

A Few Items

That will serve as a guide to everything we handle

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- Try it for cleaning your cream separator.
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- White Borax naphtha soap 5c
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The Hermiston Herald

Issued Each Saturday by

M. D. O'CONNELL

HERMISTON OREGON

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HE IS APPRECIATED

Dramatists who are in search of material for a "play with a punch" are invited to direct their attention to the local station agent. Shirt-sleeved and unassuming the rural transportation expert possesses nevertheless all the elements of humor, grit and energy which go to form our conception of American character. In Frank Woughter the romance of railroading finds expression. He is the reception committee that greets the stranger on the platform. He is the town directory and the information bureau toward which you turn eagerly, and it is with his assistance that you take your departure. You feel that in him at least you have for the time being a proprietary interest, and he doubtless feels the same about you.

Conversely with the size of the town his duties increase. He ships your freight, sells you your ticket, checks your baggage, tells you when the train goes, whether it is on time, how long it will take you to get there, names the best hotel and agrees with you that it looks like rain. He builds a fire in the waiting room when it is cold and in the summer time swats the flies. He keeps one ear cocked in the direction of the ticker and listens to what you are saying with the other. On the way out to the front platform he frequently collides with himself dashing madly to the telephone or telegraph instruments. For the trains that rush by, he has a wave of his hand for the engineer and a shout for the brakeman on the rear platform. For those that stop he finds time to hustle baggage and passengers aboard, exchange pleasantries with the crew and kid the conductor about his youngest baby.

The station agent isn't inclined to boast, and he looks far from ferocious, but there's many a passenger who owes his life to the mental alertness of this railroad representative.

Withal the station agent is a friendly chap when people give him half a chance. He realizes that he is trusted with the company's honor in playing host to the great traveling public, and he is said to his credit that he fulfills the trust to the best of his ability. He realizes that in him is vested the duty of giving the stranger a pleasing impress-

ion of both the company and the locality the agent represents. He realizes that many people, unaccustomed to traveling, count on him to assist them and he has learned by experience that courtesy brings the quick appreciation of both his employers and those whom they are endeavoring to make their steady patrons.

BUSINESS VERSUS POLITICS

It is still an open question whether the American people care more about politics than they do about business and industries. Partisan politics appeals to many people and a few make money out of it, but the multitude must depend on payrolls and business under any administration. Whether one man is elected to an office or another is not of as much consequence to the average citizen as the founding of a new industry or building a new railroad. Radical advocates of collectivism or individualism are willing to sacrifice all else to carry their particular theory into effect, but prosperity depends on use of both systems. Public ownership and private capital are not antagonistic only when used to destroy each other, and then the loss falls on the whole community and hinders progress. The one-idea theorist on any line believes his nostrum will cure all the troubles of city, state or nation, but he is not a safe person to follow in any direction. Industry, payrolls, investments, improvements still mean a chance for the average man to succeed in life, while political activity enriches few and taxes everybody.

Should the amendment to the food conservation bill now pending in congress asking for a \$20,000,000 appropriation for the building of irrigation works in this and the other two adjacent states pass both houses, it will be of inestimable value to Oregon, and be the means of giving added impetus to irrigation projects all over the state. And it will become law if concerted action is taken by the people vitally interested in the three states to be benefited by the appropriation. Back up the senators and congressmen working for the passage of the amended bill and they will leave no stone unturned to secure this much needed appropriation.

A community progresses only in proportion as there is developed a broad-minded, self-sacrificing leadership, taking upon itself the responsibility of fostering a co-operative spirit on the part of all elements in the community, through example, through organization, through forms of educations and by other means toward bringing about that result.

If Cartoonist Briggs should at any time during the next two months lack ideas for the drawing of his famous cartoons entitled "The Days of Real Sport,"

he might pay a visit to Hermiston and secure the much needed ammunition by watching the kids on a hot day at their favorite swimming hole near this city.

Save the shade trees by giving them lots of water these hot days. Tourists on railroad and highway often comment on the beautiful trees with which Hermiston is surrounded, and well they might, for the resident portion, especially, is a veritable shady bowdler.

SKETCHING MARK TWAIN.

Cartoonist Ward Found the Humorist an Impatient Subject.

Many of the difficulties experienced by the cartoonist are related by Leslie Ward in his volume, "Forty Years of 'Spy.'" He writes as follows with reference to America's great humorist:

"Mark Twain was another subject who came under the category of the 'walkers.' I had a good deal of difficulty in getting hold of him, but when I eventually caught him at his hotel I found him decidedly impatient.

"Now you mustn't think I'm going to sit or stand for you," he told me, "for once I'm up I keep on the go."

"The whole time I watched him he paced the room like a caged animal, smoking a very large calabash pipe and telling amusing stories. The great humorist wore a white flannel suit and told me in the course of conversation that he had a dress suit made all in white that he wore at dinner parties. He had just taken his honorary degree at Oxford, and he wanted to put his gown on, but I preferred to 'do' him in the more characteristic and widely known garb. He struck me as being a very sensitive man, whose nervous pacings during my interview were the result of a highly strung temperament. The only pacifying influence seemed to be his enormous pipe, which he never ceased to smoke."

A TERROR OF THE SEAS.

This Fish Resembles a Torpedo and is Just as Dangerous.

His shape resembles a torpedo, and his attack too. Fishermen and bathers in seas where he is found regard him as almost as deadly as the torpedo and far more common in peaceful waters. Fishermen and fish alike are enemy to him, and he will attack with a ferocity surpassing even the shark. He's called the barracuda.

His body is long and round, and his head pointed. His wide mouth bristles with large, sharp teeth. There are more than a dozen varieties scattered over the oceans, all of them fierce and hungry.

Sometimes they grow to a length of six to eight feet. These giants are the ones dreaded by the fishermen. Even when they have him fast on the end of a hook and line he's a veritable load of dynamite and will attack and bite and snap at the hands that are hauling him in.

Fishermen have to guard against poisoned flesh in the barracuda. Sometimes the big fish eats a poisonous kind of fish, which in turn poisons its own flesh. The barracuda's bite is regarded as poisonous in itself, and the wounds caused by the giant fish's teeth become inflamed and infected.—Philadelphia North American.

Henry James' Style.

Stevenson spotted the unconscionable repetition of certain adjectives in "Roderick Hudson," but probably the most marked characteristic of Henry James' style was his passion for adverbs and adverbial clauses. He was the most adverbial of English writers. You will find more adverbs to the page than even in Meredith. And he had a quaint habit of putting the adverb before the verb when most writers would put it after. One of his ladies (the examples are taken at random) "thankfully felt," another "quite beautifully and tenderly smiled." And "after all" crops up all over the place. But one would not have these things altered; they were part of the man. One does object to them, however, in his imitators, who have learned the trick, but missed the spirit behind it.—London Chronicle.

World's Future Fish Supply.

The sea beats upon 26,000 miles of Alaska shore line, a distance greater than the circumference of the earth. All of that vast stretch of waters is teeming with the most edible fish on earth. Every bay is a harbor where these fish can be prepared for the markets of the world, and the greatest ships afloat can anchor in safety while taking on their cargo of food for the hungry of all climes. In a few years Alaskan fish will be famous wherever ships sail and men exchange the products of their toil. This is but one of Alaska's sources of wealth.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

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