THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

C. S. JACKSON.....Publisher

Published every evening (except Sunday) and every Sunday morning at The Journal Building, 10th and Yamhill sts., Portland, Or.

Entered at the postoffice at Portland, Or., for transmission through the mails as second class matter.

TELEPHONES — Main 7173; Home, A-6051. All departments reached by these numbers. Tell the operator what department you want.

FOREIGN ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE: Benjamin & Kentnor Co., Brunswick Building 225 Fifth avenue, New York; 1218 People's Gas Building, Chicago.

Subscription Terms by mail or to any address in the United States or Mexico:

DAILY
One year.....$5.00 | One month.....$ .50

SUNDAY
One year.....$2.50 | One month.....$ .25

DAILY AND SUNDAY
One year.....$7.50 | One month.....$ .65

The happiest lot for a man, as far as birth is concerned, is that it should be such as to give him but little occasion to think much about it.—Whately.

THE EATON REFORMS

THERE is much merit in the program of Representative Eaton for reform of legislative procedure.

The various changes would undoubtedly strike at the root of many legislative abuses. Reduction of the number of committees, limiting the period for introduction of bills, requiring bills to be promptly reported and other proposed changes commend themselves to all familiar with legislative practices.

There are committees on the list of the house that never meet. They were doubtless provided originally to enable the speaker to fulfill his campaign promises for his position, or as panaceas to members who were promised places that went to another promisee.

The present tendency is to take the power of committee appointment out of the hands of presiding officers. It was recently done in the national house of representatives by substituting a committee on committees, such as Mr. Eaton proposes in the house at Salem.

Even without the appointment of committees, a speaker has very large powers. By exercise of parliamentary discretion, by recognition of members and by other use of presiding authority, he can have large leeway in directing the course of legislation. When to all this is added the power to appoint committees, which, in effect, gives him power to establish a legislative machine, an aggressive speaker can exert almost unlimited power in shaping and directing legislation.

In average circumstances, it is too great a power to be exercised by one man. It is, in effect, a generous surrender by the great body of members of what is really their own powers to the speaker and the very few men on whom he bestows the important chairmanships.

Ultimately, the Eaton reform is likely to come into vogue. Because Mr. McArthur is without a rival in this instance for the speakership, and for the reason that early organization and prompt appointment of committees seems assured, there may be unwillingness by the members to adopt the Eaton change at this session. In fact, it is known that it is not against Mr. McArthur, but against the system and with a larger view to the future session than the present, that Mr. Eaton urges his committee on committees.

The Journal believes it to be a reform that should come into vogue, and in time to apply to the next selection of speaker.

A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM

IT looks as if the psychological man had arrived at the psychological time. Looking into the faces of J. Ogden Armour and other multi-millionaires and millionaires among 200 banqueters at the Chicago Commercial club Saturday night, Woodrow Wilson said:

> The future business of the United States does not depend upon the government, but upon the business men of the United States.

The utterance is prophecy. It is founded on an interpretation of the election returns and late political events. It was the president-elect acting as spokesman for the American people, explaining to the generalissimos of millions what to expect.

The American government is going to cease functioning as godfather to specially favored private business. We have found out that government, in trying to make one business pay, harmed many other businesses. In trying to help Peter, it robbed Paul and all Paul's friends.

In trying to make government a government to serve business instead of a government to serve mankind, a few men have been made over rich and many over poor. The amassing of Morgan's great fortune through special privileges and unlawful combinations, made millions toil to create the profits he gathered in. To create the colossal profits raked in by Carnegie through extortionate tariffs and unlawful trust operations, other millions had to toil.

The wealth for these great fortunes doesn't grow on vines. It has to be dug with hands out of the ground, or be grown by the care of hands in the fields, or be chopped by hands out of the forests.

As never before, the American people now know that it was a fearful blunder when government set out to be a wet nurse for the business activities of private individuals. It is that conviction that has filled the country with deep-seated unrest in a time of prosperity. That unrest is what enabled Mr. Roosevelt to rip open the Republican party in 1912. That is why Mr. Wilson's utterance to the Chicago millionaires is prophecy.

Mr. Wilson's utterance is more. It is the president-elect's utterance. It is semi-official notice to Big Business that it can no longer depend for its profits upon the government, but must depend upon its business men. It is the voice of the American White House after March 4.

It is a new declaration of freedom.

