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AN INDEPENDENT PAPER.

SATURDAY, JULY 21

The Independent Newspaper

Although the great American newspapers have achieved, through the development of their news service, a practical political independence, the old political thralldom has been succeeded by a commercial thralldom more insidious and more dangerous to the welfare of society. This striking statement is made by Samuel Bowles, himself proprietor of the Springfield Republican, one of the leading independent papers of America, in an illuminating article in The North American Review. It has come to pass, he tells us, that a party organ of the old-fashioned type can not be successfully maintained. But instead we have "the cheap newspaper" of many pages, selling often at wholesale for less than the cost of the paper on which it is printed, and dominated by the advertiser, "who pays all the other heavy expenses and the profit." Under these conditions the motto of an old Salem newspaper, "Here shall the Press the People's cause maintain, Unawed by influence and unbribed by Gain,"

might seem a counsel of unattainable perfection. Nevertheless, asserts Mr. Bowles, the press today not only stands for the rights and interests of the people, but on the whole, "represents them more efficiently than ever before." It does this by its daily presentation of each day's history of the whole world. Thus, as Mr. Bowles goes on to say:

"Even the corrupt and dependent press is compelled to publish the news. It cannot hope to exist if it fails to do so. The possession of the news, the knowledge of the world's daily life, thought, movement, constitutes the most effective weapon for the protection of society. Justice and truth flourish in the light of publicity. Iniquity and wrong dread it and are ultimately cured by the influence which flows from its illuminating rays."

The modern editorial page, moreover, has become "a most important part of the news-giving mechanism of the press," its function being "to illuminate, to suggest, to inform, to expose, rather than to persuade or denounce." Although maintaining that the press as a whole serves the people efficiently, Mr. Bowles is unable to make certain "yellow" journals "compose" harmoniously in his optimistic general survey. We read: "When the individual citizen neglects his civic duties, the community and state suffer; but when the newspaper, with its exceptional facilities for influence, is derelict or prostitutes its powers, the effect is far-reaching and momentous. It is obviously the pretense of every newspaper, seeking public support, that it stands for the public enlightenment and welfare.

Even though it have no editorial opinions to express, and be simply an organ of information, it professes to publish things that are true and to be so far an honest servant of those who buy it. It is, then, a national misfortune that so large a section of the American press, under the operation of commercial influences, has been led into the adoption of methods and practices which are essentially dishonest. I refer especially to the exaggerations and misrepresentations which characterize the so-called 'yellow press.' The predominant tone of this kind of journalism is a painful and distressing scream which manifests itself in dreadful typographical effects, and

to which the advertisers are encouraged to add their discordant notes." The writer believes the independent newspaper to be "the most vital instrument that democratic society can produce for its own advancement and protection," and concludes: "It is my hope, my ambition, that the independent newspapers of the United States shall become, as the years roll on, more and more truly apostles of an industrious peace, not only for the sake of the highest and best development of this nation, both spiritually and materially, but for the advancement of liberty, justice and enlightened democratic government throughout the world."

At present the American railroads are divided into a small number of groups, such as the Vanderbilts, the Hills and so on. If the Union Pacific and the Milwaukee combine, the total mileage will be in still fewer hands. One combination brings about another. There may yet be a close alliance between the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and the Canadian Pacific to hold in check the Hariman-Milwaukee alliance, which will control all Pacific lines south of the Columbia river, the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe being only nominally independent.

This from the Salem Journal's a body blow straight from the shoulder: It is noticeable that Mayor Lane has very harshly and arbitrarily made the financiers in charge of the relief funds for the San Francisco sufferers dig up the last remaining fifty thousand and send it forward. That is the first time a fund of that kind has ever all gone where it was intended, and there is talk of removing Portland's cranky mayor from office.

When Samuel Bowles, the brilliant editor of the Springfield Republican, enlorges independent newspapers, he does not have in mind the rapid, colorless sheets, afraid to express an honest opinion, or take a stand for their conception of what is right upon a question of public moment. Such publications fulfill no mission and are entitled to no consideration or respect from any source whatever.

It appears that New York capitalists have formed the American Farm Products Company, which looks very like a trust. It is to take chickens, cheese, milk and eggs under its care. This business is rather too much distributed or any trust to control.

Alfred Belt, the South African millionaire, has bequeathed millions to educational institutions. His career was similar in many respects to that of Cecil Rhodes and the dispossitor of his vast estate is along the same lines.

Listen to this from the Albany Democrat: "Several years ago Salem had a new railroad for breakfast every day. Now it's Eugene. But so far Albany has the goods." Watch Albany blow!

