

BANDON RECORDER

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BANDON.....OREGON

This is surely a great country, when a poor man can fall for \$10,000,000.

There are increasing indications that China may have to be reformed from the outside, after all.

Scientists who insist that kissing conveys germs have not caused any noteworthy slump in the mistletoe market.

Probably the most skillful operation in Castro's case was his own operation for the removal of himself from Venezuela.

A Pittsburg girl who eloped took her mother along. This is what the headline artist might call a "double tragedy" for father.

Barring a boy from Yale on account of marriage seems like an unnecessary thrusting into conflict of two forms of the higher education.

Progressive Boston has given the superstitious a jolt by making thirteen entrances and thirteen exits at the main station of its new subway.

President Simon of Hayti has made no promises concerning his intentions with regard to a second term. He has probably considered it unnecessary.

Claus Spreckels came to this country a poor boy and amassed a great fortune, but he does not seem to have been able to die without leaving a will contest.

John D. Rockefeller has a double, but John and the double can always be distinguished from each other by an examination of their respective check books.

If Emperor William is unable with an income of \$10,000,000 a year to make ends meet it will have to be admitted that he is about the poorest manager extant.

A century and a half ago the bitter quarrel between the Kaiser and King Edward would have meant war; now it merely furnishes material for the professional humorists.

Statisticians inform us that the cost of living has increased 250 per cent during the past 100 years. Still, it will have to be admitted that living is worth a good deal more than it was 100 years ago.

Another counterfeit \$5 silver certificate has been discovered. Why will people go to the trouble of making counterfeit money when they can open a 5-cent shop almost anywhere and get rich quick?

The Crown Prince of Serbia vehemently declares: "I will fight my father, if necessary." We respectfully refer him to Hon. Jack Johnson if he feels that he positively cannot get along without a fight.

That Connecticut man who advertised that he would for 50 cents reveal a method of "getting rich quick" is eligible for membership in the Ananias Club. His answer to the people who forwarded the price demanded for his recipe was "Work hard."

Socialist candidates for Congress received votes in 162 districts this year; Prohibitionists in 152 districts. The strength of the two parties lies in the North and West, for the South contributed only four candidates out of the total, two Prohibitionists and two Socialists.

We do not know that the practice of lying is on the increase, but the accusation of lying certainly is. It appears in the most unexpected places. Grave lawyers, debating a point of view, suddenly discover that it is necessary to denounce each other as liars. We fear that the habit is spreading from politics into less bellicose callings. It is mainly the lying politician, or the man who lies about a lying politician, to whom popular attention is directed.

One of the little tragedies of the Boxer uprising in China has just come to light. The young American woman who painted the portrait of the late Empress Dowager wrote recently of the sittings, and mentions the long fingernails of her distinguished subject. In the hurried flight from Peking they were injured, and had to be cut, and the artist remarks in a tone which suggests a sigh, "They were only about three inches long when I painted the picture."

The Chinese government's patronage of thought and knowledge now covers a wide field. Young men are even being trained abroad and at home, as mining engineers and miners, and the first attempts to develop mineral resources indicate that, although China will continue to be a buyer of copper, lead and zinc, it has iron in abundance, enough to sell. In the China of old, mining was discontinued because it was believed that demons came out of holes in the ground; but the new China, grown wiser, perceives that the only appearances are the beneficent spirits of wealth and prosperity.

They had an illustrious time in Peking not long ago. All the great men of the great Chinese empire approach-

ed a little toddling boy, three years old, and kowtowed and kiyled to him just as if he had come through a hard campaign and had beaten his adversaries by a comfortable majority in the electoral college. All the fuss and feathers attendant upon so notable a ceremony merely went to show that little Pu Yi had succeeded to the throne of his fathers and had acquired the rule over hundreds of millions of people. It is not supposed that the three-year-old brain had any vast conception of what all this ceremony meant. He had been carefully instructed, as any clever dumb animal might have been, and he walked up the steps and bowed at the right places and came down again at the proper moment. And in years to come, when he may be Emperor in deed as well as in law, it is possible that not a feature of this day will be preserved in his memory. But we people of this earth, even of this century, must have our little humorous ceremonies, whether we are Chinese, Patagonians or Americans. We must adhere to our traditions. If we have any, for in many cases traditions keep alive a warm flame of sentiment, and sentiment is a thing in life we can ill afford to lose. What matters it that the Chinese kowtow to a baby, while we make our temporary obeisance to 300 or more pounds of mature manhood, if the spirit behind it is sincere and patriotic? And is it not probable that the adoration of a child is oftener more honest than the obsequiousness to a man?

