

Associated Press
Dispatches

Medford Daily Tribune.

THE WEATHER.

Occasional rain or snow to-
night; colder, Thursday, rain or
snow; westerly winds.

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NO. 265

REDDY FILES HOME RULE AMENDMENT

Mayor of Medford, Fathers Initiation Petition Signed by 9000 Voters.

Mayor J. P. Reddy this week filed with the secretary of state at Salem an initiative petition signed by 9000 voters for an amendment to the constitution, giving home rule to cities and towns.

"There is no good argument that can be made against this bill," said Dr. Reddy this morning. "There is no reason why people outside of a city should dictate the government of that city. It is simply a question of home rule. This bill, if it becomes a law, will restore to municipalities the right to regulate their own affairs."

Proposed Amendment.
The bill amends section, article 11, of the state constitution to read:

"Corporations may be founded under general laws, but shall not be created by the legislative assembly by special laws. The legislative assembly shall not enact, amend or repeal any charter or act of incorporation of any municipality, city or town. The legal voters of every city and town are hereby granted power to license, regulate, control and tax, or to suppress or prohibit theaters, racetracks, poolrooms, bowling alleys, billiard halls and the sale of liquor subject to the provisions of the local option law of the state of Oregon, within the corporate limits of any municipality is vested in such municipality."

The section at present reads as follows:

"Corporations may be framed under general laws, but shall not be created by the legislative assembly by special laws. The legislative assembly shall not enact, amend or repeal any charter or act of incorporation or any municipality, city or town. The legal voters of every city and town are hereby granted power to enact and amend their municipal charters, subject to the constitution and criminal laws of the state of Oregon."

Dr. Reddy's Argument.
Dr. Reddy submitted the following argument for his measure:

"The purpose of this amendment is to obtain practical home rule for all cities and towns in Oregon.

"Laws which may be necessary and wise for a seaport may not be advisable and good for an inland town.

"The proposed amendment gives to the voters of each city in Oregon the right to regulate their own local affairs and to make such laws as the majority of the people of that town wish to make.

"The majority should rule. No law can be passed of course except by a majority, and the proposed amendment merely prevents a minority riding. It gives the majority this power, which they certainly should have.

"It does not seem fair that people living in Eastern Oregon should vote as to what regulations should apply to the local affairs of a city in the Willamette valley, nor, on the other hand, should the people of the Willamette valley govern the local affairs of cities in Eastern Oregon. It is impossible to make any law which will be equally suitable for all towns, and the proposed amendment gives the taxpayers and voters of each town the right to govern their own local affairs within the city boundaries.

"The proposed amendment is home rule for cities. Persons who have some pet measure or policy which they are afraid to submit to a vote of the people will oppose this amendment. It can be opposed only by those persons who are afraid to abide by the rule of the majority of the people.

"All others should support it."

FRANCO-AMERICAN WINE TREATY IS CONFIRMED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Secretary of State Root and Ambassador Jusserand have signed the Franco-American reciprocity agreement drawn under section 30 of the Dingley act. The arrangement provides for France the abatement of 25 per cent duties on champagne and sparkling wines imported by America in return for which France confers the same on the wine imported from the United States.

KING OPENS PARLIAMENT IN SUNSHINE

Fear of Demonstration by Women Suffragists Causes Unusual Precautions.

LONDON, Jan. 29.—A most rare event in winter—a clear, sunny day—favored the royal procession to Westminster today, where the king opened parliament. An immense crowd witnessed the parade.

Premier Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, whose health is feeble, was the only cabinet minister absent when the king ascended the throne. Queen Alexandra was seated on the chair of state at his right. Owing to the menace of a possible outbreak by woman suffragists, unusual precautions were taken, only certified ladies being admitted to the ceremony.

The king's speech contained nothing of extraordinary interest. Referring to the Hague peace conference, the king said: "The various instruments annexed to the final act of that conference show progress has been made, and they are receiving the attentive consideration of my government. One of the most important of these instruments establishes the great principle of an international court of appeal in prize cases. My government is considering the question of inviting the representatives of the leading maritime nations to attend a conference in London next autumn, with a view to coming to an understanding on certain important points of international law for the guidance of this court."

SEEDLESS PEARS GROWN FOR PAST TWENTY YEARS

PENDLETON, Or., Jan. 29.—Not suspecting that a seedless pear was anything out of the ordinary, R. L. Oliver, a prominent fruitgrower two miles west of this city, has been growing pears of that nature for two decades. Much publicity has been given during the past three months to a seedless pear discovered by A. J. Mason, an orchardist near Spokane. Accounts of a seedless pear tree began to flow in from Hood River and North Yakima about the same time. The Mason pear, however, has attracted the most attention. Eastern papers have exploited it and the Michigan Advocate is the authority for the statement that pomological experts and nurserymen in various parts of the United States and Canada will be invited to trace the variety and history of the pear found by Mason. It states samples of the pear have been sent to Luther Burbank.

