The Leader's Definition.

"What is a contract?" asked the young hopeful.

His father, the great labor leader, looked up from his paper and smiled with pleasure at this evidence of a desire for knowledge.

"I'm glad you asked the question, my boy," he said. "There is considerable misconception as to the meaning of that word, and it is well that you should get the thing straight while you are still young. A contract is something that binds the other fellow without affecting you."—Chicago Post.

Beat the Typewriter.

"I can take 100 words a minute," said the shorthand writer. "I often take more than that," remarked the other, in sorrowful accents; "but then I have to. I'm married."

The Higher One.

"Can any little boy in the class," said the teacher, "tell me what is meant by 'above par?'"

Profund silence, and the teacher said again: "Tommy Jones, perhaps you can tell me what's 'above par?'"

"Ma, I guess," said Tommy.

He Took It.

Host—So sorry you have to be going.

Guest—Indeed, I am too. By the way, I'm not sure about my train. It's 9 something, but—

Host's Eldest—It's 9:32. Pa said he hoped you'd take that one.—Philadelphia Record.

They Always Look It.

Biggs—There goes Stoneyfellow, the multimillionaire. He's a self-made man.

Mrs. Biggs—Well, anyone could see at a glance that he isn't tailor-made.—Chicago Daily News.

An Ill Wind, Etc.

Mrs. Pepprey—There's that Miss Nerdore pounding the piano.

Mr. Pepprey—Yes, the landlord will be here shortly, and we'll use that as an excuse to have the rent reduced.—Philadelphia Pres.

One Against the Horse.

"There's one good thing about an automobile."

"What's that?"

"It doesn't try to run up to every watering fountain it comes to."—Puck.

In His Pockets.

Mrs. Hardrun—Do you have to ask your husband for money?

Mrs. Sly—No, indeed!

Mrs. Hardrun—How generous of him.

Mrs. Sly—Yes; it is awfully good of him not to sleep in his trousers.—Ohio State Journal.

Two Scottish Newspapers.

The most influential newspaper in Scotland is the Edinburgh Statesman, and the oldest is the Dundee Advertiser. They are edited, respectively by Sir John Leng and Charles Cooper, both of whom are Englishmen and natives of Hull, Yorkshire.

Religion Losing Ground.

The country is becoming agitated over the statement that religion is losing ground. This results in countless discussions until the agitation runs its course, and still religion flourishes. It is only useless things that deteriorate. The finest recommendation of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the great stomach strengthener, lies in the fact that it has lived for fifty years in spite of hundreds of imitations, and is renowned for its cure of dyspepsia, indigestion, biliousness, nervousness and malaria, fever and ague.

Queer Japanese Custom

At the birth of a Japanes baby a tree is planted that must remain untouched until the marriage of the child. When the nuptial hour arrives the tree is cut down and the wood is transformed into furniture.

Had Them Ready.

Debt Collector—I called to collect those bills which Mr. Snips, the tailor, sent you. Mr. Squills—You are perfectly welcome to them. Here they are all in one pocket.

Knew His Ground.

Stop that reporter. Aid—What! Don't you want to have him send home an account of your heroism? No, I don't want to be an American hero for a week, and a punching-bag for the rest of my life.

Tight Across the Chest.

"See here! You are always laughing at my expense."

"Well, that's all I can do at your expense."

Holding Him Guiltless.

He—Have not all my actions shown you that I love you?

She—I'm sure I don't know. Papa says you are not answerable for your actions.—Harper's Bazar.

The Intricacies of It.

"Why didn't you study the time table and then you would not have missed your train?"

"That was the trouble. While I was trying to traslate the time table the train pulled out."

Tiresome.

"I'm so tired," she sighed to the woman next door.

"What doing?"

"I've been the last four hours at the photographer's having an instantaneous picture of the baby taken."

Unfamiliar.

The Squire—I don't seem to know your face, my man. Do you live about here?

Old Rustic—Yes, sir. But yer see, I ain't often at the public 'ouse!—Punch.

