

The action of the county commissioners in authorizing the collection and maintenance of a creditable county exhibit at the A. Y. P. exposition in Seattle next year, should receive the cordial approval of the people of the county. The amount which the commissioners are authorized by law to appropriate is small and in order to make an exhibit which will properly represent the resources and attractions of the county, it will be necessary to supplement it with private contributions—the more the better. The tourist crop is one that ought to be much more generally and assiduously cultivated in this county than it ever has been and in no way can better seed for a fruitful tourist harvest be sown than by making a fine photographic exhibit at the great fair, illustrating farming and other industrial scenes, including the fisheries, and especially numerous enlargements of pictures of the beautiful scenery of our island studded waters, from the McCormick photographs, and a grand panorama from the summit of Mt. Constitution. Such an exhibit would attract hundreds and probably thousands of visitors to the islands and would be of incalculable value to the county. The work of collecting the agricultural and horticultural exhibit will be in charge of the veteran fair man, W. J. Court, which is sufficient assurance that it will be well done.

The productivity of the arid lands of Washington when water is turned on them will be widely exploited at the 16th National Irrigation Congress to be held at Albuquerque during the two weeks of September 29—October 10, when the 28th Annual Territorial Fair is held in the New Mexico metropolis. The irrigation congress will last six days of the two weeks and will be attended by prominent men from all parts of the country. The Seattle Chamber of Commerce will take hold of the matter for this state and will constitute itself a clearing house for those wishing to send fruit for either display or for distribution, as it is intended to give away one carload of fruit each day during the sittings of the Irrigation Congress.

"What benefits the Northwest bene-

fits Seattle." This is the new motto which the Seattle Chamber of Commerce has adopted. It marks a new area in the life of Seattle's pioneer commercial organization, which feels that its work in helping to build up the city has been so successful that the city can look after itself for a while and that state interests can profitably be given consideration. The chamber realizes that the prosperity of any part of the state helps Seattle and that it can best serve the city by serving the state as a whole. Secretary C. B. Yandell, of the Chamber, hit upon the new motto and Seattle will make an enthusiastic effort to live up to it.

The Nooksack Reporter observes that "Thirty years ago one of the old fashioned wire spring wagons was a luxury. Everybody rode in farm wagons. Twenty years ago a top buggy was a rich man's fortune and but a few of them were seen. Today a top buggy with a rubber tire is as common as a democrat in Texas. Anyone and everyone has them. A farm wagon in a funeral procession would be a novelty. The upper-tens ride in automobiles, and they are fast becoming common. If a letter is twenty-four hours traveling a thousand miles there is a kick coming. Ten dollars went last as long as ten cents did with our grandfathers. We spend more for socks and suspenders than grandfather did for his Sunday clothes."

Dr. Roller, Seattle's athletic pride, proved rather easy for Frank Gotch, champion wrestler of the world, in their match last week. The people of the city paid over \$15,000 to see the two giants contest and got the worth of their money, for it was a great struggle. Roller gave Gotch more trouble than he ever had before but the champion won in two falls, getting them in 15 and 21 minutes, respectively.

Whoever is elected governor of the state next November will not be in office long before he can move into the new governor's mansion which the state is about to erect. The contracts for the building were let in Olympia last week and call for a total expenditure of \$27,743.50.

THE BIBLE

Sermon delivered by Rev. W. J. Mitchell in the Presbyterian church, Friday Harbor, Sunday evening, June 28, 1908, from the text in Psalms 9: 9, "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to Thy Word."

I am thoroughly of the opinion that if there is to be throughout the length and breadth of our land a deep, lasting, religious awakening it must come through an intelligent, earnest, searching study of the Word of God. The need of the hour is a return to the Bible.

Bible study is a MANLY THING. There are those who tell us that it is a mark of effeminacy. "It will do very well," we are told, "for women and children, and those who are lacking in the virile qualities of mankind, but it will not do for strong-minded men." Well! despite all this, the fact nevertheless remains, that quite an array of the world's worthies have joined the standard of the Cross, and have cleansed their ways by taking heed according to God's Word.

