

St. Helens Mist

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County Official Paper

The new fire ordinance which restricts buildings within certain limits of the city has been the cause of much discussion and comment both favorable and unfavorable. Some of the people who are opposed to the fire limit as created have even gone so far as to accuse spite work and treachery. Whatever the merits of the ordinance, such accusations as these should not be made without some definite information, set or thing to corroborate it. The committee drafting that ordinance was composed of our best citizens and some of the largest property owners in the city. Nothing could prevail on such men to jeopardize the city in any manner or form. They were acting from a strict desire to do the best for the city and if the limits of the fire ordinance do not meet with the approval of all the citizens only valid arguments should be used instead of flings of graft and treachery. Such things usually emanate from some person who himself would be the first to accept graft and commit treason to his fellow citizens for a few pieces of silver, and usually those persons making such charges have no interest in the matter except to cause strife. If the limits of the fire ordinance are wrong or unjust, the committee in making them, acted purely from an unselfish standpoint and for the public good, and not with any intent to wrong any property owner.

Fire is a dangerous plaything. Many expensive buildings are being constructed in the city, and to permit any old fire trap to be built alongside, endangering the property of persons who have spent large sums of money, is wrong. In the business district of this city there should be only buildings erected which will not be a menace to other and valuable property. This much is conceded by every citizen interested in the city. Just where to make the limits is the question. The platting of the city of St. Helens is perhaps different from that of any other city in the state. The blocks are 628 feet long and 200 feet wide. There are no alleys. Without any alleys or streets it would be folly to make a fire limit on one half of a block and permit any kind of an old shack on the other. If there could be an alley way, or some restriction as to the distance that a building could be put up on one side of the block it might be well to leave certain portions of the blocks included, out just now, but even if that was done, it would only be a matter of a short time until these buildings, if any were erected, would be a fire trap for the other larger and more expensive buildings, so it would seem that the ordinance as now passed, possibly amended so as to exclude a few portions of the city that never can become business blocks, should be permitted to stand.

We notice that some of our St. Helens people are craving flattery by sending in 30 words of their handwriting to Madame Somebody in Portland who says nice things about them in the Sunday Oregonian. If those people will send us one year's subscription to the Mist with

thirty words, more or less with their real name, we will say more nice things about them than the Madame does.

The corn cob pipe has become an important factor in politics from the fact that it was the adopted emblem of Hi Gill in his race for mayor of Seattle. About time for some of our politicians to adopt it.

Now comes Herbert E. Cory, a professor of the California State University with these words: "Women are not Angels, but education is helping them a lot by remov-

ing whims, prejudices, vulgarisms, feline desires and insipidities." Quite evident that the Professor does not intend to run for office.

Along with the new City Dock comes a desire by the majority of the property owners to pave the streets through the business district. St. Helens is fast asserting itself as a progressive town.

If you should be asked out to dinner by some prominent citizen just at this time, just mark it down that your host is a candidate for office.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION

Oregon's "Mr. Dooley" Presents His Views on Matters and Things to Columbia County Folks

"Mr. Casey," says George Highlander, "the newly made publicity man for the Komishun that will handle the big Organ show at the San Francisco fair, 'what do the candidates mean by adoptin' a platform, an' what is a platform anny way?'"

"A platform," says Casey, "is loke what Kelly says about language. 'Language,' he says, 'is a means to console yer thoughts.' A platform is somethin' that a candidate builds to get on or git behind as the case may be."

"Well, what are they made of anny way?" asks George. "Some platforms," says Mr. Casey, "is made av planks of whole cloth, but mostly they are made of hot air."

"In former times," says Mr. Casey, "only presidents had platforms, but av late years govners has been adoptin' the fad an' this year ye'll notice that the candidates fer justice av the Supreme Court has tal on a likin' to the platform fide. But bein' lawyers an' aware av the onwisdom of sayin' too much, their platforms is short an' to the pint, an' not open to argymint."

"Wan av these lawyer lads, Tom McBriar be name, bein' a good campaigner an' onto his job, has build wan av the shortest an' cleverest platforms on record. It reads, 'Praisin' incumbent.' All av which goes to show, as Oi said before, the judge is onto his job."

"In a platform yez must say jist enough to git the oy av the voter, yit not enough to gitt the oire av yer opponent."

"They's some things yez can touch on in a platform an' some yez can't."

"Among the popular topics av the day is lieker, lower taxes, komishuns, free tiat books, enfermited joodish-eary an' vice."

"Did yez note?" says Casey, "that none av the lads who's rannin' fer govnor has much to say on the question av hangin'? 'Cause whoy?, yez ask. Oi'll tell yez," he says, "yez muiht think they're afraid av the issue, but yez're wrong. It's because they're honest an' all frinds av Cousin Oz, an' don't want to shtale his thunder. Whin a man invents a thing, it's his'n to do wid as be loikes, an' it's jist as wrong to shtal a man's ideas as it is to shtal a sichune av land or an umbrilly. Hence, if they's anny hangin' to do, it'll be lift to the prisint adminishtrachune."

"Wid the lieker qeshchune it's diffrant," says Casey. "Oz, didn't invent lieker, hince the byes all feel free to take a shlap at it or lave it alone, to take it openly or kape it at home in the boory draw, as they sees fit. Most av them, Oi hear from rayliable sources, sees fit."