FROM HERDER TO GROWER

FROM cow herder to the executive mansion is the life story of the new governor of Kansas.

Incidentally, he is the second Democrat to be elected governor of that state in 50 years. The other was Governor George W. Glick, who was elected 30 years ago over John P. St. John, running for a third term.

The new governor, who is George H. Hodges, was elected with but 29 votes to spare. His selection on the face of the election returns was made the basis of a bitter contest, but it ended, after a three weeks' investigation, when the Republican state canvassing board confirmed his credentials to the office.

In early boyhood, the future governor of the state and his brother herded the town cows of Olathe, out on the big unfenced prairies at $1 per month per cow. They drove the animals out to the grassy plains at morning, watched over them during the day, and returned with them in the evening.

On account of the poverty of the family, there was little time for the Hodges boys to attend school. When George and his brother were old enough to do manual labor, both learned the lathers trade, and became experts.

Ultimately, George tired of working for wages and determined to enter business for himself. He was without money, but his reputation was excellent, and when he applied to the local banker for a loan, he was given credit for $2500 with which to start a lumber yard.

The total receipts of the business for the first three weeks was 25 cents. To perfect himself for conducting his business, young Hodges studied bookkeeping and penmanship at night, and became highly proficient in both. Today, he owns nine lumber yards and is doing a business of a quarter of a million a year.

From cow herding to the state house is an inspiration to American youth.

PARCELS POST A REALITY

THE instant start of postal savings banks into vigorous life is being more than paralleled by the parcels post.

An example is in the issue of a Philadelphia paper of January 5. On a page set apart for parcels post advertisements on that day—the fifth after business opened—there appear 33 advertisements of articles of personal use or luxury, 15 of furniture and appliances for the house, and 34 offering for sale poultry, eggs, chicken house fittings and equipment, and chicken feeds. The same paper describes the preparation made by the officials of the postoffice there to handle the expected business, and the swamping of the office in the flood poufing in on it.

Thus the machinery for direct communication between producer or vendor and the consumer has been brought into being. Its usefulness will depend on proof that producers will send precisely what is ordered, and when it is ordered, and that quality and price make the trade desirable on both sides. The first experiments will be to many of us decisive as to whether the new method is to be habitually used.

The express companies are going to give Uncle Sam a run for his money, and they are not weak antagonists. Before the new law came into effect the government got the unprofitable long haul, the express companies the profitable short haul. Now the government cuts under the old express rates materially on short hauls. So the express companies will compete for the long haul business, and their rates are already advertised.

Experience will soon show if the government rates are reasonably sufficient to make the service pay. If so it will be up to the express people to meet them, and the people will profit.

WOMAN'S LIFE AND WORK

IN this year, 1913, the Dutch nation will commemorate the centenary of the establishment of the Netherlands as an independent monarchy in 1813.

In one exposition, progress in maritime affairs will be shown in the harbor of Amsterdam.

But a distinct exposition, to which the name of "The Woman" has been given by the promoters, has been successfully organized.

A tract of six acres in the southeastern quarter of Amsterdam has been leased. An old farm house on the river bank will be carefully converted and enlarged into an exact reproduction of a substantial Dutch farm house of the better class of a hundred years ago. It will be filled with antique furniture and equipped in all respects like the home of a well-to-do Dutch farmer of the early years of the last century.

The life of that day will be reproduced. The cows will be milked and the butter made. The garden will be cultivated and vegetables and flowers grown. The family wash will be put through in old fashioned style. Vegetables and fruit will be preserved, sausages, cheese, soap, candles, will be made. The employments of the house mistress and the maids will be followed through the day. The life and surroundings of women in poorer circumstances will also be shown, and their employments as servants, as teachers and as tradeswomen.

In a separate and distinct part of the six acres another building, the largest of the group, will contain as full an exhibit as possible of the Dutch lady's life in 1913. The scope of her life will be shown. Her work and interests will be seen in the world outside her home, in education, in art, in charity, in industrial instruction, in nursing and hygiene for mother and child, in eugenics, in woman's clubs.

To make this last complete a special hall will be given up to the propaganda for women's rights, the suffrage included.

Thousands of Americans are expected to visit this unique display. They will bring home a clean cut picture of what a hundred years has done for Woman.

AFTER TWELVE YEARS

AFTER 12 years, the pure food and dairy laws of Oregon are under a new administrator.

