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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Manager

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CONCRETE BASE IS BEING LAID

Clark & Henery Construction Company Will Start Plant Next Week and Begin Surfacing—Graders Are at Work on South Holly.

The Clark & Henery Construction company started Thursday morning laying the concrete base on Jackson street and are making rapid progress.

The curb and gutter gang has almost completed their work on Sixth street and will jump from there to Hartlett. The grading outfit is fast getting South Holly in shape.

COMMUNICATIONS.

To the Editor: Your remarks regarding Mr. Carnegie's restitutionary gifts have not so far been overthrown.

The obvious foolishness of giving away our most valuable park site for a millionaire's hobby has already sufficiently been demonstrated, without needing further comment.

In my capacity of unattached religious believer, I am in an impartial position to point out two regrettable features of Carnegie's libraries in general.

First: The aim of the donor leans far more towards a religious propaganda, rather than towards a purely philanthropic purpose.

Second: He has little scruples as to what means he employs, and the anti-Catholic works of many authors are in themselves sufficient to claim admittance in his libraries.

Let us therefore pity the well-intentioned though misinformed persons, who want to foster our intellectual progress.

In a boasting city like ours, can it be that the population is willing to beg for alms? Is it not rather surprising that just a few citizens may claim the right to selfishly, in the name of a city, the crumbs of a multi-millionaire? A stranger, whose money is stained with American blood?

If such erring citizens can speak in our name, we are surely justified in uttering a vigorous protest.

Now that a mutual religious tolerance allows us to enjoy an unmingled rest, now that our valley is on the verge of an undreamed of prosperity, our present needs may be summarized into more enterprising men, more faithful housewives, more responsible parents.

Here, like elsewhere, there shall always exist too many readers of unhealthy novels. Very sincerely yours, J. HAMILTON.

IMPROVEMENTS FOR PASCO.

Plans Adopted That Will Necessitate Considerable Activity in Street Improvement Work This Week.

PASCO, Wash., April 27.—(Special).—Plans stand for progress. Last night the council awarded contracts that provide for the immediate paving and improvement of the main streets of the city.

For some months the council committee has been busy with trips of investigation to various cities of the Pacific Northwest for the purpose of determining the most desirable kind of paving for use in this climate. Their report covered wide experiences by various cities, with concrete, asphalt, basalt, westrumite, bitulithic, brick and wood blocks.

The committee reported unanimously in favor of bitulithic. Bids were received from companies, representing most of the pavements above named. Prices varied considerably a number being offered for less per square yard, than bitulithic, but in view of the favorable reports in the towns where this form of pavement has been tested for a long period of years, it was considered that bitulithic is unquestionably the cheapest in the long run.

Senator Turned Down. WASHINGTON, April 28.—The exclusive Metropolitan club turned down today the application of Senator Clarence E. Watson of West Virginia, democrat, for membership. This action followed the withdrawal of the name of Representative Martin W. Littleton of New York. It was hinted today that many other reflections are likely to follow.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will apply at the next regular meeting of the city council of the city of Medford, Oregon, on May 2, 1911, for a license to sell spirituous, vinous and malt liquors in quantities less than gallon, at their place of business at 3 Front st., in said city, for a period of six months. M. & E. J. ADAMS. Dated April 21, 1911.

WOULDN'T IT JAR YOU?

ANDREW CARNEGIE, multi-millionaire beneficiary of high tariff, has been lecturing congress upon the course it should follow in revising the tariff.

Mr. Carnegie advises: "No duties upon the necessities of life; heavy duties upon luxuries; temporary protection for new industries."

Wouldn't it jar you? A man whose fortune has been created by an outrageous tariff that benefited only himself and his few associates, a tariff which has made him so rich that he cannot spend the money, and feverishly searches for some way to invest it so that it will tickle the vanity of the living until it perpetuates the folly of the dead—such a man prating of tariff reform!

For years Andrew Carnegie and his associates in the iron and steel industry, fixed and controlled legislation that forced the multitude to contribute to the privileged few, including themselves, through a protective tariff.

