

THE CAPITAL JOURNAL

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IS EXTREMELY TENDER-HEARTED.

HERE IS A MONTHLY published in Chicago, known as the Public Service Magazine. It is an eleemosynary affair, devoted to looking after public utility matters of all kinds, and especially to protecting the people against themselves. It spends lots of good money hunting up statistics, facts and figures to show that municipalities cannot own and maintain and operate gas, electric lighting or water plants nearly so well or so cheaply as this work can be done for them by private companies. It devotes all its space to this great work, and does not charge the public a cent for its work and trouble. It is seldom, indeed, in these money-loving days, one sees such broad philanthropy, such generous and unselfish devotion to the public welfare.

Wherever there has been any public ownership of public utility plants, such as are mentioned above, this charitable magazine has gone to much trouble and expense to show that it is a failure, that it is not paying, and that it is mismanaged and a public calamity. It gets all facts and boils them down for the public, leaving nothing to be looked up and invariably shows that a plant owned and operated by the people is always a failure.

Recently an article from this magazine was sent the Capital Journal, showing that the water and light plants at Eugene were operated at a big loss. It stated that the accounts were so kept that they were not understandable, and then proceeded to explain them. Eugene is not kicking over her water or light plants and why the magazine should be so interested in belittling public ownership, either by Eugene or any other place can only be explained on the ground that the big fellows who want to exploit the public pay this magazine for its work. It is sad to have to admit this, for it destroys the idea of the beautiful and tender spirit shown on the face of things, and put in its place a heartless working for money, and not very clean money, at that.

THE TROUBLE MENTAL, NOT PHYSICAL.

THE OREGONIAN of Wednesday has a splendidly written editorial on "Eugenics and Race Degeneracy." The only trouble with it is that like all discussions of this subject, it leaves a person in the same place it first found him. It deals largely with the subject of marriage of the insane, feeble-minded or defective, and the steps taken to prevent such marriage, or to be exact the production of offspring from this class. It is indeed a hard matter to control. Dr. Elliot says "it is the plain duty to provide segregation of the defective, the insane, and the habitual criminal, in order to prevent the breeding of human beings from such stock." Some states have gone so far as to pass sterilization laws, but it is pointed out that the laws preventing marriage do not prevent the bringing into the world the class mentioned, for the reason that the weakling debarred from marriage, is not necessarily prevented from producing his or her kind. It is indeed doubtful if "eugenics" accomplishes much, if anything. Dr. Elliot, we think, is in error when he states that "the civilization of the last 100 years has worked terribly against the health and perpetuity of the whole race." Statistics show, if they show anything that can be relied on, that human life is longer than a few generations ago, and the public health as a whole, better. Witness for instance, what civilization has done for Hayti and Jamaica, in the stamping out of epidemic fevers. That the modern family is smaller than that of 100 years ago is true, but it is not on account of selection, or that the race is less prolific, but is the deliberate act of the heads of the families.

We think the secret of race degeneracy, of the passing in turn of one after another civilization, is due to the same thing, and that is that when civilization reaches a certain stage, when social affairs and show take so much of the time and attention of the women that children become a hindrance to their mothers in these social functions, then race suicide begins. It is for this reason that few wealthy families are large, and for the same reason that the families of the poor are so much larger than those of their rich neighbors. It is not the uniting of physically defective persons that is so much to blame as it is the marriage of mentally defective persons of the female sex who cannot or will not spend the time away from the social whirl that is necessary to bring children into the world. The higher the civilization, the greater the temptation for women to avoid the duties of motherhood. That is the reason that civilization is fatal to the human race. That is what has caused the downfall one after another, of the civilizations that have preceded ours and that will eventually cause the downfall of ours. What we need is that kind of "eugenics" that will "eugenize" the modern woman's mind and put it on a normal plane.

IS CAPITAL PUNISHMENT JUSTIFIABLE?

WE ARE MOVED to discuss this much disputed-over matter from the fact that there is now in the prison here a prisoner condemned to be hanged Friday, September 5, or one week from tomorrow. We are disposed to be on both sides of this question, that is, on general principles we do not believe in taking human life as a punishment for crime, even murder under average circumstances, but there are cases where there seems nothing else to do. We do not believe that hanging ever acted as a deterrent to murder further than to effectually deter the man hanged from further crime. As a fearful example, it is absolutely worthless, for this has been demonstrated by trial for centuries without producing results. There is in our opinion but one phase of crime that should be punished with death and that is when a person is instinctively a criminal, when he is a danger to humanity all the time, just as is a mad dog or a rattlesnake. Then it seems to us they should be put out of the way just as we extinguish a fire, because that is about all that can be done.

