

THE JOURNAL

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THEIR BOOMERANG

THE attempt to besmirch Oswald West with the mileage incident is a boomerang. West's life is an open book.

As pilot of a delivery cart, he was a splendid driver. As a bank messenger, he was a splendid messenger. As a schoolboy, he was a splendid pupil, a fact that won him his position in the bank.

As a trusted clerk in the bank, he was a splendid clerk. As state land agent he was a splendid official. For his work, he was commended in the highest terms by every newspaper in Oregon.

As railroad commissioner, he was a splendid commissioner. There were complaints of brutal treatment of livestock in transit over the railroads; he took a practical man's way of learning the facts.

He did not ride over the line in a palace car as railroad commissioners often do. He dressed himself as a stockman, and as such rode the length of the east side line in charge of several cars of stock.

When there were reports that the Corvallis & Eastern railroad tracks were unsafe, West took no man's word for it. The safety of the traveling public was at stake. With a hatchet and other tools, he set out afoot and walked the length of the line, testing the ties, digging into bridge timbers, examining culverts and making a tedious but effective personal survey of the road.

When his work, requiring several days, was finished, he personally knew conditions. It was a practical man's practical way of gaining practical information.

In the same way, West examined the west side road from Corvallis to Portland. There had been an accident to a train, and to make sure that the traveling public was protected, he walked the entire distance, examining every tie, rail, bridge and culvert in the track.

When or where was so much interest ever taken by a railroad commissioner in the welfare and safety of the public?

Such is West. Every act in his career has been an example of how to make good. His every public movement has been an instance of integrity and effectiveness. It is only by such acts that he could have risen from a delivery boy to popular favorite for governor of his state.

It is for these reasons that the puerile attempt to besmirch Mr. West with the mileage incident will react with deadly effect against those who perpetrated the outrage and give votes by the hundred to the man whose life is an open book, and who as delivery boy, railroad commissioner or in any other capacity invariably made good.

LIFE IN THE DARI.

IN New York there are 90,000 windowless rooms, occupied by human beings. In February, 1908, there were 101,277 such rooms. Into them sunlight never enters. Fresh air, if any ever penetrates them, comes through the door to a dark and gloomy hallway.

To a majority of these dwellers in the dark, fresh air is scarcely anything more than a myth, says a writer in the Technical World magazine. These windowless rooms are in the tenement districts of New York City.

In the main, they are on Manhattan Island. There are blocks and blocks of the city in which the density of population is so great that there are 1000 to 1500 people per acre. Crowded and congested as the London tenement districts are popularly supposed to be, the maximum density of population there is less than 600 per acre.

In Chicago, the number of people in the Polish quarter is three times that of the most crowded portions of Tokyo, Calcutta or other Asiatic cities, where we have always been taught that the population is appalling. Yet the density in Chicago rarely reaches 500 per acre or only one-third to one-half that of New York's tenement population.

In these windowless districts the death rate is over one-half higher than that of New York City as a whole. That fact tells the dreadful story of rooms without light, of families without fresh air.

A sample of the congestion is related by a tenement inspector. In one house was a family of eight persons, a father, mother, two sons

and four daughters. They occupied a cellar apartment of three rooms, two of which had no light, save that which straggled in from open doors from the front room under the sidewalk, which was lighted by a dozen little discs of glass upon which the feet of street pedestrians were constantly pounding. The apartment was crowded with broken down furniture. In the front room were two beds and the appliances and bench of the father, who was a shoemaker. The family had lived in these dark rooms for three years, and their pale pinched features attested the absence of sunlight.

Among the occupants of these lightless and almost airless tenements are workers who toil at night, and who never see the light of day save for an hour or so late in a summer afternoon. Their faces are tallowy, and their eyes have the staring expression of owls.

The tenements are largely occupied by factory people on salaries of \$6 to \$12. They are poorly clothed, miserably fed, and they pay in proportion to the accommodations they receive, the highest rent of any people on the face of the globe.

Half of the world does not realize how the other half lives. We of the light, airy and comfortable homes with trees and a lawn of green around it, though the struggle for survival may sometimes seem hard, have little over which to complain when we recall the lot of those who live in the dark in the great city tenements.

A BLOODLESS TRAGEDY

ON SEPTEMBER 15, 1910—but a month ago—a scene was enacted at Helsinki in Finland that marks the extinguishment of the independent constitutional life of the Finnish nation.

