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(Incorporated)
An Independent Newspaper

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WE'RE SERIOUS THIS TIME, PAT

In a communication received this morning from Medical Springs, and printed in an adjoining column, Pat Powers, a prominent and active citizen of the Medical Springs-Pondosa community, takes us somewhat to task for discussing such a serious question as the proposed annexation to Baker county in a light and humorous vein. He doesn't like being "kidded" about a pet project and refuses to accept "humorous criticism" as of "material value."

Fair enough. But Mr. Powers overlooked some matter in our previous comment on the subject. Did we not admit quite openly that Baker county had given more attention to the needs and desires of Pondosa than Union county? Did we not indicate quite frankly that Union county had been neglectful? Did we not insinuate a warm sympathy for Pondosa's predicament under existing conditions? We did. It would have been folly to do otherwise. The facts showing Baker county's concern and Union county's indifference have been obvious. But we further indicated that there were other considerations affecting the situation; considerations that prompt our disapproval of the movement regardless of our sympathy for the present plight of the communities concerned.

Mr. Powers will recall, we are sure, that The Observer first voiced the need for a permanent county road to Medical Springs and Pondosa. He will recall that this paper urged the immediate spending of money for that purpose as soon as the construction of the Grande Ronde Lumber company mill at Pondosa was decided on. He will recall that we emphasized the obligation of this county to the citizens and taxpayers of Pondosa and Medical Springs in the matter of transportation.

We voiced that policy on numerous occasions and still contend that Medical Springs and Pondosa have not received the road attention they deserve, that fair and resourceful concern about their needs has been lacking. Baker county, blessed with greater wealth or resourcefulness or initiative, or perhaps all three, beat us to the solution, built a road, won the lasting friendship of the Union county group thus served. Did we place serious blame on either Baker county or Pondosa? We did not. And we would have acted just as they did under similar circumstances.

But all of this is very much beside the point. The fact that Baker county built a road to Pondosa and Union county did not, with its attendant considerations, does not form a logical basis for the movement to annex a portion of Union county to Baker county. The question of tax revenue is also insignificant. The question of policy, of precedent, however, is vitally important.

Will the state legislature take the position that individual communities, temporarily inconvenienced by transportation facilities, shall be encouraged to withdraw from one county and join another at will? Will the people of Oregon accept the right of the people of Jonesville or Smithburg or any other community to change and alter the established county boundaries of the state at their discretion? Will the state set a precedent for proposals of this kind and say that you can be in the county of your choice whenever you feel slighted and neglected and whenever you change your mind?

The answers are obvious. It would be economic folly for the people of Oregon to put their stamp of approval on such a practice. Aside from the considerations of bonded indebtedness, the confusion and expense resulting in abstracts of title, and other legal considerations, the very organization of our state government demands every possible permanency in boundary lines in the interest of business efficiency.

Pondosa and Medical Springs cannot be blamed for wanting to take their strip of Union county and add it to Baker county, but who can tell what conditions may exist five, twenty, or fifty years from now which might make it equally desirable, from their standpoint, to come back within Union county borders? Milton and Freewater have little in common with Pendleton, their county seat; they are a distinct part of the Walla Walla territory, geographically and economically. But would the state of Oregon be wise in cutting off that particular slice of territory and giving it to Washington just to meet the present needs of Milton and Freewater?

Mr. Powers is disturbed and perhaps estranged because Union county has not built a road to Medical Springs. If Union county fails to give its approval to the annexation program, he threatens to put the case up to the state in the form of a general election measure. Unwise tactics; but if it comes to that, we are still confident that Union county will remain as it is. In the meanwhile we will continue to urge upon the people and the officials of Union county the need for a permanent road to Medical Springs and the importance of our meeting this obligation. If the annexation project does nothing more than emphasize this obligation and therefore hurries the building of such a road, it will not have been argued in vain.

