

State Press Flashlights.

The Mexicans really believe that the United States is too weak to intervene, but they are afraid of Texas.—Woodburn Independent.

The Carnegie library corporation, having been for two years beset with requests for a library building from Hilland Park, a suburb of Detroit, returned the answer: "You have a philanthropist in Hilland Park—let Henry Ford build you a library." The reference was reasonable, and Mr. Ford was considering it at last accounts.—News Reporter.

The war in Europe began as a contest between German preparation and French fighting ability. When these two elements had fought each other to a second stage, the struggle entered a second stage, the struggle between German mobility and Russian preponderance. At last the combat of the nations is taking a third aspect, that of a duel of armament, waged between the manufacturers of the nations. The war, like the world that wages it, is being industrialized.—Dallas Itemizer.

Indications point to an era of bounteous prosperity in the very near future. Manufacturing plants and mills, long closed down, are again resuming operations. The lumber industry of the Pacific Coast especially is returning to its normal stage. From all over the State of Oregon comes reports of mills resuming operations. The "poor farmer" is getting unheard of prices for his products, especially grain. Men are returning to work, more money is in circulation. We predict a great future for Oregon, especially Tillamook County, which is a vast field of undeveloped resources.—Wheeler Reporter.

"Necessity is the mother invention." When the war is over the American people will be surprised to learn of the many things, hitherto supplied by foreign countries, which are at the present time and will continue to be produced by our own factories started through compulsory methods. Our chemists are working with success on dyes heretofore procured from Germany and on other trade necessities. The same thing applies to the individual. Poverty has brought out the buried thoughts in more men than all the wealth in the world. When the manufacturers, the nations—or the individual is made to hustle or go without—is then that things of value are accomplished.—News-Times.

Chicago has appropriated for her school budget almost as much money as the legislature of Illinois allowed at its recent session for one year for all the purposes of the state. The total amount is eighteen and a quarter million dollars. Education costs like fury, and the tendency is everywhere the same. We will have to stand the increased expense if we are going to insist on carrying it into such minor details as teaching children how to brush their teeth, saw a board and sew on buttons. The latest local recommendation was by Nels Darling, who declared that every town like McMinnville should have a twenty acre agricultural experiment station farm. When that time comes we imagine a vigorous howl will go up from the state agricultural college, as well as from local taxpayers.—Telephone Register.

In commenting on the cost of Jackson county's bonding for hard surfaced roads the Eugene Register says that in order to obtain this 34 miles of paved highway the people of Jackson county have bonded themselves for \$500,000, entailing an annual interest charge of \$25,000. If the bonds run for twenty years the 34 miles of road will have cost the taxpayers a million dollars. Something, of course, will have been saved in maintenance, but this saving will not equal the annual interest charge by any means. The general bonding system is wrong for it involves running the county heavily in debt for the construction of a comparatively small mileage of road. If roads are to be built by bond issues, the greater part of the cost should be assessed to the benefited property, as in the case of paved streets and sewers in the city.

Worry is a great American habit. As a national pastime, baseball is a poor second. Our peculiar civilization makes it chronic. We are the champion worriers of the universe. The African is happy; oriental fatalism prevents a dissatisfaction with the Asiatic; the European, in peace, is usually content. But we worry because Jones next door has an automobile. Our brethren of the other continents would merely accept Jones as a superior being and let it go at that. We don't. So we go on worrying because Jones has an automobile, because Mrs. Jones has a new gown and because we may have some trouble scraping together the money for next month's rent and food bills. And we know all the time that worrying won't ever get us the motor car, the gown, or pay the rent; in fact, it takes away whatever little joy there might be in living. We know that it impairs our health, destroys our efficiency and spoils our chances of ever attaining anything. Yes, worry is a great thing—for doctors and undertakers!—Seaside Signal.

