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Not long ago I wrote a booklet, which brought me a tuppence worth of fame, called "Chicago Tongue," wherein I intimated that Chicago as a whole, was not just exactly what it should be. I said that occasionally, in Chicago, folks made unkind remarks about other folks. I mentioned no names, of course, as I did not care to give offense; but the St. Louis Republic says that if I wanted to give a list of pesky, peevish, perverse and pusillanimous pot-hunters, I should just print the Chicago city directory, and let it go at that. Here is a sermon on Chicago by one of Chicago's own ministers: "Chicago is the home of the hold-ups, and the rendezvous of everything in the way of male and female villains that hell has ever spawned. The drainage canal is not big enough to draw off a tenth of her toxin scum; and a milky way of moth balls will be required to disinfect her lecherous slough of depravity." Did I ever say anything of Chicago as bad as that?—Elbert Hubbard.

FOR GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP.

The Dalles Times-Mountaineer, one of the most conservative and thoughtful newspapers in Oregon, says in regard to the Harriman-Hill contest:

"In an interview at St. Paul last Saturday, J. J. Hill, president of the Great Northern railroad, said: 'If Harriman wins and gets control of the Burlington roads, there will be nothing left for us to do but to sell and retire, and leave the people of the Northwest to fight out their own battles.'

"This admission on the part of Mr. Hill is an indication that the Harriman interests are becoming so powerful that he and his associates are unable long to cope with them.

"In short, it means that we may expect in a very short time to see Harriman in control of all the railroads in the extreme West, and that he will then be in a position to dictate whatever terms he may see fit. When he shall have gained a monopoly of the railroads of the West shippers will be at his mercy.

"Such conditions cause people to begin to think, and wonder why... can be done to check the power of a single individual and what they can do to protect themselves.

"And many who have in the past opposed public ownership of railroads will look to that as the only means of protection. The actions of the railroads themselves are largely responsible for this growing sentiment. They are forcing the people to look upon public ownership as the only way to keep these great institutions within bounds, and make them serve the public rather than private interests.

"Railroads should, to a very great extent, be made to serve the public interests, but the combinations that have been formed among railroads do not tend in this direction.

"Apparently the tendency now, and the probable outcome is that all the roads of the extreme west will be made to serve the private interests of Mr. Harriman and his associates.

"In this event public ownership would seem to be the only solution. The people will be protected in some way against excessive rates. They will find a way to protect themselves through government control if no other method is available."

Street sprinkling season having arrived, the residents of the outside

streets are determined to have recognition this year in the matter of sprinkling. The old plea that the business portion of the city pays the taxes and should have the benefits will not answer this year. Property in all parts of the city has been assessed on a proportionate basis, and the residences are entitled to their share of the public blessings. Thousands of dollars have been spent in the past year in building new residences in all portions of the city, and the streets that did not have any claim on the city for sprinkling two years ago are now lined with elegant residences and must be considered. As the city grows the sprinkling zone must necessarily be enlarged and the council cannot hope to confine street sprinkling in 1904, to the limits prescribed in 1902. It is true, funds may be scarce. But salaries have been raised, new offices have been created by the present council and the expenses increased by giving contracts to highest bidders instead of to the lowest. These are no excuses for denying the people who pay taxes and share the burdens, their just rights, as homeowners.

The loss of 14 men and officers on the battleship Missouri yesterday, while engaged in target practice off the coast of Florida, adds another horrible disaster to that hoodooed ship and puts another nail in the official coffin of Captain Cowles, brother-in-law of President Roosevelt, who commands the vessel. It had been proved that this man is not capable of handling a battleship, in the investigation of the collision between the Missouri and another vessel of the navy, a short time ago, for which Cowles was directly responsible. Through the influence of the president this incapable captain was left in command of the Missouri only to sacrifice the lives of 14 American gunners, through incapacity and incompetency. The action of the president in holding out for his brother-in-law, who had given evidence of incapacity, has caused the loss of the lives of these men.

If the city council carries out its present plan to work the city prisoners on the streets, it will be a saving to the city and will reduce crime to a certain extent. A jail sentence has no terrors for a class of saloon bums which makes about half of the business for the police force and police court. A week's work on the street as punishment, instead of a few days' free board, would cause many of them to enjoy their spree outside of Pendleton. Even if it becomes necessary to hire an additional policeman to have charge of the street work, it would be a saving, as the office of street commissioner must be revived, sooner or later, if some arrangement for street work is not made by which a special policeman and a chain gang will be required to do this work.

