THE JOURNAL

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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The best way to secure future happiness is to be as happy as is rightfully possible today.
—Charles William Eliot.

PRACTICAL PATRIOTISM

PORTLAND extends a hearty welcome to Dr. William H. Allen, Director of the Bureau of Municipal Research of New York City. While the work of this bureau is of comparatively recent origin, already twenty cities have adopted its plans. Take away from the officials the ability to make a mystery of their work and to retard and obstruct the city's business and you have helped solve the problem of good city government. When a man is selected to office, keep the spotlight on him so that if his work is good the public may show their approval and if he is an unfit official the public may show its disapproval.

Very wisely, the bureau has refrained from entering politics as such for it has been realized that this would alienate many good men. It also refrains from giving advice along political lines as it is recognized that it is best to let people do their own thinking. Show them the facts and their judgment will usually be good.

It is universally accepted that city, county, state or national work costs more than if done by an individual or a firm and yet the very reverse should be true. It is largely because of our indifference and our wasteful and inefficient methods that this is the case.

"A month's work," says Dr. Allen, "in deciding what the town wants is worth twelve months in trying to remedy conditions after you have adopted them by popular vote. Under present conditions it is difficult for you to get good men to be made a sacrifice and to receive what men in office usually get—the public disapproval. Intelligent publicity will remedy this. For me to tell you that your city government can be improved by the adopting of modern methods would be unnecessary. It would be like 'Carrying coals to Newcastle' or 'Epithets to Oyster Bay.'"

What the Bureau of Municipal Research does is to restore city government to the hands of the citizens and not to turn it over to officials who upon their election lose all responsibility to those who put them in office. What we need is to make every point of our city government so clear, so plain, that every citizen can understand it.

Portland is a responsive city and if every citizen understands that the public officials are working for the interest of all of the citizens they will take even more pride in Portland and be more loyal to her welfare.

COMMERCIALIZED VICE

SIMULTANEOUSLY with the disclosures before the Illinois senate commission as to the recruiting of the victims of the vice traffic from underpaid women and girls comes the report of the testimony given in New York before the grand jury now sitting and the district attorney.

When thieves fall out, the old proverb says, honest men come by their own. Accused policemen of all grades are telling the story of their extortions, and divulging name after name of their comrades in wickedness and of the keepers of gambling dens and disorderly resorts whom they bled. On the other side these denizens of the black under-world are coming voluntarily or unwillingly into the light, and disclosing the tolls they paid for the privilege of conducting their dens of evil without fear of the law that they defied.

Incidentally these harpies have to tell of the profits which made the payment of these great sums of hush money possible. Mary Stacom, aged 74, told the grand jury that fifty years of her life had been spent as a keeper of disorderly resorts. She is said to be a wealthy woman now. A woman named Annie Gray, backed by a former sheriff of New York, is reputed to have gathered a fortune of over $100,000 as keeper of several of the most noted resorts in the city. Think of it! A hundred thousand dollars, where each one stands for a downward step towards hell of the miserable women who voluntarily or by compulsion contributed to the fortune of Annie Gray. The "most noted resorts"! Kept open for many years through the partnership of the supposed guardians of law and order with the depraved panderers to vice.

The public conscience responds with mingled disgust and indignation to these disclosures. The immediate result of pending inquiries in New York is that not new laws, but a clean and courageous enforcement of existing laws will close these "noted resorts," cut off their tainted profits, shut up those gambling hells, and purify the city at any rate from the outward and visible signs of such offenses.

Is this that we see merely a passing breeze of reform, that will die and leave as stagnant an air as before it rose? Or is it an uprising of decent, self-respecting, city-loving, law-respecting people who will spend lives, if necessary, to see that this vile snake of commercialized vice is not merely scotched but killed.

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

THE president's declaration of the principles which will govern the relation of the United States to all the republics of this hemisphere during his term of office gives tokens of his own handiwork.

