

Polk County Observer

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BY LEW CATES

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THE TREES.

At break of dawn their branches hold
The choir of singing birds,
Who with glad song sing out
The joy
That has no need of words.
Soft through the whispering of
The leaves
The morning's gentle breeze
Plays as a minstrel on a harp
Might play sweet melodies.

When noon's hot breath is on
The fields
And deep in every glade
Beneath the trees is shelter
Found
And bowers dim with shade.
Amid the leaves a coolness dwells
As in a cavern's heart,
And from their hidden, inner
Depths
Slow winds refreshing start.

When twilight wraps the hills
With peace
The trees unmoving seem,
Like those that line the quiet
Ways
Where one walks in a dream.
And he who knows their quiet-
ness,
Their gifts of joy and rest,
Can well believe the saying
Old—
Who loves a tree is blest!
—Wallace North.

AS TO PROHIBITION.

There are but few thoughtful Americans, perhaps, who have not taken notice of the tendency of the times in all sections of this country toward the oppression, entire or in part, of the liquor traffic. For years this movement has been gathering force until at the present its influence has to be recognized and reckoned with. People who have small faith in any legalized effort to stop the sale of intoxicating beverages and who ridicule the actual good ever to be accomplished by prohibition, must still admit the advance made in this cause. Whether those people who admit so uncompromisingly this measure really believe in its efficacy is not the point. It has been often charged that they do not, and that they as well as their opponents realize the thorough inadequacy of the step to further the cause of temperance. The liquor question in all of its phases is such a large one, and fraught with such vital importance, that even those who so constantly carp upon the failure of prohibition and temperance efforts generally are backward in suggesting a wiser or better method of minimizing, if not absolutely stamping out, the liquor drinking evil. And yet because no better plan is put forward it does not necessarily argue that prohibition is the thing. Most people admit the great evils to be justly charged to the liquor traffic. Men who are in this business, and whose worldly wealth consists therein, do not deny there are evils. What they do deny, and what thousands of others also deny, is that prohibition actually accomplishes what is claimed for it.

All people, at least those who get around much and who have lived in prohibition cities, understand and know that intoxicating drinks are to be had in such places. The regular saloons may have been put out of business, but the sale of liquor has not necessarily been stopped. This, of course, is a matter of common knowledge and a stock argument of those who oppose prohibition. To this argument it is replied by the anti-saloon forces that a revolution cannot be effected in a day and that, while liquor is sold secretly in prohibition communities, the saloon as an educator of youth is eliminated and in the long run the number of new drinkers developed is decreased. In many places the revenue from the liquor traffic is an important factor in the support of municipalities, and men have opposed prohibition on this ground. They are not champions of the liquor traffic, but on the contrary regret the evils resulting therefrom. Believing, however, that prohibition does not prohibit they see no advan-

tage in depriving the city of the revenue mentioned unless prohibition entirely crushes out the evils complained of.

The question of prohibition is being mooted in Oregon at this time. Counties are being organized by the cold water advocates with a hope of winning the state dry in 1914. Just what the outcome will be it is difficult to foresee. That a solution of this matter is among the most vexatious questions we have to determine is generally admitted. There will be a fight against the Home Rule measure, but self-government being the ideal form of government it would appear as though municipalities wanting saloons should be given that right and visa versa. In such cases the people determine. While The Observer might favor prohibition its next door neighbor might have a different opinion. Majority rule is a fundamental principle of our government.

COME TO POLK.

The United States is losing about \$100,000,000 and many thousands of strong men and fair women annually through the emigration to Canada. True, many are returning, but the money they took away is not coming back; money made by those who remain will not come back. The Canadians know how it is, for ever since the discovery of precious metal mines in our western states, there has been a steady stream to our side of the line and when they once come and establish themselves in business, there is no return to Canada. More, it is a habit with most of them to send for old-time sweethearts and thus two are lost to Canada instead of one. Then, as the years go by, there are broods of children and they never will be Canadians.

