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Man advances only as he overcomes the obstructions of nature, and this can be done only by labor and thought. Labor is the foundation of all. Without labor, and without great labor, progress is impossible.—Ingersoll.

HIS PRISON POLICY

A STATEMENT FROM Salem is that every convict in the Oregon penitentiary is now employed. Before the time of Governor West, 100 to 150 of them were always idle, and their maintenance was a charge upon the taxpayers.

Various devices have been employed by the governor to bring about the changed order. A revised contract that he secured from the stove foundry limited the number of convicts that establishment could employ, and left the balance free to be put at other employment.

Many of the especially selected men have been put at work about the state institutions. Others are making brick which the governor has engaged to deliver. In a few instances, prisoners of exemplary conduct, while in the prison, have been put on their honor and permitted to engage in work for farmers. In nearly all, if not all instances, those employed outside the walls are no longer under guard, being given to understand that better things await them if they behave and that the last resource of the state will be applied in their capture, if they attempt escape.

Before the new order, the idle prisoners were herded in the bull pen inside the walls under the eye of armed guards. It was a position in which their outlaws were kept constantly before them. The hand of society was against them, and naturally their hands were against society. It was the studied drilling into them of the idea that they were lost men, without hope and without chance of a future. A sullen mental mood with a determination to retaliate when again at large was the certain product.

Under the new arrangement, a helping hand is extended. The governor shows himself willing to be their friend and counsellor if they prove themselves worthy. They are given hope and a chance to survive. What is equally to the point, idleness gives way to employment, and employment is one of the best known mental and moral tonics. Every man is at work and earning a part of the great cost the prison has been to the taxpayers.

Governor West's prison policy is daring, and could easily lead to consequences to call out criticism. Its successful execution requires a clear head and the keenest penetration, but his friends believe that Governor West has both.

MR. HANLEY'S PRESCRIPTIONS

EVERY OLD Oregonian, and many of the younger ones, know Mr. William Hanley of Burns—though most know him better as "Bill" Hanley—so-called for short, and for affection. When he tells us of the road to success in handling central eastern Oregon lands he speaks as an expert, and all listen. His more recent title is "vice president of the Oregon Development League." In that capacity his horizon has been widened, and he connects the eastern Oregon sphere with the development of the state at large.

He finds that as the cities and towns of Oregon expand, neither the settlement nor the productiveness of the country have kept, or are keeping equal pace. Since there is no way of holding back towns and cities, even if we wanted to, the settlement and productiveness of the country must be advanced, unless food supplies are to prove inadequate before many years pass.

No one is better acquainted than Mr. Hanley with the possible fertility of the soil of the major part of central eastern Oregon, nor with the increase of population that will follow the opening of that great country by the railroads built or building.

But in dealing with the future this expert uses the adjective "permanent," as the necessary definition for successful settlement. Herein we strike the main difficulty.

"The success of the new settler out in this new country we seek to colonize must be secured by tutoring him in the ways of the climate and soil where he settles. It will not do to allow him to experiment a large part of his lifetime before he learns the possibilities of the soil." Twice the word "new" comes in these sentences—the new settler, the new country. The country no less than the settler must be "tutored." Can both these ends be gained?

The country is being tutored, not only by the expert farmers, un-

dertaken by the agricultural college and the railroads and irrigation companies. The most efficient tutors are old and successful experimenters like Mr. Hanley, who have graduated from experimenting into actual, practical, farming. "Their works do follow them." Such as they must be the backbone of every development league, the small, local, groups of which will take up and make practical the general efforts of the big leagues, commercial clubs, railroads and irrigation companies.

Organize and set going dozens of local leagues, and the first step in "tutoring" the new settlers will be taken. An almost equally important "tutoring" is the natural and insensible result of friendly reception to be given to the new settler and his family in the strange days of their first arrival in the new country. To fall short in this is for the previous inhabitants to inflict injury, it may be unconsciously, on the new arrivals that they never will get over.

The third and last point is to smooth the way of the new settler towards successful development and conduct of his new farm by insuring for him commercial support in the industries he must undertake. His first months, aye, years, will be "hard sledding" for him at the best. Help then will not only keep heart in him, but vastly quicken his progress towards becoming a more than self-supporting member of his new community.

A JOKER

IT IS PROBABLE that senate action on direct election only means postponement. The adoption of the Bristow amendment giving congress control of elections seems in effect more like a knife under the fifth rib than sincere efforts to promote direct choice.

Many of the legislators in the southern states will resent the Bristow amendment. Several southern senators in the final vote went against the resolution because of the change.

It is this southern antipathy to congressional control that a standpat senate used last February to beat the direct election resolution. Though forced by public sentiment to pass the resolution, it is apparent that the Lorimers, Lodges and other captains of bourbonism have worked in the joker that will still save them the precious and profitable privilege of being legislatively elected.

It is probable that there are northern states whose legislatures will reject the amendment. Many of those that voted against the income tax will go against direct election. The two reforms are akin and the same elements that oppose one hate the other.

A few northern states and several southern states will make enough to kill the direct election resolution. It takes 34 states to pass it, and but 13 to beat it. The Lorimerizing of the resolution probably means the postponement for several years of a reform that would otherwise have gone into effect in a year or two. It is the price we pay for having for vice president a pillar of reaction whose deciding vote inserted the subterranean joker.

A HUMAN CANNON BALL

AN AEROPLANE HAS made the tremendous speed of more than 150 miles per hour. During the Paris-to-Madrid race, the winner, at one stage of his journey, flew 77 1/2 miles in 30 minutes.