It bears the same recognition of basic principles, the same clearness of definition, the same simplicity of diction, the same recognition and assumption of responsibility, which are familiar to students of his writings and of his speeches.

It is an offer of hearty friendship and of cordial cooperation to all these peoples without exception, but it declares the terms on which that friendship and cooperation must be founded.

Cooperation must be "supported at every turn by the orderly processes of just government, based upon law, not upon arbitrary or irregular force." * * * "There can be no freedom without order based upon law and upon the public conscience and approval." "We have no sympathy with those who seek to seize the power of government to advance their own personal interests or ambition."

Preference as friends is reserved for those who "act in the interest of peace and honor, who protect private rights and respect the restraints of constitutional provision."

Cooperation and friendship so gained will be durable, and soundly grounded when the formal disclaimer of the United States is taken into account of any ambition in Central or Southern America except the forwarding of "the lasting interests of the peoples of the two continents, the security of governments intended for the people and for no special group or interest, and the development of personal and trade relationships between the two continents which shall redound to the profit and advantage of both and interfere with the rights and interest of neither."

A human note is heard through the entire address which distinguishes it from the common run of state papers, and an impression of sincerity is conveyed which harmonizes with the character of the president as his own people know him.

SALEM'S NEW BRIDGE

THE opening of the Portland, Eugene & Eastern bridge at Salem justifies the big celebration proposed by the capital city for Saturday next.

A five span steel bridge across the Willamette river is a costly engineering work. That now in question marks the importance to the electric system which has built it of such a link in their plans for gridironing the Willamette valley, with east and west lines as well as with the main lines from north to south. In its central position Salem becomes the natural market for the farmers of three counties, to whom cheap, rapid, and regular transportation by the electric road suggests solid prosperity.

It supplies another inducement for the progressive farmer to open up these portions of the unequaled Willamette valley for intensive cultivation. It stands for easier and more pleasant life on the farm, where comparative isolation disappears under the substitution of the never failing electric line for the muddy roads which have so far been a main factor in delaying the increase of population and of industry.

In all such events, the importance of which to Oregon can hardly be overstated, Portland invariably shows her sympathetic interest by the presence of many of her most progressive citizens. A goodly number of them will surely take part on Saturday in the festivities at Salem of which the opening of the new bridge will be the inspiration.

A DANGEROUS ISSUE

AGAIN the ending of the Balkan war without the embroilment of all Europe depends on the continuation of the accord of Germany and England.

If the kaiser declares to his ally, Austria, that she may "exert diplomatic pressure," or, in other words, talk to Servia all she pleases to prevent her giving aid to Montenegro to capture Scutari, but that if Austrian troops are ordered forcibly to prevent Servian support of her ally and war results Austria need not look for German support, then Austria will hesitate long before she verifies threats by cannon and rifle fire.

If England declares to her friends, Russia and France, that they will not be aided by her money or her fleet if either of them goes to war with Austria on any such ground as her action toward Servia or Montenegro as to the future of Scutari probably heavier responsibility will be thrown on them than they care to shoulder.

The fortress of Scutari has always been a menace to Montenegro. It dominates the access to her small territory from the Balkan side. Its Turkish garrison was an over-bearing and dangerous neighbor. The position would not be improved if Albanian Moslems were substituted for Turks in possession of the fortress and the city, since they are even less controllable, less disciplined, and fight on less provocation.

To acquire Scutari as a fruit of the war was an ambition shared by every Montenegrin, from king to peasant. For it they have spent their best blood and all their resources. If the alliance of the Balkan states means anything then Bulgaria, Servia and Greece will resist any Austrian attempt to forcibly prevent Montenegro from acquiring Scutari.

The situation is more dangerous than at any time since Austria and Russia mobilized their armies.

A BOY BURGLAR

A BOY of twelve, armed with a loaded revolver and a policeman's billy, caught in the act of robbing a grocery till that he had opened, is a startling item in the day's news.

Graduated also in the school of crime to the extent of an alias to conceal his identity this boy burglar shows all the marks of a hardened criminal.

