EDITORIAL PAGE OF THE JOURNAL

THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER.

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

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There is in some men a dispassionate neutrality of mind, which though it generally passes for good temper, can neither gratify nor warm us; it must, indeed, be granted that these men can only negatively offend; but then it should also be remembered that they cannot positively please.—Greville.

A SHIPPER'S COMPLAINT

"SHIPPER," elsewhere on this page, complains that there is "no encouragement for merchants, farmers and shippers to rehabilitate the traffic on the Willamette river under present conditions." It is the present conditions that The Journal insists should be changed. The steamboats that ply to Independence and other Willamette river points must pay a lockage charge of 50 cents per ton on all freight that passes through the locks. If the government acquired the locks and this lockage charge were removed, boats would instantly reduce rates 50 cents per ton, and the railroad would have to meet the cut or lose the business. Both on the river and on the railroad the advantage would be felt, and a saving be effected on every pound of freight shipped in or out. It has been figured out that the saving by these reductions would net some farmers, some merchants and other shippers more money than the aggregate of all their state, county and school taxes every year.

It is a proposition so plain that the wonder is that the lockage charge has been endured by the people of the Willamette region so long. There has been little if any reduction in their freight rates in 30 years, and yet population, wealth and the volume of traffic is many times multiplied. The locks serve the railroad people a mighty good purpose in that the 50 cents a ton prevents the competition that would otherwise force a cut in rates. It is an unheard of condition in that in an old settled region like the Willamette valley an unnatural barrier should have been set up and so long maintained whereby a private corporation takes possession of nature's highway and charges people for use of it. It is a violation of natural laws, for the rivers are nature's arteries of commerce, and in the divine plan it was never intended that a corporation should plant itself across a river and extort a fee for passing up or down. In added freight rates the Willamette region pays out in each returning two or three years' period enough money to buy and own the locks. It is a heavy waste of substance and a heavy toll on the time and endeavor of the men in the Willamette region.

THE PARAMOUNT TRUST

ATTENTION IS challenged by financial operations reported from New York city. A trust more colossal in its proportions than any yet conceived is said to be in process of forming. It is a life insurance combination in which J. Pierpont Morgan with the small group of men at his beck, is to assume control of the Equitable Life, the New York Life and the Mutual Life. It is a conception in trustdom beside which all other combinations are inconsequential. It will give Morgan control of more money than any other man on earth. The combined income of the three companies is $275,000,000. Their ordinary bank deposits are $25,0000,000. Their combined assets are $1,700,000,000. The total of their insurance in force is $4,750,000,000. The figures are so large that they make it impossible for the mind to comprehend them. A dim idea of their immensity may be gained from the fact that Morgan and his small group will control in this combination nearly one seventieth of the wealth of the entire country.

The power over money and affairs that the combine places in the hands of one group is stupendous. It is so great that men everywhere are questioning the advisability of it from the viewpoint of public policy. For instance, the holdings of the combine in some of the great railroad systems vouchsafes to the insurance magnates colossal power in that field. Of New York Central bonds alone the three corporations hold $45,000,000 to say nothing of other lines that are part of the same system. In Pennsylvania bonds the three hold $38,000,000. The influence over financial affairs suggested in these holdings is not difficult to imagine. Even Mr. Morgan's steel trust is dwarfed into insignificance by the possibilities of this combine. Beside it the billion dollar copper trust with its tremendous power of control is almost feeble. It is an event that may well cause men to wonder how far we are yet to go in the aggregation of wealth and power in the hands of a small group of men, and to wonder if such combinations, even though they pretend to secure a more economical administration, do not have a long train of evils in their wake. The disclosures by the insurance investigations of the campaign contributions and other uses to which great sums of the money of policyholders were applied, and the indication these contributions were of the channels in which these groups of financiers feel warranted in directing their efforts and their power, are a hint of evil days that might come from such combines. It was Morgan's man Perkins, who as a manager of one of these great companies that contributed from the money of policyholders $50,000 to a national campaign fund, and who only escaped trial and punishment through the processes known to great influence and power.

Meantime Oregon policyholders are sending large sums of money annually as premiums on life insurance that goes under the control of the Morgan group. That Oregon would better finance its own life risks and through companies of its own keep at home the money it is sending away is a fact that it is impossible to deny or even question.

