



The Western World

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HOPE OF CIVILIZATION.

Today the welfare of the world is in the hands of the American worker. Today civilization's sole hope lies in the spirit and energy of those who labor in America's industries. Today the manhood of America guards the gates of peace to keep the world from famine and to preserve for all mankind the accumulated achievements of centuries of endeavor. With Europe plunged into bloody strife, with its manhood removed from useful production, its intelligence devoted to destruction and its farms and industries lying idle, the burden of human progress at this time rests upon the men and women of America. It is a time that should call forth the best in every American citizen. It is a time for the people of America to stand shoulder to shoulder. It is a time for every class to forget petty differences and to unite to meet the great emergency and the greater responsibility confronting the nation.—Governor Glynn of New York at Labor Convention.

GOOD ROADS: STATE CONTROL.

It appears the states are beginning to realize more and more that to build good substantial trunk systems of highways is a task beyond the ability of the average county to cope with successfully. Speaking along this line, the U. S. Department of Agriculture says: The realization has become quite general that, in order to render maximum service, state highway departments should be given some measure of control over the construction and maintenance of local roads. For this class of roads an amount exceeding \$160,000,000 is expended annually, with comparatively little result to show in the form of improved road mileage for this great outlay. The state of Iowa has met this situation by placing all the road work in the state under the direction of the state highway department.

Traffic is increasing so rapidly as to cause excessive wear upon the roads, especially in the vicinity of congested centers of population. This results in a heavy annual maintenance cost, averaging in the large Eastern states not less than \$750 per mile per annum. Many experiments have been made in the effort to devise types of road which can be maintained at relatively low cost. Thus far, aside from the cheaper forms of construction, the states are depending upon the various forms of bituminous macadam, concrete, and vitrified brick road.

Summarized briefly, the essentials to successful state highway administration, as demonstrated by the experience of the various state highway departments, are as follows: The elimination of politics as a factor in state highway work; control by the state highway department of all work on which state funds are expended; adequate appropriations for continuous maintenance of highways under efficient supervision from the day the highways are completed; state supervision as to surveys, plans and specifications of roads and bridges constructed under bond issues, and supervision of such other road and bridge work as requires considerable cash outlay and the exercise of engineering skill and knowledge.

WHAT WILL BE THE SOLUTION?

Now that enforcement of the Sunday closing law is being discussed it is no more than fair to the hundreds of men to whom the saloon and pool hall has been a club room, to ask, "What will then be done towards giving him a place of amusement?"

As to the merits or demerits of the Sunday closing law the writer does not presume to say. No one cares to see the Sabbath turned into a Roman Saturnalia; neither do broad-minded people contend or believe that the church can ever become the haven of a certain class of men.

EPIGRAMMATICAL

Prof. Richards says recitals, like women, keep one "all fussed up."

THE EAGER ADVISER

When first a stranger hits the town
He is profoundly moved
And tells with many a solemn frown
How it could be improved.

He speaks in generous tones, yet grim
And really seems to think
The town, if it were not for him,
Would be on ruin's brink.

But when a while he has remained
He sees how well and long
Its men have struggled and attained
Mid difficulties strong,
How oft the man who lost his sleep
That he might have his say,
Concludes he'll simply try to keep
From getting in the way.
—Washington Star.

It is this class that will occupy the attention of Bandon's citizens when the saloons are closed and amusements of certain kinds are prohibited on Sundays.

The human race is gregarious in its instincts and the greater pleasure of existence depends to a great extent upon associations. Curb the instinct of association and you produce morose, insanity and crime. Closing all places of amusement on Sunday will not make all persons observe the sacredness of the day. Those whose instincts are to its observance will do so whether all amusements are closed or not. But the man whose associations are not of the church is going to have a feeling of resentment which will tend more and more to widen the gap. If his tendencies are toward amusements he is bound to have that craving satisfied, even if he must do so clandestinely and in violation of the laws.