Each item in his equipment was the product of a distinct crime. It took an hour's questioning by the police to bring out the confession that he had stolen the revolver previously found on him and which he had alleged in the juvenile court that he had found.

The boy lived, breathed, and had his being in an atmosphere of crime, for which his history, so far as known, offers no cause or excuse.

Has he gone so far on the road to destruction that his conversion to the comparatively calm and orderly progress of a respectable life is not to be hoped for, much less expected? Probably the excitement of a criminal life was his inspiration—the matching of his boyish wits and unreasoning daring against the laws that govern us all, and their guardians.

Such a case is far removed from that of the ordinary wayward boy brought before the juvenile judge. It is complicated by the knowledge that such an one would be a perfect poison if introduced into a society of ordinary boys who are submitted to the discipline of a training school in the reasonable expectation of their salvation to respectable and law-abiding life.

Doubtless there is hidden in even such a lad a spring of good. But who shall reach it and release it to influence his life? It is a remarkable and a pitiful case.

THE COLUMBIA SOUTHERN PROJECT

GOVERNOR WEST is no doubt taking a stand that will commend itself to the people of Eastern Oregon and of the whole state when he urges that the Columbia Southern project shall be taken up by the desert land board with all possible speed, and that it shall be carried out as a state project, just as contemplated in the bill passed by the legislature.

Suggestion is now made that the national reclamation service should be invited to cooperate, extending the scope of the plan to a larger acreage. It is stated that the acre cost of reclamation could thus be considerably reduced.

These things may be true. They would have been proper matters for consideration of the legislature. But as a matter of fact, the legislature acted upon a certain, definite proposal. That was to complete the original project and fulfill, without endless delay, the moral obligation of the state to settlers who were led to believe that the state in some measure was behind the projects launched under the Carey act.

Through its governor and legislature the state has just adopted a definite project and declared its policy. It decided that the state should become responsible. It set aside $450,000 for the purpose of building dam and canals and putting the water on the land. The bill does not contemplate a larger project or any complexity of management. It is not hedged around with contingencies.

As Governor West has said, months would be required before the government service would determine what it would do. It might assist, it might not. If it did, it might be on such conditions that the responsibility of the desert land board would in some degree be shifted. The work of the government in some other projects has not been such as to give assurance of satisfaction to the settler or of maximum speed in construction.

With undivided authority in the state land board, there will be no question as to responsibility. The job has been put up to the state land board. Let it stay there. If the state or the government desires later to enlarge the project, an equitable arangement can doubtless be made.

NATURE'S RIDDLES

SOME of the most common things around us are some of the most profound and mysterious when a little close observation presents them to us in detail.

According to John T. Timmons, writing in the current number of Harper's Weekly, hop vines climb the pole from left to right, and cannot be induced to twine from right to left. Why? He does not attempt to say. No doubt there is a reason, but it is not apparent to humanity.

This mystery is heightened by the statement of the same writer that beans and nearly all other common pole climbing plants grow in just the opposite way from the hop vine, that is, from right to left. They are not quite so insistent in their way as the hop vine, he says, but it is difficult to persuade them to change the course they will choose if unhindered.

Possibly there is something in the structural formation of the seed that causes the habit of growth, but this leaves unanswered the question of why nature should order it so. Man has yet far to go before he can lay bare the soul of nature.

The writer in Harper's goes further, and points out other phenomena, such as the attraction of plants to each other for mutual support, and vines reaching out to each other across an open space. He cites the testimony of old landscape gardeners that plants are capable of emotion, and wither away when old friends are removed.

This may be stretching the case, but the contrast and the rules of nature are so often puzzling and unexplained that there is food for thought in the suggestion that man's inquiry into the secret of things is only on the borderland.

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.)

A Working Woman's View.

