

THE ST. HELENS MIST

Issued Every Friday by
THE MIST PUBLISHING COMPANY

O. D. HEILBORN, Vice President
and Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One Year\$2.00
Six Months\$1.00

Entered as second-class matter,
January 10th, 1912, at the Postoffice
at St. Helens, Oregon, under the act
of March 3rd, 1879.

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER
Member National Editorial Asso-
ciation and Oregon State Editorial
Association.

MOBS—NORTH AND SOUTH

An article from Jeremy Kram in this issue of the Mist compares the "unthinking crush of Southern mobs with the calm and deliberate but no less deadly action of Western citizenry." Jeremy also speaks of "reading almost daily of lynchings in Georgia, Louisiana or some other Southern state." We do not know just what papers Jeremy reads, but after a careful perusal of Oregon dailies, we can find no example of recent outbreaks of the "Southern mobs." We presume that on account of the extremely hot weather, said mobs are taking a short vacation from their daily pastime, or it might be that the supply of victims has been exhausted. If such be the case, we can expect, if Jeremy's opinion is correct, an early resumption of activities along this line.

Jeremy is disappointed that the South "supplies a disapproving world with more examples of mob rule than in the North." There must be some cause for mob law, and the cause down South is ten times more frequent than in the North. Very seldom does one read of a white woman in the North or West being attacked by a negro, but a few years ago such occurrences were frequent in the South.

Jeremy passes lightly over the administration of law when the West was "wild and woolly." The hanging of a horse thief by a mob was all right, but the hanging of a black fiend who has ravished mother, wife or daughter is an unpardonable sin.

We do not uphold mob law, but we maintain that human nature is the same and if the people of the North or West had to contend with the same things as do the people of the South, lynchings would be more frequent. Perhaps if Jeremy has saved the clippings "which almost daily" he read, he would have some which told of the wild debauch in New Jersey several years ago where numerous negroes met death. Perhaps he didn't save the clippings which told of mob rule in Illinois caused by the passions of the people being aroused because of attacks on helpless children. Perhaps he has forgotten recent occurrences in Chicago, Dakota and Minnesota, all caused by the lustfulness of some black fiend.

Jeremy's information as "stern resistance" of the Pendleton sheriff is incorrect. Only a few days ago, a party who was at the courthouse in Pendleton told us that Sheriff Taylor came out in his shirt sleeves unarmed and appealed to the mob to do as "Til would have them do." He said, "Boys, if Til were alive, he wouldn't want you to do this," and the mob in deference to the dead sheriff's wishes, desisted from their purpose.

We know of a similar case which happened about 25 years ago. Three husky negroes went to a farm house to rob a farmer of money he had received from a sale of cattle. When the money could not be found the old man was beaten and all three negroes criminally assaulted the 70 year old grey haired wife. The criminals were caught. A mob surrounded the jail bent on lynching the brutes. In the mob were the father and two sons of the aged woman. Could Jeremy blame them for calling for vengeance? Nevertheless the brutes were not lynched. A minister pleaded with the mob just as did Sheriff Taylor and just before dawn, the mob dispersed. The negroes confessed their crime and in some six weeks, had paid the penalty.

Jeremy's idea of law and order is right, but his article is full of misstatements of facts and his ignorance of conditions which incite mob rule is indeed astounding.

One looks with horror upon the murder of a grown man, but he can withhold his passions better than if the crime were committed against a woman or defenceless child. Crimes of the latter class are more common in the South and this is the reason there are more examples of mob law or lynchings.

WOULD RUIN THE STATE

In many localities throughout Oregon meetings have been called for discussion among farmers and business men, of a constitutional amendment, proposed by initiative which is to limit the legal rate of interest to be charged in the state of Oregon to 4 per cent on all moneys after they become due, and 5 per cent on what are known as contract loans. This measure will go before the voters at the general election to be held Tuesday, November 2.

It is estimated that 70 per cent of money loaned in Oregon comes from outside the state and this would be withdrawn overnight if such a measure as this should pass.

The wording of the proposed measure appears to benefit the borrower by giving him cheap interest rates but low rates without any money to borrow will not help the man needing money.

With the U. S. Government paying 6 per cent for money what chance would individuals in Oregon stand to get it at 4 and 5 per cent?

Franklin T. Griffith, president of Portland Railway, Light and Power Co., says the measure would literally ruin the state. It would close industries and throw thousands of men out of work.

PUBLIC FORUM

MOBS—NORTH AND SOUTH

Sometime in the '80's—I believe it happened in New Orleans—some members of the Mafia murdered a chief of police. Justice miscarried and the principal men of the city led a mob of infuriated citizens to the prison walls which they battered down; the eleven suspected murderers were shot to death.

To the present day the mob habit continues popular in the sunny South. We read almost daily of lynchings in Georgia, Louisiana or some other Southern state. Justice, meted out in this manner, was considered expeditious and frequently necessary in the West when it was "wild and woolly"—before the coming of the law. But now it is distinctly de trop.

Wholesale, mobilized, banditry, still-ettes, re-acted wrath and rampaging seem more noticeably indigenous to climes in which the sun shines hottest. However this may be—the writer does not hold it as an axiom—the South supplies a disapproving world with more examples of mob-rule than the North.

