

CENTRAL POINT HERALD

S. A. PATTISON, 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.

Entered as Second-class Matter, May 4, 1906, at the Post Office at Central Point, Oregon, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

"5,000 IN 1912"

A GREAT CHURCH CELEBRATION.

This month in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, the members of the Christian or Disciple church to the number of many thousands from all parts of the world will gather to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the denomination by Bishop Alexander Campbell.

At a point on Brush run, in the western part of Washington county, Penn., the first converts of the new faith were baptised and the new denomination had its humble beginning. Later Bethany college was founded at Bethany, West Va., only a few miles from the spot where the church was founded. The college has for years been one of the most popular institutions of its kind in that section of country and in the little cemetery of the village repose the remains of Bishop Campbell and also those of his father who was also a minister.

The Campbells came from Scotland and the bishop was a grandson of Thomas Campbell the poet who wrote "The Battle of Hohenlinden," "The Fall of Poland," and other poems of considerable popularity. The Campbells were also Presbyterians when they came to America but they became involved in a dispute with the hair splitting theologians who dominated that church in Western Pennsylvania in those early days and either their names were dropped from the church rolls or they refused to make certain acknowledgements as to their belief and voluntarily left the old Scotch church and soon after founded the Christian church which has grown to be a body of more than 1,000,000 members.

The new denomination soon became popular in the south and west and it is today one of the leading denominations in that vast portion of the United States. The Christians have a strong church organization in Central Point.

The recently published statement of a prominent New York physician that all operations for the removal of the appendix should be considered criminal because of the large percentage of deaths that follow the operation, recall the story of the Eastern Oregon man who was subjected to fits. The man was attacked by appendicitis and was taken to a hospital and underwent a successful operation. Some time later he was in a strange way while on a walk with a fit and fell upon the sidewalk. A young sawbones rushed to the rescue and at once diagnosed the case as appendicitis. The patient was taken to a hospital and his interior department again invaded. After that the fellow had the following stamped on his undershirt: "Am subject to fits; don't operate; appendix has been removed."

Any sparsely settled road district in Oregon can get good roads now by simply voting in December on the initiative of ten percent of its citizens such funds as may be required. The cash can come from the absentee land speculator and the residents can get their money back in warrants for work. The roads will raise and values permanently, and the old tracts can be made to pay their share by a little acting together. —Pacific Outlook.

Balloons In Warfare.

Effective shell fire directed upon a Moorish camp at Melilla by Spanish artillerists by means of intelligence secured in a captive balloon is an up to date proof of the possibilities of aerial scouting. During the civil war the balloon was tested in the Army of the Potomac for nearly two years and then abandoned. That it was a mistake to throw aside this novel adjunct of scouting has since been shown by the admissions of a Confederate signal expert in the force confronting the Army of the Potomac at the time. He says that the balloon of Professor Lowe caused annoyance in Lee's camps and resulted in numerous delays of movements by roundabout marches in order to escape the vigilance of the Yankee aeronaut.

Professor Lowe's ascensions were always made with a captive balloon. Once, with General Fitz-John Porter in the basket, it broke loose and carried the general over the Confederate lines, but a shifting wind turned the course homeward again. Had he drifted to a Confederate prison instead probably his tragic experiences at second Bull Run would have been avoided. Confederate marksmen often aimed at Lowe's balloon and its cable, but wasted their shots. It went out of commission in 1863 only because the aeronaut and the military men could not pull together. The Confederates made a balloon out of silk dresses contributed by women, but in an attempt to tow it on James river the vessel stranded and the Federals captured the bag of many colors, ending its career. As the Wright army aeroplanes are to be used by army men, the professional friction of 1862-3 will not be repeated. —GEORGE L. KILMER.

The sideshows of the big Hudson-Fulton show will be of absorbing interest and long remembered, the exhibits in museums and libraries, pictures, books, maps and records furnishing a complete course in American history.

It is all a pointer to the man who does the trick one of these days to go after the south pole with a band wagon or something just as good.

A colored man has "hung one" on the north pole, so Jack Johnson's stunt wasn't much, after all.

The ambitions of a lot of arctic explorers seem to have disappeared in Sympson's hole.

Somehow those north pole breezes gave September a very warm spell.

Gompers and Opportunism.

The triumph of the opportunist wing of the Social Democratic party of Germany has made socialism a more formidable political force in that country. The doctrinaires, or radicals, who had been in control, would take nothing unless they could get the full Socialist program. The new attitude will be to compromise, to form coalitions and to take a half loaf or even a single slice if the whole loaf is not within reach. This is known as the step at a time method or as opportunism. It has been adopted with some effect in France and by the John Burns wing of the labor party in England.

