

THE CORVALLIS GAZETTE

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WILL NOT BE DEFIED.

The man who is heedless of public sentiment invites his own undoing. This is especially true when any element of morality is involved. The man who violates or proposes to violate the moral sentiment of the people will be destroyed. Whatever his abilities, his former reputation and services, an aroused and angered public moral sentiment will place him in the public pillory, and cover him with contempt, confusion and shame and for all time scorn his memory.

Time was, and the day is not far past when there was practically little or no public sentiment in Oregon on any question. This is easily explained. There was little material out of which to build up public sentiment, and that was dispersed over a wide area. Communication was difficult, expensive and infrequent. Not only were the several sections of the state isolated from each other but the whole state was isolated from the rest of the country. Under these conditions it was next to impossible to create any decisive public sentiment on any question; not, indeed, because our people were immoral or dead to moral purpose and obligations but because of great obstacles which prevented the creation of general public sentiment and made the unification of existing sentiments quite impossible. Public sentiment had no form of crystallization, was without force and became heedless, negligent and weak.

Under these conditions the politics of the state was debauched, wholesome laws were violated with impunity and dishonesty, trickery, fraud and malfeasance made it appear that the conscience of our people was "seared as with a hot iron."

Not so. The moral sentiment of the people simply needed to be aroused, unified and strided to action. Pulpit, press and rostrum worked long, earnestly and efficiently to this end and today the moral public sentiment of our people is as pure and active as in any state in the union.

Oregonians have been fortunate that they have had all through the years one great, able, fearless journal which has wisely seen the moral fiber in every public question and always has been enough courageous to stand firm in its support though

it sometimes had to stand quite alone.

The signs are propitious. Never in their history have the American people been so fully aroused; never have they been so unanimously determined that right, truth, justice and righteousness shall prevail. The moral sense of the nation is aroused and is rapidly crystallizing in all directions. No longer may it be defied. The rogue may not become an honest man but he must cease his roguery or be destroyed.

TRULY ARE YOU?

"I am doing the best I know." This is an old familiar speech; heard from the lips of young and old and generally accepted as expressing an unquestionable truth. But it should be questioned. Each one for himself should ask: "Am I truly doing as well as I know?" Rigid self-examination along this line would surely convince the mass of men and women that they were not thinking nor living nor doing the best they knew. They would find they had more and better knowledge than they had incorporated in the activities of life embraced in the term "doing." They would find more than this, for they would see they could not, each for himself, truthfully say: "I am doing the best I can."

It is doubtful if men, the mass of men, can do as well as they know. Their achievements fall short of their knowledge. They may accomplish that which carries them to the limit of the knowledge which they possessed when they began the work they have now finished, but they will find the field of their knowledge has been greatly enlarged and the things achieved have borne them no nearer the limits of their knowledge. This is well, for if men might achieve the best they know a powerful incentive to action would disappear and the march of human progress be brought to a halt.

But men are morally bound to do the best they know. Every scrap of human knowledge in its proper relation is of use. If it were not so it would place no measure of responsibility upon its possessor. Since it is of use every man is bound to make right use of the whole stock of his knowledge. Not only is he bound to make right use, but he is morally bound to make righteous use of it and he cannot escape from his moral obligation. It is only by an earnest effort to do the best he knows that a man is enabled to do the best he can. When he does this he has met his legal responsibility, but he fails to meet his moral responsibility if he does not earnestly and persistently labor to do the best he knows.

It needs no argument to prove that if men were striving to do the best they know crime of all degrees would disappear and our social, business and political life would not need reformation.

Additional Locals.

Services Sunday at the usual hours at the Episcopal church. J. W. Armstrong, Rector.

Carl Hodes, an old Corvallisite, arrived Tuesday from Vancouver, Wash., where he has been in the bakery business. He has sold out, but will winter in that city. He has many old friends in Corvallis who were glad to see him.

There is to be a I. P. A. contest at the First Presbyterian church in Albany this evening, the contestants being Cuddy for Washington, Jones for Oregon, Boid for Northern California, and Roberts for Southern California. Special rates on round trip tickets are to be made to students desiring to attend.

Some dramas die in infancy for lack of the elements of success. No matter how elaborately presented they may be, they fail to appeal to the public and soon go on the shelf. But a melodrama like "Human Hearts" holds its original charm. It has been seen throughout the country for the past ten years, yet there is no decrease in public interest in this delightful play. It contains all the elements of success—pathos, villainy and comedy. Besides, the scenic surroundings make a picturesque stage production and that attracts attention.

A new electric line is announced for the Willamette Valley. The Welch line about which so much has been written and said during the last few months and which has secured franchises from a number of towns, including Albany, is to have a rival which says it will have cars running as far south as Linn county within two years. The new company announces it will build a road up on the east side of the Willamette to Albany and over to Corvallis and back to Portland and on the west side, with an extension up the Santiam as far as Lebanon and possibly further into the timber belt, says an exchange. The people would like to see work begun on these roads. There has been so much talk that the people take these announcements with a very large degree of doubt.

The Willamette pigskin warriors and rooters will hie themselves over to Corvallis next Saturday with blood in their eyes, to annihilate all the farmer booters off the gridiron which they expect to accomplish and end the season by a brilliant dash for the championship trophy. The team has strengthened its line-up since the fray with Oregon by placing Uzun and Hewitt, two well known heavy weights, back of the line. If Willamette wins the OAC game it will place Oregon's historic institution again in line for the championship. There will probably be a large crowd of enthusiasts accompany the local team to Corvallis, Saturday, to witness the game, which promises to be one of the most interesting of the season. There is a game scheduled between Multnomah and Willamette on the 23rd of this month, which will be played in Portland.—Tuesday's Capital Journal.

Secretary Walter Lyon, of the chamber of commerce, has on exhibition in the window on Front street, the first newspaper ever published in Oregon. It is the property of Mrs. Matson, of this city, and is a real historic rarity. The paper is a four page issue, of four columns and was printed at Oregon City, February 5, 1846. The country was then a territory, but the editor, W. G. T'Nault, was in those long past days as optimistic regarding the future of the country as are the present inhabitants, and this theory was that it was designed to become a great commonwealth. The paper has passed through many hands, having been sent east via the Isthmus of Panama by a man from The Dalles to a relative in Iowa. It was brought across the plains later on by a woman, and finally fell into Mrs. Matson's hands. Mrs. Matson has it framed in a mounting which gives the interested person a view of both sides and all four pages of the issue.—Marshfield Times.

THE TOGGERY



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The Best Shoes for	5 00
A Good Suit Underwear	1 00
A Better Suit Underwear	2 00
Finest Suit Underwear	6 00

THE TOGGERY

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Rev. D. H. Leech went to Portland, yesterday morning, to attend the great meeting of Methodists of which the Oregonian says: "The committee on home missions and church extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church will convene in Portland this week. It will be one of the most important gatherings of the year in the denomination and will bring together 80 of the most prominent men in the church, including 19 of the bishops, secretaries, assistants and representatives of the 14 general conference districts. A reception will be given in Grace Methodist Church, Thursday evening, to which the public is invited, and Friday the regular daily sessions will begin. The committee will be in session for about five days. Next Sunday the Methodist churches of this city and numerous other places in the Oregon conference will be filled by bishops and other members of the assembly." Rev. J. C. Nicholson will occupy the pulpit in the Corvallis M. E. church, morning and evening, Sunday.

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