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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1909

HELPFUL THINGS

Is the book as dry as dust, filled with twaddle red with rust? Some one then is sure to say: "Read this precious tome today! It is rich with trenchant thought, full of wisdom smoking hot! Cast aside the trifling books, fit for chambermaids and cooks! Leave the trashy stuff behind! Try to cultivate your mind!" As for me, I like the books that will please the girls and cooks. Do you like the look of hay when a bale is in your way? Some old billious crank will cry: "How much better this than pie! Made of grass in growing state—such as Nebby Nezzar ate—free from harmful drugs and dope—hay's the nation's only hope! O, my friend, precautions take! Cut out pie and jam and cake—throw the dog-gone bread away! Come with me and live on hay!" As for me, I'd rather eat angel cake and butter's meat. Is the lecture stale and sour? Is the speaker bald and dour? Some one's sure to grab your arm: "Do not miss this for a farm! Round your heat his logic curls! Come, forsake the chorus girls! Let the nigger minstrels slide! Here's the hall—come on inside!" As for me, I'd rather see Uncle Tom and old Legree!

—WALT MASON.

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TEACH MECHANICS IN SCHOOLS

For the purpose of devising ways and means for introducing the study of the principles of mechanics in the schools, a conference was commenced today at Washington, D. C., between employers and experts in various lines of mechanical industry and the committee on industrial education of the American Federation of Labor.

The committee holds that the demand for the all-around mechanic is returning, owing to the difficulty employers experience in finding competent superintendents who know every branch of a trade.

The movement, it was stated, is not a trade union movement particularly, but it is the first of the kind started by the American Federation of Labor. Chairman John Mitchell says in his report:

"National associations for the promotion of industrial education have been started from time to time, but this is the first time the American Federation of Labor has gone into the subject exhaustively, and finds that many manufacturers, because of the specialization of the different departments of the trades, find it very hard to get competent superintendents owing to the difficulty of finding all-around mechanics who have learned everything about any particular trade.

"We will agitate the teaching of the principles of mechanics in the public schools. The high schools, for instance, teach pupils how to prepare for the professions, but as there are more people in mechanical trades than in the professions they should also, we believe teach the principles of mechanics.

"A man, for instance, may know that a joint at a certain angle is stronger than at any other angle, without knowing the reason why. Another man will know why that joint is stronger. This man will be more valuable than the first man. Ambition to excel would be stimulated if mechanics had a better opportunity of knowing the principles of a trade, as well as learning one branch of a trade in a routine way. In the end this would be better for both employer and employees.

"A number of recommendations on the subject will be made at a meeting of the committee in Washington, which will be submitted at the next meeting of the American Federation of Labor for approval, before we ask for legislation on the subject."

The state railroad commission will in a few days make its order on uniform livestock contracts for the use of all railroads in the state of Oregon. Under the new form of contract prescribed by the railroad commission the objectionable features have been eliminated that have heretofore been in the old contracts used by the railroads of the state and which were the source of complaints from livestock shippers. Oregon is the first state in the union to take up this matter and the only state that has as yet put the uniform contract in force. Other states have this form of contract under way and will install it at an early date. A statement given out by a prominent railroad man is to the effect that every state in the union will adopt this livestock contract system which will be of great advantage to the carrier and shipper alike.

Judge Chrisman retires from office with a good record, and while the position he filled is a trying one, in which it is almost impossible to satisfy all one's constituents, the administration of which he has been the head has been economical and conservative, without being parsimonious and non-progressive. A great deal of needed road and bridge work has been done in the county and yet the expenditures seem to have been carefully made. If county affairs were always as well directed as they have been under Judge Chrisman, the people generally would have little just cause for complaint.

Every live business organization should make one of their policies good roads, says the Oregon Tradesman. If I'll let us to see these people come over here from Germany and France, and explain to us how much better their highways are than ours. We pride ourselves on being a progressive nation and yet we are be-

hind in the matter of wagon roads. We may excuse ourselves with the plea that we haven't been at it as long as they have and this is true. But we can get busy. Good roads mean a saving, mean beauty, and the sort of practical attractiveness that draws people who benefit a country. Get to it, ye commercial clubs.

