ROSEBURG NEWS-REVIEW

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ROSEBURG, OREGON, TUESDAY, JAN. 15, 1929.

NOT A FORGOTTEN STAR

Dr. Harlow Shapley, famous Harvard astronomer, doesn't believe that our earth is quite such an insignificant fragment of the stellar universe as we have been told. Whenever astronomy is mentioned, someone is sure to point out that the earth is an extremely unimportant speck in the vast list of stars. Our own galaxy, even—the entire group of stars in our corner of the heavens—is said to be dwarfed by comparison with the distant ones; and this sort of talk always brings in its train sundry philosophical remarks about the insignificance of man and the vanity of all human endeavor. It would be interesting to know just how much of the current philosophy of materialism and despair is due to the data furnished by our astronomers. But Dr. Shapley, who has been scanning the heavens for years, takes another tack. Our group of stars, far from being relatively small, is one of the major groups, he says. If the distant galaxies of stars, which the telescopes pick up at infinite distances, are "islands" of matter in the midst of emptiness, our own system rates being called a continent. It is at least five times as large as the average, if not more. This is very consoling to those of us who like to feel that we are not marooned on some forgotten bit of star dust. It revives our feeling of self importance. If our earth is relatively tiny, it at least belongs to a proud family. We may not occupy the center of the universe, but we can hold our heads up in any company, none the less. It is rather surprising, when you stop to think about it, that the present age of expanding knowledge should be, in so many cases, an age of growing pessimism. In the last half century we have learned a great deal about the world that was never suspected before; and the result has been that many, many people have been wrenched away from their old moorings of faith and hope, and have come to look on the whole universe as a soulless mechanism. We have even reached the point where a man can seriously debate, in public, the question, "Is Man a Machine?" without having anyone in the audience get up and say, "Oh, don't be an ass." But it is becoming evident that we have only scratched the surface of knowledge. For all of science, we still see as through a glass, darkly. The secrets of the stars, of the atom, of the rocks, of the air, are still only slightly revealed to us. We let our fragmentary glimpses of truth discourage us, and we fail to see that our very ability to get them at all proves our divinity. It would be strange if more complete scientific knowledge should bring us back closer to the old orthodoxies. Strange; and yet, not so strange, after all. For the evidence of immortality and eternal harmony is not found primarily in the external world, but in our own hearts. Let a man once see it there—as every man can, if he will look—and the theories of science can never move him.

AS THE WORLD WAGS

BY G. C. R.

Pro and Con Arguments on Printing Crime News—Does the Public Demand Determine the Issue?

IT IS WITH a great deal of satisfaction that most of us see the Northcott trial story relegated to the inside pages of the larger portion of Oregon and California newspapers. Although this writer does not agree with many people who would keep crime news out of the papers entirely, he does believe that too much space is given such infamous cases as have been experienced in the past four or five years.

Some folks argue, notably many lawyers and jurors, that no publicity should be given a crime until it is before the trial court. Advance discussion in the newspapers creates prejudice on the part of both prospective jurors and presiding judge, it is argued. One can hardly follow a story like this Northcott case until the time for trial and still not have some sort of an opinion as to the principal's innocence or guilt. When the trial comes and the lawyers question the jurors they invariably ask whether they have read the newspaper accounts of the case about to be tried. Few indeed are the defendants who would wish to stand trial before a jury composed of people so ignorant that they do not read the newspapers. There is the one strong argument against publishing crime news previous to judicial action.

Others would have the newspapers leave out crime news on account of its possible effect on the younger generation. This argument, too, has its strong points when it is realized that many times the criminal is given an heroic atmosphere. Children are by nature hero worshipers, just as the best of us are, and when they read story after story in the newspapers which paint a glamorous picture of such men as Roy Gardner the chances are that a certain percentage of them will long to some day become bold, bad bandits.

Youths in their teens who are criminally inclined at the outset, by reason of training and environment, can often find much to interest them in the all too complete accounts of crime printed in the newspapers. Minute details of the crime, how the offender planned and executed the details and how he made his escape, sometimes furnish ample data for these young minds. The result is seen in the waves of crime that follow in the wake of some noted case such as the Hickman orgy.