Look at the field of War: We would hardly call Washington, I suppose, lacking in the virile qualities. But Washington was passionately fond of the Bible, and he was a sterling Christian. Let me read to you a part of an address of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church to President Washington in 1789: "We esteem it a peculiar happiness to behold in our Chief Magistrate a steady, uniform, avowed friend of the Christian religion, who has commended his administration in rational and exalted sentiments of piety, and who in his private conduct adorns the doctrine of the gospel of Christ." Washington publicly commended the Bible as "the pure and benign light of revelation." He spoke of Christ as "the Divine Author of our blessed Religion." Look at the field of Metaphysics: Was Jonathan Edwards a mental pigmy? He was the greatest of all our metaphysicians. The book he studied most was the Bible. Look at the field of Astronomy: One of the greatest among the readers of the stars was Herschell. What was Herschell? One who had so clear a vision that he looked beyond the stars. He was a Christian. He was a

lover of the Bible. Look at the field of poetry: Would anyone call Tennyson an ignoramus? Religion was the keynote of his life. The Bible was his guide-book. Look at the field of education: Was President Harper, of Chicago University, an inconspicuous figure in the history of education? He was intensely fond of the Bible. Spirituality was his life's dominant note. Look at the field of politics: Was Gladstone a fool? He could certainly lay claim to having almost as much brain-power, at least, as those who talk slightly of the Bible and cast upon it their empty sneers. But the Bible was at Gladstone's right hand. He loved it. He studied it. He wrote books on it. Daniel Webster? Was he infantile in knowledge? Listen to his dying words: "Lord, I believe; help Thou mine unbelief. Almighty God, receive me to Thyself for Christ's sake. This night I shall be in life and joy and blessedness. Look at our late martyred President—William McKinley. Are we ashamed of him? Note the grandeur of his life! See the triumph of his death. "Nearer, my God, to Thee," expressed his soul's longing. And look at the man of the hour—central figure of current history.—Theodore Roosevelt. A lover of the Bible a Christian from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot.

Well, we who love the Bible seem to be in very good company. The leading spirits of the world's history have governed their lives according to its principles. 'Tis a manly thing to be a Christian.

The Bible is a MODERN BOOK. There are those who tell us that it is out of date; "It was all right in its day," they say, "but its day is gone; it was a good thing for the dark ages, but that is past; we are living now in a more enlightened age; the Bible is an old book, we have outgrown it.—we want something new." Something NEW?—Yes! This endless clamor for something new is about as senseless a thing as I know anything about.

The sun has been in the Heavens a long time; have we outgrown it? Will electricity, which is something new, take its place? Can we find any thing balmy than the breath of Spring; lovelier than the flowers; sweeter than the song of the bird; or fresher than the ocean breeze? Can we find anything new to take their place? Death savors of antiquity; have we outgrown it? Do you suppose we have outgrown this Book? There are some things we never outgrow, and the Bible is one of them. As long as there is grinding poverty in the world that makes the load of life heavy and bears down the spirit in anxiety; as long as wasting sickness is a grim fact in human experience; as long as the night of sorrow overhangs the human family, and tears of grief fall as the dews by day as well as by night; as long as doubts and fears and sins and suffering are the heritage of the human mind and heart; as long as the soul of man is groping on in darkness and is longing for and is reaching out after that great life "that never was on sea or land;" as long as there is death in the world; as long as these things exist, so long will the Bible be a modern, up-to-date book.

You must sweep away all poverty, all darkness, all sickness; all want, all tears; all woe, all suffering, all sorrow, all bereavement, all death before you will ever be able to make this an obsolete book. The Bible will live as long as these things exist. You need the Bible to live by. "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to Thy word." In life make the Book the man of your counsel, and the guide of your life. When you come to die, believe me, you will need the Bible. A young man was preaching in the streets of London. An infidel in the crowd said: "The man who invented gas did more for the world than Jesus Christ." The young preacher was not quick at repartee. Seeing this, another man in the crowd replied: "The gentleman says that the man who invented gas did more for the world than Jesus Christ. Of course he has a right to his opinion, and I suppose if he were dying he would send for the gas-fitter, but I think I should send for a minister and have him read to me the 14th chapter of St. John." I commend to you the Book of God to be a guide in life and a consolation in the hour and article of Death.

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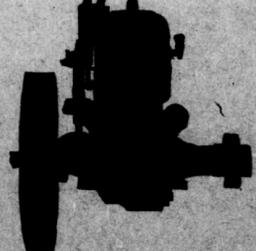
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