BOOK REVIEWS

Oregon Daily Journal

MAGAZINES

PORTLAND, OREGON, SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1916.

Clever men are good but they are not the best.—Carlyle.

THE BOOK PAGE

NEWS OF NEW BOOKS, WRITERS AND MAGAZINES.

Human improvement is from within outwards.—Froude.

WOMAN DECIDES TO KILL HUSBAND

Mrs. Balfame Learns of Poison Potions That Leave No Trace.

"Mrs. Balfame," by Gertrude Atherton, author of "The Conqueror," "The Tower of Ivory," etc. Frederick A. Stokes company, New York. $1.35 net.

No matter how strange it may seem to readers and believers in Mrs. Atherton's novels of historic-romance, the fact remains that she has in her last work rounded out a mystery story, with murder, intrigue, love of course, and a regular detective. Mrs. Atherton has, too, apparently called upon the best of her literary resources in the making of "Mrs. Balfame," and the result is an altogether interesting novel.

Mrs. Balfame, having by her own initiative and good will established a place for herself in the community in which she lives; having organized a woman's club and become its president, and being loved and respected by her friends, finds that she is handicapped by a sot of a husband, of the ward-heeler type, and generally useless.

Mrs. Balfame rebels. Friend husband, a loadstone, provokes her by his drinking, his ill manners and general bestiality, so she decides to murder him.

This is the situation at the opening of the story. Mrs. Balfame through a medical woman friend learns in a casual manner that there are numerous poisons that might be used to the advantage of a murderer; potions that would leave no traces, this information having been gained by the doctor friend's discourses on the awkwardness of most poisoners.

A young man, Dwight Rush, imagines himself in love with Mrs. Balfame, and complicates matters.

One night Balfame, coming home drunk, is shot and killed. Circumstantial evidence points to Mrs. Balfame, who, having had murder in her heart at least, fails to make her attitude of innocence convincing. The reporter boys believe her guilty, too, and whether she really is so or not, is the plot thread that keeps one interestedly guessing.

Mrs. Balfame already aspires to a place in the ranks of the best sellers.

Book on Flowers Seems Seasonable

Principles of Floriculture by Edward A. White. The MacMillan company, New York. $1.75 net.

This book considers the principles which underlie the successful culture of ornamental plants, and presents these in such a manner that the book is useful in the classroom. It will also be of service in a practical way to practical men. Among the topics discussed are: The importance of the plant and flower growing industry; principles and methods of constructing and heating glasshouses; factors which influence healthy plant growth; business principles in marketing flowers; glasshouse insects and their extermination; diseases of plants and their remedies, and the factors which underlie successful culture of standard florists' crops.

WHEN OLD NEWS IS NEW

Writing of his recent voyage across the Atlantic in a small schooner, Charles W. Furlong tells in Harper's Magazine for April of meeting an American merchantman 155 days out, and without news during the entire voyage.

"We were chatting and smoking in the cabin at the end of the supper hour on the sixteenth day out. 'Sail ho!' came from the deck. From aloft we made out a three-masted bark under full sail, in the sun saffron-pink against a shadow of violet clouds. Our courses were converging. She was in heavy ballast and evidently from South America. It was decided to speak her. Meantime I did up some newspapers with a note in a waterproof bag.

"What a picture she was as we quartered toward her! Down went our staysail. Up went our ensign.

"'Bark ahoy! Do you want some papers?' yelled Amory, as we rounded her stern.

"'Aye, aye!'

"'Stand by to throw us a line.'

"'Aye, aye!'

"Holding parallel, the wind over our port quarter, we ran within 30 yards of her—a bit risky in the darkening twilight and increasing wind. The crew, some in her rigging, crowded aft, silhouetting against the afterglow. The captain we could discern in white clothes and Panama hat.

"'Come on with your line!' Amory shouted. Swish! The coiling line snaked through the air and fell—a perfect shot. John quickly 'bent it on,' over the bag went, sousing through the brine, and was hauled aboard.

