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Some minds improve by travel. Others rather resemble copper wire or brass. Which gets the better by going farther? Hood, "Ode to Bar Wilson."

ALDRICH

WRITER in the American magazine gives so clear and analytical a description of Senator Aldrich that the reader becomes almost personally acquainted with the senate leader. Aldrich was brought up to and developed in business and has lived in a manufacturing environment, and he is almost totally devoid of sentiment.

Aldrich masters any subject presented to him by study of it, which is a delight rather than a task, and he leads because he has mastered it better than others. He learned the political game from the ground up—as a councilman, member of the legislature and representative in congress and he has been a senator for 27 years.

THE DIVORCE SUPPER

THE HEARTFELT gratitude of high society is due Colonel John Jacob Astor of New York. In human achievement as viewed in the exclusive circles of the social elite, he has done that which should write his name high among the benefactors of mankind.

having secured enough he cares nothing for opposition speeches. He yields—enough to carry his main points, as he did to Taft. Though clouded as a claim, he is personally mildy popular in the senate. His ability is respected. He trades fair, from a high protection standpoint. He is always ready with counsel for less experienced senators. His dignity is not exclusive and repellent. He is not a great statesman, from a high point of view, but he is a very interesting and important figure in our national affairs.

BOYS AND YOUNG MEN

GARFIELD said that he always felt like taking off his hat to a boy. He meant that he thought of the possibilities of accomplishment, of influence, of growth, lying latent, unseen, but vaguely imagined, if at all, by the boy.

As one observes a group of boys with whom he is individually unacquainted, it is pretty much a guess in the dark as to what they will become, which will develop into highly successful men and which into sad failures. They are largely mysteries as yet, these young boys; just what directions they will take when they are grown, and how far they will go up or down, or if they will be entirely commonplace and quietly follow humble, unnoticed paths, no one can tell.

But pretty soon the boys become young men; then the observer can make a pretty good guess concerning their future. One may see any day old, wrecked, wretched men of 40, 50, 60 or more, with deponent look and hopeless men, men broken physically, morally, mentally and financially; men all over whom failure is written large. So one may also see other men old in years, yet young; clean, serene, untroubled, respected, lovable old men, who in their long lives living behind have little to regret, who are approaching the end in comfort and without remorse or fear; men who have judiciously both conserved and used their resources during life and have made it a moderate success.

One can pretty surely point out some young men who will be old men of the former type—old repulsively and shamefully long before they are really old in years. You can see these young men on street corners, hanging around cigar stands, poolrooms and saloons, smoking cigarettes and exchanging obscene jests that they basely imagine to be humorous. You may find some candidate for this sort of old age, too, among the young men who shirk their work, keep their eyes on the clock and do as little as possible to draw their pay. There is always a "fat either of these young men may take a turn for the better, but unless he does he will never amount to anything good, he will be an increasing failure and nuisance until, unhonored and unwept, he passes off the stage.

But you can also find types of a young man pleasant to contemplate. You will always find him, during working hours at work, and doing his best. If an employe, he will do his best for his employer, will earn more rather than less than his wages, as a matter of principle and not merely as a matter of policy. Only in this way can he advance. You will seldom if ever find him in a saloon, or with a cigarette in his mouth, or loafing around among ribald, sporty fellows. He need not be a "sissy" or a "goo-goo" sort of young man; he may like clean sport and lively recreation, but he will be essentially clean, and upright, and moral, and determined to advance by doing right and not wrong. These are the young men that will grow old gracefully and admirably and that in later days will find the earth not a purgatory as the other young men will, but a goodly, pleasant world to the end.

THE LATEST AT RENO

PORK IS FAR above the record price in Portland, beef is at unheard-of notches in Chicago, stocks are active in New York, enterprise is throbbing everywhere, but it is Reno, Nev., that boasts the biggest boom. The divorce colony is at the flood tide, the rich sojourners are loaded with easy money, and times for the native population are the best in history. Recounting some evidences of present thrift and con-

trasting it with the record of other boom times in Nevada, the New York World says "its hotels are swamped, the spare cottages occupied, and by another year solid property holders look for a keen speculation in desirable lots in the foothills commanding a view of the courthouse."