Portland, Or., March 11.—To the Editor of The Journal—The papers are at the present time filled with accounts of the conditions pertaining to causes of prostitution among women. Now, as a woman who has spent the past 20 years earning bread and butter for herself, I feel competent to speak authoritatively on this subject. I know that $8 per week or even $10 is not enough for women to live on and live right, have right food and plenty of it, a good room in a respectable part of town, pay doctor and dentist bills, etc. This last year I paid out $50 for dental work alone, and if I had rent to pay I could not exist on the usual wage paid to girls and women, which, counting out the times unemployed, makes the wages average far less than enough to live on. True, there are places here in Portland where room and board can be gotten for a very low rate, but women and girls do not like to dump into wards like cattle in stalls, which is necessary in order to secure room and board at such low rates. These places here in Portland so far as I know are the Women's Union hotel, on Flanders street, and Sisters of Mercy, near Washington street about Sixteenth. The places are run with the best of intentions, but are entirely without privacy at the lower prices, which cannot be helped; and then again, if we women are to be compelled to work for mere board and clothes, we might as well all go to the poor farm and be done it. Of course, men will probably say we should get married; but who wants to marry any old drunk that comes along, running the risk of having her head smashed in with a beer bottle, and likely have to support him and any offspring that may result? Self-respect forbids such things, and no man or woman of any respectability would ever consider such a procedure to escape existing conditions, and I know if my parents were living they would never countenance any such arrangement for convenience. The Associated Charities can be called upon for help, but they cannot take care of all the women compelled to earn their own way, and should not be expected to; in fact, conditions should be such that the charity organizations would have to go out of business for lack of something to do.

Now, it resolves itself into this: That either women have to be treated on the square financially or else are compelled to get their living any old way they can, entirely at the mercy of Tom, Dick or Harry, for no one can deny that men are the ruling power in the financial world today. As to making own clothes, what woman can make a coat who is not a regular tailoress, and make it look like anything fit to wear? Also, after working all day, who is in condition to try such exact work as fitting dresses? While the fact remains that these articles, together with many others, are part of the necessaries of life. Now, Mr. Editor, will you, in all kindness to women, take up this question and place it before the public in its right light? There is but one solution to the condition, that is more money in the hands of women and treatment as accorded to a human being, not a mere convenience for man. As it is, staying on top of earth is a precarious business for the average self-supporting woman.

Also, it looks to me that if emloyers cannot see their way clear to paying living wages, then something is radically wrong with the amount of currency in circulation. A man cannot be supposed to pay out everything in the business to his help, but on the other hand, he should not employ help unless he can pay for it. Otherwise, he had better go out of business. If there is not enough coin loose in the United States to do business as it should be done, then the government ought to make some more and see to it that it gets into the hands of the people who need it, not into the hands of people who already are surfeited with too much gold, and too little brains. Otherwise, what are governments good for?

A WAGE EARNER.

Honor Due Flagpole Finder.

Clatskanie, Or., March 11.—To the Editor of The Journal—In Sunday's Journal (section 1, page 6) is an article with picture, of the world's tallest flag pole, but no mention is made of the men who felled this tallest flagpole without breaking it. The Whitney company has the distinction of performing this feat. Nobody has ever been able to fell a tree of that length without breaking it.

I was in charge of the falling crews of the Whitney company at Blind Slough when Russell Hawkins and the Astoria Centennial committee called on me to get them a flagpole that would beat anything ever raised. It was only after weeks of hunting the woods over and using every trick and lesson that 20 years' experience as timber faller had taught me, that I was able to get a pole that broke the world's record for flagpoles. Now I am not hunting notoriety, but it seems to me only a matter of justice that whenever the world's tallest flagpole is mentioned some credit ought to be given the man who is responsible for its existence. If you doubt any of my statements inquire of Russell Hawkins, manager of the Whitney company, or A. B. Wastell, assistant manager, or G. C. Fulton of Astoria, attorney, at that time in charge of raising the flagpole at the Astoria Centennial exposition. GEORGE PINSCH.

Panama Fair Appropriation.