The tree bearing the seedless pear on the Oliver farm near this city was growing on the place when he bought it, 20 years ago. The pears on the Oliver tree differ in description from those of the Mason farm, being very large and resembling the Flemish Beauty more than any other variety. They are entirely seedless and have only the slightest tinge of core, being in effect coreless as well as seedless. The flesh is fine-grained and solid, the flavor is good and the pear has many claims for popularity aside from being a seedless and coreless variety. The tree bears late the fruit ripening in October.

The Mason pear is described as resembling a Bartlett in size and has a deep yellow color. The Oliver pear is a yellowish green with a red cheek. Mr. Oliver was never attracted to the pear as a curiosity until reading of the discovery of a seedless pear in the papers last fall.

Where the tree came from he does not know. The farm with the orchard on it was purchased from a nurseryman, who set the orchard out.

DUNNE OVERRULES BANKERS' INDICTMENTS

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 29.—Judge Frank H. Dunne today overruled demurrers to indictments charging embezzlement against J. Dabell Brown, former general manager, and Walter J. Barnett, former vice-president of the California Safe Deposit & Trust company, now in liquidation. The date of the trial will be set Saturday.

FINE THEATER FOR MEDFORD NOW ASSURED

Dr. Page to Erect Magnificent Play House Equal to any in Portland.

A new playhouse for Medford seems to be an assured fact. Plans for the new Page theater, which Dr. Frederic C. Page will erect at Seventh and A streets, have arrived, and are now being shown by Charles D. Hazelrigg, to whose untiring efforts Medford will owe the new house and who will be its manager.

The plans call for a beautiful structure with pressed brick front, one that will be a credit to any city of 50,000, for, as Dr. Page says, "I want to build a theater good enough so that no one else will even think of building one for the next 25 years."

Will Seat a Thousand.

Entrance will be had to the auditorium through a spacious lobby, 20 feet wide, where will be found the box office, cloakroom, retiring rooms and toilets for both ladies and gentlemen, and the stairs to the gallery. Three six-foot swinging doors lead to the orchestra floor with stairways on each side to the balcony. The lower floor will hold 440 opera chairs and there will be 300 more in the balcony with seating capacity for 250 in the gallery—a total of 1000. There will be four stage boxes on each floor; also a circle of logs or open boxes holding four chairs.

No expense will be spared on the stage to make it absolutely perfect. Mr. Hazelrigg says: "I can play anything on that stage that leaves New York—even 'Ben Hur.' The proscenium or curtain opening will be 30 feet wide. The stage proper is 36 feet from the curtain line to the back wall, 60 feet between walls, 56 feet to the 'grid iron' or roof, with fly galleries and every necessary adjunct. The house will be heated by steam and ample emergency exits have been provided.

Sale of First-Night Seats.

While Dr. Page will erect this beautiful theater himself and there will be no call for stock subscriptions, Mr. Hazelrigg has agreed to raise \$3000 on the sale of seats for the first night's performance, which will be about September 10. While there will be no fixed price for these seats, Mr. Hazelrigg hopes to average \$5 each. There will be no seats sold on the opening night outside the gallery; all opera chairs going to subscribers. The list is now in Mr. Hazelrigg's hands and is being rapidly filled.

Don't wait for him to call on you, but hunt him up yourself and show that you appreciate the enterprise that will give Medford a better theater than even Portland possesses.

SNOWBALLS PUT OUT FIRE AND SAVE TOWN

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., Jan. 29.—Probably the most remarkable manner of extinguishing a fire occurred at Roswell, a mining town near here, when hundreds of men, women and boys and girls saved the town from destruction by throwing snowballs.

The town has no fire department and water is scarce. The flames gained much headway, and a building in which was stored sufficient powder to blow up the village was threatened.

As a last resort virtually the entire population began throwing thousands of snowballs, made from soft, wet snow, and after a time prevented the explosion and confined the flames to a half dozen buildings.

Dr. Rowland Dead.

Dr. L. L. Rowland, who died at his home in Salem Sunday afternoon at the age of 77 years, spent nearly the entire period of his long and useful life in Oregon. In the prime of his life he was active in the educational work of the state, both in private and official capacity. As state superintendent of public instruction from 1871 to 1875 he was well and widely known. He was superintendent of the Oregon asylum from 1890 to 1895. Since his retirement from public life Dr. Rowland has lived at his home in Salem, where he was a member of the Oregonian, the Oregonian and the Oregonian.

