

# THE CORVALLIS GAZETTE

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## TRADE SEDUCTION.

It seems that the time is ripe for a little more protection for the legitimate tradesman. In many ways things are rapidly approaching a crisis as a result of competition, which in reality is not competition but a sort of piracy among tradesmen.

The doctor must take his degree and be duly registered in the state in which he essays to practice before he is allowed by law to hang out his shingle. Just so with the dentist, the druggist, and many others, down even to the man who holds your nose and shaves you. Yet there are many businesses, most legitimate in their way, that are at the mercy of any person who may go at the business. The fact that a man may spend a life-time at a business, or trade, and be master of it from "A to 'izzard" seems to be of no consequence. That he may have a large capital invested cuts no figure—he has no protection, and his trade and business are open to ruination by the first "trade pirate" who cares to commit the act of trade prostitution. According to our present laws, any young fellow can spend a few months at a trade, take it into his head to start, go to work at starvation prices, ruin himself and others and lead the people to believe that the legitimate business man has been imposing on them, in fact, robbing them for years.

So long as this condition of "free for all" and no responsibility to the general public exists there is not much inducement offered to an apprentice to undertake the mastery of any trade. Instead of good, legitimate craftsmen, of responsibility, there is evidence of "blacksmithing" and irresponsibility on every hand. This is a sad state of affairs and is worthy consideration by our statesmen.

Why is one business, or trade more worthy of consideration and protection than another? There are professions unprotected by any sort of legislation whatever that are as deserving of great consideration as any of those at present on the favored list.

## CHINA PLAYS GAME.

Because the United States government does not see fit to encourage the immigration of the almond-eyed celestial from the land of the dragon it seems that China has about concluded to boycott our products. From the Chinese point of view this is all very well, but it is bad for us, as we have been anticipating great things for the West as the result of an increased Oriental trade.

We had a right to discriminate against a class so unfavorable to our social life and conditions, such as China afforded us. There is no denying China's right to trade with whom she pleases. But it makes a bad mess any way you look at it from a Yankee standpoint. To be compelled to admit within our borders a horde of rat-eating heathens would be an enormous price to pay for China's patronage. Indeed, it seems too dear at such a price.

There is reason for the present state of affairs, and those who are wire-pulling in favor of Germany can give the key to the situation. Little by little Germany has been stealing Chinese patronage from us. She has had a grievance against this country because of our tariff laws and is now at the double game of taking a market from us and gaining one for herself at the same stroke.

Altogether this is certainly a

vexing problem. Any way one looks at the matter there is no satisfactory solution offered. One may be pardoned under the circumstances for expressing the wish that the Chinese may invade Germany until they are as thick as in San Francisco according to population.

## Water Committee.

In accordance with the provisions of the Corvallis Water Bill said commission met last Friday evening and were called to order by Senator Avery. At this time permanent organization was effected. P. Avery was elected president; S. L. Kline, clerk or secretary of the committee, and E. Woodward, treasurer. All members of the water committee were not present, but enough were in attendance to form a quorum.

Thursday, July 6, 1905, was the date set for holding an election to determine whether the citizens would vote bonds or no bonds. President Avery was elected a committee of one to see that proper publication was given the matter of election.

We are informed that Engineer G. N. Miller has based his estimate of cost on 13 and a fraction miles of piping within the city limits; 16 miles main pipe, from Rock Creek to this city; a reservoir on Baldy mountain of 250,000 gallons, Baldy being about four miles from this city; 40 hydrants in various parts of the city, against 9 at present, and a provision for 40 more.

A mass meeting for citizens was called for last night at the court house, at which time Mr. Miller was detailed to undertake to explain the water question and his estimates. It is understood that according to his figures the system can be installed on the lines above-mentioned for something less than the \$75,000 the people are allowed to bond the city for under the provisions of the water bill.

## Webster's Unabridged.

A few days ago a gentleman had an occasion to borrow Dr. Cathey's dictionary. On the fly leaf he noted that the dictionary, unabridged, was a gift and that it had been given the doctor in 1875—30 years ago. He made inquiry and learned that at that time the doctor, then a very young man, was a member of the choir of St. David's Parish, East Portland. The doctor was then attending the high school and had no idea that he would ever be able to study medicine. He was just recovering from a severe spell of sickness and a fellow student called on him.

To this fellow student Dr. Cathey gave \$5 with the request that he get a dictionary for him, the doctor. A few days later he received a copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary and his \$5 was returned at the same time. The book was the gift of three young friends, Messrs. Williams, Josephi and McCall—all young students at that time, and not one studying medicine.

Strange as it may seem every one of them took up the study of medicine and took their degrees. Drs. Williams and Josephi each became well known through their connection with the state asylum for the insane in Salem. So it was that Dr. Cathey came by his unabridged, but how strange is life! That all four of these young friends should later become well known and successful physicians is something very much out of the ordinary.

Mark A. Fullerton, supreme judge of the State of Washington, who is serving his second term in that capacity, on the 14 inst. secured the degree of L. L. D. from Washington Agricultural College. At the recent state election in Washington Judge Fullerton was re-elected on the republican ticket without any opponent in the field, which speaks well for his popularity in his state. He is an Oregon boy and is the son of C. P. Fullerton, of this city.

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