

The Oregon Statesman

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R. J. Hendricks, Manager Stephen A. Stone, Managing Editor Ralph Glover, Cashier Frank Jaskoski, Manager Job Dept.

TELEPHONES: Business Office, 23. Circulation Department, 633. Job Department, 633. Society Editor, 106.

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ABOUT PRISON DISCIPLINE

A natural public reaction to the increased prevalence of crime is a questioning of the more moderate system of prison discipline and routine that have been developed in recent years.

And more modern and humane. Police Commissioner Enright of New York has expressed this feeling in a declaration to the effect that prisoners at Sing Sing are being coddled too much, that they have too much ease and comfort, too much good food. Warden Lawes of Sing Sing has made a reply that is illuminating.

While the experimental system of discipline in which the prisoners themselves had an important part, introduced by Thomas Mott Osborne during his wardenship, has been considerably modified, Mr. Lawes is a firm believer in modern humanitarian methods. The contrast between the old and the new ways is expressed in this paragraph:

"We have a stern and thorough system of discipline in spite of all superficial observations to the contrary. We do not use ball and chain; we do not shave heads, unless the inmate prefers that style of address; we do not dress the men in stripes; we do not use whips or clubs. The days of that kind of prison discipline have gone, I hope to stay gone, and I speak out of long years of prison experience, not from sentiment. Our system of discipline is not the unnatural system of brute compulsion; it is the natural system of special rewards for good behavior, and special punishments for breach of the rules."

Still, "six-cent meals, a 3 1/2-foot unventilated stone hole to sleep in and 1 1/2 cents a day to save up for the future—these are the fundamental facts about the coddling" at Sing Sing.

Band concerts, baseball games, "movies" and an occasional "big show" serve to relieve the tedium of prison service and especially to lessen the hours of confinement in the noisome cells, happily soon to be done away with. These are the things which attract public attention because of the contrast which they present with the old ways. They do not exactly fit in with old notions of revenge as an element in the justification of punishment. They do, however, conform to the old belief that Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do. There is understanding of the nature of mental reactions, which operate in prison as well as out, and there is practical social dynamics in the new policy.

Warden Lawes' recognition of the necessity of individual treatment for the prisoner is significant of the modern view. "There is a separate problem," he says, "in each one of these men. We have, if you please, about a thousand different kinds of problems at Sing Sing." The ages of the 1150 to 1200 inmates range from 16 years to 70, with "mental ages" ranging from six years upward. Their average term of sentence is about six years. Thirty nationalities are represented. Most of the prisoners are unskilled, many are unwilling to work, many are tubercular and mentally defective and about 12 per cent are drug addicts. Yet the industrial output of the prison has averaged about \$60,000 a month and would be still greater if the market for the goods produced was bet-

ter developed. A marked improvement in the output has been effected in recent years.

Return to the traditional rock pile, the ball and chain and the lockstep might deter some criminally-inclined. That it would have a much greater influence in the opposite direction, even during a "crime wave" is the modern view which has not been effectively refuted.

And it will not be. Prison reform is on the way in the United States; but it has a long way yet to go. To turn prisoners out into the world at the end of their prison terms better citizens than when they entered is the desire of all prison officials worthy of their positions. Many ways are taken—as many almost as there are prisons in this country. At San Quentin, Cal., has been developed the best educational system in any prison in the United States. Each progressive warden has worked out some superior system. There should be greater uniformity and standardization; taking something from each of the successful experiments for the use of all of our prisons—

And prison officials ought all to be trained men. Many improvements have been made under Warden Compton at the Oregon state penitentiary; the system there is almost as perfect as the inadequate facilities will permit. But this is not saying that many improvements might not be made, and without great expense; indeed, with no expense but with profit, taking a series of years—

For instance, if Warden Compton could be assured that his position was to be absolutely divorced from politics; that he could have whatever changes in the laws he would recommend, and that his tenure of office would depend absolutely upon his success in keeping down per capita costs and in the largest measure of success he could attain in turning out men who would be law abiding and self supporting and never return for second and successive terms.

