The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe."
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

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The Length of the Life Span

THE normal expectancy of life has been greatly lengthened in the last century and especially so in the last quarter-century. Despite the ages attributed to ancients of bible times, ages which now are regarded as mythical, the real age at death averaged only a little over 20 years. Hard conditions of birth and of youth and maturity increased mortality of the earlier years, thus holding down the average. As these conditions improved the life-expectation lengthened until a study made in Germany at the end of the 17th century showed the average age at death to be 33 and a half years. In New England the expectation of life at the beginning of the 18th century was 35 years, in the middle of the 19th century 40 years. In 1890 the figure was 44 years, and more recent studies show the life span average to be 59 years in Massachusetts.

What has brought this about? Chiefly education in public health and the winning of the battle against germ diseases. Rarely now do plagues like the fevers and choleras strike and decimate whole populations. Small-pox, diphtheria, scarlet fever these have been pretty well mastered either by inoculation or the use of curative toxins. Improved sanitation, purer milk and water supplies, proper disposal of wastes, abolishment of slums and tenements these have done much in promoting longevity. Then wonders have been worked in the preservation of life at birth. In America the death rate both for mothers and babes is still inexcusably high, but the rate is downward and by continued education and health regulation it may be lowered much more.

With this very gratifying showing we are apt to be quite complacent and think that death is not so imminent as in years gone by. But for one who has reached the age of 40, his remaining expectancy of life is no greater than of old. In fact his chances of living to a ripe old age are not quite so good as it was prior to 1880. We have had many formulas for promoting octogenarianism: buttermilk, cabbage, vegetables, transplanting of glands, all have proven as futile as Ponce de Leon's search for the fountain of youth. As Louis I. Dublin writing in the May Harper's on this subject says:

"We have not yet learned how to check the processes of degeneration. Today even larger numbers of people are dying of heart disease, cancer, cerebral hemorrhage, arterial diseases, Bright's disease, and diabetes. . . . We seem, in fact, to be confronted at the older ages with the gradual breakdown of the human organism. Apparently the human body like the machine in industry, has a fairly definite working life and each year of activity produces a certain amount of depreciation. Consequently we see little hope of any improvement until we find out more abut the causes of senescence."

The psalmist's three score years and ten still seems the limit of expectation for one who has passed the colics and upsets of infancy. The extra years are very often apt to be robbing time for no great satisfaction. Some there are who cling to life merely for its arithmetic, that the toll of their years may be great. Others are more happy to live life to the full and then pass on without the rheumy afflictions of old age. As Tennyson wrote: "Better fifty years of Europe than a cycle of Cathay."

School Entertainments

IF ONE wants to study the impact of the comic strip and the movie and talkie on youth he should attend one of the typical school entertainments of the day. Times have changed in schools as in other spheres of life, and in the field of school entertainment just as much as any. In former years a school entertainment majored in serious efforts: readings, dialogues, worth-while plays, choruses. True the work was that of amateurs and had many rough edges, but there was a vein of real purpose running through it. The box office was incidental.

The present day school entertainment is theatrical in this that its prime concern is the gate receipts. So many of them are of the vaudeville or circus order—a series of improvised stunts of scant value to the audience and no particular value to the performers. Parrish junior high had one of them the other night. A row of hand-me-down college stunts were worked over, some novel features added and the whole presented as an entertainment by the 9A students, who are supposed to be ready for senior high. From the skill they displayed in crude comedy one must admit they are quite ready for high school.

There were some really good things in the production, and some good acting. But it was typically vaudeville, broad humor taking the place of any serious purpose. Bare-legged dancing, tap and toe dancing: the schools are educating the feet if not the head. In one particular we think the schools of today excel in their programs those of a quarter century ago, that is in their instrumental music. They attempt more in the way of orchestra and band work, and the results are good. Chorus singing shows no improvement.

One observes too that the performers are not at all timid; in fact with some of them there is almost a freshness, which is not surprising considering their education in comic-strip smart-aleck stuff. Are we ageing? Well, perhaps; but we feel like going to the Leslie operetta at the senior high school auditorium tonight to see if that performance will not impress us as being more "worth-while" for junior high presentation.