With the present ratio of one divorce for every 12 marriages, which threatens at any time to advance to two or three to 12. It will be seen that Colonel Astor's invention fills a long felt want and that the inventor is entitled to a high place among the noble men of his time. Newton gave us the law of gravitation, Morse the electric telegraph, Edison and Gray the telephone, Whitney the cotton gin, Marconi the wireless, the Wrights the aeroplane and, in the midst of our felicity along comes Colonel John Jacob Astor of New York and, for the sake of the socially exclusive, gives us the divorce supper. Wonderful and incomprehensible is man!

THE HUMAN ENGINE

THE AVERAGE man inhales 24 cubic inches of air 24 times each minute, or 29 cubic feet an hour, and exhales an equal amount. The exhalation is a mixture of air, gas, impure water vapor, decayed molecular and cellular animal matter, disease germs and other impurities. In a tightly closed room occupied by many persons this exhalation is a constantly flowing stream of contamination, poison and impurities. If fresh air supply is not admitted, these impurities are inhaled and exhaled repeatedly with a constantly increasing effect on the atmosphere until in the occupants of the room there appears drowsiness, weakness, a feeling of stupidity and a tendency to headaches. The condition is detrimental to health and strength, and is a generous medium for the spread of infection. It makes the houses and public edifices we have reared elements both of civilization and sickness.

We pay too little heed to this important subject. We often find ourselves in crowded theatres and public meetings, where we sit for two or three hours inhaling over and over again the constantly lowering standard of atmosphere. We patronize stores crowded with customers, each exhaling 20 cubic feet of impurities per hour and crowd into moving picture places where the atmosphere is thick with contamination. At a recent test of the air in Chicago theatres during performances, but two of the many examined showed conditions characterized as only fair. We have many school and office buildings of ancient design in which the science of ventilation is little if at all applied and where human beings sit for hours and suffer for lack of nature's invaluable and essential fresh air. It is one of the tragedies of civilization that it took mankind so long to discover that the savage in his wigwam was in some respects better situated than we in such of our mansions and palaces as are imperfect in their ventilation.

The recent experiments with outdoor schools in Chicago were a revelation as to the dismal effects of contaminated atmosphere. The classes were conducted under sheds in the parks. Backward children greatly improved in their classwork, weak children became strong and increased in weight, sallow cheeks became rosy and the drones became active. The human body is very similar to a steam engine. Both are heat engines and both receive power from combustion of fuel. It is the food, acted upon by the chemical processes of the body, that produces human energy, just as fuel produces power in the steam engine. The average human engine consumes enough power in 24 hours to heat 47 pounds of water from 32 degrees to the boiling point. Air is the most necessary element in feeding the human engine. In order to support combustion we must have oxygen to burn our carbon and this must come from the fresh air. When this air is not supplied in sufficient freshness and quantity, the effectiveness of the machine is at once interfered with. It becomes imperfect and we have the world old story of enfeebled life, weakness and disease.

The owner takes no chances on poor fuel or lack of water supply for the steam engine. He observes all the precautions and it would seem important to be equally vigilant in taking care of the human machine. Are the new theatres, new churches, new school buildings and other edifices in Portland to have proper ventilation?

THE LATEST AT RENO

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trasting it with the record of other boom times in Nevada, the New York World says "its hotels are swamped, the spare cottages occupied, and by another year solid property holders look for a keen speculation in desirable lots in the foothills commanding a view of the courthouse."

It recalls that the history of Nevada is a succession of spurts and collapses. State life rose to great heights of affluence and importance in the bonanza days, and when the senatorial microbe got into rival silver kings, money flowed like water. It was a harvest time for the natives, but in an evil hour the Comstock lodes played out and plunged the state into the vicissitudes of an innocuous desuetude.

But a brief revival came when in 1897 the Corbett-Fittsimmons fight again placed Nevada on the map and once more lifted the population into the heyday of prosperity. The sagebrush hills echoed and reechoed to the clink of money changing and the alkali dust swept over the fiery prairies unnoted and uncondemned by the thrifty citizenry. But the genius of California was covetous, and while Nevada lulled herself to sleep in her supposed security, San Francisco and Los Angeles reached over the mountains, robbed Reno of her prize and became the sanctuaries of pugilism.

Again hard times fell upon Nevada, but in due season Tonopah rose on the ruins and once more there were funds and feasting in Nevada. Towns sprang up over night, the sagebrush swayed under the breath of activity, the jack rabbit fled to the mountain fastnesses and Nevada was again in the midst of one of her traditional spurts. But, alas and alack, the proverbial hoodoo again fell, the Tonopah boom exploded and hard times again settled over this commonwealth of checkered chapters and fluctuating fortunes.