The Muscle Shoals project is still in the realm of uncertainty. Henry Ford insists that Uncle Sam get out and get under.

It is reported that fewer than 2500 American troops now remain in Germany. That's plenty.

The agenda's the thing. The Genoa conference will have to change its agenda from political to economic matters, if the United States is to participate.

Mr. Jefferson is smoking again, according to news from Madras. Evidences of the habit have not been seen on this side of the mountain.

There is now a membership of 113,000 in the national guard of the various states and it will soon be larger than the regular army. As organized, it is more effective than ever before in our history.

The Democrats who are opposing the peace pacts in congress think they are playing good politics. Future events will likely show that they are playing bad politics.

On the eve of her wedding Princess Mary renounced all right to the throne, but, as the queening business is going out of fashion, her sacrifice was not as great as might have appeared at the first blush.

The parliamentary mission, empowered by the Philippine legislature to negotiate for the independence of the islands, will leave Manila in April for the United States. They may enjoy their visit, but otherwise it will amount to little. Excepting, of course, a

bill of expense to the impoverished insular treasury. What it should accomplish is a hastening of congress in providing more authority for the officials of the United States in aiding the Filipinos to maintain a stable government; with less interference from the politicians of the islands.

Former President Wilson is said to favor the ratification of the pending treaties by the senate and it is understood that Senator Underwood, the Democratic member of the American conference body, represents the ex-president in his advocacy of the measures. It is likely that some way will be found to muzzle James M. Cox of Ohio, whose Jackson day address at Dayton created some dismay among Democratic managers who want to eliminate international discussion and to fight the next campaign on domestic issues.

EUROPE ABLE TO PAY

The surprising advance of foreign exchange toward normal rates, the progress made by European nations in payment of debts to private investors and the ability of Germany to make payments on reparation obligations, are all cited by the Republican Publicity association in support of the policy of asking our European debtors to make early agreements for the liquidation of their debts to our national treasury. In a discussion of the subject, issued through the president of the organization Hon. Jonathan Bourne, Jr., Washington, D. C., the association says:

"Reports of daily transactions in foreign exchange and in foreign bonds thoroughly refute the assertion of debt cancellationists that our European debtors cannot possibly pay their war obligations to the United States. Improvement in their merchandise balance of trade, and in their service income outside of merchandising, has been so vastly strengthened the situation of the leading European nations that exchange rates, stated in dollars, have increased to a degree that has astonished even the most sanguine. The pound sterling, which, in normal times, has a value of \$4.85, went as low as \$3.19 in 1920, and is now quoted at \$4.44. From a 33 per cent depreciation it has increased to only a 9 per cent depreciation. "Recent reports of sales of bonds in the open market contain the information that 'while the general level of the market is making little headway in either direction, foreign issues are conspicuous by their strength. For the last few days foreign bonds have averaged approximately 25 per cent of the total dealings in bonds on the New York exchange. New high records have been attained by half a score of issues.' "This favorable information is not limited to the nations formerly known as the allies, for commercial reports inform us that exports from Hamburg during January exceeded imports by 1,700,000,000 marks, and that Hamburg has regained 50 per cent of its pre-war shipping traffic, despite the fact that Germany is practically without a mercantile fleet. "Moreover, one of the most prominent financiers in the United States is authority for the statement that government loans obtained in the United States through private banking houses reached the total of \$2,587,000,000, and of that amount all but about \$818,000,000 have been repaid. Of course, those figures bear no relation to the eleven-billion-dollar debt owed the United States treasury. What has taken place in the handling of those privately distributed securities should be accorded serious consideration by the debt refunding commission. The record effectively disposes of the argument so frequently advanced by publicists in certain debtor governments that they are unable to pay the principal or even the interest on their obligations to us. As a matter of fact they have paid the interest and two-thirds of the principal of the loans obtained from Americans direct. "There was no greater moral or legal obligation for making those payments than for keeping up the interest and reducing the principal of the sums owed the American treasury. In both cases the money came from the people of this country, and it must be returned to them. The refunding commission can very properly maintain a firm stand against any suggestion for a remission of the amounts due our treasury."