Burns, Or., March 4.—To the Editor of The Journal—Will you state in your paper whether or not any part of the fair appropriation made by the legislature is to go to San Diego? When the bill stood at $200,000 there was $25,000 of it to go to San Diego, but since that I have heard no mention of that place and it occurred to me that the patriots at Salem might be slipping one over on the dear people. What are the facts?

VAN B. EMBREE.

(All of the appropriation is to be expended at San Francisco.)

Things are not always what their names would indicate. For instance, the vacuum cleaner is never used to clean vacuums.

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

Easy work is hard to a lazy man.

* * *

Many people are victims of too much advice.

* * *

A little snow is better than too much sunshine—in March.

* * *

O, well, what's the use of a mere man registering, anyhow?

* * *

Governor Lister also dynamited the hole—when he wasn't in it.

* * *

If it were not for humbug, millions of people would starve to death.

* * *

A strictly woman's party would certainly win now; mere man wouldn't be in it.

* * *

We'll get so many "days" after a while that we'll have to take a day off for ourselves.

* * *

Happy Mr. W. H. Taft; he can play golf every day as long as he wants to, and work not at all.

* * *

If the streetcars would stop at only one in 20 blocks, people would be better off; walking is healthy.

* * *

Oh, you governors; oh, you legislatures. Who can blame Colonel Wood for being an anarchist?

* * *

Champ Clark, 63, "feels like 30." Probably he attends few banquets, and treats his insides judiciously.

* * *

Voters all understand without telling that every municipal candidate is in favor of good government.

* * *

Well, maybe the much accused middleman thinks that the endmen are getting the best of the game, after all.

* * *

(Adv.)—New addition to Portland; just over the Blue mountains, in Wallowa county; great chance; lots only $2700.

* * *

A commission form of state government might also carry; many taxpaying voters say they are very tired of legislatures.

* * *

The public seems to be advised that Mrs. Lister, wife of the governor of Washington, is a kicker. But the governor never publicly said so.

* * *

The fertile, rubbish strewn ground within the city limits will be more and more a reproach as spring warms up into summer, and summer gloriously fades into fall.

OREGON SIDELIGHTS

McMinnville Telephone Register: A fruit growers association was organized at Willamina last week. F. B. Churchman was chosen president, V. P. Smith, vice president and business manager, and Percy Lady, secretary and treasurer.

* * *

The young people of Pleasant Valley, according to correspondence in the Gresham Outlook, have organized a dramatic association with 16 charter members, to be known as the Pleasant Valley Stock company. The principal object is to give a series of theatrical and musical entertainments.

* * *

Port Orford Tribune: Port Orford has the honor of having the oldest commercial club in the county, and the one that has accomplished the most. The port of Port Orford, the holding of the Agate carnival, and the new wagon road from town to the wharf, are a few of the results of the work of the club.

* * *

Gold Beach Globe: The Bandon Commercial club wants that Pacific highway to come through Coos. That Commercial club is a live wire, and when it wants anything it goes after it—gets it, too. Wasnt so long ago that Bandon was a sandpile alongside a slough. Now it is the liveliest port on the Oregon coast. Did it by knowing what they wanted and then going after it.

* * *

Marshfield Record: The building of one hundred houses in North Bend by the Wilsey interests and the Simpson company is one of the best improvement moves that have been made in that city for a long time. So many new people have come to Coos Bay both cities are getting crowded. Every house in Marshfield and North Bend has been occupied and there is a crying need for more.

* * *

Albany Democrat: The last bit of lumber of the old Presbyterian church, which has been torn down piece by piece, has been hauled away. The old church building was one of the oldest edifices of the city. It was formerly located on the site occupied by the new building and was moved over on the court house lawn, where it was placed on stilts, being used for services until the new church could be completed.

* * *

Astorian: Again the word is passed that a new morning paper is to make its bow in Astoria soon. And again we are happily anticipating the event by projecting our cordial welcome to the new comer. The more the merrier; the merrier the better; the better the more successful must Astoria be. There is always room for one more, provided only it will stay. The list of those which have not stayed in this city is already a long one.

