# The Spray Courier.

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# EDITORIALS

**Greene On The Willamette.**

Had you ever thot that your first impressions of a strange place are hard to erase? After living in Eastern Oregon for several years and listening to the rainy stories about the Valley, what do you think was the first thing I expecsed to get when I got here? Well sir, I firmly believed I would get wet first; but instead of rain I have enjoyed a welth of glorious sunshine.

The scene from Portland Hights is majestic as well as awe-inspiring. Looking from this elevation one can see part of seven Counties in Oregon and three in Washington, including thousands of square miles of land as well as several cities. Leaving the Hights to revel in the morning sunshine I visit the busy center of the city. As I buoyantly made my way down Broadway I could look out over my neighbors and see the seething mass of humanity pushing its way to and fro thru the ever-changing panorama. To me it seemed that my way was blocked and that I would have to slow down until the crowd subsided: but as I approached the people seemed to separate like the divided kingdoms of old, either from [illegible] to go straight ahead or out of mere curiosity to peek at me from a greater distance. This is what the world calls the Rose City and I think perhaps the world is right for I "rose" several stories and a-rose early next morning.

But I find Salem to be the more suitable place for me. Even the sidewalks are wide enough for Dr. Epley and myself to pass courteously. I visited the State Capitol to-day; and as I walked thru the "yard" I wondered where they got so much [illegible]. Surely Columbus never dre[illegible] there was so much. I also [illegible] to my surprise, that I could enter the building erec[illegible]

To me the willamette Valley will always present a bright picture in which magnificent buildings and trees are gloriously entwined with golden sunbeams.

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**WASHINGTON LETTER.**

President Wilson plans to have another week of partial recreation. in which visitors will be scarce. Most of the time will be given to the European situation and conditions in the far east, where China is struggling to resist the demands of Japan.

Both the White House and the State Department have maintasned inscrutable silence concerning the Japanese situation ever since the original demands were sent to China more than three months ago. The President and Secretary Bryan have repeatedly refused to discuss the situation or its possible effects upon the present relation between this country and Japan. In spite of this silence. it is known that officials of the administration have been greatly perturbed at the attitude of the Mikado and his ministrs becuse of their attempts to appropriate a slice of China while the attention of the world has been rivited on Europe.

The President has already intimated to Chins that she must relinquish nothing to Japan which would contravene American treaties or American interests in the slumbering republic. At the same time Japan has been notified that this govenment will not approve her proposed aggrssions. In spite of attempt which have been circulated from Japanese source to prove that the United States is not opposed to Japans present eastern policy, it is known that the American administration is greatly irritated at the presistent manner in which the Mikado has been attempting to force his demands on China at the end of bayonts while most of her protectors are busy at war.

In the political gossip about presidential candidates Wilson's strength seems to be in the satisfaction felt by the people regarding his conduct of American relations with Europe. When contemptating the awful horrors of the European war, the American people are satisfied to know that American boys are not being killed off as is being done in Europe. The same feeling tends to soften Public resentment against the administration's Mexican policy. Everybody agrees that something should be done in Mexico, but no one seems to be in favor of sending Americans there to be killed Hence, President Wilson gets the crdit for having kept the United States out of war.

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Potland, Oregon, May 4, 1915 The Chamber of Commerce is planning a vast campaign for cooperative work for the development of the state, amongst the commercial organizations of Oregon, The parent body, the Portland Chamber of commerce, is to work in harmony with the small commercial clubs in order to get better cooperation between the large organizations in the country and the smaller ones. An employee of the Chamber of Commerce will be at the disposial of the various commercial clubs and chambers of commerce of Oregon to aid them in their work, to help outline their plans for a more efficient organization, to secure personal cooperation amongst the members of the organizations, and to aid them in their [illegible] difficulties by publicity methods. This is bound to bring about a new feeling between the members and their own organization for the benefit of work [illegible] together here would warrant further upbuilding of the state of Oregon.

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A British [illegible] com[illegible] New York who [illegible] British [illegible] asking [illegible] who are [illegible] they will place the orders [illegible] such things as are [illegible] men in the [illegible] American manufacturers, [illegible] keeping the money [illegible] ected for this purpose at [illegible]

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Some college proffessors really have practical ideas which is quite remarkable, considering the circumstances that they have seen inside of a school atmosphere from the time they wera six months old.—Oregon Voter.