The retrospect makes the cheering news from Reno more than welcome. The divorce colony is a lead that will never peter out, and unless California, once more in a spirit of covetousness, shall reach out and rob her of her new activity, Reno will henceforth revel in a precious and permanent prosperity.

PROGRESSIVE IDEAS IN DENMARK

IN THE March "Outlook" magazine number, there will be found a very interesting paper on Denmark, entitled "Commonwealth Ruled by Farmers." It seems from this article that Denmark is a farmer state, there being but few large land owners. The farmers not only control in a business way, but also politically. There is substantially no illiteracy, and the Dane is said to be the best farmer in the world. Co-operation the state takes a very active part in all of the affairs of the country. As the article states: "Like Switzerland and Germany, the little state of Denmark shows that the old philosophy of individualism is broken down, and that there are many activities which the state itself must assume in order to protect the people and promote their common welfare."

Denmark, of course, owns its railroads, and, strange as it may seem, the idea of our good friend Bill Hanley of Burns for building a state railway has been not only discussed in Denmark, but adopted and is now the law. It seems that four or five hundred miles of new railway were required; this is the way they got at it: "It was recognized that the building of these railways would increase the value of the adjoining land. It was suggested that the road should be paid for by special assessments, and all of the increase in land value should be appropriated by the state to pay for the construction. The ministry advocated that one half of the increment should be so appropriated, but the measure as passed provides that the land shall be valued after the roads are completed and a tax shall be levied on the unearned increment equal to one third of the value which has been added to the estates of the land owner. It has been estimated that this alone will pay for the cost of the railroads."

This is just the method Bill Hanley proposed through his railroad districts, so perhaps he wasn't so much of a fool as his critics would have the public believe. Taxation of land values is also a live issue in Denmark. It seems that under the system of income taxation the tax on the smallest land owner is twice that of the grade just above, and three times that of the large land owner, per unit of land. "The state recognizes that the small patch is more productive than large holdings. This makes it obvious to the hussman (the small land owner) that he is being taxed on his industry and not on his opportunity." He feels that this is unjust and that by the taxation of all land at its capital value the large estate will be more readily broken up and all classes will pay according to their opportunity and not according to their energy. Accordingly the farmers' association has passed the following resolution: "The Danish peasant farmers demand the earliest possible abolition of all duties and taxes levied upon articles of consumption or assessed in proportion to income on labor, and in lieu thereof they demand that a tax be imposed on the value of the land, which value is not due to any individual effort, but is derived from the growth and development of the community."

lible guide, counselor and great and good friend must conclude that Denmark is peopled by fools, theorists and doctrinaires, notwithstanding the fact that they are the best farmers in the world and secure the best results. What a glorious opportunity awaits the Oregonian to move to Copenhagen and there enter into a campaign for the saving of this poor people from their folly. If this move were made, it would be a great benefit to Denmark and a profound relief to the people of this state.

County Judge Cleeton sentenced a man who failed to support his young wife, soon to become a mother, to one year's work on the rockpile, the wife to be paid \$1.50 a day that a new law provides may be paid on account of a prisoner's work to support his family. With the exercise of good judgment and due discrimination on the part of the court, it is a good law. This good for nothing fellow or worse would not provide for his wife, but he can be made to do work that is of value to the county and payment of the money to his needy wife will keep her from becoming a county charge, and will probably not lessen his deserved punishment.

A magazine article calls attention to the deterioration of fruit in eastern states during recent years, and gives the destruction of birds as the cause. Since birds have decreased in number, it is claimed, the yield of fruit has not only been less, but what has grown has been of poorer quality. Orchardists no doubt gain much more than they lose by the birds.

Mrs. Matt Henson, wife of the negro who accompanied Peary to the Pole, or as far north as he went, says that since their return Peary

"Big Noises" of the Days' News

By Herbert Corey. After all, things don't break so far from even in this life, do they? There's John Davidson Rockefeller, for example. Worth \$550,000,000, 71 years old—and he hasn't got a hair of his own that wouldn't be a dead giveaway on a 2-year-old pig. Of course, he has plenty of gray hair. Any time he walks down Broadway and sees a switch that he thinks he'd like, all he has to do is to order it sent home, if he doesn't care to pin it right then and there. The best and kindest thing that John D. could do right now is to let his hair fall out. That would imply the possession of a hair, don't you see?—and maybe that hair wouldn't have the time of its fair young life! Its proud owner would have an automatically regulated gold bedroom built for it, and hire a college of physicians and surgeons to dope out new nerve foods for it. And if it persisted in its headlong course and would fall out, why, Mr. Rockefeller would have a tremendously successful man. Now the unused smile seems only to hint at hypocrisy, and the religious feeling he insists upon is scoffed at by the public that has watched him in action for 40 years.