The position is one of the most important in Oregon. It can be of enormous helpfulness to the dairy interests. It can exert leadership on such dairymen as need leading. It can be of enormous assistance in raising the standard of dairy products in this state.

The position can render high service in protecting human life in Oregon against poisoned and rotten foods. It can detect adulterants and punish adulterators. It can be of untold helpfulness in purifying the milk supply of Oregon cities.

The responsibilities committed to Mr. Mickle by the people of the state are very great. There is no use to remind him or anybody else of the past in his position. It is history now, and the curtain has been rung down. It destroyed Mr. Bailey politically, as it will destroy Mr. Mickle politically under like circumstances.

The Journal has faith in Mr. Mickle. He has made a good beginning by ignoring the canons of politics. He has appointed assistants who opposed him for election, an unusual but a promising act.

Mr. Mickle can succeed by strict application of the laws of Oregon. That is what he is paid for. That is what his deputies and assistants are paid for. He enters public life under the most favorable circumstances, and is to be congratulated upon the opportunity he has for rendering high service to the state.

A BEATEN ROAD

FEW more important duties confront the legislature than to reconstruct the system by which the circuit courts attempt to administer justice.

By unanimous voice, the bar of Oregon has declared that something should be done. A committee has been named by the association to go to Salem on a roving commission, or in general terms, to do the best possible in the way of change.

It would seem that none of the Oregon revisers has gone to the two great precedents of the recent past. Common Law procedure in England prior to 1870, was a dusty mass of book learning, going back even behind the days of Chief Justice Hale. Justice was obscured, delayed, even drowned in the slough of technicalities.

The Common Law Procedure Act of 1870 did for English suitors, lawyers and judges what we have been praying the law reformers of 1913 would do for Oregon.

It cleared the decks of a mass of rubbish. It substituted a short, simple, statement of the facts of the dispute on which the plaintiff must go into court. The defendant is compelled to an equally simple answer. On those two documents issue is joined and the case is tried. It is an unusually complicated action the statement of which, pro and con, will not go on one sheet of paper. And the "wayfaring man, even though a fool, could not err therein."

If the legislators have grace to adapt to our code the Common Law Procedure Act of England, half their law reconstructing will be done.

The supreme court of the United States has practically done for equity procedure and practice on this side of the Atlantic what was done in the old English court of chancery after Charles Dickens had dragged to the light the obsolete iniquities of which Jarndyce vs. Jarndyce was a not much exaggerated example.

If the legislature will set aside old prejudices and act with courage as well as decision, this new session may be memorable.

NO MONEY FOR BREAD

AT the Pisgah home the other morning, there was no money with which to buy bread for breakfast.

The Pisgah mother went out among the down-and-outs in the institution and with the pennies and nickels they happened to have, managed to secure a supply of bread for the morning meal.

The home is a place where there is asylum for sick and needy men, for those seeking to overcome the drink habit, for men afflicted with rheumatism or just out of hospitals, and for others in the long list of the stranded and friendless. It is a shelter place and rest house for the broken down, the knocked out and the homeless.

In a city so rich as is Portland, a Pisgah home rendering luckless men such a service, should not be without money with which to buy bread for breakfast.

Letters From the People

(Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department should be written on only one side of the paper, should not exceed 300 words in length and must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender. If the writer does not desire to have the name published, he should so state.)

Growth of Socialist Vote.

Portland, Or., Jan. 11.—To the Editor of The Journal—The statement is often made that progressivism is the cure for Socialism, and one of the supposed proofs cited is the small increase in the Socialist vote at the end of Roosevelt's second term. It is apparently forgotten that the vote had quadrupled at the end of his first term. Evidently the cause lies outside of the presidential policy previous to an election. On an average the Socialist vote more than doubles every four years. In 1896 it was 36,275 and in 1900 it was 96,116. With no unusual political condition it would have been between 200,000 and 300,000 in 1904, but the conservatives captured the Democratic party and nominated Parker. Many of the Populistic followers of Bryan who had no faith in Roosevelt voted the Socialist ticket ahead of their time and ran its vote up to 402,321 in 1904. This was as large a figure as the normal increase would have shown by 1908. In that year Bryan was again the Democratic nominee and Taft inherited "My Policies," and the support of the Roosevelt following. There was little cause for a mere protest vote, and the 420,973 ballots cast for Debs was a little more than a doubling of the vote each four years since 1896.