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Some men would rather be criticised than not noticed.

## PATCHING IN PUBLIC.

**Street Sewers In China Mend Torn Garments While You Wait.**

In many towns of China one may have his garments mended on the street and "while he waits." Native sewing women are to be seen on low stools perhaps on the sidewalks mending articles of masculine attire.

The accomplishments of these street seamstresses are somewhat limited, their efforts with the needle being for the most part confined to "running." Other branches of needlework are practically unknown to them. As a consequence their efforts are better appreciated by native workmen than by foreign travelers.

They are never short of patrons among the former, for these are often natives of other districts and, having come to the city to engage in business, have no one to mend a rent for them. Their wives being left at home, they are glad to avail themselves of the services of the street needlewomen. For this class of customers the skill of the itinerant sewing women answers every purpose.

Generally speaking, these women are wives of boatmen and laborers who live in the houseboats which line the creeks of many Chinese cities and towns, and their needles are a great help toward the solution of the problem of maintenance in a crowded city or town.—Washington Star.

## ELECTRIC LIGHTED MINES.

**Where Modern Methods Have Driven Out the Safety Lamp.**

In some of the more progressive and larger mines, the miner's lamp has become a thing of the past. In its stead the dark passages and work chambers are illuminated by electricity. The mines are wired and lighted with all the luxurious effectiveness of the modern home. Besides making their underground employment less oppressive to the miners, the illuminated mine offers considerable advantage in the way of better work and less exposure to danger.

With motor operated coal cars, a telephone system and instruments for the detection of gas danger, the up to date mine is decidedly a more pleasurable place to work in than of old. In order to make the lighting more thorough the walls of the permanent passages, of the offices, of the entries and, where mules are used, of the mule stables, are frequently whitewashed. Only tungsten filament lamps are used. Weather proof enameled reflectors are employed for the distribution of light.

The problem of lighting the mines, however, is difficult, presenting all the conditions which the illuminating engineer looks upon with disfavor—low black ceilings, black walls, dust, smoke and dampness.—Chicago News.

**Baseball Slang Beaten.**

Baseball fans are slangy in their baseball talk. Their slang is picturesque and finely descriptive, but for real unadulterated slang you must give the trapshooters the palm. Listen to this from a well known gunner:

"Yes, sir, I toed the firing line, put the iron to my shoulder, drew a humdinger from the box and killed it. The second saucer was a lazy boy, flying straight away, but I went to sleep and the pigeon nested in the grass. The next mud pie sailed to left quarter, but the old pea shooter simply knocked the fuzz off. The fourth dicky bird was smothered as soon as it was hatched. Then a cripple fluttered out and died. Next came a right wheeling streaker, and I pulverized it."

**Fair Warning.**

A farmer engaged Pat to mow a small field of hay, and on giving him a new scythe told him it was such a good one that he need only put the point of it in the hay and it would cut by itself. Pat set off to his work, and about midday, when the farmer came to see how Pat was getting on, he found him sitting in a corner of the field with one end of the scythe in the hay. This so enraged the farmer that he went for Pat, who, on seeing him, immediately shouted:

"Keep back, keep back! Ye don't know the minute she's going to start!" —Exchange.

**United States Laws.**

An act when passed by both houses of congress and signed by the president becomes a law. If at any time thereafter questions of its constitutionality arise the matter is settled by the supreme court. The court has more than once declared acts of congress unconstitutional, as, for instance, the "civil rights" bill.—New York American.

**After the Assay.**

"I understand you got several hundred wedding gifts."

"We did. At first I thought I'd have to hire a safe deposit vault, but after going over the stuff we simply stored 'em in a barrel in the cellar."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

**The Only Chance.**

"Hurry, George, or we will be late to the picture show."

"Oh, we don't want to get there before it starts."

"Yes, we do, too—if we don't I can't see what the other women are wearing."—Exchange.

**Pa's Definition.**

L'enfant—Father, what is a "sepulchral" tone of voice? La Pere—That means to speak gravely.—Dartmouth Jack-o'-Lantern.

