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THE RUNNERS.

For I run not alone,
 There run with me the Silent
 Three,
 Through fields the dead have
 sown.

One with a sweet and piteous
 smile—
 The tireless Past—ah, he will
 last
 For many a footsore mile.

And one, the Now—with stern,
 white gaze—
 Who gives no heed though I
 do bleed
 Along the thorny ways.

One with masked face, lips
 dumb,
 Beckons my soul to some blind
 goal—
 The wrath of Things to Come.

Nay, I run not alone,
 There run with me the Silent
 Three,
 Through fields the dead have
 sown.

—Emery Pottle.

THE BRANCH ASYLUM.

In a message sent the legislature yesterday Governor West asked that a special committee of capable and disinterested men be sent to Pendleton to look over the site that has been selected as a location for the branch asylum. He sets forth that the land purchased by Bowerman offers no suitable building site for such a large institution and he gives the reasons why the site is objectionable. He would have the state board authorized to purchase additional land so that a better building site may be secured.

There is nothing new or startling in this. While they were here the other day both Governor West and Treasurer Kay were frank in criticizing the site selected. They predicted then that more land would have to be purchased.

In acting as they have done both the governor and state treasurer have been entirely within their rights and they can be subjected to no proper criticism. They will have the expending of a vast sum of money for the people of Oregon. It is but right they should be careful and see that no blunders are made. A building site must be had that will be amply large for the buildings to be erected and for possible future enlargements. If the site chosen by Bowerman does not offer suitable building ground it would be a crime against decency and good government for the present board to go ahead and erect a half million dollar institution upon that site.

But there is no move on to take the branch asylum away from Pendleton. The members of the board so stated while here and they have so stated publicly since that time. It is plainly the intention to secure more land in this vicinity and to locate the buildings upon that land. During the past few days Engineer Murphy has been looking over other tracts with this idea in view.

In the view of the East Oregonian Pendleton has nothing to fear from Governor West or Treasurer Kay. They are big men, not petty and vicious politicians. They are doing their duty as they see it. They are not trying to job Pendleton or do anything of the sort. At this time the only element of danger seems to lie in the possibility of a fight in the legislature. Should Bowerman and his followers try to justify the action taken by the retiring acting governor and prevent the purchase of more land then the whole thing may be thrown into the air.

But is it more than likely the legislature will uphold the present board. The legislature is progressive and the organization in both houses is friendly to the governor. Both houses should back the administration in its asylum plans. Upon this point it is timely to remark that both Senators Barrett and Burgess should stand with the new board despite the fact that they were for Bowerman as

president of the senate. The interests of Pendleton and of Umatilla county are greater than any consideration of petty politics. If the new board wants to buy more land for the asylum then our senators should stand by them in the move. This is no time for cheap personal politics.

A FUTILE ATTACK.

Defending the state conservation commission against an unjust attack made upon it by Jay Bowerman, the Journal said yesterday:

"Mr. Bowerman's information was bad. No sum of \$5000 was appropriated for the commission. The amount for the two years was \$1000 and of this sum but \$565 was expended.

"Second, the money was much better expended than in Mr. Bowerman's famous scheme of putting Dr. Plamondon on a salary of \$3000 a year two years before his services were required at the Oregon branch asylum. The work of the commission and its predecessors has been of invaluable service to the state. It was to the original commission that is largely due the enactment of the Oregon water code. That achievement and the fruit it has borne is evidence of the field there is for a conservation commission in the state.

"The work accomplished through the water code is alone worth the cost of a commission for a century, and there remains other fields for similarly fruitful endeavor by the body. It has limited the franchises on water powers to a period of 40 years and at the end of the time returns the title to the state instead of allowing it to remain the vested right of a private corporation. If there had been an Oregon conservation commission 20 years ago, the Portland Railway, Light & Power company would not now claim ownership of the Willamette Falls and would not be warning farmers along the river to its source that they must not take water from the stream for irrigation purposes if by so doing they reduce the flow of water at the falls.

"The trouble with Oregon has been that it did not have conservation commissions long ago."

When he tried to muck rake the state conservation commission Jay Bowerman took up a hard job. The valuable work done by J. N. Teal and associates on that commission is too well known. The commission will not suffer by Bowerman's attack but the people of this state are shown once more what stripe of politician Jay Bowerman is.

HIDE THAT SKUNK.

Prompted by some political motive, the devil knows what, a lying, dirty, untimely attack was made here yesterday upon Governor West and State Treasurer Kay. In local circles that attack will have no effect because people will merely consider the source. But it would be bad to have it go abroad. The nature of that attack was such that it constitutes an outrageous insult to the governor, to Mr. Kay and to the entire state. Pendleton must squelch such stuff as that and show that the decent, responsible element of her citizenship does not countenance such tactics. If we must have skunks in our midst then for God's sake let us keep them covered at a time like this.

In committee appointments Umatilla senators have not fared well but the house members were well treated. Peterson is chairman of the public lands committee and is upon the irrigation committee. Mahoney and Mann are both upon ways and means and have other good places.

With the work on the extension of the project and the natural development now on in the west end Hermiton has a right to expect to grow.

What Pendleton wants is the branch asylum. We can safely leave the details to the state board and to the engineers.

Did you notice the chinook?

BACK, THEN, TO THE FARM.

Richard Croker, during his visit to New York last month, discussed with a reporter the high cost of living.

"The farmers are all right," said Mr. Croker. "It is the people who insist on living in the towns who find everything too dear. In the town, you see, the expenses are as bothersome as the children.

"A little boy in a tiny flat looked up from his drum one day and said: 'Mothr, Adam and Eve lived in paradise. What was it like there?'"

"Like what it is here," his mother answered, "when you eight children are all at school."

HIS WIFE DID.