The Wizard of Oz

OZ WEST has met his wizard in the person of Walter Pierce. The two ex-governors had a finish fight in the democratic primaries and the result was positive and decisive. West trailed the man from the wide open spaces by over 8,000 votes. West's defeat came as an open rebuke for his affiliation with utility interests in the guise of a disinterested servant of the people. His tongue-lashing of young Harlan in the session of the last legislature gave good entertainment and delighted those who like to see the verbal lash laid on without mercy, but the incident gave the man in the ten-gallon hat a terrific club. And when it was disclosed that West had accepted large retainers from power interests his day was done. He will still be an intriguing politician and a speaker with an adder's tongue; but though his hand be hairy like Esau's the Jacob's voice will always be recognized.

The democratic primaries gave us one diversion. Walter Pierce became the "wizard of Oz."

We looked Monday to see if the flags on the supreme court building were at halfmast because of the death of Governor Patterson.

At last reports the poor fish in the Rogue river didn't know whether they had won or lost the election.

HEALTH

Today's Talk

By R. S. Copeland, M. D.

Statistics show that nine out of ten people have some form of foot trouble. Why is this?

Wrong fitting shoes, wrong methods of standing and walking, with the toes turned out instead of straight ahead, lack of exercise—these these are common faults. All of them cause weakness, strain and stress of the feet, and as a result, the entire nervous system may be disturbed.

Your feet may play a large part in your welfare. No one can be a success in life if these members are subjected to constant strain.

The nerves of the feet are connected with the nerves of the leg and body. Many a person has pains in various parts of the body and wonders at the cause. Many a stubborn case of headache, backache, poor circulation and spinal disorder has been mistaken for neuritis, rheumatism or kidney disease when the trouble has been nothing but poor, misused feet.

Much damage is done by wearing too high-heeled shoes. A high-heeled shoe throws the arch of the foot out of position and the weight of the body is placed on the front part of the foot. The present fashion of too high heels for woman is a foolish one, for it must bring with it many ills of the body.

Many people suffer from fallen arches. The majority of them feel aches and pains of one sort or another and become tired after being on the feet a while. By use of the correct shoe this can be overcome in time. Change the shoes and stockings often. This eases the feet immeasurably.

The proper care of the feet begins with cleanliness. Every night the feet should be thoroughly bathed. All day long they are kept in an almost air-tight compartment. The foot perspires and the oil glands pour out their oily secretions. The feet need more bathing than the rest of the body. After bathing the feet, twist and turn them so that the mucles, nerves and blood vessels can be exercised and stimulated. Massage the foot gently. You will relax and feel better all over for this extra care of the feet at night.

Do not be forgetful of the necessity of careful selection and fitting of your children's shoes. Have them properly fitted to combine comfort and foot health as well as for looks. Many of the foot troubles of childhood bring on poor posture. The child does not complain of the pain, but symptoms of fatigue and weakness are often due to improper shoes. See that the stockings are not too short or too long, so as to cramp or injure the feet of your child.

This marvelous mechanism called the foot carries you on your way over the floor of the world. It gives grace to the dancer, cushions the rescent of the polevaulter and carries the soldier with his heavy pack over dreary miles on the march. How little we appreciate its worth.

Walking is a fine art and one of the best exercises in the world. If your feet are to function properly, house them in roomy comfortable shoes, so that your body will be poised, your stride vigorous and easy and every movement of the body lithe and supple with energy and good health.

Answers to Health Queries

L. E. E. Q.—What would you advise for poor circulation?

2.—What would you advise for sore and inflamed eyes?

A.—Build up your general health and circulation will improve. Try taking a tablespoonful of pure cod-liver oil after meals.

2.—See an eye specialist for sore and inflamed eyes. An eye wash of boric acid will give temporary relief.

P.S. Q.—What would cause a lump on the side of my neck?

A.—Probably enlarged gland. See a doctor.

F.E.M. Q.—Are California and Arizona good states for persons to live in who are troubled with catarrh?

A.—Yes.

Mrs. C.W.D. Q.—What causes the skin to itch, leaving red raised marks?

A.—This is probably due to hives.

H. M. H. C.—What causes my fingers to become numb?

2.—Is there such a thing as an enlarged heart?

A. May be due to poor circulation. Build up the general health and your circulation will improve.

2.—Yes.