ABE MARTIN



"Well, you can't tell the difference, can't you? It don't sound so common," says Miss Tawney Apple, who's changed her neuritis to arthritis. Speakin' of new auto models, who recalls when she was the ever changin' style of derby hats that kept us in hot water?"

Here and There In Legislature

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 6 (AP)—People of Oregon may soon be buying auto licenses in July instead of January. Members of the house committee on roads and highways and the automobiles and roads committee of the house, meeting jointly Tuesday evening, were unanimous in their approval of Senator Bennett's bill to change the date of expiration of automobile registrations from January 1 to July 1 of each year. The senate has already passed this bill, S. B. 46, without a dissenting vote.

Eckert's bill to make all cities share in the general county road levy, including cities now excluded by virtue of special legislative charter, already pummelled from the roads and highway committee to the constitutional law committee and back again to the roads committee, is still on the gridle.

Andrews, of Multnomah, who at the first hearing favored the bill, offered objections at Tuesday night's hearing and succeeded in securing postponement on committee action until another hearing is held.

Label Convict Goods

Manufacturers, workers and labor union officials were unanimous in their support of H. B. 226, which would require the labeling of convict-made goods in the state as such, when a public hearing on the bill was held Tuesday evening before the house committee on labor and industry. The committee will report favorably on the bill.

Meeting here Tuesday afternoon, members of the special committee organized under a senate resolution by Bennett, Staples and Corbett, designated a sub-committee including Marshall N. Dana, Herbert Gordon, both of Portland, and E. A. Aldrich, of Pendleton, to draft a plan of procedure in securing an adequate survey of the cost and feasibility of water transportation on the Columbia river, as compared to other forms of water transportation.

More Dynamic

More legislative dynamite was poured into the senate Tuesday with the introduction by Senator Moser of a bill embodying the amendments proposed in the state blue-sky law by Mark McCallister, undertook to draft a set of amendments to the present law after he had torn to pieces a draft of a revised blue-sky law prepared by a special commission took the position that the bill prepared by the governor's commission was discriminatory in favor of the investment bankers as compared to other dealers in securities. He says the revised draft is agreeable to the governor's commission and with a few amendments to be threshed out before the committees of the legislature, to the investment bankers.

What may be expected to happen to the varied assortment of county salary increase bills when they reach the governor was indicated to the house Tuesday afternoon by Speaker Hamilton when he urged members interested in raising the pay of county officials to get together and work out a comprehensive salary schedule to apply to all counties. If time cannot be found to work out such a schedule at this session of the legislature, Hamilton said, an interim committee should be appointed to thresh the matter out and report back to the 1931 session.

A public hearing on the insurance measures before the legislature bill will be held Thursday evening before a joint house and senate insurance committee meeting. Insurance men and others interested in the proposed legislation are expected to be present. Considerable important insurance legislation has been proposed this session.

ARREST, ADMITS HOLDUP

HERKIMER, N. Y., Feb. 6 (AP)—Thomas Flatoski, 29, of Buffalo was arrested near here today by state troopers in connection with the holdup of a New York Central train just outside Herkimer early today. According to the troopers, Flatoski admitted the holdup.

QUEEN MOTHER OF SPAIN DIES

Maria Christina, Ruling from 1885 to 1902, Passes on Today

MADRID, Feb. 6 (AP)—Maria Christina, queen mother of Spain, under whose rule as regent, Spain fought its disastrous war with the United States, died at the royal palace at 3:30 a. m. today.

Her son, Alfonso XIII, king of Spain, and members of the royal family were at her bedside when the end came after a sudden illness which quickly sapped her strength.

Late last evening she felt a slight indisposition and required the aid of servants. The king and queen were notified.

The royal physician was summoned, and for a while the patient responded to his treatment, but a fainting spell about two o'clock left her very weak.

Blind Spain 17 Years

Maria Christina ruled Spain as regent from 1885 until 1902, when her son, Alfonso, who was born six months after the death of his father, Alfonso XII, in 1885, became old enough to assume the throne.