LAWYER'S ODE TO SPRING.

Whereas, on sundry boughs and sprays,

Now divers birds are heard to sing; And sundry flowers their heads upraise—
Hail to the coming on of spring.

The songs of the said birds arouse The memory of our youthful hours, As young and green as the said boughs,
As fresh and fair as the said flowers.

The birds aforesaid, happy pairs! Love midst the aforesaid boughs enshrines In household nests, themselves, their heirs, Administrators, and assigns.

O, busiest term of Cupid's court! When tender plaintiffs' actions bring;
Season of frolic and of sport,
Hail! as aforesaid, coming spring.

—Selected.

I maintained that only so much of any man's religion as fitted him, and fitted him not as his saddle or his clothes, but as his nervous system fitted him, was really his or really religion.

Bubonic plague is now known to exist in every Pacific seaport of South America, and most of the interior towns of Western South America.

JUST JUDGMENT.

The youngest judge of the supreme court of the state of New York, who has traveled further mentally and spiritually, since his twentieth year, than any man in similar position to whom I know—wise, just, gentle, clear in intellect, firm in purpose—has recently given an important opinion of a trivial case.

It seems one John Doe was arrested for drunkenness and disorderly conduct. He was arraigned in a Sun-rise court at Buffalo. The arresting officer testified, and the judge fined the man \$5. As John was being led away, the sense of outraged innocence, or stale beer, swept over him and he voiced subjecta inconsequent, and made remarks uncomplimentary and irrelevant.

"Bring that man back here!" roared Dogberry.

The man was brought back and the fine was made \$10 instead of \$5.

"Go it, you old pie-face!" said the prisoner.

"Fifteen dollars," said his honor.

"You'll never be re-elected."

"Twenty dollars."

And so the two ran a race up to \$40, when John, fearing life imprisonment dropped out of the game. A week later the man was brought before the supreme court on a writ of habeas corpus. It took this young judge only five minutes to hear the case and quietly say: "It seems the prisoner was arrested and tried for offenses committed on the 14th inst. He was fined \$5.

"After decision was rendered the fine was increased to \$40 on account of further offenses committed on the 15th inst. That is to say, the man was tried for one offense and punished for another—prisoner is discharged."

This wise Daniel might have gone on and given a lecture on ethics and etiquette as applied to Sunrise courts on the proper way to dispense with justice, but he did not care to encroach on the prerogative of the justices themselves.

This thing of cumulative punishment for back-slack is being enacted all over the United States, and if police justices can be made to understand that such sentences are illegal, it will be a great gain.

The decision just cited is simply a recognition of the American prerogative to kick.—Elbert Hubbard.

COMING EVENTS.

April 16—Meeting of Oregon Cattie-growers' Association, Portland.

April 19—Democratic state convention, Portland.

May 2—Oregon Federation of Labor, Oregon City.

May 4—General M. E. conference, Los Angeles.

May 18-21—I. O. O. F. grand lodge at Astoria.

May 27-28 — Caledonian picnic at Athena.

June 2, 3, 4—Umatilla county pioneers' reunion, at Weston.

June 6—General election in Oregon.

June 15, 16, 17—Oregon encampment G. A. R., Hood River.

Dare was much liberty in this country, but dare was also a cubble of bald spots were it is missing.

"I thank Dr. Pierce for the kind advice he gave when I wrote to him."

"I am thankful to the friend who first recommended your medicine," writes Mrs. Annie M. Brook, of Smithfield, Fayette Co., Pa. "I have a twelve pound baby, three weeks old. I took three bottles of Favorite Prescription before baby came, and the time was only one hour and a half. Have had five children, and before this always had a severe time, lasting two or three days and never was able to do any work for about two months afterward. Now I am doing all the work for four children. My friends say I look better now than ever before. I told one of my sisters to take Favorite Prescription, which she did and when her child was born the time of suffering was very short. She has better health now than since her marriage, some years ago. We cannot praise Dr. Pierce's medicine enough. I thank Dr. Pierce for the kind advice he gave when I wrote to him. Whenever I see other women suffering I tell them about your wonderful medicine.

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