N. P. N. U. No. 37—1901.

Thirteen Stories.

O'Hoolihan—Phwat wud yez do if yez wor't fall off this rufe?

O'Harrity—Faith, O'id make up me mind goin' down—Ohio State Journal.

CRITICAL PERIODS

In Woman's Life Are Made Dangerous by Pelvic Catarrh.

Mrs. Mathilde Richter.

Mrs. Mathilde Richter, Doniphan, Neb., says:

"I suffered from catarrh for many years, but since I have been taking Pe-ru-na I feel strong and well. I would advise all people to try Pe-ru-na. As I used Pe-ru-na and Man-a-lin while I was passing through the change of life, I am positively convinced your beneficial remedies have relieved me from all my ills."

Pe-ru-na has raised more women from beds of sickness and set them to work again than any other remedy. Pelvic catarrh is the bane of womankind. Pe-ru-na is the bane of catarrh in all forms and stages. Mrs. Col. Hamilton, Columbus, O., says: "I recommend Pe-ru-na to women, believing it to be especially beneficial to them."

Send for a free book written by Dr. Hartman, entitled: "Health and Beauty." Address Dr. Hartman, Columbus, Ohio.

If you can't say anything good of a man you can at least have the courtesy to sit around and hear other people say bad things.

A Good Enough Way for Him.

"I wouldn't cry like that, my little man." Well, you can cry any way you want to; this is my way."

He Was Sorry.

Customer (to waiter)—Here, John, take my order—ox-tail soup, roast lamb, fried sole, green peas, onions, tomatoes, cucumber, mince pie, cheese and coffee, and be spry about it; my train leaves in exactly six minutes.

Consolation and Comfort.

Who is it that does not wish to be out in the open air or alive in some field of sport, whether it be with the bat, rod or gun; whether we go coasting over the hills and vales on the wheel, or sailing over rough waves or into serene coves, it is all sport, and the springing muscles seem to need it. It is bound to happen that some mishap will occur. Thus it is that when we have sprains in abundance; light sprains, sprains that cripple, sprains that give great pain, sprains that rob us of sleep, but sportsmen of all kinds have come to know that there is nothing better than the old reliable St. Jacobs Oil. Have it with you for use; you may rely on its cure of the worst sprain and restoration to the comforts of life.

He Conldn't Connect.

Mrs. Handout—I think a little water would do you good.

Hardened Hobbs—So do I, mum. But folks ain't giving away Amalgamated Steel Stock, not much."

His Favorite.

"What is your favorite play?" asked the friend. "Ordinarily," answered Mr. Stormington Barnes, "It is Hamlet. But when I need the money it is Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Where He Failed.

Clarke—Mr. Shiverly is passionately fond of art. Miss Jameson—Yes, and yet not found enough of it to stop painting.

Easy Come, Easy Go.

The man who creeps along bent over, with his spinal column feeling in a condition to snap like a pipestem at any minute, would readily give a great deal to get out of his dilemma, and yet this is only the commonest form by which lumbago seizes on and twists out of shape the muscles of the back. This is commonly known as backache, a crick in the back, but by whatever name it may be known, and however bad it may be, 10 minutes vigorous rubbing with St. Jacobs Oil on the afflicted part will drive out the trouble and completely restore. It is a thing so easily caught, it may be wondered at why there is not more of it, but because it is so easily cured by St. Jacobs Oil may be the very reason that we hear so little of it.

Bourgeois.

Mrs. Bulgore—But they are very fashionable, are they not?

Mrs. Swellman—Fashionable? Most assuredly not. Why, they permit the care of their children to interfere with their social obligations.

His Favorite Dish.

"What is your favorite dish?" inquired Mrs. Frontpew of the Rev. Longface, the new pastor. She felt sure it was chicken, but it proved not. "Er-the contribution plate," answered the Rev. Longface, absently.

Charity and bookbinders covers a multitude of faults.

Every man is like the company he is wont to keep.—Euripides.