GIVE NEW GRASS A TRIAL

On the farm page of this issue is printed a short item clipped from the Langlois Leader which tells of the success of Frank M. Langlois with a trial lot of Soudan grass, the new forage crop being experimented with by the United States government, with a view of finding its adaptability to American conditions; and its value as a feed. The grass is reported to grow very successfully throughout Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and the semi-arid states of the middle west; but has so far been given but a few trials in the Pacific coast states. It is peculiarly adapted to semi-arid sections and on its native home, is found growing luxuriantly where other plants wither and die.

The climatic conditions of this section of the country are similar to those of the middle west states during the summer months, and as it is said the Soudan grass is an annual plant, there is nothing which should interfere with its successful growth here. Seed may be obtained directly from the Department of Agriculture at a nominal cost, or perhaps from the larger seed houses. Progressive ranchers and dairymen who are interested in finding forage crops suitable for filling silos might investigate the grass; with perhaps profit to themselves and to the dairy industry of this section at large.

PASSING OF A "LANDMARK"

At this time when what may be considered one of the greatest aids in the building up of Coos Bay and Coos county in general has received the cold commercial death warrant, "no longer profitable"—namely the S. S. Breakwater—one cannot but observe a well known human failing in the lack of interest shown.

Although the Breakwater was never considered a first class passenger boat and it is safe to say half of the hundreds of Coos county people who came to this section of Oregon on the vessel when the sea was rough, wished they had walked; nevertheless one cannot but admit the vessel played a great and noble part in the upbuilding of the county. It was placed on the Coos Bay-Portland run at a stage in the history of Coos county when shipping facilities were limited and any improvement was welcomed with "open arms." Its freight service was always satisfactory and reliable. Its passengers received courteous treatment. Coos county owes much to the faithful old ship and the announcement of its withdrawal from service is received with regret.

SEND THE SAMPLES

Elsewhere appears an item in which the University of Oregon is asking the local Commercial Club for samples of Bandon and vicinity products and information as to resources of this section, etc.

A few samples and well-written information are easily obtained and their use by the University is of considerable advertising value to the community. It is well to remember that today's students at that institution are the business men of Oregon tomorrow.

THE OLD HOME TOWN

After 10 Years

Arcadia, Wis., Sept. 24—"I presume you notice a deal of change in our town since you left here?" That is invariably the first question I am asked after shaking hands with an old friend or acquaintance in Arcadia. This being my first visit to the old home a nearly ten years, I must admit the affirmative, although compared to western development I should say "the old town looks just about the same."

True to its name, Arcadia is one of those peaceful little villages, located in the heart of an old agricultural community, where development is mainly a matter of evolution and life is more or less a daily routine. In the ten years of my absence, I will venture to say, that not more than two dozen families have moved here from points outside the immediate community, while hundreds of young men and women have gone away to take up residence elsewhere. Even at that the population has changed, but its really old Father Time's fault. The san family names make up the census rolls, sons and daughters having taken the place of fathers and mothers in business, on the farms and in the homes, and families have intermarried until the relationship is so promiscuous that it is rather unsafe to talk about one's neighbor.

In spite of the apparent lethargy the community has had a steady, substantial growth, and the town itself enjoys the distinction of being one of the most advanced and improved places (of its size) in the great state of Wisconsin. In 1905 it claimed a population of 1500; today it may well boast of 1800. Its business section is almost wholly constructed of brick; it has macadamized streets both down town and in the residence sections, altogether some 30 blocks or more, and it has municipal light and water plants both of sufficient capacities to accommodate a city three times the size.

While its industrial expansion has been comparatively slow civic development as indicated by its schools, churches, neatly kept homes, lawns, yards and streets, has been remarkable. In its years of undisturbed prosperity the community has not lost sight of the higher ideals of life and it has builded accordingly. The latest monument in this direction is a \$46,000 high school building, occupied this year for the first time. It is an ideal building, constructed according to the latest improved ideas, which include proper accommodations for physical and manual training, domestic science, and the various other newer studies tending toward more practical education. In addition it has two commodious grade schools and two parochial schools. The town has eight churches, six of which are large, beautiful structures. The largest of these is of German catholic denominations and cost \$75,000. The town also has a handsome Carnegie library building.

At the present time business conditions generally are better in this section than on the Pacific coast. Being purely agricultural, and having had fairly good crops with liberal markets for a number of years, money is quite plentiful and the general conditions of the country at large have no effect whatever on the local people.

