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NOTABLE MISFITS.

What peculiar ideas some people fall heir to, or inherit! Outlandish notions find lodgment in a diseased mind. Now, a Mrs. Paul Forweg recently addressed a woman's club in Chicago, and during the course of her remarks, said:

"All mentally and morally deficient children should be put out of existence at their birth, or as soon as their defects are noticed. We only retard our own development by maintaining them in public institutions."

This is certainly ultra 20th century doctrine. How is one going to discover a mental defect in an infant? At what age could the child arrive before it would become murder to take its life? Under such a law many degenerate parents would rid themselves of their unwelcome progeny. A deformed child might develop a mind such as Byron possessed. On this principle all cripples should be killed, especially were they not self-supporting. If such a doctrine were to be given serious consideration, we find it in our hearts to sorrow that such a law was not in good working order when Mrs. Forweg came into this vale of tears.

Next comes Dr. William Osler, who is about to become the head of the medical school of Oxford University, who declares that men are worn out at 60 and few accomplish anything of note after attaining the age of 40 years. What a reflection on some of our leading public men! Many of our brightest men in the United States senate are past the age of 60—and they are still accomplishing things, and great things, too. On the other hand, there are fools at 40. It is a good thing that Dr. Osler's talk is cheap.

Following close on the heels of the above comes the account of an unique gathering of matrimonial misfits. Many mismatched persons were in attendance and the motto was, "United we stand, divided we stand it better."

Here is a case hard to diagnose. You may, in some instances, force people to live together, but you can't make them love each other. Love is a hot-house plant and chooses its own soil; when certain elements are lacking in the soil love "winks out" and proceeds to advertise the fact that it can stand alone. In closing this chapter we feel inspired to exclaim "Go it?"

WHAT ABOUT IT?

Some things passeth the understanding of man. This is not strange, but when that thing is of particular and vital importance to man he is very likely to become inquisitive. On the 22nd of last month Geo. A. Waggoner, of this city, had 340 pounds of "Stories of Old Oregon" shipped him from the house of Geo. F. Rodgers & Co., Salem.

On the 28th, six days afterwards, the box of books had still failed to put in an appearance. This was not only a disappointment to Mr. Waggoner, but placed him in an embarrassing position, as the books were already sold and subscribers were daily expecting to receive them.

We are loath to rebel against a condition of affairs until said condition becomes pretty bad, nor do we desire to criticize our common carriers, but any liberal-minded person will admit that six days on a box of freight from Salem to Corvallis is about the limit from a patience point of view. Such instances are not of common occurrence, but Mr. Waggoner's experience was not an isolated example.

Now, it is generally understood

and admitted that allowances are to be made in the case of common carriers, but it is also the understanding that they must use all diligence in forwarding that which was entrusted to their care. So far as we are aware, there seems to be no adequate provision for the protection of the freight consignee. There should be, if there is not. If a common carrier is blameless in not getting a box of goods from Salem to Corvallis in six days, said carrier might be considered blameless if sixty days were taken.

In the case above cited trains were running and making perfect connections every day; still, on the sixth day from Salem the books in question had not arrived. This is bad for the people and very trying on the patience of our business men.

AMOUNTS TO NOTHING.

It seems, if we are to believe the dispatches, that England is rejoicing over the outcome of the Dogger bank incident of some months ago, when the Baltic squadron of the Russian navy fired upon and killed some defenseless English fishermen. The commission to settle the matter between England and Russia met in due season, arrived at what it termed a conclusion, and dissolved itself.

Soup, salve, and "soft soap" has been most judiciously dispensed by the commission and the governments most interested are represented to be satisfied with the findings. Both were right—England and Russia. How nice!

But the fact remains that nothing has been definitely settled and an admiral of a belligerent nation can fire with impunity upon a defenseless people. His nation may pay a little money to the relatives of a man deprived of life—that is all that is required, or may reasonably be expected according to the commission, to comment without going into detail.

February 10th the Day.

Some time ago S. L. Kline issued a proclamation to the effect that all persons who on a certain day of the month of February made a cash purchase at his establishment would have their money refunded. What the date would be no one knew, not even those engaged at the store. March 1st, at noon, was the time for determining this date.

A committee composed of those present, A. W. Fischer, Peter Rickard, Cal Thrasher, and S. P. Hunt selected Senator P. Avery to draw the lucky day. The committee placed in a box numbers to correspond to all the business days of the month of February, and same was sealed. Then Mr. Avery drew forth one ticket, and that ticket was the lucky day. The day selected was among the largest of the month, and there will probably be more people holding checks on that day than almost any other, as there were more sales on that day than many of the other days of the month.

In order that everybody holding duplicate cash checks may have time to look them up and receive their money back on same, they will redeem all duplicate cash checks bearing the date of the lucky day on Mar. 7th to 10th inclusive.

The people did not fully appreciate this premium-giving plan at first, but now everybody is satisfied, probably because so many hold duplicate cash checks.

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PRUDENCE CHIPMAN, Executrix
Estate Seymour Chipman, Deceased.
W. E. Yates, Attorney for Estate. 12-20

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