In the disaster which has befallen the Calabrian and Sicilian cities there is that which almost dwarfs the significance of humanity. Distance robs the catastrophe of but little of its horror even for those who must depend on their imagination to supplement the narrative which scantly reveals the human anguish. Of all things which bring pain and suffering to men there is nothing which strikes so severe a blow as does such a convulsion of natural forces, wrecking the lives of men as ant heaps are crushed under foot. The fate of the Italian cities stuns wherever word of the overpowering disaster can be carried, with the fear that the forces which in themselves make life possible, the very earth which bears it, are heedless of it. The lines which man has drawn across the world and the languages which he has inherited to mark the passing difference of nationality all disappear when such a crushing blow descends on one part of the human kind. Suffering which speaks no language and knows no boundary lines brings home to the well housed Chicagoan, as to the Parisian, the Londoner, the man of Berlin, of Vienna, of Tokio, and of Peking, with equal force the shock of a human catastrophe. The little differences of men and nations do not survive such disasters, and the flood of sympathy and the efforts in relief turned toward the cities of Calabria and Sicily with spontaneity and unbounded lavishness prove in its biggest sense the universal brotherhood of man. And millions of men will turn to certain words to find in them a closer comfort. "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father's."

Beaten at His Own Game.
"A few days since," relates a solicitor, "as I was sitting with my friend D. in his office a man came in and said:
"Mr. W., the livery stable keeper tricked me shamefully yesterday, and I want to be even with him."
"State your case," said D.
"I asked him how much he'd charge me for a horse to go to Richmond. He said half a sovereign. I took the horse, and when I came back he said he wanted another half sovereign for coming back, and made me pay it."
"D. gave his client some legal advice, which he immediately acted upon, as follows: He went to the livery stable keeper and said: "How much will you charge for a horse to Windsor?"
"The man replied: 'A sovereign.'
"Client accordingly went to Windsor, came back by rail and went to the livery stable keeper, saying:
"Here is your money," paying him a sovereign.
"Where is my horse?" said W.
"He's at Windsor," answered the client. "I hired him only to go to Windsor."—Pearson's Weekly.

A Wide Range.
When the surgeon who happened to be spending a night at Bushy Inn had set the broken leg of the weather beaten stranger who was the chief victim of an automobile accident the patient looked up at him anxiously. "See here, doc," he said in a husky voice, "I haven't got much of any money. Would you take out your fee in trade?"
"Yes, I guess so," said the surgeon, cheerfully. "What is your trade?"
"Well, I've got a number of things I can do soon as I'm on my feet again," said the patient. "I can hang window blinds, or I can put on lightning rods, or I can play the cornet, and I can do 'em all first rate, if I'm the one to say it, doc."—Youth's Companion.

Sound "Taps" on Mayor.
A "striking" ceremony marks the expiration of the Grantham (England) mayor's tenure of office. The robe is stripped from him, the chain is taken from about his neck, and with a small wooden hammer the town clerks taps the ex-mayor on the head in token of the demise of his authority.

Girls with pretty necks dislike high collars.

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

ACETYLENE SHELLS FOR GERMAN NAVY.

EXPERIMENTS are now being carried out on German warships with acetylene shells, which it is believed will take the place of the electric searchlight used hitherto for warships. These shells contain calcium carbide and the water can reach it through a tube. The shells are fired by a gun built specially for the purpose. On being fired the shell goes under the water and then rises to the surface, and the action of the water upon the calcium carbide produces the acetylene light. Each shell is said to have 1,000 candle power and will burn for three hours. The great drawback of the ordinary searchlight is that although it affords some protection from the unobserved approach of torpedo boats, it yet makes the warship using it an excellent target. The new acetylene shell referred to will have the great advantage of lighting up a given space, while the vessel that fires it will be left in darkness.—London Globe.

SHIPPING CHARGES

THERE has been a great change in the attitude of railroads toward shippers since the Interstate Commerce Commission was empowered to revise shipping rates. The roads are no longer arrogant and arbitrary in their demands, but recognize the rights of shippers to enjoy reasonable traffic charges. The attitude of the railroads is entirely different from their actions a decade ago. Then the big transportation lines did not recognize that shippers had any rights that the big corporations were bound to respect in fixing traffic charges. A campaign of publicity has nearly eliminated the rebate privileges, by which discrimination the large shipper was given an unjust preference over his smaller competitor.

