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THE LITTLE HEARTS.

They are the sweets that keep us sweet. The lights that give us light. Upon the dark where with worn feet. We grope amid our night. They are the blooms that give us bloom. The lips that help us sing. The gladness that above our gloom. Leads us to hills of spring. They are the violet vales, the streams. They are the roseate way. To childhood and the childhood dreams. Of lilac lands of May. They are the bubbles in the sun. The dancing stars that blow. Over the fields where shadows run. And feet of fairy go. They are the truth before all truth. The wisdom more than wise. Of babbling and ecstatic youth. Dream-winged and magic-eyes. They are the chains whose links of gold. Binding us, bind us not. But to a sense of still un-aid. And Love's dream unforget. The little hearts—ah, let them beat. And let them dance and sing. The little hearts that keep us sweet. As April keeps the spring. They are the sky, the bloom, the air. The morn on hills of glee. That takes us from our doom of care. And sings and sets us free. —Baltimore Sun.

COME HERE AGAIN.

The big Inland Empire convention is now finished and this evening some 700 or 800 teachers are preparing to return to their homes in four different states of the northwest. By special train the Baker City and La Grande delegations leave at 7 o'clock. Tomorrow they will all be gone and the twelfth annual session of the association will be but a memory.

According to those who have been in attendance at the present convention and have attended other sessions in the past, this year's meeting has been the most successful in the history of the association. The program has included some splendid features and it will be strange indeed if those who have listened to the noted speakers have not profited thereby.

The visitors have also been generous in praise of the treatment they have received from local people. They have strongly complimented the manner in which they were provided with accommodations and they have shown appreciation of the social courtesies that were extended them.

If Pendleton has pleased the teachers by the manner in which it has entertained them, very well. That was the intention. The people of this city like to have conventions meet here and they were especially glad to have the Inland Empire teachers' convention this year. It was one of the largest conventions this city has ever entertained and in personnel certainly one of the nicest. If the teachers have enjoyed their stay, so has Pendleton. Come again.

THEY ARE PROGRESSIVE.

There is a wide difference between the progressiveness of the railroads of the west and the railroads of the south. The comparison is entirely favorable to the western roads. This is brought to mind by the general criticism southern papers are making of their railroads with respect to publicity work. The southern railway men are doing nothing to forward the settlement and development of the south, so the southern press declares. "The southern railroads are sleepy heads," declares a south-paper, "look what the western roads are doing to induce settlement of the west."

Most assuredly are the western roads setting the pace for the country

in the matter of publicity work and also in urging closer development of the country. Both the Harriman and the Hill roads maintain extensive publicity bureaus and they do effective work towards bringing settlers westward.

Then look at the demonstration train that is even now making the tour of eastern Oregon. It is an elaborate train and the use of that amount of equipment for the ten days run means a big expense to the O. R. & N. company. It is decidedly creditable to the officials of that road that they are willing to bear this expense. The fact that the railroad is willing to co-operate with the men from the Oregon agricultural college in carrying on their campaign for more intensive farming shows that the railway officials are of the progressive class.

USE IT SPARINGLY.

That is proper advice the Oregon Journal gives to those who would abuse the initiative by invoking it in too many instances. It is a fact that the initiative may fall into discredit if it is used so frequently that the people find their newly secured power too great a bore.

"Direct legislation has opponents, and they are crafty," says the Journal. "The initiative and referendum is a menace to our business prosperity," declared the Sellwood Republican club, and the Oregonian applauded. A telephone corporation is trying to destroy the measure in the United States courts and a constitutional convention is planned to scuttle the direct legislation if the courts fail to kill it. Little is said against the initiative by its enemies now, because they are engaged in first strangling the direct primary, and then by packing the offices and legislature with their trusted lieutenants they will be in better position to cut the heart out of direct legislation. Crafty and cunning, they know the same and will play it with the fine Italian hand of skilled experts. Just as the direct primary law is assailed now, direct legislation will be attacked later."

True friends of the initiative and referendum will seek to frown down overuse of either. For the coming election the initiative should not be invoked except in rare instances. If there are a host of new bills for people to vote upon next November that very fact will be used as an argument against the initiative. There are plenty of people who would like to see the initiative kill itself by its own weight.