But this may not be quite fair. John D. Rockefeller, nearest to a billionaire the world has ever seen, the most flint-hearted monopolist that ever crushed out petty competition, is 71 years old. Every second that deposits its golden toll in his strong box leads him a bit nearer to the inevitable. He is trying desperately, to live long, very long. His health is perfect. He has eliminated worry and the human emotions as far as possible. He forces his diet, notions upon a world that must perform "eat lightly." He plays golf with his gallery of clerical tame cats, not because he cares so greatly for the game as because it promises him renewed vigour. At all the times he remembers, he is many months ago he said: "Once there were 60 of us—all strong men, associated in the Standard Oil. Now there are but four."

March 13 in History—Eminent Dr. Priestley

Two continents may rightfully claim Dr. Joseph Priestley, and any country would be proud to own him. Although the distinguished theologian and man of science was born in England, and in that country wrote the greater part of his scientific and theological literature, he came to make his home in America at the height of his fame, and died in this country, and is buried in the little Quaker burial-ground at Northumberland, Pa. Joseph Priestley was born on March 13, 1733, near Leeds, England. The centennial of the discovery of oxygen was celebrated on August 1, 1874, by the unveiling of a statue to his memory in Birmingham, England, an address in Paris and in this country by a gathering of chemists at his grave in Northumberland, where appropriate addresses were made by T. Sterry Hunt, Benjamin Stillman, and other scientists. Priestley was the son of a cloth dresser, and his father dying when he was only 6 years old, he was adopted into the home of his aunt, and was given an excellent education. He studied for the ministry but on his attempting to enter it, he was rejected on account of his views on original sin, the atonement and eternal damnation. He then taught school for some time, and was finally given the degree of LL. D., from the University of Edinburgh, and was elected to the Royal Society in 1781. From 1773 till 1780, while acting as literary companion to the Earl of Shelburne, Priestley made his great discov-

has done nothing for his humble companion, and has seemed not even to remember his existence any more. Henson is on a "lecturing tour," but the general public never hears of him. He stuck to Peary for many years, rendering him valuable services, and was the only man to go to the Pole with the explorer, and is certainly entitled to a modest share of the credit, fame and emoluments resulting from that journey.

Governor Marshall of Indiana, responding to a request for an opinion as to what that state most needs, said it was content, explaining that by this he meant "A body of citizens who are content to do a day's work for a day's wage; who are willing to pay a day's wage for a day's work; who are unwilling to shirk work and gain wages by cunning; who are unwilling by enforced employment to increase profits; who believe more in the common good than in the larger good; who would rather be buried in a pine box wet with genuine tears than to have a rosewood casket guarded by detectives; who really feel that Indiana is the land of opportunity, individually and manhood, and not the land of knavery, trickery and cunning; who believe he is not wise who is not just, and that justice is as much the other fellow's right as his own."

Strikes do not occur in Canada because differences between employers and employes are subject to legal investigation and arbitration. This ought to be the case in any country claiming to be civilized. New Zealand is also a country without strikes or lockouts. They are impossible there, yet many Americans would turn up their noses at the suggestion of taking a hint from New Zealand.

News Forecast of Coming Week

Washington, March 12.—The appeal of the Standard Oil company against the decision of the United States circuit court of appeals in the government's suit to dissolve the corporation for violation of the Sherman anti-trust law is set down for argument Monday in the supreme court of the United States. Attorney General Wickersham will appear in person to argue for the government.

The docket of the supreme tribunal for the same day also provides for a hearing in the half dozen cases brought in various states to test the constitutionality of the corporation tax provisions of the Payne tariff act. President Taft will leave Washington Wednesday afternoon for Chicago, where he is to speak the following night at the St. Patrick's day banquet of the Irish Fellowship club. Friday night the president is expected to enter the chamber of commerce at Rochester and on Saturday he will visit Albany. While in Albany he will be the guest of Governor Hughes and anticipate will probably be taken of his visit to hold an important conference of Republican leaders in regard to the political situation in the Empire state.