"Wan av the lads in shtrong on the lieker qeshchune," says Casey. "He wants the National gov'mtin to shtip in an' take a hand. He's fer shtoppin' the manyfahurin' an' impurchune av the shtuff, an' would prohibit its use ixcept fer medicinal, sacramental an' social purposes only."

"An here's wan the invinter declares will carry him to vitory; 'Oi howld that diamnods, suit cases, floor siffers an' the loike be iximpt from taxachune an' that the last half av all taxes leyed should be payable whin conveyment an' not otherwise, an' that all property sold fer taxes should be purchased by the auto deprettment av the shtate an' turned over at a profit as rapidly as possible, the prosades to be deecided share an' share aloike among the lady clerks av said department."

"Oi favor a twinty-four day, ate hours fer shlap, six hours fer labor, two hours fer solo an' ate hours fer yer own. Oi heartily indorse good roads but widout the formality av bondin' the shtate or countie's or widout extra taxachune."

"Wid a hammer an' saw another lad

builds this plat'rom. Listen," says Casey, "while Oi tell yez his ideas. As infatically as Oi can Oi wish to announce that Oi will inferre the law insofar as it does not interfere wid me own ideas av justice."

"Oi'll shtart a paper called the Shtate Ledger an' otemize the ixpines av the other officials av the shtate, trustin' thereby to rayjeve the ixpine account in mosht all the departments av the shtate's gov'mint."

"Another lad wid the political bee av the gubernachoral spee," says Casey, "a buzzin' 'round his derby, has ideas loike this: 'Onloike manny av the ill-gidid min who are rannin' fer govnor, Oi favor more komishuns. If illicted Oi pledge meself to worrak fer a komishun form av shtate gov'mnt wid meself on sich komishun. Oi would hov a komishun to handle the hops, wan to change the nachural courses av rivers, another to investigate the changin' av county seats. Oi'm fer a komishun wid power to act on the hoigh price av eggs, fer another to illminate drainage districts in the areed sections av Crook county, wan fer the intriduchune av marshal law in less favored districts, an' Oi'd hov app'nted a komishun or komishuns to see that all wint well'."

"Wan av the candidates fer govnor," says Casey, "has pervided that if anny wan else will git on his platform he'll git off an' walk. Since thin a former govnor has obliged the gintleman, but it's possible he wasn't thinkin' av anny wan av such hoigh Gear takin' him up on his offer. What he'll do is yit to be sane."

"Well," says Mr. Highlander, "it sames to me they'll be a lot av second-hand platforms on the market after November nix."

"They will," says Casey, "an' yez can git them almosht fer the axin, an' in many cases the owners will be glad enough to let them go fer enough to pay the stennygrafter's bill. That is all but the lucky man will, an' he'd pay a pretty penny if he didn't have his blame platform flauntin' itself in his face at ivry turn loike the Baltimore platform is doin' to Cousin Woodrow."

TRENHOLM

The stove mill started up Monday with a full crew at work.

C. E. Brown and son of Portland spent Saturday and Sunday at the home of H. J. McAllister.

Mrs. D. R. Fowler returned Saturday from a visit with her daughter in Portland.

Omer Nickerson and son Dewey of Vernonia passed through town Saturday on their way to Yankton and St. Helens.

O. T. Foster and Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Brockway attended directors meeting at St. Helens, Saturday.

Agnes Brown and Opal Smith of Happy Hollow Sundayed with relatives at Trenholm.

A new sidewalk is being built along the north side of Main street, also some much needed street repairing has been done the past week.

Mrs. J. Christensen entertained several Trenholm ladies at an afternoon tea on Thursday last. An excellent luncheon was served and a most enjoyable time is reported by those present.

At the Washington-Longfellow program Saturday evening under the auspices of the Library and Literary Association, a full house was in attendance, and all the numbers on the program were exceptionally well rendered. On Saturday evening, March 14, six members of the literary association will debate on the question, "Is the Middleman Responsible for the High Cost of Living." After which refreshments will be served. This is a question that all are interested in, so a full house is expected.

Mrs. C. A. Bramble entertained several little people and their mamas Saturday afternoon, it being the occasion of Miss Lucile's fourth birthday anniversary. A dainty luncheon was served, and a happy time is reported by all.

REUBEN

Wm. Martin, a donkey driver for the Columbia Timber Co. had his leg broken last Friday by a log rolling on him. He was taken to the hospital in Portland.

Christ Mathieson, who has been living on the Albert Meier place for the past seven years has moved with his family to the McCormick farm at St. Helens where they will reside and engage in the dairy business.

Born: On March 3rd to Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Mounce of this place an 8-1-2 pound boy.

Hon. W. R. Ellis and his son, of Pendleton were visitors in this vicinity last Sunday, guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Watts. Mr. Ellis denied any political ambitions but was looking over some land for his son.

Mrs. John M. Lindsay who had a stroke of paralysis several weeks ago, is now almost completely recovered and is her usual self again.

WANTED WORK:—House work or cooking preferred; no objection to leaving town; leave word at Morgus's Store, St Helens, 1tp

Boar and two brood sows for sale. JIM BACON, Warren, Ore.

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