"'Where are you from?' Amory megaphoned from the main shrouds.

"'Portland, Oregon.'

"'Where are you bound?'

"'For Queenstown, with grain.'

"'Do you want us to report you?'

"'Yes.'

"'How many days out?'

"'A hundred and fifty-five. How is the war going on?'

"'All right.'

"Evidently, by their three cheers and waving caps, the crew took this to mean favorably from their point of view.

"'Do you know about the Lusitania?'

"'No.'

"She was torpedoed last May by a submarine, off Queenstown.'

"'How many lost?'

"'Over twelve hundred.'

"We veered away from the majestic old wind-jammer, as she ranged along, every line, block, and spar stenciled a distinct blue-black against the spectrum sky. Between her topmasts the crescent of the new moon played hide-and-seek through the interstices of her rigging. Eight bells reverberated over the water, the only ship's bell besides our own which we had heard during the entire voyage. Soon she was lost in the merge of night."

We Have With Us Today Six Columns of More or Less Well-Known Writers

With the advent of the summer publishing season many of the old favorite writers of fiction may be expected to "come back" in an effort to repeat past successes. At the right is John Reed Scott, author of "The Red Emerald," and other stories of love and adventure. Next him is Gelett Burgess, author of "Maxims of Noah" (Stokes), and one living refutation at least of the popular belief that all humorists are about as cheerful as a sore thumb in cherry-picking time.
Gertrude Atherton, in the middle, is the author of a number of popular stories, her latest effort being "Mrs. Balfame," a detective story (Stokes).
At the right of Mrs. Atherton is David Potter, an army officer, who has not been heard from since "The Yellow Streak" (Lippincott). Edward Mott Woolley, on the end, was once a newspaper man and made use of his experience in that "game" in his story of "The Cub Reporter."

Minimum Wage Is Not All American

The authors of the just-published book, "The Principles of Labor Legislation"—John R. Commons and John B. Andrews—have not confined themselves simply to principles, but have incorporated in their work many facts relating to labor. The minimum wage legislation, for instance, had its birthplace, they show, not in Europe or America, but in Australasia. "Though it is a new and prosperous country," they note, "as long ago as the 'eighties the sweating system, with its evils of low wages, long hours and unsanitary conditions, was discovered to be alarmingly prevalent. 'The Age,' the leading Melbourne newspaper, carried on a crusade against these conditions, and a royal commission was appointed, whose report in 1884 showed that hours were excessive and that wages were constantly reduced by the miserable rates paid to home workers. Public indignation was aroused, until finally determined efforts were made to overcome these evils."

IN THE NEW MAGAZINES

The April Atlantic.

The leading article of the April Atlantic, by a state senator for Wisconsin, throws light from a new quarter on the vexed problems of woman suffrage. The result of Mr. Bray's investigations, coming from a direct and intensive study of the political aspirations of the women in his senatorial district, will upset many foregone conclusions as to the attitude of the middle west toward the suffrage question—for Mr. Bray's constituency is not untypical of a large section of our country.

The swollen correspondence of the Atlantic bears witness to the interest which has been aroused by the series of war articles contained in recent issues. Gustavus Ohlinger, in his paper, 'German Propaganda in the United States,' presents the evidence concerning German-American activities in the United States. This paper is especially effective because the author takes his testimony exclusively from German-American sources. Lewis R. Freeman contributes a unique document concerning German air-raids, in his 'Sharks of the Air'—a record of his personal experiences during the visits of Zeppelins to England. James Norman Hall's second article on 'Kitchener's Mob,' is a presentation of the stark horror of modern trench warfare.

In "Meissner Pasha on the Egyptian Adventure," an American correspondent gives a prophetic conversation held by him with the German engineer who fathered the Bagdad Railway, regarding the probability of a German attack on the Suez canal.