NEW YORK DAY BY DAY

By Herbert Corey.

President Wilson has 12,000 offices to give away, and Colonel Edward Mendell House is the only man in the world on whispering terms with him.

So that if Colonel House wakes up in the middle of the night and finds a row of United States senators roosting on the bed rail he needn't worry. All they'll want him to do is a few errands. While those offices last he can feed the United States army on his invitations to lunch. Real old Lotos club stuff, too. He needn't bite into anything cheaper than a truffle.

The new administration was prolific in political puzzles before it became an administration. One of the most heartburning of the little riddles was Colonel House. The elder politicians—the boys who had welcomed their hands to a callous and could wear their silk hats in bed—couldn't figure out where House came in. They could see nothing in common between the president elect and the Texan. Still, it was indisputable that he had come in—and, having come in, stayed in. There is a suspicion that House offered Mr. Wilson about the only advice that he took. Ever since the election House has traveled on the real confidential, right next to the plaits errands for Mr. Wilson. And at night, after Mr. Wilson had wound the clock and put out the cats and politicians, House stayed for a little further talk.

At first the worried politicians said that House was an old friend. But he wasn't. Mr. Wilson had never heard of him a year ago. Six months ago he knew House just well enough to bow to. But it is farly evident that Mr. Wilson thought House carried a fine spring line of advice. Perhaps House could get information that Mr. Wilson might have difficulty in securing. House was born in Houston, Texas, pretty nearly 55 years ago. He graduated from Cornell in 1881 and for years was active in Texas politics, although he was never a candidate for office himself. He spends a good deal of his time in this city, where he has a comfortable apartment on East Thirty-fifth street. Mr. Wilson has lately been his guest on visits to New York.

As a mystery in politics he makes the Man in the Iron Mask look actually simpering. For he doesn't want anything for himself. He says so.

Albert Sidney Burleson, the new postmaster general, can tell a good story when he wants to. Now and then he wants to. On one of his visits to Seagirt during the campaign he told the newspaper correspondents there of a perilous adventure.

"I always liked to hunt," said Mr. Burleson. "Once I was climbing up the rock wall of a Texas canyon. When I got to the top I found that the last ten feet were too steep for me to negotiate easily. I pitched my hat to the top. Then I crawled up, an inch at a time—and just as I peeked over the edge of the wall I found myself looking into the eyes of an angry rattler. He was buzzing away furiously. My hat had fallen on him and angered him."

The rattler's fangs were not six inches away from Burleson's cheekbone. The snake was folding and unfolding them as only frantic rattlers do.

"I knew that if I moved he would strike me," said Mr. Burleson. "I dared not reach for my six-shooter. I might let go all holds and leap backward. But it was 50 feet to the bottom of the canyon, and a fall meant a broken back. My only hope was to be diplomatic—to force him to move of his own accord."

"And what did you do?" asked the breathless correspondents.

"I blew in his ear," said Mr. Burleson, simply.

Our candidate for a hero medal is Hamilton Revelle.

Revelle is the villain in "Kismet." In one act he takes refuge in a tank of water. Then the hero gets him by the Adam's apple, and holds him under until the bubbles cease to rise. Whereupon he is dragged out by the ears. As soon as he is breathing again the waters close over him. The one gleam of happiness for Revelle is that the water is heated. It saves the high cost of Turkish baths.

Last week at the Academy of Music in Brooklyn some one forgot to heat the water. When Revelle plopped in it was mostly mush ice. Any other man would have risen from that tank like Aphrodite from the sea—if that's good mythology—and screamed his way to the cannon stove. But Revelle just set his teeth and took it. For seven long minutes he was pulled in and out like a blue shirt on a washboard. By the time the curtain fell his ears were ringing like crystal goblets and his body was gray as a battleship. The net result was appendicitis and an operation. If he's lucky he may get out of the hospital far enough to wear a fur coat in the sun in about three weeks. Also, the other man got chilblains.