It is known that 1908 has been a year of small profits to railroads on account of the industrial depression. It has been a year of loss and decreased profits to every great industry, but the railroads announced several months ago that to maintain efficient service they would be compelled to revise their traffic schedule and raise shipping charges.

This procedure is entirely different from the administration of the roads before the appointment of the Interstate Commerce Commission. A decade ago the only formality necessary to change the schedule was to call a meeting of the directors and make imperial changes

without notice to shippers. If rates are advanced under the present national supervision of traffic charges it will be necessary for the roads to show that the increase is necessary to efficiently maintain the property and give good service.

Shippers are not opposed to the railroads charging reasonable rates for traffic transportation. It is admitted that rates must be maintained at a level to defray operating expenses and pay reasonable dividends, as well as providing for normal depreciation of the properties. It is now recognized that the roads are public carriers and the interest of the public should be consulted when traffic rates are advanced. The day of arbitrary rates without due regard to the interests of shippers who pay the charges is past, as the roads are not operated as a private enterprise, but in the interests of interstate commerce. Under the interstate commerce supervision of the railroad charges shippers can by injunction restrain the roads from enforcing new rates until after they are approved by the commission. The shipper is now protected against exorbitant charges by having his interests guarded by government supervision of traffic rates.—Goodall's Farmer.

OCEAN VESSELS ON THE GREAT LAKES.

THE idea of the navigation of the Great Lakes by ocean-going vessels has always been a most attractive one, and for over a century it has found many enthusiastic advocates both in Canada and in the United States. It was the basis of Col. Phillip's report in 1840, the raison d'être of the International "Deep Waterways Commission" of 1890 and the underlying principle of the early designs for the Georgian Bay canal. In more recent proposals, however, it has been recognized that the conditions of navigation upon the ocean are so different from those which obtain on the Great Lakes that the same type of vessel cannot be economically used in both services. The purpose of the Georgian Bay ship canal as now projected is to bring the lake carrier to a point where she can transship directly into the ocean liner. As a result of steady agitation a complete survey for such a project was authorized by the Canadian government in 1904 and an interim report on the survey was laid before the House of Parliament in July of last year. It is probable that the final report, giving in detail all results of the surveys, will be ready for presentation during the coming session of Parliament.—Engineering Magazine.

THE JOYS OF LIFE.

Case of the Simple-Minded Youth Who Trundled the Handcart.

"In what joy consists," said Mr. MacWhackleton, according to the Boston Herald, "depends a good deal on our age, our circumstances and our point of view. I doubt if any of the joys of later life are greater than those of early youth.

"Going along our block last night was a youthful grocery boy pushing a handcart and imitating the call of a cat. He didn't know whether he was rich or poor. If an automobile passed him he didn't wish that he could have it. Sufficient to himself, he simply regarded it as a part of the show. He hadn't come to any of the sorrows or setbacks of life yet; he was fearless and irresponsible; alive and kicking, he enjoyed every breath he drew and now he was walking along automatically pushing the handcart, which had practically gone out of his mind in the thrill of his personal cat calling achievement.

"Miaow!" he said. "Mi—au—ow!" long drawn out. "Mi—au—ow," and he teetered the handle of the cart in the intensity of his enjoyment, all wrought up by the sound of his own effort, thinking it fine and wonderful and thinking it nothing else.

"What was the tariff bill to him or the need of new subways, or the earthquake in Italy, or where the money was coming from to pay the rent or whether we could afford to go to the opera or not, or any of life's cares and troubles? Nothing.

"He lived in a world of his own in which he was constantly discovering new wonders, and himself learning to do new things, and lately it had come to him that he could imitate the call of a cat and just now he was in the full flush of his first perfected power in this; and now he was pushing the handcart along, teetering the handle up and down, and with his head thrown back, saying at every other step, 'Mi—au—ow! Mi—au—ow!' and finding in it a pervasive and permeating, a profoundly penetrating delight. And what joy could one find greater than that?"

He Knew the Way.

One result of Crispfield's civic betterment agitation was the appointment of young Mr. Bragdon, college graduate and sociologist, to the office of town constable.

Young Mr. Bragdon entered upon his new duties with rare earnestness, and in due course his vigilance was rewarded by coming suddenly on old Cy Keith, stretched across two benches in the "Green," and very much the worse for drink. Mr. Bragdon hauled him to his feet, and started him for the lockup in the basement of the town house. As they were about to turn a dark corner and enter the cell, the constable said, kindly:

"Mind that step."
"Old Cy sneered."
"Boy," he said, "I knew that step afore you was born."