The description that follows is condensed from the account given by the well known writer H. W. Nevinson in the English weekly, The Nation. A word or two of introduction will suffice. In the year 1809 Finland was taken from Sweden and annexed to Russia. But the Russian Tsar, Alexander I, in perfecting the annexation, confirmed the old constitution of Finland, and the autonomy of the country.

Finland laws and customs were continued. To this, as grand duke of Finland, the Russian Tsar took his coronation oath. Each Tsar who has followed him has, at his coronation, sworn to the same conditions.

In 1901 the present Tsar, Nicholas, was responsible for the violent invasion of the constitutional rights of the grand duchy, which it was his solemn function to protect. By decree of the Tsar—published by the Russian council of ministers, overriding the constitution and laws of Finland—a Russian was appointed secretary of state, Russia laid hands on the Finnish postoffice, declared Russian the official language, censored the newspapers and, under a new law of military service, abolished the ancient Finnish army and required conscript Finns to serve in the Russian army ranks.

New taxes added to the contributions paid by Finland to the Russian treasury. But the Finnish diet, the ancient parliament, was left intact in its home, its organization, rules and privileges. In this year of 1910 the final step was taken, Finland was advised that her independent rights to legislate would be withdrawn. Her diet with curtailed powers in Finland only would be ordered to send one or two representatives to the Russian duma and the imperial council, to provide increased contributions to imperial defense and to accord to Russians special privileges as residents of Finland.

Now hear Mr. Nevinson. The time, September 15. The place, the ancient parliament hall in Helsinki. "In that chamber was assembled the freest and most democratic house of representatives in the world. Elected by all men and women citizens over 24—chosen in a method of proportionate representation that the peasants and working men and women understand, it takes care that minorities should be considered. There they sat in parties together—on the right of the chair the Swedish party, 26. The Swedes have few privileges left, and their influence is shaken by the Finnish advance. The Young Finns—28—sit close behind them, in ordinary politics described as advanced Liberals and something more. Next sit the Agrarians—17—combined with them, but protectors of the small peasant landholders. Then the solid body of Old Finns—42—led by men of knowledge and experience, but suspected as having allowed themselves to take public offices under the Bobrikoff tyranny. On the extreme left of the chair the Socialists—86—have their accustomed place. They hold firmly to the principle that labor alone, apart from any capitalist contribution, is the source of wealth—but demanding now an eight hour day and similar measures. But the strength of the Socialists lies in the country districts, and their propaganda chiefly among peasants. In opposition to the interference of Russian despotism, all parties stand solidly as one.

"There they sat, men and women together—about 18 women members present—fairly distributed among all parties. Two hundred strong—firm, solid, almost painfully calm, allowing no applause, no expression of emotion—the freest assembly the world has known. Ballooning for the president was by dropping folded papers into a glass bowl. Per Svinhufvud was chosen, of an ancient Swedish family, a Young Finn in party, a democrat without reserve—massive, pale, concise. He had shown his strength as president before. In less than 50 words he thanked the diet, and declared his intention of defending the country's

constitutional rights. Then the sitting was suspended. "Before noon on the 15th the wide square in front of the great Lutheran church was crowded. At 12 the members of the diet entered the church in procession. Two black robed priests conducted a service at the altar. At intervals a choir in the organ loft burst into sudden, loud, chorals. A priest took for his text, 'What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?' There was no direct political allusion in the sermon. The blessing was given, the bell tolled, and in procession again the members of the diet moved to the empty palace beside the main harbor. There imperial beaides ushered them into the large throne room, used for state balls in happier days. On the inlaid floor the members stood clustered, forming a half circle, and in the midst their president stood, isolated. From a side door near the empty throne strangely dressed officials issued, and behind them crowded a swarm of Russian officers—army officers in grays and blues, naval officers in white—some of them sparkling with orders and badges. So they stood, a glittering band on the left side of the throne, symbols of the power of violence over law and freedom alike. Before the steps of the throne a stout, squat figure became conspicuous in the brown tunic of Russian army undress. It was the Russian Governor General Seyn. In a harsh and grating voice he read a Russian paper announcing that the Tsar had again called the diet together, and then, handing the paper to his aide, he stood glaring at the diet's president as though expecting defiance.

"Many expected defiance. The matters to be laid before the diet for their acceptance were already known. Contrary to constitutional precedent these propositions were not signed by the Tsar as grand duke, nor by Finland's secretary of state in St. Petersburg, but issued in the name of the Russian council of ministers alone. Standing quite unmoved before the governor general, and hardly bending in salute, the president acknowledged the receipt of the grand duke's message, and the ceremony was over. The officers rattled out, the members passed into the open air and the white and gilded hall stood empty. Only the golden two-headed eagle over the throne remained, clutched at its orb and scepter."