THE STREET CAR SITUATION

NATURALLY the storm of Saturday has added to the widespread dissatisfaction with the street car service. The multitudes of people who had to trudge from one to three miles home as a result of 2.1 inches of snowfall will not be convinced that the company's equipment is adequate to the demands of Portland. That the company made strong efforts to meet the situation is not doubted, but the difficulty is that the tools and appliances were wofully inadequate. The demand in New York for dividends has evidently been such that there are not sufficient equipment and men to meet the needs of traffic under average conditions. As a result there are complaints on all sides from citizens, and they are citizens of high standing and the most conservative character. They are complaints that the street car company must realize are fully justified and that cannot be overlooked or lightly dismissed.

The present demand is not for costly extensions of lines, but for a more regular and more frequent service over existing lines. It does not contemplate the immediate laying down of new tracks, but the addition of added cars and a few more men. From the standpoint of outlay it is the easiest possible situation for the company to meet. It will be a wise economy if the company meets it to the extent of giving a service that will quiet the present agitation. It is of the utmost importance to the company that it be on harmonious relations with its patrons. The point has manifestly been reached where this is impossible under the present service, and will only be possible by improving it. Improvement can be reached by reasonable efforts in adding cars sufficient to make the schedules reasonably regular and reasonably frequent.

Portland people are the best people in the world with whom to do business. They are patient almost to a fault. But it is a patient people that is most to be dreaded when aroused. This is particularly true in view of the fact that with the initiative Portland people have the means for controlling public service corporations. By creating a commission for control of street car service as is now proposed, and by fixing a limit to the number of passengers a street car may carry, as well as by other restrictive legislation, it will be comparatively easy for the street car company to be brought face to face with unpleasant alternatives. Even a conservative view of the situation must suggest to the company the importance of providing a service that will give far less reason for complaint. It is a case in which delays and postponements could be far more costly to dividends than would large outlays for added equipment and operatives.

CONGRESS IN SESSION

CONGRESS MEETS today, and by the time this is read will have heard the president's message. Its general purport on most subjects of importance has been pretty well outlined in his speeches during his recent tour.

There is no doubt that if the people of the country could express their wish and will in regard to these matters, they would instruct or ask congress to pass with as little delay as possible a parcels post law, a postal savings bank law, an income tax law, a law for conserving for the public benefit coal, gas and oil found on public lands, and a land reform law. There would be some opposition to all of these. A considerable proportion of the people, through misapprehension, we think, oppose the parcels post, but as recommended it would undoubtedly be of great benefit to the people. A valid and weighty argument against an income tax law is that this should be exclusively a resource of the several states; but the better opinion seems to be that it could be resorted to by both the federal and the state governments, the federal tax being made law. The arguments in favor of postal savings banks far outweigh those against them. Conservation of minerals, especially coal, has become a great public need, and no time should be lost in adopting this policy. Changes in the land laws are a more intricate matter, and while everybody is agreed that there should be changes, few can agree on what they should be.

Increasing the powers of the interstate commerce commission and a more definite policy with regard to control of railroads is another very important subject, which the president and his advisers have been studying a good deal, we may hope to good purpose. It is pretty certain that the railroads will largely dictate the terms of whatever recommendations may be made, or whatever law may be enacted, yet a somewhat beneficial outcome is not hopeless. There seems to be a disposition to authorize "pooling"—an agreement among competing railroads as to freight rates—and while this looks rather dangerous, some very plausible arguments in its favor are made.

But, while wishing to avoid pessimism or unpleasant prognostications, it must be acknowledged that the prospect for much legislation of benefit to the people at large is not bright. Aldrich and his followers will control the senate, and Cannon and his coterie will control the house. What the people would have these men will not allow them to have. If we expect very little remedial or beneficial legislation, we will probably not be disappointed.

JUVENILE CRIMINALITY

WILLIAM PINKERTON, head of the Pinkerton detective agency, attributes much juvenile delinquency and criminality to "crimes depicted in the cheaper moving picture shows." The problem of the day, he says, is the amateur, the young man or boy "with a desperateness born of a trashy study of crime. He is the fellow who uses the revolver, often without the slightest provocation, except that he had read that robbers always shoot recklessly and promiscuously. Crime will always exist until legislation banishes the dime novel and the train robber display."