Seven out of ten men who call at a business office are schemers.

FACTS IN TABLOID FORM.

Soldiers of Berlin built a pontoon bridge across the river Spree in forty minutes recently.

The most approved design of storm door construction represents an investment of no less than \$2,400.

The famous Lachine rapids of the St. Lawrence are to be spanned by a bridge and the channel widened.

A \$40,000 wireless telegraph plant is being erected at Newport, which will have a working radius of 1,250 miles.

An attempt to establish a municipal brewery in Berlin resulted in a dismal failure. It did plenty of business, but lost money.

As a proof of the lasting qualities of cypress, a coffin recently was excavated at New Orleans which had been buried since 1803, yet the wood was as sound as when new.

A new ice cream freezer, by using a glass can, claims to do away with the arduous labor of turning a crank and freezes its contents by packing in crushed ice and salt.

By placing small cylinders containing compressed carbon dioxide, with fuse plugs, melting at 200 degrees, in coal bunkers, spontaneous combustion, it is said, will be prevented.

In a once famous tea district of India, the cultivation of rubber has driven the production of the former to second place, nearly 17,000 acres being devoted to rubber plantations.

One of the greatest leather belts in the world recently was completed at a Philadelphia factory. Three-ply, it was 150 feet long by five wide, and required 300 hides in its manufacture.

The foundation for the recently completed harbor of refuge lighthouse, Delaware bay, is a solid block of concrete, 18 feet deep, 40 feet in diameter at the base and 36 feet at the top.

The unofficial and authorized jury of outsiders has decided that the award for personal pulchritude among the eleven governors and next governors is to be divided evenly between Draper, of Massachusetts and Prouty, of Vermont.—Boston Record.

W. B. Haggins, better known as Peanut Bill, has bought a lot in the Ponca city cemetery and had erected thereon a handsome marble monument to himself. The only inscription on the monument is this simple statement: "Bill Haggins is gone."—Ponca City (Okla.) Courier.

After an active service of more than twenty years, Bishop Cyrus D. Foss has resigned the presidency of the Methodist Episcopal Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, assigning as the reason his ill health of the last year. Bishop Luther B. Wilson has been chosen to succeed him.

One hundred and fifty different languages are spoken in India, most of them unwritten, and this fact frequently leads to trouble in the courts of that Oriental country. Strangely enough, Indians frequently drift into that capital who can find no one able to understand some of the litigants and witcourt nor the court interpreters understand some of the litigants and witnesses involved in some of the lawsuits.

One of the best of Arab characteristics is that of filial piety. Sons and daughters of deceased parents take upon themselves all sorts of irksome tasks accounted as expiatory of the minor faults committed by the departed ones during their lifetime, and discharging faithfully every payment or obligation left unfulfilled by dead parents, for has not the prophet said that martyrdom even will not atone for an unpaid debt.

There are several species of fish, reptiles and insects that never sleep, during the whole of their existence. Among fish it is positively known that pike, salmon and goldfish at no time sleep; also that there are other members of the fish family that sleep only a few minutes during the course of a month. There are various species of flies that never indulge in slumber, and five species of serpents also that do not sleep.

Parliament House, Melbourne, which has been rushed by "the unemployed" of the commonwealth capital, is the costliest legislative palace in Greater Britain. A million has been expended on it, and it is not yet completed. It belongs to the Parliament of Victoria, but since federation it has been the meeting place of the Parliament of the commonwealth, its owners moving to a wing of the exhibition building close by.—London Chronicle.

At the recent meeting of the national suffrage convention in Buffalo a letter was received from the Socialist Woman's Society of New York urging the convention to give its support to socialism. The letter pointed out that both the Democratic and the Republican parties had refused to put a suffrage plank into their platforms, while the Socialist party had not only adopted such a plank, but had appointed a committee to work for it.

"At the sound of the shot," says a writer in the Strand Magazine, describing alligator hunting in Egypt, "the whole of this bank of the river, over the extent of at least a quarter of a mile, sprang into hideous life, and my companions and I saw hundreds of crocodiles, of all sorts and sizes, rushing madly into the Nile, whose waters along the line of the shore were lashed into white foam, exactly as if a heavy wave had broken. It could be no exaggeration to say that at least a thousand of these saurians had been disturbed at a single shot."