Whenever we mark a virtue or semblance of one in ourselves or in friends and neighbors—alas! it is so seldom—we immediately swell to abnormal proportions. I readily confess that I, myself, at the beginning of this article, experienced such a state of mental elevation; I was contrasting the raging, unthinking onrush of Southern mobs with the calm and deliberate, but no less deadly actions of our Western citizenry following the cold-blooded murder of Sheriff Tilman Taylor a week or so ago.

Nevertheless, there was no lynching at Pendleton. Perhaps it was prevented by the traditional dearth of impulsiveness in Northern blood; perhaps murder may not be as strong an incentive as rape; but the self-restraint, exercised by the people of Pendleton is a monument in honor of Western respect for the constituted processes of law and justice.

And the man who stood on the steps of the jail, within hearing of his brother's murderers and announced that any attempt at lynching would be met with stern resistance, will be a worthy and capable successor to the late Sheriff Tilman Taylor.

JEREMY KRAM.

WOULD BANISH SMOKE

To The Editor:
Lately there appeared in your exceptionally good county paper the following: "Our system of good roads is pulling Oregon out of the mud. Effective forest fire prevention will lift her forests, lakes and mountains out of the smoke fog, which conceals them and give the touring public a chance to enjoy the matchless scenic grandeur of the state."

This article appears also in other papers so it must be an advertisement of some sort.

It is certainly provoking when sunny days at last do come to have the wonderful swell and profile of the Cascades hidden by an ugly smoke-curtain. It always happens, and Deer Island Logging companies and Deer Island Logging companies have been burning the debris left after logging operations. The constant north wind of summer sweeps the smoke down on us.

I realize that it may be deemed necessary to get rid of the rubbish but now that a way has been discovered to banish smoke—at least that seems to be the purport of above quoted article—I wish you would give further details through the columns of the Mist. There's 5,000 miles of logs and timber north of us and the wind is always from that quarter in smoky times.

Sincerely,
JOHN DOWD,
Yankton, Ore.

SUMMONS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
STATE OF OREGON FOR CO-
LUMBIA COUNTY

Viola Patty, Plaintiff, vs. William
Patty, Defendant.

In the name of the State of Oregon, To William Patty, the above named defendant: You are hereby required to appear and answer to the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit within six weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons, to-wit: the 20th day of August, 1920, and if you fail to so appear and answer within said time, the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief prayed for in her complaint, to-wit: for a decree dissolving the bonds of matrimony heretofore and now existing between the plaintiff and defendant; that the plaintiff be awarded the care and custody of the minor child of said plaintiff and defendant; for her costs and disbursements incurred herein and for such other and further relief as to the Court may seem just and equitable.

Service of this summons is made upon you by publication hereof once a week for six consecutive weeks, in the St. Helens Mist, a weekly newspaper of general circulation within the above named county and state, the date of the first publication being August 20th, 1920, and the date of the last publication being October 1st, 1920, pursuant to an order of the Honorable Martin White, Judge of the County Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Columbia, duly made and entered on the 14th day of August, 1920.

HARRIS & GORE,
Attorneys for plaintiff, St. Helens,
Oregon.

LONG-BELL COMPANY ACTIVE
The Long-Bell Lumber Company, purchaser of vast timber resources in this state, will erect one sawmill within a short time and probably three more later, according to Robert A. Long, president of the company. The mills will probably be located on the Columbia river to secure the advantage of water shipment.

Two royal Anne cherry trees in Roseburg have netted their owner \$250 for their fruit this season.

An Old Fault Finder.

An irritable and fault finding disposition is often caused by indigestion. A man with good digestion and bowels that act regularly is usually good natured. When troubled with indigestion or constipation take Chamberlain's Tablets. They strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. They also cause a gentle movement of the bowels.

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Hay, Grain and Feed
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That feeling of comfort and contentment that comes only with correctly laundered underwear and hosiery is assured you if you send your work to us. Our methods produce a soft, soothing finish that cannot be excelled. And the prices are right.

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J. W. AKIN, Mgr. G. B. DUCKWORTH, Asst. Mgr.
W. A. LEVI, Sec'y.-Treas.

25 PER CENT DISCOUNT ON REFRIGERATORS

Rather than carry these over until next year
I make the above discount.

\$35.00 refrigerator\$26.25
\$26.00 refrigerator\$19.50

I STILL HAVE TWO OIL STOVES
2 burner at \$18.75; present price \$21.00

Take advantage of these discounts, while the few I have left last.

E. A. ROSS

Masonic Bldg. St. Helens, Ore.

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Because we have given you every reason to have confidence that when you pay our price you are getting meat at the lowest price at which it can be sold and leave us a fair and legitimate profit.

Because we have given you every reason to have confidence that whether you come yourself, or send your hubby, or send a child, you will get just as good a piece of meat as if you came yourself.

Because you can always find here a complete line of everything you expect to find in a meat market, such as the regular meats, lunch meats, fish and other delicacies in season, smoked meats, salt meats, pickled dainties, etc.

Because you always find plenty of help to give you prompt service and because that service is always courteous.

Because you always find us ready and anxious to correct any error and to make right anything in connection with a purchase about which you may be dissatisfied.

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Columbia County Bank
ST. HELENS

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