So right once again gave place to might and the ancient grand duchy was absorbed in the Russian empire.

NO PROOF AGAINST PORTLAND

THE Chicago Record-Herald is probably busy in assuming, as it does, that whereas the Tacoma enumerators counted 116,248 alleged inhabitants, it has only 32,972. It is yet to be determined how much, if at all, Tacoma's population was padded, but the probability seems to be that it has been "more padded against than against."

However this may be, the Chicago paper had no right and can furnish no good excuse, for including Portland among other cities in its editorial indictment charging census frauds. It says:

"It is this discrediting the census as a whole that is the really serious matter, and for that reason it is fortunate that Tacoma and Seattle and Aberdeen, Wash., Portland, Or.; Minneapolis, Boise, Idaho; Fort Smith, Ark., and other cities were caught early in the game. There is surely hange enough in the booming lumber without frauds that would rob the census returns of all authority."

As to the other cities mentioned, we have no definite and positive information; but Portland, so far as present developments show, was not "caught early in the game," nor at all, except in the imagination of some clerk or inspector who wanted to make an appearance of earning a salary. There are 10 chances to one that Portland was under-counted, rather than over-counted.

King Manuel should not become discouraged; on account of his former kingship he might be able to marry an American heiress and be fairly happy yet.

Water Transportation.

From the Railway Age. Probably the greatest single deterrent to water terminal advance in the United States is the present adverse attitude of rail lines toward independent water traffic in their exclusive control of routes. In refusal or neglect to coordinate with general water traffic, and in refusal to pre-rate generally with water lines in through movement of traffic.

Considering water terminals, Commissioner Smith finds five salient facts regarding them, as follows: The water traffic in the United States is not fully developed; their terminal frontage, nor are they properly organized or controlled; that railroads largely control water terminals, often to the disadvantage of general water traffic; that there is almost no linking up of the rail and general water systems at the water's edge, but rather the opposite tendency, and that there is little cooperation by localities with the federal government, which improves the channels.

Concerning New York harbor conditions the report says in part: "New York is, of course, the most important harbor in the United States. As a terminal organism, its complexity and diversity make it a most interesting study. The congestion of business is complicated by an enormous volume of local passenger traffic, a large proportion of which, until the recent completion of tunnel systems, was handled by ferries, thus requiring a considerable portion of the waterfront in the most central portions of the harbor; this ferry traffic still seriously aggravates the congestion of business on marginal streets."

"The congestion of traffic at present is extreme, especially on Manhattan Island. Coordination of rail and water traffic is very defective, except as to the rail controlled terminals for through traffic. There is no effective connection between the water terminals and local industries. Perhaps the highest terminal development has been reached in the so-called 'Bush terminals,' on the Brooklyn front. This is an important dock company, holding 49 blocks in

CITIES OUTGROWING THE COUNTRY

APPARENTLY, the "back-to-the-farm" movement has not taken place. Census returns from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and other great agricultural states show that while there has been a great increase in the population of the cities, the increase in the country has been much less; in some cases there has been a positive decrease. Various reasons are given, principally these: Improvement in farm machinery; wealth of farmers, who prefer city life, and are reluctant to break up large holdings of profitable farms. The Spokane Spokesman-Review, discussing this condition, remarks: "The only thing that will start a 'back to the farm' crusade in these states is cutting up of the big farms into small holdings. Here in the west the same thing must be done to prevent, in future years, the same situation that now confronts the middle west states."

Much of this good work of subdividing large tracts has been done in Oregon, and it should be encouraged in all possible ways. If many portions of Oregon a family needs but a few acres, and the man who persists in holding large tracts should be subjected to a graduated land tax as an inducement for him to give landless people a better chance.

YOUTHFUL CRIMINALS

A CHICAGO municipal court judge remarks that the student of the criminal courts of that city is horrified to learn that 65 per cent of the criminals going through them are between 16 and 25 years old, and he blames the churches for not looking after children and youth more. Possibly this figure is in some measure deserved, but much more of it should fall on parents who scarcely take as much care of their own offspring as they do of domestic animals—dogs, cats and chickens.

The public school system is perhaps delinquent, too, in teaching too much out of textbooks and not enough of either practical industry or practical morality—right living; early right living; the tremendous importance of it.

