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At the Observer office, Moro.

OLD-TIME SUNDAYS

There is a touch of pathos in the lament of a Kentucky man in the Washington Post over the departed charm of the old-fashioned Sunday. To his mind, the phrase "all dressed up in their Sunday best" was something more than a mere matter of clothes. It was really symbolic of the different attitude of the people of some years ago to the Sundays of their era. According to the Kentucky man, the old-fashioned distinctiveness about Sunday has largely faded away because people are "dressed up" all the time nowadays, just as places that are open on weekdays are likewise open on Sundays. Without advocating blue laws or anything of that kind, the commentator thinks it would be better if Sunday were "really an event, a sweet, wholesome occasion," the way it used to be. The Kentucky man has certainly known Sundays in which, as he says, everybody forgot the cares of the workaday world and entered into the spirit of worship and good fellowship. But the change from such days is due to something else besides the tendency of people to be better dressed, or to keep their shops open seven days a week, says the Christian Science Monitor. There are different racial elements involved in the matter from those common to the Sundays in old Kentucky.

To make life count you must begin in life's springtime. You'll reap scant harvest from a squandered seed-time and uncultivated summers, says Grit. Wild oats in the field and wild ideas in the head will choke whatever might have been expected from either. Why is it folks expect miracles in life when they know what nature does? There are many appeals to youths of talent. Beauty is always courted. Doors continually open and hands beckon those with promise of leadership. The response made determines whether or not the life will count. You'll never count for more than one of the group when you take pleasure only in personal satisfactions. Selfish folks may succeed in forging ahead. When they do they soon become engulfed in their own selfishness and become rated among the disliked members of society.

There is quite a group of young women university students in England who are intensely interested in politics and who are definitely out to win the honor of writing M. P. after their names. The English papers view their efforts sympathetically, observing that the young woman who goes in for higher education is full of theories about what's wrong with the world and how to put things right. There's no reason why she shouldn't have a hand at it, especially as others are failing so badly, they add.

The Italian deficit for the year is only 10,751,000,000 lire, par value of which in dollars would be about \$2,000,000,000. We make no remarks about our neighbors, remarks the Houston Post, but merely say that we are not crazy enough to believe that Italy or any other continental nation can meet its obligations in good money.

Speaking of tough luck, Germany saved up 3,000,000,000 paper marks to pay off the 100,000,000 gold marks due to the allies in December, and when the time to pay came the paper marks had shrunk so they would not stretch far enough to make the settlement.

An American schooner held in Mexican waters is said to be a gun runner. The skipper may have figured that gun running one way and rum running the other ought to enable him to retire after a couple of voyages.

A merciful man is merciful to his beast; in this case it is Marshall Foch taking pity on his bob cat and preserving him from the demoralizing effect of too much popularity as a society favorite.

New York now claims to have the girl with the most perfect teeth which would remind old-timers of the fact that Chicago used to have a reputation along that line but not quite the same.

What a lot of money the baseball magnate could make if it were possible to buy a player at what the fans think of him when he makes an error, and to sell him for what he thinks his services are worth.

Things would be better and safer for the country if there were more conclusions ploddingly arrived at and fewer hysterically jumped to.

The loser of a wallet containing \$50,000 rewarded the finder with \$17. Now what was the psychology that kept him from making it an even \$20?

Not even the cabaret proprietor is to be left with the fashionable dressmaker when it comes to fixing cover charges.

If German marks ever go up, they will have a long way to climb before they reach the top.

Shedding His Horns

The author of the growth, development and shedding of the horns of the American antelope has always been a question of decided interest. For a long time it was stoutly disputed that the animal shed its horns, and the subject constantly found its way into the sporting journals and magazines. I had the honor of being in at one of these, and the question arose by attention being called to it in an article by a retired officer of the army. In a somewhat elaborate article, this writer strongly denied that the antelope ever shed its horns, and the editor of the antelope magazine invited me to take the matter up for him. My opinion was that his correspondent was wrong, as the shedding of the horns of this animal has now been known to science for many years, and has been carefully studied and described by a great many competent naturalists—Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, in American Forestry Magazine.