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from us? Do we owe America any service, any loyalty, any love? Do we owe our country as much as the risk of a life? Under any circumstances do we owe it a life? If loyalty is worth anything, how far will \$365 or twice that sum go toward making things even between the man who went into the zone of fire for the love of his country and the man who, staying at home for the love of gain, sold the boy at the front \$3 shoes for \$13, or \$4 puttees at \$24, a \$25 overcoat for \$100 and a \$2 hat for \$12? What is the money difference between charging through a barrage of high explosives and deliberately loafing on a job in the shipyard? War as a distributor of justice is a miserable blunderer at the best. Twenty thousand men are said to have been raised to the class of millionaire through profits made out of their country's distresses during the war. Good men and bad were sent to the front; good men and bad were sent to the shipyards and the spruce camps. But there is a moral gap between the man who chose to face death for his country and he who chose to save his skin and gather plunder behind the lines—a moral gap so wide that a bridge of gold cannot span it. To the end of his days the loyal soldier can say to himself: "I did the best I knew how. I marched in mud—I stood guard in the rain and the snow; I went over the top trembling but willing; I stumbled ahead and stuck it out with the rest of the boys. Whatever there is in that of patriotism, I gave to my country."

What can the slacker and the profiteer say to balance that? Which of these two men is ahead in this count, bonus or no bonus?

HOPE ON, YE BALD

Of course, no member of the Bald Elect who knows that his baldness has been caused by mental effort in distinguished fields has tried it, but it seems that the great hope that peanuts promote the growth of hair has been exploded. The United States department of agriculture chemists now say that tests have demonstrated that, though the proteins in peanuts show a certain amount of cystine, which is one of the amino acids present in great quantities in hair, wool and feathers, goobers will not grow hair on humal scalps. It is just as well, anyway. In view of the findings of the learned chemists persistent consumption of goobers might in time induce a crop of Shropshire wool or ostrich feathers on the cranium, and this would be inconvenient.

HAS NO FRIENDS

The Arizona senate, by a substantial majority, passed a measure repealing the direct primary act of that state. Outside of the politicians who have been able to build up a machine by manipulating the election the direct pri-

SHIPYARDS AND TRENCHES

(Portland Evening Telegram, Tuesday.) A cash bonus for the young man who took his fun and faced death in the trenches at thirty-five dollars a month while his neighbor staid at home and lounged about the shipyards at \$200 a month—a cash bonus big enough to make things even between the two—this is what the bonus promoters at Washington are saying and the words sound inspiring and fair. Is America an employer and are all her young men hired men? Is America us, or something apart

FUTURE DATES

March 10, Friday—"Breezy Point," Girls' Reserve club play at high school. March 10, Friday—Williamette Freshman game at army. March 10, Friday—Intercollegiate oratorical contest at Pacific college, Newberg. March 11, Saturday—Convention of Marion county Tax Reduction League. March 11, Saturday—El Karas Grotto dance at Army for all Master Masons and families. March 13, Tuesday—Open house of Latin club of the high school in the school auditorium. March 14, Tuesday—Company F, Smoker at army, featuring Fred Hall and Earl Snyder, middleweights. March 14, Tuesday—Knights of Pythias lodge of Willamette Valley to convene in Salem. March 15, Wednesday—Grand jury meets. March 16, 17 and 18—State basketball tournament, Salem. April 17, Friday—"Paul R-ver" to be presented by Salem high school department. March 17, Friday—St. Patrick's day. March 17—Meeting of county Sunday school at high school. March 17, 18 and 19—Marion county Sunday school convention, Salem. March 20, Monday—Spring term of circuit court opens. March 20, Monday—State convention Oregon Tax Reduction League in Portland. March 22 to 25—Mary Garden and company in grand opera, Portland. March 27, Monday—First day of March term Marion county circuit court. March 31, Friday—"Mrs. Temple's Telegram," Skikpoh Dramatic society play at the high school. April 16 to 23—"Better Music" week in Salem. April 16, Sunday—Easter. May 13, Saturday—Junior week-end entertainment at O. A. C. May 26 and 27, Friday and Saturday—May Festival, Oratoric Creation Friday in armory; living pictures Saturday night. June 14, Wednesday—High Day. June 15, Friday—High school graduation. June 22-30, July 1—Convention of Oregon Fire Chiefs' association at Marshfield. July 9 and 4—Monday and Tuesday. State convention of citizens at Woodburn. September 21, 22 and 23—Pendleton round-up. November 7, Tuesday—General election.

