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**MEXICORUS.**  
I'm glad I don't live in that dear old Guerrero.  
With all the excitement and ladies thereto—  
It may be exciting, but I don't carer.  
Hohokus is better, I think, than Chihuahua;  
It may be some quader, but ou-la-la-lahua,  
You won't be shot dead for a single rah-hahua!  
So, though I detest and abhor old Porfirio,  
And shed for his victims the salt-flavored terio,  
I'll keep on detesting and shedding right herio.  
—Horatio Winslow in Puck.

**NO GEOGRAPHICAL CHANGE.**  
At this time the question of a geographical location for the branch asylum is not up. That point has been settled. The state board is merely striving to find the very best possible building site near this city. It is right the board should do this.  
In seeking out a proper building site the board is acting deliberately as it should do. Captain Murphy, engineer at the asylum at Salem, has been here for several days making a technical inspection of the various local sites. The governor has appointed a committee of five to visit the sites and the legislature will send a similar committee. Of the men named by the governor three are former superintendents of the asylum at Salem and so should understand the needs of the branch institution. After they have looked over the several local building sites doubtless they will be able to say which is the most satisfactory. Then the work of establishing the branch asylum may be proceeded with.  
There should be no need of reopening the question of the geographical location of the institution. In an open contest it has been thoroughly proven that from a standpoint of climate, altitude and transportation Pendleton is far and away the best location for the asylum. We do not have the rigid winters that prevail east of the Blue mountains. This is a central point with reference to eastern Oregon and so is the economical location for the asylum. Then it is doubtful if the asylum could now be located elsewhere even if the board desired to make a change. A state institution once located cannot be easily changed.

**JUST WATCH.**  
A man from Boston has laid down some rules as to how women should dress and in commenting upon the same the Spokesman Review offers the following:  
Heretofore women have not dressed by rules, but by dressmakers. They did not purchase what was becoming, but what they could not afford. Henry Turner Bailey, one of Boston's best known artists, perceived the fallacy here and promptly set about to devise prescriptions by which any woman could dress according to esthetic standards and still keep within her income.  
Horizontal lines for tall; vertical lines for the short; a one-color scheme for the stout; mixed goods for the lean; women with large feet should never wear tan shoes, and puffs should never be worn because they are false.  
These rules give an indication of Mr. Bailey's philosophy. He would have women dress for a reason rather than for style. He would create individuality in dress, rather than conspicuousness. He would take the milliners and modistes from the paths of whimsical irresponsibility and place them in the hobble skirt of exact science.  
It is well. All mankind breathes a sigh of relief and votes Mr. Bailey a gold medal and a laurel wreath.

But the women? Mr. Bailey should not be too sanguine of the success of his rules until he publishes to the world the reply his wife makes when he tells her that she must never again wear tan shoes.

**TIME FOR A CHANGE.**  
Now that the affairs of the food and dairy commissioner are up for investigation the legislature should go to the bottom of the matter. The administration of that office in this state has been a farce. By the nature of things the food and dairy commissioner has work of the utmost importance to do. He should be a man technically fitted to do that work and he should be willing to work fearlessly and fairly for the public welfare. On the contrary Mr. Bailey is not a technical man but an old time politician who fell into a soft snap and has held on to it. His administration of affairs has become so rank that his deputies have resigned and some very bad disclosures are being made with reference to Bailey personally. It is time for a new deal in that office.

**MR. RICE REMAINS.**  
Pendleton cannot afford to lose men of the calibre of G. M. Rice and therefore it is a welcome announcement that he will not leave. He will continue as the head of the First National bank even though he has the opportunity of going to the metropolis under very favorable circumstances. Usually when the call of the city comes to local men as it came to Mr. Rice they leave this place for the larger business center. But the fact that Mr. Rice is to remain shows that Portland does not always win.

For the first time in history the Oregon state senate has prohibited smoking in the senate chamber during sessions. This is another evidence that those who represent the new deal are in control. A cigar was part of the dress of the old time politician and he could never have legislated without a stogie. Now both politician and stogie are in disgrace.

G. M. Rice was the leader of the move to reestablish the woolen mill two years ago and he did much to bring about the building of the present mill. Perhaps he did not like to leave the town where the Indian robes grow.

The central bank plan has been sprung by Senator Aldrich. It will probably be sprung even more so after some of the progressives have jumped upon it.  
"Harmon and harmony!" shout the backers of the Ohio governor. It will now be up to New Jersey to take up the slogan "Wilson and wisdom."