THE DEMONSTRATION TRAIN.

In the size of the party and in the extensiveness of the equipment the big demonstration train that is here this evening is ahead of anything of the sort ever before operated in the west. Upon that train are traveling some men who are doing a valuable work towards the advancement of this country. The party of professors under Dr. James Withycombe includes men who have made both a scientific and practical study of the methods of farming, horticulture, livestock raising and kindred subjects. Those men have a message for the people of eastern Oregon. They have some information that cannot fail to be of benefit to farmers, orchardists and stockraisers. Those who do not see the demonstration train and do not hear the talks by the men on board will miss an opportunity they may never again enjoy.

The president of the Inland Empire teachers' association is the head of the Cheney normal school. Very well. Eastern Oregon is now forced to send her young people to the Washington normals for instruction. So it is fitting President Sampson should be with us.

Reports have gone out that Pendleton has many vacant locations on Main street. But if the teachers who have been here during the past few days have been observing they will have noticed that vacant rooms on Main street are decidedly rare.

None are so foolish as those who will not learn. This saying may be applied to farmers who don't care to improve their methods.

Pendleton will miss them when they are gone—the teachers.

It has been a nice day for the finish.

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"MUSIC HATH CHARMS."

The East Oregonian feels sure that local people want to have a good band maintained within this city and that they will gladly contribute to a fund to provide weekly concerts during the spring and summer. Nothing could serve better to enliven the town and provide entertainment for visiting as well as local people than a good concert band. Their furtherance it is a favorable time to take action in this regard. The musicians seem to be working in harmony and they have a competent man in view for director of the band. Let us arrange for the concerts and incidentally provide support for the band.

THE CONTENTED MAN.

There was once a man who smiled Because the day was bright, Because he slept at night, Because God gave him sight To gaze upon his child; Because his little one Could leap and laugh and run, Because the distant sun Smiled on the earth, he smiled.

He smiled because the sky Was high above his head, Because the rose was red, Because the past was dead; He never wondered why The Lord had blundered so That all things have to go The wrong way here below The over-reaching sky.

He toiled and still was glad Because the air was free, Because he loved, and she That claimed his love, and he Shared all the joys they had; Because the grasses grew, Because the sweet winds blew, Because that he could hay, And hammer, he was glad.

Because he lived and smiled And did not look ahead With bitterness or dread, But nightly sought his bed As calmly as a child, And people called him mad For being always glad With such things as he had, And shook their heads—and smiled.—Selected.

WHAT'S IN McCLURE'S.

An excellent pen picture of the Duke of the Abruzzi, a modern prince with an amazingly romantic career, has the leading position in the April number of McClure's Magazine. Other articles of no less interest are: "Some Modern Ideas on Food," by Burton J. Hendrick, showing the baneful effects of meat diet; "Preventable of Blindness," by Marion Hamilton Carter, who takes up the cause of the needlessly blind, and shows that one-fourth of the children in the blind asylums are unnecessarily blind; "Follies in Criminal Procedure," by Charles B. Brewer, and "What Whiskey Is," by H. Parker Willis. Among the short stories are "The Purple Stocking," by Edwin

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Salisbury Field: "For the Sake of Her Children," by Octavia Roberts; "At Brady's," by Mary Heaton Vorse; "The Curse of the Heretic," by Seumas McManus; and "The Kite," another war story by the author of "The Joint in the Harness." There are drawings by Andre Castaigne, Frederic Dorr Steele, Thomas Fogarty, Rollin G. Kirby, and Robert Edwards.

THE "SPITTING" COBRA.

At this camp we killed five poisonous snakes: a light-colored tree snake, two puff adders, and two seven-foot cobras. One of the latter three times "spat" or ejected its poison at its assailants, the poison coming out from a distance of several feet. A few years ago the singular power of this snake, and perhaps of certain other African species, thus to eject the poison in the face of an assailant was denied by scientists; but it is now well known. Selous had already told me of an instance which came under his own observation; and Tarlton had once been struck in the eyes and for the moment nearly blinded by the poison. He found that to wash the eyes with milk was of much relief. From "African Game Trails," by Theodore Roosevelt, in the April Scribner.

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