In addition to these war articles, there is generous solicitation of the thought of readers in numerous other papers of widely differing nature. Joseph H. Odell draws up a severe indictment of certain phases of religious unprogressiveness in "The Economic Crime of the Protestant Church." In "The Crux of the Peace Problem," William Jewett Tucker analyzes one of the most critical problems confronting modern civilization.

There are two short stories and other features.

Poetry for April.

Poetry for April celebrates the tercentenary of Shakespeare with a poem by Agnes Lee and an essay by the editor.

The number is, besides, richly varied. It opens with a group of lyrics by the well known English poet, the editor of Everyman's Library, Ernest Rhys, whose exquisite style and delicate sense of rhyme are here devoted to modern subjects of universal interest, like "An April Romance," "Punch and Judy," "Death and the Jester."

Other contributors are Arthur V. Kent, a young English poet, and Clement Wood, who is beguiled for a moment from his serious business of running the "Collyum" in the New York Call to sing a "Spring Piece."

David, Lovable Lad, Hero of New Story

"Just David," by Eleanor H. Porter, author of the "Pollyanna" books. Houghton, Mifflin company, Boston. $1.25 net.

"Just David" is another story of happiness and inspiration. At the time the story opens, David is ten years old. He has lived most of his life in the mountains with his father, a famous violinist whose health is shattered. The boy inherits his father's talent, and is taught not only to play by note, but to express his own moods on his instrument.

As time passes, the father feels that it is time to return the boy to the world. They start together down the mountain, but the father dies just as they reach a little country village. A letter is found with his name signed to it but the writing is undecipherable, and David is of course considered "queer," but as he is a lovable lad and quaintly anxious to live "in harmony," he soon becomes an influence not only in the home where he stays, but throughout the entire village.

The story may be summed up in the words happiness, courage and inspiration. David is one of those characters that seem too real to be contained in the pages of a book; he will become the cherished friend of Mrs. Porter's hundreds of thousands of readers.

Four Times "Seventeen."

Harper & Brothers announce that they have just gone to press with the second edition of "Seventeen." Booth Tarkington's new book. Advance orders and reorders came in so quickly before the day of publication that it was impossible to fill them all. The printing of "Seventeen" is now being rushed on four presses.

Writer Offers a Burlesque on War

"How I Ended the Great War," by Fenry Hord is the title of a pamphlet published last week in Portland.

It is a narrative on the burlesque order and has humorous action and pointed dialogue among persons whose prototypes may be guessed. Fenry Hord, Shaft, Rowhard, William Bennings Ryan and the Kaiser being among the most prominent.

It is a half-open secret that the writer is a newspaper man who was war correspondent for the New York Sun at the Spanish-American war.

The author's idea is to show that human nature, unbridled by artificialities naturally gravitates toward permanent peace.

The pamphlet is on sale at book stalls for 15 cents. It is illustrated by Portland cartoonists.

Sweetheart Is False; She Adopts Child

About Miss Mattie Morningglory, by Lillian Bell. Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago. $1.35 net.

Miss Mattie is a warm-hearted, impulsive little woman, a milliner, whose first affections are centered upon a worthless sort of a fellow who deceives and robs her.

The arrest and exposure of her sweetheart open Miss Mattie's eyes to his perfidy and the subsequent shocks sends her to a hospital, where Miss Mattie adopts an orphan child, to save her from an operation and in this act is laid the cornerstone of the beautiful love story of cultivated, fastidious Matthew McCabe and this gentle, innocent-minded old maid—a story through which Miss Mattie's unselfish Christianity shines and is reflected by all who come in contact with her.

Miss Mattie gradually accumulates a household of waifs, whom Gracie calls "little lambs who cannot keep up with the flock." It is about these children, the neighbors, Mrs. Galloway, Maggie Connor, Mrs. Shapiro and old man Sproule, that the tale is told.

