!" roared the irate wife, banging her pipe upon the table to emphasize her words. "Don't you know your duty is at home? Besides, on Monday I've got to attend the Women's Emancipation league; Tuesday, the Sisters of Charity meeting; Wednesday, the local police-women's concert; Thursday, the Daughters of Toll lecture; Friday, the Women's Science Research club; and on Saturday out football club's smoker. Now, don't you forget—your duty is at home!"

And it came to pass.—Tit-Bits.

Precocious Punctilio.

From the Washington Star. "So you don't believe in Santa Claus?"

"I didn't exactly say that," answered the little Boston girl. "But I don't approve of him. I understand that he calls after 3 o'clock and doesn't wear evening clothes."

Sentence Sermons.

By Henry F. Cope. Faith is seen in fair dealing.

High living often brings the life to a low level.

Appetite is the first letter in the alphabet of atheism.

Joy in religion is but another word for genuineness.

Small ambitions are the enemies of great achievement.

The counter without the altar is the curse of many a life.

It may be that the greatest heroes are the ones that fail.

The honesty of your holiness depends on his helplessness.

Hearty boasting today is the only safe way to boast of tomorrow.

The faith that is thrust down the throat never gets into the heart.

We get no higher work until we put the higher motives into that we have.

A good many of the bruises on our hearts come from climbing over conscience.

It is wonderful how sure you can be as to the facts if you will keep one eye shut.

People soon know it when the man who lifts up his lips lets his life run down.

There's nothing of heaven in your religion unless it lights up your home with joy and love.

It's a good thing to plan things to their end, but there's always danger of ending in planning.

The Ideal Home.

"The Ideal Home"—delightful thought— Is what I much desire; Some spot with simple pleasures fraught To which I may retire. Where I may flow, every bent, Where none will say me nay, Where all my family consent To let me have my way.

A dwelling, where the rooms are large, But where the rent is small, Where tradesmen never overcharge Or bring neighbors call. A house that's cosy in the frost, But shady in July; A home where keys are never lost And babies never cry.

A place where servants always suit, And serve us with delight; A garden full of flowers and fruit Where midges never bite; Where nights are calm and midnight calm. Refrain from repartee, In short where nothing worries, that's The Ideal Home for me.

—Pall Mall Gazette.

The Best Lullabies.