One of the most successful restaurant keepers in town hand-picks his waiters. They stay with him because they are well treated and make money. When they are caught grafting he fires them—the process of firing sounding like a bucko mate driving a shanghaied cigar clerk up to the cross-trees.

"Waiters make or break a restaurant," says this man. "I am to break my waiters before they break me."

One of the big uptown restaurants has been losing money lately because the waiters have not been well handled.

"A friend of mine," said he, "ordered a dinner for 16 at this place. When he got there with his guests the head waiter said he didn't know anything about it.

"'But I must have a table,' pleaded the worried host.

"The head waiter did the bunny hug with his shoulders. Then he turned away. The host caught him.

"'Here's a twenty,' he said. 'Do what you can for me.'

"One of the other guests trailed the head waiter. That grafter went straight to a table set for 16, and bearing the special decorations for which the host had paid. He lifted a candlestick and took from beneath it the place cards for the party. Then he called the dinner guests.

"'I knew Alphonse would fix me,' said the host. 'I'm an old customer.'

"'You're an old boob,' said the guest who had trailed.

"There are 16 free spenders lost to that shop."

Always In Good Humor

TAKING NO CHANCES
From the Houston Post.

"Bought your wife a vacuum cleaner yet?"

"Nope, I'm used to the broomstick. I'll wait about the vacuum cleaner till some man's wife has soaked him with one and I see how badly he is injured."

DISTURBING BUSINESS
From the Indianapolis News.

This new theory that a man ought to be qualified to fill a government job before he gets it must be mighty disturbing to the political business.

SOMETHING FOR ENGLAND!
From London Punch.

The Lady with the Newspaper (much moved by patriotic leader)—I feel, James, that I must do something. Shall I take up nursing or learn rifle-shooting?

James (faintly)—Might I suggest rifle-shooting, dear, as likely to cause the less damage?

Pointed Paragraphs

Dead men make no sales.

* * *

A rolling stone gets the hard knocks.

* * *

Give a pretty girl a mirror lest she get lonesome.

* * *

Few men so live that when they die the undertaker sheds tears.

* * *

More investigation at the start will mean less disappointment in the end.

* * *

This is a hustling age, and the lunch counter habit will help you sure to hurry through.

* * *

Deception is all right on the stage, but in married life you are sure to be found out.

* * *

The difference between a hospital and a sanitarium may be from $20 a week up.

* * *

No, Cordelia, as far as we know, the bookworm has never been educated to hook a woman's gown up the back.

* * *

A Frenchman earned over $50,000 last year as an airship chauffeur. Yet some people say that a man can't live on air.

Comment on Wilson's Inaugural

Detroit News: Today Woodrow Wilson ceased to be a party man; he ceased to be one citizen amongst 90,000,000; he became, by the solemn constitutional oath, the head and front of the republic. He is now no party's no section's, no class's; he is president of the United States of America. And because of that it is the patriotic duty of every citizen to aid him by every confidence, every hope, and every attitude within our power. He is now our president. His success will be the country's success; his failure the country's loss. Being fallible, he will fall into error. Being human, he will attempt more than he can achieve. Being dependent to a large extent on other branches of the government, he will sometimes be thwarted. All those contingencies are the dust and filings of the daily work of the presidency. And it is for the people to expect and intelligently regard such occasions. But if he keeps his face toward those infallible principles of justice and liberty which are so vitally necessary to progress; if he takes counsel of the people and makes his every act with regard to their interests; if he be their champion in those high places where the agents of the conscienceless interests work to do the greatest harm; if he be the watchman always on the tower, the servant whose loyalty to his masters does not waver—then he cannot fail to achieve, and no matter what laws are written, he will achieve the trust and confidence of the nation.

