

**GRESHAM OUTLOOK**

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H. L. ST. CLAIR, Editor and Publ'r.

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## GRAHAM BREAD.

The prevailing high price of wheat and the diminishing size of the loaf,—or its increased cost, has set the economists to thinking that we are not getting full returns when we send our wheat to the mill.

It is not charged that the miller takes too much toll by keeping one hand in the hopper and the other in the bag, but it is getting to be the belief that we should eat something more than we do in the way of shorts, middlings and bran.

It is said that too much is being taken away from the grain in the form of by-products; that the people are getting the short end of a bushel and the lower animals the best part of the grain. There is reason to believe the statement.

Gresham flour, as it was made thirty years ago, was more wholesome than the roller process brands of today. It was not so white and pretty to look at, perhaps, but it was healthful and nourishing to its full extent—and people didn't have appendicitis in those days, either.

But the good old days of graham flour have passed away. Nowadays we get a substitute or a grit called whole-wheat flour, but it doesn't compare with the kind that the old water power mill turned out with its upper and nether burr. One of those old mills is said to be standing yet, over on Deep creek a dozen miles south of Gresham. Its specialty was graham flour.

In those days the farmer took his wheat to the mill where it was ground either in shares or for cash. It is remembered yet that the graham flour was the "whole wheat" with nothing missing. The white flour was a little off color, perhaps, but it made the best bread ever eaten; the shorts and middlings seemed to be richer than they are nowadays, while the bran was less in quantity and was considered of little value.

But those good old days have passed away. Now we have the roller process, appendicitis and the light loaf; we have "city shorts" a good quality of middlings and lots of bran. It would be for health and economy if we were to mix the "ingredients" together, in the absence of the old fashioned graham flour, and assert our independence of high-priced wheat.

## "THINGS MIGHT BE WORSE."

Looking backward to their childhood many can call to mind the type of schoolboy who took refuge when reproved for holding a place near the foot of the class behind the fact that others were still below him. So long as he was not the poorest pupil in the school he was content to plod along.

Exactly that spirit is the cause of the dangerous burdens of taxation which have grown up in the states and cities of the United States. When the voice of prudence spoke out in warning the retort came out that some other state, some other country, some other city, had a record of larger debt and heavier taxes. Like the toper who anodizes his conscience with the reflection that while he is drunk once a week there are others who are drunk all the time, we have set up false tax standards by emulating reckless and extravagant municipalities.

## AIMED AT THE MUTUALS.

There is a bill before the legislature to regulate fire insurance companies. It is reported that it will require all companies doing business in Oregon to deposit one per cent of all risks, and that it is aimed at the Mutual companies. It would affect the Farmers' and Grange associations to the extent that they would have to deposit from \$20,000 to \$40,000 each with no return. The deposits would be tied up perpetually. A strong lobby from the mutuals is at Salem keeping tab on the proposition.

The groundhog came out today, but up to the hour of going to press had not been able to see his shadow. Winter is "busted." Hoop-la!

## GETTING TOPHEAVY.

As predicted in the Outlook more than two years ago, before parcels post had become a reality, the system is getting top heavy and is toppling over by its own weight, or at least it is giving the Postoffice Department the serious concern that we predicted it would before the law was passed.

The matter of making the postal service a pack horse is being seriously taken up in congress and at least one member, Representative Kindell, is making things squirm. He shows by statistics that the people of New York alone are paying \$1,000,000 a year more for parcel post than they would pay for the same service by express. This contention was made in the Outlook two years ago when it was stated that the postal rates would be higher, generally, than express rates.

Parcel post can beat the express companies only on small packages up to 600 miles. Beyond that distance the express is cheaper on all packages weighing over one pound.

