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An Independent Newspaper

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WITHHOLD NOT THOU thy tender mercies from me, O Lord; let thy loving kindness and thy truth continually preserve me.—Psalm 40:11.

THE OLD HOME TOWN

By Stanley



Dr. Luther May Succeed Ebert; Marx Considered

First President of German Republic Will Be Laid to Rest on Wednesday

BERLIN (By the Associated Press)—Who will succeed Ebert as the chief executive of Germany is a question which is forcing itself more and more upon the German people because of the fact that the constitution does not provide for a vice president. Many Germans were made suddenly aware that the president's office, of which they were hardly cognizant, since Ebert's rare fact prevented him from forcing himself to the fore, is a pivotal point in the whole republican structure and that the future of the young democratic state will be vitally affected by the choice of the man placed at the helm.

Two names thus far stand out prominently as presidential possibilities—Chancellor Luther and former Chancellor Marx. Doctor Luther would get the support of the Nationalists, Conservatives and a large part of the business world while Doctor Marx would have the endorsement of the Clericals, Democrats and Socialists. Both men have enviable records of national and international achievements. Doctor Luther, chiefly in connection with financial politics and Doctor Marx as a negotiator with the entente and a conciliator at home.

The other names mentioned in wider circles are those of General von Seeck and former Chancellor Cuno. The general probably is the most silent man in German public life which, added to his capacities as an administrator and organizer, his friends say, eminently qualifies him for the presidency. It is doubtful, however, whether the Nationalist parties would dare present a professional military man as their candidate.

FUNERAL, WEDNESDAY

BERLIN (AP)—The funeral of President Ebert will be held at 4 o'clock Wednesday afternoon in the Wilhelmstrasse palace, which is being used as the executive mansion. Chancellor Luther, who is acting president, will deliver the oration. There will be no religious services.

The body will be taken under military escort through Wilhelmstrasse to the Reichstag steps where the hearse will halt while President Loeb of the Reichstag, delivers an address on behalf of that body and the public will have an opportunity to pay its respects to the dead.

The procession then will move across the Tiergarten through the Potsdam station. The funeral train will leave for Heidelberg at 6:30 o'clock in the evening, and interment will take place in Heidelberg at 10 o'clock Thursday morning.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

(By the Associated Press)

Subjected to much ridicule, chiefly by monarchists when he headed the republic that succeeded the downfall of the Hohenzollern reign in Germany, Friedrich Ebert was regarded highly by the people generally and in his own country at least, was given the major portion of the credit for bringing order out of the chaos that followed the abdication of Emperor William.

When the upheaval came on Nov. 9, 1918, Ebert assumed a leading role, becoming chancellor in succession to Prince Maximilian of Baden, who had been instru-

mental in negotiating the armistice. He was in office only 26 hours, being forced out when control of the government was taken over by the people's commissioners. It was Ebert, it was said, who by skillful maneuvers at that time, prevented the radicals from gaining the upper hand in the turmoil created by the revolution.

A few weeks later Ebert became one of the six commissaries who arranged for the first meeting of the German National Assembly at Weimar to form a provisional government of the republic. On Feb. 11, 1919, he was elected provisional president, receiving 277 out of the 279 votes cast in the assembly. The constitution adopted by the National Assembly provided that "the executive power lies with the people."

The provisional government functioned until August 23, when Ebert took the oath as imperial president and two days later the National Assembly ceased to exist, being superseded by the new Reichstag. Upon taking the oath President Ebert said: "The essence of our constitution shall, above all, be freedom, but freedom must have law. This you have now established. We will jointly hold it. It will give us strength to testify for the new vital principle of the German nation, freedom and right."

During the first few months of the provisional government its foundation was threatened by the crisis which arose over the question of signing the peace treaty. President Ebert and his first premier, Philipp Scheidemann were opposed to yielding to the demands of the allies. With no other course left but to accept, Scheidemann and his cabinet resigned and a pro-treaty government was formed, which included some of the ministers of the previous cabinet. The new government, while denouncing the terms of the treaty, decided to accept it and in July, 1919, President Ebert signed the bill ratifying the treaty.

With this phase of the treaty crisis over the Ebert government was confronted with the problem of setting delegates to go to Paris and shoulder the responsibility of signing the treaty. These were obtained after many declined what they regarded as an empty honor, because the opinion was practically unanimous in Germany that the terms of the treaty were unjust and sought to disrupt Germany as a nation.

