

CENTRAL POINT HERALD

S. A. PATTON, PUBLISHER.

An independent local newspaper devoted to the interests of Central Point and the Rogue River Valley. Published Every Thursday. Subscription price, \$1.50 per year, in advance.

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LOOKING AT THINGS BACKWARD.

If somebody should set the fashion of reading letters backward by their reflection in the mirror, in a few generations we should all take it up and regard it as quite the correct and proper thing to do, either smiling tolerantly at those ill-advised persons who were content to take their letters in their hands and read them, or else we might—who knows—ostracise them for being "queer."

We are reversing things just as directly as that, and we are expending lots of time and lots of heartache and nerve strain in our attempt to interpret things that way which are in reality as simple as the letter you have in your hand that your chum or brother or sweetheart sent you last week, and we think people queer and uncomfortable and fanatical and hysterical when they insist on the straight way of looking at things.

"For instance," do you ask? Yes, certainly: In our sister city of Salem last Friday night a respected citizen was shot and seriously wounded by a footpad. We are told that "the shooting has created intense excitement and citizens are declaring that every man who has no honorable means of livelihood shall be driven out of the city."

Here's a sure enough case of reversing the writing, and trying to decipher it in the mirror of our old, broken-down notions of human nature and public policy.

Read the message this incident conveys, straight, with common sense and a desire to be fair to the public and you couldn't possibly come to the conclusion that matters would be helped one bit by driving out "all men who have no means of livelihood," because every other city on the Coast is doing the same thing and we have that way a steady procession of vagrants moving from place to place.

"All men who have no means of livelihood." I wish you'd put away the mirror in which you've been trying to read this economic puzzle and look at it direct to see what you can make of it.

Do you suppose men like to be "without means of livelihood?" Would you like to be "without means of livelihood?" How would you feel to be adrift in this year 1908 with no money, nothing wherewithal to get food or warmth or shelter? If you have always been surrounded with all the comforts demanded by our physical bodies for their civilized well being, unless you are very sensitively organized and therefore able through your imagination to feel the pain of another which you have not directly experienced, you can't begin to imagine the misery of that situation.

When men find themselves in that plight they act under the pressure of it differently, according to their temperament. The bold and daring man will fight for his "livelihood," will rob and even murder for it, just as human beings have done in all ages; if he has been brought up to respect "law and order" and to accept the present state of things as ordained of God and hasn't the spirit of the primitive man in him, he will appeal to the associated charities and shiver and starve quietly until he has been investigated and declared "worthy" of being warmed and fed—a fashion. If he is

proud and sensitive and will not stoop to murder or steal nor to what is equally humiliating to him—asking for bread and shelter, he will quietly blow his brains out or starve to death in silence as such people are doing in this country all the time. That's what it means to be "without the means of livelihood," and though the first thought of all of us is to provide for ourselves "the means of livelihood," when we find a lot of people who have not, because of one disability or another, been able to do that, we treat them, not like human beings in trouble, but as criminals to be hunted and driven from place to place.

Isn't that a fair statement of the case? That is just the way people used to treat the insane before they grew wise and kind enough to know that insane persons were entitled to their sympathy and their help.

If we were reading the condition of those "without the means of livelihood" straight from our hearts and our brains instead of from this trick mirror we've been trusting blindly so long, we'd first inquire as to why these people had no "means of livelihood" and then, if we were going to be suspicious of anybody it would be those who are segregating and keeping the "means of livelihood" from thousands of others under their own selfish individual claim to property and privilege.

Another thing: The work one man can perform is an economic or commercial asset. Is Salem so rich that she can afford to drive from her streets all this potential wealth? Wouldn't it be better business, leaving out of the count common humanity and the new thought about the so-called criminal and vagrant classes—wouldn't it be better business for the City of Salem, or any other city with this problem to solve, to provide a means of livelihood for every man in it who would work at fair pay under moderately decent conditions? By this means the ones who were willing to work would be eliminated from the problem without being subjected to all the harshness and severity they would receive if driven out of the town as if they were professional criminals, and so, more likely than not, forced to become preys upon a society that has been neither sensible nor just in its treatment of them, those "without means of livelihood" are lost to the community they could have enriched, and deprived of the joy and happiness of life which God meant each one of us to have.—Eleanor F. Baldwin in Portland Telegram.

"The People" of Morocco.

No doubt but the European powers can fix up the Morocco business between themselves and keep the official Moor quiet by means of bribery and threat. The people of Morocco, however, will not be more quiet under Sultan Mulai Hafid, backed by Germany, than they have been under Abdul Aziz, backed by France and Spain. What the Moors have complained of all along are the concessions made by their legitimate ruler to foreigners, who, to their minds, are infidels and not to be tolerated.

When France got the upper hand in Morocco through the consent of the powers Mulai Hafid stirred up the fanatical Mohammedans to object to the intrusion of Europeans into the interior of the country. Without penetrating into the interior France could not keep order in Morocco. Even when the ruling sultan, Abdul Aziz, consented the Moors repudiated his acts. And the first thing required of the new sultan, Mulai Hafid, by the powers which connive at his usurpation is that he confirm all the agreements made with foreigners by his predecessor. If he falls Europe will depose him by force. If he yields his late followers will turn from him, as they did from his hapless brother, and rally to the banner of some new fanatic.