Crime will always exist even if these were banished, but that they prompt crime in boys there is no doubt. The noxious dime novel is, we believe, less common than it was years ago, yet there is altogether too much of this class of crime suggesting literature afloat. As to the moving picture shows, society should exercise a constant surveillance and if necessary regulation of them. Children and youth must be entertained, and moving picture shows that present no evil suggestions are a very proper kind of entertainment. They must present scenes that interest visitors, or else they could not maintain themselves; how to do this and yet present nothing that suggests crime or vice is not an easy problem, for human nature is so constituted that these are the most interesting things to most people. But they must be cut out of the shows, even if the business languishes and dies.

It is bad enough when plays portraying jolly crime and joyous vice are presented in theatres, attended mostly by adults, but the shows attended chiefly by boys and girls must be kept clean, and not allowed to suggest in pictures the romance of crime.

Senator Clapp of Minnesota is an insurgent of no mean proportions or significance, considering the state he hails from and the backing he has among its people. "The recent tariff struggle," he says, "was in no sense a struggle between protection and free trade, but developed into a struggle between monopoly on the one hand and the true friends of protection on the other. The real issue today, so far as the tariff is concerned, is to protect American industry, where it needs it, from foreign competition and at the same time protect the American consumer from unjust domestic actions." This is true enough, from a Republican party point of view, but it might as well be said, and kept in mind, that this insurgency is the beginning of the end of protection. When the people get a right good move on they won't stop at less protection, but will wipe it out altogether, except as it incidentally and necessarily follows a revenue tariff. Cummins, Clapp and the other insurgents are doing a good work; they will make a breach; but the whole nefarious wall must eventually be destroyed.

The Spokane Spokesman-Review heads an editorial, "Where It Really Rains"—alluding to Portland. During November it rained only 2 7-10 inches in Spokane, while it rained 12 44-100 inches in Portland. But Portland was pretty dry as compared with some places. The precipitation in Tacoma was 14 4-10 inches, at Cascade Locks somewhere around 30 inches, at Nahcotta, Wash., nearly 37 inches, and nobody has figured up how many feet yet at some other places that we won't mention. It was a rainy month, but not—very—at Portland.

Harper's Weekly says that Senator Aldrich was interested in the west, and the west was greatly interested in what he had to say about national finances—and so on. With one or two exceptions New York periodicals have less conception of "the west" of this country than newspapers of Japan or Australia, and Harper's Weekly is among the most ignorant of the batch. "The west" cared nothing about Aldrich or what he said; has no confidence in anything he might say; knows that he works only for Rockefeller, Morgan & Co.; and conversely, Aldrich cares no more about the west, except as a field for plunder for the interests, than he does about Timbuctoo.

The Tacoma Tribune having guilelessly remarked that all the southwestern counties of Washington would cheerfully fall in line to support a Tacoma man for United States senator (Robert Laird McCormick, a Weyerhaeuser lumber millionaire) the Aberdeen World responds: "The southwest will give to a Tacoma candidate for senator just the same kind of support Tacoma gave McCredie for congress. The Tribune knows what that was." Tacoma and Pierce county gave a majority against McCredie. Warm times over the senatorship across the state line next year.

TANGLEFOOT

BY MILES OVERHOLT

FREDDY FUNNEL'S LETTERS.

(Being a few confidences of a chronic joy seeker.)

Hongkong, Feb. 2.—Dear Ferdy—I've struck my gait, Ferdy, and busted the hinges off. If you think in your poor weak way that you ever had a time—a time that you could count by a stop watch—why, you're mistaken, because, Ferdy, you never rode in a rikisha. A rickisha, Ferdy, is a peanut wagon with the wheels frozen off; it is a bungalow with the bung taken out.

You see, you hitch up a pair of Chinamen tandem and drive 'em with cuss words instead of reins. If you are a good, first class cusser you can drive four. I've been here a little less than a week and I'm driving 10.

Yesterday my team was a little slow and listless so I dug into my trunk and got one of those little ammonia pistols. You know what I mean. You squeeze the handle and a stream of ammonia comes out the nozzle. Well, I got the Chinks on a straight stretch of road and then I took a shot at each one.

Did they run!

Say, Ferdy, I was on a train once that went so fast you couldn't hear the engine whistle because we outran the sound, and I've poked a bubble along at a mile-a-second gait, but each of these is a burro pack train coming out of Rawhide, Nev., as compared with them Chinks.

Honest, Ferdy, they went so fast I had to live Friday and Saturday over again. I never saw anything faster, unless it was you when you fell into the molasses barrel that time. You was about as fast then I guess. They ran 19 miles before I could get 'em turned around.

