

# The Oregon Statesman

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## LET US BANISH FEAR

(Copyrighted by the San Jose Mercury)

Superstition is but the natural expression of ignorance. With the dawn of the light of knowledge the ghosts, hobgoblins and demons which people the imaginary dark world of superstition disappear, even as the terrors of night vanish with the coming of the great orb of day.

For example, there has always been, there still is, a great mystery about the death of the body for most people. Connected with this perfectly natural phenomenon there has come down to us from the past many childish and superstitious ideas.

Many most intelligent religious people are coming to understand, however, that there is not, that there never can be, any more union or connection between the soul that has gone on and this inanimate garment that it has cast off than there is between you and the worn out coat that you laid aside last year.

Death is as natural as birth. Indeed, birth is even a more wonderful phenomenon than death. Why should the one be clothed in mystery more than the other?

When the Bible speaks of death it does not, as a rule, mean death of the body. It usually refers to this in some such words as "He was gathered to his fathers" or "He gave up the ghost."

In the past superstition filled the life after death with such uncertainties and terrors that the stoutest heart was overcome with horrible, undefined fears at the mere thought of facing it.

doubt and uncertainty as to their future, and became wretched. Many minds were unbalanced by these fears. Cheerfulness almost disappeared from some parts of the earth, and solemnity and piety became synonymous terms.

Such unfortunate people could wake up on a spring morning and hear the birds singing as if their throats would burst trying to express their joy; see the sun shining, the flowers blooming gloriously, and all nature alive with joy and light and beauty, without changing their attitude.

Then why not banish all these fears, superstitions, horrors and uncertainties with which the ignorance of the past has filled the future? More, why not let the God of love reveal Himself and His love and truth to us, not only through the words of the New Testament and His beautiful physical universe, but out of His spiritual universe which is today just as real as it ever was?

The God of love has established the law of love under which His creatures may elect to live; but they must obey this law if they are to live under it. He has given to His children something of His own life; but they must cherish and nurture this life if they are to enjoy its blessings.

Congressman Simeon Fess announces himself as a candidate for the United States senate from Ohio to succeed little Atlee Pomerene. Wonder if he is any relation to the Simeon, son of Jacob and Leah, of the old Bible story?

"Rev. Percy Stickney Grant, rector of the Church of the Ascension, New York, has voluntarily reduced his salary from \$10,000 to \$5000 a year. It is evident he knows just about what he is worth."—Exchange.

Having settled that there is no such thing as evolution, a friend at the writer's elbow says Col. Bryan will next dispel the misinformation abroad about the invention of the printing press by

lation of the blood, and the Bessemer process for the manufacture of steel. There are a lot of things he must clear up. Watt's steam engines and Stephenson's railways will follow as soon as he is able to get around to them.

A New York presbytery has resolved to allow women to become deacons. If the march of improvement goes on some of these days the sex will be allowed to go to heaven. And, seriously, what would heaven be without them?

### DEFENDS FLAPPERS

The flappers have found a perfectly good defender of unimpeachable standing. She is the Rev. Maude Royden, England's most famous woman preacher. And she is in New York doing a little preaching on behalf of the flapper.

She says she likes the flappers, she approves of their cigarettes and their short skirts and their bobbed hair. She says their manners are natural and charming, not vulgar and wicked. She says they are independent and capable, not parasites and wasters. And she thinks their independence and naturalness have a particularly good effect upon the young men.

### SERMON BY YE PASTOR

"Be a good neighbor." That's the only way that the world's problems will be solved. They aren't going to be settled mainly by legislation or war or through "scientific" methods.

What a marvel it is! Our modern miracles are so much more unbelievable than the wonders of old. Radio concerts cover thousands of square miles, the human voice carrying around the world, and one after another of the plagues of men falling before serums.

### MODERN MIRACLES

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being. Somehow or other we imagine Dock has the right "dope," as the saying goes.—Exchange.

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# The Junior Statesman

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## THE SWIMMING CLASS—Lesson 1

BY JACK GIBON The Man Who Taught One Thousand and New Orleans Boys and Girls How to Swim

It is peculiar, but a fact, that all the movements of the body required in ordinary swimming may be learned on dry land more easily than in the water.

Most beginning swimmers have a fear of water, and the presence of this fear retards one's progress in mastering the stroke. If the would-be swimmer accustoms himself to the stroke before he enters the water he will learn how to swim more quickly than he otherwise would.

The ordinary stroke consists of three movements: The leg movement, arm stroke and the breathing. Each of these should be learned separately and then combined.

Start with the leg movement. Stand with your heels together and your hands on your hips. Lift your right leg up, with your knee pointing out to the side, until the heel almost touches the left knee.

forward at the beginning of the stroke. Inhale as they start backward in the wonderful garden of the manor house.

"Father," said Walter that night, "why can't I have a garden of my own? You could bring me some seeds or plants they don't want."

His father pushed back his chair angrily. "Don't let me hear you talk that way again," he exclaimed. "My son is not going to be a gardener. Never talk to me about gardens again."

Down in the glen beyond the house, Walter made his flower garden, starting with seeds he had found back of the greenhouse. It was all a secret, and he was always in fear of being discovered.

One day he was working over his garden when a shadow appeared above him. He looked up with a sudden fear, and there stood the master of the manor, looking down at him intently.

Walter was on his feet in an instant, trying to explain, his throat dry with terror. And somehow he found himself telling about Sandy, and about raising flowers. And the master listened. Then he took him into his house and into his library and pulled out book after book on natural science and it all seemed a dream to Walter.

"And to think," old Sandy would say, in days to come, when he spoke of his acquaintance with Walter Blum, the great naturalist, "that it was me started him gardening."

Glen Garden "How many times," said old Sandy, flourishing his hoe threateningly, "have I told ye to stay away!" The son of the assistant gardener drew back. "Out of here, out of here!" shouted Sandy. "Walter walked slowly out of the beautiful and closed the gate behind him. Much as he wanted to stay, he dared not for fear of getting his father into trouble with

## DAILY PICTURE PUZZLE

What Parts Of An Automobile Are These?



Answer to yesterday's: "Make hay while the sun shines." Answer to today's: Wheel, hood, axle.

## THE SHORT STORY, JR.

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With a few comfortable chairs—a rocker or two—a table—and a luxurious swing—you can turn your veranda into an ideal outdoor living room and enjoy the summer breezes to your heart's content.

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