The increasing number of automobile accidents plainly evidences the fact that drivers of machines are taking chances that should not be taken. The public prints are filled with accounts of accidents which might have been avoided by the exercise of caution. There can be little, if any, excuse for trains and automobiles coming into collision at crossings. Every railroad crossing should be considered dangerous, and the proper amount of care exercised by the occupant of the driver's seat. Transportation companies are not expected to slow down for an approaching automobile. When one figures that, for instance, in going to Salem from Dallas the trip can be made in 100 minutes by running

at the rate of thirty miles per hour, which is not an unreasonable speed under favorable conditions, few travelers are in such a hurry that they could not well afford to occupy forty to fifty minutes and insure perfect safety. The small gain in the lesser time of the trip is not worth the risk by any one. And this is true of any trip one starts out to make.—Observer.

Among the many things that the Democratic platform viewed with distinct alarm were the extravagance of Republican Congress and the increasing cost of living. Not only did the Democratic platform express distress at the evidences of Republican mismanagement, but Democratic spellbinders took the stump to explain how deeply they deplored the heavy burdens put on the people by the Republicans' reckless waste of public money and the Republican tariff that was the primal cause of living's high cost. Platform and spellbinders alike promised economy, and we were assured that if we voted for the Democracy such a reduction would be made in government and private expense that we would all get a dividend from the savings, and live happily ever after. The last Congress, which was Democratic, was the most extravagant in the history of the country. The Secretary of Commerce and Labor tells us that in September the cost of living reached the highest point in the history of the country when the price of all food was 7.1 per cent higher than the average price for 1913. The Democracy should be arrested and should be led on bread and water twice a year for the crime of obtaining votes by false pretenses.—The Spectator.

Cancer Treatment.

The death rate from cancer is large and increasing. How to prevent the suffering and loss of life which are caused by this disease is a question which has engaged some of the best efforts of gifted men, but thus far they have succeeded only in ascertaining that it is curable by no other means than the surgeon's knife. Taken in time, almost every cancer may be perfectly extirpated. Neglected too long, it becomes incurable and leads to inevitable death. It is a sad fact that many patients suffering from incipient cancers do not know their own condition. They do not understand the symptoms of the disease. Nor is the public as familiar as it should be with what is known of the causes of cancer. Nearly all physicians agree that persistent irritation is one of the causes, if not the chief of all. Dr. George F. Koehler dwells upon both these points in a paper published in Northwest Medicine for July and urges better popular education in these particulars. Dr. Koehler argues that if people in general knew more about the conditions which probably bring on cancer and about its early symptoms the death rate from this disease might be lowered. He lays stress upon the "precancerous period," during which a lesion which is not incurable may pass into a true cancer. He says there is probably such a period in every case. Of course if medical aid is invoked in this preliminary stage it is likely to be effective. It is therefore extremely important that knowledge of its peculiarities should be widely diffused. Dr. Koehler pays particular attention in his article to cancer of the alimentary tract, since it is in this region, he tells us, that "two-thirds of all cancers in the male occur," and by far the most frequent, of course, is cancer of the stomach. It seems that this terrible malady is more than likely to begin with an ulcer and, in some instances, "the transformation from ulcer to cancer is of alarming rapidity." Now an "acid stomach" occurring persistently is one of the sure symptoms of ulcer either actual or nascent. Too much acidity may set up an ulcer by irritation even in a well begun the acid makes it worse. It follows clearly enough that acidity of the stomach is one of the preliminary symptoms of cancer and that it should never be neglected. Dr. Koehler believes that early operation upon ulcer of the stomach may perhaps reduce the mortality of cancer of the stomach 50 per cent.

As everybody knows by this time, cancer is more common in mature persons than in the young. Stomach troubles which may indicate the approach of cancer are therefore particularly menacing in men more than 35 years old. Dr. Koehler recommends for persons that are thus afflicted an exploratory incision to find out exactly what their condition is unless the gastric symptoms yield promptly to medical treatment. This is particularly important, he thinks, if the patient has lost weight, if he passes blood, or if there has been cancer in his family. It would be well if Dr. Koehler's instructive articles could be published in popular form. The public is badly informed upon this important subject and every effort on the part of competent physicians to spread the light deserves warm encouragement.—Oregonian.

