La Grande Evening Observer

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CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

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PLATFORM FOR LABOR AND CAPITAL:—All things whatsoever ye would that me do unto you, do ye even so to them; for this is the law and the prophets.—Matthew 7:12.

Turner Oliver

The death of Turner Oliver, which occurred last evening, brings to the minds of Eastern Oregon people the career of this man who proudly called Union county home during his lifetime.

Reared at Summerville on the old Oliver homestead, he strove along with other boys of his time to get an education and become an attorney, which he did. As a lawyer of the earlier days he was thoroughly successful, and not only did he appear in some of the heaviest litigation of this part of the state, but he took a prominent part in politics of Oregon for many years. Being a Democrat his political career ebbed and flowed with the success or failure of his party in an overwhelmingly Republican state. But nevertheless, Turner Oliver was for many years quite prominent in state affairs.

Tiring of the practice of law he accepted an appointment under the Wilson administration with the Federal Land bank at Spokane and lived there for several years. He returned to La Grande several months ago intending to remain here and engage in his profession again. But the grim old reaper of death decreed otherwise and last evening Turner Oliver, lawyer, state senator, federal land office attorney and a man of affairs for nearly half a century, gave up the fight for his life and joined the army of the Great Beyond.

A Booze-Hunting Nation

It would seem that America has gone stark crazy on the subject of booze. A constitutional amendment has been adopted but that only seemed to add fuel to the already brightly burning fire.

Those who are not hunting booze to drink are hunting the fellow who is manufacturing the booze or selling it, so taking all classes into consideration the people are doing little else than talk booze, think booze, chase booze. It is the subject of the parlor conversation, the subject of the Pullman conversation, the joke in the vaudeville show, the front page stories in the newspapers.

When state questions are before us such as the European entanglement, the unbalanced prices of commodities, the municipal and state governments with their problems, we all go chasing off like a band of children on a May Day party, except that our attraction is not the Maypole nor the toy balloon, it is booze, booze, booze.

Recently George L. Cleaver, who is the kind of man who is in his glory these days of prohibition pretensions, raided a home on Quality Hill in Portland. He took people's word for it that they wanted the rich and the poor treated alike on this booze business. In fact, it is believed that Governor Pierce made some such remark in one of his campaign speeches and George Cleaver remembered what the governor had said. So, armed with a search warrant which can now be had as easily as a doctor's prescription for liquor in California, Cleaver and his state booze hounds invaded the sanctity of this Quality Hill home where a New Year's party was in progress. They got only a measly pint of booze, proving them to be either poor searchers or that the party was on the square.

Anyway, it wasn't the booze that raised the trouble in this instance, it was the hunt for the booze, and poor old Cleaver is now on the grill right. Both the big daily newspapers came out the following day in Portland with double leaded editorials telling something about "a man's home is his castle" and quoting a supreme judge or two on the subject. Then followed sharply written paragraphs in which Cleaver, the governor and the whole dry element who make a practice of searching for booze were given the thirty-third degree in newspaper lashing. Someone very unkindly said the searchers were getting too close to the boys and some kind of a roar had to be raised to stop 'em before they broke in on the private stocks. In other words, several fellows have been unkind enough to intimate that officers are doing fine so long as they catch the Wops and the other foreigners, or jail a nigger, or run down a farmer who may have made a few jugs for the ready market when wheat and hogs were hard to sell, but stay away from Quality Hill, you detectives and sleuth hounds, for the atmosphere is not good for you where the private stocks are kept.

There may be something to this and there may not be. We do not attempt to argue the case or care much either way. But the point that is of interest is the constant herculean effort being used to enforce an amendment to the constitution which should be violated no more than any of the other amendments.

What's the matter with the Eighteenth Amendment, that it requires such vast sums of money to enforce and such armies of men and women? The answer is plain. There is nothing wrong with the amendment, it is the people who refuse to be governed by it.

No one can tell how long this booze hunting epoch will last, but while she does last it must be admitted she is a humdinger, and murder and arson must take the second page of the newspapers for the bootleggers and the Quality Hill boys and the state sleuth hounds use all the space on the first page of the newspapers.

THE OLD HOME TOWN · · By Stanley

THE BIG ... CLEARANCE SALE AT HENRY BUZ... STORE DREW A LARGE CROWD FROM HOOTSTOWN EARLY TODAY.

OFFICE CAT

TRADE MARK

BY JUNIUS

Business men, says an authority, are using better English in their letters which leads us to believe that stenographers are learning to spell.

