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How soon the great dead are forgot! They lie Learning grander things, for they must know The silent, gray-eyed mystery of rain, And hear amid the dark the daisies grow. They lie, not knowing how the world forgets, Nor caring for the idle feet that pass; For God has much for the great dead to do, Within His dusky city 'neath the grass. —Archibald Sullivan in Smart Set.

UMATILLA FINANCES.

The comment of Expert E. A. Johnson, who recently examined the records of Umatilla county, upon the excellent financial condition of the county, is worthy of being reproduced several times for the edification of the taxpayers of the county.

Mr. Johnson said in closing his report: "The general financial condition of Umatilla county should be a subject of interest to the taxpayers of the county, as it must be a source of pride to the board of county commissioners. With a cash balance in the county coffers of \$73,461.74; a registered indebtedness, uncalled, of but \$51,415.98; registered warrants called to within a few months from date, and assessed valuation of over \$42,000,000, the county is unquestionably in better financial condition today than ever before."

That the county is now being administered by business men in a business way who are above and beyond political influences or petty, selfish aims, is apparent from the excellent condition of the county. And that the people have re-elected two and three times the same officials is evidence that the people know what they are doing.

A TIP TO SHEEPMEN.

That Oregon sheepmen have been flimflammed out of about \$600,000 by the unjustified low prices of wool this spring and summer is now apparent from sales elsewhere. This should be a tip to Oregon sheepmen to go slow next year, and the next, and the next, and so on ad infinitum.

Wool is a staple article, independent of buyers' combinations, "stuffed" market reports or any other temporary condition. It is like gold, wheat, lumber, fish, iron or copper. It is a world commodity having a fixed place in the markets and in the needs of human kind, and the producer should get what it is worth.

If buyers and commission houses join together to hammer it down temporarily, that does not diminish the value of the wool. Growers need not fear as to the ultimate market. Wool is as good as the gold and there is no wool district in the world in which banks will not gladly help woolgrowers to hold over, if prices are not satisfactory.

The woolbuyers and commission houses have simply put into their own pockets \$600,000 belonging to Oregon sheepmen in the year 1908.

Will you let them do it again?

IGNORANCE THE ASSASSIN.

Every statistical report on mortality among babies in the large cities cries out in thunder tones for some intellectual or educational test before permitting people to marry.

It is said that rank, crass, inexcusable ignorance on the part of inexperienced, vicious and indolent parents, actually killed 669 children under one year of age in Chicago during July.

Filthy homes, improper care and unwholesome food, especially milk,

are assigned as the causes and the health department declares that proper care and humane treatment would have saved at least two-thirds of these young lives.

You see it every day, not in Chicago, but in Umatilla county and Pendleton, the frightful work of this assassin, ignorance. Young people, mere "kids" themselves, marry without knowledge of its meaning or responsibility and immediately begin to bring stupid, sickly, idiotic children into existence for society to rear, educate, support and perhaps at last bury.

There should be some test for marriage, some assurance on the part of young people that their ignorance will not add to the sum of human misery nor heap up added burdens for society to bear.

THE STORY OF RAINFALL.

"Two hundred trillion cubic feet of water on an average falls on the surface of the United States every year." This startling statement was made by Dr. W. J. McGee, secretary of the inland waterways commission, and an expert connected with the bureau of soils of the department of agriculture.

This was not a haphazard statement on the part of one whose original research has made his name familiar to scientists the whole world over, but was made in the course of an interview which had for its primary object a better knowledge of the conservation of water and its uses for the benefit of mankind.

"Two hundred trillion cubic feet of water," said Prof. McGee, "is to the average mind, but two and a lot of ciphers. To be more explicit, it equals about 10 Mississippi, and that volume of water is the entire basis of our prosperity."

The United States has an area of three million square miles, but that area could be cut directly in twain and with the same amount of rainfall we could sustain the same population that we have today, conduct the same enterprises and raise the same products, a condition which I do not believe most people appreciate. We know very well, if we stop to consider, that the market price of any commodity is dependent on the water supply.

