

The Herald

D. E. STITT, Editor.

Entered as second-class matter September 8, 1909, at the post office at Monmouth, Oregon, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY

Subscription Rates

One year - - - - - \$1
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Monmouth, Oregon.

FRIDAY, DEC. 17, 1909.

Am I My Brother's Keeper?

It is now nearly six thousand years, according to history, since the above question was first propounded, and we presume that Cain really thought that he had put forth a poser—something which commanded silence.

The relationship of man, one with another is social, whether that of business or otherwise, and it is not a strange thing that men have been asking and trying to answer the above question satisfactorily to themselves ever since it fell from the lips of its first user, and perhaps most of those who have thought upon this theme has done so with the purpose in view of shifting implied responsibility.

However, doubtless there have been many other persons who have pondered upon this subject with the sincere purpose of discharging their full and complete obligations to their fellow man, and that should be the aim and desire of each individual.

Our social bonds are such that it is impossible for us to shift responsibilities which rest upon us, and for which we must give strict account, because of the influence we may exercise over other persons. We have the sublime privilege of living under a Republican form of government; one in which the majority rules; one in whose management each man has an equal voice, and because of this equality of privilege, the responsibility for the proper maintenance and purposes of the government become equal to the extent of the intelligence of each individual, and imposes upon every person alike the necessity of due preparation so as to discharge this obligation intelligently and in such manner as will satisfy the demands of justice.

Under the reign of an emperor, or in an absolute monarchy, much of the responsibility is lifted from the shoulders of the subject and placed upon those of the ruling power, the subject being accountable only in regard to obedience to the laws of the ruler and for his, or her, relationship with other subjects. If an emperor, or monarch, chooses advisers then the responsibility is shared with those whom he chooses according to the degree in which their counsel is accepted, and as the court of the ruler is extended so, likewise, is the responsibility extended until in limited monarchies, it reaches out to the subjects to the extent in which they have voice in the governing power, while their accountability, as to relationship with their fellow creatures, always remains. There is also the home in which father is king and mamma is queen, the boys are princes, and the girls are princesses, and all are subjects, and

in this kingdom responsibility rests according to the position the subject occupies. Go where we will, search where we may, our responsibility never ceases, and Cain had simply failed to canvass the subject closely when he launched forth his "poser."

Our brother's welfare is largely our concern and we can neither shift nor shake the responsibility.

In the above we have discussed the relationship and responsibility of man with man and now we come to another phase of the question. Living under a representative form of government we become responsible for the abuses practiced or permitted under its laws, and especially is this true when the law-making majority or power places its ban upon any illegitimate business.

In our fair land we have the saloon with its degrading, debauching influence as a menace to our homes; the law says that it cannot exist, unless a majority of the voters, in whatsoever corporation, whether state, county, town, or precinct, says so; then whenever a majority in a corporation gives a saloon the privilege to conduct its nefarious business, that same majority sanctions the evil influence of that institution and stands responsible with the saloon man for the crimes that emanate from it, each being responsible to the extent of his aid and influence in maintaining and perpetuating the business, but the majority receives no part of the emoluments—a partner in crime but not in profit.

Then again, when the state, county, town, or precinct votes the saloon out of existence, having passed laws for its suppression, then every subject of that principality becomes responsible for the enforcement of those laws, and becomes a criminal in so far as he does not walk in obedience to the law either in keeping its mandates, or enforcing its provisions when other parties have become amenable to it.

Seeing then that these principles exist, what manner of persons should we be that we may escape condemnation.

Up Before Police Judge

C. H. Rowe was fined \$10 in police court Monday morning. It seems that the culprit entered the peaceful little dump conducted by Tom Edgar and started a rough house. Now as Edgar is not a violator of the law himself he will not stand for any disturbances of that kind for fear that it will give his saintly (?) place a bad name and spoil the business of his pesky little joint. So he proceeded not only to put him out, but to put the hand-painted effect on the latter's optics, and while wandering around in this condition, the would-be pugilist, was taken in charge by Officer West and conducted to the city cooler. On being brought before Recorder Ellis he willingly contributed \$10 to help run our town, and after listening to a good temperance lecture was dismissed.

Later in the day Tom Edgar was arrested and brought before the recorder to answer for his share in the scrap. He plead not guilty and gave bonds to appear for trial at 10 o'clock, Thursday morning. If he does not get a heavy fine, he will not get what is due him for every one knows that he is keeping one of the worst

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dives in the country.—Falls City News.

Edgar plead guilty upon being rearraigned and received sentence.

Church Directory.

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L. C. HOOVER, Pastor

Morning service at 11:00 o'clock
Evening service at 7:00 o'clock
Sunday School at 10:00 a. m.
Y. P. A. Meeting at 6:30 p. m.
Prayer Meeting Wednesday evening.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

W. A. WOOD, Pastor.

Morning Service at 11. a. m.
Evening Service at 7:00 p. m.
Sunday School 9:45 a. m.
Y. P. S. C. E. 6:30 p. m.
Prayer Meeting Wednesday 7:30 p. m.

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