It is in the hope that he will do these things, and justify the people's expressed belief in him, that we do not so much congratulate him today for his personal elevation, as wish him God speed in the work which will fill the days of his administration. Our hopes are with him—our fears, even our prayers that he may be vouchsafed that measure of wisdom and strength which his duties will demand.

New York American: Woodrow Wilson said in New York last November that the prospect of being president of the United States filled him not so much with elation as with a feeling of solemnity and consecration. Since then he has had time to become familiar with the idea of being president; he has tasted the adulation of those who cling close to the robes of the mighty; he has felt the thrill of power; he knows the deference that is extended ever to those who have favors to grant. It is to be hoped that today when he actually subscribes himself president he is still more impressed with the enormous responsibility of his office than with satisfaction at his elevation. The American wishes the new president every success and hopes he will be one of the great presidents. The opportunity is there; the problems that confront him are more varied and more acute than have faced any president since Lincoln's day. One thing Wilson must do if he does not wish to see a political revolution at the end of his four year term as great as that which put him and his party in power. He must instill into his party as represented in the government a wider, sturdier Americanism than his party's members have played thus far. A president might be forgiven for a mistake on the tariff; he might err as to conservation, and be allowed to make his peace with the country; but for an abandonment of the policies that made this country great there will be no absolution.

Philadelphia North American: The beginning of Mr. Wilson's administration is exceptionally auspicious. Partisanship is rapidly losing its old time rigor in this country. Even four years ago Mr. Taft went into office with the sincere good wishes of virtually the whole nation. This condition is more pronounced now as regards his successor. Even of those who opposed Mr. Wilson's election, the great majority are now hopeful that his administration will win honor and success. Of the more than 4,000,000 of Progressive voters, at any rate, we feel sure there are few who do not earnestly wish him well, or who fail to accord him hearty support in working for the common good. We hope and believe that as the new president measures his singular advantages he will realize that they lay upon him exceptional responsibilities. Only by his own acts can he estrange such support as no other chief executive has ever had; by his own acts he can justify it and achieve through it lasting good to the country he is ambitious to serve.

New York Herald: Now, we say, let everybody support the new president in the ways of wisdom. His inaugural address will be scanned for something specific as to his purposes. His first message a month hence will be read with close attention for definite recommendations. The period of constructiveness is here. It will not do for Wilson to confine himself to the great reform of divorcing corrupt business from politics. That reform, much to be desired, hailed now as a grand discovery, is as old as the nation. Nor will it do for Wilson to assume, as the vice president did in an interview printed yesterday (somewhat, we regret to say, resembling mush) that true Democracy comes only from the pure in heart—purity, by inference, being a Democratic monopoly. Wilson has before him a stupendous task. He is courageous, he is honest. To do anything but give him encouragement would be unpatriotic.

Omaha World Herald: It is with high hope and a serene confidence that the Democrats of this nation see Woodrow Wilson inaugurated as president. His Democracy, within a comparatively short time, has been tested and proved. His ability, his patriotism, his courage, his devotion, are alike beyond question. He enters into office with not alone his own party rallied about him to hold up his hands, but with a host that has been constantly increasing since last November of members of the opposition parties who have come to believe in him and to trust him, and who are wishing him God speed as earnestly as is any Democrat.

Chicago Record Herald: The president-elect indulges in no empty partisan appeals. He has repeatedly set forth his ideas and sentiments in language appropriate to the new era of realignment and reconstruction. Today he enters upon the task of applying and illustrating his conceptions of the new freedom and the new ideal of service. The whole nation is desirous of giving him every chance. It hopes that the Democratic leaders in and out of congress will earnestly support him and maintain harmony and discipline, not for the sake of patronage, but for the sake of national prosperity and progress.

Hard on the Poor.

From the Vermillion (Kan.) Times.

Johnny handed the following note from his mother to his teacher the other morning: "Dere techer; you keep telling my boy to brethe with his diafram. Maybe rich children has got diaframs but how about it when their father only makes $1.50 a day and has got five children to keep? First it's one thing and then another and now it's diaframs. That's the worst yet."