

East Oregonian

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WORK.

What are we set on earth for
 Say, to toil;
 Nor seek to leave thy tending
 Of the vines
 For all the heat of day, till it
 Declines,
 And death's mild curfew shall
 From work assail,
 God did anoint thee with his
 Odorous oil,
 To wrestle, not to reign; and he
 Assigns
 All thy tears over, like pure
 Crystals,
 For younger fellow-workers of
 The soil,
 To wear for amulets. So other
 Shall
 Take patience, labor, to their
 Heart and hand,
 From thy hand and thy heart
 And thy brave cheer,
 And God's grace fructify
 Through thee to all,
 The least flower, with a brim-
 ming cup may stand,
 And share its dewdrop with
 Another near.
 —Mrs. Browning.

WHAT WILL THE ANSWER BE?

While the volunteer firemen were fighting the fire on Cottonwood street early this morning they worked underneath a perfect maze of overhead electric and telephone wires. No doubt the electric current was turned off soon after the fire started and people may have been entirely safe today.

But who knows when some contingency may arise to delay the turning off of the current? A fast burning fire might occur at any time in the congested part of the city and terrible damage might be inflicted before word could be gotten to the men at the sub-station.

The danger to firemen from the overhead wires is a matter worth earnest consideration. Our volunteer firemen rush forth from their homes to fight fires and at the very best their work is hard and dangerous. They work more from a sense of town patriotism than from anything else. The pay they get scarcely reimburses them for the clothes they ruin. They are entitled to every reasonable protection and it will be but reasonable to ask that the overhead wires be placed underground in the business section.

The two corporations affected object to the improvement because of the expense involved. Still it will be cheaper for the companies to place their wires underground now than to do so later. They may now lay cables on Cottonwood, Garden, Alta and Webb and West Court streets at but slight expense. After those streets have been paved it will cost still more to do the work.

And some day the overhead wires must go. If the council refuses to enact an ordinance upon the subject the people have the privilege of doing so under the initiative. They

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DALE ROTHWELL
 OPTOMETRIST.
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will probably avail themselves of that privilege if the council fails to act. In a short time the public service commission law will be operative in Oregon and the commission may then order the overhead wires removed if it sees fit. On complaint being made the commission would probably take such action because there would be justice in the complaint.

Since it is inevitable the work must be done some time why will it not be better for the corporations to get busy now while the path is easy?

If the electric company objects to the move tell the officials it will be better for the company to have its wires underground than to face possible damage suits.

If the telephone people object tell them that the city of Pendleton is "standardizing" its system of handling overhead wires. Not long ago the phone company "standardized" its local rates and the process was upward. With the increased revenue now derived as a result of that change the company should easily afford to pay for placing its wires underground in the business section. They have long talked of spending \$20,000 here and it is time for them to give Pendleton something besides conversation on the subject.

EATING TOO MUCH.

An Indiana doctor, lecturing before the Oregon medical association, declared that the unwise use of foods has caused more deaths and suffering than all the wars and pestilence in history. He says that improper eating is the cause of 90 per cent of the physical ills of the people today.

There are vast numbers who will agree with much that this doctor says. People are gradually learning more and more about the influence of diet. They are learning to an extent to eat with a view to meeting the needs of the body rather than for the pleasure of eating.

However, it must be said in passing that the lecture by the Indiana man would be more effective had his picture not been published along with his remarks. He is a thin looking individual and not the type to pose as a proponent of his hygienic beliefs.

A BAD ACCIDENT.

An untimely wreck was that on the Oregon Trunk road Monday in which five were killed and many injured. The Hill line up the Deschutes has been in operation but a short time and it is a bad initiation for the new road.

What makes the accident the more deplorable from a Northern Pacific standpoint is the fact that the Oregon Trunk is supposed to be a well built line. However the story of the wreck explains that the particular section of the track where the accident occurred is not permanent track. It is a loop around a point that is to be tunneled.

It now seems it would have been economy for the railroad to have constructed that tunnel before placing trains in operation on the road.

WHY SHOULD IT?

To offset the move for having the electric wires placed underground it is insinuated that the improvement might also work expense on property owners. Why should it do so? The buildings in the business section were but lately rewired in accordance with the latest rules. Will not that wiring suffice regardless of whether the current comes from the front or the rear of the buildings? Will not the juice run west as well as east? Will not the electricity run from basement to ceiling as easily as from ceiling to basement?

The plea that lowering the overhead wires may be expensive to others than the company is an argument for the defense. It should be "shaken before taken."

It sounds like old times to read of arrests for gambling in this city and the East Oregonian is shocked to learn that men still engage in that calling. There has been nothing in the police records of late to indicate games have been in progress here. While some familiar faces have been seen upon the streets for some time past this paper presumed the men were here to enjoy the beautiful mid-summer climate or to hear the band practice.

