

THE JOURNAL

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The excesses of our youth are drafts upon our old age, payable with interest about thirty years after date.—Colton

year. One soldier was believed to have contracted the disease before he enlisted. The other soldier was immunized in 1911, but the history of the case is in doubt. Some scientists have thought that use of the typhoid vaccine involved an increase of liability to tuberculosis. But army surgeons who have been analyzing their figures say they have established the fact to be exactly the contrary. They say the new method of preventing typhoid acts also as a preventive of consumption. The nation's army and navy have given efficient service in behalf of mankind. They have established the fact that lives can be saved, that the sum total of human happiness can be increased.

THE GENUINE AND BOGUS

CALL for fifty men to break rock for the Portland park department, brought forty men to the rock pile. Twelve started in on the work after learning the terms, and only five remained at the end of a couple of hours.

COPPERFIELD

THERE was arson at Copperfield. There were residents who feared to leave their homes lest an incendiary would do his work during their absence. There was gambling of every kind. Among the gambling paraphernalia captured by Colonel Lawson were appliances so hastily removed that the money was still in them when found. The gambling, in addition to other places, was carried on by the mayor in his saloon. It was also presided over in that saloon by a member of the city council.

Other city councilmen presumably managed the gambling in their places of business. With a saloon swamper, which is the man who cleans spittoons and performs similar service, as one member of the city council, the government of Copperfield was truly inspiring. Most of the things forbidden by the statutes of Oregon were carried on. There seems, in fact, to have been little pretense at enforcement of the law.

The statement is that the machinery of government was used in putting out of commission a rival of the mayor in the saloon business. The rival was securing a lion's share of the trade. At first, his saloon burned down. After that, the city government in its majesty abolished the rival on the ground that his new place of business was outside Copperfield's "restricted district."

The carryings-on at Copperfield were not a fit status in a civilized state. There was a condition of lawlessness that made the place an unfit habitation for the law-abiding residents.

The remoteness of the place and the natural conditions were favorable to the status of suspended law that obtained. It was unfavorable to enforcement of the law in almost any other way than that adopted by Governor West.

There may be those who take issue with the governor's plan. There can be none to question its efficiency. Seventy or eighty per cent of the people of the state will applaud the fact that Copperfield has been transformed from a pest hole into a decent town.

MARY STEWART

A T CORVALLIS last Friday as the new year was drawing its first breath, Mary Stewart, a pioneer mother who had attended upon the birth of ninety-two years and had long outlived her generation and direct issue, crossed the Great Divide.

Mrs. Stewart, or as she was called by her familiars, "Aunt Polly," was the first white woman in Corvallis. With her husband, John Stewart, she came to Oregon in 1845 and settled the following year on a donation claim one mile north of Corvallis where the remainder of her life was passed.

She was a remarkable woman. Although 92 years of age she retained her faculties and cheerful disposition which neither time nor storm could undermine. Her husband and two children went into the unknown country long ahead of her. Two grandchildren alone remained to comfort and support while she waited for the night.

WISCONSIN MARRIAGES

WISCONSIN has a eugenic marriage law, effective January 1, which has resulted in a remarkable situation in that state. Because the law requires tests of men, the tests costing \$10 or \$15, and because the law limits the physician's fee to \$3, there was no marriage in that state January 2. A special session of the legislature may be necessary to amend the act. The law requires a certificate from a physician to the effect that the man receiving a marriage license is free from certain diseases. The certificate can be given only after physical examination and "by the application of recognized clinical and laboratory tests of scientific search." It is also provided that any physician who wilfully makes any false statement in a certificate shall be guilty of perjury upon conviction of which his license to practice in Wisconsin shall be revoked.

Physicians of the state were active in securing the law's adoption. It is said that 95 per cent of the medical profession in Wisconsin is in favor of legal restriction of marriage to those who are physically fit. But the physicians find themselves up against the alternative of losing money on each examination of a prospective bridegroom or of risking prosecution for perjury and possible annulment of licenses to practice. The situation is further complicated by a recent decision by the Wisconsin supreme court wherein it was held that no ceremony is necessary for a marriage in that state. This decision stated no new law, being simply recognition of common law marriages, but the fear is expressed that under existing circumstances matrimony may degenerate to a point not contemplated by the legislature. The law is an expression of the general feeling that little children should be protected from the defilement and blight of which thousands are victims as a result of marriage.

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With such an engineer as Modjeski offering to take care of the inter-state bridge for \$60,000, a five per cent commission on the total cost is too much compensation for Waddell & Harrington. The bridge board should cut the figure to a flat amount and within reasonable limits as compared with the Modjeski proposal. If Waddell & Harrington are unwilling to accept a lower and a flat compensation, the board has it within its power to make another selection. No more brutal butchery of a human being ever occurs than was the killing of the Wilson woman in a Front Street lodging house Saturday night. With his knee between her shoulders and one hand grasping her hair, the butcher sawed her throat in short stablike cuts from ear to ear. The police deserve credit for the prompt apprehension of the alleged murderer and a very material witness.