It is to laugh! John Rockefeller oozing morality to Sunday schools, Andrew Carnegie babbling tariff reform to benefit the poor workman! It only lacks the oily Rev. Chubbard and the delectable Mr. Pecksniff to complete the charmed circle of the people's spiritual advisers.

TO ABOLISH THE SENATE.

VICTOR L. BERGER, the socialist member of congress from Milwaukee, has introduced a resolution in the house of representatives to abolish the United States senate by constitutional amendment.

Many good reasons can be advanced as to why the senate should be abolished. Like its model, the house of lords, it is wholly unnecessary and serves no useful purpose. The good ends it might have served at one time have passed away. It has become a sort of vermiform appendix upon the body politic—a source of corruption to state and nation.

Mr. Berger's resolution states that "the senate has become an obstructive body—a menace to the people's liberties, a body many members of which are representatives solely of certain predatory combinations; a body which, by reason of the corruption often attending the election of its members, has furnished the gravest public scandals in the history of the nation. The senate has run its course and must, like the house of lords in England, some day yield to the popular demand for its reformation or abolition."

All of which is true. The resolution will not pass, if for no other reason than because it is radical, and the people are conservative. The fact that it was introduced by a socialist will damn it, for the time being. But someone had to start it, and before many years it will be one of the live issues of the day.

WARDE ON SHAKESPEARE

Frederick Warde, Shakespearean scholar, is no less a conversationalist than an actor, and to hear him discuss his favorite is no small pleasure. Here is what was gleaned in a short half hour's chat with him:

Read Shakespeare first for the story, second for the poetry, third for the philosophy.

He insists always that Shakespeare is not obscure; that there is no hidden meaning in his lines, so crammed with meat, and that the commentators and aids of Shakespeare should be thrown overboard—and when one recalls that these plays were written for the actual stage, where everything must be obvious and clear, and not as literature for posterity to puzzle over, the truth of his contention is more apparent.

He begs one not to approach Shakespeare as something heavy, profound, serious.

"Why, Shakespeare is rollicking with fun," he exclaimed, and then in an instant, Falstaff, jolly, fat old Jack Falstaff, fond of sack and with a belly well lined with capon, appeared in the person of Mr. Warde.

Mr. Warde blessed Shakespeare's writings to the Bible in their beautiful simplicity and quoted many passages to show the naturally devout, Christian spirit of the writer. He stated that the words "God" and "Christ" appear in Shakespeare's works 837 times. This was on the word of someone else; Mr. Warde had not counted them, which is as well, perhaps, for in counting one would probably find that they were not always uttered in a spirit of devotion and reverence. But the fact that Shakespeare spoke reverently, deeply and prophetically in many passages was made clear to Mr. Warde's hearers.

He credits him with predicting the wonders of electricity in this line, "I'll put a belt around the world in forty minutes."

Mr. Warde doubted the accepted stories of Shakespeare's domestic infelicity, for if Mrs. Shakespeare had been the shrew history makes her, would her husband have drawn all the lovely, devoted women he has given us—Rosalind, the two Portias, Cordelia and the rest?

He defended Lady Macbeth against the generally accepted estimate of her character, claiming that it was not her own ambition that led to the crime, which forever blighted her life, but her devotion to a weak, ambitious husband who wanted things, but was too much of a coward to get them for himself, yet could not be content without them. Love for man, he insisted, is back of nearly every criminal deed with which women are connected, whether in Shakespeare's time or in the criminal court records of today.

And so, with apt illustration and quoted lines, and with his own fine, expressive face and impressive bearing to accentuate them, Mr. Warde counted a few beads for his hearer on the rosary of his devotion to the great master. Even a dullard must enjoy Shakespeare literature with Mr. Warde as interpreter.