CORTELYOU EXPLAINS IN PAMPHLET

Secretary of Treasury Issues Back Telling How Money Is Dis- tributed.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—The reply of Secretary Cortelyou to the senate resolution calling for information concerning the operations of the treasury department in connection with the recent financial crisis was laid before the senate today by the vice-president. The document was not read, but a printed copy was on the desk of each senator. Colburn inquired of the vice-president whether the pamphlet contained all the secretary's communications. The vice-president said he had not examined the report and did not know whether the pamphlet contained all of the message.

"I don't recall an instance," said Colburn, "in which a head of a department of the government has answered a senate resolution in printed form."

Cortelyou's report detailed statements concerning the award of the Panama loans, 3 per cent certificates, together with the recent transactions of the government on the financial situation, also embodying information as to the general state of the national finances for the closing months of 1907. The report was accompanied by a long letter from Cortelyou to the president of the senate and embraces a list of depositories and the amounts of money placed on deposit therein at various dates, together with the data regarding securities and other information.

ORCHARD DECLARES HE IS GLAD TRUTH IS OUT

CRIPPLE CREEK, Colo., Jan. 29.—D. C. Scott of this city received a letter recently from Albert E. Horsley, alias Harry Orchard, written in prison at Boise, where he is awaiting trial for the murder of ex-Governor Steunenberg, which he has confessed. Orchard was the principal witness at the trials of William D. Hayward, secretary-treasurer of the Western Federation of Miners, and George A. Pettibone, a former member of the executive board, on the charge of complicity in the Steunenberg murder, which resulted in their acquittal. The letter in part is as follows:

"I am trying to keep up as well as I can, but feel very sad at times. But never once have I regretted that I have told the truth and made a clean breast of my crimes, and would not go back on one thing if by so doing I would save my life and have my liberty. I know that I have been released from greater bonds than those that now bind me. But if I only looked at it from a worldly standpoint, it would then look like a trap, but I know right when he was convinced he was wrong got the worst of it. I do feel very kindly to those of you who seem to appreciate what I have done to bring many of the dark deeds to light, as I feel that society will be in a better position to protect themselves and even though the great men responsible go clear, perhaps we have done much good. I know I have got a clear conscience now, as I know I can look up to my God and sincerely say I have made all the earthly restitution within my power."

KEYSTONE ARCHITECT TO TURN STATE'S EVIDENCE

HARRISBURG, Jan. 29.—The problem of the defense of the capital prosecution has been changed completely by the action of Architect Joseph McHuston of Philadelphia in securing a separate trial with the consent of the commonwealth. Huston's action seems to indicate that he has an agreement with the commonwealth to be one of its principal witnesses. Attorneys on both sides desire to discuss the matter, except to say that Huston has been subpoenaed as a witness for the defendant, contractor John H. Sanderson, ex-architect of William P. Snyder, ex-treasurer William L. Mathews and James Shumway, an ex-superintendent of the 1903 buildings.

STRANGERS LOSE LIVES IN ROGUE RIVER RAPIDS

GRANTS PASS, Or., Jan. 29.—Two men whose names could not be learned, but who were supposed to be miners on their way to the lower Rogue river gold district, loaded a rowboat with a supply of grub and a camping outfit and started down Rogue river from Grants Pass, intending to shoot the rapids. Report was received here that the boat, bottom side up, minus the men and supplies, was picked up by miners at Galles camp, 25 miles below here. It is supposed the boat was swamped in the terrible rapids and whirlpools of Hell Gate, between Grants Pass and Galles. The rapids of Hell Gate are considered far more treacherous and difficult to run than the White Horse of the Yukon. Very few men have shot their lives in safety, and then only in boats built especially for Rogue river. A number of men have been drowned in the attempt to run Hell Gate in a boat.

It is believed the men were from the Rogue river section of the coast.

LAND FRAUD PROSECUTORS IN QUARREL

Heney and Bristol Clash Over Telegram Sent Hendricks Over Immunity.

PORTLAND, Jan. 29.—In the Hall case today, United States District Attorney Bristol and Francis J. Heney clashed, Bristol flatly denying that he had made promises of immunity to ex-United States Commissioner Hamilton H. Hendricks for his testimony against Heney's story.

"Francis J. Heney—Hendricks wants sentence date postponed to some day next week, to enable him to consult with you relative to the evidence on Hermann and Hall, in consideration for a reduction in his sentence. I don't see any harm in postponement until you get here. What do you say?"

"BRISTOL,
"United States Attorney."