The federal grand jury in Chicago will resume its investigation of the alleged beef trust. Numerous witnesses have been summoned to appear before the grand jury and it is expected that some important evidence may be given. Court action in behalf of Charles W. Morse, the convicted New York banker, will probably be instituted in the federal courts of Atlanta early in the week. Justice McPherson (ind. ill.) will take has not yet been divulged by Martin W. Littleton, Morse's counsel. The court of appeals at Albany has set Monday as the day for hearing arguments on the state's appeal from the decision of Supreme Court Justice Tompkins, appointing a referee to take testimony on the application to show cause why Harry K. Thaw should not be transferred from the Matteawan state hospital for insane criminals to another institution. A special convention of the United Mine Workers of America has been called to meet in Cincinnati Monday to further discuss the question of a new wage agreement for the year commencing April 1.

With Secretary of the Interior Ballinger and his late subordinate, Gifford Pinchot, among the scheduled speakers, the proceedings of the Minnesota conservation congress in St. Paul will attract national attention. Other speakers will include Governor Eberhart, James J. Hill, Archbishop Ireland and Dr. H. W. Wiley. Lieutenant Sir Ernest Shackleton, the south polar explorer, will sail from England Saturday for New York. After a lecture tour of the United States and Canada he will make an extended hunting trip in northern Alaska.

Other events and happenings that will figure in the news of the week will include the proceedings of the British parliament, the trial of the Roosevelt party, the Klondike Silver murder trial at Wateka, Ill., the opening of the feeders and breeders' show at Fort Worth, and the assembling of the provincial legislature of Quebec. Newspaper men are unusually prominent in the present membership of the national Democratic committee. Chairman Norman E. Mack, Secretary Roy Woodson and Treasurer Herman Ridder all conduct newspapers. Other members of the committee are newspaper publishers include Clark Howell of Georgia, R. M. Johnston of Texas, Joseph Daniel of North Carolina and Robert Ewing of Louisiana. The Democratic party in Nebraska appears to be seriously divided over the liquor question. Governor Shallenberger is with the anti-saloon people and Mayor Dahlman of Omaha for license and a liberal state administration. The Omaha mayor has announced his candidacy for governor next Governor Shallenberger, and the two are to fight it out at the primaries.



Both Scientist and Woman. WHEN a woman accomplishes something wonderful in any of the sciences, the world marvels and exclaims, but it is never particularly touched in its affections, because it usually pictures the scientific female as bespectacled, unlovely, unwifely and lacking in those pretty little graces of manner and of dress.

Yet there seems no doubt that Mme. Curie, "the greatest woman in the world," as her admirers insist on calling her, has found time both for love and for science in her busy life, and she seems to be a living refutation of the theory that mental accomplishments above the ordinary detract from natural feminine charm.

It seems impossible to picture this really charming woman as delving into the dry mysteries of the most complex sciences, as having discovered so rare a substance as radium, and as now having found polonium, which is 5000 times heavier than radium. Yet Mme. Curie, not satisfied with these triumphs, works on and is training her little daughter in the hope that the child will also become a scientist and surpass the mother in startling achievements.

Mme. Curie herself spent her childhood in a laboratory. Forty years ago—she is now in her forty-fifth year—she gave up her dolls to play with retort stands, crucibles and test tubes in the scientific workshop of her father, M. Sklodovsk, professor of physics of a college in Varsova.

Her girlhood and young womanhood, when she went to Paris to take up seriously the study of science as a means of future livelihood, were a constant struggle with want and privation. It was while she was studying in Paris that her unusual scientific gifts, combined with her tender womanhood, first attracted the attention of her teacher and future husband, Professor Curie, and their love story is one of the most beautiful in the realms of science.

It seemed more than improbable at that time that these two young people just struggling for recognition and enough income to live on and carry on their work should in a comparatively short time divide the Nobel science prize of something like \$20,000, that the husband should refuse the Cross of the Legion of Honor because the same distinction could not be offered to his wife, and that the wife should be the first woman to be appointed to the coveted chair of physics in the Sorbonne.

Mme. Curie now lives simply and even frugally in a quiet house in Paris, screened from the outer world by a high wall. When she is not in her laboratory or indulging in her favorite recreation—riding the bicycle—she is to be found teaching her little daughter lessons of home life as just as passionately as she has mastered her mother without her high scientific attainments. For the mother with her is never lost sight of in the scientist. She is as devoted to her home as though she had never heard of radium.



JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER