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late upon the beauties of a con-
 tented mind. He holds that the
 good Lord has put each of us ex-
 actly where he wants us and it is
 our duty to stay there. We should
 all be satisfied with the station
 in life to which it has pleased the
 Lord to call us and we never
 ought to try to climb to any higher
 station.

Lincoln, Franklin and many
 other old fashioned Americans
 were hopelessly infected with the
 virus of climbing. They began to
 look with discontent in their early
 boyhood and the older they grew
 the more they reeked. They
 climbed and climbed from the low
 ly stations to which the Lord had
 called them until Franklin became
 a famous diplomat and author,
 while Lincoln became president.
 They thus set a terribly bad ex-
 ample to the boys of our day who
 should be taught to stay contented
 in the rank where they were born.

In order to cultivate a spirit
 of perfect contentment in our boys
 we should see to it that such
 names as Lincoln, Franklin, Pat-
 rick Henry and Garfield are ex-
 punged from school books. As
 long as such characters are per-
 mitted to poison the minds of
 youth by their example and pre-
 cepts we shall seek in vain for
 that placid contentment among the
 poor which is so essential to the
 comfort of the upper classes. And
 the poor themselves would be a
 great deal happier if they were
 taught to bear their burdens pa-
 tiently instead of trying to get rid
 of them. Most of life's friction is
 caused by discontent.

There seems to be no permanent
 relief for father. When he tries
 to find comfort in the fact that
 he will be out of the hole by next
 Christmas he suddenly remembers
 that it will be only to get into it
 again.

WOODROW WILSON.

Rebellion to tyrants is obe-
 dience to God.—Franklin.

A BISHOP ON MEXICO

W HILE partisan politicians
 rant and bellow in Con-
 gress about intervention
 in Mexico, a Methodist
 bishop offers kindly counsel on
 the subject.

He is Bishop Francis J. McCon-
 nell, former president of DePaul
 university. He is now in charge
 of Methodist work and Methodist
 institutions in Mexico. He has
 been five times in Mexico since
 February, 1913, three times in
 Central Mexico and twice in Villa
 territory. He says in the Chicago
 Herald:

Some persons say outright that we
 should at once intervene in Mexico
 with a sufficient military force to
 bring law and order to the country.
 Such intervention is possible and
 would in an outward way, be crowned
 with success. But the suggestion
 raises many questions in the mind
 of one who has been in Mexico dur-
 ing these days of struggle. The
 military task would be a huge police
 problem. Seven thousand miles of
 railroad at least would have to be
 guarded as a mere beginning, and
 this police work would be a bloody
 business before we were done with it.

Bishop McConnell, informed as
 he is, as to the real conditions
 there, sees heavy sacrifices of
 American lives and a costly outlay
 in treasure as the price of interven-
 tion. What he has seen convinces
 him that there is truth in the re-
 port of the military board to Pres-
 ident Taft that an army of 350,000
 men and an initial appropriation
 of 500 million dollars would be
 required as the first step for
 armed invasion. As result of a
 close contact with the situation in
 his work in behalf of Methodism
 and for Methodist institutions in
 Mexico, he counsels against inter-
 vention. He says:

It must be just as well for the
 mass of the people of the United
 States to try to get in a more sym-
 pathetic attitude toward the people
 south of the Rio Grande, and that,
 no matter what the outcome of the
 present crisis, the Mexicans have
 suffered grievous wrongs. There is
 no one cause for these wrongs, for
 the causes are almost as various as
 the forms of the wrongs themselves.
 But in a word, the contrast is
 too great between the "haves" and
 the "have nots."

Profound social re-organization is
 necessary.
 The country has today seen the
 success of the revolution on its de-
 structive side, but constructively
 everything remains to be done. Mex-
 ico won her independence about 100
 years ago. She has now cleared the
 ground for economic and social re-
 organization. But she seems at a
 standstill in the face of the con-
 structive task. In spite of all the
 ignorance and doctrinism and cruelty
 of her present effort, however, that
 effort is in some aspects a remark-
 able manifestation of the people's
 power.

If there is any way that the United
 States can befriend Mexico, now is
 the time when friendship will count
 most. One way is for the United
 States to try to understand Mexico,
 and having understood, to be patient
 with her while she works her way
 through her troubles.

On the ground in Mexico, pre-
 viously concerned about the Mexi-
 cans and their country through his
 work in Mexico, having no part-
 isan ends, but only human welfare
 to serve, Bishop McConnell's coun-
 sel is worth more in contributing
 to the stock of knowledge on the
 subject than are the combined rav-
 ings of all the congressmen who
 are bellying about Mexico for
 political effect.

A Georgia boy of 14 is six feet
 and five inches high and they call
 him "Willie". "Willie" hardly
 seems an entirely appropriate
 name for that much boy.

CONTENTED MINDS

C ONTENTMENT is a favorite
 subject for sermons with
 those who live by other peo-
 ple's work. When a man is
 drawing a big income from the
 world without being obliged to
 make any return for it he is
 naturally contented. Since discon-
 tent in other people endangers his
 pleasant situation he has good
 reason to dread it. So, whenever
 he preaches at all, he loves to di-

the furnace nitrogen from the air
 fixed and made available for
 agricultural use.

The cheapest source of energy
 for the electric furnace is water
 power. The manufacture of or-
 ganic nitrogen by water power has
 become a prosperous business in
 Sweden, where the process was
 originated. It might become a
 prosperous business in the United
 States, particularly in Oregon and
 Washington, where water powers
 are numerous and it will come
 day. That day will come when the
 federal government states clearly
 and unequivocally the terms on which
 it will permit private capital to
 utilize the water powers.

It would never do to give over
 the water powers outright to pri-
 vate capital, for that would fasten
 a tribute forever on the agricul-
 ture of the country. The govern-
 ment must retain permanently the
 right to regulate charges and meth-
 ods of production. It must pro-
 tect the people, to whom the water
 powers justly belong. When Con-
 gress has passed a law regulating
 these matters and laying down
 leasing conditions we shall see
 private capital producing organic
 nitrogen here from our water pow-
 ers, as it does in Sweden.

American farmers will then have
 at their disposal an indispensable
 fertilizer at something less than
 robber prices. Were the water
 powers turned over to private ex-
 ploits without government con-
 trol they would in the long run
 reduce the farmers to practical
 serfdom. Electrical light and pow-
 er, nitrogenous fertilizers and
 transportation could be obtained
 only at trust prices and those
 prices would be "What the traffic
 would bear." The rights of the
 people are safer in the hands of
 the people's government than in
 the hands of any trust, no matter
 how benevolent and kindly the
 trust may profess to be.

There used to be the old fash-
 ioned mother who thought it im-
 modest to sit with her feet crossed.
 One wonders if she is embarrassed
 now to behold her daughter who
 wears a short bifurcated skirt and
 rides her horse astride?

EGGS AND EGGS

T HE Chinese egg has not been
 a factor in the Oregon egg
 trade or in any other trade in
 this country. The home pro-
 duct has not been in the slightest
 influenced in price or in the de-
 mand of consumers. If Chinese
 eggs have been bought by Oregon
 families, they were families too
 poor to afford the Oregon egg.

Oregon eggs have constantly re-
 mained at fancy prices, prices so
 dear that the eggs are far beyond
 the reach of thousands of families.
 Because produced under unsanitary
 conditions, and because of the long
 journey across the ocean and the
 delay in securing the supply in the
 first place, the Chinese egg reaches
 its destination so stale that it can-
 not compete with fresh eggs either
 in this country or in Europe. In
 fact, on account of the low price
 due to unsalability, the Chinese
 egg was imported into the United
 States before the duty was re-
 moved almost as freely as after,
 and would be imported still were
 the duty restored.

The subject has been brought
 to public attention by a bulletin
 issued by the state university. The
 state university has better fields
 for its endeavor and more reliable
 information to disseminate.

There are claims that dumdum
 bullets have been shipped to the
 allies from Connecticut. In view
 of the source of the output and
 the traditions of New England, it
 may have been a shipment of
 wooden nutmegs.

A BETTER WAY

T HERE is more than one way
 to manage a strike. A very
 common way is that taken
 by Governor Ammons of Colo-
 rado. When the miners struck in
 the Rockefeller properties of that
 state, Governor Ammons, either
 voluntarily or under compulsion,
 took the side of the mine owners.
 He put the militia at their disposal
 and gave them every opportunity
 to import and employ gunmen and
 strikebreakers. The consequence
 was unparalleled bitterness of feel-
 ing, outrages of all sorts and final-
 ly a massacre at Ludlow in which
 women and children perished mir-
 aculously. The stain of Ludlow will
 not be erased from Colorado's
 name for long years to come.

Governor Hunt of Arizona has
 chosen another way to manage a
 strike. Some miners have ceased
 work in that state to secure better
 conditions, and the property owners
 are eager to imitate the Colo-
 rado plan. They would like to
 have the militia put at their dis-
 posal, to import gunmen and
 strikebreakers and repeat all the
 hideous atrocities which Ludlow
 made familiar. But they cannot
 do it, for the governor will not let
 them.

Free from exasperating oppres-
 sion, the miners themselves are
 keeping good order. In Colorado
 the sheriff of the county where
 the strike occurred was a servile
 creature of the mining corpora-
 tions. It is also produced by the
 bacillus which inhabits clover and
 alfalfa roots. But these sources
 are insufficient. The guano beds
 on the coast of Peru and Chili
 furnish organic nitrogen but their
 supply is becoming exhausted and
 has grown expensive. The best
 modern source of organic nitrogen
 is the electric furnace. In the in-
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The cheapest source of energy
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 power. The manufacture of or-
 ganic nitrogen by water power has
 become a prosperous business in
 Sweden, where the process was
 originated. It might become a
 prosperous business in the United
 States, particularly in Oregon and
 Washington, where water powers
 are numerous and it will come
 day. That day will come when the
 federal government states clearly
 and unequivocally the terms on which
 it will permit private capital to
 utilize the water powers.

It would never do to give over
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NOTHING THE MATTER WITH PORTLAND

[Rubber! No, that doesn't mean that you
 are caught in the act of indulging a reprehens-
 ible curiosity—quite the contrary. It is a
 call to the uncouth and those who are not
 informed—a call to them to turn and gaze at
 something remarkable. That something is
 likely to be one of the most complete surprise-
 packages that have been devised in the
 world. Readers of this series will find the
 present article No. 25—one that will be
 read with well nigh universal interest.]

It was established four years and
 a half ago, yet how many readers
 of these lines have heretofore
 known that there is such a thing in
 Portland as a rubber mill, and quite
 a pretentious enterprise, too?

It is located on the company's own
 lot, in its own building, at East Ninth
 and Harrison streets, and it has cost
 \$32,000 to equip the concern.

And how many persons know that
 Portland has the distinction of pos-
 sessing the only rubber mill between
 Duluth, Minn., and San Francisco?

And have you ever visited a rubber
 mill? No! Then you have missed
 something.

It is a curiosity. It has curious
 machinery, some of it so stout and
 ponderous as to remind one of a roll-
 ing mill. Its men feed curious look-
 ing stuff into the maws of these
 giant inventions. Here are a couple
 of rollers which have the appearance
 of steam ironers. There is a small
 pipe above them from which little
 streams of water are constantly be-
 ing squirted down upon a conglomer-
 ate tattered web of stuff having
 somewhat the appearance of a sponge.

A man is feeding this material to
 the rollers. It is passing between
 them and there never was a clothes
 wringer possessed of a millionth part
 of its squeezing ability.

WASHING THE NATIVE RUBBER

This is the process of washing the
 native rubber brought to Portland
 from Africa. When the small web,
 two or three feet square, passes be-
 tween the rollers it drops into a tank
 of water and is immediately picked
 up by the feeder and sent through
 again. This is repeated hundreds of
 times, until the running water in the
 shallow tank, at first of inky black-
 ness, becomes clear as crystal and
 the black web a very light gray. It
 is then rolled up and put away to
 dry, a process requiring several
 months.

This is just a tiny introduction to
 the rubber mill business. There are
 other rollers—mighty powerful ones—
 used for other processes. In one in-
 stance there are two sets, for the
 reason that one set gets so hot it
 must be shut down and the rubber
 sheets transferred to the other, where
 they are rolled until the first set
 cools off. Then there are steam flat
 presses, something like those
 ancient Washington hand printing
 presses. These press the rubber into
 any thickness desired—into sheets
 not much thicker than a newspaper,
 and up to that of heavy rubber bel-
 ting. Many tons of pressure are neces-
 sary to do this work, and it's there,
 in these big castings moving with the
 precision of a clock.

WAGONLOADS OF OTHER MA- CHINERY.

There are wagonloads of other
 kinds of machinery, such as it would
 not be possible to picture in a written
 article. It's all curious, too, but
 adapted to the uses of a perfectly
 appointed rubber mill, making every-
 thing fashioned out of rubber.

H. C. Huntington, president and
 founder of the plant, and M. E. Reed,
 secretary and treasurer, personally
 supervise the operation of the mill
 and direct its business. They are
 very competent gentlemen, and al-
 though Mr. Reed has not had as ex-
 tended experience in the work as has
 Mr. Huntington, he has dropped into
 the intricacies of the business with
 almost the agility of the hop of a
 frog into the waters of a mill pond.

Mr. Reed is a civil engineer by pro-
 fession, and has had charge of many
 of the important enterprises of the
 coast. He supervised the building
 of the three-mile tunnel for the Great
 Northern railroad under the Cascade
 mountains, as well as many of the
 smaller ones on that road.

COVERS A BROAD FIELD.

The products of a rubber mill are
 as numerous as its uses, and except
 in the making of automobile tires
 the Portland mill covers the entire
 field. It has turned out these, but
 the demand for other things has been
 so great as to tax its capacity and
 the capital at its command. Entering
 the tire field means tremendous ex-
 penditure of money, and the manage-
 ment of the plant has been slightly
 handicapped by means to enter into
 competition with the large eastern
 mills engaged in this line.

"We manufacture so many different
 articles in rubber," Mr. Huntington
 says, "that our 10 to 12 mill em-
 ployees are kept busy anyway, but
 nevertheless later on we will manu-
 facture auto tires. This will not be
 for some time yet, however. As an
 example of the orders we have on
 our books at this time, I might
 mention 30,000 silencers for the legs
 of baby carriages, or little playhouses,

invented in Portland by a Mr. Mer-
 rick and manufactured by Nicolaus
 Bros. We are making a big bunch
 of six-inch rubber maps for use in
 mechanical baseball games located
 throughout the country. We have a
 contract with the city of Portland
 for rubber shoes for the city horses,
 amounting to about \$2500 a year.
 Over dredges use about \$10,000 worth
 of rubber sleeves a year, and we
 make them. These make the connec-
 tion between the pipes that carry
 the sand and gravel out from the
 channel of the river.

THOUSANDS OF RUBBER GASKETS

"We make thousands of rubber gas-
 kets of different size during the
 year. We have an order which we
 are filling now for the Portland Gas
 company, amounting to several
 thousand.

ONLY NON-SKID RUBBER HEEL

"We manufacture the only non-
 skid right and left rubber heel in
 the world. It is our own invention.
 There is no other like it on earth,
 and it will give longer service than
 two pairs of any other kind of heels
 now known. This we guarantee. Pol-
 ice officers are recognizing the value
 of a heel that will not skid, and are
 using ours to a large extent. We
 are shipping these to shoe dealers
 and makers in many cities outside
 of Portland, where actual value, re-
 spective of cost, is appreciated. They
 are for men and women, and we
 will be turning these out by the
 thousands before a great while. They
 are a little higher in price than the
 ordinary heels, made of indifferent
 material, therefore the ordinary shoe
 cobbler does not often mention them
 to customers, forgetting that he
 would be doing his patron a kindness
 by doing so, and also making for him-
 self a lasting friend. And we are
 making these gas hose connections
 by the thousand, and a rubber bath
 for baby which has attained imme-
 diate popularity. It is shaped like a
 camp stool, and can be used in any
 part of the house.