G. H. Q.—Is there any treatment which will make the tonsils healthy?

A.—If the tonsils are diseased they should be removed.

V. S. D. Q.—What do you advise for eczema?

A.—For fullp articulars send self-addressed stamped envelope and repeat your question.

A Problem

For You For Today

How many rolls of roofing are required to cover the roof of a building 30 by 40 ft., if the gable is 8 ft. high and the roof projects 2 ft. beyond the building all around?

Answer to Yesterday's Problem

1st, $5000; 2nd, $600. Explanation—Add 1-3 and 1-4; subtract from 12-12; divide 4000 by 5-12. Nine months equals 3-4 years; multiply 3-4 by 1-4; add 1-3; multiply $9600 by 25-48; add 4000 and 5000; subtract from $9600.

ANOTHER WALL STREET SUFFERER

"WHERE'S EMILY?"

by CAROLYN WELLS

I know just how you feel and I'm sure you're doing wisely. Leave us an address so we can tell you when Emily comes back."

"I've no address as yet, other than my bankers', but they will always know where I am. I shall make some plans in the next few days, and I'll drop you a line, Mrs. Bell, so you'll know where I am. It's good of you to care."

"I've a notion to drive down to New York with you," said Lamb, looking thoughtful.

"Do, I'd be glad of company, and I'm a good driver."

"No," concluded Burton. "I'm not packed. And, too, I'd rather stay till afternoon, and see the girls again."

"As you say. Well, I'll be getting along. I won't try to say what I hope for you all—I'm—I'm pretty much all in."

With a few handshakes, he left them, speaking no further word.

Prall helped him into his car, and Pete Gibby also went out on the porch.

"Goodby," he said, noting the suitcases and hatboxes in the car. "Going right to the club?"

"Yes, or some hotel. I'll decide on the way down."

And Pennington drove off, sitting erect and firm behind his wheel.

"He's all right when he's alone," Gibby said, returning to the dining room, "but people seem to get on his nerves."

"No wonder," Rodney observed, "especially over here where he knows we have our own trouble."

"He's in a bad way," Lamb said. "I shouldn't have cared to ride with his driving. I spoke on an impulse."

"Oh, no," Gibby insisted. "He started off like a born chauffeur. He'll be all right once he's quit of these harrowing scenes and that empty house of his. I never saw such a nervous man. I suppose it's that artistic temperament. I don't see how his wife ever lived with him."

"Maybe it was because she couldn't that——"

"No, no," Aunt Judy interrupted Lamb's speech, "Pauline was just as temperamental herself. They were happy together and understood each other. Her trouble was all caused by her grief at her child's death. When Jim gets away from all this and settles down somewhere, he'll get quieted down, probably write a new play, and regain his poise and balance."

"You're a wise woman, madam," said Abel Collins, bowing toward her. "Your remarks show acumen and wise prograstication. It might be added that our friend may find some other temperamental soul, who will——"

CHAPTER XXXIII.

"Oh, let the poor man alone," said Aunt Judy.

"Suppose he does, he won't be the first man to marry a second time."

"Who's going to marry a second time, you, Pete?" and Betty came in to the dining room in all the fresh glory of a Summer-morning toilette.

"I can't until after I marry the first time, and you say you're not ready yet," Gibby answered, gazing hungrily at the lovely vision.

"Oh, well, there's no hurry. Any muffins, Prall? Big, fat ones, with lots of butter and honey?"

"Be careful, my child," Abel Collins warned her. "Soft curves are lovely now, but——"

"Don't bother, Mr. Collins," Betty smiled at him. "I know it all by heart. And as long as I'm at Knollwood, I'm going to eat muffins if I have to suffer the rest of my life. Neil's going home today, Aunt Judy."

"I know it, dear. You're not, are you?"

"No, please; I want to stay another week, if I may."

"Indeed you may; we'd love to have you."

"Then you'll have to have me," declared Pete. "Im Betty's satellite, you know."

"All right, Satellite, stay on," said Aunt Judy, glad to have these two favorites of hers as long as possible.

So that afternoon Nell went down to New York in the train, escorted by Lamb, who was going down anyway.

The leave-taking was sad, for Rodney and Burton Lamb were real friends, but it had to be, and with a few words the wrench was over and the departing pair waved back from the car window as they were driven off to the station.