mary has few friends or defenders. It was advertised as giving every man a chance to run for office on his individual merits. It doesn't even do that. A man must start with a mint of money or a heap of advertising before he has the ghost of a show. The best man for the office remains undiscovered.—Los Angeles Times.

HIS OTHER SOCK

King George has made Arthur Balfour a knight of the garter in recognition of his services at the Washington conference. This is the highest honor His Majesty can confer. At the same time, some Americans will wonder how Arthur will keep up his other sock.—Exchange.

BITS FOR BREAKFAST

Spring's feet are leaden.

But the spring fashion show is casting its rays athwart the path of the lady members of the household; and its lure will not be denied.

Lent began March 3. In what way and along what particular line are you "mortifying the flesh?"

It is good to know, and it will do good to see, that Salem has the best equipped hotel kitchen in the entire northwest. We cannot have or boast of too many bests.

If you do not shine your own, you will be interested to know that the price of shoe shining in

Salem has got back to normal as far as 10c. It was 15c.

The former Iowa people who live in this district—and scads of them do—will feel a bit chummy to know that Iowa fowls graced the wedding breakfast of Princess Mary of England.

Are you running for anything? You will be odd, pretty soon, if you are not in the swim of candidates.

The million and a half daily circulation of the London Daily Mail which is being advertised in New York papers, has never been approached in America. It wouldn't be possible over there if about half the people of London read foreign language newspapers, as they do in New York. An English language newspaper published in our largest city is handicapped by the city's polyglot population and babel of tongues.

Philip Scheidemann, former German chancellor, has placed the blame for the World War upon Germany. Ever so often there is a bit of gray matter in a German roundhead.



There's No Picture Like the Picture of Health

The greatest masterpiece in the Art Gallery of Life is Nature's "Picture of Health." It is a marvelous portrayal of the human body at its best. One beholds in its composite detail a true symbol of strength. It presents a figure of striking appearance in its erect carriage, clear skin, sparkling eyes, strong limbs, steady nerves and firm muscles; fairly vibrating in animation—keen, alert, fresh, and spirited; with an air of unbounded confidence and a face radiant in color and illuminated with a glow of hope and cheerfulness.

For sale by all druggists, always in stock at Perry's Drug Store

The Junior Statesman

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The Biggest Little Paper in the World

Edited by John H. Miller

Home Talent Plays

THE FAIRY OF THE SILK HAT Scene: Parlor of the O'Flannery household. Nora is reading, curled up in a chair. Enter Kathleen, breathless.

KATHLEEN: Oh, Nora! Father's raging around upstairs like a bear. You'd think he'd bite any minute. His silk hat's lost entirely!

NORA: Not his parade hat, surely!

KATHLEEN (nodding vigorously): His fine silk hat he wears every year in the St. Patrick's Day parade.

NORA: You're not telling me that!

KATHLEEN: It's the truth I'm telling you. It's himself put it away last 17th of March. To-day he went to get it out for the parade this afternoon, and he can't find where he put it. We've been looking till I'm blue in the face almost. I wonder where...

(She gets down and looks under the sofa. Nora starts peering distractedly into all sorts of unlikely places.)