The nomination of a conservative Democrat in 1912 would have meant a much larger Socialist vote than was cast, but it would not have been a real Socialist vote. If Woodrow Wilson said that only 20 per cent of the Socialist vote was Socialist and 80 per cent protest against prevailing conditions, it is evident he knows more about some other things than he does about Socialism.

Previous to the last election the dues-paying membership of the Socialist party was 15 per cent of the votes cast in November. Only a small per centage of the Socialists of the United States are dues-paying members of the party. With Wilson in the role of a Progressive, Taft a self confessed conservative and Roosevelt on a platform largely composed of "first demands" of the Socialist party platform, there was no reason for any but real Socialists voting the Socialist ticket.

If Progressive government is an antidote for Socialism, how is it the party is so strong in countries like Germany and Switzerland? How is it that in New Zealand, the most progressive of all states, Socialism is growing up from amidst progressivism?

Those who believe that Socialism is merely an animating principle for blind discontent are simply fooling themselves. Did you ever attend a political meeting where papers, pamphlets and books dealing with political and economic questions were sold among the audience? If you have not, it is unlikely that you have ever attended a Socialist hall meeting.

Last winter the National Socialist Lyceum bureau gave a series of lectures throughout the country. They proved such a success that the enterprise is to be repeated this winter and all who wish to hear an able discussion of our present economic problems by authorized representatives of the National Socialist party will have an opportunity to do so in Portland during February.

Several times recently the statement has appeared in a Portland paper that Socialists were ignorant and economic subjects. Now that is a joke, even though not so intended. Few Democratic, Republican or Progressive working people ever read books or pamphlets on economics—at least they do not do so and remain old party followers. Most Socialists are former Democrats, Republicans or Progressives who have studied economics. If, as a result of this study that made them Socialists, they are now "ignorant," what were they before? W. M.

Common Law Marriages.

Edgewater, Wash., Jan. 9, 1913.—To the Editor of The Journal—The talk on common law marriages is a good thing. A. David's talk is good. But why wait one year before making them husband and wife? An innocent girl is started on her road to ruin the time she gives herself up, body and soul, to the man that has gained her affections and confidence. So why wait till she has been on her road one year before giving her the protection of a common law marriage? A girl that has gone wrong can turn off from this road herself, but it is harder to turn off from than it was to keep from starting on in the first place.

My remedy is this: When a girl finds herself in trouble and the party responsible will not marry her or has left for parts unknown, grant to her, her parents or her guardian the right to furnish sufficient proof to the judge of the superior court as to the identity of her betrayer, that the judge may thereupon declare her lawfully married to the man whose responsibility has been so established. C. O. W.

I. W. W. Recruits.

Portland, Or., Jan. 11, 1913.—To the Editor of The Journal—In an article in Public Opinion I read that Giovanitti, the I. W. W. leader in the Lawrenceville strike, was at one time a Christian "city missionary" to his people, but has now fully accepted the "no government" motto of the I. W. W. I happen to be acquainted with others who have gone the same road. Among them at least two, who are leaders among the I. W. W. today, are university men, and well educated. It is obvious that such men do not enter into such a movement unless they find themselves forced thereto, and it is just such men as these that are the bitterest enemies of society among the I. W. W. The question arises, What arouses this enmity?

The Journal, as a matter of charity, is running "want ads" for men seeking employment, free of charge, where such men are unable to pay for the ads. This is good as far as it goes, but the man who has once been forced to accept "charity," even such as this, has received a blow to his self-respect, and unless he be an utter weakling must in some way recover that self-respect, to be again a "man." Every man feels that he has a "right to opportunity." Beat him to his knees and compel him to accept as a gift what every instinct of his manhood claims as a right, and you make of him at once an enemy. This is what society does, and it is from such men as these that the I. W. W. gains its strength. Having declared war on society, they are now "enemies," and there is no loss of self-respect in "preying" off the enemy. This is largely the psychological factor in the situation. Society is daily making bitter enemies, and the I. W. W. is organizing them. It is not the association that is the important factor. It is the spirit of revolt, and for this society is itself responsible. No man wants as a "charity" that which he claims as his own by right, and the "opportunity" to provide for his own wants and those of his family is every man's "right," of which society has deprived him, but which it offers to partially restore, as a gift, if he will beg for it. Thus society puts a premium on sycophancy and degrades manhood. What recourse is there left for that man who cannot subdue his spirit of manhood, but to declare war on society and join its declared enemies? This is the seed of revolution and the "revolution" is not far in the future, unless some of our so-called statesmen get busy in the way of making life livable for us "common people." It is quite possible "constructive" legislation may "injure" some property interests and perhaps hurt a good many people, but manhood must be protected first. If it is not, all property interests will collapse with it. As Lincoln said, "This nation cannot endure half slave and half free," and this remains true, even if the "slave" half be white and not black.