Too Cruel.

"False! False!" shrieked the hero of the latest dramatization in falsetto tones.

"Do you say that to my face?" screamed the heroine.

"I say it to your very teeth!" roared the hero.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

He Couldn't Lose.

Jones—Do you object to your boy playing football?

Smith—No, indeed; the policy is made out in my favor.

Still Worse.

She—Were you out in Monday's blizzard?

He—No. I was out in Tuesday's talk about Monday's blizzard.

PROGRESS OF PACIFIC COAST STATES

NEWS AND COMMENT THAT INDICATE A STEADY FORWARD MOVEMENT IN OREGON, WASHINGTON, CALIFORNIA AND IDAHO.

Gigantic Coal Deposit.

Perhaps the largest body of coal that has ever been discovered in the United States in the last twenty years is that on the state boundary between Washington and Oregon. This great body of coal land is located in Asotin County, Washington, and Wallowa County, Oregon, and is easy of access by way of Asotin, the county seat of Asotin County, thence by way of Anatone to Hanson's Ferry on the Grande Ronde River, which is the dividing line between the two states at the point mentioned.

This body of coal crops out at points very close together for a distance of twelve miles on either side of the river and there are thousands of acres that have been filed upon under the homestead laws, that now show fine coal prospects. There are other thousands of acres that have been covered by local men with coal land declaratory statements, and still other land that has not been covered at all, but which show strong coal measures. This body of coal is lignite of fine quality, improves and changes to bituminous at greater distances from the surface. There are also many indications of natural gas and oil, but no prospecting has been done for either. In the coal deposits the local men have run several tunnels and sunk shafts through twenty feet of solid coal, in fact have found so much coal that but little digging was required to get it. There is no question but that the deposit is a very large one. These coal measures are fifteen miles from the mouth of the Grande Ronde River. This river is not navigable, but the Snake, into which it empties, has a regular line of steamboats running to the mouth of the river, and the matter of getting this coal to market would require the building of a road for fifteen miles to connect with boats at the mouth of the Grande Ronde. However, it is probable that a railroad will run through these coal fields in the near future, as they are on the route mapped out by the Burlington for reaching the Coast, where the best possible grades can be secured down the Grande Ronde River. The Oregon Railway and Navigation Company has already run its preliminary survey through this coal region, and it would appear, that the day is not far distant when snug little fortunes may be realized by those who may have the good judgment to get hold of properties in this district, either by purchase or original location. Indeed the difference in price at which it may now be bought from the government over that which must be paid for it as soon as the railroad is completed, would mean 100 per cent profit on the investment.

The act of March 2,1878 (Coal land law) requires the payment of ten dollars per acre, if the land is over fifteen miles, and twenty dollars per acre if the land is fifteen miles or less from a completed railroad.

There seems no doubt but that the Burlington system in extending its line to the Coast will pass down the Grande Ronde River, and through the center of this immense deposit. There is fine timber, gold and silver, agricultural and grazing lands in this immediate vicinity and the natural resources afforded by this particular section could support a community of ten thousand people without any connection whatever with the outside world.

Battleship Construction in the West.

Work on the vessels of the United States Navy and on one for the United States Army is delayed because of the present labor troubles in San Francisco. The Union Iron Works has contracts for six war-ships and two submarine torpedo boats. The most important of these war vessels is the battle-ship Ohio. She was launched a few months ago by President McKinley. Moored close beside the Ohio is the monitor Wyoming. She was launched last September and is not yet completed. The torpedo boat destroyers Preble, Perry and Perry Jones are also at the Union Iron Works, and the work of altering the boats has not been started. The transport Sherman has been at the Union Iron Works for over six months.

Big Sunnyside Canal Extended.

The Washington Irrigation Company contemplates an extension of the Sunnyside canal to the Prosser district. Work will probably begin some time this Fall. A new line of railroad to tap the country east of the Yakima River is also under advisement. The road will leave the main line of the Northern Pacific at Prosser and connect again at Toppenish after extending through the Sunnyside district. Several thousand acres will be added to the cultivated area of Yakima Valley by the completion of the new branch canal.