Internal troubles were bobbing up nearly every day in all parts of the country but President Ebert vigorously opposed the varied movements of Spartacists and Communists. He handled his difficult job so well that when it came time for the scheduled presidential election in 1922 he was requested by a coalition of several parties to remain in office until June, 1925, which he agreed to do. The election of 1922 was postponed because of the dangers of Bolshevik agitation and the general unsettled conditions and hard times that prevailed throughout Germany.

Secured Kaiser's Palace.

After the new government had been transferred to Berlin one of the first announcements of President Ebert was that he did not intend to live in the palaces of the former Kaiser. These, he characterized, as "museums of a dead epoch."

It was no easy task to hold together the new republic because of the conditions that existed when it



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Best way to keep ahead of the game is to keep away from it.

It is too much to expect that a man will register much enthusiasm after having had experience with a dull thud.

Of all the serial stories still running, the hardest by far to keep track of is the changing Chinese political situation.

VETOING THE ARMORY

Governor Pierce has vetoed the bill providing an appropriation for the long-desired La Grande armory. By doing so the Governor has started some criticism of his decision here where the armory problem is so familiar to everyone—but he has also been very favorably commended by others over the state who have not bothered themselves about La Grande's selfish interests in this particular case.

The facts of the matter are that everybody in La Grande is disappointed in the veto of the armory bill because they know how great the need is in Eastern Oregon for training facilities of this kind, and they know how important a guard organization is to a state. But they also appreciate the fact that Governor Pierce couldn't very well do anything else than veto the armory bill regardless of how much he might want to do something for La Grande and Eastern Oregon personally. He either had to veto the bill or invent some elaborate excuse for signing it that would make it appear as a state economy and a revenue producer rather than an expense—and that's a job that most governors wouldn't care to tackle.

It's too bad, in this particular instance, that the Governor's announced and heavily emphasized policy has been one of opposition to any measure that appropriates state funds when those funds are not available or when expenditure of those funds would be, in the Governor's mind, unnecessary. But that has been his policy and to sign the armory bill at this time would be to admit that the attitude he has expressed so forcefully at times applies only to the rest of Oregon, that La Grande and the Governor's home valley are exempt and deserve special treatment. We are sorry that the Governor felt this way about it and we are sorry that he couldn't or didn't find some loophole through which he might crawl for the sake of filling a crying need here in Eastern Oregon. But we can't blame him, after all, for his veto; and no fair-minded citizen of La Grande who respects any man who adopts a policy and sticks to it regardless of consequences will hold a permanent "peeve" against the chief executive. Next time, possibly he'll be able to do his bit.



OFFICE CAT
By Junius

If you agree with it, it is good publicity; if you don't it's propaganda.

The world has learned pretty well how to triumph over troubles. Many legislatures are in session yet the people appear reasonably happy.

Mary has a date each night. Which isn't quite the thing; it brings her sisters' average down. To fuss too much in spring.

Grandma's rheumatism used to suffer when it rained; now it's her complexion.

Any girl is happy if she has so many frocks she can not decide which one to wear.

He—Autos are a heavy expense.
Me—That depends. I've cut my running expenses in two.
He—How?
Me—By leaving it in the garage half the time.

It frequently happens that when a married man ceases to be a lover some other chap starts in where he left off.

A La Grande man has noticed that it is more difficult to make money out of political footballs than the leather kind.

MOTHER GOOSE REVISITED
A dollar, a dollar, a ten o'clock scholar.
Why don't you come before dark?
I used to come at ten o'clock. But now I have to park.

Little Ho-Preep had lost her sheep. And couldn't tell where to find them; Ahs and ah! At last they came back. Wagging their cross worves behind them.

Little Jack Horner sat in a corner, Making a foolish rhyme. But when he had finished, his joy And delight, "The cat Jim won't take if this time!"

A free country is one where you can do almost anything after you get the proper license tags.

Overheard in La Grande.
"Oh, look! Daddy puts in little sticks with the names on to remind the seed not to grow up into the wrong thing."

Women governors aren't new, but these two will be first to draw their pay direct.

A man never climbs too high to feel a little flattered when somebody asks his advice.

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