The tea route seems to be a popular mode of suicide here. I've drank so much that I'm going to leave, I think. (This is a pun, Ferdy.) Met a geisha girl at a tea kettle, or saloon, or whatever it is, and she acts as though she thought a good deal of me, but if she said so she did it when I wasn't looking. She is quite talented. Besides talking Chinese very proficiently she stutters. Any time you can stutter and talk Chinese, too, I'm telling you you have graduated, Ferdy. She sounds like a dynamite fuse that is in a hurry to get to the powder. Every time she talks I dodge. I tried to get her to swallow a match and then run into the hotel, but she couldn't understand me, I guess.

Went to a theatre the first night I arrived. Every see a Chinese drama, Ferdy? You see, they play a while and then continue it in our next issue. I've gone seven nights now and they've only reached the fifth chapter, so I don't know whether the fellow married the girl or not, I don't know whether or not he wanted to. Maybe it was a musical comedy, I don't know.

The orchestra sounds like a wheelbarrow parade when axle grease is high.

Don't think I'll stay here long. I've seen only one white man and he wanted to borrow a dollar. Said if he had a dollar he knew where to invest it so he could make a million. He also told me his name was Grover Cleveland, so I kind of lost faith in him. I was going to invest about six bits, but when he told me his name I changed my mind. Grover's record for making poor people rich wasn't any too good in the states and I can't see how dying and coming over here would help him any. The man who can make any money over here, Ferdy, has got to get hold of some counterfeiters' tools and then melt up his safety razor.

I'm going to Manilla pretty soon. I want to find a live one. Sounds too much like an overall factory with the machines out of tune over here. Well, so long, FREDDY.

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.

A Shipper's Complaint.

Independence, Or., Dec. 2.—To the Editor of The Journal—Referring to your editorial in yesterday's issue, there is no encouragement for the merchants, farmers and shippers to rehabilitate the traffic on the Willamette river under present conditions. The rate on merchandise from Portland to Independence is but 25 cents per ton less than rail rate, and from Independence to Portland on grain and produce is the same and on hay is higher than rail, notwithstanding the government expends a large sum of money each year to improve the river. SHIPPER.

Streets and Avenues.

Portland, Dec. 2.—To the Editor of The Journal.—Why does the city of Portland call its chief business thoroughfares streets, when avenue would be more appropriate? Seattle has its avenues and many towns of lesser importance use the word in place of street. All the streets running north and south should be called avenues, and those running east and west streets. I think it would be a good thing to make the change. G. A.

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Next year's crops are in fine shape, so far.

* *

At any rate, Dr. Cook got a good deal nearer the Pole than Walter Wellman did.

* *

Fifty years ago, says a suffragette leader, women were only females. And now?

* *

Some people are asking if the fire department is not over-officered. Quite likely.

* *

The Oregonian seems determined to split the Republican party in Oregon wider than ever.

* *

Chancellor Day must be exercising great self-restraint since that decision against Standard oil.

* *

It is said that 14 states have tried prohibition and finding it a failure have substituted local option therefor.

* *

Standard oil and steel stocks have gone down, but it will take something more than songs to buy them yet.

* *

W. E. Curtis tells of a woman who can talk in 54 languages. But, fortunately, she can talk in only one of them at a time.

* *

In Rockefeller's fight against the hookworm, and in Carnegie's against pellagra, everybody is on the side of the rich assaulters.

* *

Mrs. Pankhurst has started back to England, and anticipates with much pleasure posing as a martyr for 30 days in jail after her arrival there.

* *

A St. Louis woman killed herself because she "had lied to her husband." If all wives were that sensitive there would soon be few married men.

* *

Nearly every day J. P. Morgan buys something costing a few hundred millions. He is not quite the absolute owner of the United States government yet.

* *

Now it is proposed to make Mayor Simon the Republican candidate for governor. If he wants to be the candidate he will be; nobody need worry about that.

* *

Senator Depew having spoken in favor of a ship subsidy law, the St. Paul Pioneer Press, after stating this fact, remarks: "And there are other reasons against it."

* *

A California woman also got a divorce on the ground that her husband was afflicted with hookworms. He didn't defend, on the ground that she had hooks in her clothes.

* *

Atlanta Journal: It is whispered that Colonel Bryan is worrying whether he should make prohibition, transmigration, predestination or infant baptism the vital issue this time.