Fort Hamilton Famous

When British troops forced a landing the first shots by an outpost of Colonial troops were fired from the spot which later became Fort Hamilton. Then it was known as Denys's Ferry. After the disastrous battle of Long Island in 1776, a fort was built. Efforts to find the cornerstone found in 1825 were not successful. "Stonewall" Jackson was baptized at the little church, now St. John's, and one of the historic landmarks in the city, when he was stationed at the fort in 1849. Capt. Robert E. Lee, later the noted Confederate army general, was for years in command of the post and was a vestryman of the church. The batteries have been manned for the last half century by officers who have won fame in a hundred fields in defense of their country.

Cactus Responsible for Cocchineal

Among its other virtues, the cactus gives us the cochineal—the insect used for coloring. Leeuwenhoek, in 1703, discovered that it was the female of an insect (Coccus Cacti), which never moved from a certain spot on the cactus, the male being the active member of the family but colorless, and therefore useless. These insects are harvested three times during the dry season, being swept from the cacti into wide-mouthed bags with stiff brushes and killed in boiling water or hot ovens, after which they are dried in the sun and put up in small packages for the market. In this thoroughly dried condition 70,000 insects are required to make a pound.

What Is Fastest Living Animal?

Man makes a poor show, for the speed of our best sprinters is little more than 20 miles an hour. For some time it was thought that the whippet, which covers a furlong course in about 11 seconds, could claim the title; but his speed, which works out at just over 40 miles an hour, is nowhere when compared with that of the antelope, who is capable of reaching a speed of over 80 miles an hour and of keeping it up for some time. What of the racehorse? His great size and his long stride give a false impression of his speed. The pace of the fastest winner on the race track is not much more than 30 miles an hour.

Movement of Flying-Fishes

Some highly interesting observations on flying-fishes have been made by Dr. E. H. Hankin in the Arabian sea. In still weather the length of a glide was about a meter, with considerable lateral instability. In a light wind this was increased to from 200 to 400 meters. A resemblance between the wing action of soaring vultures and the fin action of the fishes was marked. In both, the wing or fin is inclined upward, the outer part at a higher level than the base, in slow-speed flight, while both show a downward inclination in flight at high speed.—Scientific American.

What a Boy Thinks of You

A boy's sheepishness is by no means a sign of over-mastering reverence; and, while you are making encouraging advances to him under the idea that he is overwhelmed by a sense of your age and wisdom, ten to one he is thinking you extremely queer. The only consolation I can suggest to you is that the Greek boys thought the same of Aristotle. It is only when you have mastered a restive horse, or thrashed a drayman, or have got a gun in your hand, that these shy juniors feel you to be a truly admirable and enviable character.—Exchange.

Hold Hospitality Sacred

To the Luthrian tribesmen of Persia, hospitality is not merely a pleasant thing—it is almost a religious rite. When one who is marked for honor approaches a village, the first man he meets is destined to be his host. That is, the honor of entertaining the stranger falls upon the first man the newcomer meets, unless he has come to the village to visit an old friend. So highly is the duty of entertainment considered that there are certain prescribed bounds of hospitality which are fought for if it seems they are likely to be violated. For instance, should a guest for any reason accept an invitation from another and leave the home of the first host, a blood feud would spring up over the right to have him as a guest.

Forest Flowers

Many blooms are found in our hardwood forests in the spring—in fact at that season the woods are a wild-flower garden, while later in the season they have comparatively few flowers, says the American Forestry Magazine. The reason for this vernal habit of woodland plants is that in the spring the sunlight shines down almost unobstructed on the forest floor, but later on, when the trees have attained their full leafage, little light filters through. And light is required for the carrying on of the work of food elaboration by the leaves, so that the forest plants send up their leaves into the spring sunshine, manufacture food, and store it in underground structures, such as bulbs, corns and rootstocks, so that they are ready for an early start next spring.

Miss Jerusha's Trip Abroad

By MARTHA MACWILLIAMS

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Repose being Mrs. Jennifer's long suit, she frowned severely when Bess Nam burst in upon her, saying breathlessly: "I know you can't believe it—but it's gospel true."

"Calm yourself, Elizabeth—that is, if what you are about to say needs to have me believe it," Mrs. Jennifer interrupted with frosty dignity, yet a glimmer of keen interest in her small, sharp eyes. As principal of art and literature in the community high school at the county seat she felt herself authority made manifest in the flesh over all the younger generation. Indeed, to say that she regarded herself as the first word of culture and likewise the last, would be hardly an overstatement of her spiritual ease.

