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E. HOFER, Editor. A. F. HOFER, Manager.  
THE JOURNAL STANDS FOR PROGRESS, DEVELOPMENT, GOOD GOVERNMENT, AND NO DEGRADED LABOR.

**NO ONE WANTS THE POLE.**

Peary is having a hard time in collecting money to carry out his plan of making a dash for the North Pole.

**THERE NEVER WAS A GENERAL INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT OF POLAR EXPLORATION** of a substantial enough character to induce those who possess it to go down deeply into their pockets to carry out the plans of the ambitious explorers.

Usually the funds for this purpose are provided by enthusiasts who are about equally animated by the desire to advance the cause of science and **THE ITCH FOR NOTORIETY.**

Until the world is convinced that polar discoveries will result in substantial benefits to mankind, this lukewarmness is sure to continue.

**THE WORLD'S FUEL PROBLEM.**

No subject discussed during recent years has called forth more diverse opinion than that of the world's supply of fuel.

Unfortunately, however, while its gravity is fully recognized, it seems impossible to persuade the present generation that it is really a serious matter, one which may touch them much sooner than most optimists are willing to concede.

The attitude generally is one of selfish indifference, and those maintaining it have no better excuse to offer than the dubious one that the advance in science, and the attendant ability to take care of things will discover a way out of the difficulty when mankind is up sharp against it.

There may be ample ground for the optimistic assumption that some effective substitute will be found for coal when the existing supply is exhausted; it may even be conceded that the measures contain a quantity of fuel which will last centuries at the present rate of consumption; the tremendous part played by water in the generation of electric power may be kept in mind, and the possibilities of alcohol may not be overrated, and still the fact remains that **WHEN COAL BECOMES SCARCE SOMETHING LIKE A REVOLUTION WILL BE COMPELLED IN OUR MODE OF LIVING** and it will necessarily resemble a reversion to primitive conditions.

While the correctness of this assumption may not even be considered by those who never consider a problem until it is forced upon them, there are some students and practical people who do not hesitate to assert that **"THE CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES, AND ESPECIALLY THE PRESERVATION OF OUR IRREPLACEABLE FUEL SUPPLY" SHOULD BE THE PRIME OBJECT OF EVERY AMERICAN STATESMAN.**

Among these is the editor of the Iron Trade Review, who points out that the industrial future of the United States may hinge on our ability to obtain an adequate supply of coal, and who hints that we may be leaning on a broken reed when we lay too much stress upon the great stores of fuel not yet uncovered and which may yet be discovered in unproductive countries.

The hint may with safety be developed into something stronger. There is no reasonable ground for believing that the insane desire to get rid of an irreplaceable article like coal will always exist.

On the contrary, it is more than probable that with a growing appreciation of the value of fuel in the work of industrial development an opposite policy may be pursued, and peoples possessing stores of coal will take steps to prevent its exportation.

Premonitions of a resort to such a course were contained in the recent action of Great Britain placing an export duty on coal, which was defended on the ground that the tax would tend to conserve the supply for the domestic industry.

It does not follow because Great Britain has removed the export duty from coal that her statesmen were convinced of the unwisdom of such a policy.

**THEY DID SO BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT WITHSTAND THE PRESSURE OF THOSE WHO MAKE MONEY BY SELLING COAL TO FOREIGNERS.**

In the same way we shall probably get rid of a large share of our supply.

The Iron Trade Review foresees that such will be the case. It asserts that "every objection is subordinate to the utilitarian idea that America, owing to its abundant and comparatively virgin resources, will sooner or later become an important seller of coal to the older European countries which are becoming rapidly impoverished, since with the growing shrinkage their remaining stores cannot keep pace with the rising demand for very long."

So, according to this authority, we may expect to follow **THE SAME UNWISE COURSE AS THE OLDER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND DIMINISH OUR SUPPLY TO THE STATE OF IMPOVERISHMENT.**

The question this prospect raises is a vital one.

When we have reached the degree of impoverishment, and try to draw on other nations now in the backward stage, will they be as ready to part with their fuel as we have been?