* *

Pittsburgers had to pay $5000 for entertainment of Mrs. Alice Longworth when her husband visited that city campaigning. Next time they will be careful not to invite Nick to speak there, or they will make it a condition that he doesn't bring Alice along.

* *

A Chicago woman says a wife ought not to be obliged to sew buttons on her husband's clothes. Here is another large and ample ground for divorce; even a husband's suggestion of such a thing should be sufficient. Also, if he refuses to button her gown in the back.

* *

One of the grounds on which Abe Ruef petitions for freedom is that he cannot endure the society of the bad men with whom he is thrown in contact in the San Francisco county jail. This causes that city to smile, as the jail birds in Ruef's company will compare very favorably with many people with whom he used to associate as a boodle boss.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

North Powder boasts of a fine orchestra.

* *

Lebanon State bank will open December 4.

* *

A push club is to be organized in Joseph.

* *

There is a car shortage in the Powder river valley.

* *

Two potatoes raised near The Dalles weigh 5½ pounds.

* *

Uncle Billy Wright of Salem will peddle eight or ten tons of horseradish through the valley and help warm up people.

* *

C. C. Gail, who has held the office of justice of the peace in Sam's valley, Jackson county, since 1868, has resigned. He didn't have the gall to keep it any longer.

* *

Great quantities of apples and peaches could be raised along Willow creek in Morrow county if people would try, but they are satisfied with things as they are.

* *

A potato growing upon blue grass roots was a freak found in a Cottage Grove garden recently. A root of the blue grass had pierced the potato and produced the freakish appearing vegetable.

* *

Albany Democrat: The Willamette is going to be good now at least for a while. In 50 years there have only been two in which there was more than one flood. The chances are 10 to 1 against another flood this winter.

* *

In a 20 minute canvass of Hood River Monday one of the committee on the Portland-Hood River automobile road secured subscriptions to the amount of $4000. He reports that the proposition met with the greatest enthusiasm, says the News.

* *

Rev. Carl Elliott, of Albany, a chaplain on the Isthmus of Panama, writes that on one occasion it rained six inches there in one and one half hours, and there were "tremendous" rains on numerous other occasions. The last month in Oregon has been dry in comparison.

* *

Hood River News: Word from the big exposition being held in Chicago is to the effect that the Hood River apple exhibit is creating a sensation and that thousands who daily throng the building stand in front of it in awe and admiration. "No apples like these were ever seen in Chicago before," was the verdict of hundreds of the visitors.

* *

A farmer near Eugene brought to that town five hogs which weighed dressed 1173 pounds, and for which he received $109.57, or over $21 for each. The hogs were of average size but in splendid condition. It would not take many hogs of this kind to bring the farmer a good income alone, without going to the trouble of raising a big crop of grain, says the Guard.

* *

One midnight, cries for help were heard from the Astoria waterfront, and the crew of the lighthouse tender Heather and Policeman Debeau pulled a man out of the water as he was near drowning, and when the water had been shaken out of him he refused to give either his name or thanks and only said, "I must have been very drunk."

* *

Astoria Budget: Nearly all the drift has passed out of the river and with it went many fish traps that the owners hoped would escape the heavy logs. There can be no question but that several million feet of logs went to sea during the recent flood in the Columbia and its tributaries. To start to figure this loss in dollars it begins to run into the millions, but this happens so often each year that it is considered an unpleasant feature of the logging business and little attempt is made to provide for it in the future.

FAMOUS GEMS OF PROSE

Bancroft to Bryant—By George Bancroft

(From address to William Cullen Bryant, at the banquet in observance of the 70th anniversary of the poet's birth, in the Century building, New York, November 5, 1864.)

It is a solemn thing to draw nearer and nearer to eternity; you teach us how to meet old age. With each year you have become more and more genial, have cherished larger and still larger sympathies with your fellowmen, and if time has set on you any mark you preserve in all its freshness the youth of the soul. What remains but to wish you a long continued life, crowned with health and prosperity, with happiness and honor? Live on till you hear your children's children rise up and call you blessed. Live on for the sake of us, your old associates, for whom life would lose much of its luster in losing you as a companion and friend. Live on for your own sake, that you may enjoy the better day of which your eye already catches the dawn. Where faith discerned the savior of the world, the unbeliever looked upon a man of sorrow, crowned with thorns and tottering under the burden of the cross on which he was to die. The social skeptic sees America sitting apart in her afflictions, stung by vipers at her bosom, and welcomed to the pit by "earth's ancient kings," but through all the anguish of her grief you teach us to behold her in immortal beauty, as she steps onward through trials to brighter glory. Live to enjoy her coming triumph when the acknowledged power of right shall tear the root of sorrow out of the heart of the country, and make her more than ever the guardian of human liberty and the regenerator of the race.

