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THE NINETY AND NINE.
There are ninety and nine who live and die,
In want and hunger and cold,
That one may live in luxury,
And be wrapped in its silken fold.
The ninety and nine in their hovels bare,
The one in his palace with riches rare.
They toil in the fields, the ninety and nine,
For the fruits of our mother earth.
They dig and delve in the dangerous mine,
And bring its rich treasures forth.
But the wealth released by their sturdy blows
To the hands of the one forever flows! —Selected.

STROBLE'S OBJECTION.
At the meeting of the ordinance committee last week Councilman V. Stroble raised a weighty objection to the move to place the electric and telephone wires underground in the business section.
In substance Mr. Stroble said that Pendleton now has about the same population it had 20 years ago and that there is no hope for the future. So he does not see the use of trying to put the wires underground. Things that sufficed in the past should answer now.
Fine talk isn't it from a councilman in a town that prides itself on being the "biggest town of its size in the west." Fine talk to be heard in a town that right now has over a million dollars worth of building and construction work underway or in sight. Fine talk to be heard in a place where business conditions are better than they have been for years and where scarcely a vacant house is to be seen.
It is not true of course that Pendleton's population is no greater now than 20 years ago. The town has made a slow but substantial growth. There are reasons for believing the growth in the future will be greater than in the past. The branch asylum and other things already in sight will increase Pendleton's population. The rate decision just given by the interstate commerce commission promises to build up all interior cities and Pendleton should be one of the chief gainers in view of its geographical position and railroad facilities.
But even if the town had no more people than 20 years ago that would be no argument against placing the electric wires underground. Other material improvements have been made. The streets have been paved. A sewer system has been installed and is now being extended. New school buildings have been erected, new bridges built, and a mountain water system ordered.
For these civic improvements the people have paid and are paying. The home owner, the merchant and the men who own the business blocks furnish the money that pay for these improvements. Why should the electric trust be made exempt? It has the best paying business in the city. If property owners pay for paving the streets, for laying concrete walks and for the installation of cluster lights why should not the electric company be required to get its poles and overhead wires off the business streets? Why has this improvement been delayed so long?
The answer is not hard to find. It is because we have had too many councilmen like V. Stroble and Tom Montgomery who serve the interests of the electric company very faithfully but are blind to the needs of the people of Pendleton—though under oath to serve the people.

KEEP AFTER THEM.
The Oregon law against the white slave traffic is a righteous law and for their efforts to enforce the same Deputy District Attorney Pruitt and other officials are entitled to encouragement and congratulations.
For women and girls who take the path of shame there is plenty of punishment and censure. They suffer fearfully for their folly and are entitled to compassion as well as blame, yet society shows them no mercy.
Men who make a business to induce girls to enter houses of prostitution are morally far lower than the women with whom they deal. They are entitled to punishment accordingly and in Oregon the law specifies they shall be heavily fined or sent to the penitentiary.
Efforts are being made in Pendleton to enforce this law but thus far unfortunately the officers have not secured the right one. A few female detectives might bring forth the evidence desired.

FOR A HORSE SHOW.
That Round-Up park offers great possibilities for entertainment purposes throughout the year was shown yesterday and it was demonstrated on the fourth of July. It is a fine place for a horse meet even though the track is small. How would it do to pull off a horse show in Pendleton every spring and to have exhibitions and races at the Round-Up park. We need a spring entertainment anyway.
Governor Johnson seems very sore at Governor West because our governor made him sign extradition papers for Banker Wilde. But since the Oregon governor won out he can afford to stand a little verbal abuse. If he cared to do so though he might say some very pointed things about Governor Johnson for his apparent desire to keep an embezzling banker from being brought to trial.
The summer did not last very long.

THE FRESH NIGHT AIR.
A well intentioned friend of mine Came blithely up to me,
He had a burden on his heart,
As anyone could see.
"I notice you are thin and lean
And seared with worldly care;
Why don't you sleep out on the porch
And breathe the fresh night air?"
And so I slept out on the porch
As you can plainly see—
And if you contemplate the same,
O pray you look at me!
An hour or two I gazed on high
Enraptured by a star,
Then slumbered just in time to be
Awakened by a car.
Again I dozed a wink or two,
Then awakened with a start,
A drunken man was asking me
"Where is the water cart?"
And just as I dropped off again,
To dream of pumpkin pies,
Next door some serenaders sang
"Drink to me with thine eyes."
They quit at 2 A. M. and I
Sighed, "That's the last of that,"
Alas! my trusting, guileless heart
Had quite forgot the cat.
At 4 A. M. the sun arose
And smote my dreaming bean,
He sat down on the porch with me
And tickled up my spleen.
The iceman came at 5 a. m.
And told me it was hot
And said the breweries all might fall
By noon as like as not.
At 6 the youngster bounded out
And asked me how I felt;
I grabbed a loose suspender up
And walloped him a welt.
And here I sit with pent up wrath
And murder in my heart;
If once I meet that "outdoor guy"
He'll need a 16 mile start.
—St. Paul Dispatch.