But there has been a cause for all this. Our country offered to those people more inducements than their own country could, and so they came away. It is different with those who leave Iowa and Nebraska and the Dakotas and Wisconsin for the north. They could do better by coming to Oregon, and it should be a pleasure as well as a duty for Oregonians to supply the data to prove that fact. They can work here, out of doors, nearly every day in the year without discomfort. They would be nearer markets here. They can raise from five acres in the Polk territory what will bring them more than they can clear from twenty times five acres in Canada. They can have advantages here for themselves and their wives and children which they can never have in the north. They are chasing an artistic phantasmagoria and should be coaxed away from it.

TWO VALUABLE COINS.

A recent news-item recorded the fact that two \$50 gold pieces struck from the United States mint at Philadelphia in 1877 had been sold to a coin collector for \$10,000 each, the highest price ever paid for an American coin. If any reader cherished a vague hope of making large profits by gathering together his surplus \$50 gold pieces and selling them for \$10,000 each it was quickly shattered by the second paragraph of the article, which stated that though \$50 gold pieces were struck from the mint during the early mining days of California, the two \$50 gold pieces of 1877 are, so far as is known, the only ones of this denomination ever coined by the government.

Since all dies for American coins are destroyed at the close of each year, they stand on the same plane as the ancient coins with regard to time. The supply cannot be increased, even though the demand be great, after the year is numbered with the dead centuries, though its successor be but one day old. Yesterday or yesterday is as irrevocably past and forever gone as the years of the Roman Empire or the Greek Republic.

WE HAVE MANY CRAZES.

There was a saying among the ancient Greeks, that the immortal gods, looking down on the hapless and short lived race of men, divided them all into fools and madmen. Every era has had its special madness or enthusiasm. The border land between sanity and insanity is very narrow. The sage and the maniac each thinks the other mad. The inmate of Bedlam believes himself sane, and the whole outside world insane. "The divine madness of Genius" is a familiar phrase. Plato said that in every poet there was a spice of madness. It is the men possessed of one idea, the men insane to the masses, who have led all the great movements.

The iconoclastic craze of the middle

ages destroyed, in the name of religion, many of the finest monuments of ancient art. A fanaticism whose votaries believed the Koran the only book needed by the world, destroyed, in the name of the Prophet, the great library of Alexandria, in which was stored the most of the literature of the past. The old Athenian craze was for art and culture. The ancient Roman craze was for war and conquest, the Crusades began and ended in religious madness. The craze for chivalry, after a long lease of preposterous life, was drowned in peals of laughter called forth by Cervantes in his "Don Quixote."

Eighteen centuries was an era of crazes. In this age a sentimental craze took possession of the romantic world, finding its highest expression in Goethe's "Sorrow of Werther," while France went daft over the teachings of Rousseau. In this same century, "The South Sea Bubble," and the fraudulent, "Mississippi Scheme," of John Law, turned the financial world upside down. The present craze for lurid fiction and grotesque art, has come down to us as a legitimate inheritance from those ro-coco ages, when society went daft over debased art, literature and tawdry ornamentation.

Now as of old there are enthusiasts who, like Joan of Arc, hear voices, see visions and dream dreams—who inspired by a sacred madness, led on embattled hosts to victories for truth and right. Now as in the days when the strains of the "Marseillaise," and the "Ca Ira," fired the soldiers of the French revolution; now, as in the days when the hymns of Charles Wesley sent Methodism singing its way around the world, the power of song is exemplified in martial lyrics, in gospel hymns and the militant strains of the Salvation Army. The present age is carried away by many crazes and enthusiasms, whose sanity or madness time alone can test. "Today is always mad," says a modern philosopher. "It becomes a thing of reason when it becomes yesterday." But in human progress it often happens, "That the demon of our sires become the saints whom we adore."

SLEEP AND NERVE REST.

