

# THE MEDFORD MAIL

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That published announcement that Carrie Nation says she wouldn't kiss a man who chews tobacco, sounds like a serious effort of the tobacco trust to increase the consumption of the weed.

Governor Chamberlain was "playing politics" in his negotiations with Treasurer Steele's bondsmen, the result shows that it was a brand of politics that might be emulated without hurting anything.

Comments caustic and otherwise have been made concerning the announcement recently made by the Portland Oregonian that hereafter it would be independent in political matters. The Oregonian never has been so rankly partisan in local politics so that you could notice to any great extent. It has always had a delightful habit of kicking over the traces at more or less uncertain intervals when things got too bad in the party, and usually kicked to some purpose. However independent the big journal becomes, if it does as it says and supports only the right, the Republican party can be sure of its assistance as a whole, whatever happens to the professional politicians.

### Used the Trust Funds.

Positive proofs that trust funds held by the Title Guarantees Trust Company have been invaded and used in speculation by the officials of the company have been discovered by the experts at work on the books by direction of the District Attorney. The depletion of trust funds is a very serious matter and although the investigation is not yet complete, if the trusts depleted by the speculative bank officers were of such a character that no permission was given to divert the money to investment of any kind, as many of them must have been, prosecution of the bank officials will follow on the charge of larceny by bailee, or larceny by embezzlement.

The criminal character of this manipulation of trust funds is shown by the fact that the day the receiver was named by the court, a transfer was made from the bank of \$74,300, to the assistant trust officer, John F. Shields. Mr. Shields was instructed to apply the sum in varying amounts to fill up the depleted trusts. This was done leaving only \$5000 in cash in the bank when it failed.

Depositors in the pirated bank will fight this use of their money. They have already taken steps to get an order from the court to take back this money and put it into the bank, where it may be used for the benefit of all creditors of the bank.

"It makes no difference that trust funds were returned in some instances. This does not relieve the bank officials of criminal responsibility," said Deputy District Attorney Haney yesterday. "Trusts are of various kinds. Money is often placed in escrow with such companies to be held and paid upon certain conditions being fulfilled. Such trusts as that certainly do not admit of the diversion of the money by the agent who has been fixed upon to care for it until needed. Many other forms of trust funds were held by the bank. As in funds of estates, which were in process of settlement, and in fact practically all the trust funds in the keeping of the bank were intended to be kept inviolate.

"Investigation shows that the bank officers played fast and loose with this money. They used it freely in forming inside corporations and spent it in furthering their own schemes at all times. Speculating with trust funds as well as with the bank depositors' money it is a safe bet that the officers of the institution would have become millionaires in a short time if times had continued good and they had made any investments that would win. They took no chances for they gambled with other peoples' money."

### The Governor's "Joke."

Governor Chamberlain played a clever little "joke" on the people of Portland and Oregon, last week, with the result that they enjoyed a two-day respite from the legal holiday season, and didn't know a thing about it. The Governor did it just to see what would happen, and nothing did happen, and he is chuckling in his sleeve today, and those who have already "tumbled" to the merry jest are trying to figure out how the little game escaped their notice.

Neither last Friday nor last Saturday was a legal holiday. No proclamation was made by the Governor covering them and the world moved on in the same old groove, never wobbled from the straight and narrow path one bit.

I will be remembered that a week ago Saturday the Governor announced that he would continue the holiday season up to and including

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If you intrust your banking business to us we want you to be SAFE and to FEEL SAFE. On these terms we invite your business.

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P. K. Deest, Vice President. M. L. Allford, Cashier.  
Oris Crawford, Asst. Cashier.

### State Will Not Lose.

last Thursday, December 5, and then a few days later he came out with a proclamation issued from Salem that he had decided definitely to bring the enforced holiday season to a close after next Saturday, but nothing was said about last Friday or Saturday, and it has now developed there was fine method in the Governor's madness. The settlement of the state's claim upon the American Surety Company which had executed bonds for State Treasurer Steel appears to have been the motive behind the Governor's failure to declare those two days as legal holidays, though Mr. Chamberlain is not ready to acknowledge the corn. It now develops that any agreement made between the state and the officials of the bonding company on legal holidays would be illegal and any contract made between these parties would have been null and void, and would not hold water in court in case the surety company cared to contest it later. It appears that all parties to the agreement clearly understood this situation, but through some "oversight" the public was not taken into their confidence, though they allowed the facts to leak out this morning.