"Our house party is getting smaller," said Pete, with an effort at lightness; "just Aunt Judy and Betty and us two fellers left. Who's for a game of bridge?"

It was a good suggestion and they all agreed, but the interest in the cards was half-hearted and the play was not brisk.

At last they gave it up and went out to sit on the terrace in a favorite screened corner, where they could see approaching visitors and escape them if so desiring.

But the only visitor in sight just then was a dilapidated-looking urchin, whose wondering stares about proved him a stranger.

Yet he seemed sure of his destination and plodded up the broken marble pathway toward the house.

"I'll see what he wants," said Pete, rising and going slowly toward the boy.

"What is it, youngster?" he said, smiling good-naturedly. "You sure you're on the right track?"

"Want to see Miss Bell," said the boy, obviously a city gamin and about ten or twelve years old.

"Miss Bell? Well, I'm her agent, I guess I'll do."

"No," and the decided head shook, "must see Miss Bell herself."

"All right, come ahead," and Pete piloted the lad to Aunt Judy who sat on a swing seat in the corner.

"You Miss Bell?" he inquired very earnestly.

"Yes, child. Who are you?"

"Then this here letter is for you," he tugged an envelope from his pocket and was about to make off when Pete caught him.

"No, you don't sonny. You wait a minute. See?"

The boy began to cry.

"I want to go home," he wailed, wriggling out of Pete's grasp.

"All right, you can go in a few moments. We have to see if there's an answer, you know."

"No, the man said no answer. Lemme go."

Aunt Judy read the short note, and passed it to Rodney, who read it, with Betty looking over his shoulder.

Without a word as to its contents, he handed it to Pete, saying:

"I'll hold the kid, while you give that the once-over, Pete."

Gibby took the paper and read:

Miss Bell if you will be in the woods in front of the miller house at midnight sunday night and will give me ten thousand dollars in cash you will have your neice emily back tomorrow safe and sound but if you tell anybody police or anybody else the deal is all off I will be in that place at midnight but you must come alone dont try any gullery or you will queer the whole business its up to you play fair and I will play fair

kidnapper

Pete handed the paper back to Aunt Judy and turned to the boy.

"Now, don't be scared, sonny," he said; "we know you have done nothing wrong yourself. Who gave you that note to bring here?"

"A man," said the boy, brightening a little, for Pete had a way with children.

"Where?"

"In Haverstraw, near the postoffice."

"What's your name?"

"Larry Shane."

"All right, Larry, now tell us all about the man. Did you ever see him before?"

"Nope, never."

"What did he look like?"

Larry considered. "Well, he was a fat man, short, you know, and stout. He had black hair and eyes—he was a Jew, I think. And he wore sporty clothes, kinder checkered and a ring with a big di-mond in it. And a red necktie; that's all I noticed. And he guv me the note and said if I'd bring it here he'd pay me good. And he paid me and I brang it, and I want to go home. The man said I could ketch the six-forty back to Haverstraw."

"How much did he pay you?"

"He gimme ten dollars and my ticket over here and back."

"Clearly this lad knows nothing more about it," Aunt Judy said, looking pityingly at the thin little chap. "Call Prall to feed him up and let him go home. We can consider what we're going to do about his message afterward."

"You're right, Aunt Judy," Rodney said. "The kidnapers wouldn't trust a lad who knew any more about the business than Larry, here. They undoubtedly picked him up on the street to send him. He looks so bright, you see. What were you doing when the man tackled you?"

"Selling papers, sir. The New York papers. And he bought all I had left and then sent me on this errand. Now kin I go?"

"Have some supper first?" invited Pete.

Larry's eyes danced, and he said, "Yep, but I want to git that train."

So Prall took the forlorn little chap to the kitchen and gave him such a meal as he had never before seen or heard of, and also a box of goodies to take home with him.

Pete had followed, determined to get any further information possible, but Larry, it seemed had exhausted his store of knowledge of the stranger, and had nothing further to offer. Pete made him describe again the man who had given him the note, and the boy reiterated exactly the tale he had told at first.

(To be continued)

Yesterdays

. . . Of Old Oregon

Town Talks from The Statesman Our Fathers Read

May 21, 1905

The Salem high school baseball team met defeat yesterday afternoon at the hands of the University of Oregon in Eugene. Final score, 11 to 9.