Oregon Man Offers Volume of Poems

The Heart of the Last Frontier, and other verses by Ernest Everhart Baker of Salem, Or. Oregon Booklovers' Edition. Printed by Statesman Publishing company, Salem, Or. $1.35 net; $1.50 registered.

In his book of poems Mr. Baker deals for the most part with people and things of the west, with humanity and scenery. The plains and the mountains, the harvest, and love and life in all its moods offer themes for his efforts.

Mr. Baker's preface speaks for itself:

Take, if you will, these orphans of my whim,
Dear dreams of prisoned years, when youth was mine,
Said to my wistful soul, when day grew dim,

In fancy, I have wandered far and near,
Questing these tender songs you might desire,
Singing them over to a yearning ear:
The troubled droonsongs of my fretful lyre.

A little dust of diamonds on a shore!
A passing tide will wash them out to sea!
Yet irks me little what reward in store,
If I have taught you what was proof to me.

Gay have I sung them to my lonely heart,
Loving their fancies music well and true—
Take them, dear Comrades, take them, as we part:
I gave my youth to buy these songs for you.

PUBLIC LIBRARY NOTES

In commemoration of the three hundredth anniversary of Shakespeare's death, the Central library has arranged exhibits showing the life of the period. In the second floor lobby is a collection of the Abbey illustrations of Shakespeare's plays. In cases in the hall and in the circulation room are plates showing the architecture, interiors, furniture and costumes of the period. Through the kindness of Miss Josephine Hammond of Reed college a model of a theatre of the time can be seen in the reference room.

In view of the present widespread agitation for improving the port facilities of Portland, the "Port of Hamburg," by Edwin Clapp, is especially timely. Hamburg has a position similar to Portland, being located on the river Elk, 75 miles from the sea with a rich hinterland tributary to it. This book gives an account of how, with a channel in the 40's of only six and one-half feet, she has become the greatest of European seaports.

"Posture" will be the subject of Dr. Bertha Sabin Stuart's lecture to be given in room A of the Central library on Thursday evening, April 6. This is the seventh lecture in the course on "How to Get Well and Keep Well."

Mrs. Eleanor Sanford Large will give a talk in library hall on Friday evening, April 7, at 8 o'clock, on "Shakespeare on the stage."

All lectures given in the library auditoriums are free and everyone interested is cordially invited to attend.

Most of It Is Coming True.

Both Rex Beach and Zane Grey have put the romance of the Mexican border into their recent fiction—Grey in his novel, "The Light of Western Stars," and Beach in his latest book, "Heart of the Sunset." Contemporary events and personages figure in this latter romance, only a little veiled; and readers may like to think that in the Mexican general who keeps the American heroine a captive, they have found the original of the bandit now being pursued by our troops.

Fuel Is Creaper

In every way when purchased now. Dealers advertise attractive prices in today's classified section.

OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY OF M'KINLEY IS D

Chas. S. Olcott, Author, W Chosen by Agreement of Three Intimates.

"The Life of William McKinley," by Ch S. Olcott. Houghton, Mifflin company ton. Two volumes, $5.00 boxed.

This work, due for publication A 8, is the long awaited official biog phy of the late President McKin The author was chosen by agreem of the three friends who were m intimately associated with Mr. Kinley—George B. Cortelyou, served as secretary to the presid through both administrations, Will R. Day, secretary of state during Spanish war, and Charles G. Daw former comptroller of the curre The wealth of material in their p session, particularly the large st of official documents, personal confidential letters, reports of l distance telephone talks, etc., wh had been collected for biograph purposes by Mr. Cortelyou, was pla at the author's disposal, together w the personal diaries of Mr. Cortel and Mr. Dawes.

Next to Washington's and Lincol the administration of President Kinley was perhaps the most mom ous in the history of the country it marked the transition of the Un States into the position of a w power. Many of its problems ar present day interest, notably the lomatic relations with Europe, paredness for war, the governmen the Philippines and the tariff and rency questions. The biography thr new light upon these subjects and Kinley's relation to them. It se s the complete record of achievements, based upon indisput evidence, and with full historical ba grounds. It is, therefore, a com hensive presentation of the history the country for a quarter of a cent ending in 1901.