The period of her rule was one of the most critical in Spanish history, and in it the country was bereft of almost all it had left of its once far-reaching colonial possessions. The colonial disquisitions led also to the war with the United States. Besides these external troubles the regent was forced to combat conspiracy at home which often threatened her government. The queen mother will be buried on Friday at the monastery of the famous Escorial where Spanish royalty has been buried. Her tomb will be close to that of her husband, Alfonso XII.

Masses for queen mother were said in the royal chapel all morning.

3,000 Injured In Riots in Colombo

COLOMBO, Ceylon, Feb. 6 (AP)—Four were dead, 60 were in hospitals, and an estimated 3,000 others were injured in varying degrees in yesterday's strike riots here, a check today showed. The disturbances, which began yesterday when 15,000 striking harbor and railway workers marched on police headquarters subsided during the night.

BOMBAY, India, Feb. 6 (AP)—

Three persons were killed and six wounded tonight when troops fired upon rioting Moslems. There have been Moslem-Hindu troubles here for several days, with the fighting between religious sections steadily growing in intensity.

Talk Of The Town SALE

DUTCH OVEN
"The Best for Less"
For economy—better flavor—this great Dutch Oven Value—smoothly ground—cast—capacity full 4 1/2 quarts.

\$1.10
W. K. Gilbert Co.

B-O-Y-S' S-U-I-T-S
Jersey and Wool Materials
Age 2 to 8 —
\$1.58 to \$3.98

NORTON'S KIDDY SHOP

COMMON COLDS

The "common cold" is the most paradoxical and misleading applied to any ailment from which we can suffer. It isn't "common" and it isn't "cold." It is instead characterized by fever, occurs in rundown and clogged-up bodies, and leads to grave disorders.

To dispose of a cold, get rid of the condition which occasions it. Restore normal elimination by removing the irritation of the nerves serving the eliminative organs. Chiropractic spinal adjustments remove the cause.

By my Chiropractic health method I correct diseases of the eye, ear, nose, throat, stomach, liver, kidneys, bowels and lower organs.

Make your appointment for Health by phoning 497-W today

Dr. J. E. Woodell
29 Summer Bldg. CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN

THE OPEN COURT

CORRESPONDENTS MUST SUBMIT THEIR NAMES TO THE EDITOR IF THEY DESIRE LETTERS PRINTED.

Medical Springs, Ore., Feb. 5th, 1929

Editor, La Grande Evening Observer,

La Grande, Oregon.

The editorial appearing in your paper of the issue of Feb. 2nd, in regard to annexation of certain territory now of Union County to that of Baker County has been read with genuine amusement and you are commended very highly for your valuable contribution to the realm of humor.

However, the issue at hand being purely one of economics designed primarily for the relief of certain Union County citizens and tax payers, renders the injection of humor as important and devoid of any constructional value.

Reference in your editorial (humorous) to Baker County being the aggressor in this movement is entirely erroneous and misleading. As a matter of fact Baker County and more especially the city of Baker, rather than sit idly by, playfully indulging in platitudinous and pseudo humorous editorial thrusts, have appreciated the economic advantage of making a conscientious effort to be of service to residents remotely situated and so have provided a highway of excellence into the district affected.

Referring again to your editorial intimating that the promoters of this issue are unaware of legal requirements attendant upon such an undertaking, you are respectfully informed that the aforesaid promoters are particularly versed in the legal and political phases incidental to the preparation and enactment of a bill of this nature and in the event that Union County is of the mind to deal not too kindly with the proposed change at this time there is the recourse of placing same on the ballot at the general election. In any event, the promoters, as well as all the residents affected (100 per cent strong by petition) are so thoroughly committed to the justice of their demands, have expressed an eagerness to carry on the fight to the limit of their ability.

Of repeated requests have been made upon Union County officials for relief from intolerable road conditions, and any opposition to the proposed annexation issue at this time can only be construed to mean that Union is interested in us only to the extent of the collection of our taxes.