"We buy land in the eastern half of the United States and say that there are so many acres in this parcel or in that, but in reality we buy water. This is fundamental. Water is the first of our resources. It is the natural solvent. It is power, fertility, everything. And being fundamental, values begin with the water supply.

"With the 10 Mississippi falling upon the land of the United States every year, two Mississippi run off, thus one-fifth of the waterfall from the heavens flows into the sea.

"Of the eight Mississippi remaining about five Mississippi are absorbed passing off into the air to be precipitated again and again. A fraction, in part, passes into the earth and slowly reaches the oceans, while another fraction is consumed passing into chemical combinations, such as plant growth, etc."

THE LOS ANGELES WAY.

The city and county of Los Angeles, California, have voted to issue \$3,500,000 in bonds for use in paying the expenses of constructing good roads in that part of the Golden state, and this action displays the commendable spirit on the part of the taxpayers and citizens down there.

Road building is purely a business matter, and the people of Los Angeles will not ask the state or the United States to construct the roads for them. They have resolved to build them without further delay; and it will pay, just as it does for a city to improve her highways by paving.

Los Angeles has gone ahead at a rapid pace during the past 10 years, all of which is due to the progressiveness of her population who do things in a strictly business way knowing that what is spent in the way of substantial improvements will be returned several times through the increase of property values and the greater demand to own real estate in the vicinity.

The Umatilla-Morrow county district fair is to be congratulated upon securing Signor De Caprio's excellent band for the coming fair. This company of musicians furnished the music for the first fair and was a leading attraction. Patrons of the fair are therefore assured of good music, which is a large part of the entertainment.

Of course the legislature will elect George E. Chamberlain to the United States senate. He was regularly elected by the people of Oregon and the majority of the legislature is pledged to support the people's choice. The way to have a republ-

can senator is for republicans to vote for such. Oregon is a republican state by at least 30,000 majority, and whoever is the people's choice is undoubtedly the republican choice, because the republicans are in the majority by long odds. So why complain about it? It is the will of the republican party and the republican legislature will heed it without doubt.

With Idaho democrats hopelessly split on the Mormon issue, it looks like a rousing republican victory in the Gem state this year.

THE BEST OF LIFE.

Not till life's heat is cooled, The headlong rush slowed to a quiet pace, And every purbling passion that has raged

Our noisier years, at last Spurs us in vain, and weary of the race,

We care no more who loses or who wins— Ah! not till all the best of life seems past The best of life begins.

To toil for only fame, Handclappings and the fickle gusts of praise, For place or power or gold to gild a name

Above the grave whereto All paths will bring us, were 'to lose our days,

We, on whose ears youth's passing bell has tolled, In blowing bubbles, even as children do,

Forgetting we are old.

But the world widens when Such hope of trivial gain that rated us lies

Broken among our childhoods toys, for then We win to self-control!

And mail ourselves in manhood, and there rise Upon us from the vast and windless height

Those clearer thoughts that are unto the soul What stars are to the night. —Spectator.

DEFENDS EQUAL SUFFRAGE.

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, president of the New England Woman Suffrage association, has sent a letter to the London Times, in reply to Mrs. Humphrey Ward's recent attack upon the equal suffrage movement in America. Mrs. Ward said that the movement in this country was strong in the second third of the 19th century, but is now almost extinct, owing to the organized opposition of women.

Mrs. Howe says: "Nothing could be further from the facts. In the second third of the 19th century the movement was small and unpopular. It has grown steadily in numbers and strength ever since. The change of sentiment in its favor among women has been especially marked. The National American Women Suffrage association grows in membership every year, and its annual income has risen from \$2544. in 1892, to \$25,662 in 1907.

"Of the 48 states of the Union, there are anti-suffrage associations in only four, and small anti-suffrage committees in four more, while there are suffrage associations in 32 states and several territories.