Will they not rather see the advantage its possession gives them and keep all they can at home?

In that event, when our coal is gone is there any one silly enough to imagine that the irreplaceable coal will find an adequate substitute in water power and alcohol?

These two sources may prove valuable auxiliaries in the future, but they will cut a poor figure in a contest with countries which can command abundant supplies of coal.

**AN HOTEL IS NOT AN INN.**

The Saturday Evening Post prints the following letter from a person who, according to the editorial belief, is a "thoughtful correspondent."

The letter criticises the average American hotel very justly, pointing out that the European plan of hotel in Europe serves the guest just what it advertises, while the European plan as practiced in America receives the following criticism:

"The so-called first class hotel—not only in New York, where ground rents are enormous, but in most self-respecting inland metropolises—**WILL CHARGE ABOUT FOUR DOLLARS A DAY FOR A SMALL BEDROOM AND BATH.**

This charge is evidently made up substantially as follows: For room, bed and bath, 75 cents; for brass in bedposts, rosewood furniture and rug \$1.25; for marble and decorations downstairs, \$2.

I do not wish to pay for marble and decorations.

Often I would rather pay to have them out or sight.

I do not care for brass bedposts and rosewood, yet have to take them and pay for them.

I would like fresh air and sunshine in my room; but I cannot get them, except by taking a loading of brass, rosewood, rugs and decorations which makes the cost prohibitive.

Consider the meals. Certain famous establishments charge fifty cents, because they do it in a manner to meet the requirements of the most fastidious taste.

The superficial signs of this process are a handsome dining-room, real silverware, and waiters in swallow-tail coats.

A large number of so-called first-class hotels make the same charge and think themselves justified when they provide these superficialities merely.

That the food is indifferent and the service slovenly does not seem important to them.

My own taste is not fastidious

I can very cheerfully eat cold-storage eggs in which the waiter has stuck his thumb, but I cannot cheerfully pay the first class price for them.

**THIS CORRESPONDENT IS REMINISCENT, NOT "THOUGHTFUL."**

Thought assembles the facts from memory and from observation, sorts them, analyzes them, adds them up and reaches a conclusion.

A thoughtful person who travels ever so little in the United States will recognize all the facts set out by this correspondent. To sort the facts and draw some conclusions is interesting.

First of all, the hotel is essentially a "down-town" establishment. Therefore the rental value of a bed or a dining table situated in a building that stands upon land of high value is considerable.

A room and bath at four dollars a day may represent but fifty cents for the investment and rental value of the bed, but the rental value of the room in which the bed stands is big.

**EVEN THE BRASS, THE PLUSH, AND THE ORNAMENTAL FRONT OFFICE DOES NOT USE UP THE OTHER THREE AND A HALF.**

The American will pay more for a room in the business district than for a room outside.

The beds may be exactly alike, but the bed that is reached in two minutes from the theater gets the traveler's money in this country, and what the bulk of the traveling public seeks, the minority must accept.

The traveler for business wants the down-town hotel.

The hotel dweller who likes plush and brass and a cheap orchestra, and has some ready money, likes a down-town hotel.

Most of the travelers for pleasure like a down-town hotel. These classes pay four dollars a day for fifty-cents' worth of home comforts, and three fifty for ground rent.

Until that class which made the old English Inn a paying institution and which has later given the "European plan" to England and Europe, arrives in this country, the Inn will not pay.

When that class grows among us the Inn will come.

It will be situated well out of the business center where the value of the ground will be something less than a fortune.

It will be six stories high.

**IT WILL HAVE SUNSHINE, AND BEDS AND REAL FOOD.**

The ornamental office will be absent.

These are the forerunners of the American Inn that is to be, an institution as different from the down-town hotel as the costume of the Bowery is different from the simple dress of the sweet girl graduate.

The "thoughtful correspondent" of the Post would find a study of ground rentals and American travelers vastly entertaining.

