

The Herald

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Monmouth, Oregon.

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SEEKING A REMEDY.

The high cost of living is still an object of attention and light is glinting in, here and there, through the foliage of deception by which the truth is hidden from the public.

In the days of brigandage, robbers banded together for the purpose of plunder, and murder stalked abroad with the organization; but time has advanced, likewise the world, and the crude ways of the dark ages are no longer tolerated. They were too brutal, too gory, and too susceptible of detection and punishment, and while there still remains a remnant of this class who operate with greater or less success, the general plundering body has taken a step upward and brought a refinement into their work which gives out a perfume of respectability encasing the operator in a garment not stained with the common odor of the law-breaker, and almost if not quite immune from the slightest breath of suspicion.

The refined way is to organize, lay plans and carry them into effect, rob the producer by keeping down the price of his product, corner and control it, then rob the consumer by not permitting him a chance to buy except by purchasing from the controlling corporation.

This is the refined manner of stealing. Of course it is brutal to hold up a man and take his wealth using a bludgeon or gun, and when resistance is offered, killing him on the spot, but by the refined method you hold him up and keep on bleeding him day after day and year after year; you can pinch him with hunger and chill him with cold because of his inability to properly feed and clothe himself. This method may bring about the excruciating torture of hunger and cold until death brings surcease, but then this is the refined way, and the public looks on and admires and by sanction exclaims: "How great is Diana!"

Another Market Incident.

Back in the Middle-west, where they are making the public-market fight for the benefit of the people with spirit and enthusiasm that is bound to win, there crops up incident after incident showing that there is genuine economy in the institution.

Indianapolis is just now making the hardest fight of any city of that section for the perfecting of the system which will make the public market a money saver for the people, and the Mayor of Indiana is in the thick of the fray. But recently it was learned, through news report, how that official went into

of potatoes on his own account Michigan and bought a carload for public-market distribution, just to demonstrate that local prices were way beyond what they ought to have. Now comes another potato incident that carries proof to the same effect.

An Alabama man, who has sweet potatoes to sell, visited Indianapolis, and while sweet potatoes in that city were bringing \$1.65 a bushel, and his price was 75 cents f. o. b. shipping point, the Alabama man was advised by the commission men not to take a chance on the Indianapolis market. Mayor Shank heard of it, and immediately there was an arrangement for a carload of "sweets" for the public market. The freight from the shipping point was 19 1-2 cents a bushel, which made a total of 94 1-2 cents laid down in Indianapolis. Mayor Shank contended that the margin of profit between this figure and \$1.65 was altogether too great for the consumer to pay, and he disapproves of methods which discourage shipping that the price might be raised rather than lowered.

This transaction, as reported, illustrates sufficiently the need of a public market in every city of any size. It is just a question of waking up to the advantage of it, and then acting.—Portland Telegram

"The world do move," is an old saying, and while not exactly in line with grammatical perfection, does very well to express the new addition to the national game, that of the paid base ball "rooter," which comes as a consequence of the close race between the Portland team and that of the Vernon aggregation of players for possession of the Pacific Coast League pennant, a purse of fifty dollars being offered for the services of the best "rooter" in the interest of the Vernon team. Will the annex become permanent?

Already In Use.

Being outside the fire limits, the villagers had petitioned and received an appropriation for the purchase of a hand tub machine. This was installed in a disused blacksmith shop, where it remained for two years, used only in Fourth of July parades. Finally a stroke of lightning started a small fire in a farmhouse near by, but when the volunteer firemen arrived at the temporary engine house the foreman stood at the door with uplifted hand. "Don't tech her, boys, fer heaven's sake!" he shouted. "I've got two hens a-settin' in th' tub!" —Argonaut.

A Mystery to Tommy.

In daylight little Thomas gloated over his book of Indian stories and longed to prowl in prairie grasses and spring upon white men, smashing their heads in with tomahawks. But when darkness fell he sent frightened glances at all the shadows and felt the shivers run down his tiny spine. "Mother," he whispered one night as he stared at his old father bending over his book, "was daddy ever in the Indians' country?" "No," replied his mother. "Why do you ask?" "Because if he wasn't," said Thomas in an awed voice, "who scalped him?"

Helped Him Along.

He was a man of convivial habits, well known by his Christian name, Jamie. One dark night an acquaintance found Jamie lying at the foot of an outside stair. "Is that you, Jamie?" he asked in a voice of the greatest astonishment. "Aye, it's me," replied Jamie in a resigned tone. "Have you fa'en doon the stair?" "Aye!" said Jamie. "I fell doon; but I was comin' doon, whether or noo."

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