For some reason Lieutenant Peary's dash for the pole attracts very little attention here in the United States, and scant notice has been taken of the British scientific expedition at work in the antarctic regions in quest of geographical knowledge. Peary's effort is the more spectacular, and only time can tell which of the two adventures proves most useful to man.

Good Exit. "I got Cleveland's autograph," said the friend, "by addressing to him a little ole on his splendid work in the White House anent the Russo-Japanese war—or was it something else? At any rate, I shall never forget my delight when, by return mail, Mr. Cleveland wrote: "Dear Sir—I have read your verses with interest. They appear to me very deficient in sense and substance."

"I sent a sonnet of sympathy to Bernard Shaw on the failure of his play, 'His House in Order,' or some such title. Mr. Shaw replied on a post card as follows: "Thank you very much for your sonnet, which seems at least sincere."

"I once ventured to address a rondeau to Ellen Terry. In it I praised her beauty passionately. Miss Terry sent me a long and interesting note of acknowledgment, in the course of which she said: "I noticed many faults and weaknesses in your rondeau, which, however, made me laugh heartily."—Exchange.

At Last. Mrs. Silas Bennett was a philosopher. On a certain dismal occasion some of the neighboring women were condoling with her. With commendable cheerfulness she replied: "I've raised four girls an' three boys, expectin' every time they'd be twins and red headed like their Grandpa Bennett, an' yet they ain't."

"An' I've worried consid'ble over smallpox breakin' out in my big family. So fer 'tain't."

"Last summer durin' July an' August an' mebbe part of September I was real melon-holic, fearin' I'd got an appendix, but I guess I ain't."

"An' though it all it never once occurred to me that I'd be the one to fall through them rotten old meetin' house steps an' break my leg in two places, but I be."

In Extremis. Late one night a clergyman was called out to minister to an old man—a worker upon the adjacent railway—who was supposed to be dying. The summons was brought by another old man, the elder brother of the stricken one. While he was bustling about, making preparations for departure, the clergyman forgot momentarily the social status of his visitor and asked, "Is he in extremis?"

The old man was not going to be beaten. "Aye, he's right in, your reverence." After a pause he added as a clincher: "Clean in, poor chap. Right up to the neck, sir."—Cornhill Magazine.

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He Had Been There. Rodrick—Howdy, old man? We are going on a camping trip soon. Did you ever enjoy a camping trip where you had to do your own cooking and sleep beneath the stars? Van Albert—Nope, Rodrick—What? Do you mean to say you have never been on a camping trip? Van Albert—No. I mean to say that I never enjoyed one.—Chicago News.

Hospitality. Mamma—Tommy, I see you took two pieces of cake instead of one, as I told you. Why did you do that? Tommy—Well, mamma, I was playing that another little boy was visiting me, and I knew you wouldn't mind me giving him a piece.—Chicago News.

Learning Early. A Sunday school teacher had been telling her class the story of the good Samaritan. When she asked them what the story meant a little boy said, "It means that when I am in trouble my neighbors must help me."—Universalist Leader.

Won't Figures Lie? Mrs. Hoyle—I am just twenty-three. Mrs. Doyle—I don't see how you figure it. You were twenty-two when you had your black silk, and you haven't had a new dress for ten years.—New York Press.

He Crowded Too Soon. She—You'll be glad to learn, dear, that I've got out of visiting our relatives. He—Grand! Splendid! It hung over me like a cloud. How did you manage it? She—Oh, I asked them here!

Even though the Alamo mission house must eventually disappear like all of man's handiwork, the name and the heroism it recalls will be perpetuated by the Alamo National forest, recently so christened.

In spite of the uplift white civilization has carried into the African jungle, its denizens will surely go wild at the sight of the big stick.

When the "step lively" man took off his coat for the political campaign General Apathy commenced to go some.

True to Her Training. "Where was the new star discovered?" asked one dramatic critic of another. "In a laundry," was the reply. "Ah, well, she can't forget her old calling. She's mangling the part."

HEATING STOVES THAT HEAT.

Cole's Airtight and the Great Western are our leaders in Heating Stoves for this season but we also carry other favorite makes, all good values for the money, in many styles and at prices ranging from

\$2.60 to \$14.00,

Our stock of Shelf Hardware Builders' Supplies, Mechanics' Tools, Sportsmen's Goods Etc., is complete. Call and see us.

W. C. LEEVER, THE HARDWARE MAN.

Bricklaying, Fluebuilding, Painting and Carpenter Work. All Work Guaranteed.

H. W. SMITH Leave orders at this office.

TO THE LADIES.

Have you seen the Aiorine Female Syringe? It is something new. It is the only absolutely scientific, sanitary ladies' syringe made. See them at Mary A. Mee's drug store. 2744

FINAL NOTICE.

In the County Court of Oregon for Jackson County. In the matter of the estate of Maria M. Wright, deceased. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned executor of the above entitled estate has filed in the said court his final account as executor of said estate, and the said court by order made November 12, 1908, has fixed Monday, December 21, 1908, at 10 o'clock A. M. of said day as the time for the hearing of said final account. All persons interested are therewith notified to make or file their objections, in said court, on or before said time, if any they have, to said final account. A. J. HANBY, Executor of the estate of Maria M. Wright.

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