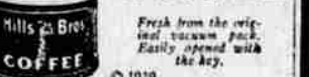
In conclusion, we would suggest

One

stitch and then another makes the fine SEAM

HILLS BROS. apply this principle to roasting coffee. A few pounds at a time is the secret of their patented, continuous process. Every berry is roasted evenly and a delicious, uniform flavor is assured.

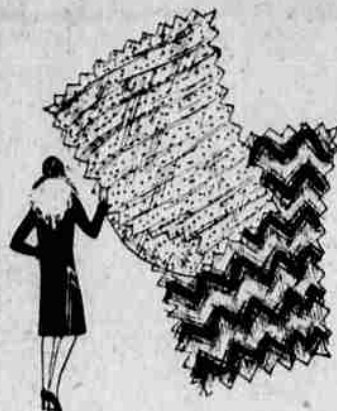
HILLS BROS COFFEE



Fresh from the original vacuum pack. Easily opened with the key.

New Designs in Fast Color Suitings

Floral, Geometric and Modern Art Designs



THAT serviceable material that stands laundering so nicely may be had in a host of new and charming designs this season and are still guaranteed fast colors.

50c 65c 75c

Peter Pan and Wendover Prints

In Guaranteed Fast Colors.

PETER PAN gingham, the material of a hundred uses, in gay new colors for Spring and Summer wear. New patterns you'll want for dresses, aprons, etc. Priced at

50c

FAST COLOR PRINTS

With a wealth of color and pleasing new designs in a full 36-inch width material. Priced at

25c



N. K. West & Co., Inc.

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to editorial writers and others interested who seem unfamiliar with existing conditions to concern themselves with a little study of the situation before passing judgment.

Intelligent argument is respected and conscientiously solicited, but humorous criticism cannot be accepted as of material value.

Respectfully yours,
P. J. POWERS.

Dates From Crusades

The town and fortress of Peterwardin, Yugo-Slavia, was once a Roman fort. The present name means "fortress of Peter." The soldiers for the first Crusades were collected there by Peter the Hermit. The name was given to the place because of this circumstance.

STIMSON TO ACCEPT POST FROM HOOVER

(Continued from Page 1)

Nicaragua as the personal representative of President Coolidge in an effort to settle the dispute between Adolfo Diaz and Juan Scausa, both of whom claimed the presidency. He effected an agreement that ended hostilities between the two. Soon afterwards he was named governor general of the Philippines. The post had become vacant upon the death of Major General Leonard Wood.

During the World war Mr. Stimson was appointed as a judge advocate with the rank of major. Later he joined the 305th field artillery as a lieutenant colonel. He

was advanced to the rank of colonel and commanded the regiment in France.

Mention Morrow

Stimson's name is one of half a dozen which have figured prominently in the speculation over President-elect Hoover's probable selection of a secretary of state. Dwight W. Morrow, ambassador to Mexico, is one of those who have been mentioned repeatedly for the appointment.

Calls for Patient Work

Persian carpets are made exclusively by hand. In a good carpet there are about 10,000 stitches to every square foot. Every stitch is made separately and afterward clipped with the scissors and bent down.

The Passing Show of 1929

It's a show that changes every day. Keeps abreast of the times. Always up to date—ever in step with the mode, or a little ahead—turning the spotlight for you on the things that are new, smart, stylish, convenient—desirable.

The Passing Show of current times—the advertisements in your newspaper. Packed with interest—alive with the vitality and surging change of this modern day.

The advertisements are more than reliable buying guides. Indications of quality they are, surely—for today no manufacturer can win lasting success by buying publicity for a cheap or shoddy product. Advertising weeds out the unfit. But more than that—advertisements are the fascinating daily record of progress in industry—of advances in the world of goods and services. And of such things you need to be fully informed—for you are the one who buys them.

Buy intelligently—with open eyes. Read the advertisements every day. Compare values . . . know what's new, what's better, and why. When you start out to spend money—be informed!

Make it a habit to follow the advertisements. Every day there's a new edition of The Passing Show!