ONE OF THE UNEMPLOYED.

Over-Zealous Mr. Coffey.

Portland, Jan. 9.—To the Editor of The Journal—Mr. John B. Coffey was not elected to the legislature but to the office of county clerk. Therefore his plan to propose a law exempting women from the necessity of declaring their age, when registering as voters, seems to me rather bumptious. Let him tend to his knitting.

Why should any woman be excused from complying with the requirements of the law governing voters? A man must declare his age, though it may not be pleasant for him to do so if he is on the shady side of 50. Why a different rule for women? They have been clamoring for equality—let them have it. Equality means equal obligations as well as equal privileges. That is the kind of equality which I think the intelligent suffragists have been contemplating. As for the others, they should understand that they must comply with the same rules which men are required to observe, and if they fail to tell the truth as to their age or any other matter, they must expect the same consequences that are meted out to men. Meantime let Mr. Coffey attend to the duties of county clerk.

R. Z. BRONSON.

Retains His Land Rights.

Vancouver, Wash., Jan. 8.—To the Editor of The Journal—Will you please find out for me if a man who has deserted from the navy, but who has given himself up and served out a sentence and been dishonorably discharged, can take up a homestead and legally hold government land?

(United States District Attorney McCourt states that a man dishonorably discharged from the army or navy is still a citizen of the United States and, as such, is eligible to take up government land, and hold it.)

COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

None of the 40 days should be wasted.

* *

The very rich and the very poor care little about laws.

* *

Now, gentlemen of the legislature, remember those promises.

* *

As for its poor, helpless self, Adrianople has nothing to say.

* *

Dr. Wilson needs to be a first class, level headed thinker these days.

* *

There is no danger of the legislature appropriation bill being overlooked.

* *

Why not pattern after reported British pleading—very brief and simple?

* *

Here we Progressives are, the Mountain, says T. R.; you-alls are Mohamets.

* *

That $14,000,000 will give a big army of workingmen a job for quite a while.

* *

No theologian or philosopher ever tells why one is taken and another left.

* *

More real estate cultivators, in proportion to real estate dealers, are desirable.

* *

Probably the marching squads of woman suffragists will not help their cause any.

* *

The Democrats can do as they please easily in the house, but the senate—there's the rub.

* *

Many people are asking: Shouldn't the higher courts be relieved of petty cases altogether?

* *

Though these be Democratic times, Democrats are "mighty sca'ce" in the Oregon legislature.

* *

Nothing can but briefly discourage those Californians; they've sunshine inside as well as out.

* *

There is no place on the Pacific coast—or on any other—that Portland would move to if she could.

* *

Washington may have a state matrimonial agency; thousands of women would want a job in it.

* *

Not very long ago Portland was lacking in theatres, but if all reported projects are carried out it will be supplied soon with enough theatres for a long time to come.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

A ladies' orchestra has been organized at Klamath Falls, composed of the following: Mrs. A. Y. Tindall, piano; Mrs. Fred Barlow, violin; Miss Faye Hogue, clarinet; Mrs. Allen, cornet.

* *

Eugene Register: That Springfield man who wrote to Spokane for a wife ought to be mobbed. The man who would send out of the state for a wife is worse than the one who buys his flour and sugar of a mail order house. He should be loyal to home industry.

* *

Rev. Joseph Herbert, formerly of Walla Walla, passed through Baker recently enroute to Harney county, where he will take up missionary work. He will be the second Protestant minister in that field, according to the Baker Democrat. Mr. Herbert is a Presbyterian.

* *

Paisley Press: Why not capitalize our wonderful climate? Many sections of the west not nearly so blessed are constantly holding before prospective settlers the beauties of a climate that in their estimation cannot be excelled. But we have the real article, the only original.

* *

Dallas Itemizer: If there are any shortcomings in the paper this week, lay it to the fact that we attended the Jacksonian banquet in Portland last night, at which there was such a feast of reason and flow of soul that we are personally non compos mentis by inoculation.

