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When foreigners see our American women, note their self-poise and knowledge of affairs, they shake their heads and wonder that the whole social structure doesn't tumble into ruins. The old idea that home-loving and home-keeping must be allied to slowness and an amiable sort of stupidity, is yet with them. They do not know what enlightenment on this subject these women represent, nor what is the background for the substantial character they so much admire and marvel at. Hence they write those absurd things about the American man and woman in their social life.—Eufina C. Tompkins.

OREGON'S BEST WORK.

The state irrigation committee is really the most useful body of men, working under the state government today, if the program of the commission are fully carried out.

Nature has supplied Oregon with an abundance of mountain streams, fills them with water for a greater portion of the year, and sends them through the barren tracts, only waiting the regenerating touch of man to complete the great plan of utilizing the waste waters of the earth.

If this commission can provide a general code of irrigation laws for this state, by which the water can be apportioned among the farmers, justly, equitably, fairly, in such a manner that each man will have just what he needs and none to waste, it will perform the greatest work ever done in the state.

The distribution of water among the new and old settlers, the reclamation of every possible acre of land with the natural water supply of the state, through just laws of distribution, is one of the most glorious tasks before the state.

That will be a happy time for Oregon in which there will be no waste water, but in which each mountain stream will be carrying its full burden of civilization, without waste of energy.

At the present time, the streams are flooded for three months in the year, when the land does not need the water. Then the "seven years of famine," or the dry spell comes and the farms need that wasted water and the streams are empty.

The mission of the irrigationist is to confine those waste waters, store them away, husband them, lay out feeders and canals into the highest mountains and gather in the freshets that now go to waste, and save them up for the dry season when the earth is famished for a drink and the crops are crackling in the sun.

utilization of the idle forces of the world for man's benefit.

In the mountain gorges, nature has hollowed out natural sites for reservoirs; in the heavy snowfall of winter season she deposits a golden treasure for man; it is man's small part in the plan to gather this treasure in nature's ready made storage reservoirs, and parcel it out under just laws when he needs it, in place of permitting it to run to waste for three months in the year, and then permit his crops to die for want of water, because of his waste.

AGE OF CO-OPERATION.

If a shipbuilding trust is good, a hodcarriers' trust is good. If it is right and just for capital to co-operate and gain advantages by union of forces, it is just and proper for labor to unite and imitate the arrogance of its brother.

If it is right for the salt trust to gouge the woolgrower by a combination of interests, if it pays to join hands and sell salt, it will pay to join hands and sell wool or not sell it, just to suit the grower.

One thing the woolmen of Oregon lack just at the necessary time, is union. The Woolgrowers' Association is good as far as it goes. Its purposes are all right, but they stop too soon. Everybody believes in the organized strength of the association, after the wool clip is sold and the season for good results past.

But what is needed is a union that binds while the season's clip is on the market and the buyers are in the field. The woolmen should sort their wool at the pens this year, put the grades in separate bags, and be sure that there is no mistake in the marking. Then every man should haul his wool to the warehouses, and the entire clip of the county should be sorted into grades. Every man should place his wool in the pool, the different grades in the marked bags, and not a pound of any grade should be sold unless all the wool in that grade is sold.

There must be some co-operation and system among the woolgrowers. If they expect to get the best results for all their members. If the buyer is permitted to go into the pooled wool and take his choice, somebody is going to be loser and the significance of your organization falls flat.

There should be a pool this year that will be binding on every member of the association. Care should be taken to see that the grades are properly sorted at the pens, so when a buyer cuts into a sack of first-grade wool in the warehouse, he will find it a first-grade article.

If the buyers are allowed to discriminate and choose their purchases, to the detriment of members of the association, the organized wool pool might as well be dissolved and each man sell his own clip and take his chances.

What appeared to be a Japanese defeat on Wednesday, was a brilliant Japanese victory. It was more than a Japanese victory, it was an American victory. The Japanese imitated the Hobson and Merrimac strategy at Santiago, and sent four of their old hulks into the channel leading to the harbor of Port Arthur and blew them up to bottle the Russian fleet in the harbor. Americans deplored the loss of these Japanese vessels at first, thinking that it was a portion of the Japanese fighting fleet, but the rejoicing is universal when it is learned that the Japanese turned a most graceful American trick on the Russians.