Residents here are all more or less interested in the West, especially the coast country, nearly everyone having relatives or friends in some section or other whose letters home have had publicity value. They look to the western country with much favor and one hardly meets a young person who has not the intention, or at least the hope, of some day "going west."

The San Francisco exposition has been a wonderful advertising feature. People from every village and hamlet in the middle west have been or are there. Naturally those remaining at home are curious and get much information on the former's return. Since our arrival I have had little time to do anything but talk, telling of Oregon, Coos county, and Bandon-by-the-Sea. That "by-the-Sea" phrase is quite captivating to some of my old land lubber friends, and it has taxed my limited maritime knowledge to answer some of the questions.

There is little of unusual interest in this section just now. The cold, damp summer weather has ruined the corn crop, but the farmers are utilizing all of it for ensilage. Every farmer has one or more silos, and they are building more. Thrashing is in progress revealing fair grain yields. Much live stock is being marketed and any kind of an old horse is bringing a big price from representatives of foreign buyers. Dairying is on the increase throughout Wisconsin and it is probably the main contributor to the vast wealth of the state.

It's the farmer who rides in the

biggest auto here. His success in the past few years, in spite of his handicap of climate, looks encouraging to one who hails from a land where opportunities are greater and conditions more favorable from every point of view.

L. D. FELSHEIM.

The exchange desk received its regular weekly copy of the "Anzeiger," German newspaper published at Arcadia, a few days ago in which appeared a few lines tending to show the editor has been doing some boosting for Bandon. Ye editor pro tem, started in to translate with a view of publishing the extracts, but a regular tongue twister or two about the middle of said item put the mental machinery out of commission, and he "passed it up," not having a German dictionary handy. The Felsheims will arrive home shortly.

PHILOSOPHICAL CHORDS

(By a Railsplitter)

Right thoughts promote right action.

One-half of the world has gone mad.

Kidd every chicken you meet—tenderloin etiquette.

God bless the plumbers—everybody else damns them.

If men were slugs we would be tempted to salt the undesirables.

No doubt John D.'s next act will be application for membership in the Western Federation of Miners.

A personal duty which we should perform most religiously is that of doing our own thinking.

For gallantry the retreat of the ten thousand Greeks has been eclipsed ten thousand times in the present European conflict.

If Alexander the Great were to awake one of these mornings aboard a German Zeppelin, his first impulse would be to accomplish his greatest ambition.

Business depression is the direct result of the unequal distribution of wealth which is also the direct or indirect result of the private ownership of public utilities and natural resources.

Notwithstanding the terrible policy of blood and iron that still holds Europe in a war which may prove the grand finale in the drama of kings and nations, those who have their hearts set upon the millennium of the world can hear, above the thunder of cannon and rattle of machine guns, the "still small voice" calling them to active service in a better cause; and can discern through smoke and vapor the dawning of a brighter day.

In many localities during strikes not only is one of the greatest functions of the state, that of policing, turned virtually over to employers or arrogantly assumed by them, but criminals employed by detective agencies and strike breaking agencies are clothed by the process of deputization with arbitrary power and relieved of criminal liability for their acts.—Not from an Anarchistic nor Socialistic journal but from the Manly report of the commission on industrial relations at whose head was Senator Frank P. Walsh, who performed his duty without fear or favor.

After billiard balls are made they are seasoned at a temperature of 70 degrees for a year before being used.

CLICK O' THE LATCH.

The silence holds for it, taut and true;
The young moon stays for it, wistful white;
Winds that whimpered the sunset through,
Sigh for it, low and light.

Click o' the latch and he'll come home—
A stir in the dusk at the little gate.
Hush, my heart, and be still, my heart—
Surely it's sweet to wait!

The tall skies lean for it, listening.
Never a star but lends an ear.
The passionate porch flowers stoop and cling,
Parting their leaves to hear

Click o' the latch, and him come home—
A step on the flags, a snatch of song.
Hurry, my heart, be swift, my heart.
How did we wait so long!
—Nancy Byrd Turner in Lippincott's Magazine.

There have been 21 declarations of war in the great European conflict, with the possibility of more at any time.

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