* *

Hillsboro Argus: Perhaps old Dundee Reid's dream of a Hillsboro-Astoria railway will yet be realized, and one can but appreciate the old veteran's life ambition when he looks to the north of Hillsboro and notes that cleft in the woods trimmed out by him twenty-two years ago. Prophetic, anyway?

* *

Eugene Guard: Before another New Year we hope to have a still better plant, installed in a new and modern building erected especially to house a newspaper, printing and publishing business. Work upon this permanent home for The Guard will be commenced within a few weeks.

* *

Bandon Recorder: Two railroads are coming. Settlers are coming. Prosperity is coming to those who take advantage of the great opportunity offered just now to homeseekers in Coos county and business opportunities in Bandon. Vegetables and fruits grow here in abundance. Three to thirty acres produces a comfortable living.

SOME HOME-MADE SAINTS

By Dr. Frank Crane.

There are some saints who are not of the calendar.

They perform no miracles but the miracles of love and gentleness, for which the world is ahungered and athirst.

Their shrines are not in the proud cathedrals, but in human hearts; happy thoughts are the candles burning before their altars; tender memories are the votive offerings made there, and shame for our littleness and resolves to be nobler are the incense that fills the air of the place.

There is St. Jim, the Sunny; he doesn't amount to much, but we could spare a lot of useful people rather than him, with his stubborn good humor.

And St. Lizzie, who sweeps in the corners.

And St. Carrie, who picks up after everybody.

And St. Ted, who, though he is but 9 years old, is careful of his mother, cleans the snow from the back porch for her, brings in wood and water, and looks after her in all ways.

And St. Sally, the grandmother, who has the heaven's gift of smoothing out misunderstandings, untangling family knots, and making crooked tempers work together.

And St. Bill, the whistler, who carries the evening paper and pipes cheer into many a listener.

And St. Mary Jane, who makes hot biscuit and wonderful bendy sugar cookies, and laughs when the children rob her.

And St. Gertrude, who will not drive her husband into the back yard to smoke, but sets him by the fire in her best room and says she likes the smell of a pipe (and like as with my Uncle Toby, when he hears this little fib, the recording angel always coughs and pretends he did not hear).

And St. Henry, who really thinks his wife is the most beautiful woman in the world, and the sweetest of angels, although she is a most distressing person.

And St. Ralph, who never comes home without something—peanuts or gum drops or a red apple—in his pocket for the small house bandits to pillage.

And St. Walter, who is bullet proof to "the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune," and takes all the buffets of fate upon his shield of "Never Mind."

And St. Charlie, who gives his wife an allowance, so that she will never have to ask for money.

And St. John, who, though he be a bearded father, plays marbles of nights with the boys upon the dining room floor and goes fishing with them in summer.

And St. Martha, who dresses for her husband and household as carefully as for company.

And St. Bess, who has a dozen babies, is glad because of every one of them and would rather mother them than wear diamonds at the opera.

And St. Alice, who is endowed by fate with the marvelous faculty of getting along with everybody.

And St. Lije, whom every one imposes upon, and who likes it, and seems to seek for opportunities to do everything for everybody.

And St. May, who is an invalid, but whom no one has ever heard complain.

And St. Ella, who never repeats scandal.

And St. Tom, who never speaks of other folks' business, nor tells any one of the many secrets he knows.

And St. Mike, the tramp, the same who was once discovered "helping a lame dog over a stile."

And St. Cicely, the old maid, who, having no babies of her own, mothered the children of her seven sisters, and having no man to love her, became the sweetheart of the world.

All whom may God bless, and their number increase!

Pointed Paragraphs

Men who make history encourage the book agents.

* *

If ignorance is bliss, this ought to be a happy old world.

* *

Good luck and bad habits are seldom on speaking terms.

* *

We can't help feeling sorry for a millionaire with indigestion.

* *

It's queer what funny things some men see when they are blind drunk.

* *

Women are always pretending they can't deny their husbands anything.

* *

Ever notice how willing people are to assist you when you don't need help?

* *

The man who says he never had a show probably never had the price of admission.

* *

It's easy for a woman with a long tongue to make short work of another woman's reputation.

* *

It's awfully hard to convince a man that he is getting a square deal.

The Stotesburys' Party

From the Detroit News-Tribune.