The biography also gives for first time an intimate view of Mc ley's private and official life, and trays the lovable personal char which so endeared him to the nat

NEW BOOKS IN LIBRAR

Among the books recently adde the Portland public library are the lowing:

Biography.
Trudeau—An autobiography; 191

Fiction.
Andreev—Seven Who Were Han
Diviess—Over Paradise Ridge, a mance.
Lippmann—Burresses Amy.
London—Star Rover.
Oroxy—Bronze Eagle, a story of hundred days.
Oxenham—Broken Shackles.
Oyen—The Man Trail.
Raine—Steve Yeager.

Language.
Worman and Monsanto—First Sp ish Book. c1911.

Literature.
Altgeld—Oratory; 1915.
Andrews—Technique of Play W ing. c1915.
Butler—First Year in Canterb Settlement, with other early ess 1915.
Kendall—Essay Writing; 1915.
Neihardt—Song of Hugh Glass;
Rice, comp.—Mother's Day; Its tory, Origin, Celebration; 1915.
Teasdale—Rivers to the Sea; 191
Tolstoi—Plays; 1915.

Philosophy.
Allotta—Idealistic Reaction Agai Science; 1914.
Bok—Why I Believe in Poverty the Richest Experience That Come to a Boy; 1915.

Religion.
Bigelow—Religion of Revolut 1916.
Everest—Divine Demonstration Textbook of Christian Evidence; c
Hall—The Incarnation; 1915.
McKeever—How to Become an E cient Sunday School Teacher; c
McTaggart—Human Immorta and Preexistence; 1915.
Smith—Epistle of St. James; tures; 1914.

Science.
Martin—Triumphs and Wonders Modern Chemistry; 1913.

Sociology.
Chapman—New World and O Lectures; 1916.
Craft—Exodus From Poverty; c
Gartenberg—Materials of Corp tion Finance; c1915.
Kelynack, ed.—Defective Child 1915.
Richardson—Boy Scout Move Applied by the Church; 1915.
Woods—Life Insurance as a Work for College Men; 1911.

Useful Arts.
Akerman—Farm Forestry; 1914.
Bailey—York State Rural Probl 2 volumes; 1913-15.
Burns—Alternating Currents Sim fied; 1912.
Ernst—Text Book of Milk Hygi 1914.
Federal Furnace League—Warm Furnace; c1909.
Harding—Fur Buyers' Guide; c
Roth—Forest Regulation; 1914.
Timken—General Factory Acco ing; 1914.
Travelers' Insurance Company Treatise on Safety Engineering as plied to Scaffolds; c1915.

Reference.
Carnegie Institution of Washing —Year book; 1915.
Emery—New Mining Laws of A ka; rev. ed.; c1915.
Institute of Radio Engineers—T book, 1916; 1916.

Century's April List.

The following books are announ for April publication by The Cent company: "America's Foreign R tions," by Dr. Willis Fletcher Jo son, a two-volume history of our ternational relationships and for policy; "Children of Hope," a novel Stephen Whitman, describing the ventures of three beautiful Ameri girls who have gone to Europe study art; "Come Out of the Kitch a romance by Alice Duer Miller story of what befalls a young no ern man who has rented an old ginia manor house for the hun season; "By Motor to the Firing L an Artist's Notes and Sketches W the Armies of Northern France," Walter Hale, and "Golden Lads," servations of an American stret bearer with the Belgian first line Arthur Gleason, with a preface Theodore Roosevelt and a chapter "How War Seems to a Woman," Mrs. Gleason, who is a Red nurse was decorated for gallantry the Belgian king.

The Alibi Goes to Press Early Today to Give Its Printers a Chance to Celebrate.

SATURDAY EVG ALIBI

"EVERYBODY NEEDS ONE."