A hopeless man is deserted by himself, and he who deserts himself is soon deserted by his friends.

## GERMS IN THE MOUTH.

**Using Paper as a Toothpick Is a Dangerous Practice.**

One of the most dangerous little tricks that men and women do is to take a bit of paper, torn from an envelope or newspaper, and try to run it between the teeth to remove some little particle of food that the tongue feels. If you want to be sure of trouble with your gums continue this practice, and sooner or later—rather sooner than later—you will secure a splendid case of infection of the gums that will send you to the dentist in a hurry, and may cause more than one sleepless night.

The bit of paper used in this way, introduced edgewise between the teeth, is worse than any toothpick, or other instrument, for many reasons. In the first place the sharp edge of the paper is most apt to make a cut in the gum, and in so doing it is almost sure to carry into the circulation at least some of the many germs clinging to it. Again, the chemicals used in the making of paper are far from edible, but in addition to these the newspaper may have picked up a variety of germs from those who have handled it or from the dust that has blown upon it while exposed for sale.

The flap of the envelope, which is so "handy" a bit to use for the teeth, may have touched the lips of some one with tonsilitis, or even with tuberculosis.—New York American.

## ROMANCE OF FLOWERS.

**A Blossom Changed the Roving Camp Into a Permanent Home.**

The difference between a home and a camp is a blossom. Until flowers were planted about the abode of men, until blooms were cultivated, there were no permanent homes, no fixed places of abode. Tents were struck and a new location sought. Attachments were not formed for localities. We were a wandering, shiftless, comfortless lot until a woman trudged in from the thicket and planted a vine or shrub or flower about the tent, and called it home.

It was a woman, of course. Man, in his coarseness, never thought of sticking a stem into the earth and nurturing a plant that he might have color and fragrance forever in his presence. Only the woman could have thought of that.

And since the first good day when the woman planted a flower and loved it into blossoming, the home has been a fixity. It has been a center of the affections. The building may be destroyed, the individual members of the family may be scattered to the four winds, but the home remains a fixture in the memory—and the blossoms do not fade or wither in the mind.—Columbus Dispatch.

**A Clever Bird.**

People who feed the wild birds in winter find that the birds soon come to know them. A friend of mine used every morning to rap an English walnut on the sill of his open window. A white breasted nuthatch knew the signal and would fly to his hand and take the nut meat from between his fingers. Sometimes my friend used to hold the nut meat tightly and make the bird work to get it. One morning the nuthatch, hammering at the tightly held morsel, struck the holder's thumb at the base of the nail. The blow hurt, and involuntarily the fingers parted and released the meat. The next morning, without any preliminaries, the nuthatch hammered at the same place. He knew, and he had learned his lesson in one session too. It is a smart boy that does as well.—Winthrop Packard in Our Dumb Animals.

**Marital Diplomacy.**

Plunger—I felt awfully sorry for a poor guy down at the exchange today. He lost $5,000 on cotton, and all the boys were guying him, and as he started off home they taunted him with the prediction that his wife would land on him roughshod. The poor chap acted as though he felt pretty badly about it. Mrs. Plunger (sympathetically)—Poor fellow! No doubt he used his best judgment, and if his wife turns on him because of his reverses she is not worthy to be called wife. But who was the man? Plunger—Why—er—it was me.—Woman's Home Companion.

**A Trouble Escape.**

"You'll escape much trouble in this here world, my boy," said the Billville parent, "if you'll turn down all contracts for raisin' of the place where the devil lives at. Wherever it is, it's right where it orter be, an' ef it needs any raisin' the devil himself is more competent to 'tend to that business than what you'll ever be."—Atlanta Constitution.

**Wit of the Force.**

The policeman had a gambler by the arm and was waiting for the patrol wagon to arrive.

"What are you doing?" asked a friend of the officer who happened to be passing.

"I am holding a card party," replied the cop.—Boston Transcript.

**His Mad Method.**

"How is it that Blinks always comes off first best in arguments with his wife?"

"He states his case first and then walks off."—Philadelphia Ledger.

**Superiority.**

"She's a very superior person."

"That so? In what way?"

"She pays more for her gowns than any other woman in the club."—Detroit Free Press.

Who overcomes by force hath overcome but half his foe.—Milton.


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