It is equivalent to flying from Portland to Albany in a little more than the time required to go by streetcar from the business district of this city to Irvington. It is a speed that would take the skyman from Portland to Corvallis and back to McMinnville in about 55 minutes.

It is double the speed made by the winner of the recent auto race at Indianapolis, and a far greater speed than has yet been developed by the fastest locomotive on the smoothest known track. It is a rate of travel that would carry a skyman around the earth in six days and 23 hours.

This great burst of speed was made in a violent wind storm, in which the airman flew at times with the tail of his machine in a perpendicular position. He encountered wind pockets in which his light machine quickly fell several hundred feet. Without warning he would drop earthward so swiftly that nothing but the great height at which he flew saved him from a tragedy. His maintenance of equilibrium, his propulsion through the air at the velocity of a cannon ball, and his final regaining of terra firma in safety, form a thrilling chapter in aeroplaning and suggest new and strange feats yet to be performed by the skyman in the world's latest and most wonderful machine.

COLONEL GOETHALS' PROPHECIES

A FEW DAYS BACK Colonel Goethals appeared in Washington before the house committee on interstate commerce, to inform it on the immediate prospects of the Panama canal, and ask congress to do its part in making preparations ahead of the opening.

He stated that ships would be passing through the canal in July, 1913, in all probability—and that the navigation of the canal would be a certainty in October, 1913. Not that the formal commercial opening would occur two years hence, but that the work had progressed so far that it was possible to say that in two years boats would be passing through it.

The immediate purpose of the presence of Colonel Goethals before the committee was to urge that the schedule of tolls on ships might be settled as speedily as possible. He made a similar request to the committee last year, but no result had followed. There were two main reasons for avoiding further delay, which he proceeded to expound.

The first is that it will take those who are contemplating putting on new lines of boats not less than 18 months to provide the ships. That therefore due notice should be given of the rates of tolls, which would seriously determine such action.

It will be remembered that the opening of the Suez canal introduced a type of steamships, new in many respects, to meet the required conditions of less draft, wider beam and varied construction in other respects. Probably similar experiences will be met at Panama. But a somewhat startling warning was conveyed to the committee by Colonel Goethals. He believes that the long standing opposition of the transcontinental railroads to the canal is still operating. He fears that much needed legislation to provide for the development of the canal when and after it is opened will be obstructed by the agencies of the railroads, hidden and indirect. He wants the ground cleared now and for good to forestall difficulty hereafter. The committee decided to investigate the matter fully and at once.

show that the per capita consumption of water in unmetred cities is approximately three times as great as in metred cities. They establish that in unmetred cities nearly twice as much water is wasted as is actually used. That is to say, the unmetred sale of water is an unbusinesslike and very costly system. Its expected effect in Portland is a predicted water famine.

A man under sentence of death was, at his own request, permitted to umpire a game of baseball between two convicts, nine the other day. Having been a former league player he doubtless saw in the hazards of the umpire's job a chance to cheat the gallows.

A Chicago man died from the effects of tight shoes, and a Yonkers citizen was choked to death by a high collar. Unlike woman, man is not strong enough to buffet the exactions of fashion.

It is all clear to us now. A learned professor, having made exhaustive diagnosis, reports that the month of May, 1911, was a victim of thermostat. Many of us thought so, all along.

The train of Queen Mary's coronation gown is 60 feet long. What if Jack Johnson should step on it?

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

The Australian Viewpoint
Portland, June 11.—To the Editor of The Journal—For getting a wrong view and finding fault with things the average globe trotting Englishman is easily first. He is a professional knocker. He goes about the world with a chronic grudge and himself dismissible to everybody and "one" knocking the people, the country, the climate and everything he can think of, his principal cause of complaint being that they are "no-English." One of this tribe, a Charles Stewart, has been telling us what he thinks he knows about Australia and has discovered that that country is thinking seriously of separating from the British empire and joining the United States. Well, we have to go a long way from home to get information about our own country, for it is the first I have heard of. It is quite true that there is a growing lack of sympathy between Australia and England, and this is not to be wondered at for Australia seems afflicted with too many of the aforesaid globe trotters who stay a week, get some wrong impressions and rush into print about the "heavenly country, how so patriotic." He does not know the true nature of Australia, and is not loyal. Australians are intensely patriotic, that is, they love their own country but do not see why they should enthuse over an effete monarchial form of government, and don't care who knows it. Mr. Stewart, who is familiar with Australian affairs, says among other things, "On Australia's side the tie has been one purely of interest," that Australia is not strong enough to remain entirely independent, but that she needs British protection, and that England would not care except for the looks of it if Australia broke away from the empire. "The colonial pockets are empty. The colonies are not strong enough to stand alone at present, it is also true that England, apart from the rest of the empire, could not stand alone, and it is doubly true that on England's side the tie is purely one of interest. The interests and the protection of mutual, and Australia realizes her dependence on the rest of the empire. Instead of being an expensive encumbrance, she has been a source of great wealth for British merchants, and has been worth protection and the immense profits she has yielded these exploiters. For example, the value of gold won up to 1909 from one state alone (Victoria) was \$1,368,480,000. Where is that gold now? England has not a cent of it. Australia has several beautiful holes in the ground. And at present Australia is a self supporting country and does not cost England a cent for protection. Now the wall is in the air. The interests and the protection of mutual, and Australia realizes her dependence on the rest of the empire. 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