Then there comes the answer of proponents of crime news. It's a good, sound unselfish and reasonable argument, too. Here it is: Publication of such news will act as a deterrent to those about to err. Doubtless that has been the case hundreds of times. Any newspaper reporter will tell you that the first thing an arrested man or woman will try to do is suppress the story of his misdeeds. Printing the tale of his errors in clear, convincing type creates a greater disgrace than his serving time in a prison. Realizing that such a result is in prospect many would-be criminals have hesitated upon the reflection of the enormity of disgrace which would attach itself when the whole world reads his story.

Another argument on this side of the question is that newspapers here working on a particular case often unearth convincing evidence or conspicuously clarify a puzzling crime. This happened in the Leopold-Loeb murder disgrace in Chicago and it has happened countless times before and since.

There is one newspaper with an enviable national reputation and circulation which for years has not printed one iota of crime news. This paper continues to grow. There are other more or less sensational papers which depend on fresh crime news. They are the papers with screaming headlines and the black gory details that can be expected into one of this type the latter the street sale of the paper. In between these two extremes comes the large majority of the dailies and newspapers.

In our opinion, the amount of crime news used in any newspaper depends upon the public demand for it. For, when the public will continue to demand will make an interesting study for psychologists and sociologists. In the meantime those who do not wish to read crime news have the alternative of perusing the comic strips.

Do You Know Your Own County?

Interesting bits of information concerning the origin of names and geographic landmarks in Douglas County.

TODAY: DEADY

(Editor's Note: Material in this column was obtained from the recent book "Oregon Geographic Names," by McArthur.)

DEADY—This flag station on the Southern Pacific line north of Roseburg is the only geographic feature in Oregon to bear the name of one of the state's most distinguished citizens, Judge Matthew P. Deady, 1824-1893, a pioneer of 1849, and for more than half a century a member of the bench and bar of his adopted state. He was president of the constitutional convention of 1857, and later prepared codes of civil and criminal procedures. He was for more than 30 years United State judge for Oregon. Deady Hall at the University of Oregon bears his name. He was president of the board of regents at the university for many years.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

From Roseburg Plaindealer JANUARY, 1904

New York—After a complete test, the new nickel and iron storage battery of Thomas A. Edison, which weighs less than half as much as a lead battery, is a decided success. This battery may revolutionize street railway and auto locomotion.

Jimmy Sterling has a telephone from Drain to Elkton.—Elton news item.

Lester Bell returned Saturday night from Elkton, where he had been spending his vacation from school.

Fred Winston returned last evening from a few days' visit at Gardiner. He reports a very hard trip, being forced to walk about 20 miles Saturday, owing to the overcrowded stage and bad roads.

On Saturday Mrs. S. R. Lane and her daughter, Mrs. Douglas Waite, were hostesses at a charming little afternoon affair given at two-thirty o'clock at the home of Mrs. Lane. Progressive hearts entertained the guests until four o'clock when a delightful luncheon was served.

The ladies' bowling club gave a leap year party Saturday evening at the city bowling alley to a number of their male friends. Mrs. J. T. Bridges, Mrs. Gazley and Mrs. K. L. Miller chaperoned the party. Three games were played, the opposing sides being captained by Miss Lulu Willis and Miss Parrott. Miss Willis' side won two of the games.

California began the new year with a sale to the government of the largest quantity of hay ever sold in one lot on the Pacific coast. The order was for 5100 tons of mixed hay at a contract price of $100,000. It will be shipped to the Philippines for army use.

Harth's Toggery have ladies lisle and silk half sox, for this cold weather. Priced 50c and 75c.

SWINDLER USING CHECKS ON LOCAL BANK CAPTURED

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 15.—For four years postal inspectors have been hunting for Robert E. Webster, alias Owen E. Emerson, alias Leroy A. Mervin, and today an eagle-eyed inspector found his man in a St. Louis barber shop. He will be extradited to Boston and tried for the alleged swindling of James P. Collins, piano merchant, of the extent of $25,000.

Collins advertised a garage for sale in local newspapers. One of the trio answered it on Copley-Plaza stationery. An agreement is said to have been reached between this individual, believed to have been Webster, and Collins. Collins is said to have been assured by the prospective "purchaser" that he had a generous supply of cash on deposit in the First State bank of Roseburg, Ore., and asked Collins to allow him to have mail sent in care of Collins and that he would tell the bank to send on a "certified check."

A letter did arrive later postmarked "Roseburg, Ore." It contained a check for $25,000, made out in Collins' name. Then the man said that the bank had made a mistake in making out the check to Collins instead of himself. Collins is said to have given the man his check for $23,000. The remainder $2,000 was to be applied on the garage payment. Search for the alleged Roseburg accomplice who mailed the letter is still on.