For the man who commits murder for the purpose of robbery, who weighs human life in the scales with money and finds coin the heavier, death is not too great a punishment, not great enough, but all we can provide.

In nearly all other classes of murder the death penalty seems too much, and the interests of society can be served without going to this extreme. In the

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case we have mentioned, the prisoner now under sentence of death at the prison, what is to be gained by killing him? He is barely 18 years old, and when the crime was committed for which he is sentenced to die, he was only 17. The history of the case is briefly as follows:

Robert Morgan, the prisoner in question, was born in Kentucky, belonging to what is known there as the "poor white trash." When a few years old his father died and he was placed in an orphan asylum, from which his mother took him when about 5 years old. A year later he was abandoned, and like Topsy, "just grew up by himself." The record of his life there shows that he was industrious and self-sustaining.

There grew up in the same community with him a girl. She was some four years older than he, and as he loved her, she easily dominated him. She came to Oregon, and after some time wrote Morgan to come out here too. He came as the evidence shows, expecting to marry the girl, and she had encouraged him in this idea. After being with the girl awhile, he went to Alaska to better his condition, and after being there some months, the girl wrote him to come back. He returned to Condon, still expecting to marry the girl. In the meanwhile she had met a man nearer her own age and evidently preferred him to Morgan, whom she discarded. Some time after this young Morgan, being in Condon, as he was returning to his hotel about 10 o'clock at night, met the girl with the other man, and also with another couple. As they passed the girl said something to him, but what is not known, and the boy instantly drew his pistol and shot her dead. The pistol was one given him by his father when he was but a baby, it being the custom in that country for every one to carry a gun at all times. There was no premeditation, no thought, just an unfortunate meeting, a remark of some kind that stirred the fires of jealousy in him and the terrible crime was committed. We do not believe in the death penalty for that kind of a crime, and especially when committed by one almost a child, certainly yet far from maturity.

Oregon is first in many things, in the direct election of senators, the recall and other measures of which she may well feel proud, but it is hoped she will not be the first to establish the practice of hanging children, no matter how grave the offense.

Another reason why we object to capital punishment is that it is class punishment, a luxury sacred to the poor, and forbidden the wealthy. No rich man is ever hanged, no matter how heinous the crime he commits, and in the matter of punishment and death, at least the poor man should be placed on a level with the rich. It is said that death levels all things, and we do not believe in the poor man being singled out as the recipient of this the sole thing in which the law gives him a place so far in front of his more wealthy fellow criminal.

Until the down-trodden rich are given an equal show before the hangman, we are opposed to capital punishment, except in the case to which we have referred, the killing of the mad-dog style of human being.

KEEPING DAIRY HERD RECORDS IN SCHOOL

Churchill Has Plan Which He Believes Will Be of Great Value to Rural Communities.

How many dairy farmers in the state of Oregon know the cost of keeping a cow for one year, or what it costs to produce a pound of butter fat?

The dairymen of this state will have an opportunity to find out, for State Superintendent Churchill has decided to inaugurate in the state of Oregon, in co-operation with the State Agricultural College, a record-keeping contest in the rural schools. W. A. Barr, who represents the United States dairy division and the extension department of the college, will have direct charge of this work. The plan will be to try out the contest thoroughly in one county, and when it has been proved a success to extend the work into other counties. Mr. Barr has chosen Polk county as the most convenient one in which to begin this work.

The aim of the work is, first, to arouse a greater interest in dairying by learning what the individual cow in the herd is doing, if the dairy is paying, and if not, why not? Second, to place in the school work that which will appeal to the pupils in the higher grades, to give them a lesson of the real. And third to form a connecting link between the school and the home.

In this contest both boys and girls will be allowed to enter who are in the seventh grade or above, and each will be required to keep a record on the herd at home by posting milk and feed records three times each month, at intervals of ten days each. On the days for weighing, a small sample of the morning and evening's milk will be taken and placed in a sample bottle with a preservative tablet which will keep it from souring. After the last sample has been taken, the sample bottles will be taken to the school house and each sample will be tested for butter fat. A Babcock tester will be provided at each school house by the school boards in their respective districts. Computations for the month will then be made and posted in record books furnished each contestant.

State Superintendent Churchill believes that the introduction of this work will not only arouse a greater interest in scientific dairying, but will also put new life and interest into the work of the rural schools.

As an incentive a prize list will be arranged, the basis of awarding the prizes being individual effort on the

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part of the one enrolling in the contest, so that every boy or girl, with a small scrub herd has the same opportunity of securing one of the finest prizes as has the one who keeps a record upon the herd which is representative of the best. The work for the present year will not be attempted in any other than this one county.