The Russian government has notified all strikers to go to work by a certain date or be exiled to Siberia. Wouldn't that jar a walking delegate!

An exchange insists that it is impossible to twist a five dollar bill in two. But who would desire to do such a foolish thing anyway!

Lane county booze no doubt has the exhilarating effect of old, even if it should be labeled as soda pop or ginger ale.

Senator LaFollette says he intends to keep on fighting, a declaration that causes no particular surprise.

Let's have a 25,000 club. That's the size Eugene ought to be in five years from now.

The people of Portland will not have to walk, but the walking delegates will.

Eastern Excursion Rates

June 4, 6, 7, 23, 25, July 2, 3, August 7, 8, 9, September 8, 10. On the above dates round trip tickets will be sold from Eugene to St. Paul and Missouri river points for \$63.75, St. Louis \$71.25, and Chicago \$75.25. Limit, 90 days. Call at the local ticket office for particulars.
 L. G. ADAIR, Agent.

THE MAN OF WORDS

BY RUDYARD KIPLING



HERE is an ancient legend which tells us that when the first man achieved the first noble deed he wished to explain to his tribe what he had done, but as soon as he began to speak he was smitten with dumbness, he lacked words, and sat down. Then arose—according to the story—a "masterless" man who had taken no part in action, no special virtues and was "afflicted"—that is the phrase—with the magic of the necessary words. He spoke, he explained the action to the tribe in such a fashion that we are assured that the words "became alive and WALKED UP AND DOWN IN THE HEARTS OF ALL HIS HEARERS."

Thereupon the tribe, seeing that the words were alive, and fearing that the man with the words might be telling untrue words to their children, arose and killed him. But later they saw that the magic was in the words and not in the man. We have progressed in many directions since the time of this early and destructive criticism, but so far we do not seem to have found a sufficient substitute for the man with the necessary words as the final record to which all achievement must look. Even today those who have done a thing must wait until all has been said BY THE MASTERLESS MAN WITH THE WORDS.

It is certain that the overwhelming bulk of these words will perish in the future as they have perished in the past. It is certain, too, that some few of these words will live, and by those words only will our children be able to judge of the phases of our generations. Now we desire beyond all things to stand well with our children. But when our story comes to be told we do not know WHO will tell it. There are many tellers, and they are all talking together.

If anything short of undisputed and distilled truth be handed down how shall our achievements profit us? The record of our tribe is just its enduring literature. The magic of literature lies IN THE WORDS and not in any man. Witness, a thousand excellent strenuous words can leave us quite cold or put us to sleep, while a bare half hundred words breathed by some man in his agony or in his exultation or in his idleness GENERATIONS AGO can still lead whole nations into captivity, can still open to us the doors of three worlds, can still stir us so intolerably that we can scarcely bear the look of our souls. It is a miracle and one that happens very seldom, but each masterless man with the words is hoping, or has had hopes, that the miracle may be repeated again through him.

And why not? If a tinker in Bedford jail, if a pamphleteer shop-keeping in London, if a condemned French thief or an English admiral can be the medium for making necessary words, why not ANY MAN AT ANY TIME? And our work, which is only concerned in the perpetuation of the record, sanctions that hope as kindly and just as cruelly as nature sanctions love. It suggests that the man with the words shall wait upon the man of achievement and step by step with him try to tell to the tribe. All it demands is that the magic of every word shall be TRIED OUT TO THE UTMOST BY EVERY MEANS, fair and foul, that the mind of man can suggest.

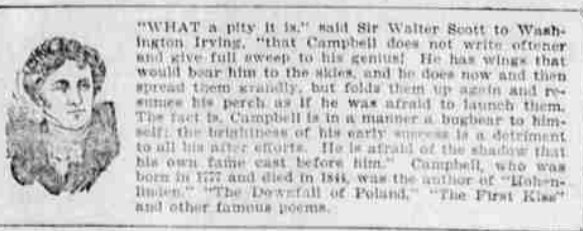
There is no room for pity, mercy or respect, for fear, or even for legality, between man and his fellow man when the record of the tribe comes to be written. That record must satisfy the keenest and deepest SELF KNOWLEDGE of the present and satisfy also the shameless curiosity of the future.

WHEN IT HAS DONE THIS IT IS LITERATURE, OF WHICH LITERATURE IT WILL BE SAID IN DUE TIME THAT IT FITLY REPRESENTS ITS AGE. I SAY IN DUE TIME, BECAUSE AGES, LIKE INDIVIDUALS, DO NOT ALWAYS APPRECIATE THE MERITS OF A RECORD THAT PURPORTS TO REPRESENT THEM.