The Salem Journal says the registration law should be abolished. It deprives many voters of the privilege of voting, because they don't have sufficient interest in their country to walk to the clerk's office and register. If the registration law prohibits one illegal vote in the state, each election, it is good and should remain on the statutes. If the bona fide citizen don't take sufficient interest in the welfare of his

country to register and try to prevent fraud, it is better that he lose his vote through negligence than that one illegal vote be cast. There are not enough safeguards around the ballot now. It is too easy to vote unintelligently and mechanically, and no relaxation on the stiff restrictions of the ballot law should be suffered. Partisanship is fostered through loose and incompetent election laws and the more requirements placed upon the voter, which shall make him think and take part in the operation of his government, the better for the country.

In 10 years from today, it is safe to say that the Echo district will celebrate the anniversary of the planting of the first beet crop there. All the experts say the soil and climate there are especially adapted to the growing of sugar beets. If the farmers show a willingness to cultivate them properly, within two years the beet factory whistles will be sounding in Umatilla county, if the plans of the sugar people are carried out.

THE WHOLE CHEESE.

John D. Rockefeller is taking the cheese cure for indigestion.—News Item.

If I were only Rockefeller,
 How I should delight
 In eating two-inch golden bucks
 At twelve o'clock at night;
 And then I'd seek my downy bed
 And feast my eyes upon
 Red rattlesnakes and prong-tailed gnats
 Until the breaking dawn.

If I were only Rockefeller,
 What a joy 'twould be
 To make a breakfast of mince slips.
 Spread thick with fragrant lard,
 And when I took my morning nap
 I'd hear the horrid screams
 Of loud carousing crocodiles
 Go surging through my dreams.

If I were only Rockefeller,
 Nothing could compare
 When thoughts of supper crossed
 My soul,
 With toothful Camembert,
 And firmly ballasted with that,
 The vasty deeps I'd dare,
 And bid a bold defiance to
 The dread of mal de mer.

If I were only Rockefeller,
 The grindstones that they make
 In foundries in far Switzerland
 I'd much prefer to steak,
 While Edams red and Roquefort's green
 And Pont l'Eveque's decayed
 Within me like a pousse cafe
 In layers would be laid.

If I were only Rockefeller,
 All the rest of you
 Would sleep serene and dreamless
 sleeps
 The long night hours through;
 For I would buy on every hand
 All cheese, both great and small,
 And how could you have food for
 dreams
 When I had got it all?
 —James Montague.

WHITNEY'S USE OF WEALTH.

William C. Whitney left a fortune estimated at \$25,000,000. This is a lot of money. Yet it may conservatively be said that he might have left twice as much had he desired. Wonderfully endowed with the money-making facilities, he was one of the very few men of great wealth who found more pleasure in spending money than in making it. He was no philanthropist in the common sense of the word. He built no libraries and endowed no colleges or hospitals. Yet it cannot be said that his abundant distribution of riches was not in effect a philanthropy of the most practical sort, reaching almost every conceivable form of human need.

He was a lavish liver. He spent a small fortune each year in entertaining his friends. He built mansions, maintained many country estates, bought art treasures, kept racing stables, belonged to a dozen or more costly clubs, and in general squandered his money in unproductive and unprofitable things.

From one point of view, it was all very foolish and very selfish. It was a waste of money and a perversion of energies. The same time and thought and capital might have created great commercial or industrial enterprises that would have survived to bless the world long after he was gone.

And yet, from the viewpoint of the artist, the builder, the landscape gardener, the stable boy and the innumerable host of others who were given employment, encouragement and income through his extravagances, his course was the wise one, the broadminded one and the one most truly philanthropic. It helped the struggling ones to help themselves and eked out multitudes of small but honestly-earned livings.—Seattle Star.

THE "OLD MAID" OF INDIA.

"No institution of India has been so exaggerated as that of the widow," says Edmund Russell in Everybody's Magazine for March. "She really occupies a place analogous to our antique 'old maid,' now so fast disappearing in the girl-bachelor. The aged widow who has remained true to her principles is regarded as a holy being who has withstood a thousand temptations and persecutions, and commands the respect of