A MACHINE SHOP IN CONNECTION

"We have our own perfectly equip-
 ped and perfectly appointed machine
 shop, as you see, and employ some
 of the best machinists in the coun-
 try. These men of only keep our
 machinery in repair, but make our
 molds, which are of steel. This is
 a business by itself. Rubber is
 molded into thousands of shapes for
 thousands of uses, and there must
 be a mold for each. These we make
 ourselves, and for this reason there
 is little delay in filling orders. We
 have just received and are now in-
 stallng \$3000 worth of new ma-
 chinery and appliances which will
 greatly enlarge our capacity and en-
 able us to more expeditiously meet
 the requirements of the public."

AN IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION.

Sulphur is an important and a
 necessary ingredient of rubber. It
 is compulsory upon the manufacturers
 of rubber goods to add certain quan-
 tities of it to everything they make,
 according to the uses to which the
 articles are to be put. And sulphur is
 so to speak, a rubber. The
 moment it is mixed with the gum it
 begins to rot it, its deterioration
 amounting to 10 to 20 per cent a year.
 This is the reason rubber bands be-
 come worthless after a time, and rub-
 ber boots not worn for several years
 are of no account.

"If the public understood the evil
 effects of sulphur, which we must mix
 with rubber, they would demand the
 product of the rubber mills," Mr. Huntington
 explained. "It would likewise un-
 derstand the importance of supplying
 its wants through us. For example,
 goods made in the east are months,
 and perhaps one to two or more
 years, old when they reach the Pa-
 cific coast consumer. All the time
 they have been lying upon the shelves
 of the manufacturer, the jobber and
 the retailer, they have been deterio-
 rating, as stated, at the rate of 10 to
 20 per cent a year. Keep sulphur out,
 and rubber will never rot, and it
 never is added until the article is
 in the making; therefore goods or-
 dered from us are free from sulphur
 until the process of making or mold-
 ing begins. In consequence of this,
 our products being fresh their life
 will be as much greater in the hands
 of the consumer as the time the east-
 ern product was in the hands of the
 manufacturer and on the shelves of
 the jobbers or retailer. If that has
 been a year or two years, its life is
 shortened by that much, and ours be-
 lieved fresh from the mould, its life
 will be that much longer."

NOT ASKING UNDESERVED FA- VORS.

Mr. Reed remarked that his mill
 is not seeking business on the line
 of sympathy for a home enterprise.
 It employs three city salesmen and
 expects them to secure business solely
 on the merits of its productions. All
 slaughter houses employ a rubber
 roll for stripping the hair from the
 bodies of swine butchered, and the
 Portland mill is supplying these to
 the slaughter houses of the north-
 west solely because they are of a
 better quality than as is procured
 from the east, though eastern manu-
 facturers, by employing inferior pro-
 ducts, would sell them at a less price.
 Rubber prices have been soaring
 skyward the last few months. Last
 September it sold at 57 cents per
 pound, and present quotations are
 \$1.05, with an upward tendency.

Letters from the People

The Back Country.

Scotts Mills, O., Jan. 11.—To the
 Editor of The Journal.—Your editorial
 on "Our Back Country," in a recent
 issue of The Journal, would be much
 more interesting if we could only be
 sure it would get results. Pick up any
 newspaper published in Portland, run
 over the advertising columns. Under
 "For Exchange" you will find things
 like these: "Farm for city property,"

PERTINENT COMMENT AND NEWS IN BRIEF

SMALL CHANGE

These are fine, made-to-order eve-
 nings