NORA: Why it's broken-hearted he'll be. He hasn't missed a St. Patrick's Day parade since he came to America, he says.

KATHLEEN: And he can't go without his silk hat. I've looked everywhere and everywhere. (The two girls sink down on the sofa and look at each other in despair.)

NORA: Oh, I'm wishing silk hats were as bushy!

KATHLEEN: I'm wishing there were fairies would bring silk hats for the asking—a nice Irish fairy like mother used to tell us about.

NORA: But she never said anything about their bringing silk hats.

NORA: Oh, I see—but how about the hat?

FAIRY: That's yours to keep. (The Fairy glides quietly from the room. Nora picks up the hat.)

KATHLEEN: And we didn't even thank her. Oh, but I'm that glad I'm Irish!

NORA (running to doorway): Father! I've found your silk hat in the old shoes closet. Father!

ATHLEEN (rubbing her eyes): There's something wrong with me entirely.

NORA (timidly): We didn't mean to bother you, please. And excuse us if we seem rude—but we didn't expect you, exactly.

FAIRY: Shure, an' you called me.

KATHLEEN: We were wishing... wishing...

NORA: Wishing we had a silk hat.

FAIRY: And whatever would you be athering doing with a silk hat?

KATHLEEN: Somebody's stolen enor's father's and he can't be in the parade without it. We're that worried.

NORA: St. Patrick's Day, you know.

FAIRY: So that's if me darlin'! A silk hat you shall have! (She waves her walking stick. A silk hat, suspended by black silk threads which are invisible to the audience slowly jerks into the room as though moving by itself.)

NORA: Oh, it's for all the world like father's old hat. He'll be that pleased he'll be beside himself. I'm thinking.

KATHLEEN: You're a regular Irish fairy, aren't you?

FAIRY: From the ould sod, indeed.

NORA: Wait and I'll be telling father and he'll come and thank you himself.

FAIRY: A misfit, please! Does your father believe in fairies?

NORA: No, that he doesn't. He says it's silly. But I'll show him.

FAIRY: Then you mustn't call him. People who don't believe in fairies can never see them, even if they are right by them. He'd think it's stories you were telling.

Oh, my goodness, look at this

ONE REEL YARNS

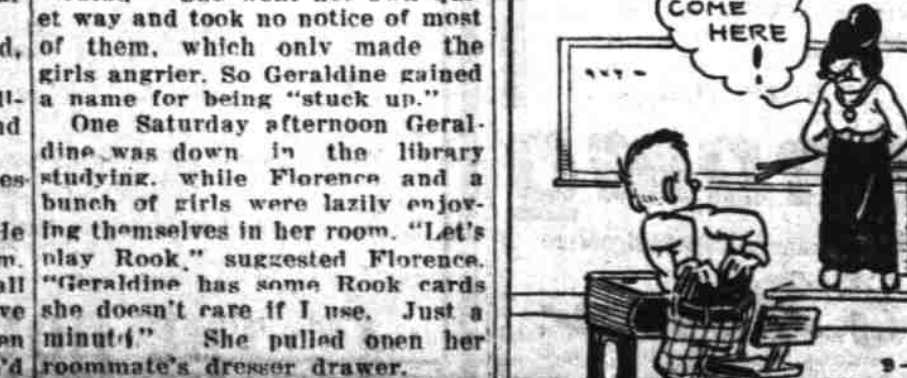
CYRENA ERALDINE was the youngest girl in the Mt. Hope School. The Districtress had refused at first to admit her, but Geraldine's uncle was very rich, and Geraldine was very bright, so she had agreed to let the girl try to carry the work.

TODAY'S PUZZLE

The initial letters of the following girls' names, when arranged in the right order, form the last name of a famous woman: Turh, sarete, name, vain, viloe, tehh.

Answer to yesterday's: Snipe; crow-n; pain-t.

JUST BEFORE THE BATTLE



Oh, my goodness, look at this

SCHOOL STUDY REPORTS

HUMOR PLAY WORK