The check drawn on the First State and Savings bank in the case mentioned in the dispatch from Boston was entirely fictitious according to Glen Wimberly, cashier of the local bank. The check was not even printed in accordance with the style used by the institution but was fraudulent in every respect. It was printed on a different kind of paper from the bank checks and was in a different style and bore forged names. It purported to be a cashier's check, but even the signatures were fictitious. Mr. Wimberly states that the bank had considerable correspondence with the government over the affair, but that nothing was ever learned regarding the local accomplice, who apparently was a transient and left town as soon as the check had been mailed from this place.

Romilla Silk Stockings

It's a true attribute to complete the ladies' smart ensemble. The trim, graceful and delicate line make an instant appeal to the fastidious woman.

The Silhouette heel $1.95
Narrow clipper heel $1.65

Ladies' Silk and Lisle Half Sox

50c and 75c

Harth's TOGGERY

16 PERISH AT SEA

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

TROMSOE, Norway, Jan. 15.—Word was received here today that the British trawler, Thomas Hardy, had foundered in the eastern part of the Arctic ocean and that her crew of 16 had drowned. Three German trawlers in reporting this said that because of violent weather it was impossible to assist the sinking ship.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank our kind friends and neighbors who were so kind to us during the sickness and death of our beloved mother, and also for the beautiful floral offerings.

John E. Pinkerton and family.
James A. Pinkerton and family.

LAST NIGHT'S BASKETBALL

University of Washington, 49; College of Puget Sound, 19; Whitman Missionaries, 48; Gonzaga, 27.

DR. NERBAS
DENTIST
Painless Extraction
Gas When Desire
Pyorrhea Treated
Phone 488 Masonic Bldg

HEALTH UNIT TO HOLD CLINIC FOR SMALL CHILDREN

The Douglas County Health unit is holding another of its regular clinics for infants and pre-school children at the court house Wednesday afternoon from 1 to 4 o'clock. It is particularly desired that children who are starting to school next semester be brought for examination, so that they may start school free from physical handicaps.

"Health examinations for children between the ages of 2 and 6 years are particularly important," Dr. DeWalt Payne, county health officer states, "for it is during this time that the child passes through the most critical period. If rickets were present during babyhood the bones do not form naturally causing irregularly shaped chests or other deformities. The teeth are especially affected at this age by diet. With the beginning of the formation of the sinuses infection in the nose or throat may develop into serious sinus trouble in later life. Habits formed at this age are especially important as one author has stated that the child's essential character is fully formed at five years of age."

The health unit in conducting these clinics endeavors to locate any defects that may be present. The child is at an age where corrections may be made much more easily than in later life. It has been found that children free from physical defects make far better grades in school on an average than those suffering from some ailment, so that the parents may give their children a more advantageous start in school by first attending to the matter of health. The clinics are held at regular intervals so that a check may be kept upon the condition of the children brought for examination.

If you wish to keep your feet and ankles warm, Harth's Toggery have lisle and silk half sox for ladies, priced 50c and 75c.

BANDITS ACTIVE IN NICARAGUA; SLAY TWO MEN

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Jan. 15.—A sudden flaring of bandit activity in the northern jungles has resulted in the wounding of an American medical officer and the killing two guardsmen.

Lieutenant William H. Smith, medical officer, and three members of the Guardia Nacional (the American officered national guard) were wounded. It was believed that several of the outlaws had been killed.

The clash occurred in the vicinity of San Juan de Telpaneca in the province of Nueva Segovia near the Honduran border. The outlaws were armed with a machine gun and bombs. One of the bombs struck Lieutenant Smith on the side of the head and a bullet also hit him. His wounds are not serious.

The jungle where the fighting occurred was so thick that the size of the bandit group could not be determined, although it was believed they numbered at least 100.

The dead guardsmen were buried near the scene of battle. The wounded were transported on the backs of mules to Apali, where there is an airplane landing field. They were brought to Managua from there by plane.

The guardia patrol was commanded by Lieutenant Chester A. Davis. He was formerly a captain in the United States army and held the rank of lieutenant colonel during the World war. He resigned several years ago and about a year ago enlisted in the marine corps, later being commissioned a lieutenant in the Guardia nacional.