A CHRISTMAS STORY

THERE has long been a suspicion among many people that Christmas gifts were sometimes reshipped by the recipient to another friend, becoming, as it were, a sort of medium of exchange with which to discharge social obligations. That this is true one particular Portland family has confirmation as strong as Holy Writ. For the bread it cast upon the waters returned to it after a few days in the same form it left. The good house wife known for her excellent plum puddings prepared and shipped one to a friend at Salem as a holiday token. When the pudding arrived at the home of the Salem friend it found her in the midst of an anxiety to make some acknowledgment to a friend at Ashland. She extricated herself from her dilemma by rewrapping the pudding and forwarding it to Ashland. When the pudding arrived at Ashland the good lady there was worrying about what she would send to a friend in Portland. The plum pudding was an act of divine interposition especially as her friend was fond of plum pudding. She placed it in a neat paper box and shipped it to her Portland friend with her compliments. When the Portland friend opened the box, lo and behold, there was the same pudding that she had sent a few days before to Salem. She identified it by the little plum that stood in the center. Some Christmas gifts are like the winds. No man knoweth whence they cometh or whither they goeth.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

(Communications sent to The Journal for publication in this department 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.)

"Discussion is the greatest of all reformers' weapons. It is the only way to disseminate principles of all false sanctity and throw them back on their responsible bearers with a crushing and crushing blow."—Woodrow Wilson.

PROPERTY RIGHTS

Portland, Jan. 3.—To the Editor of The Journal—I ask space to elucidate the question of property rights as advocated by Socialists. Their contention for public ownership of the sources of wealth does not carry with it the abrogation of all property rights, as some suppose. Under Socialism the people would own much more property than they do now. For example, the plan whereby the product of labor shall belong to the one who creates it—but for his use and not for exploitation, exploitation being a form of legalized robbery. There is a vast difference between rights in property of one's own creation, and the vested title in which nature intends for the use of all or artificial rights which another has created for us. Then "property rights" as understood by Socialists means rights to the product of labor as distinguished from rights to the sources of wealth and to as much of labor's product as one can acquire under the present system of legalized robbery. Socialists propose to secure this equitable distribution not in an arbitrary way, but by means of the working of a scientific economic system. Note also their plan to eliminate the capitalist by putting aside a small portion of the population as public capital to be used to facilitate the production of wealth, instead of, as at present, giving a large percentage of the nation's wealth to a few industries who unwittingly rob and enslave them. I will also call attention to the two expressions which are understood by many of the Socialists, namely, "an equal distribution of wealth," which means a division regardless of desert or justice, and the other, which sounds very much like it, an equitable distribution of wealth," which means a distribution according to merit or justice. The first expression comprehends communism, and latter Socialism, and the second, which is as widely different as day and night, Socialists believe in an equitable distribution of created wealth, and say with Paul, "If any shall not work neither shall he eat."

A TRADE WAR

ENGLAND and Germany are said to have united in a trade war against the United States. Diplomatic denial of the statement comes from London, but it seems to be established that these European commercial nations are becoming alarmed at America's growing foreign commerce. It is said that the refusal of England and Germany to participate in the Panama exposition at San Francisco is a part of their plan for a trade war. Whether or not there is a secret trade compact against the United States, the fact remains that America's rapidly increasing foreign commerce is beginning to worry the great manufacturing nations of Europe. They see in the Panama canal the means for putting the United States in a more favorable position to extend its South American trade. Europe has long looked toward South and Central America for trade expansion, but it is surprising to see England and Germany making common cause against the United States. If either or both of those countries are afraid of American competition and think they can better themselves by combining, there is nothing Americans can say to prevent it. Both England and Germany got into South America's rich field ahead of us. They established their steamship lines and banking facilities, and these influences have worked to the disadvantage of the United States.

The report of a trade war, following England's protest against free canal tolls for American coastwise ships, is now supplemented by a British protest against fortifying the canal. This last extraordinary move, coming after the fortifications have been nearly completed, is bringing the American people to full realization of their proprietary interest in the canal. When it was only a question of free tolls to American coastwise ships, the United States was divided on the proposition. Then the argument was used that we should accept Great Britain's construction of the Hay-Panucofoferey. Now that England and Germany have joined forces to trade supremacy, the question naturally arises: Will the anti-free-tollers continue fighting England's commercial battles against the American people themselves?

REBUKES PATRONS OF THE DANCE

Corvallis, Ore., Jan. 5.—The Editor of The Journal:—I have been waiting patiently to see if some one would say something in regard to an article which appeared in The Journal of December 17, headed "Dancing in the O. A. C." Are the dances of today any benefit to our children? I say no, and appear to be the only one who is so. I am sure that if some one would say something in regard to an article which appeared in The Journal of December 17, headed "Dancing in the O. A. C." Are the dances of today any benefit to our children? I say no, and appear to be the only one who is so. I am sure that if some one would say something in regard to an article which appeared in The Journal of December 17, headed "Dancing in the O. A. C." Are the dances of today any benefit to our children? I say no, and appear to be the only one who is so. I am sure that if some one would say something in regard to an article which appeared in The Journal of December 17, headed "Dancing in the O. A. C." 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