Another feature, never fully understood but which was mentioned in the Outlook, is the greatly increased cost of operating the parcel post system. We predicted that the cost would be \$75,000,000 a year more to operate the post office department. That prediction is being fulfilled and the deficit in the postal revenues is growing larger every year. Not only that, but the service is being crippled and the department is besieging congress for relief. Something will have to be done or the parcel post system will fall of its own weight.

## Labor Periodicals Do Not Fear Prohibition.

There is no use in telling the labor men that prohibition will mean unemployment. They know better. Says the Labor News of Galveston, Illinois:

"When the people quit spending a billion dollars a year for less than nothing, then they will have money to spend for necessities and there will be jobs for everybody making things worth while. Who would think of putting up a wall for the poor manufacturer and dealers in coke, or other drugs thrown out by laws against that drug habit? Who will defend the 'poor worker' thrown out of employment because of the sumptuary law against burglary or murder? It is the booze business that fills our cities with unemployed and sends our girls to the devil. Kill the thing which not only incapacitates a man for work but robs him of the money he might spend to make work for others and the unemployed problem will be largely solved."

## No Need to Pass.

"The grammar class will now recite," said the teacher of the 'steenth grade. "Ann, you parse 'world.'" "World is a noun, plural number, nominative case at a democratic convention, and belongs to John D. Rockefeller." "Right."

Now, John, you may parse 'girl.' "Girl is an active noun, singular number, objective case, excepting in leap year, when she becomes possessive, and agrees with the boys to whom she belongs." "Correct," said the teacher; "and here's your diploma; you don't need to graduate."

A campaign has been started at Albany to sell \$25,000 worth of canary stock, work on the construction of a co-operative cannery to commence as soon as the stock sales amount to \$15,000. The preliminary meeting was attended by more than 100 farmers and fruit growers of Linn and Benton counties. A limit of \$50 worth of stock to each subscriber has been set, and it will therefore be necessary to interest 500 growers in order to raise the \$25,000.

## A Janitorial Wizard.

One day Brown lost his temper and determined to discipline the janitor.

"Why is it," he said, "that every time anybody in this building loses anything you ask us if we know what has become of it?"

"Because," the janitor replied, "you are the only folks that never lose anything."

Next morning Brown shouted down the dumbwaiter shaft: "We're short a bottle of milk. Where is it?"

"I don't know, sir," the janitor answered humbly. "I'll see if I can find it."

"Why," said Mrs. Brown, "we got our milk."

"Don't worry," said her husband. "Of course he can't find it, but it will do him good to stew around a little."

About fifteen minutes later Brown was summoned to the dumbwaiter. Here's your milk," said the janitor. I'm sorry I made a mistake."

Brown was bewildered. "Now, where on earth did the fellow get it?" he said.

"He has taken it from one of the neighbors," wailed Mrs. Brown.

Next day Brown complained of the loss of a package of sugar, which, though purely imaginary so far as the Browns were concerned, very soon materialized in the hands of the resourceful janitor. Even Brown got uneasy then; but, being bent on vengeance, he subsequently reported as lost bread, a head of lettuce and a bag of potatoes, all of which were immediately produced by the janitor.

When Brown paid his grocery bill for the month Mrs. Brown, who is a systematic housekeeper, scanned the account.

"Why, they have made a mistake," she said. "They have charged us for milk and sugar and things we never got."

Brown went back to the grocery to inquire.

"It's all right," he said to his anxious wife upon his return. "We got the stuff. The janitor ordered it." —New York Post.

—New York Post.

A state-wide prohibition law in Alabama several years ago gave splendid results. It was proposed to make prohibition constitutional. In the resulting campaign the liquor speakers declared to the citizens: "We favor prohibition, but don't put it in the constitution. It is already working well, and why get it beyond your own reach?" The constitutional amendment failed and as soon as the legislature met, it repealed the state-wide prohibition law.

The Alabama legislature meets only every four years. Immediately upon convening the other day it passed a prohibition measure by an overwhelming vote. The legislature was commanded by an indignant people who felt that they had been betrayed.

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