Richard H. Pratt's Birthday.

Brigadier General Richard Henry Pratt, U. S. A., retired, the originator and founder of the famous Carlisle school for Indians, was born in Rushford, N. Y., December 6, 1840, and served in a regiment of Indiana volunteers during the civil war. He came out of the war a captain and was appointed to the regular establishment, in which he rose from grade to grade until his retirement five years ago. His early service in the regulars was hunting the Indians in the southwest, and by this occupation he came to take a deep interest in the Indian problem. When a lot of Indian prisoners were ordered to be taken from Fort Sill to the old fort at St. Augustine, Fla., Colonel Pratt was detailed as commander of their guard and then ordered to command the old fort to which they were taken. This experience increased his interest in the red man and soon afterward he suggested to the government the organization of an industrial school for Indians. When the school was opened at Carlisle, Pa., in 1879, he was made its superintendent and remained in that position until his retirement from the army 25 years later.

This Date in History.

1749—La Verandrye, the discoverer of the northwest, died in Montreal.

1804—First accurate map of Virginia completed by James Madison.

1859—Edward H. Sothern, actor, born in New Orleans.

1862—General Banks' expedition sailed for New Orleans.

1865—United States protested against the French occupation of Mexico.

1866—Rev. William Edmond Armitage consecrated as second Episcopal bishop of Milwaukee.

1889—Jefferson Davis, ex-president of the Confederate States of America, died. Born June 3, 1808.

1893—Trial of Prendergast for the murder of Mayor Carter H. Harrison, begun at Chicago.

1905—French senate passed a measure providing for the separation of church and state.

Rule or Ruin.

From the Yamhill Record.

"There is going to be a Republican assembly in Oregon. Republicans are united for it. Democrats and Pops oppose it." The above is the headline to a notice sent out prior to the "assembly smoker," which was held in Portland last week. It seems that a few overanxious office seekers, and ex-office holders are bound to disrupt the Republican party in Oregon. The assemblymen as a rule are the sore heads who knifed H. M. Cake, two years ago. Their policy seems to be the rule or ruin kind, they are entirely out of harmony with the rank and file of the Republican party in Oregon.

Ormsby McHarg.

From the Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Ormsby McHarg, while assistant secretary of commerce and labor, made a rabidly scurrilous attack on Roosevelt and on all the progressive policies, including particularly those of conservation. He incidentally denied that there was a water power trust.

President Taft is a good natured man and said nothing in reply to the juvenile outbreak.

The redeeming feature of the situation for the moment was that Ormsby McHarg said his period of service as assistant secretary would expire in a few days and that nothing could induce him longer to waste his bright young mind on government affairs while private business was calling him.

The redeeming feature did not redeem quickly, however, for Ormsby McHarg clung to the office a couple of months longer.

Now it develops that this "private business" that interested him so much was to be found in the offices of a New York law firm, which is said to act as counsel for the very water power trust which "didn't exist." With this firm McHarg is now associated.

It remains to be seen whether Ormsby McHarg's tenure of public office was advantageous to the public.

It also remains to be seen whether any other officials akin to Ormsby McHarg in point of view, if not in crassness of utterance, are still in public office.

Eye and Ear Experts.

Ere long the statesmen will draw near
And energetically try
One day to get the public ear,
And next to catch the speaker's eye.
—Washington Star.

Woodburn, in certain seasons of the year, can feel fortunate in not being beside a stream of water, remarks the Independent.

The REALM FEMININE

On Microbes in General.

GIRLS, the days of the Chautauqua salute are ended. No more can you wave a last farewell to you beloved as he is borne from you side by the swift moving train or majestic ocean liner. No more can you rise and greet the conquering heroes of the season's big football game with the waving of many handkerchiefs. No more! No, never again—if the eminent scientists have their way.

"The custom of vigorously waving a handkerchief in the air is a dangerous one," declares Dr. William C. Woodward, health officer in Washington, D. C.