"My largest item of expense is on account of advertising."

"Indeed! I was not aware that you were in business."

"I'm not. But my wife reads the advertisements in the newspapers."

—Boston Transcript.

A man may have no bad habits and have worse.

JANUARY 17 IN HISTORY.

1099—Abd-El-Malek, a Moorish prince, crucified by his conquerors.

1380—An act of parliament passed by which foreign ecclesiastics were incapacitated from holding benefices in England.

1894—Letters from Dr. Jenner were published in London, claiming that his cowpox vaccination would give immunity from oriental plague.

1829—Western Australia formed into a British province, with a government and territorial officers appointed by the crown.

1854—Two railroad bridges and crossings at Erie, Pa., destroyed by a mob of women, who were afterwards escorted through the town with banners, headed by a band of music.

1854—Detroit and Buffalo joined by the completion of the Great Western railroad of Canada.

1864—Henry Ward Beecher's salary as pastor of Plymouth church, Brooklyn, raised from \$7000 to \$12,500 yearly, in return for his services in England in behalf of the union.

1866—The civil authority held by the provisional governor of Florida transferred to the governor elected by the people, General Walker.

1880—The Main legislature elected Daniel F. Davis, republican, governor, there having been no choice by the people.

1881—The new capital at Des Moines Iowa, recently damaged by fire, dedicated.

1904—At Richmond, Va., Dr. J. B. Hawthorne preached against the state providing for teaching religion in the public schools.

1905—Russian troops occupied Kashgar, China, after threat to invade empire for alleged discrimination.

A CRUSTY CHARACTER.

George E. Turner, at a dinner at the Curtis hotel in Lenox, said with a smile:

"This hotel was originally a New England boarding house. The board was very simple here. And old Curtis, the original old Curtis, was a character.

"Curtis used to drive a very aristocratic lady, Mrs. Butler, every afternoon. One day he was extremely talkative. Mrs. Butler stood his talk for an hour or so, and then she said, in her stiffest and most grande dame manner:

"Mr. Curtis, I pay you to drive, not to talk."

"Curtis of course, said no more. But when his bill came at the end of the month there was one day's charge which was set at \$2.50 instead of the usual 50 cents. Lenox prices, by the way were lower then than now.

"Mr. Curtis," said Mrs. Butler, "what is the reason of this singular charge of \$2.50 instead of the usual half dollar on the 11th?"

"Half a dollar for the drive, and \$2 for your sass," Old Curtis answered gruffly.

OBVIOUS.

Mayor Gaynor of New York, in a recent address to a body of ministers, said wittily:

"Some people expect me to entirely reform New York in 24 hours. They forget that you ministers have been at work on man for 2000 years and haven't entirely reformed him yet.

"The answer to the complaints of such people is obvious—obvious like Grougham's words to Palmerston.

"Palmerston, in an after-dinner speech, stammered:

"They tell us," he said, "that a little learning is a dangerous thing, but it is better—it is better than—better than—"

"Better than a great deal of ignorance," Brougham prompted, gravely.

The Rev. Mr. J. some months ago was making his first call at the cottage of one of his poorer parishioners in the suburbs. For a long time he sat at the window with Mrs. Y.'s little daughter.

"In looking out of doors, you notice how bright is the green of the leaves and grass?" he asked.

"Yes, sir," she said.

"Why does it appear so much brighter at this time?" he next asked, smiling benevolently.

"Cause ma has jus washed the window, and you can see out better," she said.

FIXING THE PRICE.

Two miserable looking hoboes called on the dean of a medical college and proposed that he purchase their bodies for the dissecting room, as they were on the verge of starvation and had not long to live.

"It is an odd proposition," hesitated the dean.

"But it is occasionally done," suggested the spokesman eagerly.

"Well, said the dean, "we might arrange it. What price do you ask?"

"Over in New York," replied the spokesman, "they gave us \$40."—Lippincott's.

Pour la Patrie!

Arist—My dear fellow, I've just refused 12,000 francs for it for America.

Customer—That's a pity, for I can't offer you more than five francs.

Arist—Take it; it isn't fair that French art should leave the country.

—La Rire.

Electric ranges for cooking are being tested in the navy with a view of displacing the old coal range.

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In an emergency the manufacturer of Limburger cheese was forced to use strategy with a shipment. Ordinarily his product went in special cars but in this instance no car was available, and the order must be filled.

Two hundred pounds of the fragrant comestible was put into a rough, oblong box and taken to the railroad baggage-room. Then the manufacturer bought a ticket for himself and the box and entered the train. At the first stop he went ahead to the baggage car to see that there was no trouble. He stood by the box in a disconsolate attitude and shaded his eyes with his hand. The baggage-man was sympathetic.

"A relative?" he asked.

"Yes," answered the manufacturer; "it is my brother."

"Well," said the railroad man, philosophically "you have one consolation. He's dead all right."

RAKING THE AIR.

Mayor Hense of Nashville was condemning those officials who, instead of quietly reducing law-breaking, prate noisily about it in the newspapers.

"Such fellows are all right, no doubt," said Mayor Hense, "but they will rake with the teeth upwards."

MARRIED WOMEN

No married woman's happiness is complete without children; she yearns with the deeper longings of her nature for the joys of motherhood. But women who bear children should prepare for the coming of baby by properly caring for their physical systems. Mother's Friend is a remedy which prepares the muscles and tendons for the unusual strain, renders the ligaments supple and elastic, aids in expanding the skin and flesh fibres, and strengthens all the membranes and tissues. It is especially valuable where the breasts are troublesome from swelling and congestion, and its regular use will lessen the pain and danger when the little one comes. Women who use Mother's Friend are assured of passing the crisis with safety. It is for sale at drug stores. Write for free book for expectant mothers.

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