Infanticide No Crime.

Charged with smothering an unwelcome, day-old babe, two women, the mother and grandmother, pleaded guilty to manslaughter, and Judge Gatens set them free—the older woman under parol. For refusing to punish these self-confessed infanticides the court presents cogent and heart touching reasons which, if followed to their logical conclusion, would save from punishment all the would save a crime from whose consequences one rascal had been lucky enough to escape. The court pardoned and paroled the women because the putative father of the murdered babe was not also a prisoner at the bar of justice. In freeing the infanticides, Judge Gatens delivered a very sane and sensible homily on the evils of what is called the double standard of morals. In this country, though the perfidious operation of the double standard, the punishment of immoralities

practiced by the man and woman is popularly supposed to fall on the woman alone. It is probable that in other lands where plying is the custom, the double standard of morals demands that the red of justice shall beat on the shoulders of the sinning man only. The double standard of morality alike are matters of latitude, and while the double standard of morals may be one of the curses of our social life, what has it to do with punishing or failing to punish those guilty of the crime of manslaughter? The reputed and recreant father of the dead babe was not a co-defendant in the case before Judge Gatens, nor was the pitiless mother on trial for a sin that is considered or punished in the court of the double standard of morals. In a court of justice, she was charged with the crime of manslaughter, in which the putative father had not joined her; and she pleaded guilty of the crime, which was just as heinous as if the human being that she destroyed had been twenty-four years old, instead of but twenty-four hours, and had had a loving father, instead of a father who denied his parenthood.

Probably the mother who killed the fatherless child should not be punished. The Spectator will not judge her. But if the destruction of a human life is no longer to be considered a crime, we must find some other excuse for it than the double standard of morals. If we have gone a bit far in forgiving man for his immorality, aren't we likely to go much too far when we begin excusing woman for her infanticides?—The Spectator.

450,000 Square Miles of German Territory Taken. London, July 14.—Four hundred and fifty thousand square miles of German colonial possessions have been occupied by the Entente allies during the war. This official estimate was announced today by A. Bonor Law, the British secretary of the colonies.

Ford Refund Announced.

Detroit, July 16.—The Ford automobile Company announced today a refund of approximately \$15,000,000 to the owners of Ford automobiles who have purchased the machines since August 1, 1914. On August 1, 1914, the company announced that if 300,000 automobiles were sold during the ensuing year, each purchaser would receive a refund of from \$40 to \$50. The 300,000 mark was reached today. The company says the refund is strictly in the nature of the profit distribution policy of the company.

Mind Reading.

What is believed to be the most remarkable exhibition of clairvoyant powers ever demonstrated was witnessed at a hearing in the Court of General Sessions, New York, June 29, before Judge Rosalsky, who was presiding. Prof. Bert Reese had been convicted by a magistrate as a fortune teller and had appealed against his conviction. To prove that he was not a fakir, but a scientist, the professor volunteered to give a demonstration in court. The judge wrote the questions, "What was the ruling in the Shelley case?" "How much money have I in the — Bank?" and "What is the name demonstrator not only told what the of my favorite school-teacher." The questions were, but informed his honor that \$15 dollars was in the bank to his credit and that his favorite school-teacher was Miss O'Connor. Reese has given many exhibitions before the crowned heads of European and some of the world's greatest scientists. Thomas A. Edison has tried vainly to solve the secret of his powers. He says that the questions and answers flash themselves in his mind without any effort on his part.

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WHERE BRYAN BLUNDERED.

The Real Cause of his Resignation From the Cabinet.

Washington, July 14.—What really happened between William J. Bryan, then secretary of state, and the Austrian ambassador in and after the conversation which later caused the consideration of the submarine issue in Berlin was told today by one who knows all the facts.