**A MAN WHO OBEYED.**  
"Noy let me see if I have this story straight"—it was a young school mistress who was speaking. "You say he sat at the train dispatcher's key-board for thirty-six hours; he personally directed the transportation of those thousands of troops then just as the whole army had arrived at its destination, an order came to carry it back; and this same young man did not give up until the job was finished. How long did you say he was at his post, seventy-two hours?"  
"Yes," repeated the man of affairs who had been relating the incident, "that young fellow was a division superintendent for the 'I. C.' railroad during civil war times and the story is that in the midst of a big rush of business his division got orders from Washington to transport those troops at once." The overworked train dispatchers went all to pieces and the rest of the trainmen had a panic. Things looked pretty blue. But one fellow kept his head—the division superintendent. He sat down at the dispatcher's key, rolled off those trains one by one, and never gave up, they say, until every Yankee soldier was past the last switch. Then, like lightning out of a clear sky, came the order "Move troops back at once." Was that fellow floored? Not much! He did not let up until he got those Yankees on feet, soil again and every engine back in the round house! Now that's what I call nerve!"

"I don't know how long he slept after the three days' job was over," the man concluded, "but when he woke up, he found he had been made superintendent of the entire road. His name was Marvin Hughtitt, and for the past twenty-four years he has been president of the Chicago and Northwestern road. The other day he retired at the age of 73 to become chairman of its board of directors."  
The brains, perseverance and natural force combined in the person of Marvin Hughtitt have been the chief factor in the phenomenal success of this transportation system which has spread over the northwest. Without such success it would not be able today to spend \$24,000,000 in perfecting its terminal facilities in the city of Chicago. When the new station, which faces south on Madison street between Clinton and Canal streets is opened, 290 trains with a capacity for carrying 85,000 people daily, will steam in and out of its gigantic train shed.

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**BETHLEHEM.**  
The court yard of the great khan and the open rooms around it were crowded with travelers, rousing from their night's rest and making ready for the day's journey. In front of the stables, half hollowed in the rock beside the inn, men were saddling their horses and their beasts of burden, and there was much noise and confusion.  
But beyond these, at the end of the line, there was a deeper grotto in the rock, which was used only when the nearer stalls were full. At the entrance of this an ass was tethered, and a man of middle age stood in the doorway.  
The sad shepherd saluted him and told his name.  
"I am Joseph, the carpenter of Nazareth," replied the man. "Have you also seen the angels of whom your brother shepherds came to tell us?"  
"I have seen no angels," answered Ammiel, nor have I any brothers among the shepherds. But I would fain see what they have seen."  
"It is our first-born son," said Joseph, "and the Most High has sent him to us. He is a marvellous child; great things are foretold of him. You may go in, but quietly, for the child and his mother, Mary, are asleep."  
So the sad shepherd went in quietly. His long shadow entered before him, for the sunrise was flowing into the door of the grotto. It was made clean and put in order, and a bed of straw was laid in the corner on the ground.  
The child was asleep, but the mother was waking for she had taken him from the manger into her lap, where her maiden veil of white was spread to receive him. And she was singing very softly as she bent over him in happiness and wonder.  
Ammiel saluted her and knelt down to look at the child. He saw nothing different from other young children. The mother waited for him to speak of angels, as the other shepherds had done. The sad shepherd said nothing, but only looked, and as he looked his face changed.  
"You have had great pain and danger and sorrow for his sake," he said gently.  
"They are past," she answered, "and for his sake I have suffered them gladly."—From the "Sad Shepherd," by Henry van Dyke, in the January Scribner.

**UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.**  
Insurance is based upon statistics that determine the frequency with which a risk would be likely to avail itself of the guarantee. No adequate statistics concerning unemployment, nor long-established systems for premiums and indemnities, exist. It has been affirmed that the need for insurance might depend upon the insured person himself, and that the employed workman could easily cause himself to be dismissed, so that he could receive money without work. The objection has also been made that in other forms of insurance there can be a restoration of the damage sustained, and that the remedy for unemployment ought to be work offered, instead of payments for not working, and that the question would still be open as to whether the insured should accept work that might be distasteful to him. These objections are considered today as having been disposed of by reflecting along this line:  
Modern statistics of unemployment are imperfect, but life, fire, transport, and casualty insurances were begun without statistics and created them only in the course of time. Even the imperfect statistics of unemployed today are more adequate as a basis from which to work. Herr Dr. Jostrow says, that the statistics were at the time of organizing most of the branches of existing insurance. The objection that the beginning of the benefits of insurance depends upon the will of the insured person himself has been answered by pointing out that this applies likewise to liability insurance, where bad faith in the person insured is possible. From "Experiments in Germany with Unemployed Insurance," by Elmer Roberts, in the January Scribner.

According to a Chinnampo dispatch an American oil ship with 130,000 cases of petroleum arrived at Chinnampo, Korea, on October 6. This is hailed as the opening of direct trade between America and Korea.

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