

East Oregonian

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There is a Providence a-bout that watches O'er us a'. That winna let unto the gun a wee bit Sparrow fa'. W'out he kens, and disna he for a' our Wants provide? And, though his face is hid at times, "There's Ave a sunny side."
 —Selected.

This is a time in Oregon when a man feels safer because he is small, and has no government job.

The way into a land office job is long and tedious and beset with many heart-breaking political pains. The way out is short and swift—via Hitchcock.

The strike of the prisoners in the Multnomah county jail, proves that Portland is jogging along not far behind the procession. The reports don't say what union the prisoners belong to.

From the many flowery and eloquent stories coming from Baker City in regard to the new phonolite mine near there, it is thought the Associated Press reporter must be connected onto W. F. Butcher's new Rock Creek gas line.

The Montana mine shut-down and the enforced idleness of 15,000 men, at the beginning of winter, all caused by a row among the capitalist mine-owners, is one instance in which a strike of the laborers did not bring about the disaster. The capitalists can close the mines and keep them closed. They don't need the income. But their action will demoralize and throw into chaos two or three entire cities.

The official badge for the coming irrigation meeting in this city has been happily chosen. The head of ripened wheat, the sprig of alfalfa and the wisp of sage brush, tied with a string of wool. That little symbol tells the story of the West. Its opening chapter, as read in the sprig of sage brush, tells of the unconquered wilderness, as the Western pioneer found it. The fruits of their toil and heroism are seen in the emblems of civilization, the head of wheat and the sprig of alfalfa, with the product of the great livestock industry, the woolen cord holding them in close embrace. It was a happy thought that prompted the selection of this badge, for it is more expressive to the true irrigator than any printed emblem could be. There are volumes locked up in that little industrial bouquet, and the study of those volumes is now deeply engrossing the West.

No feature of the Lewis and Clark fair is more intensely interesting to the student, thinker and true Westerner, than the laudable movement to build a monument to Sacajawea, the Shoshone Indian girl who guided the explorers safely through the hostile country of the Blackfeet, warned them of dangers they could not have discovered without her peculiar knowledge of the wilderness, and led them through the puzzling and tortuous passes of the Montana and Idaho mountains. Without her vital aid at a critical time in the expedition, who can say what the outcome of Jefferson's magnificent plan would have been? Without that very leadership and familiarity with the unknown country, found in Sacajawea, who can guess at the probable result of that expedition? She pointed them through the passes that led to the Western ocean, when the captives were debating a possible retreat. She told them the history of their enemies, the Blackfeet, that armed through the country waiting to destroy them. She gave them

courage by the knowledge of the paths and routes and inspired them to higher effort through her descriptions of the magnificent empire which they had come to explore. It would be a misfortune to leave the Sacajawea monument out of the exposition, for if Sacajawea and her services were left out of Western history, its story might be vastly different. If the Lewis and Clark expedition had failed, and they had turned back from the threatening mountains and savages that seemed to block the way, it would have left the "Oregon country" in the hands of the savage, and to this Indian girl and her leadership the Northwest owes the exposition of 1905, perhaps.

It will require something more than bare accusation to convince the people of Eastern Oregon that either Asa B. Thompson, or Malcolm A. Moody are guilty of the crime now charged against them. There is a deep and revengeful political plot now being enacted in Oregon, and these indictments are thought to be a part of the play. It would be a blessing for the state and the young men in responsible positions in the state if a few of the old factional leaders in Oregon politics could be brought to justice for the indirect crimes they have committed in making the state and federal institutions their toys and playthings, to the exclusion of all public good or political honesty. The spoilsman is no whit better than any other criminal, and to the activity of this class in Oregon, for the past quarter of a century, is due the present rotten conditions found in the state.

WHY BOYS GO WRONG.

The Ellensburg Localizer last week in editorial comment declared that temperance people and reformers, before starting a fight on saloons and other places of vice, should provide means of entertainment that would take the place of saloons. This is indeed a practical idea. Good people sit calmly down and wonder why the young men and boys will go to these places and follow the road that leads down to hell, and yet no effort is made to turn them from the wrong path.

There are scores of young men in Roslyn who would be glad to have some place to spend their evenings away from the dens of vice, but the opportunity is not extended to them. They go to church and are not heartily welcomed, they feel that they are not wanted, and they afterwards stay away. They do not have the social privileges that others enjoy who have lived here a long time. And yet people wonder why they go to saloons. The reason is this: They are simply human just like other people; they crave pleasure; and to obtain it they naturally follow the course that is open to them, which is almost invariably the road that leads to destruction.—Cascade Miner.

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THE FIRST FROST.

Poets love to sing their jingles at the dawn of the spring When the flowers are a peepin' an' the birds begin to sing, An' the beauty of the summer gives the dreamy birds a cue, An' the winter has attractions for that same poetic crew, But for golden-tinted beauty an' fur solemn sort 'o' grace, When a touch o' tender sadness hits of Nature in the face, When the hearts of all the people seem to beat like muffled drums, Give us sober ol' October when the first

frost comes. There is music in the moanin' an' the sighin' o' the breeze, An' the leaves o' gold an' silver gently fallin' from the trees Seems to add inspirin' beauty to the picture that is spread. Out before us as we wander with a sort o' reverent tread, E'en the songbirds have a touch o' sober sadness in their notes As they feel the hand o' nature fittin' on their winter coats, An' the sparrows 'round the door-steps huntin' after scattered crumbs Seems a chirpin' fun'ral dirges when the

first frost comes. Autumn comes as a reminder that the winter is at hand, Marks the comin' o' the season full o' fun to beat the band, Tells o' sociable enjoyments an' the girls so trim an' nice Who will fasten on the runners an' go scootin' o'er the ice. It inaugurates the pleasures o' the winter sparkin' night When we whoop up bills for fuel, but economize on light— From the tree o' love sly Cupid knocks the very ripest plums When the air is gittin' crimpin' an' the

first frost comes. —James Barton Adams in Denver Post.

The "white coal" convention at Grenoble devoted its time to a thorough discussion of the utilization of the water power of the glaciers and snow streams of Alpine France. In some locations a fall of 2,000 feet can be had. This "coal" supply is renewed each year.

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