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**HOPE.**  
 "I do not ask Thee, if today be dark,  
 To change it all, and make it fair;  
 As I step forth today to toe the mark  
 I ask not that the burden I must bear  
 Be taken from my shoulders  
 —leave it there!"  
 "But this I pray Thee for with  
 all my might—  
 My humble prayer Thou  
 canst fulfill  
 And give the world its own  
 way still—  
 Let me, if it be dark today,  
 Keep hoping that tomorrow  
 may be bright."  
 —Frank L. Stanton

Medford merchants have taken up a movement to establish a cannery in that little city. There are many reasons for Pendleton, sons why such a move might well be taken up here some day. Pendleton has a great fruit section on the east in the Freewater, Milton country and to the west there will very shortly be another fruit producing region as great or greater, consisting of the lands under the government project and various private projects.

It is possible that neither section may be able of itself to maintain a big cannery but that such a plant located here and drawing on both regions could be operated with success. There are good rail connections into Pendleton from both regions and there will soon be macadamized roadways leading to this city from each direction.

It is a matter worth keeping in mind and worth investigating by the Commercial association. More than likely a Pendleton cannery would be extremely beneficial to the growers at Milton and Hermiston as well as acceptable to this place. All the fruit that is raised cannot be shipped abroad and sold at top prices. The culled fruit must be disposed of otherwise and it should be canned. At the present time a vast amount of such fruit is peddled out under false pretenses to Pendleton householders. But such a course cannot be continued forever.

Some members of the Vincent Methodist church of Spokane are organizing themselves into a brigade to break up the habit of smoking among high school students. They have arranged the matter with the chief of police and will each be decked out with a star and will have full probation officers powers as to making arrests, etc.

Such efforts on the part of well meaning but misguided folk have much to do with the prevalence of the smoking habit among boys. It may be regrettable but it is a fact a vast number of young Americans of the masculine gender desire to follow lines not laid down by churches and Sunday schools. It is more than probable that smoking will henceforth be new attractions for high school boys in Spokane.

A more effective way to break up the use of tobacco in a high school would be for the education board to enforce a hard and fast rule that no regular tobacco user be allowed in school and that expulsion should follow proof of the fact a student is a persistent smoker. A school board could enforce such a rule, not on moral grounds, but for a sordid reason that it costs the state money to educate a student and it is not "good business" to spend money on a boy who deliberately offsets the good he obtains from school by following a habit that impairs his physical and mental efficiency. There are corporations that bar the use of both liquor and tobacco by employees on this ground and the rules are generally observed.

Partisan newspapers that howl with rage over the prospect the democratic senators will refuse to confirm any late hour appointments made by President Taft may have great cause for grief. The senate action though is not without provocation. It is possible the senators are afraid that if they confirm any late hour appointments the president may at the last moment issue an executive order placing the civil service cloak about his appointees so as to keep them in office for life.

The action of the president in so protecting some 35,000 fourth class postmasters appointed for political reasons would lend color to such suspicion. While taken professedly in the interests of civil service the order was more beneficial to spoilsmen in office than to the service. The way to get civil service postmasters is to get them under the civil service which provides that appointments shall be made on the merit basis. It makes a farce of civil service when political appointees, no matter who they may be, are given civil service protection in office without their having first met the necessary tests as to fitness.

But there is much both political parties could do towards wiping out the spoils system and they will do it in time because the country as a whole is growing tired of political officials and eventually will demand that efficiency be given a higher rating in all branches of the government service and that strictly partisan considerations be made to count for but little.

Some sentimental people who love the writings of Charles Dickens are complaining bitterly because J. P. Morgan has purchased the manuscript of the "Christmas Carol" and has it in his private collection. They assert it should be in some public museum.

Of course it should. Yet no one need worry much because Morgan has acquired the old sheets of paper on which Dickens wrote his favorite production. It would be much hard-



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# MAIN 445



er to read the Christmas Carol from those time worn pages than from some good up-to-date volume of Dickens. Morgan does not own the "Christmas Carol." He merely has the shell from which the story came and it was made useless when the story appeared in book form. Those who seek the nightingale's song are unfortunate who look in old nests because the song is never there.

For aerial fame brave men will risk their lives like moths around a candle. It is too bad fellows like Kearney and Lawrence should die but it seems to be an inevitable part of the game they play if they but follow it long enough.

J. P. Morgan's testimony before the congressional committee is quite likely to establish for him a reputation as a jokemith.

One may ship packed eggs or cabbage sets by parcels post but not a book. Why is that?

Our fine climate resists the efforts of the weather bureau to make it blusterous.

**That Settled It.**  
 "I'm satisfied with the present conditions."  
 "You are, eh? And I suppose you're going to vote to continue them."  
 "Yes, I am."  
 "With the rich getting richer all the time?"  
 "I don't know anything about that. All I know is that I asked for a raise in pay yesterday and got it. That's the sort of prosperity I can understand and want to continue."—Detroit Free Press.

**Affects His Vocabulary.**  
 "Bring me a wood pulp sandwich," said the guest in an abstracted way.  
 "Beg pardon, sir," murmured the waiter.  
 "Oh, yes, excuse me. At home I'm used to this paper bag cooking."—Washington Herald.



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