**A Japanese Match Trust.**

Consul General H. B. Miller, of Yokohama, forwards the following particulars, published in a Japanese newspaper, concerning the latest attempt to consolidate the match-making industry in Japan:

A bill for the incorporation of the match industry in now before the house of representatives, with the stated object of protecting the industry of Japan, and the extension of the markets abroad. The total value of matches exported per annum is estimated at \$5,000,000, and it is proposed to set aside 20 per cent of this sum and buy up the stock in trade and trade marks of the existing match factories.

The number of companies and private firms engaged in the manufacture of matches in Japan is 209, of which 60 manufacture matches for export and 149 make matches for home consumption. They employ about 130,000 operatives and other employes, and the wood used for the sticks annually amounts to about 150,000,000 cubic feet, equal, according to a Japanese statistician, to 3,200,000 ordinary telegraph poles. The other raw materials imported are valued at \$1,500,000. The annual value of matches exported is \$5,250,000, and those supplied for home consumption \$1,250,000. The principal field for the export of matches is China, which buys to the value of \$2,825,000; next comes Hongkong, taking \$1,300,000; Singapore, \$502,000; India, \$370,000; and Corea, \$175,000.

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Dealers in fish, game and poultry. Highest cash price paid for eggs. Prompt delivery. State street.

**Local Wholesale Market.**

Eggs—14c.  
Hens—12 1/2c; young chickens, 11c.  
Ducks—10c; geese, 8c; turkeys, 13@16c.  
Butter—22 1/2c; fat, 21 1/2c.  
Local wheat—68@70c.  
Local wheat—68c.  
Oats—38@40c.  
Barley—\$22@23.  
Flour—\$3.25.  
Mill feed—Bran, \$19.00; shorts, \$21.00.  
Hay—Cheat and clover, \$7@8 per ton; timothy, \$10 per ton.  
Onions—\$2.00 per cwt; potatoes, \$1.00 per bu.  
Hops—Choice, 10@11c; prime to choice, 8@9c; medium to prime, 8 1/2c.  
Chittim bark—5 1/2@6c.

**Tropical Fruits.**

Bananas—\$6.75.  
Oranges—\$3.00@3.75.  
Lemons—\$6.00@5.50.

**Retail Market.**

Oats—\$1.40 per cwt.; wheat, 80c; rolled barley, \$27.50@28 per ton.  
Eggs—20c doz.  
Apples—\$3.00.  
Butter—Country, 20c; creamery, 30c.  
Flour—\$1 per sack.  
Bran—65c per sack; \$20 per ton.  
Hay—Timothy, 70c per cwt.; cheat and clover, 50c per cwt.; shorts, 95c per cwt.

**Livestock.**

Hogs—Dressed, 9c.  
Cattle—1100@1200 lb steers, 4@4 1/2c.  
Lighter steers—3 1/2@4c.  
Cows and heifers—900@1000 lb, 3 1/2@4c.  
Stock hogs—6c.  
Hogs—Fat, 6 1/4c.  
Lamb—5c.  
Veal—Dressed, 8c.

**PORTLAND MARKET.**

Wheat—Club, 78c; valley, 77c; blue stem, 80.  
Oats—Choice white, 29c.  
Millstuff—Bran, 17.  
Hay—Timothy, \$15 @ \$16; alfalfa \$11.50.  
Vetch—\$7.50@8.00.  
Potatoes—85c@2.10 per cwt.  
Poultry—Hens, 15@16c; mixed chickens, 14 1/2@15c; dressed chickens, 16@17c; turkeys, live, 13@14c; ducks, 17@18c; pigeons, \$1.00@1.25.  
Pork—Dressed, 6@6 1/2c.  
Beef—Dressed, 5@6c.  
Mutton—6@7c.  
Hops—9@10 1/2c lb, according to quality.  
Wool—Valley, coarse to medium, 29@32c; eastern Oregon, 13@18c.

**When You Need a Laxative**  
Do not resort to violent purgatives which simply produce an effect without removing the cause of the trouble. Cathartics do not cure constipation. Their use eventually weakens the bowels and interferes with digestion. The safe remedy for constipation, whether occasional or chronic is  
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