"I never sent that telegram," declared Bristol. Rittenhouse (Heney's secretary) showed it to me after it had been sent, and I jacked him up about it."

Bristol denied emphatically that he had ordered a telegram sent, and replying to Heney's questions, said that while he assisted Heney in some cases, he always thought Rittenhouse and Nouhausen were Heney's principal representatives.

"You thought so," said Heney.

"It was a fact," answered Bristol firmly.

"Didn't you tell me you had a talk with Hendricks and that he told you of his conversation with Hall?" asked Heney.

"No, sir," and Bristol stepped down. Leaving the stand, he whispered into Heney's ear for a minute or two, evidently striving to convince the prosecutor of some mistake about the telegram.

Hall was on the stand this morning. His testimony was not especially interesting.

SEVEN-MILLION INCREASE IN ROLL OF PENSIONS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Representative Keifer of Ohio, chairman of the subcommittee on pensions of the house committee on appropriations, announces informally that that committee has agreed to recommend the pensions' roll of \$150,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909. This will be about \$7,000,000 in excess of the pension roll of the present fiscal year. The increase is largely due to the provisions of the McCumber bill, effective in February, 1907, by which the enlargement of pensions in accordance with age and the abandonment of physical examination as a prerequisite to the establishment of pension claims on account of physical disability were brought out. Chairman Keifer has addressed a letter each to the secretary of the interior and commissioner of pensions, inviting them to appear before the subcommittee on pensions and support the recommendation made by them that the number of pension agencies in the United States be reduced to one only at Washington.

MILLION DOLLAR FIRE LOSS IN INDIANAPOLIS

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 29.—Fire in the warehouse of Henry Johnson & Co., early today, caused a loss of \$1,000,000. Over 100 firms had goods stored and insured. Six firemen were injured.

IMMEDIATE EXTENSION OF P.&E. PLANNED

Engineer Arrives to Take Charge of Con- struction Work— Gasoline Car Is Here.

Engineer J. W. Morris of Portland arrived in Medford Wednesday to take charge of extension work on the Pacific & Eastern railroad. Mr. Morris will first go over the projected line and field notes used in preliminary surveys, and will be materially assisted in making estimates for the new work by these. It will be some time before he will be prepared to issue a definite statement regarding proposed work.

The gasoline motor car to be used temporarily between Medford and Eagle Point has arrived from Portland. It is a much larger car than that used on the Jacksonville run and will hold twice as many passengers.

Trackmaster Joe Kelly is working a crew of eight men repairing the track. They are at present at work on the desert.

One of the first moves of the new company will be an application for a franchise through the city of Medford, so that the track can be extended to the business district.

QUIDA DIES IN POVERTY IN TUSCAN VILLAGE

ROME, Jan. 29.—After having amassed and expended a fortune during her long career as writer, and through her popularity with the reading public been hailed often as the foremost woman novelist of her age, Miss Louise de la Ramee (Quida) died recently in comparative poverty at the little Tuscan village of Massarosa.

Here Miss Ramee made her home in a milkman's humble cottage for nearly a year. At the age of 78 the sight of one eye had been destroyed, her hearing had almost failed and other infirmities had added to her afflictions. For five years Quida's life had been passed in seclusion and most of that time in dire want.

Absolute inability to reckon the value of the money earned by more than 40 of her novels, which became the "rage," brought her to this unhappy pass. Her once large fortune was squandered in giving to others.

Nearly a year ago attention was called to her unfortunate condition through the granting of a pension of \$750 per annum to her. Friends were eager to aid her, but the proud old woman would have none of their charity. Forced to give up the splendid villa at Lucca, where she had lived so long, she took to the milkman's cottage.

CANNOT USE SALT IN PRESERVING FRUIT

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 29.—Professor E. J. Wilkeson, head of the department of agriculture at the state university, has taken direct issue with W. H. Wiley, chief of the chemistry bureau of the federal department of agriculture, as to the use of chemicals in drying fruit.

A burning issue with the California fruitmen is the use of sulphur for curing fruit. Dr. Wiley has construed the pure food law as forbidding the use of sulphur, and about interests of the state have vigorously fought his ruling. As a compromise, sulphur is to be allowed until a substitute is discovered. Dr. Wiley made the announcement to the California delegation at Washington that he had found by experiments that a salt solution could be used with as satisfactory results as could sulphur.

In a letter addressed to President Wheeler, of the university, Wilkeson completely discounts Wiley's "discoveries," announcing that salt had been tried in this state 15 years ago and found unsuitable for the purpose. The matter is one that vitally concerns the entire fruit industry of the Pacific coast, an industry worth more than \$200,000,000 a year.

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