The new order calls to mind the recent uproar raised in the international trades union congress over Samuel Gompers and the American Federation of Labor. The socialistic element of the international body objected to Gompers because of this very opportunism which he has always upheld. Gompers has continuously refused to allow socialism to be introduced into the demands of the American federation and in his campaign for organized labor has followed the step at a time method. The result in Germany has vindicated the American attitude. When the Socialist element, which is quite strong in most European countries and has some strength here, decides permanently to go into the fight for whatever it can get it may become a force to be reckoned with.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson says meat is dear because the laborer eats it three times a day and insists upon the "best cuts." The best cuts that come to the average laborer's table are the best from the cross rib, round and chuck.

There is a happiness society in New York that costs only 25 cents a year dues. Anybody who wants a quarter's worth of happiness will doubtless invest, although some persons will still prefer theirs in liquid form.

It takes a brave astronomer to say that Mars isn't fit to live on when the red planet is right up there peering and peering listening.

When six-months-president Taft meets thirty-two-years-president Diaz will he feel like saying, "Me too?"

The discovery of the northern extremity of the world will set all the polar explorers going south.

Rediscoverers of Halley's comet also, rise to remark, "I saw it first."

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THE MAN OF ONE IDEA

By B. WINTHROP JONES.
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One morning about fifty years ago a tall man with a black beard, his head bent in thought, sauntered along the bank of a creek in Pennsylvania. An idea had got into his brain, and he could not get it out.

The man of one idea stopped beside a trench and watched people placing blankets on the water it contained, then taking them up and wringing them over tubs. This was the early method used in gathering petroleum. The oil exuded from the soil and when collected in the trenches, being lighter than water, rose to the surface, from which it was either absorbed by the blankets or skimmed in dippers. The process had been borrowed from the Indians, who used petroleum for liniment.

The man watching the work had seen it often before. Whence came this oil? A vision of a great oil lake lying below the stratum of rock covered by the soil from which the petroleum exuded filled his mind. And why did it come up through the soil? Because of pressure. There was not room for the oil lake in its rock prison, and it was striving to get out.

Then came the thought, if he could bore a hole in the rock the oil would burst forth as water from a hydrant. One morning in the spring of 1857 the man of one idea started from New Haven, Conn., for the banks of Oil creek, Pennsylvania, with a thousand dollars in his pocket, furnished by backers, to be used in drilling that hole. With it he bought an engine and hired an experienced driller. The engine was long in coming, and the driller, convinced that his employer was a crank, finally refused to stand by him. The summer wore away, the money was expended, and the enthusiast's backers, losing faith in him, declined to furnish more funds.

Those who were collecting oil in blankets and skimming it from the surface of water went on with their work regardless of the man of one idea. The people living on Oil creek, passing day after day his uncompleted preparations, considered him a monomaniac—a man who wished to bore down into the earth to find a lake of oil. What more absurd idea had ever got into the brain of man? The stories of Munchausen were no more improbable. The children in the streets jeered him, and their parents tapped their foreheads as he passed.

The winter came on, and the man of one idea found himself facing poverty. His funds both for the purposes of working out his dream and for supporting his family were exhausted. His children needed food and clothing, but shopkeepers declined to give cred-

it to one who was looking for a petroleum lake in the bowels of the earth.

A year passed, during which not a ray of hope came to the man of one idea. Then in the spring of 1859 he succeeded in infecting two others with his delusion, and they provided him with new capital with which to continue his boring. He secured the services of a practical salt driller and his two sons, who possessed a complete outfit of tools to be used in the work.

No sooner had they begun to drill than through the porous soil water poured into their well, filling it with mud and interfering with their work. The drill ceased to bore, but the brain of the man of one idea worked on. He must invent some method of preserving his well. Various experiments he tried failed. Then, securing some cast iron piping, he drove it into the ground that he might bore within it. That it was of cast rather than wrought iron indicates the man's pinched resources. It would not stand the blows necessary to drive it into the soil. After more delay better piping was secured and a section driven in. It stood the hammering, and, another section having been welded to it, this was also pounded down successfully. Thus some sixty feet of piping was introduced and bedrock reached.

The obstacle having been removed, the drill was set to work. The man was nearing the attainment of his idea. He drilled but two days when the bit struck a crevice, and, being withdrawn, it was found to be smeared with oil. This was on Saturday night, and operations were suspended to be recommenced the following Monday.

The chief driller, who lived in a shanty near the well, early Sunday morning went on an errand to the derrick house. There he saw a sight that told the story of his employer's success. The oil was bubbling over the piping, running over the floor of the derrick and thence into the ground. The first idea that entered the mind of the discoverer was that a fluid then worth a dollar a gallon was running to waste. Having arranged for catching the flow, he went and announced his discovery to the man of one idea.

And what did this oozing of oil through an iron pipe inserted beneath the rock mean? It meant that a new source of wealth had been opened to the people of the earth destined to produce thousands of millions of dollars, to give light and heat to myriads of people, to be manufactured into unlimited products.

This man of one idea, who drilled the first oil well in Pennsylvania, was Edward L. Drake. A handsome tomb in Woodlawn cemetery, in Titusville, marks his last resting place.

Aeroplanes make records only to break them and even make new ones at breaking themselves.

You may not see the connecting link between the cool day and the cooler feman, but 't's there.

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