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ONE OF THESE DAYS.

One of these days, when sweet spring comes along
 And a mockingbird's thrillin' the world with a song,
 We'll smile at old winter, with heavens of gray,
 While Love leads his sweet-heart to red realms of May.

And Life will be glory,
 And beauty, and praise
 In the light and the blossoms
 If "One of these days."

One of these days, when the Summer sings sweet,
 And you hear the world's heart in melodious beat,
 We'll dream in the joy of the valleys and hills—
 The voice of glad rivers, the flash of the mills.

And Life will be glory,
 In all the bright ways,
 With the beautiful story
 Of "One of these days."
 —Frank L. Stanton.

HE WAS MISTAKEN.

The Portland weather observer predicted a cold wave for eastern Oregon yesterday. He said a very cold wave was headed for the northwest and that within 36 hours the temperature would go down to zero. But he missed his guess as far as Pendleton was concerned. Though the temperature did become colder last night the official thermometer did not go lower than 14 degrees above zero and such a "cold spell" as that can be easily endured in mid-winter. If the weather man would ask the groundhog what he thought of affairs in Pendleton yesterday he would be informed that the weather was fine, clear and mild.

CUT OUT THE POLITICS.

In a special message to the legislature Governor West recommends that the office of food and dairy commissioner be either abolished or else the present incumbent removed. He gives reasons why such steps should be taken. The reasons are that the present official is rankly incompetent and is likewise accused of grafting by his deputies who have resigned out of disgust for the methods prevailing under the Bailey regime.

The governor's suggestion is timely and it should be heeded. It looks to promoting competency in the public service. In the view of the East Oregonian the office of food and dairy commissioner should be changed from an elective to an appointive office. The commissioner should be appointed either by the state board or by the state board of health. A man should be chosen who has expert qualifications for the position. He should be required to inspect the dairies of the state and the foodstuffs sold within the state and to see that the laws relating to the same are strictly obeyed.

At this time the office of the food and dairy commissioner is a farce. For 20 years that position has been filled by a man who is notoriously unfit for the place. He is a hand shaking politician, not an expert food and dairy inspector. Needed improvements that have been brought about in the dairy business in Portland had to be forced through over his objections. He tried to block the move to eliminate the tubercular dairy cows and he has been quoted as saying that dirty milk is wholesome.

Unquestionably much of the blame for the condition of affairs in this office may be traced to the fact that the office is elective. Positions that require technical training should be appointive and the appointing power should have the right to remove the appointee if he does not give satisfactory service. There is no more sense in having all the people of this state vote upon who shall be dairy inspector than there would be in having them vote upon who shall be super-

intendent of the penitentiary or elevator boy at the state house.

This same argument also applies to the position of state printer which is also an office requiring technical fitness. Fortunately at this time the office is filled by an honest and very capable man in Willis Duniway. But the system is wrong just the same. The next man will probably not be as mindful of the state's welfare as is Mr. Duniway.

Two years ago the East Oregonian discussed this subject and at that time suggested that both the offices of food and dairy commissioner and state printer should be made appointive instead of elective so as to take those positions out of politics and put them under the merit system. Therefore it is gratifying to note that so prominent a man as Governor West is working along this line. If he follows out this course and if his recommendations are acted upon favorably the state will benefit greatly. The move looks to cutting out politics and applying business principles to public affairs.

APPLY THE MERIT RULE.

In the belief that the Huntington bill will bring about a betterment of the rural schools of the state some newspapers are speaking favorably of that measure.

But if it is desired to improve the country schools why not go to the bottom of the trouble—why go part way? The principal reason why our country schools are neglected now is because the office of county school superintendent is upon a wrong basis. A county superintendent is not a superintendent at all. He is a clerk. The office is based on politics, not on competency. The school superintendent must be elected from among the people of the county. This must be done even though there may be no competent man in the county who wants the job.

This system is wrong. The position is one involving special training and special experience. It is silly to require that the superintendent be chosen from a certain territory. In selecting city superintendents members of a school board pay no attention to geographical lines. They go out and get the best man they can find, regardless of where he lives. He is required to superintend the schools and see that teaching work is thoroughly done. If he cannot do this he is supplanted by a man who can. At least the system calls for such action as this.

It is largely because cities look to merit and not to politics when they select school superintendents that the city schools now excel the rural schools. If the rural schools are to be brought up to standard the first step must be to lay the foundation for real improvement by applying the merit system in the selection of county superintendents. The East Oregonian indicated yesterday how this may be done.