WARDE AS BRUTUS

Frederick Warde is the sole survivor of what was perhaps a group of the greatest players that ever graced the English-speaking stage. What the younger generation of actors may do for the classic drama is yet to be determined. Time, the great impartial judge has not yet written his criticism. The Shakespearean actors whose names are known to those familiar with the drama of the past century may properly be divided into two groups, the first being John McCullough, Edwin Forrest and the older Booths. These men gave a bold, but somewhat crude portrayal of the Shakespearean characters. They showed us the physical, rather than the mental man; but with Edwin Booth's performance of the eccentric and melancholy Hamlet came a new and more refined style of acting that portrayed the subtle workings of the mind. The great exponents of this modern school of drama were Edwin Booth, Lawrence Barrett, Henry Irving, Thomas Keene, Mansfield and Frederick Warde. All but Mr. Warde have played the last act in the great drama of life; the last curtain has rung down upon them one by one, and no applause has served to bring them back.

Most of these gentlemen have won their fame by a superior exhibition of one or two characters. While Booth may well be called a versatile actor, yet his fame rests upon his wonderful veneration of Hamlet. Keene perhaps stood alone as Richard the Third. Henry Irving was a character actor of such finish that he found in plays outside of Shakespeare vehicles that were best suited to bring out his particular style of acting; Matthias, in "The Helms" and Louis the Eleventh were characters in which he is best remembered. Lawrence Barrett's performance of Lancaiotto in "Francesca de Rimini" was by far his master part. Mansfield was so great a Jean Himmell, and his Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, the old Frenchman in "The Parisian Romance," Post Dym and Cyrano de Bergerac, were performances of such magnitude that he was never able to reach the artistic height in the Shakespearean plays that he had attained as a character actor. Frederick Warde, the noblest Roman of them all, and we can say without wish to flatter, the most versatile Shakespearean actor, is still with us. The enjoyment in watching his characterization of Brutus is tinged with a little feeling of melancholy, a regret that with him is passing the classic drama. There are other plays that appeal as strongly to our senses, but none with the scholarly finish of phrase that has made Shakespeare stand out in bold relief for 300 years. To know Shakespeare well is to have a good education, and there is no incentive to the study of this great master like seeing the plays produced as these great actors have produced them.

Perfect acting is a life work. The actor like the painter, gives us a picture, and it is not until the frosts of years have whitened the hair that he is able to give the finished stroke that shows us the soul. This was evident in

HILL-S. P. RACE TO COAST HAS BEGUN

S. P. Unloads Equipment at Eureka and Pays for Right of Way for Yards at Grants Pass; Hill is Busy Too, According to Grants Pass.

GRANTS PASS, Or., April 28.—From best inside information obtainable, there is apparently a race to the coast on the Hill system from Eagle Point to Crescent City via Grants Pass and the Southern Pacific system from Eureka, Cal., to Grants Pass.

Information comes that heavy construction equipment and a large force of mules and scrapers is unloading at Eureka for the Southern Pacific. Charts of the Grants Pass yards have been made at Portland. The Southern Pacific has had options on lots from the right of way at Grants Pass to Rogue river for several months. All are reported accepted and the money paid for them. Yesterday Hill surveyors left here for the Waldo and Kerby district, near where immense copper ledges and timber interests are located. All indications point to live work here immediately. The country opened up will comprise rich farming, mining, lumbering and fruitgrowing, the entire distance.

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Headings for Health.

Mr. Warde's performance of Brutus last evening. In the first act we saw the mental agony of Caesar's friend as he contemplated the sacrifice that he was called upon to make for his native country, dearer to him than friend or life, and in the fifth act his grief for the dead Portia was a piece of acting that one sees but seldom in a lifetime. And so we could go on in words of praise for this actor, gentleman and scholar. The supporting company was good, his son, Ernest Warde, being especially good as Cassius. We doubt not that he will wear with honor the mantle of his father. ED ANDREWS.

Where to Go Tonight

Larroy Theatre. Entire change of program: CLEVER COMEDY, TENSE PHOTOPLAYS, EDUCATIONAL PORTRAYALS. Excellent Music by Misses Crawford and Crowell. ONE DIME.

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