"Miss Jerusha Kay is going to Europe—for a six month's tour—battlediffs and everything!" Bess exploded. "And take Allie Locke with her, paying for both out of her own pocket."

"Impossible! Why, she has never even hinted such a thing to me," Mrs. Jennifer said acidly. "On the contrary, she has been positively rude when once or twice I offered her exceptional opportunity."

"I know it's impossible—still it's so," Bess interrupted. Before she could say more Mrs. Jennifer had risen and was powdering her nose, the sure preliminary to putting on her hat. "You seem so positive, I feel I must look into the matter at once. Of course she will expect to join my party—we will see the first of the month. It will be very troublesome to make room for two extras at this late hour—but perhaps the agency—you know it will do for me what it will for nobody else."

"Don't bother, Miss Jerusha herself told me she had all arrangements made—steamer tickets, berth—everything," Bess countered, with thirty-fold satisfaction. "She wrote to another agency, way back in the winter, setting the time so as to suit Allie—you know she had to teach until just a week back."

Mrs. Jennifer sank down, actually weak in the knees. For the first time since she had assumed headship of things in Hampton town, she felt her supremacy challenged in a vital point. Throughout fifteen seasons she had regularly conducted parties abroad—even in the heat of wartime there had been places and things to see. London, for instance, Edinburgh, Spain and Rome. Also there had been patriotic opportunities which the astute lady had by no means neglected. There were folk mean enough to suggest that it was the handsome rake-off from the agency more than the desire to spread sweetness and light that prompted her activities. As a consequence of those activities there was hardly anything in skirts between fifteen and eighty that could not boast souvenir postcards and jumbled impressions, mainly inaccurate, of things overseas.

Throughout Miss Jerusha, spinster, with a somewhat empty but of a golden heart, had scoffed stonily at all outgoings and incomings. It was bad enough to have her quit the error of her ways independently of Mrs. Jennifer. But to go making her own arrangements, and taking along a protégée, was adding insult dire to injury all but mortal. Mrs. Jennifer shook her head, muttering through set teeth: "When Jerusha Kay finds herself stranded and in trouble, she need not hope for help from me."

Apparently that day did not dawn. Miss Jerusha's pilgrimage went through with bells on—one may speak this of a thing so solemn as adventuring abroad. She stayed the full six months, came back something thinner, but with a healthy color and a new twinkle in her eyes that had never been before. Came alone. Allie had stayed behind in New York. A marvel all but equal to the going away of the pair—Allie was of the soft type, adorably cuddly and clinging, not in the least likely to yearn for a career. But beyond saying that the child was "all right, mighty busy and mighty happy," Miss Jerusha would not explain. Neither would she give any bill of particulars as to the wonders she had seen or missed, the hardships she had encountered or the adventures that had sprung up in her path.

Thus throughout a month she stimulated Hampton's curiosity until it was at fever heat. Mentally she cleaned house, after the real gaudy fashion of the elder time. Walls, rugs, floors, windows, curtains, all movables, the most part of immovables, got a purification to remember. In addition now the express, now parcels post brought things curiously varied in shape, size and weight, judging by the outer looks of them. Heaped unopened in the big dining room, the first place to undergo cleaning they unde a curious show. But nobody got a word as to what was inside—or another word as to when these things would become visible.

Then like an avalanche, or earth quake came invitations—Miss Jerusha at home upon Thursday after noon. The cards fell like rain upon the first and the most result—a tremendous crowd that jammed the side hall, the big parlors and library and overflowed the wide stone steps, beside putting a remnant cringe into the frost-bitten garden.

A stunned crowd that could hardly move for seeing, hardly speak for amazement. Not a postcard! Instead, such array of pictures, books, drop-eries, "articles of bigotry and virtue" as quite put out of court all previous collections from foreign tours. Best of all, everything plainly labeled with day, date and place of purchase, also price—which was in many cases as comblingly small. Miss Jerusha stood smiling affably, waving greeting to

rich and poor, answering easily and specially each important inquirer. She had a subtle assistance from a tall, smiling young fellow, who seemed to have more than the usual complement of hands, feet and eyes. Apparently, he knew all about everything—and told what he knew more than well. Skillful shepherding landed the human stream in the back yard, where, under a huge marker, were heaps and mounds and rivers of surpassing things to eat and drink.