And when they had leaked out, the Governor came forward very promptly with another proclamation, declaring all this week a legal holiday. Having performed this little executive function, the Governor leaned back in the gubernatorial chair and had a comfortable little laugh to himself.

"What folks don't know won't hurt 'em," remarked the Governor over the long-distance telephone from Salem, at noon today after announcing the extension of the holidays throughout the present week. "You see I had sort of a sneaking idea that people weren't paying much attention to the holidays anyway, and that if I should accidentally forget to call one now and then, they wouldn't drop dead, and the sun wouldn't stand still in the heavens. Secretary of State Benson and Attorney-General Crawford and I talked it all over and they thought it would be a good joke, too, and so just naturally forgot to declare Friday and Saturday holidays."

The Governor would not admit that he failed to call these two days holidays, in order to legalize the negotiations with the surety company, but he didn't know what it was best to be on the safe side.

It seems from later developments that the governor's "joke" was loaded at both ends, and the governor really didn't know it. The two judicial days coming in as they did have created various complications in law matters. Several terms of court must be postponed, numerous contracts become void, a number of cases are thrown out of court. "The statute of limitations was held in abeyance by the holidays, but in order to save the statute from running, suits would have to be filed the first day not a legal holiday—this being neglected in numerous cases, the party may have lost their rights. The same applies to indorsers of commercial paper where the indorser was not notified and paper protested."

### Commission Hears Complaints

The state railroad commission held sessions at Ashland and Grants Pass Monday and Tuesday of this week to hear complaints in regard to the train service of the Southern Pacific, particularly regarding the taking off of trains 11 and 12. The testimony of a number of business men of Ashland was taken Monday tending to show the inconvenience to which the people of this end of the state had been subjected by the removal of the two trains mentioned, and the running of the south bound mail trains within a few hours of each other.

The company introduced no evidence and contented itself with a cross examination of the voluntary witnesses.

The final report of the commission will be made on their return to Salem where the case will be argued by the attorneys for both sides.

It was understood at Grants Pass Tuesday that the company would restore the trains, in the spring, as soon as business opens up to justify it, which is some what of a concession, and would indicate what the corporation is not so sure of its ground as it might be. The closed pouch service between Roseburg and Ashland, and the freight train service between Grants Pass and Ashland are regarded as poor make shifts at the best. There is a whole lot of difference between riding in even a passenger coach attached to a freight and one attached to a regular train, especially if there is a good deal of switching to do and the engineer happens to be a little cross grained.

In attendance on the hearing were Commissioners Oswald West and J. M. Atchison, C. L. Reames, attorney for the commission. The Southern Pacific officials present were L. R. Field, superintendent, Wm. McMurray, G. P. A., W. H. Jenkins, traveling passenger agent, W. D. Venton, attorney for the S. P. Co.

The state of Oregon will not lose a cent either through the failure of the Title Guarantees & Trust Company or the temporary embarrassment of the Merchants' National Bank. Representatives of the American Surety Company, surety for State Treasurer Steel, yesterday admitted the company's liability and will reimburse the state to the amount of \$408,388.88. This assures the restoration to the public treasury of all state funds that were not adequately secured by approved securities.

