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EDITORIAL

WHY THIS BICKERING?

If two or three small weeklies of the state should keep up such a constant, disgusting and useless bickering as does the Oregonian, Journal and Telegram over their circulation, news, advertising patronage, etc., they would be called all the opprobrious names within the vocabulary of the city editor. Of what benefit is this contemptible tirade of abuse to the readers of the papers mentioned? Who cares if the Oregonian comes out in a coat of many colors? or if the Journal is a follower of Hearst? or that the Telegram has a few inches more advertising patronage than the Journal? One would imagine that they are a set of braggadocio school kids, or old men in their dotage.

Time is too precious to spend in such a manner, space too valuable to be wasted in such a way. Beside this it smatters of absolute insanity to be for years quarreling over matters of so small moment to the majority of readers. It certainly would show more sense to put in more time on helpfnl editorials, —such as all three know how to write. There is room for all, and some to spare. Better then come down to common sense and leave these petty prejudices and jealousies to those who know no better.

POOR BOYS WHO HAVE BECOME FAMOUS.

Thinking over the names of men who have become famous in history we find that the majority were of lowly origin. Commencing with Abraham about 2000 years before Christ follows the names of Joseph, Moses, David, Samuel and a host of old and new testament characters. Christ too was of lowly origin yet his name has become the most famous in all history. Then too we have the names of Bunyan, the village tinker, Stephenson, Franklin, Chase, Lincoln, and others too numerous to mention who have risen from the lowest to the highest. But you must ever keep in mind that these men, as boys, believed in "doing things" not "dream them all day long," and so must the boys of today "do things" if they would achieve success. Success is the price of persistent effort and comes not without it.

LET'S TALK IT OVER.

Isn't it about time for the citizens of Gresham to be doing something toward securing a city water system? Someone has said that the town would have to be bonded, that taxes would increase, that the present way was good enough. Yes, the town will have to be bonded, probably for $10,000 to $15,000, that is no reason why the city should be taxed to pay it. The system can be made self-supporting and pay off the principal too.

Why delay this work? We can have no sewers until a water system is installed, consequently improvement is retarded.

Property values kept down, disastrous results from disease is being constantly invited, and people who would like to locate here are forced to go to a more up-to-date town because of a lack of modern conveniences. This step should not and cannot consistently be defferred any longer. Hence we hope that our town council will give this matter the careful consideration it merits.

Again there comes the cry of more cars. In the fight between the Harriman and Hill interests the consumer has been lost sight of. Eastern Oregon and Washington are suffering from a fuel famine without hopes of immediate relief. Southern Oregon can ship no lumber because of failure to secure cars yet it is said hundreds of empty cars are being held by both companies in an effort to force the other to their terms. As usual, the public is the scapegoat and are made to suffer at the hands of the corporations who, because of free land grants and other forms of intolerable graft, have become multimillionaires. How long will it be until the people will demand government ownership of all public utilities? At the above rate it will not be long.

In proclaiming Thursday, November 29, 1906, as a national holiday and time of thanksgiving President Roosevelt evidently realizes that, as a nation, we have mnch to be thankful for. As an individual, what have you to be thankful for? This problem should be, and is, of great importance to every one of us, for we are not dependent upon self alone. We are forced to depend upon many others for necessities as well as luxuries. So many of us are prone to think that the world owes us a living, and what we receive take it as our due rather than with thanks. Gratitude is a needed factor in the makeup of every human being. Cultivate it, and use it, for by so doing you will make the world happier and better for your having been a part of it.

A mother can do her girl no greater wrong than that of neglect in domestic training. It is a shame and a disgrace to American motherhood to see how little interest is taken in the training of our girls in the care of the home. Not one girl in ten, at the age of sixteen, knows how to prepare a decent meal. Not one in five even know how to take care of the home as it should be. Too much time is given to social and other duties. It is no wonder that dyspepsia and its attendant ills have become a national disease and will become more so unless the matter is remedied.

A little of the old time training of the girl, on the part of the mother, is badly needed, and we hope our folk will see to it that it is forthcoming at once.

A recent visitor to Jackson county has published a descriptive letter in which he says, among other things, that in Ashland, where the people are about evenly divided on the saloon question, the saloons are trying to curry favor. They keep orderly places and post upon their doors conspicious signs giving notice that no person under 21 years of age will be permitted to enter. There are several other towns in Oregon where the saloons would do well to curry favor. In fact, the recent votes on the local option question indicate such an even division of sentiment that the saloons of the entire state will be wise if they strictly obey the law and give as little opportunity for criticism as possible.—The Oregonian.

Hallowe'en has passed, but its imprints are still visible. We love innocent amusement, but we fail to see the fun in stealing men's wagons, hiding the nuts off spindles and doing things generally that the law-abiding citizen would be ashamed to do. This is but another relic of the past, and in its own good time will be remedied. In the meantime we enjoin patience.

We acknowledge receipt of Vol. 1, No. 1, of the Daily Morning Star and Hotel Bulletin, a new daily published at Portland, Oregon, by the Ryder Printing & Publishing Company, R. Ward Wells, manager. It is to make a specialty of daily announcements, time cards, hotel arrivals, etc.

Don't forget to mail your corresponcence to this paper on Monday. Remember we go to press one day earlier. We would also suggest brevity as far as possible.

What about that temper of yours? why not control it? Think of Pope,s message, "Man know thyself, presume not God to scan, the proper study of mankind is man."

Have you a sick neighbor? Now is a good time to drop in with a smile and a word of cheer. It will be greatly appreciated too.

Don't worry. It may be cloudy today, but the sun may be shining tomorrow.

HORTICULTURAL NOTES

EDITED BY E. P. SMITH.

Address all communications under his head to E. P Smith, Gresham, Ore.

Plant the Japan Plum.

In planning the setting of fruit trees, unless one has them, do not fail to include a few of the Japan plums. There is a good deal of comment both for and against this variety in the horticultural columns of late, but before we accept the negative opinions we should consider the fact that situation, climate and soil exerts an influence upon almost all varieties of fruits, and where one grower may meet with poor success, another whose soil and climate conditions are different, and who has learned to treat his trees properly may get the most satisfactory returns.

Even experiment stations do not always grow fruits under as all around conditions as many of the readers of their bullitins nor have equal success. We have found the Abundance plum and also several others admirably adapted to the ordinary conditions of most farms if they are properly treated. One of the valuable characteristics of this species of plum, and surely not the least, is their earliness of bearing. Trees which were set three years ago last spring bore heavily,the past August. The fruit of the Abundance is described by some of the experiment stations as medium in size and not of first quality.

This does not coincide with our experience in growing them. The average size of our Abundance plums were fully as large as the average Hyslop crab apple, and of the most beautiful tints imaginable. In all our experience we never placed on sale a more attractive fruit nor one that found so quick sale at a large price. The quality was all we could desire for eating out of hand or for canning. The complaint that it is badly affected with rot, as are many other varieties, is quite general. We have made this a subject of study for some time, and now while our neighbors usually lose their whole crop by this means we market bushels of this delicious fruit. It is no secret. If those who lose their crops of plums will apply each spring to the soil within reach of the roots of each tree five pounds of potash (either muriate or sulphate,) work-

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