When they had been duly disposed of, Miss Jerusha stood upon a hassock, the tall fellow standing by her, and said clearly: "Listen, folks! I'm going to tell everybody why I went abroad. It was to protect myself—as long as I had not been, everybody that had felt a call to come and tell me all about it and show me their postcards. I got tired—dead tired—of it—always did hate monotony. So I went myself—you've seen the proof of it. I saw everything on show, religiously—and seeing it has made me surer than ever that these United States are the best place on earth for real white folks to live in. It may lack 'atmosphere'—but my! it has got such a plenty of clean, fresh air to make up for the lack! My collection may be trumpery—I won't quarrel with you. But they show I was there—which is the main use of collections. Copies come cheap, you know—especially copies of copies. But I have one original—it's priceless. Allie, come out and end the show."

Half a minute and Allie stood blushing and beautiful beside the tall fellow, her hand in his. Miss Jerusha smiled at them, saying fondly: "Here is my original—a woman absolutely blissful, married to the right man, and joying to love, honor and obey him. O! Yes—we found him on the ship—they were married in New York. Congratulations are in order. You may talk over the match—as for anything else, please excuse me, to the end of the chapter."

SOUTHERN COLONIES IN 1735

Author Believed Strong Tie Existed Between the Settlements and the "Mother Country."

Virginia, Maryland, the two Carolinas, Georgia—the Southern sweep of England-in-America—are colonized. They have communication with one another and with middle and northern England-in-America. They also have communication with the motherland over the sea. The greetings of kindred fro over the salt, tumbling waves. But also go mutual criticism and complaint. "Each man," says Goethe, "is tied and misled after a fashion peculiar to himself."

So with these mass persons called countries. Tension would come about, tension would relax, tension would return and increase between Mother England and Daughter America. In all these colonies, in the year with which this narrative closes, there were living children and young persons who would see the cord between broken, would hear read the Declaration of Independence. So—but the true bond could never be broken, for mother and daughter after all are one—Mary Johnston, "The Chronicles of America,"—Christian Science Monitor.

The Spongy Moss of Labrador

There was still plenty to see at Natashquan and I took a long walk, chiefly in stunted spruces and in the bog—the barrens or tundras of Labrador—which occupies so much of the country in the sub-Arctic and Arctic zones. Audubon says in his Journal: "To tread over the spongy moss of Labrador is a task beyond conception until tried; at every step the foot sinks in a deep, soft cushion which closes over it, and it requires a good deal of exertion to pull it up again. Where this moss happens to be over a marsh, then you sink a couple of feet deep every step you take; to reach bare rock is delightful, and quite a relief." In another place he says: "We crossed a swampy bog many miles in extent; in many places the soil seemed to wave under us, and we expected at each step to go through the superficial moss carpet."

These descriptions are very accurate. I should compare the labor to that of walking in deep wet snow.

—Charles Wendell Townsend.

As You Spell, You Reap

A note from the Fellow to the Boss: "Dear sir: I have decided to get another job unless you raise my salary."

The reply: "I have decided to accede to your request and raise your salary, which will allow you to start on your new job right away."—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

A Serial Domestic

Mrs. Uptown—This magazine looks rather the worse for wear. Mrs. Downtown—Yes, it's the one I generally lend to the servant on Sundays.

"Doesn't she get tired of always reading the same one?"

"O, no! You see, it's the same book, but always a different servant."—London Weekly Telegraph.

Porcelain Ware

There is nothing so effective as gasoline to clean porcelain tubs and wash basins. A dry rag dipped in gasoline, then rubbed on the surface, will remove practically any discoloration or stain. Marks which will not come off, after scrubbed with cleaning powders and soaps, vanish like magic at the touch of gasoline.

Discovered Ice Cream

The discoverer of ice cream is certainly entitled to his niche in the Hall of Fame, and it is merely carelessness on the part of the millions, whose palates he tickles, that he is not there. Sambo Johnson, a colored man, made the first ice cream in New York city in the month of August, 1816. He was a pastry cook, and for many years he kept his process a secret. Then some of his rivals learned how he made it and entered into active competition with him. The favoring and coloring were added later by some of these rivals who wanted to take his trade away from Sambo.

