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PHONE 96

ALBANY, OREGON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

THE MATRIMONIAL BALANCE SHEET

One of the big cities, casting accounts on New Year's day, was much pleased with its matrimonial showing—until it observed the debit side of the sheet. The credit side showed 10,035 marriage licenses for the year, a clean gain of 25 per cent over the previous year. But against these figures had to be set 3,389 divorce petitions.

It is surely something to think about when for every three couples who went to be married there is one couple wanting a divorce. More disquieting than this three-to-one ratio is the fact that the divorce applications showed a gain of 40 per cent over the previous year. At this rate, in a few years, there might be as many divorces as marriages.

The year 1919 was probably exceptional with regard to divorce, as in many other aspects. Large numbers of these divorce petitions were based on accusations of unfaithfulness on the part of "war brides" to the bonds they had assumed impulsively, under the stress of abnormal emotion. Moreover, a great deal of the marital trouble represented in those petitions was doubtless a phase of the general unrest and discontent that has prevailed during the past year. When government, business and industry are upset, it would be surprising if the currents of domestic life flowed as smoothly as usual. Still, after making all due allowances, it is hard to find any ground for satisfaction in the matrimonial record of that city or any other city.

One source of hope suggests itself. Since 1920 is a leap year, and since feminine self-confidence is strengthened by the war experience and is about to be strengthened still more by full suffrage rights, perhaps the women will proceed to take the leading part in forming matrimonial partnerships instead of leaving it to the men. Then the partnerships may work better.

HIPPOLOGY

Harvard College is giving a course in "hippology," which has to do with the anatomy of the horse, his points, types, diseases, etc. Along with this theoretical course there is a course in "equation," teaching the practical handling and care of horses. Thus class-room and stable are combined, and equine science is associated with ability to ride horseback without falling off, or harness a horse without getting the collar on the wrong end of the animal or being kicked to death in the process.

Many a farmer with a son in college will rise up and rejoice that the colleges are "getting around at last to something sensible." Many other people will wonder that such instruction as this should be undertaken at a time when the usefulness of the horse seems almost at an end, and some will suggest that a course in gas engines would be more practical.

The college authorities, however, maintain that the horse is still a big economic factor, and also a big military factor. It is the latter fact that provides the chief reason for this academic innovation. Horses are used, and will long be used, say army men, for the traction of artillery in the field, and instruction in handling them is "quite as essential as a knowledge of guns." The Harvard teaching is therefore made a feature of the Department of Military Science. It is also connected with the new Harvard policy of compulsory physical training for freshmen, and certainly has its advantages for that purpose. If college boys are like other boys, they would rather exercise with horses than with lifeless dumb-bells.

Comment of the State Press

Snappy Gleanings from the Press of the Valley

As To Nuts—

The government has promised Senator McNary to make a nut survey of Oregon. Starting with the father of them all, Mr. U'Ren, and coming on down to the father of the cigarette bill there ought to be a stupendous array. Bro. Ingalls of Corvallis declares.

"No Occupation"—

The census bureau so it seems, has classified married women with perfectly good husbands and large flocks of children to watch over and care for, as persons having no occupation. There must be a spinster in charge of the classification department of the bureau, the Portland Journal thinks.

Law Abiding!—

Individual members of the I. W. W. practice sabotage, but not with the sanction of the organization, testifies an I. W. W. on trial at Spokane. Sure, agrees the Register, everyone knows the organization is as pure as a lily.

They Would Knife It—

Treaty foes in the senate want to change Article 10 of the league covenant so that it will not be binding, morally or otherwise, on the United States. But a league that is not binding, morally or otherwise, upon anyone is not worth having, points out the Pendleton East Oregonian. It would be a house without nails and would be valuable only when it did not rain or blow or snow.

Optimism—

Nineteen-twenty came in all sunshine and smiles. It is a good omen for the future, says the Yaquina News encouragingly.

Demand for Lands Being Felt—

Coos county is due to experience a settlement boom, the demand for acreage being felt on every hand, notes the Coos Bay Harbor. Purchasers and dairymen are looking upon Coos county with great favor, particularly so when it is become known that one dollar a day is the minimum expected from any Coos county cow.

A Chance for Lurid Adjectives—

The Bandon World carried an excellently written account of the wreck of the J. S. Chanslor. The details which many papers overlooked or were unable to obtain, were vividly described.