Monster Steamers for China Trade.

The Northern Pacific Railway Company has decided to build two immense steamships for the Pacific and China trade of about the same size as those now building at New London, Conn., for the Great Northern Railway. They will be of 28,000 tons, or three times the capacity of an average ocean freighter.

Special Train for Potatoes.

A special train of about 40 carloads of potatoes left Stockton, Cal., September 1 for the Middle and Southern States. The demand for potatoes, onions and cabbage through the Middle States is large, owing to the drouth, and hundreds of carloads will be sent there from California this year. Local dealers are paying from $1.50 to $1.69 a hundred pounds for potatoes on the river bank. This shipment is the largest single consignment of potatoes ever sent out of the state.

Anthracite Coal is Found.

A prospector who had spent several months in the Cascades brought out recently a number of samples of coal, which he found early in the Summer and which he says is true anthracite. He states he brought out samples earlier in the year and sent them East for analysis, and that the examination by an expert bears out his idea of the character of the find. He says he has located a vein thirteen feet in thickness which is practically free from slate. It is located up the Natches River.

Million Dollar Irrigation Plant.

Field work on another big irrigation enterprise in Crook County, Oregon, will be started soon. It contemplates bringing under irrigation a little valley on the upper course of the Deschutes River known as Walker Basin. The basin includes about 100,000 acres of sage brush land and about 60,000 acres of that area can be brought under the proposed irrigation system. The soil is exceptionally rich and is free of stones, water only being needed to make it ideal farming land. But the altitude is about 4,500 feet above the sea and the temperature is so low that only the hardy crops flourish there. It is adapted particularly to fattening cattle for the market. The Oregon Development Company, with an authorized capital of $1,000,000 will conduct this irrigation enterprise. Eastern capitalists will supply the money for it, but a small amount of the stock being held in Oregon. A surveying crew has been put in the field to locate routes for ditches and make estimates of cost of improvement. The water supply will be taken from the Deschutes. The proposed irrigation system will be on the east side of the stream, the west side ascending to the Cascades. With irrigation, that section could hardly be surpassed, it is said, for farming and stock raising. The land has long been surveyed by the Government but almost none of it has been taken up by settlers. A strip of timber lies between Walker Basin and the forest reserve, but that was scripped a few months ago by Eastern timber men. Walker Basin is about 30 miles south from Prineville.

Deep-Sea Fishing by Electricity.

W. B. Mead, the New York millionaire, proposes to catch fish by temporarily blinding them. He has fitted out four boats, each seventy-five feet long and will send them to the Pacific Coast. In this connection he has consulted leading Yale zoological professors and other leading scientists, and had them confirm his theory that the Yale submarine electric light, flashed in the eyes of the fish, will blind them, cause them to come to the surface and then land them in the nets which will be hanging from the boat's side. Yale scientists have told him deep sea fishing will be revolutionized by this new method. Each boat is to have a separate electric plant of its own. The dynamo, directly connected with a new type of petroleum engine, is to be placed with its switches near the engine, permitting the engineer to attend to all conveniently. Wires are to be run from this point to different parts of the boat to supply the current for a new portable naval search light projector, to be used in finding buoys, etc., for general illumination and for four huge Yale submarine arc lamps of several thousand candle power each, which are to do the actual fishing.

Real Estate Values Climbing.

The site selected by the Government for the new federal building in Seattle cost the sum of $174,750. This lot measures 184x240 feet, and upon it will be erected a building costing $750,000. The latter sum is the original appropriation, but Seattle people insist that it is too small and the indications point to an increase of $250,000, or one million in all. Twenty years ago this piece of ground could have been purchased for $2,800, a circumstance that tells the whole story of the growing importance of Puget Sound cities. As a reactionary transaction, a corner lot 120 feet square one block from this federal site was a few days later sold for $30,000 cash. Another big deal closed the same day was the sale of the Donnelly Hotel in Tacoma for $90,000.