"In New York, at the time of the last constitutional convention, the suffragists secured more than 300,000 signatures; the anti-suffragists only 15,000. The woman suffrage petitions presented to the recent constitutional convention in Michigan bore 175,000 signatures. There were no petitions on the other side. In Chicago, not long ago, 97 organizations, with an aggregate membership of more than 10,000 women, petitioned for a woman suffrage clause in the new city charter, while only one small organization of women petitioned against it.

"In every state where petitions for suffrage and remonstrances against it have been sent to the legislature, the petitioners have always outnumbered the remonstrants. On the only occasion when the government took an official referendum among women on the subject (in Massachusetts in 1895,) the women's vote was in favor of suffrage 26 to 1.

"Of the women in America who take any lively interest in woman suffrage either way, the vast majority are in favor."

Mrs. Howe quotes a large amount of testimony to show that woman suffrage has worked well in practice. She adds:

"Mrs. Ward ascribes all the defeats of woman suffrage bills to the organized opposition of women. In most of the states where such defeats have taken place, there was no anti-suffrage organization of women at all. In the few cases where these organizations existed there is no reason to think that their influence turned the scale. Whittier said years ago that the men who were opposed to equal rights for women merely used the opposition of a few women as a cloak for their own hostility. This is equally true today. The great obstacle to woman suffrage is the inertia of conservatism, added to the strenuous opposition of the liquor interests and all the vicious elements."

"Will," said a newly married friend to Will Maupin, the Nebraska poet, "I'm in a quandry as to just what I should call my wife's mother. I don't like to call her 'Mother-in-law' on account of all the comic-paper jokes on that name, and somehow there's a certain sacredness about the word 'Mother' that makes me hesitate to apply it to any but my own." "Well," said Maupin, "I can only tell you of my own experience. The first year we were married I addressed my wife's mother as 'Say'; after that we called her 'Grandma.'—Everybody's Magazine.

S.S.S. NATURE'S PERFECT TONIC

There is scarcely any one, no matter how vigorous and healthy, who does not need a tonic sometimes. Little physical irregularities upset the system, the appetite fails, digestion is poor, the body feels tired and worn out, and other unpleasant symptoms give warning that the system is disordered and needs assistance to ward off, perhaps, some serious sickness or ailment. S.S.S. is recognized everywhere as the best of all tonics, nature's medicine, made entirely of healing, cleansing, invigorating roots and herbs, a systemic remedy without an equal. S.S.S. has the additional value of being the greatest of all blood purifiers. It re-establishes the healthy circulation of the blood, rids the body of that tired, worn-out feeling, improves the appetite and digestion, and brings about a return of health to those whose systems have been weakened or depleted. S.S.S. acts more promptly and pleasantly than any other medicine, and those who are run down in health should commence its use at once. It will thoroughly purify the blood and tone up the system. S.S.S. is admirably suited for a systemic remedy because it is free from minerals; it may be used without harmful results by persons of any age, and no unpleasant effects ever follow.

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JAPS ANSWER HOBSON.

Comparatively silent when Representative Richmond Pearson Hobson, of Alabama, let loose his Japanese war alarms in the house last session, the Japanese press has yielded to the temptation to reply to his speech at the Denver convention. According to Japs journalists have done it in an artistic fashion.

For instance, the Japan Chronicle says that Captain Hobson was once less hostile to the Japanese, and refers to his visit to Kobe, where he addressed the Young Men's Christian association, as the possible turning point.

"What did they do to Mr. Hobson that made him so censorious of Japan, so determined to believe that Japan had her eye on the United States and some fine day would be found in possession of Washington?" asks that paper. "Can it be possible that the members of the Y. M. C. A. fell asleep when Mr. Hobson lectured them on the duty of loving one's enemies? We are afraid to speculate further on what may have occurred, but it is certainly very curious that Mr. Hobson's strong antipathy to Japan dates from about the period he was entertained by Japanese Christians in Kobe.

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