Prunarians to Accept Cherrian Invitation

Nearly 40 members of the Prunarians pledged themselves to accept the invitation of the Cherrians of Salem to attend the dinner dance given in honor of King Bing on January 6, says the Vancouver Columbian. Secretary Dunbar of the Prunarians, was instructed to ascertain if a special car could be obtained so that the members of the local organization could return to Vancouver the same evening.

Most of those who signified their intention of attending made reservations for their wives.

All members will be in uniform, and those who do not attend will be assessed a fine of one round dollar.

Negro Ex-Soldiers Lynched

NEW YORK—Nine negro ex-soldiers were lynched in the United States during 1919, according to a statement issued by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Today's Calendar of Sports

Racing
Winter meeting of Cuba-American Jockey Club, at Havana.
Trotting
Annual meeting of stewards of the Bay State Circuit, at Worcester.
Automobile
Annual meeting of Society of Automotive Engineers, at New York.
Athletics
War Camp Community Service indoor meet, at Atlanta, Ga.
Boxing
Marty Cross vs. Young Fisher, 10 rounds, at Syracuse.

Sporting Notes

Party who offered \$70,000 for Roger Hornsby will have to raise the ante. Who ever heard of a big league team selling for that price.

Hegewisch, Ill., is out. Battling Nelson is to leave the old town flat and make his future home in California.

The ancient New Year's resolution to hold out for big money has doubtless been made by some of our well-known big league pastimers.

Heavyweight Frank Moran, inventor and sole owner of the Mary Ann punch, will probably meet Harry Greb at Boston early in January.

The Yale hockey team has undertaken "some" job in agreeing to play four games within five days on the Canadian tour. The Canadians are wizards at the ice game.

Clay Turner, the Indian boxer, was going like his ancestors on the war path, until he met Harry Greb. The Pittsburgher's wallops took a lot of pep out of the Red Man.

Of Interest To Women

In Quebec women are still denied the privilege of practicing law.

Women have been granted municipal suffrage in fourteen towns of Florida.

In the early seventies girls were employed as pages in both houses of the Kansas legislature.

The women of Spain are generally credited with being the best dancers of any women in the world.

Hair-dyes are unknown among Chinese women, as their hair is uniformly black, becoming grey only in extreme old age.

Fifty years ago Rev. Phoebe Hanford was chaplain of the Connecticut legislature, the first woman to serve in such a capacity.

Count Lepold Ferri, of Padua, had a library consisting of thirty-two thousand volumes, a lot of them the works of female authors.

Baby Left on Door Step in Satchel

STOCKTON, Cal.—A three-weeks' old baby boy was left by an unidentified person on the doorstep of the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Bacon last night.

The couple found the baby at the door in a leather bag and have decided to keep the infant.

Women to Wear Less; Modes Abbreviated

NEW YORK—The cost of women's clothes may be reduced considerably because there will be considerable less of them if the predictions of a fashionable Fifth avenue mail milliner and dressmaker who arrived from Paris today are correct.

The latest modes France is sending to the United States, he says, are: No stockings, extremely short skirts, no sleeves, and sandals.

COUNTY FAIRS ARE TO BE WORTH MORE

County Agent Leader Maris Tells How Fairs Can be Fully Utilized

Plans for making county fairs and stock shows of greater educational value are being made by Paul V. Maris, setate county agent leader. Mr. Maris discussed the situation at the Pacific International Livestock exhibition recently, and is hopeful of improvement along these lines.

"We believe there is a great opportunity for increasing the educational value of the county fairs and small stock shows in support of which the counties and state spends thousands of dollars each year," said Mr. Maris. "Special feature shows such as the Union Stock show, Dufur Colt show, Deschutes County Potato show, and numerous corn shows prove conclusively that carnivals, wild west features, horse and automobile racing are not necessary to draw crowds. These events are, however, overshadowing the educational features of the county fairs.

Proper Labeling Vital

"We should get the fairs out of some of their bad habits, or rely more exclusively on the special feature shows. Proper labeling of livestock and products on exhibit, and making more of a feature of the judge's reasons for awards are needed reforms. The casual observer who looks at the yearling shorthorn heifer now often thinks that he is looking at a mature cow. If the shows are to mean something to those who are not already somewhat professional in livestock breeding, greater consideration must be given to those who go to the fair to learn."

Sheep For Sale

I have 800 head of good young stock ewes. These ewes are all healthy and in good condition. Will sell any number from 10 head up. Now if you haven't got the money that doesn't make any difference, if you have plenty of feed to carry them. I will let you have them at \$15 per head, payable the first of October, 1920. These ewes ought to pay for themselves under ordinary luck, the first year.

V. J. PHILIPPI,
Scio, Oregon.

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