It is understood now that the complications which arose out of this talk between Bryan and Ambassador Dumba was one of the things which led to Bryan's resignation. It is asserted that the president was greatly annoyed at this incident and at the steps which Bryan was compelled to take to correct the misunderstanding. That Bryan did give the Austrian ambassador to understand that a friendly answer was all that was required of Germany in response to the Lusitania note of May 15. From this arose all the trouble. Bryan's recent public statement in explanation of the incident has not in the least altered the understanding of those in a position to have authoritative information on the subject.

After the Lusitania note of May 15, when feeling was running high in this country and the newspapers were printing articles suggestive of war or the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany Ambassadors Bernstorff and Dumba were doing everything possible to relieve the situation here.

As Ambassador Dumba was not directly involved in the submarine issue it was decided that he should call on Bryan and endeavor to learn from him just what was the attitude of the administration. It was thought that possibly the ambassador might learn something of great value in advising the Berlin Government how to meet the demands of the United States. Ambassador Dumba called at the State Department and after some considerable effort, got Bryan to discuss the question.

That in this conversation Bryan distinctly gave the ambassador to understand that all the United States really required of Germany was a friendly answer. It is declared that Bryan said that while the United States had used strong language in the note of May 15, that note did not mean that this country was going to break off with Germany if Berlin did not meet the president's demands. "A friendly note," it is stated, is what Bryan said was wanted from Germany in reply. Bryan referred, it is declared, to the pressure of public opinion upon the president in explanation of the language of the note to be sent to Berlin.

That Ambassador Dumba left the State Department much relieved, with the conviction that the situation was not at all dangerous, is certain. He wrote a dispatch to his government, reporting the conversation and the impression he had gained from it as to the seriousness of the American Government's intentions. This message was shown to Ambassador Bernstorff, with whom the Austrian ambassador was in daily conference at that time.

The effects of the impression gained by the ambassador in his talk with Bryan came a few days later. Ambassador Gerard was at the Berlin foreign office, using vigorous language about the American position on the submarine issue. The official with whom he was speaking suddenly interrupted him with a smile and told him, in effect, that he knew Gerard was bluffing and that there was no need of such strong language. He told Gerard that the Berlin Government had been informed that the American note was merely for home consumption and that all the United States wanted from Germany was a soft answer which would make a break between the two governments unnecessary.

Gerard was indignant and at once reported to Washington what had been said to him. His message aroused the State Department. It was this dispatch that Bryan had in mind when in his recent statement on this subject, he spoke of having learned that his conversation with Dr. Dumba "had been misinterpreted in Berlin."

Dumba was sent for by Bryan and told of what had happened. He explained as best he could. Bernstorff was also called in and, according to Bryan, he showed a report of his original conversation with the ambassador to the president. Apologies were made all round, even the Berlin Foreign Office sending a message expressing its regret that a misunderstanding had occurred. Nevertheless the understanding of those who knew about the original conversation was not changed by these polite exchanges, and Bryan's statement also failed to alter their view of what had happened.

Much good came from the plan of Secretary Daniels to enlist the leading inventors of this country as a board to devise and to pass upon inventions that may be useful to the United States navy, in case it should ever be called into action. His invitation to Mr. Edison to become president of such a board is a just recognition of one of the world's greatest inventors. He has long been called the wizard of electricity. While naturally gifted, his success has been due to tireless industry and unswerving perseverance. Gladly accepting the honor and the responsibility he immediately proposed that a department of experimentation be established, in which men will work with definite ends in view. Mr. Edison has shown the advantage of this kind of work in the electrical realm and in improvements on the phonograph. There are two kinds of inventions. One might be called inspirational, since they come apparently by accident. They are more in the nature of discoveries than inventions. Other come only after diligent effort to overcome plain defects or to supply long-felt wants. The original steam engine is the example of the first kind. The cotton gin is a striking example of the second kind.

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