NEGROES IN FLORIDA IN 1528

Two Africans Were Members of Narvaez' Expedition of That Year, According to History.

The first record of negro slaves within the present boundaries of the United States is found in an account of the Spanish expedition of Narvaez to Florida in 1528, which included two negroes. But the negro was not in Florida to stay until 1565, when a few landed with Memede's colonists. It is believed the Spaniards had negroes with them in their unfortunate colony of San Miguel de Guadalupe in 1528, which J. J. Shea locates in the neighborhood of Jamestown, Va. H. H. Bancroft, in his "Arizona and New Mexico," makes it clear the negro was a missionary party to that territory. Doubtless the negroes continued in the province until the Spaniards were driven out in 1590. ("Introduction of Negroes Into the United States," by C. A. Stakely, in Magazine of American History, November, 1891).

The Treasurer, owned by the earl of Warwick, and a Dutch vessel brought slaves to Jamestown in 1619. The Treasurer is supposed to be the first slave fitted out in America. The first American-built slave was the ship Debra, a vessel of 120 tons, built at Marblehead in 1636. ("The American Slave Trade," by J. R. Spears.)

NOT ALWAYS EASY TO READ

At Certain Times Robert Louis Stevenson's Manuscript Is Said to Have Been "Weird."

Robert Louis Stevenson's handwriting was fairly legible when he felt well, although when he was not well his scrawl was distinctly weird. In his article on the genesis of "The Master of Ballantrae," he speaks of having been haunted by a story "conceived in Highland rain, in the blend of the smell of heather and bog plants, and with a mind full of the Athole correspondence and the memories of the dullest justice."

Ingenuous surmises have been made as to the meaning of the last words. Sir Graham Balfour now explains, according to the Westminster Gazette, that after many heads had been called into consultation he himself came to the conclusion that it should read "Chevalier de Johnstone." The interpretation may be correct, for in one of Stevenson's papers occurs the combination "brean." The late James Murray of the Oxford dictionary asked Stevenson what it meant. Stevenson replied that it was a misprint for "reacan."

When One Is Rich

Possessions are synonymous with riches. One is rich who has great possessions. But possessions are many and varied. A person may have much money, and be very poor. A person may have little of the goods of this world and yet be rich. Possessions are both material and spiritual. Material riches of themselves can do little. No matter how much money a person has, that money alone cannot accomplish much. Money cannot buy love, friendship, mercy. Money cannot give its owner an amiable temperament, literary taste, or moral worth. Money for individuals collectively can accomplish nothing without mind and soul put with that money. Somebody must furnish these spiritual assets.—Grit.

That Word "Pigeon-English"

To the Chinese we owe the compound word, "pigeon-English," the childish dialect in use at Chinese ports between natives and American and English traders.

The Chinese use the word pigeon or "pidgin" to supply the place of English nouns unknown to them. These ingenious orientals call a concert a "sing-song pidgin" and a conversation a "talk pidgin."

With the increasing intercourse between the Chinese and English speaking persons, and with the progress of education in China, real English is taking the place of the "pidgin" variety. But "pigeon-English" still survives, especially in fiction and on the stage.

Crackers of Various Kinds

There are various curiosities in the way of foreign crackers, or blacuit, as they are sometimes called. It may be remarked, by way of preface, that blacuit is French for "twice cooked," and is etymologically the same as the German zwieback. The Italians make all their crackers in this way, the natives of the United States and in common use with them. Italian bakers save all their old bread and convert it into "blacuit" of this kind. For this reason the bread largely used in Italian and Sicilian restaurants is so made that pieces may be broken from the loaf without making a jagged end.—New York Herald.

Had Human Instinct

Funny thing you hear on the streets. The other day a little negro boy stopped at the Murray Transfer office with a rat in a wire cage. Several men about town were seated there and discussed Mr. Rat prob and con. Finally one of them said, "Bob, why do you suppose that rat sticks his head out through the wires?" "That's easy, said Bob. "He wants to telephone for a lawyer."—Arkansas Thomas Cat.