"There are but few contagious diseases which cannot be communicated in this way. Scarlet fever, tuberculosis, diphtheria, even leprosy, as well as many other diseases, may be so spread.

"There is no way of suppressing the use of handkerchiefs in farewells except by reasoning with those who follow the custom."

The doctor stops right there and the absence of any suggested plan of reasoning with the fair sex is conspicuous. We have had pure air, food and water crusades and we can only wait the development of the pure farewell crusade.

One of the latest ways of evicting microbes is through bonbons. Chocolate creams, each one of which is guaranteed to contain at least 10,000 carefully isolated lactic acid or massol bacilli in the highest state of activity, have recently been placed on sale in London stores. They are a British bacteriologist's solution of the problem set by Professor Metchnikoff, of the Pasteur Institute in Paris, who urges the imbibing of sour milk or lactic acid for the arresting of old age, but who omitted to say how the nauseating effects of this substance upon delicate subjects could be avoided.

The blue massoil bacillus is not only the foe of the red bacillus—collius communis, or putrefaction microbe—but its undisputed master. The blue army of bacilli, it is urged, have no sooner been liberated in the human system by the swallowing of a bonbon than they begin immediately to declare war on the red army of putrefaction microbes, until at the end of a few weeks at most by the swallowing of three bonbons daily, the "reds" have been routed.

Something New.

SEEING the wind is a rare but easy feat. The object wherewith it may be seen is a common saw. On an blowy day—the wind being, say, in the north—hold your saw with the end pointing one to the east and the other to the west. Take the saw as if you were going to cut the air upward, and by the teeth, which are on top, tilt over till the flat part of the saw is at an angle of 45 degrees with the horizon. You will then see the wind. Looking along the teeth of the saw you will see the wind pour over them as plainly as you may see water pouring over a fall.

Hot Tamales.

THE Mexican recipe for making hot tamales is to cook one or two chickens until tender. Remove the meat from the bone, shred it in the chopping machine and add to it the liquor in which the chicken has been cooked. This is seasoned with any desired condiments, especially red pepper, and thickened with cornmeal. The rolls are about the size of linked sausage and they are wrapped in the inner husks of green corn. Tie the husks with strings at each end to secure them and boil them for three hours. It is best to taste the preparation before adding meal to note whether it is rich or needs more seasoning, allowing for the meal to be added, which will take up the sharp flavor.

Honey for Women.

MRS. E. G. Everbeck has won the prize offered by the Massachusetts Society of Beekeepers for the best honey. She has been a bee fancier for 15 years and has found it profitable. She keeps, on an average, 50 hives, and is looked upon as one of the foremost experts on bees in the country. Mrs. Everbeck has made a close study of the bee and advises every woman who has the opportunity in a patch of garden to keep a few hives.

French Rolls.

THESE can be easily made. When baking bread take out dough for making a medium sized loaf of bread. Work a scant half cupful of butter or lard in the dough; also three tablespoonfuls sugar. Then roll out the dough to a quarter of an inch in thickness and cut with a biscuit cutter. Spread with butter and fold over. Put in a pan an inch apart and let rise until very light. They will become twice the former size. They are fine.

Soft Molasses Cookies.

TWO cupfuls molasses, one cupful brown sugar, one cupful lard, one cupful sour milk, one teaspoonful ginger, two teaspoonfuls soda; stir together and mix stiff as possible; let stand over night; roll out fairly thick, spread with sugar and cut; bake in quick oven. When made according to recipe they are thick, yellow and creamy, fine grained and simply delicious.

The Passing Year

(Contributed to The Journal by Walt Mason, the famous Kansas poet. His prose-poems are a regular feature of this column in The Daily Journal.)

The year's growing ashen, and weary and gray; full soon he will cash in and mosey away. A while yet he'll totter along to his grave; he's marked for the slaughter, and nothing can save. The year that is leaving seems weighted with woe; and nature is grieving because he must go. The forests are sighing and moaning all day; the night winds are crying, upon their sad way; the gray clouds are taking a threatening shape; the dead grass is shaking like billows of crape. Dame Nature is tender, and dirges she'll croon, regretting the splendor and glory of June; she knows that tomorrow the old year will sleep; she knows that the sorrow of parting is deep. In this world, we never can friends with us stay! Some loved one forever is going away! And that is the story of people and years, a morning of glory, an evening of tears, an hour of caressing, a call at the dawn, a prayer and a blessing, and then they are gone.

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Walt Mason