Ore Worth $200,000 a Ton.

A wonderfully rich strike was made lately in the old Virtue mine, eight miles east of Baker City, Oregon. The mine has been noted for rich pockets or shoots of ore. The one just opened is larger and richer than any heretofore discovered. It is on the 400-foot level. Ore has been taken out of this mine in times past that went as high as $100,000 to the ton. The ore which is now being taken out is said to be 50 per cent pure gold, which is over $200,000 to the ton. The extent of the new discovery is not known.

Seattle's Biggest Building.

The largest building ever erected in Seattle will be put up shortly by the Moore Investment Company for Eastern capitalists. This building will cover the entire block on the west side of Second avenue between University and Union streets. The frontage will be 360 feet and the depth will be 100 feet and will cost $250,000. One of the requiremtns of the lease is that the Investment Company will be obliged to put three additional stories on the building at the expiration of the first five years.

New College for Spokane.

A new society, having for its object the establishment of a strong new college in Spokane and minor schools for feeders in the surrounding towns has been organized in Spokane. It will be known as the East Washington and North Idaho Education Society. Dr. O. W. Van Osdel, of Spokane, is president. The school will be under the direction of the Baptist denomination.

Veneering Factory Completed.

The veneering and basket factory plant of the Portland Manufacturing Company, located at St. Johns, is nearing completion, and the owners are working with energy to get the factory in operation. Most of the machinery has been placed. About 30 men will be employed at the start.

Big Steel Plant Resumes.

Information comes from Irondale, across the bay from Port Towsend, Washington, that the tedious and enormous task of putting the blast furnace there in condition for operating again, after ten years of inactivity, is almost completed, and the Pacific Steel people are now figuring on the date for starting up and renewing the big industry that in former years menat so much for the business men of Port Towsend, and which promises to bring about a repetition of that condition of affairs.

Royal Abstainer.

The Queen of Holland, it is stated, is a total abstainer, and ostentatiously refuses, on all public occasions, to partake of wine. The Queen is a patron of the Total Abstinence Society and of the Women's Social Purity League, and it is said is among the most active of workers.

Wanted Rusty Shoes.

One of Mame's little friends had a pair of russet shoes, and she thought it would be nice for her to have a pair of that kind. So when she and her mother went to the shoe store, and the clerk brought out some black ones, she said: "That is not the kind I want, mamma; I want a pair of rusty ones."

Trouble Either Way.

Mrs. De Good—Why aren't you going to church?

Mr. De Good—Last Sunday the roof leaked, and three or four drops went down my back.

Mrs. De Good—The roof has been repaired since then.

Mr. De Good—Huh! Then they'll be wanting money to pay for the repairs.—New York Weekly.

A Great Man.

I count him a great man who inhabits a higher sphere of thought, into which other men rise with labor and difficulty. He has but to open his eyes to see things in a true light and in large relations, while they must make painful corrections and keep a vigilant eye on many sources of error. * * * He is a great man who is what he is from nature and who never reminds us of others.—Emerson.

Too Smart.

"Huh!" exclaimed Mr. Rox after reading his morning mail. "Our boy's college education is making him too blamed smart."

"What's the matter?" asked Mrs. Rox.

"I worte to him the other day that I thought it would be kinder for me not to remit the check he asked for. Now he writes, 'Dear Father, I shall never forget your unremitting kindness.'"—Philadelphia Press.

From Bad to Worse.

Brown—Do those dogs up your way still continue to howl all night?

Jonese—No; the dogs have given up in disgust since our twins arrived on the scene.

All She Took.

Gowanus—I had $2 in my pocket last night, but this morning there is only a penny or two. Did you need some money for a spring shirt waist and take it, Arabela?

Mrs. Gowanus (astonished)—Yes, but I only took $1.98!

Trouble.

Trouble would be a great deal easier to bear if those you dislike were not having the best time of their lives, just when you are going through it.—Atchison Globe.