

The Athena Press.

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Six and Eight Pages Every Friday.
F. B. BOYD, PUBLISHER.

Application for entrance as 2nd class matter made on July 5, 1907 at the postoffice at Athena, Oregon Under an Act of Congress of March 3, 1879

Subscription Rates:
Per year in advance \$2.00
Single copies in wrappers, 5c.

ATHENA, ORE., OCT. 16, 1908

Criticism, should be of a constructive nature to have any rightful place in the building of life today. Most of us draw our best strength for use in the environment in which we are placed from that inspiring source of hearing "the nice things"—not the flattering things, mark you—said about ourselves. There are few of us who do not recognize either definitely or subconsciously at least, our own shortcomings, and it is part of that struggle of self-preservation inherent within us which induces us to hide them or forget them and put our best self forward for the benefit of others in order to be able to get somewhere unhampered by their criticisms. And, somehow, it doesn't seem just right to thwart that purpose. The law of suggestion is a mighty force working for good or ill upon this plane of our existence, and used judiciously and with the high moral purpose to aid in the development of humanity it cannot fail to bring the greatest happiness and strength into the life of the individual. "I know that you can do this or that and do it well. Only try it." This is one of the foundation stones of success. Fed from this sustaining source, hope which is a large part of our "working capital" in whatever we may undertake, grows strong to do and dare and brings us into the full flower of achievement.

I'll tell you about this thing of luck says an exchange. It comes to the person who keeps the weeds cut down so that it can find him. Luck sometimes walks up and collars an idler, but it is more apt to nab the man who is busy doing the best he can all the time. Luck isn't lying around on the street allowing loafers to cover it with whittlings. Neither is it in a stream waiting for some lazy fisherman to hook it. Luck generally goes hand in hand with industry. If you sit around and wait for luck to hand you a bag of gold and make you a rich man you are pretty apt to end your days in the poor house. A four leaf clover will bring more luck to the busy fellow than it will to the loafer. It may seem a little tough for a man to work hard for a long time and then have his earnings all swept from him at a

single stroke, but it is better to have it lost than never to have had it at all. And another thing: luck isn't labelled. So it will do you no good to stand around and look for it. Go to work.

A rich man in Cincinnati ordered his coffin in advance years ago. Paid \$500 for it. When he died last week he had grown too big to go in it. Lots of men and women order their coffins in advance. They worry and weaken their wills by worry over disasters that never come, difficulties they never meet and rivers of trouble they never have to cross. Many lives have been and are made miserable, hopeless and profitless because people refused to move, or marry, or take a place, or enter a business for fear of contingencies and risks that never came and duties and obligations that were mere shams. Every home is cluttered and littered with things that are kept waiting for use on this chance or that, and then never used—coffins, all, that have been ordered in advance. These things are dusted, and moved, and kept from the moths, and packed and repacked, and in the end all is waste, worry and empty effort.

Science is doing wonders these days in various directions. Nothing quite so noticeably great, perhaps, as the telegraph, the telephone and the electric motor, yet developments and knowledge of many kinds that a generation ago would have seemed miraculous, incredible. For example, we scarcely more than momentarily notice the incident that the other day a man talked by wireless telephone with his wife 50 miles distant, as they were passing, that far apart, in warships plowing the Atlantic ocean. If anybody 30 or 20 years ago had predicted that this would happen, he would have been considered a lunatic. Transcontinental trains, running at full speed, are talking with one another by the inductive system of telephoning.

The conviction of the proprietor of a Grants Pass hotel bar will no doubt result in stopping the sale of near beer and all alcoholic "temperance" drinks in Josephine county, as the analysis of the chemist, admitted in court, proved conclusively that such drinks contain alcohol. Judge Hanna's instructions to the jury, which are precedent in that jurisdiction, were that any appreciable percentage of alcohol makes a drink intoxicating, therefore it is prohibitive under the law. Soft drink establishments occupying places formerly saloons must therefore close their doors, as their business has consisted mainly of selling near beer.

All time records for American battleship building have been broken by the North Dakota, the keel for which was laid December 18 last. The North Dakota will be the largest ship of any kind ever launched in American

waters. She is 510 feet in length, has a beam of nearly 80 feet, a displacement of 20,000 tons, and is to have a speed of 20 knots. The Delaware, her sister ship, which is being constructed by the Newport News Shipbuilding company, will be launched in the early spring.

PROHIBITION NOW, WHAT NEXT?

Troubles for the American saloon are multiplying. For a year the mortality among them has been as great as though a war of extermination were on. The swelling tide of local option and prohibition has swept them out of existence at the rate of 30 a day for the country, and it promises to keep up the rate till the end of the year. At 30 feet frontage for each doomed saloon, the destruction has been at the rate of a mile of frontage a week, or 52 miles for the year. It is a career of havoc more extraordinary than the most hopeful day dream of the wildest prohibitionist. The year began with three states wholly prohibition, and now there are eight, Arkansas by a majority of 12,000 passing into the fold recently. Where but 6,000,000 people of the country lived in dry territory, there are now 38,000,000. Almost one half the people of the nation are residents of the arid zones with counties everywhere almost tumbling over each other in the seamer to get in out of the wet. The tide is so pronounced and so apparently irresistible, that observers everywhere are predicting that it is but a matter of a few years until saloons will be swept entirely from the rural districts, and be confined wholly to the large cities. The big liquor men of the country are almost ready to confess as much, and are strenuous in their appeals to retail liquor dealers to elevate the tone of their places and reform their business methods in the hope of arresting the relentless and expanding crusade. The retailers are called upon to cease violating the laws, to stop selling liquor to minors and to men already intoxicated, and to chasten their establishments into places of the best possible respectability. They are warned that the reform of their business may be too late, but that in and through it lies the only hope of stemming the tide of prohibitive inundation that, at this moment, seems to foreshadow eventual extermination.

The movement is without parallel or precedent in American life, and in its contemplation, the observer can look into the future and seem to see there similar momentous movements in which the country may pass through social and economic change equally remarkable. May it not be that, if the American trust persists in its headlong career of greed, arrogance and cunning, an aroused people, in such a movement, may sweep it out of the nation?—Oregon Journal.

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