The Southern Pacific made a profit of two million nine hundred thousand dollars in Oregon this year, according to the company's report to the secretary of state. That is more than the average newspaper earns above expenses.

The Pullman Car Company reports an income of \$338,645.02 from their Oregon business during the past year. This, of course, does not include the greater income of their porters.

As if we didn't have troubles enough of our own, Mrs. Parkhurst, the English woman suffragette, has begun an American lecture tour.

Planting orchards and building electric lines ought to be two of the principal planks in the Oregon booster platform.

Sarah Bernhart is sixty-five years old today, and, strange to say, does not care who knows it.

Oregon sunshine again.

CONGREGATIONAL ASS'N HAS COME TO CLOSE

(Continued from Page 1)

tion faith. Especially is this true since the Reformation made the Bible an open book, and the right of private interpretation of the scriptures, that foundation stone of the head of the corner.

Absolutism has given way to constitutional monarchy; monarchy to republic; and popular government is tending toward socialism. Christ was reared in a humble home and amid the proletariat. He had little sympathy with or confidence in the patrician, and His discourses looked to the uplift of the lowly. In the ultimate kingdom the first should be last and the last, first. The secular world is moving toward this position faster than the organization which bears His name, and which claims to be the custodian of His message. The leveling process has begun.

The paternalism which characterizes modern government is a phase of Christian socialism manifesting itself in a groping endeavor to meet the requirements of Christ's teachings. His call to the ages—sounded personal humility, the equality of man, the vanity of riches, the duty of service and the verities of the Golden Rule. "The Kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so; but he that is greatest among you let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve." He told His disciples toward the end; and when the lawyer inquired which is the greatest commandment in the law, He made the reply which has resounded through the corridors of time. "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy mind, and the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." And again He said, "Whoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted." And upon the Mount of Olives in that priceless and matchless homily He taught, "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, 'Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you: For I was an hungry and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger and ye took me in; naked and ye clothed me; I was sick and ye visited me; I was in prison and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him saying, 'Lord, when we saw thee an hungry and fed thee? or thirsty and gave thee drink? Or when we saw thee a stranger and took thee in? Or naked and clothed thee? Or when we saw thee sick or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.' Then shall he say also unto them

on the left hand, Depart from me ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels; For I was hungry and ye gave me no meat; I was thirsty and ye gave me no drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me not in; naked, and ye clothed me not; sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungry, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked or sick in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal."

The times demand a church militant, a church tolerant, and a church progressive. It is a somewhat remarkable thing that the mass of supporters of religious organizations view the import of Christ's teachings so differently from the world's estimate thereof. If a personal allusion will be pardoned I may be permitted to say that I was reared in the fold of the Pilgrim church—the body which this assembly represents—affiliated with it, and accept fully the tenets of the Christian faith; believing however, that creeds and denominations are an abomination unto the Lord, I am a member of the church universal, and as such perhaps a fair representative of the average Christian, and I am still a conservative, an individualist, but with most thinking men I realize that the history-old conflict between men and money is on in this land today and that the socialistic program presents the only comprehensive, definite solution of this problem of the ages thus far offered. The time may come when all of us will accept it. If nothing better is presented we must finally believe that Christ intended the social order in which millions find His spirit, and which is commanding a world's attention.

It is reported, and probably with a large degree of truth, that six hundred men control eighty per cent of the wealth of America, and they, with the horde of lesser characters whom they direct, naturally regard the people as incapable of self government. These are the men who would make the government in substance a monarchy. It is they who oppose every assumption of power by the plain people, who attempt to control legislatures and who do control the national congress. In Oregon we are now confronted by this influence, powerful, active, tireless, attempting to take from the electorate the prerogative of direct nomination of public servants, and to replace it by the ancient convention system which represents money and high sinister influences can always control. The same forces are at work in other states, notably in New York where a governor who believes in the capacity and integrity of the whole people is fighting alone against a machine, nominally political, really commercial, which is crushing with its poison coils the civic life of that commonwealth.