An Order for One Wife

An English traveler and author is northern. Watigara became interested in a Home for Freed Slaves. Women and children were kept in the institution until they could be otherwise disposed of, which was generally by matrimony, in the case of the women when the author acted as a marriage broker. He says: "A Malassa soldier would come to me with a note from his commander certifying him to be a man of good character and able to support a wife or another wife, as the case might be."

"I then turned over a corner of the note and scribbled: 'To Lady Superintendent, Freed Slaves Home: Please let bearer have one wife!'"

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Principal Events of the Week Briefly Sketched for Information of Our Readers.

Fifty students will graduate from Albany high school in June.

Wasco county during 1921 paid out a total of 2686 in bounties on predatory animals.

Beginning March 1 Klamath county lumber industries will operate on a nine-hour day basis.

The annual meeting and election of officers of the Linn County Jersey Cat club will be held at Albany March 4.

The freight rate between Medford and Central Willamette valley points was recently reduced \$1.60 per ton on cull apples.

For stealing 20 pounds of candy from a box car at Baker, Charles Wilson was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary.

Salem is to have one of the new state and federal industrial schools as soon as the shop can be fitted up for operation.

The California-Oregon Power company has just placed an order with the Gold Hill Cement company for 10,000 barrels of cement.

The first annual Bend poultry show opened in Bend Friday with 50 pens of fowls from Deschutes and Crook counties on exhibit.

A total of 273 new members was obtained during the membership drive conducted by the Josephine County Farm Bureau association.

Ben F. Chambers, aged thirty-five, indicted on a statutory charge, shot himself to death with a bullet through the head at his home in Eugene.

Salem is in the grip of another influenza epidemic, physicians estimating that there are between 500 and 1000 cases of the disease in the city.

French & Co. of The Dalles, the oldest financial institution in eastern Oregon, closed its doors on advice of A. B. Robertson, state bank examiner.

Oregon is the second state in the union in the amount of developed water power. Oregon has 74 plants with a total capacity of 155,215 horsepower.

The central stage terminal at Salem is now handling about 1000 persons daily. Approximately 45 stages arrive and depart from the terminal each 24 hours.

A choral society composed of more than 50 voices and representative of Redmond, Powell Butte, Terrebonne and Lower Bridge, was organized at Redmond.

A total of 3705 cash claims, filed by ex-service men entitled to benefits under the so-called bonus act, have been certified by the world war veterans' state aid commission.

The winter fishing season on the Columbia river closed at noon Wednesday and the catching of salmon will be unlawful until the opening of the spring season at noon on May 1.

A survey of state institutions in Salem to investigate dental care of inmates will be made soon, according to Dr. Clyde Mount, of Oregon City, president of the State Dental association.

A \$200,000 furnace for manufacturing pig iron will be started within the next six weeks upon its property a mile west of Seacappus by the Oregon Charcoal-Iron company, according to announcement.

L. L. Thomas of Marshfield was elected president of the Oregon Retail Merchants' association and Eugene was selected as the next convention city during the annual convention of the association at Roseburg.

An amendment to the interior department appropriation bill offered by Senator McNary providing \$60,000 for a new dormitory at Chemawa Indian school, Salem, was adopted by the state Indian affairs committee.

Representatives of Oregon sportsmen's associations will meet in Portland March 13 to discuss fish and game laws and the preparation of a definite program toward the improvement of hunting conditions in the state.

The Saddle Mountain Logging company and Lewis & Malone logging camps on the line of the Lewis and Clark railroad in Clatsop county resumed operations last week after a shutdown since before the Christmas holidays.

Sixty-two aliens, representing 14 nationalities, took the oath of allegiance to the United States and were granted citizenship at the municipal auditorium before an audience of nearly 3000 citizens in Portland's first public naturalization ceremony.

The attorney-general has advised William S. Levens, district attorney of Baker County, that a county clerk must pay from the general fund of the county treasurer, the bounty provided for in the laws of 1909 and acts amendatory thereof. Also that the county court may or may not, in its discretion, provide funds for payment of the additional bounty authorized in the Oregon laws of 1907, and acts amendatory thereof.

The Southern Pacific company, which sometime ago was ordered by the public service commission to improve its station facilities at Oregon City, has been granted an extension of 90 days.

Information received at Crater national park headquarters in Medford is that there is 9 1/2 feet of snow at the rim of Crater lake and 8 1/2 feet at Anna Spring camp, five miles lower down. This is more snow than there has been in the park for several years.