We Print a Great Deal of Stuff That Isn't News, Just Like the Big Dailies.

Vol. 7. PORTLAND, OR., U. S. A., APRIL 1, 1916. No. 55.

SATURDAY EVENING ALIBI
Rex Lampman, Ed. and Pub.
April 1, 1916.

EDITORIAL.

SPRING FEVER.

Acting on the advice of our physician, we have written no ringing editorial for this wk. He told us to avoid all mental strain, and we said writing an editorial wouldn't make any difference, but he said no not to do it because we might think of something while we were writing it.

TOWN TALES.

Bill Goldman's double chin is getting more so.

Sanfield Macdonald was in to see ye editor yesterday, as he is running for office.

Judge Langguth used to write short stories, and once sold one to the Omaha Bee for $6.00.

Frank Stearns was here from Clatskanie this wk., on a blend of business and pleasure, about ½ and ½.

Paul R. Keltv has lost his umbrella. We regret to chronicle this fact, because P. R. K. had so much faith in human nature.

Young Dug Lawson was here from Prineville this wk. Dug is a son of Tom Lawson, the w. k. literary aurora borealis.

Tom Conlon, mgr. of the Empress, was born in Hannibal, Mo., otherwise celebrated, we believe, as the birthplace of Mark Twain.

Tom Burke, whose brother Harry is now here from Iowa, was in from Ore. City the other day, and he and Art Geary were blinking in the bright lights of Wash st.

Leonard McMahon was here from Salem this wk. He has a lean and hungry look. It may be he thinks too much, but this isn't likely, as he used to be a newspaper man, and probably got out of the habit at that time.

Kernel Pop Bowers is going to Sol Duc Hot Springs to run a hotel. We don't know where Sol Duc is, except that it's in the state of Wash., but we do know that it's due for a wave of chivalry and culture.

Pete Mayer took a vacation from living in Seattle this wk., and was here. Pete denies the report that bootleggers are so thick up there that they have to wear badges to keep from selling to each other. He says they do sell to each other, just as people used to trade town lots in Portland, and think they are doing 45 cents.

MULLAN MAKES FIGHT AGAINST MAD WATERS

He Is Forced to Partially Undress to Gain Victory.

Ore. City., Mar. 30.—(Alibi paid wire)—Simon L. Mullan, who supervises road building in parts of Clackamas county, tried to Ford through Parkplace, which was under water during the past week. His Henry refused to go, after reaching the middle of the lake, and Si, after cranking his car a number of times, without resulta, climbed into the car, removed his shoes and socks, and waded out in front of the car, and with the aid of his brute strength pushed his Ford onto dry land, and after adjusting his carburetor, came into town with a consciousness that man is superior to the forces of nature.

Yeh, Jake, Go On.

Jacob Kiter says he'd rather be a pessimist and tell the truth than be an optimist.

Mac Was Rash.

J. B. McKinnon was here from La Grande this wk., and was looking for a man who he thought might be related to him, which is something we never do.

Big Deal Reported.

If today wasn't Apr. 1st this paper might play up the report Wilbur Coman has closed a deal with Frank Griffith to light his street cars for him.

Larry vs. Red Tape.

Larry Larimore, mgr. of the Oregon house, went to send a parcel post package to Toronto, "but I had to go through the goldarndest rigamarole you ever saw," he told Tommy Swivell, the demon chauffeur. "They made me sweat three times, and get three two manifestos, and all for 45 cents."

THE BOYS HAVE A HARSH BOSS

—By Ernest Fielding.

HALL OF FAME

Jerry Gooch, who has been living at Vale, has gone back to Missouri.

S. Norton Bobo has changed his name to Stephen N. Bobo, and has a new job.

We put Mont Shugg of Seattle in this dept. simply because of his name.

Per Lee Welty is an insurance man with Portland and Seattle as his hunting grounds.

Symptoms.