THE ROUND-UP.

At Coquille, Friday, Newton Livingstone and Mrs. Carrie Hermann were married. Forty years ago they were sweethearts, and were to be married, but, owing to a quarrel, they separated, each married and raised a family, and, finally losing their mate, they took up the broken thread of 40 years ago, and so they married.

The O. W. R. & N. is extending its track up Sullivan gulch at Portland.

James C. Lamkin has been named postmaster at Hillsboro by President Wilson. The appointment is pleasing to the city.

Joseph Stoke was killed while fighting a forest fire near Sariton Tuesday by a tree falling on him.

The Independence & Monmouth railway has started a regular train service between that place and Wiggin ranch, five miles south of there. There will be two trains each way a day.

Portland Tuesday paid into court \$285,000 for the Martin dock property at the foot of Seventeenth street.

A shipment of 700 barrels of pickled cherries was made on the steamer Beaver to San Francisco Wednesday. They will be made into Marshmallows and used in decorating and adding zest to cocktails. The number of headaches they will be responsible for you can figure out at your leisure.

The contract has been let for the construction of Ontario's Carnegie library at \$7300. The plans were drawn by a local architect.

An effort is being made by Baker parties to organize a wild west show, to be presented within a few weeks, and to be made an annual event.

Baker Herald: Harry Thaw, Jack Johnson, Tammany, Maury Diggs, Harra. Wouldn't that make a pretty party to take a joy ride on a dark night.

The East Oregonian is gratified to observe that though it has been a long hot spell, yet Pendleton's commission government committee has kept right on with its work.

W. E. Johnson has taken hold of the lapsed Central Oregonian at Metolius and given it a new lease of life, which, he is confident, will be long and filled with success.

It is announced that Sweet Home is to have a newspaper. T. L. Dugger, publisher of the Lebanon Tribune, will move his plant to Sweet Home and begin publication September 1.

Toledo Sentinel: One of the exchanges speaks about the gorgeous sunset caused by the smoke from a forest fire several miles away. In all probability the town where the paper is published is safe from the fire, or the beauty of the sunset would have appeared less beautiful.

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In the greatest bargain-giving. Come and see the crowds of people that visit our store daily, then you can see at a glance the reason. The people appreciate real bargains.

COME AND SEE

The wonderful stock of New Fall Silks and Dress Goods we now have on display. The latest foreign and domestic goods shown, and at the lowest prices on this coast.

COME AND SEE

Our New York buyer's purchases of Ladies' New Fall Coats, Suits and Dresses. Our buyer is an expert in the cloak and suit line and you may rest assured that when it comes to quality of materials, the latest in Paris and New York models, he has no superior. We always make the low prices for Salem.

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OUR AUGUST WINDOW DISPLAY. This is the month when cost cuts no figure.

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Away to the hop fields, there pleasures abound,
Unknown to the loungers who hang around town.
There's joy in your heart when you work with a will,
The while you make money to pay ev'ry bill.

The hops in fine clusters hang gracefully round,
Sweet fragrance you smell while you pull the vines down.
With the appetite good, and provisions in store,
You eat till your full, then you wish you had more.

You chronic dyspeptics, whose stomachs you nurse,
And run to the drug store to empty your purse,
If you'd work in the hop fields through sunshine and rain,
You would not have need to take nose-trunks again.

Sometimes in the evening big bonfires you build,
Then with sweet song and laughter the air is well filled.
While others, more stern, at "such nonsense" will groan,
You call them all kickers and wish they were home.

Some say that for "outings" they go to the fields,
But whether or not a rich harvest it yields,
Here's for the plain truth, though you may think me rash,
Ten chances to one they all go for the cash.

'Tis lovely at night-time, when snug in your "nest,"
Contentedly taking your much-deserved rest,
To awaken with a start and get up with a frown,
To patch up the tent while rain pours eth down.

You thunder and roar till your neighbors you fright,
Who find in dismay they are in the same plight,
When some one, who thinks all complaining in vain
Calls out, "Mr. Brown, do you think it will rain!"

And when work is over, the hops are all dried,
You pack your belongings and homeward you ride,

Your heart full of cheer and your purse full of tin,
You'll want to pick hops when the time comes again.
—MRS. W. M. SIEGMUND,
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Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

When you're ready to start, be just as well to move. Babies at this stage of the game, has no progress.
A great deal that you've never goes to prove that there is wide silence.
TRY JOURNAL WANT ADS FOR THEY BRING RESULTS

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