There is no more important subject, or work, or thought, than this of saving the children and youth from vice and crime. The school most urgently needed, it almost seems, is one for parents; and in many cases the teacher should be armed, speaking metaphorically, with a lash.

HIG UNCLE SAM AND LITTLE PORTUGAL

THE BOSTON GLOBE, which is by no means a radical and not a very sentimental newspaper, thinks that "a gracious and most becoming act it would have been, applauded by every lover of human freedom the world over, if the United States had not allowed the republics of Switzerland and of Brazil to recognize the republic of Portugal before any word of recognition was sent from Washington." It is said that even the monarchies of Great Britain and Germany have entered into semi-official relations with the new democracy in the Iberian peninsula. But it has received no public, official acknowledgment

or encouragement from the capital of the greatest of the world's republics.

The Portuguese are said to be illiterate, unfit for self government, and in a sense and to an extent this may be true, but why? One reason is that for a thousand years the Portuguese have been governed by kings, and burdened with all that pertains to monarchial government. Perhaps if they unload their king and royal court, and all their costly appurtenances and appendages, they will learn to read and write, and live better in many ways. At least they have a right to try. It is curious that the government at Washington was not one of the first officially to recognize that right, and give the Portuguese an encouraging word on account of their attempt at progress toward democracy and liberty.

"There can be no cause for war between Japan and America," recently declared Mayor Ozaki of Tokio, one of the most prominent public men of Japan. Such a declaration enunciates more of statesmanship, and we might say of Christianity, than the prediction and incitements of Hobson, Admiral Evans and other Americans who are continually prophesying war, and trying to give reasons why there should or must be war. No, there can be, no reasonable and right cause for war between this country and Japan or any other nation.

The recent report of the Great Northern railroad makes a good showing not only for the stockholders but for the Pacific coast region traversed by that road. While operating expenses for the year increased upwards of 20 per cent, the net revenue increased in almost the same proportion. These increases are evidence of rapid development throughout the country tributary to this railroad, much of which has become tributary in a commercial way to Portland, since the building of the North Bank road.

Testing Pacific Coast Coal. From the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. The tests which are to be made by naval vessels with Washington coal may develop considerable value to the navy, to the Pacific coast coal operators and to shipping on this coast. All of the coal for naval use, the Pacific coast is at present brought around from the Atlantic coast. All of the commercial vessels on the Pacific, the revenue cutters, the vessels of the lighthouse establishment, the army transports and indeed, all of the other government vessels, save those of the navy alone, use local coal.

The battleship Oregon, which made her notable voyage around the world, is at present being refitted in time to participate with great effect in the battle of Santiago, used Pacific coast coal from Puget sound to South America.

The tests are to determine the efficiency and the economy as well of the Pacific coast coals. As to efficiency, it must be admitted that with the exception of Alaska coal, which is not yet on the market, the best Pacific coast coal for tonnage has not the heating value of the Atlantic coals.

It is insisted, however, that the difference in efficiency is out of all proportion less than the difference in relative cost; that the actual cost of the power produced by the Pacific coast coals, at their price, is far less than the cost of the power produced by Atlantic coals. The same power with Atlantic coals, the tests to be made will determine that question, or should determine it, at all events.

Vessel owners have this interest in the test: If it should result in the adoption of Pacific coast coal for naval vessels, during the ordinary routine of peace, no large number of foreign steamships will be required to be released here and enter into competition with American ships for outward bound cargoes. The number of American ships now laid up on Puget sound, because unable to meet this kind of competition, shows that the ship owners have a legitimate grievance.

Tillamook Opposed to Assembly.

From the Tillamook Herald. Upon reading the report of the Tillamook county, in regard to the nomination of governor on the Republican ticket, there is but one conclusion that we can arrive at, namely, that Tillamook county is against the assembly. It is reasonable to presume that every assembly man, who has voted for the Republican ticket, is for the assembly. No special fight was made against him in this county, still, he polled only a little over a quarter of the votes cast, all the other votes cast being for anti-assembly candidates. An attempt will be made, no doubt, to make it appear that the county is for the assembly. The figures, however, refute such a claim, and we are sure that if Mr. Dimick had been the only candidate against Mr. Bowerman, Bowerman would have been badly defeated in this county and in the state.

Today is the birthday of pretty Anne Oldfield, or "Nancy" Oldfield, as she is known. She is the most beautiful, most charming and most versatile actress who has graced the English stage. No actress since her time has been more popular than "Nancy." The court raved over her, the critics lauded her to the skies, the poets wrote sonnets to her, and the public, through the "Daily News," slightly during the height of her success.