Miss Winifred Muriel Byrd of this city was among the graduates of the New England Conservatory of Music at Boston this week, taking her diploma with high honors.

Rev. G. W. Plumer of Portland is the new pastor of the Chemeketa street Evangelical church. Rev. Hornschuch was appointed pastor of the Zion Evangelical church in Seattle.

KANSAS CITY, May 20 — (AP)—Gus Sonnenberg, recognized in some states as the world heavyweight wrestling champion, was awarded a victory over Ed "Strangler" Lewis on a foul here tonight after each had won a fall.

BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Army, navy, marines:

Continuing the sketches concerning the three defense arms of the United States, the following is furnished by Chief Turret Captain Breeze, whose office is in the city hall, and who is unmarried. "A few facts about the United States navy" is the caption given by Captain Breeze:

"The navy might be classed as a huge corporation carrying on business all over the world, employing approximately 150,000 people owning supplies worth a billion dollars, owning floating equipment worth a billion 300 million more, owning real estate valued at 600 million, paying out annually some 300 millions of dollars.

"The term of enlistment for the navy is four years, and over 75 per cent of the navy men reenlist after having completed their first four year enlistment. The navy maintains four recruit training stations, located at San Diego, California; Great Lakes, Illinois; Newport, Rhode Island; and Hampton Roads, Virginia. When first enlisting recruits are sent to one of these four training stations, where they are required to take eight weeks' military training.

"The navy maintains 22 trade schools on land, for training men in greater numbers than has been found convenient to train on board ship. Each and every man who enlists in the navy is eligible to try for entrance to one of these schools after having completed his military training. A feeling of security prevails among the men who attend these navy trade schools, due to the fact that they are sure of not being laid off before having completed their course, and they also receive their room and board and regular monthly pay while learning. Men who reenlist and stay in the service 20 years are eligible to retire on a pension and receive a check each month equal to the interest on $20,000. In other words, the navy lays away $1000 each year for the continuous service man, besides his regular monthly salary.

"During a four year enlistment a man can almost be assured of seeing all of the principal cities along the western and eastern coast line of the United States, the Panama Canal, Cuba, the West Indies and Honolulu, and if he stays in the service for 20 years his travels will be unlimited. The navy recognizes the fact that all work and no play makes jack a dull boy, and is strong for athletics, furnishing all the equipment necessary for training stations and ships to carry on athletics to the fullest extent, and many of our outstanding athletes have gotten their start in the navy.

"Moving pictures are furnished each training station and all the largest ships, and are shown every night. Well stocked libraries are furnished for the benefit of navy men, and the navy also furnishes free educational courses covering over 150 subjects for those who wish to study during spare time. Due to the fleet being absent from this coast for the past few months, the quota of enlistments for this district has been greatly reduced. However, after July 1st the quota will be increased about 50 per cent, giving more men an opportunity to take advantage of the wonderful opportunities offered by the U. S. Navy."

J. E. Breeze, chief turret captain, U. S. navy, local recruiting officer, has been in Salem the past 20 months. He first enlisted in the navy at Kansas City, Missouri, October 14, 1916. He served on the east coast and over seas during the world war. He was transferred to the west coast in October, 1921. He had over 11 years sea service before requesting land duty. He is now going on his 14th year in the service. He says the time he has spent in the service has been very pleasant duty.

He expects to be in Salem about three more months before returning to sea duty. He has made numerous friends in Salem during the time spent here, and it will be with a feeling of deep regret when the time comes to say goodby, but Captain Breeze says he will always be an Oregon booster regardless of where he may be, and particularly for the city of Salem.

(The marines will have the right of way in this column tomorrow.)

The bits man wants to congratulate the people of Salem over their prospect of securing the ownership of their water system, as soon as all the legal preliminaries can be threshed out, which may be soon, or might be a long time. Anyway, the people on Friday last gave their verdict, and that ought to be final; will be final, excepting for the fight that may have to be made for the actual transfer.

The Bits man predicts that the system will pay its way, and take care of interest on the bonds, and provide for the sinking fund, with something over for betterments and extensions, without an increase in the water rates. If extensions are numerous, through rapid growth of the city, more bonds may have to be voted, but in that case the increasing revenues will pay interest on the new bonds and build up a sinking fund to retire them.