President Wilson, unlike any of his late predecessors, takes nine hours of sleep each night, and is the better for it. In the days when eight hours for sleep was nominally regarded as an hour too long for any self-respecting individual, the exhausting character of modern life was unknown. There was less wealth and more contentment; less competition and more security; fewer distractions, but more simplicity. Work was easier, slower; and care, anxiety, apprehension—in a word, worry—did not feed like the worm in the bud upon the hours exempt from toil. We are remorseless in overtaxing the delicate mechanism of our minds and nerves. The best walker for instance, does not propose to himself to go regularly sixty miles a day, or to subject the same set of muscles in any other form of physical exercise to intense and unremitting labor. But that is what we do with the immediate agent of our minds—the brain machine. We cannot water its operations. We often assume that its movements are as light and endless as the ripples of the universal air. We know and nevertheless we forget that the brain is a substantial apparatus as liable to depreciation as the fixed plant in a workshop. Nothing is more certain than this, that the potential capacity of the human brain has not increased, if at all, in anything like the proportion of the immensely aggravated demand upon it. The modern man is subject to as much mental and moral wear and tear in a day as his ancestors in no very remote generation experienced in a week. Yet in respect to sleep we have hardly changed traditional habit. We keep later and still later hours. There is no doubt whatever that we burn the candle at both ends with unprecedented disregard of the laws of physiological economy and that the amount of rest we allow for nerve and brain is no longer adequate.

AWAY WITH USELESSNESS.

"Come boy, make yourself useful as well as ornamental," said a father to his son in the presence of the writer the other day, and the lad moved off reluctantly to do his paternal ancestor's bidding. This father was simply complying with the demands of the world, teaching usefulness. The world has not always demanded this, but it does in this age and day. The old grayheads whom we call the wise men of ancient times earned little for usefulness. They

New Heirs To Austrian Throne a Popular Couple



ARCHDUKE CHARLES FRANCIS JOSEPH of Austria and his consort, Princess Zita, are now heirs to the throne of Austro-Hungary owing to the assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand and his wife. The couple are popular in royal circles in Europe, having visited several of the capitals. Prince Charles is a good marksman and a devotee of outdoor sports.

would have been wiser if they had not considered that to be useful was to lower one's self. Archimedes thought geometry was debased if it was employed to produce any useful result. Plato derided arithmetic, thought little of the science of medicine and less of alphabetical writings. Socrates saw no advantage in astronomy except to raise the mind to higher fields of speculation. When Posidonius, a writer in Cicero's time, mentioned the arch as one of the discoveries of philosophy, the intellectual ones grew angry. They were ashamed to have Posidonius say such a thing. They under took at once to prove that the philosopher Democritus did not discover the arch, or the philosopher Anacharsis the potter's wheel.

"In my own time," writes Seneca, "there have been inventions of this sort—transparent windows, tubes for diffusing warmth equally through a building, shorthand; but the invention of such a thing is drudgery for the lowest slaves. Philosophy lies deeper. We shall next be told that the first shoemaker was a philosopher." This makes us think less of Seneca. It might make us think less of philosophy, if we did not understand that philosophy has to grow like the rest of the world. The world wants you to be useful. If you are not useful, there is no place for you. You are only in the way. If you look into nature, you will not find anything that is not useful, either in her different forms or in what she produces. The buzzard is an unclean bird, but he helps to keep the world clean. The butterfly goes from flower to flower fertilizing them, and adding to the world's beauty. Every insect, bird or beast, even the smallest particles of stone and earth, the tiny atoms of which all matter is made—each has its use. If it had not, nature would never have created it at all.

Seneca, and Socrates, and Plato were useful in their way. But the shoemaker was of more value to the world than a thousand Senecas. The world needed shoes, and the shoemaker furnishes them. If we can give to the world something that it needs, something that is useful, our lives will have been worth while.

SENTENCED TO HOME LIFE.

It is a wise judge in Malden, Mass., who has prescribed the home treatment for youths who wreak mischief in the streets. Several boys were brought before him, charged with wandering misbehavior. He released them temporary, on condition that their parents keep them at home from 6 o'clock in the evening until the next morning. At the end of this probation the lads are to be examined as to the effect of this treatment upon their conduct.