We are in a transition stage. The

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OREGON ANGORAS

TAKE BIG PRIZE

Forest Grove, Oct. 21.—A silver cup valued at \$100, presented by Joseph Benn & Sons, Inc., mohair manufacturers of Greystown, N. J., at the A. Y. P. exposition, was won by Edward L. Naylor, of this place, in competition with the best flocks of Angoras in the United States. Mr. Naylor has a flock of 300 registered animals here. His flock is headed by two imported bucks from South Africa valued at \$500 each.

In no other place in the world does the Angora goat reach a higher state of development than in the Willamette valley. The food, climate and the water in this section seem to be adapted for the raising of this class of stock.

Fathers who laid the foundation of this nation could not foresee this corporate age, this era of concentration, this period since the civil war, wherein vast aggregations of capital have come to control not only the industrial and commercial life of the republic but its politics as well. It has been a season of travel and education, a long journey without a compass, wherein the selfish and the forceful have builded monuments which will prove ultimate mausoleums, for their methods will never square with the conscience of the last analysis. But after forty years of wandering in the political wilderness we are ready for the promised land.

Slowly the people are resuming the power which was intended to belong to them when the government was founded. They are reforming the primaries, safe-guarding the election laws, taking to themselves the selection of public servants, and relegating the boss to oblivion. They are slowly revolutionizing the legislative bodies of state and nation, filling the places of political pigmies who obey orders, with men of independent patriotism who represent the masses. Grimly are they struggling from the thralldom of the corrupt machines of the great cities. The mighty corporations are becoming subject to the state, and their records are being thrown open to the light of day. The money magnates are now returning to the commonwealth at death a modicum of the wealth fleeced by avoidance of the law while living, and some method will be found to end the trust entail of fortunes and to compass their natural distribution. The lawlessness of law enforcement is passing, and public decency and political bribery are being classed as crime. The reign of righteousness is dawning, political, commercial, industrial, civic.

The spirit of the epoch is the reflex influence of the Sermon on the Mount, fanned into a new and brighter flame by a moral re-action

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coming as the natural sequence of four decades of material and political debauchery. It is the spirit of Jesus born anew to make this an age of manhood measured by the standard of the cross.

Yesterday Afternoon.

At yesterday afternoon's session the apportionment plan of gathering funds for the whole work of the church was adopted and a committee of four, representing the four local associations of the state, was appointed as follows: Portland, Mrs. Paul Whiteside; East Willamette, Mrs. H. N. Smith; West Willamette, Dr. J. S. Bishop; Mid-Columbia to be supplied by Supt. Folsom.

The "Narrative of the Churches" was given by Rev. Daniel Staver, registrar. This summarized the growth of the churches of the state during the past year. With few exceptions, all reports were rich with encouragement.

Rev. E. C. Oakley, E. S. Bollinger and A. J. Folsom were appointed a committee on behalf of the conference to act in concert with a committee representing the local associations.

The home missionary society adopted the following resolutions: "Whereas, Our reorganization provides for the transition of this society into the Conference of Congregational Churches and Ministers of Oregon; therefore,

"Resolved, (1). The members of the Board of Trustees of the O. H. M. S., known as the Executive Com-

mittee, whose term not expired, be continued of the Missionary Society. Resolved, (2). The trustees be and are authorized to said Missionary Society by the constitution, all of their property, assets; and for this purpose to execute any conveyances to the Missionary Board of the Missionary Society; E. C. Oakley, Rev. J. S. Bishop, Dr. J. S. Bishop, Mr. Folsom and Mr. Folsom, two years; Mr. Folsom, one year. At the evening session Riggs led the devotion after which Rev. Oakley made an address on the American Missionary Society. Miss Strong of Seattle interesting address on "Prayer."

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