CONSERVATION.
The work being done by Gifford Pinchot and the National Conservation League is extremely valuable. The value does not consist alone in the services they are rendering to save what is left of the public domain, but in the principles they are impressing on the public mind. There is no argument they advance in favor of saving the remnant of the public lands which does not apply with equal force to the restoration of the rights of the people to the use of resources that

have passed into the possession of private monopolies. The platform of the association carried to its logical conclusion is nothing more nor less than the single tax proposition of Henry George. This is made very clear in the paragraph concerning water rights which makes the following demand:
"Payment of reasonable compensation for the benefits granted by the people with periodical readjustment of the rate of compensation, so as to insure justice, both to the investor and to the public."
If this policy is sound in regard to water rights, and no one has yet been able to show that it is not, it is just as sound in regard to other resources.
No argument can be advanced either on grounds of morality or of expediency in favor of the claim of the Pacific Railroads to immense stretches of Western lands, of Weyerhaeuser to many square miles of lumber lands, of the Astors to a large part of the land of New York City, or of the Longworths to the land of Cincinnati, that would not apply with equal force to the claim of the Guggenheims to the land of Alaska.
The benefit that will come from blocking the attempt to gobble the coal supply of Alaska is nothing at all compared with the good that would result from giving the people the right to use valuable land much nearer civilization than is being wholly or partly withheld from use. In every city there is enough of such land a thousand times as beneficial as the saving of Alaska.
The conservation movement deserves the best wishes of all good citizens, but it should be logical enough not to hesitate to include in its demands the restoration of resources that have been stolen as well as the blocking of thefts now being attempted.

CHILD ACTRESS IS PARENTS' PEACEMAKER
Lois Ewell, who obtained Mayor Gaylor's permission to go on stage, ends estrangement between father and mother.
New York—Lois Ewell, the child who last March obtained permission from Mayor Gaylor to go on the stage with her father and mother at their new home, 114 St. Marks avenue, Brooklyn. She had brought the couple together after lawyers, courts and friends had failed.
Following the separation Mrs. Ewell obtained possession of Lois, while Ewell got the baby, Raine Ewell, Jr. When the case of the wife, who was suing for the privilege of seeing the baby, was called before Justice Crain in Brooklyn, Mrs. Ewell's lawyer announced that the couple had come to an agreement.
Ewell had met Lois and was persuaded to stay with her. Then the couple agreed to forget past difficulties.

WRITES ON TOM JOHNSON.
Henry George, Jr., contributes article on former Mayor.
Cleveland, Ohio.—Henry George, Jr., has an article on "Tom L. Johnson; the Man and his Work" in the Twentieth Century Magazine.
"He had properly been called," writes George, "the best mayor of the best governed city in the world. He strove to go beyond that. He had in his mind's eye the most just city in the world. He sought to lay the foundation of such a city on a hill-top, where all could see its shining walls and all be inspired to build like cities over the earth."
"For this he strove to his last breath. When the death angel came with the sword, Tom Johnson smiled and followed."

FIVE THOUSAND TO ATTEND IRRIGATION MEET
Spokane, Wash.—Five thousand accredited delegates from all parts of the United States, in addition to a large foreign representation, will attend the nineteenth annual sessions of the National Irrigation Congress in Chicago, December 5 to 9, according to R. In-singer, manager of the Northwestern & Pacific Hypotheek bank, who has just returned from a tour of the middle western states and Chicago, where he presided at several meetings of the national board of governors, of which he is chairman.

OREGON CITY THREATENED.
Oroville, Cal., July 31.—Forest fires which have burned over thousands of acres of pasture land are threatening the town of Oregon City. Every available man in the threatened district is fighting the flames.

JULY 31 IN HISTORY.
1423—Battle of Cravant, France, (hundred years' war).
1759—Battle of Monmouth, during the siege of Quebec when Wolfe, with 5,000 men, attacked the entrenched camp of the French, defeating them.

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