Even the sneering pope, who loved to make game of any public personage through his pen, wrote in his unpublished "Sober Advice From Florence": "Engaging Oldfield; who with grace and ease could join the arts to ruin and to please."

Ample testimony is borne of the beauty, vivacity and charm of Nancy Oldfield. As to her art, she is said to have had few equals as an exponent of both tragedy and comedy. Chetwood, not too intelligibly, rhapsodizing, says: "She was of a superior height, but with a lovely proportion; and the dignity of her soul, equal to her force and stature, made up of her beautiful exterior; affable and good natured to all that deserved it. Campbell imagines her to have been the most beautiful woman that ever trod the British stage."

Clibber wrote more than one of his famous plays with a special view to her. The extent of her powers could only be held, he is gauged by the variety of characters she played. Steele, in the "Fideler" and the "Spectator" bears warm tribute to her distinction and her power. Swift, in his "Journal to Stella," mentions her opprobriously as "the drab that acts Cat's daughter."

Nancy Oldfield was much caressed by people of fashion and generally went to the theatre in a chair, attended by two footmen, and in a dress she had worn at some aristocratic dinner. The actress was the granddaughter of a vintner, and daughter of a soldier in the guards, and was born at Pall Mall on October 23, 1833. As a young girl she worked as a seamstress, but she spent all her spare time reading plays, reciting passages from one of Dequaintmont and Fletcher's plays, and ex-

pressed a favorable opinion of her capability.

Not a dozen years old she was introduced to the manager of the Drury Lane theatre, who offered her an engagement at a weekly salary of 50 shillings to play juvenile parts. The first character in which she appeared was in an original part in a prose adaptation by Vanbrugh, of the "Pilgrim," of Beau-mont and Fletcher, produced in 1700 at Drury Lane. She made her first appearance on the stage as "Lady Brute" in the "Provoked Wife," on April 28, 1750. She died several months later.

After living in state in the Jerusalem church, her body was buried beneath the monument of Congreve in Westminster Abbey, at the west end of the nave. According to the testimony of her maid, Margaret Saunders, she was interred with a very fine Brussels lace head, a Holland shift and double ruffles of the same lace, a pair of new kid gloves and her body wrapped in a winding sheet.

This elicited from Pope the well known lines: "Odious! in woe! 'twould a saint were the last words that poor Narcissa spoke; No let a charming chintz and Brussels Wrap my cold limbs and shade my lifeless face; One would not, sure, be frightful when one's dead. And—Betty—give this cheek a little red."

A son of Mrs. Oldfield married Lady Mary Walpole, and the actress was thus connected, through marriage, with the family of the original families in England, including that of the Duke of Wellington.

Today is the birthday of Thomas Pinckney, the American statesman and diplomatist (1759); Marshal Andouche Junot, the French commander (1771); the "Father" and the "Spectator" bears warm tribute to her distinction and her power. Swift, in his "Journal to Stella," mentions her opprobriously as "the drab that acts Cat's daughter."

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Not a dozen years old she was introduced to the manager of the Drury Lane theatre, who offered her an engagement at a weekly salary of 50 shillings to play juvenile parts. The first character in which she appeared was in an original part in a prose adaptation by Vanbrugh, of the "Pilgrim," of Beau-mont and Fletcher, produced in 1700 at Drury Lane. She made her first appearance on the stage as "Lady Brute" in the "Provoked Wife," on April 28, 1750. She died several months later.

After living in state in the Jerusalem church, her body was buried beneath the monument of Congreve in Westminster Abbey, at the west end of the nave. According to the testimony of her maid, Margaret Saunders, she was interred with a very fine Brussels lace head, a Holland shift and double ruffles of the same lace, a pair of new kid gloves and her body wrapped in a winding sheet.

This elicited from Pope the well known lines: "Odious! in woe! 'twould a saint were the last words that poor Narcissa spoke; No let a charming chintz and Brussels Wrap my cold limbs and shade my lifeless face; One would not, sure, be frightful when one's dead. And—Betty—give this cheek a little red."

A son of Mrs. Oldfield married Lady Mary Walpole, and the actress was thus connected, through marriage, with the family of the original families in England, including that of the Duke of Wellington.

Today is the birthday of Thomas Pinckney, the American statesman and diplomatist (1759); Marshal Andouche Junot, the French commander (1771); the "Father" and the "Spectator" bears warm tribute to her distinction and her power. Swift, in his "Journal to Stella," mentions her opprobriously as "the drab that acts Cat's daughter."

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