The Stotesburys—the Stotesburys of Philadelphia—know them? No? Then "he" is J. Pierpont Morgan's partner, and "she" is engaged in the delectable occupation of astounding the native society of Philadelphia by an ascending series of entertainments which, according to their present status, promise to end in something most magnificently unimaginable. Mrs. Stotesbury's mission in life is to cheer up the millionaire set of that city—give them something to think about and look forward to, coax their jaded palates, and rouse them to coherent speech. What's $100,000 to Mrs. Stotesbury for a little Thursday night party?

It would be all right if it weren't for the confounded newspapers. They had to butt in and describe the blowout, which would make a Roman Nero's feast look like a ten-twent-thirt show in comparison with Maude Adams. The papers told about the rare wines, the rich viands, whole mines of diamonds and precious stones, imported flowers, bespangled servants, foreign musicians, and the like—totalling it all, in a business-like way, to an enormous figure.

Now, the mill hands read newspapers just the same as anyone else does. And the mill district isn't very far from the Stotesburys. At their very best, times are never very good in the mill district. Work? Oh, yes; plenty of work. Work for everybody—mother, father, and toddling children. Work! Why, if work were wealth the mill hands would be giving blowouts like Stotesburys. Work! Lord bless you, there's work to burn. The haggard men, the hollow-cheeked women, and stunted children speak the plentifulness of work.

Now, into the hovels of the mill district (and what pitiable squalor one sees in the eastern mill town) came the news of Mrs. Stotesbury's "brilliant effort." It is mighty pleasant reading after a day in the mill, your wife with her head down on the table drowsing in her weariness, and your children sleeping in the corners of the room—oh, yes, there's great joy over the brilliancy of Mrs. Stotesbury's success. Let's see, let's see—the cost of the music would just about put you and your family on a nice farm in the west! . . . and one of those diamonds! . . .

So, some of the mill hands sat down and wrote to Mrs. Stotesbury. No, their stationery wasn't the style—neither was their language. The mill hands were positively rough in their expressions. No one has said they didn't speak truth, but still they did not observe the usage of good society. So, Mrs. Stotesbury is frightened. So was an ancient king, when he looked up from his banquet table and saw a handwriting on the wall! And the brilliant series of entertainments will probably come to an end.

But who will ever be able to explain why—why—a human being, who knows that a few blocks away other human beings are hanging by the very shreds of life—who will ever be able to explain why such a person will dangle before the eyes of the others the luxuries, the extravagance, the oriental lavishness of exotic entertainment? Courteously speaking, it is bad taste. Humanely speaking, it is wanton cruelty. Socially speaking, it is rashly dangerous. You may brutalize the mill hands by hard work and low wages, but you'll never be able to blot out of their brains the power of comparison. And the more brutalized they become, the less rational will their comparisons be. The problem of society today is to deal with those who have been compelled to be below the normal by an unjust social system—and when thoughtless women further accentuate this condition of affairs by running mad like the Stotesburys have done, it is time for someone to call a halt.

Odd Tales Vouched For By Oregon Newspapers

Bears Thick in the Wallowa.

Joseph Herald: While coming to town Friday from his Snake river ranch James Wisenor noticed fresh bear signs at a cave in the mountains on Double creek, near the mouth of Freezeout. He notified Charley and Ira Marks, residing nearby, and together they visited the cave, the Marks boys taking their rifles along.

Mr. Wisenor having great confidence in his "winning ways and charming voice," remarked that he would have Mr. Bruin out of his hole in a jiffy, and told the boys to get ready to shoot.

Then Jim backed off a few feet and in a coarse but dignified voice that could be heard a mile, he yelled, "Good morning, Mr. Bear; a Merry Christmas to You!"

In an instant the bear poked his head out—and went to bear heaven by means of Charley's rifle bullet.

They skinned the big black fellow and Jim brought the skin to town and presented it to his old friend, Dr. Barnard, to be used as a rug.

Recently the forest rangers and game wardens, in estimating the number of wild animals in Oregon, credited Wallowa county with only 150 bears. Mr. Wisenor believes this is surely a mistake, and that 1500 would be nearer the correct number. He thinks there are fully 150 bears within 30 miles of his home.

Auto Never Breaks Down Now.

Joseph Herald: Roy Hyman of Little Sheep creek has traded for an old rattletrap automobile, put a tongue in it and hauls it about with a team of horses. He says if a lot of others would do likewise they could make better speed with their autos.

If a man has any sense at all it shows up before he gets engaged or after he is married.

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