Another prediction: Within a few years, the people will vote an issue of bonds for securing a mountain water supply, by gravity system, and will have power for distribution, the sale of which will justify the cost. How many years will depend on growth; but the fact that there is such an outlook will speed up the expansion of the city in many ways.

Salem has definitely stepped out as a progressive city, and this fact will help powerfully in attracting enterprising people and bringing new industries. It is altogether possible that Salem will in 1940 be in the 50,000 class, and going much stronger than ever. And then have only a fair start towards the splendid metropolis that will finally adorn the central Willamette valley.

Editorial Comment

From Other Papers

FIGHTING THE CHAIN STORE

Throughout the country an aggressive fight is waged on chain stores by independents. In many towns it is being carefully organized and is led by professionals. Most of these are nonresidents.

Inasmuch as such leadership does not always have the sense of responsibility for community rows and their consequences that persons may be expected to have who belong, and inasmuch as a campaign is about to be started here, the position of the local newspapers should be made plain.

The Republic and Herald believe that the home and property owners of their town should have full opportunity and loyal support. They believe in the manufacture at home and buy at home principle and in all possible cooperation of the community's members for the community's welfare.

No sensible chain store stockholder or executive would expect local newspapers to take any other stand.

While the conflict that may be waged will be legitimate, our own people must know that the newspapers can take but little part in it along lines that often are suggested.

The newspapers cannot decently deny the chain stores the use of advertising space. With several of these concerns the matter is not merely one of decency, but the papers are bound by contracts entered into many months ago.

The newspapers will not print any advertising for any independent concern which will subject them to a suit for damages. A direct statement of any kind, whether by the editor, a reporter, a correspondent or an advertiser, which can be shown to have injured anyone's business comes within the provisions of our law of libel in Washington; and in some cases even though the statement may be true the courts will hold publication unwarranted.

With these few little preliminary remarks we are willing to let the battle proceed.—Yakima Republic.

A FAREWELL TOUR?

It is with much regret that we hear that when the Moroni Olson players appear here next Monday night in "White Wings," it may be their farewell, though there is a chance of just one more appearance next fall. We can't help hoping that as with so many famous players this will be only one of a long succession of farewell tours. Maybe the American association of University Women, under whose auspices they appear, can persuade them.

Starting with an idea worked out in a barn loft, the Moroni-Olson plan of high class traveling repertoire has filled the needs of a very difficult period which began when the movies drove the "road companies" from the speaking stage. Playing circuits of towns too small to support permanent stock companies of their own but for brief periodic stands, they were able to pay out and to keep alive the traditions of a living stage.

Now comes another transition. The talkies have come into the field and their popularity is well deserved. To a great degree, the opportunity to "see and hear" the greatest of stage and screen is sufficient for all demands. It is possible (once in a while) to hear the great lines of great plays, albeit in "canned" form. The traveling stock companies find it hard to meet this competition. What will come next nobody can foretell. The flesh and blood drama will not die; of that we feel sure. The instinct for it is too strong. Probably the next step will be the widespread development of the Civic theatre, with the occasional support of visiting stars. Of that development, our own Very Little Theater group is a forerunner.—Eugene Guard.

SKI CHAMP HANGED

SYDNEY, N. S., May 20. — (Tuseday)—(AP)—Invald 'Bing' Anderson, former champion ski jumper of New England, was hanged at 1:12 a. m., today for the murder of a Sydney hotel clerk.

SNEEZE NEARLY FATAL

ROSS, Cal., May 19—(AP)—A sneeze landed Ralph Palmer, San Francisco attorney, in a hospital here today. He broke a blood vessel, lost much blood and two transfusions were resorted to to save his life. Doctors declared him out of danger.

Stomach Sufferers

If many foods do not agree with you, and you suffer from gas, heartburn, bloating, sour stomach, and dyspepsia, why not make the Diotex 15 minute test? Diotex is harmless, yet works with surprising speed. One ingredient has the power to digest 3,000 times its own weight. Don't give up. Get Diotex at any drug store. Put it to the test. Money back if you don't soon feel like new, and able to eat in comfort. Only 60c.

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