This adjustment of the claims of the state against the American Surety Company was reached at a conference yesterday between Governor Chamberlain, Secretary of State Benson, State Treasurer Steel and Attorney-General Crawford, representing the state, and F. W. Lafrentz, comptroller, and J. W. Mason, assistant general solicitor, representing the surety company. The terms of the agreement provide for the immediate payment by the surety company of the state of \$12,478.20 representing the deposit of state funds in the Merchants' National Bank; also the immediate payment by the surety company of \$100,000 of the general funds of the state deposited with the Title Guarantees Trust Company; the agreement by the surety company to pay the state a balance of \$7483.81, belonging to the general funds of the state, and the further sum of \$288,430.87, belonging to the common school, Agricultural College and University funds of the state, together with interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum, on or before December 31, 1909. Two drafts covering the first two items of \$12,478.20 and \$100,000 respectively, were executed by the surety company officials yesterday and delivered to the state officials at the time the agreement was signed. As security for the payment of the remaining claims aggregating \$255,910.58, the state holds the company's bonds aggregating \$550,000.—Portland Telegram.

### Accident to Marshfield Stage.

Marshfield, Oreg., December 9.—Fourteen passengers had a miraculous escape from death and several were injured today in a most unusual accident on the Drain stage line today. The coach was lost in a tidal wave, but the passengers after being carried a hundred feet out from shore, were dashed back on land and all saved. For a distance of about 5 miles from a point opposite Marshfield to the mouth of the Umpqua River the stage runs along the coast at low tide on the wet sand between the sea wall and the water. This morning while the stage was about two miles out without warning an enormous wall of water enveloped the conveyance. It came so quickly that there was no escape.

Almost at the same moment a log struck the stage and dashed it to pieces. Ten men were carried out to deep water by the receding wave, and three women and a child who were among the passengers were pinned under a part of the wrecked stage.

The driver saved himself by holding on to the lines and was dragged out by the horses, but the coach and all the baggage was lost. The women in the party were put on the horses and the men walked back to Coos Bay, and all were brought to Marshfield in a gasoline launch and cared for.

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We have solved the question of what to buy for the Men. Let us help you solve this question. We have many suggestions, and worlds of novelties to show you. Come and see.

## He may need a Muffler

Every man who is obliged to be out of doors in bad weather needs a Muffler, and what could be a nicer present?

We have a splendid line of Mufflers. Prices range from

\$1.00 to \$3.50

## Hosiery

If he is a man who has a taste for fine Hosiery, what would be nicer than one of our swell boxes of Hosiery for his Christmas?

Prices

\$1.00 to \$4.50

## Men's Gloves

Buy him a pair of Gloves and make his Christmas complete, as well as his outfit; for a man's attire is not complete without a pair of dressy Gloves.

We have splendid driving gloves.

Dressy Street Gloves and Correct Dress Gloves

\$1.00 to \$2.50

## Oceans of Comfort

There's certainly lots of comfort in our Robes and House Coats. Buy one for him for Christmas.

You can't Estimate the Comfort He'll get out of It

Come in and see our line, as Robes must be seen to be appreciated.

\$5.00 to \$10.00

## Vests and Ties

What would make a nicer present than a nice Vest or swell Tie in a fancy box? Why not buy one for his Christmas?

We have a long line of these at

Vests..... \$2.50 to \$5.00  
Ties..... 50c to \$2.00

## Handk'fs & Suspenders

These are two articles that a man never has too many of. We have a swell line of Handkerchiefs in fancy boxes; just the thing for a friend or brother. Also Suspenders in boxes. Come in and look at them.

Handkerchiefs, boxed \$1.50 to \$3.50  
Handkerchiefs, unboxed 25c to 1.50  
Suspenders, boxed 75c to 2.00

## Gift Umbrellas

This is the season for Gift Umbrellas, and we invite inspection of our line of New Beauties, silver and gold mounted.

\$5.00, 6.00, 6.50, 7.00, 7.50

## Bags and Suit Cases

There is no question that our line of Bags and Suit Cases is the best in town. Why not give him a Suit Case or Bag for Christmas? All shapes and styles in Cases at popular prices.

Suit Cases..... \$5.00, 6.50 to 25.00  
Bags..... \$3.50 to 17.50

## Ladies and Gentlemen

We extend to you a cordial invitation to call and look over our extensive line of Holiday Novelties. Everything a Man could wish put up in attractive boxes at reasonable prices.

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MEDFORD, OREGON