The magistrate has exercised his discretion in the direction of enforcing parental responsibility. In reality, it is the fathers and mothers, and the home they make, rather than the children, that are on trial in this test. The experiment will enforce, at least during its period, the presence of these boys every evening in the family circle. The influence of its environment must make itself manifest in either marked improvement of manners and diligence, or in sullen deterioration; for youth must grow, either upward or downward. It is possible that the trial of this method may disclose whether it is the parents who need reformation.

The voter should be aware of freak legislation. Some forty-five bills and amendments to the constitution have been initiated for a popular vote in November, some of which measures must prove injurious to the best interests of the state. The people of Oregon must get down to a solid basis in the matter of handling public questions.

The salmon run is ahead of the politician this year—it got there first.

The prohibition rally and the editorial rally are announced for Dallas on the same date—next Saturday. What a splendid combination.

To clean lamp burners boil in water in which beans have been soaked.

Tell the world your wants in an Observer want ad.

THE PRAISE CONTINUES.

Everywhere We Hear Good Reports of Doan's Kidney Pills.

Dallas is no exception. Every section of the U. S. resounds with praise of Doan's Kidney Pills. Thirty thousand persons are giving testimony in their home newspapers. The sincerity of these witnesses, the fact that they live so near, is the best proof of the merit of Doan's. Here's a Dallas case.

Mrs. C. E. Graves, 121 Washington street, Dallas Oregon, says: "Kidney trouble and rheumatism came on me and I gradually grew worse, until I could hardly endure the suffering. Dull pains settled in my back and across my kidneys. I had sharp, shooting twinges all through my body. I tried a great deal of medicine but nothing gave me much relief until I began using Doan's Kidney Pills. They helped me from the first and soon had me feeling like a different woman. Doan's Kidney Pills have benefited me in every way. They have improved my appetite and my weight has increased."

Price 50c. at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. Graves had. Foster-Milburn Co., Props., Buffalo, N. Y.

NOTICE —TO— ICE CONSUMERS

Those persons desiring ice in the residence districts are requested to display their "Ice Wanted" card the first thing in the morning, as only forenoon delivery is made in this territory.

Those customers not having cards are requested to call at the plant and get one, leaving their street and number.

DALLAS ICE CO.

YOU CAN OF COURSE?

And consequently you must be interested in fresh fruits. We can supply the housewife's wants in any quantity at **JUST THE RIGHT TIME**, and at lowest market prices. See us about it, or telephone for quotations. It will be to our mutual advantage.

Loughary Grocery

DALLAS, OREGON

NEW PLUMBING SHOP

512 Main Street.
After having been with Guy Bros. for six years I have opened a shop at the above number and solicit your patronage.

H. H. RICH

I am in Business for Your Health.
Phone 452.



When We Hand You Our Estimates

of the cost of the lumber you require you can depend upon it that the figures will be as low as first-class, well seasoned lumber can be sold for honestly. If you pay more you pay too much. If you pay less you get less either quality or quantity.

Willamette Valley Lumber Co.

MINNESOTA TRAVELING MAN IN BAD SHAPE

In an affidavit executed before a Notary in St. Paul a traveling man swears to the following: Had a scrofulous ulcer about two by three inches in size on the right side of neck over the jugular vein—a dangerous place. Was treated by many doctors but no benefit. Allen's Ulcerine Salve cured the ulcer in six months.

This salve is one of the oldest remedies in America and since 1869 it has been known as the only salve powerful enough to cure chronic ulcers and old sores of long standing.

Allen's Ulcerine Salve acts by drawing out the poisons and healing the sore from the bottom up. It is so powerful that it heals new cuts and sores in one-third the time that common salves and liniments take. And it heals burns and scalds without a scar. Sold by The Fuller Pharmacy, and other leading druggists. 3-Fri.