Marsh Dana is getting restive, and the chances are he's out today with Sam Hewitt trying to get some material for further fiction concerning fish.

Just Among Friends.

Win Terry, the bagpipe fiend and violet fancier, says Gus Gerstel isn't to blame for being the most handsome man on 23d st., and Gus says Lew Tinker is a faker, and we don't know what they mean but we hope they settle it without going to law.

POUCHING PICTURE.

The little girl is about to hang a wreath on the door of the city hall in memory of 1000 cords of wood.

BEND WAS SCENE OF VERY PLEASANT TIME

Other Most Exclusive News From Central Oregon Metropolis.

Bend, Or., Mar. 30.—(Extra special.) — A pleasant time was had last Friday just before dinner in your corr's apt. at the Pilot Butte, the host being Ed Garrison of Portland, and the subject of debate, "Would a face massage help a wrinkled prune?" Among those present was our host, your corr., Dave and Frank Sullivan, Dug Lawson and a box factory expert whose name we forgot. Ed bro't it with him.

D. L. & O. D. Hunter, accompanied by Dave Sullivan on the Underwood, are adding population to Bend in case lots.

Tom McCann has got his new mill working slick and has begun to turn John Ryan's park into lumber piles.

Harr Brooks and Ed Keyes are rushing work on their mill so as to catch the button box trade in Jamaica.

Editor Charley Short of the Press will be out after trout before the lines reach the reader; also after, he being nutty along those lines.

Something Ought to Be Done About It.

The mirrors in the elevator in the postoffice bldg. need washing, but it's back of the glass and nobody knows what to do.

Alibi Gave Warning.

As predicted in this paper last wk., when it said that Ben Lerner had sworn off smoking cigarets, and there probably was a reason, notice of Ben's engagement to Miss Hortense Jacobs was issued Tues. Watch this paper for the news before it is news. We lead, our competitors watch to see what we are going to do, so they will know what not to do.

LETTERS TO US

Kernel Roosevelt's Owl.

Medford, Or., Mar. 28.—Ed. Alibi—A late news item in your esteemed contemp., The Journal, says:

Colonel Roosevelt chronicled the discovery of the more or less rare guacharo bird, which inhabits the caves of Demerara.

"It is nocturnal in habits," explained the colonel. "About as big as a barn owl, has a big mouth, with whiskers, little feet and eats nuts."

Query: If the colonel came in actual contact with this bird why was he not cracked—or is he?
—or is he? —"W."

Linnton, Or., Mar. 25.—Ed. Alibi—A friend of mine says he read that Theodore Roosevelt was pursued twice around the hot lake of Trinidad by a wonderful new nut-eating bird that looks like an owl and does not bark like a dog. When I doubted his story he cited the bird's dietary habits as furnishing a probable motive for the pursuit. What about it?
—M. W. W.

Answer to above letters: The natural instincts of the wild creatures seldom play them falsely.

Uplift Item.

J. O. Elrod and Bill Buoy made up their minds that smoking was hurting them, so they said they wouldn't smoke until after lunch, and now they go to lunch at 10:30.

Weekly Alf Item.

Alf Cridge says to keep boys on the farm, keep the prices of farm lands down so they will not have to work half a life time to pay for one. Alf says he has known farmers try to save money by half feeding their stock, and then swear the creamery manager was grafting their butterfat. Alf has his lucid intervals, we are pleased to state.

We Don't Wear 'Em.

Chas. Pray, leading grouch of the U. S. secret service, the appropriateness of whose birthday being today we mentioned last wk., says there ought to be a law against reporters wearing glasses so as to make them subject to assault at any time.

Dong.

Young Bob Maguire was married six years last Tues., and he and Mrs. Bob felt so good at getting so far along with no little trouble that they invited Ev Johnson and A. Slaymaker and others and their wives and Ev got the prize, a bouquet of violets, for bridge whist, and Slay won the book for his imitations of the modern dances.