CRUSHES OUT THE LIFE



The most loathsome and repulsive of all living things is the serpent, and the vilest and most degrading of all human diseases is Contagious Blood Poison. The serpent strikes its fangs into the flesh and almost instantly the poison passes through the entire body. Contagious Blood Poison, beginning with a little ulcer, soon contaminates every drop of blood and spreads throughout the whole system. Painful swellings appear in the groins, a red rash and copper colored blotches break out on the body, the mouth and throat become ulcerated, and the hair and eye brows fall out; but these symptoms are mild compared to the wretchedness and suffering that come in the latter stages of the disease when it attacks the bones and more vital parts of the body. It is then that Contagious Blood Poison is in all its hideousness. The deep eating abscesses and sickening ulcers and tumors show the whole system is corrupted and poisoned, and unless relief comes soon this serpent disease tightens its coils and crushes out the life. The only antidote for the awful virus is S. S. S. It is nature's remedy, composed entirely of vegetable ingredients. S. S. S. destroys every vestige of the poison, purifies the blood and removes all danger of transmitting the awful taint to others. Nothing else will do this. Strong mineral remedies, like mercury and potash, dry up the sores and drive in the disease, but do not cure permanently. Send for our home treatment book and write us if in need of medical advice or special information. This will cost you nothing.



THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.

a saint from all persons. She is the mother of all the children in the neighborhood, the helpmate of all the neighbors.

At evening they flocked around to hear repeated the ancient legends, stories of Sita and Salytri, Draupdia, or sing the songs of Mira Bai. She is in great demand when cooking is needed for a sacred feast. She teaches the little ones their first hymns and prayers. She nurses the sick, comforts the dying. She believes herself to be bound to her husband for everlasting time, through all births and deaths. The momentary separation here is but one shade of her marriage, an unknowable mystery of destiny—it break no tie.

PARISH DANCING LESSONS.

What would have been thought a generation ago of a professional dancing master as an agent of church missionary work? His services are now in demand in several city parishes. By the report of the rector of Calvary Episcopal church, they have proved valuable as counter-attraction to public-hall dancing, where the associations are often evil.

The Calvary experiment was in line with that begun by St. Bartholomew's church. Saturday evening dancing classes were organized in the church gymnasium, and in these many young people at once showed themselves interested, the attendance increasing through the season. Their success assures their continuation next year.

Luther objected to the devil's having all the good tunes, and the parish work which is at present most productive of good results is conducted in a spirit of similar enlightenment.—New York World.

ORATORY AT ST. LOUIS.

Should Bourke Cochran present the name of Mr. Cleveland, Isidor Rayner that of Mr. Gorman, David B. Hill that of Judge Parker and William J. Bryan that of Mr. Hearst to the St. Louis convention, a mighty stir would be created. It might be well for the owners of the building in which the convention will sit to take something of this kind into account, and strengthen its supports and particularly the roof. Oratory has never actually taken the roof off of any building, but these are times when all things seem possible. Let the brethren be made entirely safe both as against fire and wind. Since Mr. Bryan's feat at Chicago in 1896, the value of a rattling speech and the responsive howl in a convention has been carefully considered, and even with the thermometer in the 90s, St. Louis next July may witness a spouting contest phenomenal for strenuousity.—Washington Star.

THE MAN-KILLERS.

It must make every American proud to know that the great American industry of man-killing is still "booming." Take home these figures and gloat over them:

Murders and homicides: 1901, 7,852; 1902, 8,834; 1903, 8,976.

Lynchings, 1902, 96; 1903, 104.

Nine thousand and eighty persons done to death in a year! These are inspiring numbers. Will 1904 reach the Ten Thousand Homicide Mark?—With the Procession, Everybody's Magazine.

You can argue with a man all day and leave him in the same place, because most of them love evil.

COMING EVENTS.

March 4—Socialist state convention, Portland.
 April 19—Democratic state convention, Portland.
 April 14—Republican state convention, Portland.
 April 16—Meeting of Oregon Cattlegrowers' Association, Portland.
 June 15, 16, 17—Oregon encampment G. A. R., Hood River.

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Woman's Nature

Is to love children, and no home can be completely happy without them, yet the ordeal through which the expectant other must pass usually is so full of suffering, danger and fear that she looks forward to the critical hour with apprehension and dread.

Mother's Friend, by its penetrating and soothing properties, allays nausea, nervousness, and all unpleasant feelings, and so prepares the system for the ordeal that she passes through the event safely and with but little suffering, as numbers have testified and said, "it is worth its weight in gold."

Mother's Friend

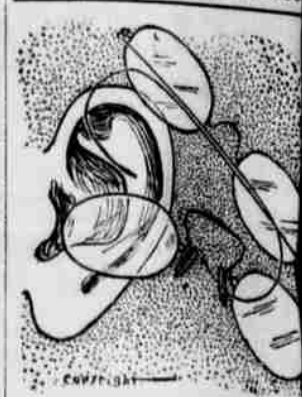
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