

THE CORVALLIS GAZETTE

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THE MINE DISASTERS.

The recent appalling disasters occurring in the coal mines of West Virginia and Alabama have been made the text by a portion of the press for a senseless diatribe directed against the mine-owners.

No reputable newspaper, no writer wishing to state the truth may indulge in such language. It is a base, contemptible spirit which seizes upon such terrible occurrences and makes them the grounds for arraying class against class, as the poor against the rich, the laborer against his employer.

In the presence of such disasters there are no classes. All men stand amazed. The bond of common humanity, stronger than any conventional distinction of class, hold them together and show them to the world as men and brethren.

But what are the facts as to the conditions under which coal is mined in these localities? The mines are operated under the most stringent laws, intelligently and rigidly enforced by public officers, chosen because of their knowledge of mines and mining. These laws are directed upon the mineowner and operator and embrace every device human experience has found necessary and human ingenuity has conceived for the preservation of the health and lives of the miners.

The operators readily comply with the conditions of these expensive and elaborate laws. If they were devoid of all feeling of humanity, self-interest alone would enforce the laws so far as they are concerned.

It is passing strange that the very men for whose welfare the laws are intended should be the most heedless violators of their provisions. Constant familiarity with danger and long absence of accident beget contempt for it and carelessness of those precautions which alone can insure continued safety.

We do not know the cause of the recent disasters, but it is certain that no effort nor expense will be spared to learn the cause and provide against its future mischief.

It is probable that the true cause is in the realm of the unknown and will require long and patient investigation before it is discovered. We recall the disaster which occurred twenty or more years ago in one of the large flouring mills of Minneapolis. It was caused by the accumulation of an impalpable dust which investigation proved to be highly explosive and inflammable.

Men do not know all of Nature's laws nor understand the process of her chemical laboratory, and she is wont to resent any intrusion by so coarse a manipulator as man. Who knows? "The mad unchanged wrath of the elements" may be necessary "to teach us who rules them."

POWER OF DECISION.

Ability to make a quick and correct decision concerning any subject upon which we must decide is a possession which every one should seek to gain. Our success or failure, not infrequently our lives and that of others, depends upon our ability to decide questions quickly and accurately. There is not a day, scarcely an hour passes that we are not called upon to decide something which, just as we decide, shall exert a shaping, possibly a controlling influence upon our destiny.

Men have long regarded this ability to decide quickly and ac-

curately as a gift of which Nature is so parsimonious she confers it only upon a chosen few, while she compels the mass of men to acquire it in lesser degree, after years of trial and failure. If this be true we must conclude that Nature regards the mass of men as fools unable to acquire that upon which their happiness, life and destiny depend, except in the school of bitter experience.

We must regard this as untrue, for nature has given half the race ability to reach a quick and safe decision, especially upon questions containing a moral or spiritual element. Woman's quick intuition bears her to such conclusions and decisions as a man may reach only by a logical process based upon his experience and observation. With many men this is a slow, laborious and painful proceeding, and often reminds one of the fable of the mountain and the mouse. Such men frequently and utterly fail to decide until time for decision has passed. Who has not met them? They are never at funerals nor weddings, even though their own, until the next day, simply because of their inability to reach a prompt, clear and definite decision.

It is almost certain that right education would give men the ability to think quickly and accurately and to decide promptly and wisely. Subsequent action would then always produce the most desirable and beneficent results.

As early as possible teach the child how to think for himself from the data he has and from facts he may easily obtain. Continue this until he has not only learned how to think but has acquired the habit of thinking and acting for himself. If he act unwisely show him it is because he did not think correctly. Never require a child to act more wisely than his experience and observation should warrant; but always put the responsibility of decision and action upon him. He will soon learn to think, to decide and to act for himself, and take the consequences. He will become a quick, safe and courageous thinker and actor and will score success in life. Do not train children to look to you for decision and action when they may reach them for themselves.

We have in mind a most intelligent and amiable spinster, a rich, homeless, friendless old woman, yet good and true and womanly, but who has missed all the best possibilities of life because she could not decide for herself. Time and again, standing in the shadow of an auspicious hymeneal altar, she has wrecked all by appealing to her friends, saying "I do not know what to do. What would you do?"

Teach a child self-reliance and personal accountability.

FRUIT CROP OF OREGON.

To show our people how rapidly Oregon fruit is taking front rank in the markets of the world we gladly publish the following item from the New York Tribune Farmer bearing date Dec. 5th:

"On the basis of reports from county inspectors, the value of Oregon's fruit crop this year is officially estimated at \$4,275,235. This figure, far in excess of any previous year, is based on amounts actually received by growers, and represents an increase of 53 per cent over the fruit crop valuation of last year. "To the high price now paid for Oregon fruit is partly due the increase in this year's total, but the larger acreage set out in orchards in response to Eastern demand is also a factor. The heavy plantings of the last few years are beginning to bear; and the further increase in the rapid value of the crop will probably be very rapid in the future.

"According to the president of the State Board of Horticulture, the success with which Oregon growers are meeting "within a

short time makes fruit growing the greatest source of wealth in the state."