To adopt the Huntington measure as it stands without changing the basis upon which county superintendents are chosen would be like erecting the walls of a house without first laying a proper foundation. Such work as that has never proven satisfactory and it never will.

SMALL CHANGE.

At the recent dinner given by Andrew Carnegie, an eminent lawyer, seated half-way down the table, was deeply immersed in conversation with his neighbor when the host opened up the subject of the British college system and showed signs of wishing undivided attention.

"Every other civilized nation," he declaimed, "has the decimal system, while England adheres to the absurd and cumbersome table of pounds, shillings and pence." Rap-rap-rap.

The raps were for the lawyer, who remained absorbed in his own conversation. "And even fartherings," continued the iron-master. "Is there anything else in finance so ridiculous as the farthing?" Rap-rap.

The lawyer glanced around somewhat impatiently.

"Judge G—," Mr. Carnegie called out, "why do the British continue their coinage of farthings?"

"To enable the Scotch to practice benevolence, Mr. Carnegie," returned the lawyer.—From Success Magazine.

SPEAKING OF SLANG.

While engaged in reforming personal weaknesses, why not cut down the output of slang?

Do you know that conversational English is becoming a thing of hysterical extravagance?

A little slang, it has been contended, adds vitality to the mother tongue, but there is no excuse for overdoing.

It may be graphic and amusing to declare that "Pittsburg is all to the smudge," but you don't care to hear a moment later that "Chicago is all to the mustard," or "Milwaukee all to the suds."

"If you must use slang, use it sparingly, choosing it wisely and making it impressive.

And when you are in doubt as to its wisdom or its adaptability don't use it at all.—Cleveland Plaindealer.

Two Ways.

Defeated Pug—I weighed in all right before the fight.
 Backer—Maybe you did. But you certainly didn't wade in during the fight.—Puck.

**BLOOD DISEASES
 CONTAGIOUS TROUBLES**

Contagious Blood Poison more thoroughly permeates the system than any other disease. Its infectious virus contaminates every corpuscle and tissue of the circulation, and for this reason its symptoms are of a varied nature. When it enters the blood it is but a short time until the mouth and throat begin to ulcerate, the skin becomes spotted, rashes and eruptions appear on the body, sores and ulcers break out, the hair falls, and frequently nails on hands and feet thicken and come off. Mineral medicines which simply shut the poison up in the system should be avoided, for when such treatment is left off the old disease will break out again, often worse than before. S. S. S. cures Contagious Blood Poison permanently, and it does so because it thoroughly purifies the blood. S. S. S. goes into the circulation, and drives out the last trace of the destructive germs, adds richness and vigor to the circulation and allows it to nourish the diseased portions of the body back to health. S. S. S. is purely vegetable, being made entirely of roots, herbs and barks, without a particle of mineral, and its vegetable ingredients always hasten the cure by toning up the stomach and digestive members. Home Treatment book and any medical advice free to all who write.



THE SWIFT SPECIFIC 60, Atlanta, Ga.

STRICTLY PERSONAL.
 (To the Telephone Girl.)
 O Priestess of the Telephone, I would say a word with thee alone; So please incline thy head a bit and open thy shell-like ear; My talk concerns the folks who ring And bother thee like everything, And who, from selfish motives, try to learn if I am here.

If missionary ladies call,
 Or those who are soliciting some advertising tome,
 Regardless of their race or creed,
 I charge you not to give them heed,
 For very likely it's a "touch," and say I'm "not at home."

Philanthropists, they may inquire—
 Insurance agents, life and fire,
 Or some one with a mining project
 buzzing in his come—
 (There's hosts and hosts of mining "bugs!")
 If necessary cut the plugs—
 It's 10 to one that it's a "touch,"
 and say I'm "not at home."

Societies for Fighting Crimes,
 Committees on Cathedral Chimes,
 Auxiliaries for Raising Funds to
 Build an Aerodrome,
 Solicitors and agents all—
 If any one of these shout call
 It's pretty apt to be a "touch" and say I'm "not at home."

O Priestess of the Heartpiece, hark!
 And aid a hopeless Easy Mark—
 If duce voices ask for me don't
 scratch your auburn dome,
 Nor hesitate at all for such
 Invariably preface a "touch,"
 So take a flyer, anyway, and say
 I'm not at home,
 —John D. Welles in the Buffalo News.

His Only Asset.
 "Kind sir," said the weary wayfarer, "I have lost nearly everything—money, friends, self-respect. There is but one thing that has never deserted me."
 "Poor man!" said the sympathetic listener. "Here is a quarter. And that one thing is?"
 "My thirst," replied the weary wayfarer as he moved quickly away.

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