

his plain statements something to think of if not to act upon. They will use their own judgment as to that, and we are not presumptuous or arrogant enough to ask or desire that they either favor or oppose. We can offer them space for any reply they may choose to make, but for ourselves can only properly deal with that portion of the letter which reflects upon the business in which the News is engaged.

Brother Warner objects to accounts of prize fighting, horse-racing and such like, and thinks the space should be filled with facts regarding fruit-raising. Perhaps he has never taken into consideration the amount of space which this paper devotes to the subjects objected to, or he would be likely to conclude that so little of it set apart for a matter to which he is so devoted would do him and his business too small an amount of good to be of practical value; if he would then scrutinize further, he might add to his stock of information the additional fact that this paper devotes more space to the subject he prefers than does any other general newspaper in this part of the country. Furthermore, our columns are always open to him or any others interested for suggestions, statements, statistics, complaints and grievances regarding the subject spoken of or any other, provided always such matters be of general interest. We are not personally in the fruit raising business except on a very small scale, nor is this an agricultural, horticultural, pomological, viticultural, arboricultural, stock raising, irrigation, scientific or sporting sheet; it deals with each and all of these in a proper time, and we hope in a proper way. If in the ordinary channels of information sufficient of one or more of such subjects do not appear to satisfy the reader who is interested in that particular direction, the offer already made, and which will be a standing one—for him to step to the front and fill up any such gaps—ought to be satisfactory.

Besides, every reader should bear in mind that "what is one man's meat is another man's poison," this having as much reference to the mind as to the stomach. Some people would wade through mud ankle deep for half a mile and then pay a dollar for a paper containing an account of a great pugilistic encounter or an unusual horse race, if they couldn't get it on any better terms. Others read the political news first; others again prefer the editorial views; and still others give local happenings their first attention. It is only stating the case fairly to say that those who take an interest only in the material and useful things of life and leave all other subjects in their paper for later consideration if any, constitute a "hopeless minority," albeit a very respectable one. The reason for this is not at all difficult to state or understand—such things do not usually constitute news at all, but are more nearly in the line of lessons or homilies upon homelike subjects which have no reference to the bustle and jostle of the realm of current events.

It would doubtless be a grand achievement for the journalist to exclude from his columns all but what the most refined taste would accept and the most critical mind be unable to condemn, but it cannot be done; no

matter how far in that direction we might personally be willing to go, we could not make up a fabric that would be otherwise than a representation of its materials. A newspaper is not of necessity what its editor would like to have it in all respects, but a reflex of the doings of the world on one side and the demands of the community on the other—not of a part of the community, observe you, but *all* of it. It does not follow that vile and utterly objectionable matter should be given space because there are some few so morbid or depraved in their tastes that they could enjoy it. Not at all; while conceding something for the sake of accommodating variegated demands, the paper which aims at usefulness as well as prosperity will never permit itself to go beyond a reasonable limit in the publication of anything.

The News is not an upholder of prize fighting or any other form of rowdiness whether for money or not; it prints such intelligence when it is furnished because, in the first place, the business has become almost legalized by non-interference and it would have to be given if it were otherwise, the same as the record of any other criminal event; and secondly, as stated, because a certain class demand such news and will have it, and this class is not altogether composed of men of depraved tastes or groveling occupations either. There are respectable readers who want to know all that is going on and who buy the News to satisfy that want. For our own part we would give space much more cheerfully to items showing how an apple tree in our Moab friend's orchard had yielded fruit so large that it could not be sold by measure at all, or how his crop of potatoes had averaged a bushel to the vine; but we can't do these things because they don't happen, at least they are not reported to us if they do. That is the difference, and we hope he and others will be able to see and appreciate it.

FIRMNESS IS WANTED.

THE meager reports received from the conference now being held in this city between the Chamber of Commerce committee of business men and the representatives of the railroads all point to an amicable adjustment, on some basis or other, of the dispute between the parties as to the prevailing freight tariff. The only hesitation the News feels about expressing full satisfaction with this prospect arises from uncertainty as to the basis referred to—an uncertainty in no way relieved by the air of secrecy in which the proceedings of the conference are shrouded.

Further advice and encouragement to the committee may be unnecessary, perhaps, indeed, unwelcome; if the latter, we may apologize, while asserting that we expect to continue right along; if the former, our vain labor must be set down as due to ignorance of what has been and what is going to be done by the committee. But we do feel, and think the committee ought to feel, that they are clothed with a public and representative character; that for the time being they should sink their own particular interests and if need be their individuality; that they

should approach the subject under consideration from the standpoint of the general welfare of the Territory and this its chief city; that temporary makeshifts or benefits will not satisfy the community; that to the resolute stand taken by the Chamber of Commerce the present conference is due; that if adequate relief be not forthcoming as a result of this arbitration, the same resolute conduct will carry the case to a further and perhaps less harmonious conclusion.

Every member should feel impressed with the magnitude of the citizens' side of the issue and the amount of saving to the community that is directly and indirectly involved. It will not be enough that local distributive rates are made satisfactory; through rates from the great marts east and west must also be adjusted. Nor will it be sufficient that such an arrangement is effected that large shippers—those who are able to do business always on the carload principle—shall be benefited and the small dealers and the public be left in as bad a condition, or even a worse one, than they are today. If the demands our committee make are such as can be defended in justice and fairness, there should be no delicacy in pressing them with determination. The public have waited long and patiently for the present opportunity; and now that victory seems almost within their grasp they are in no mood to relinquish the substance for a shadow or to accept as a favor calling for special gratitude the half of what they believe they are entitled to as a matter of right.

GIVE HIM A BACK SEAT.

IN a brief paragraph in yesterday's News it was noted how industrious and untiring a worker the idol-smasher is. He is truly insatiable, and his range of operations is without limit or bound so far as known. He is now after no less a person than Christopher Columbus, whose niche in the temple of fame has been considered so much lower than his achievements warranted that it was deemed impossible to dislodge him from it unless it was to place him higher. But the iconoclast will not have it that way; he does not work to elevate or advance but to drag down or bemoan. We all recall how he has several times even tried his marauding hand on George Washington, with the gratifying effect, however, that so far the Father of his Country occupies the pedestal on which he was placed a century or more ago.

The question now asked by the professional underminer is whether or not Columbus on his third and fourth voyages actually set foot on American soil. It being conceded that he was not within hailing distance—not even in sight—of the western shores on the first and second voyages, of course if the question stated is answered negatively and correctly so, Christopher collapses and the romantic and reverential halo with which succeeding ages have crowned him disappears into thin air like the misty shadows of a dream—and then what?

It seems that the literary wood worms base their conclusions on Columbus on the following statement