"The apple crop forms the largest item in the list, with a total value of \$1,423,000. Prunes paid Oregon growers this year \$1,590,625; pears, peaches and cherries all in excess of \$230,000, and strawberries over \$400,000. Oregon pears this year have sold at wholesale in the East at 10 cents apiece; Hood River apples as high as \$3.75 per box. At these prices with cheap land, good transportation and a steady market, Oregon is attracting settlers and prospective fruit growers from all sections of the country."

Numerous orchards are being planted every year and under the present law of spraying if strictly enforced we are just entering a field that will bring us untold wealth.

BE THANKFUL.

Let the good people of Oregon be thankful today, that they live in a country where nearly every one enjoys the best of health, and where the bracing mountain air and beautiful weather make life a real pleasure the year around; let them be thankful that they live in a country so grand and free, where there is plenty for all and to spare; that they are not confined within the narrow limits of a smoky city where want is seen on every side and where poverty and vice go hand in hand; where to be poor means endless toil and deprivation without the slightest hope of ever rising above the common herd; let them be thankful, that here, as nowhere else, a poor man has a chance along with the rich of attaining to something in this life beyond the lot of the day laborer, and though a man be poor, he is free, and not looked down upon. Let them be thankful that they live in a country where extreme poverty is hardly known and where to-day the members of every household will assemble around a bountiful spread and not a soul will go hungry; let all be thankful for the many privileges and much freedom we enjoy which is denied many people in less favored lands, but in our thankfulness for these many blessings let us not forget the poor and needy, the sick and afflicted of other places. Before we give thanks for our own good fortune let us each one try to find some way of giving someone else something to be thankful for. Let us not be at one with those who "Are thankful for their worldly gain While misery stares through the window pane."

—Exchange.

PHILOMATH SNAPSHOTS.

Santa Claus Visits College Town.
Many Newsy Newslets.

The merry Yule-tide is again with us and many of the children of a larger growth are gathering about the old home fireside, and the younger children can scarcely suppress the all-powerful emotion that the visit of the children's Saint occasions. Beginning last Friday afternoon when the pupils were entertained in the different rooms of the public school in our little burg, and ending with New Year's day, with a week or more of holidays, becoming almost surfeited with the treasures of Father Christmas, the glorious holiday time will soon be in the past.

Last Friday afternoon, soon after the noon hour, the Christmas exercises commenced. A number of patrons and friends of the school, the pupils and also the teachers congregated in the different rooms to share in the children's happiness. In the rooms of Prof. O. V. and Mrs. White, Miss Ebba Cronquist and Miss Winnifred Merrick the gifts were distributed from trees and Prof. S. O. Watkins' pupils fished for their gifts with hook, line and bamboo rods from a unique pond which caused much merriment among the pupils. The Philomath public school will re-open for steady work next Monday, Dec. 30th, and the children will

pursue their school work until the close of the school year.

Miss Alice Pimm arrived home from Alsea last Saturday, having completed a term of school at that place. Miss Pimm contemplates securing another school, if she can find a vacancy, in order to continue teaching during the winter months.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Henderson of Elwood, Clackamas Co., arrived last Monday to be in Philomath during the holidays, visiting friends and relatives. Mrs. Henderson, who was formerly Miss Alice Wyatt, is a daughter of Mrs. E. C. Wyatt of this place.

Miss Carrie Pimm is home from OAC for the holidays.

Geo. Custer and wife of Wardner, B. C., arrived last week and are at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Custer.

Prof. Amos Kezel, who is principal of the public school at Hammond, near the mouth of the Columbia, was expected to arrive home last Wednesday to visit his mother, Mrs. S. L. Kezel, who has been postmistress at our burg for the past ten years, and his sister, Faith Kezel, as well as other relatives and friends for the holiday period. Philomath is always glad to welcome her sons and daughters, either native or foster, and especially when they add brilliancy to her fair crown of fame.

Frank R. Becker arrived home from OAC last Friday to be with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Becker, during the holidays. J. G. Becker is recovering from an attack of lumbago of which a report was made in a previous issue. Mrs. Becker is also slowly improving from a serious attack of la grippe which has considerably enfeebled her constitution.

Mrs. James Horning has been quite ill for the past two weeks at her home west of Philomath. Dr. Farra is in attendance. Her recovery is not as rapid as is wished for by relatives and friends.

Miss Grace Jolly expected to depart for Newberg last Tuesday to visit with relatives at that place during the holidays.

J. R. Fehler and Marsh Allen went hunting for geese and ducks on the Muddy creek last Saturday. They report the water as being too high to get those that were shot without the assistance of a boat, which they were probably unable to procure. We wish them better luck next time. On a previous hunt a large number of the waterfowl were bagged, including geese, mallard ducks, teal and snipe.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rowe, of Salem and Mrs. Grace Thompson, of Portland, are here for the holidays. Mrs. Rowe and Mrs. Thompson are daughters of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Boles. Mrs. Ella Jones, another daughter, arrived from Portland last Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Boles will have a number of their children gathered about them during the glad Christmas week.