ROSEBURG NEWS-REVIEW POEM FOR THE DAY

By LOUIS ALBERT BANKS

THOMAS EDISON—SOLDIER OF PEACE

"Because of Thomas Alva Edison's achievement in illuminating the path of progress through the development and application of inventions that have revolutionized civilization in the last century, Congress voted to bestow upon him a gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions to be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury.

"The major inventions with which the public daily comes into contact which are all Edison's own or show the imprint of his research are the phonograph, the telephone, the electric railway, the electric motor, the incandescent lamp, the storage battery, and the moving picture."—A news story.

The man who all the rest outranks,
The one deserving highest thanks,
Is not the one who's trained to fight
Or one who leads the people's might,
But he who, by his heart and brain,
Can most increase the common gain,
Who helps improve our common life
And make us equal in earth's strife.

The man who saves the time we waste,
Who gives the poor at least the taste
Of what was once the joy of kings,
And helps to make them common things—
Who makes life far more sweet to live,
Deserves all thanks that we can give,
And on his head we place the crown
Before, at last, he lays him down.

These soldiers of the common good
Are like the giants of the wood.
They spread afar their lengthened shade
And grow in splendor unafraid;
They seed the forest ever new
And breed a coming lordly crew;
They are a proof to all the rest
That frank unselfishness is best.

We glory in our Edisons,
They are our ranking citizens;
And others, like our Henry Fords
Who lift the life of common hordes;
They give the poorest life a chance
To taste adventure and romance,
And, like the mountains topped with snow,
Inspire us all to higher grow.

TINYMITES

STORY BY HAL COCHRAN — PICTURES BY KNICK

READ THE STORY, THEN COLOR THE PICTURE

The little dwarf stood on the ground and, as the Tinies circled 'round, he shouted, "Well, good luck, my lads. Be sure and hang on tight. You all can take this word from me: Your engine's safe as it can be. As long as you behave yourselves you'll all come out all right."

Then Scouty shouted, "Thank you, sir! We're ready for what will occur. We much enjoyed our visit in your wondrous mountain land. Some day we'll surely come back here. We'd like to visit you each year. If trouble comes we'll call on you. We're sure you'll lend a hand."

"You bet I will," the dwarf replied. "And now, good-bye. Enjoy your ride. The engine wings will flap away until you're out of sight. Then you will find a place that's new, where there are lots of things to do." And, as the Tinies disappeared, he waved with all his might.

The bunch were cheerful as could be. The engine was quite queer to see. It flew along just like a bird and seemed to travel fast. "I wonder," little Coppy said, "what sort of place is far ahead. I hope that when we reach the place we don't go sailing past."

Then Clowny said, "It's my real guess that we will soon get in a mess. Supposin' we desire to land. We cannot stop this car. The wings keep flapping to and fro and worst of all we do not know where we are really bound for, or in fact, just where we are."

Just at this moment Scouty said, "Hey, Tinymites! Just look ahead. I see a lady on a duck. She may be nice. Hurray! Oh where, oh where will this trip end. Perhaps we're going to make a friend." And, as the Tinies watched her, she appeared to head their way.

(The Tinymites meet the duck lady in the next story.)

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EDISON OFF FOR FLORIDA FOR WINTER VACATION

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

NEWARK, N. J., Jan. 15.—Thomas A. Edison, aged but still sprightly, left today for his annual winter sojourn at Fort Myers, Fla., where he will be joined by his cronies, Harvey Firestone and Henry Ford. Mr. Edison was accompanied by his wife.

The inventor grinned and snapped a small pocket flashlight at newspaper photographers who were lined up at the station to take his picture. He seemed in excellent health as well as spirits and there was ample proof of recent reports that he had gained twenty pounds in weight.

FATAL PRIZEFIGHT

(Associated Press Leased Wire)

PITTSBURG, Kans., Jan. 15.—Frankie Civella, of Kansas City, died in a hospital today of concussion of the brain, received in a boxing contest here last night.

PLEDGES FRATERNITY

OREGON STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Jan. 15.—John Zimrick, of Roseburg, freshman in engineering, has been announced as a pledge of Alpha Sigma Phi, one of the 22 men's social fraternities on the campus. Recent figures indicate that fraternity people maintain higher averages than non-fraternity people.

SIDE GLANCES—By George Clark

"Well, good-bye, Auntie. You're responsible for yourself from here on."

OUT OUR WAY By Williams