A Poem for Today

THE RIVER OF LIFE

By Thomas Campbell



THE more we live, more brief appear
 Our life's succeeding stages;
 A day to childhood seems a year,
 And years like passing ages.

The gladsome current of your youth,
 Ere passion yet disorders,
 Steals lingering like a river smooth
 Along its grassy borders.

But, as the careworn cheek grows wan,
 And sorrow's shafts fly thicker,
 Ye stars, that measure life to man,
 Why seem your courses quicker?

When joys have lost their bloom and breath,
 And life itself is rapid,
 Why, as we reach the Falls of Death,
 Feel we its tide more rapid?

It may be strange—yet who would change
 Time's course to slower speeding,
 When one by one our friends have gone
 And left our bosoms bleeding?

Heaven gives our years of fading strength
 Indemnifying sweetness;
 And those of youth, seeming length,
 Proportioned to their sweetness.

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 insertion.
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FOR SALE

FOR SALE—One hundred acres of land near city limits. For particulars call on owner at 52 East Ninth street, Eugene, Or. tf

FOR SALE—A driving horse, 4 years old, quiet; buggy and harness. Phone 153, Springfield. j23.

FOR SALE—Four or five bay balers as good as new, at half price. Enquire at the Eugene Excelsior Works. d&wtf

FOR SALE—One of the finest cottage houses in the city. Fine flowers, fruit and garden. Call and see the place. 376 West Sixth street. tf

FOR SALE—Ten-room modern house, on 80x100 foot lot, with fruit, only one block from Willamette street; very cheap if sold soon. Investigate this. Call at 467 Oak street. tf

FOR SALE—A piece of Eugene business property under five year lease to good tenant, paying ten per cent on price asked, monthly in advance, and tenant to make all repairs during term of lease, offered for sale. See or address J. R. Campbell, Eugene. tf

FOR SALE—I have decided to sell my Altamont Driving mare. She is sired by Altigo, with a record of 2:08 1/4, and dammed by Satinette, with a record of 2:20. She is standard bred on both sides. She has great speed and is kind and gentle. A lady can ride or drive her any place. Price, \$300. Phone or write Frank E. Blair, Fall Creek, Oregon. tf

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Two desirable office rooms in centre of town. Address Box 14, Eugene, Or. tf

FLAT TO RENT—Modern flat to rent, furnished or unfurnished. Apply at Schneider block. tf

WANTED

WANTED—Blackberries for canning. Call at 594 Olive street. j21

WANTED—200 lbs. sweet cream, to be delivered on Saturdays. Highest price paid. Hull's Drug Store. tf

COOK WANTED—Lady cook wanted for restaurant at Junction City. Address E. S. Lester, Junction City, Or. j27

WANTED TO BUY—National cash registers. Highest cash price paid. State serial number and price expected and buyer will call promptly. P. O. Box 458, Portland, Or. tf

WANTED—\$2000 improved farm of about 80 acres. Prefer to deal with owner rather than through an agent. Please hurry replies. Address J. E. Day, care of Guard, Eugene. j21

LOST AND FOUND

FOUND—By a number of Eugene ladies, that the old carpet rugs made in Albany excel all others. I pay the freight. See Oscar Faust, Fisher Laundry, local agent, A. L. Ferrington, Albany, Ore. tf

MISCELLANEOUS

PURE WATER—Pure water from bed-rock wells. I can bore or drill one for you cheaply. Why not have the best water? Call on or address J. E. Kilborn, 219 Jefferson street, or C. E. Gordinier, 1106 Villard avenue, Fairmount. Telephone Red 4734.

Woodsawing

Have your wood axwed by a gasoline wood saw. It furnishes its own fuel and does not burn yours—see the point? Saws by a gauge. For prompt service ring up Red 1771 or call at 775 Ferry street. W. E. BODDY

A Hard Lot

of troubles to contend with, spring form torpid liver and blocked bowels, unless you awaken them to their proper action with Dr. King's New Life Pills; the pleasantest and most effective cure for constipation. They prevent appendicitis and tone up the system. 25c at W. L. DeLano's drug store.

Wanted

Young man to learn pressing and cleaning. Good pay to start with. See Ed McClanahan.

TRADE

See our fine Standard Paragon sewing machines at only \$19.50 and \$21.50, fully guaranteed in all respects. You can try them before you buy them, and I think you will agree with me that they are wonderfully good machines. 33 East street Ninth.

Go to the river bridge and get your wagon or vehicle repaired. All work guaranteed. tf

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