Assessors from nine Oregon coun-

ties west of the Cascade mountains held a conference in Salem to discuss a more uniform system of taxation. Counties represented at the conference included Benton, Clackamas, Lane, Linn, Marion, Polk, Wasco, Yamhill and Washington.

The \$800,000 highway bond issue voted by Klamath county Thursday carried by a majority of about six to one. J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of schools, has gone to Chicago to attend the annual convention of the department of superintendents of the National Education association.

Establishment of so-called joint rates on hay from east of the mountains through Portland to points west, including Marshfield, Astoria, Salem, Tillamook, Eugene, Albany and other western Oregon cities, will be attempted by the Oregon public service commission, according to announcement made at Salem.

Market conditions, as far as they relate to prunes, will show a marked improvement this year as compared with the past few seasons, according to W. T. Jenks, manager of the Willamette Valley Prune association. He also predicted that the prune crop in the Wallamette valley this season would exceed in quantity that of last year.

Napkins and other linens made from Oregon flax are being exhibited in Salem by Robert Crawford, formerly at the head of the prison flax industry, but at the present time manager of the Willamette Valley Flax & Hemp Growers' association. These articles were manufactured in Belfast, Ireland, from flax gathered in the vicinity of Salem.

The snow and ice on the pavement between Hood River and the Multnomah county line has caused considerable damage to the Columbia river highway, according to J. R. Nielsen, superintendent of maintenance of the road in Hood River county. The pavement has been cracked in spots. Fences have been smashed and walls pushed down.

The postoffice department has announced the following appointments of fourth-class postmasters in Oregon: E. O'Neal-Rickel at Dothan, Douglas county; William E. Evans at Kamela, in Union county; Minnie Gustafson at Reith, in Umatilla county; Minnie Kramer at Top, in Grant county; and Berjon K. Lawson at Wedderburn, in Curry county.

A shaving brush of cheap manufacture, thought to have caused the death by anthrax of Rev. W. J. Bowerman, who died at Albany, has been sent to the laboratories of the state health department at Portland for investigation. These brushes are understood to have been imported from China where they were made of Siberian horsehair or bear bristles.

E. E. Elliott, director of the state board of vocational education, has a deed for 7000 acres of land lying between the Miami and Seloto rivers in Ohio. It was issued by the governor to Archibald Blair, as assignee of James Wood, who was a colonel in the American army during the revolutionary war. The deed was signed in the handwriting of John Adams, president.

There were four fatalities in Oregon due to industrial accidents during the week ending February 23, according to a report prepared by the state industrial accident commission. The victims were Sefano Lopez, laborer, Glendale; George Striemer, feller, Portland; Sam Zamo, fireman, Banks, and A. G. Van Ressen, machine operator, Portland. A total of 354 accidents were reported.

Complete exoneration of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Myers of any fault in connection with reports alleging misconduct in the management of the Oregon employment institution for the blind in Portland and recommending the immediate dismissal of Charles G. Bishop, O. L. Johnson, Ellen Siverson, Charles S. West and Sylvester Mayer, inmates of the school, were the outstanding features of a report submitted to the state board of control by a committee of prominent Portland residents, appointed recently to make a thorough investigation of the institution.

Public Service Commissioner Williams and representatives of the state bridge and highway department, the Southern Pacific company and the county court, met in Roseburg for the purpose of considering the overhead crossings to be built at once on the Pacific highway at Oakland, Sutherlin, Wilbur and Shady Point. Each site was inspected and a hearing then held in Roseburg. The costs of the crossing will be apportioned by the commissioner between the state, county and railroad company.

Mistakes Brains

One of the most curious illustrations of the working of intelligence in plants is offered by the mistletoe, whose sticky berry, finding lodgment on a tree branch, throws out a tiny root, which tries to pierce the bark, and thus obtain a foothold. If the bark is too tough, the rootlet swings the berry over to a fresh spot, and makes another trial. In this way such a berry has been known to make five jumps in two nights and three days. On one occasion a number of them were discovered by a botanist in the act of vainly journeying along a telegraph wire, trying to find a place to grow.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Educated

"Your friend seems rather uncouth. I don't like to leave him alone in the parlor."

"Why not?"