Walla Walla adopted the commission plan of government by a heavy vote and it is time for Pendleton to be thinking hard upon the same subject. It is the businesslike way of running a city.

THE BRISTOW AMENDMENT.

In passing Monday night the resolution for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people, the senate paid to a great cause the homage that vice is accustomed to render to virtue.

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SECURITY

The senate dared not openly oppose this measure, which has four times passed the house in different congresses, and always met defeat in the house—the citadel of privilege.

But now the people can no longer be denied. The pressure is irresistible. The people are massed. The senate bowed to the popular will—54 to 24—and then proceeds to tuck on an amendment in the secret hope of defeating the whole movement.

In form and outer semblance the senate gave way to the claims of justice and honesty. But the Bristow amendment shows the cloven hoof of malignance and insincerity.

The Bristow amendment affronts the spirit of the constitution. It is fundamental to the constitutional plan that United States senators should be the representatives of the states and that the states should have unrestricted power to choose their representatives in their own way.

In putting into the hands of congress the power to control senatorial elections in the state, the amended resolution passed by the senate last night snatches from the people with its left hand what it purports to give with its right.

The resolution as passed will go to conference, and will meet there the loyal and patriotic resolution of the lower house.

If the house fails in this matter to stand firm for the people, the people will have to stand firm for themselves. They will insist upon the summoning of a constitutional convention.—San Francisco Examiner.

GOOD REASON.

"And what, my dear little boy," asked the minister, strictly in accordance with precedent—"and what do you intend to be when you grow up?"

"A farmer, sir."

"Very good indeed; to supply the nations with natural food—most good. And you?" turning to the second.

"Please, sir, a schoolmaster."

"Even better; filling the minds of the rising generation with mental food. Yes, even better. And you?" turning to the third.

"A preacher, sir."

"The best of all, my dear little boy; the best of all, for filling the soul with spiritual food is far worthier than either filling the mind or the body. And what bids you become a joiner?"

"We always have roast chicken for dinner when you come, sir!"

KNEW THEM.

A dried-up old colonel and a very sentimental young lady were together watching the sunset.

She inquired gushingly, "Oh, colonel, don't you love Longfellow's poems?"

"Can't say I do," he replied. "Never read them, in fact. Consider all poetry absolutely drivel."

"But," she persisted, "surely you cannot help admiring this verse of his out of 'The Day is Done,' you know: 'And all the night shall be filled with music, and the cares which infest the day shall fold their tents like the Arabs, and as silently steal away.'"

"By Jove!" he exclaimed, "there is something in that. I know those Arab beggars—they would simply steal anything."

A ROMANCE, ALMOST.

Answers, London. He took the proffered gloveless hand in his, while high above them blew soft breezes, which, descending, fanned the stifling air that sought to stave them as they stood face to face. Her brows were raised. What joy to be so near this queen of smiling grace, to hold her hand so tenderly!

The fingers rested, slim and white, for one brief moment on his palm. And yet his face showed no delight, his massive chest betrayed no quail.

As the electric fans above dispersed the heated air and blew, he said, with out a sign of love:

"Six and a half, my'am, is your size."

JULY 12 IN HISTORY.

1548—Henry VIII married the protestant lady, Catherine Parr, his sixth queen. She was a doctor and a lover of learning and survived Henry.

1881—Cardinal Piazetti, elected pope and took the name of Innocent III.

1928—The first official trial of the Claude Chappe telegraph was made with complete success, transmitting messages forty-eight hours in thirteen minutes, forty seconds.

1807—Declaration of the peace between Bonaparte and the King of Prussia at Tilt.

1856—The Crimea was evacuated by the 224 of the allied forces of Great Britain and France.

relief of Lucknow. 1861—Battle of Rich mountain, between 15,000 federals under General McClellan, and 6,000 Confederates, under General Garnett. The federals stormed the heights of Rich mountain and Laurel Hill, and drove the southerners from their positions, with a loss of about 1,000, including prisoners. During the pursuit on the following day, General Garnett was killed in a cavalry skirmish.

1864—Telegraphic communication with Washington, D. C., having been cut off, rumors of its capture by the confederates and denials followed each other over the country all day.

1910—The Pan-American congress opened at Buenos Ayres.

Aviator Charles S. Rolls was killed by a fall at Bournemouth, England, almost in the presence of his father and mother.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY SKETCH.

The Hon. Cyrus Cline, who represents the Twelfth Indiana district in congress, is fifty-five today, since he was born July 12, 1856. His birthplace is Richland county, Ohio, but his parents moved to Steuben county, Ind., when he was very small and he has resided there ever since. Mr. Cline is a Democrat. His education was received in the schools of Steuben county, Indiana and Hillsdale College, Michigan. He graduated in the scientific course in 1876, receiving the master's degree two years later.

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