One La Grande girl says about the only thrill she has never experienced is being kidnaped.

Correct this sentence: "I often sit near people who read subtitles aloud," said he, "but I have never wished to slay a fellow mortal."

WHICH IS OFTEN THE CASE
"My wife with me all disagrees"
Sal Jumped-of Ontario White,
"An' the worst part of it is that she's
Most generally right."

The missing link between the sublime and the ridiculous is found in the fellow who tries to get thrills by building a home-made racing body for his flivver.

NAMES IS NAMES
Edna May Ring, of Columbia, Tenn., is not a telephone operator.

NEXT TO BASEBALL "PASSING THE BUCK" IS THE GREAT AMERICAN GAME.

What has become of the old-fashioned man who couldn't sleep after five o'clock on Sunday morning.

If love is bliss, marriage is the blister.

Figures, they say, do not lie, but the $75,000,000 spent on cosmetics a year help at least to make them deceiving.

Lots of men, says a La Grande woman, who don't know it could save money if they would confer upon their wives the title of Auditor of Disbursements—and let them handle the job.

To succeed one has to love his work as well as a pointer dog loves his.

ALL THE WORLD LOVES A LOVER AND ALL THE WORLD HATES A HATER.

Dusky Fiji belle with a big ring in her nose is a savage. But a white woman, with pearls screwed in her ears is civilized.

Many a man who has never had one drop of liquor has been intoxicated—by one drop of perfume.

There's one thing to be said in favor of summer. We have warmer friends then than we have in winter.

The consumer is always a goat. Still, a goat can swallow almost anything.

In the opinion of a La Grande lady the only excuse for not being a man is to be born a lady.

The earth is said to be 92,800,000 miles from the sun. In some apartments just at this season the distance seems even greater.

Deer Meat Possessor Fined.

ST. HELENS, Or.—Virgil Powell, a Nehalem rancher, was arrested by William Brown, deputy game warden for having deer meat in his possession. Brown met Powell on the St. Helens-Pittsburg road carrying a heavy knapsack. Search of the knapsack disclosed fresh deer meat. Powell was brought to St. Helens and entered a plea of guilty to possessing deer meat out of season. Justice Storla imposed a fine of $100.

MOTHERS-
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COMING!
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Editorials From Over the Nation

HIGH TAXES.

Salem Oregon Statesman — The government officials will always tell us that high taxes are local. Local officials will tell us the government taxes are high. The fact is, every branch of government from top to bottom is at fault. We have too much taxation everywhere. It is hard to reduce taxes anywhere.

Marion county can reduce taxes outside of its improvements; Salem can reduce taxes outside of its improvements. We have gone wild on taxation and we have let a lot of weeds grow up. It is time to pull them out and get back to where people can pay their taxes without such heavy burdens.

The Mellon proposition cuts off $350,000,000. State taxes can be reduced and county and city taxes can be. It is up to us to see that the taxing bodies all reduce.

* * *

It must be admitted that the country is a bit tired of talking presidents and candidates. It finds the taciturn Coolidge quite refreshing.

ABOUT NEWSPAPERS.

Roseburg-News Review — There are many people who feel that they could run the newspaper better than they are being run by publishers and editors. Newspaper people are always glad to get suggestions, and very frequently are influenced by them and are able to carry out the ideas thus offered. But many comments and criticisms made upon the newspapers fail to take account of certain difficulties and problems that have to be met in conducting any kind of a publication. It is the ambition of every responsible newspaper man to deal with absolute fairness and justice with all elements of the public. But as the old saying goes it would often "take a Philadelphia lawyer" to tell what is the absolutely right thing. Newspaper work is done hurriedly, and important decisions must often be made quickly. A man's clearness of insight is put to a severe test under these conditions, in his attempt to run a broad-minded newspaper.

PUTTING ONE OVER.

Corvallis Gazette Times—Harry Thaw's mother opposes the move to get Harry out of the asylum. That poor devoted soul knows when she is well off and she knows she has never had a moment's peace when he was out. A proper arrangement, however, would be to release him on condition that he go back and live with Evelyn. It would serve them both right.

* * *

Turkey is to abolish polygamy, that is, unless more than one wife "is urgently necessary." Times must be getting better in Turkey if the government is of the opinion that one wife is enough to make a living for an average man.

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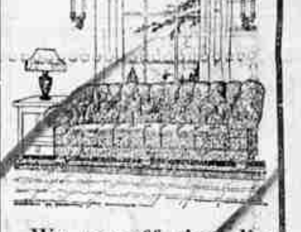

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