Christmas will have been duly celebrated when these lines will be eagerly perused by the GAZETTE readers of the berg. At the new Radical U. B. church the festivities will begin on Christmas eve. There is to be a tree and also a fireplace that will be built of brick candy boxes which are to be distributed among the children at the close of the entertainment. At the Liberal U. B. church there will be a tree and a Christmas program.

"May Christmastide for all provide Kind gifts and lots of fun beside."

The choral class organized by Rev. W. W. Davis met last Friday evening and the first of the term of twelve lessons will be given on the first Friday in the new year and the two succeeding evenings, the remaining nine lessons to be given weekly, the evening to be chosen. Much interest is being evinced, a class numbering almost thirty having already been organized for the work.

Last Saturday evening was a great event for our basket ball athletes. Two games were played. In the first the Philomath team was beaten by the public school team 25 to 21. This game was by the boys. In the

second game, the Philomath college girls beat the public school girls with a score of 17 to 10. Another game is scheduled for Christmas day between a Corvallis team and the Philomath public school team.

The little daughter, of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Crail has been quite ill but is recovering.

The students and former students of Philomath college spent an entertaining evening in the "gym" building last Monday.

Melvin Miller, a student of Philomath college, is to instruct the ninth grade bookkeeping class in the high school after the holidays.

The Misses Evadna and Verma Springer visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Newton last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Jones departed for Portland last Monday to consult a specialist or secure medical treatment for Mrs. Jones. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Ross are in charge of the home and children, during the absence of Mr. and Mrs. Jones.

W. P. Morris made a holiday trip to Portland Tuesday, expecting to return on Thursday.

Robert Ewing and family, of Mchigan, arrived in Philomath the first of last week and are occupying the place lately known as the John Geldath property, in Pleasant Valley. They brought with them a carload of household goods, etc.

Mrs. Eldridge Hartless made a trip to the county metropolis "und hat das Christ-kindchen bestellt," in other words made an appointment with the children's saint.

Every one and all his relatives are wending their way Corvallisward this holiday week.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Gove and sons, Al. red Gove and wife and Pratt Gove and wife, accompanied by two children, will celebrate Christmas in Corvallis with Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Gove, corner of Eleventh and Harrison streets. They will meet to the fourth generation. The families have photo groups to the fifth generation. Both Mr. and Mrs. George Gove, of Philomath, have such groups. May the family meet unbroken at many more anniversaries.

LEARN TO EAT.

Few People in Corvallis Really Know How.

Slow eating will solve one-half the problem of ill health. Those who suffer already with indigestion and weak stomach can with care and the use of Mi-o-na stomach tablets restore their digestion to a healthy condition, so that they can eat what they want at any time without fear of distress or suffering.

After a few days' use of Mi-o-na stomach tablets, the headaches, dizzy feeling, drowsiness, bad taste in the mouth, coated tongue, nervousness, sleeplessness, distress after eating—all these symptoms of a weak stomach—will disappear, and perfect digestion and a good skin will show that the vital machinery is once more running smoothly.

Take a little Mi-o-na tablet before each meal so that it will stimulate the digestive juices and give strength to the stomach, and then it will take care of the food that is eaten, without indigestion and the unpleasant full feeling with which so many suffer after meals.

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Near the State Agricultural College which you can buy on the INSTALLMENT PLAN or for cash.

Save Ten or Twenty Dollars

per month and pay the same on a town lot. Thereafter BUILD YOUR HOME on the lot and continue to make these small monthly payments on the home and you will soon have it paid for and have no more rent to pay.

For information address

W. H. SAVAGE,
Corvallis, Or.

Notice for Publication.

United States Land Office,
Portland, Oregon, October 22, 1907.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 8, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892, Mrs. Bertina Jorverson of Portland, county of Multnomah, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office her sworn statement, No. 7603, for the purchase of the Northwest quarter of Section No. 32, Township No. 10 South, Range No. 5 West, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish her claim to said land before Register and Receiver at Portland, Oregon, on Saturday, the 18th day of January, 1908.

She names as witnesses: Mrs. Minnie Mack of Monmouth, Oregon; Mr. Will Mack of Monmouth, Oregon; Mr. J. C. Olson of Corvallis, Oregon; Mrs. J. C. Olson of Corvallis, Oregon.
Any and all persons claiming adversely the above described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 18th day of January, 1908.

ALGERNON S. DENSMORE, Register.



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"MADE IN ALL COLORS"
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For Floors, Bar Tops,
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First. Strike the wood sample a heavy blow with a hammer, and note that while the wood may be indented a quarter of an inch, the varnish has not marred or cracked. This proves that Chi-Namel is very elastic.

Second. Place the wood sample in a tea kettle, and note that boiling water does not turn it white. This proves that Chi-Namel contains no resin.

Third. Apply whiskey. This proves that Chi-Namel will stand upon bar tops. Fourth. Allow a can of the varnish to stand open over night, and note that there is no evaporation. This proves that Chi-Namel contains no benzine.

Fifth. Spread varnish over flat surface, and brush in every direction, and note "self levelling" effect. This proves that all brush marks disappear, and the result will be pleasing no matter how inexperienced the applicator may be.

Old floors can be made to look like new hard wood.

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