

Medford Daily Tribune

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THE LEGISLATIVE CRIME OF 1909.

Destruction of a part of the state's educational system, the legislative crime of the recent session, is a sorry deed for a progressive people to point to with pride—and yet it is upon the wanton and uncalled for attempt to murder the normal schools of Oregon that the senate bases its chief claim to fame. The normal school is recognized as an essential branch of education in every state in the Union—as important as either university or agricultural college, for it is there that teachers of the rising generation receive their training.

Oregon's normal school system has never been on a proper basis. The normals have been shabbily and disgracefully treated from the outset. They have been alternately fed and starved and made political footballs out of. In order to secure funds to keep open, it has frequently been necessary for legislators from normal districts to sacrifice other legislation that a crust of the state's funds might be thrown institutions that prepare those who guide youthful Oregon.

The more money a state spends on education, the more enlightened and civilized the state. Any attempt to check or destroy an educational system is recognized as an anachronism, a survival of the ignorance and intolerance of other ages, out of place in the modern world. The attacks upon the normals, the state university and agricultural college are symptoms of the unprogressiveness that has cursed Oregon for so many years.

The mossbacks of Oregon, under the guidance of that monarch of mossbacks, the Portland Oregonian, fight all forms of higher education. They would slay the state university, the agricultural college and the state normals. They belong to the era when a knowledge of the "three Rs" was considered ample education. Because grandpa went to bed with a candle, they would bar electric lights.

The upper branch of the legislature made no effort to settle the normal problem in a satisfactory manner. The normals never received fair consideration. Certain leaders, thinking to curry favor with the mossbacks and win the plaudits of the Oregonian, which had unmercifully derided them, set out to slaughter the normals and blocked all legislation to this end. These members should remember that the day of mossback majorities in Oregon has gone by and that the support of the Oregonian is equivalent to a defeat.

The Oregonian and other mossback journals have for years carried on a campaign of vilification, falsehood and misrepresentation regarding normal schools. They have never been fair. The normal schools have been harpooned continuously and unrighteously, their work lied about and belittled.

The normals will now make a final fight before the people, and appealing to the spirit of justice that governs the majority of humanity, they have little fear of the outcome; for if Oregon is to advance, she must provide the best of educational facilities—of which normal schools are among the most important.

And Oregon must and will advance and normal schools must and will be a part of her educational system, despite the legislative crime of 1909.

EIGHTY-ONCE OUNCES OF FOLD FROM NEW LEDGE

YREKA, Cal., March 17.—A very rich strike was made a few days ago by James L. Osborne, a prospector, on a decomposed quartz ledge on the Hayden mining claim, on main Humboldt, opposite the Morning Star mine, about nine miles west of Yreka.

The mine is owned by Johannes, Attorney J. D. Fairchild at Yreka and an eastern associate. They took out specimens weighing ten ounces, pure gold. About \$125,000 worth have been taken out already and there is every indication that the pay shoot will continue. The pay is in the formation of a mud stream on one side and a solid wall on the other, and the miners feel very much encouraged.

This property also adjoins the Hayden and Cross City mines, which are now being operated by New York capital.

WOULD FOLLOW HIM BEYOND THE GRAVE

FORT WORTH, Tex., March 17.—Fred Morris, a baseball player, last night shot and killed Otto H. Meyer, a vaudeville singer, in a room at a hotel, after having secured a written confession that his relations with Mrs. Meyer were improper. Morris declared he forced Meyer to write and sign the confession and then told him that he intended to kill him.

INDIGNANT CITIZENS BURN TWO IN EFFIGY

EL PASO, Tex., March 17.—Bitterly indignant over the passage by the legislature of New Mexico of a bill changing the county seat of Sierra county from Hillsdale to Carls, the citizens of Hillsdale, N. M., burned the figures of Representatives Julian Chavez and R. H. Hunter in effigy Saturday night.

Chavez introduced the bill and Hunter, who is a ranchman of Sierra county, was instrumental in securing its passage through the legislature. Over the image of Chavez a placard was posted reading: "Hunt '09" Julian Chavez, Sheriff of Sierra county."

BELIEVES THAT MINERS WILL GO ON STRIKE

PHILADELPHIA, March 17.—The anthracite miners will strike, Secretary Harlan of district No. 9 of the United Mine Workers made this statement tonight in discussing the miners' disagreement with the mine owners.

He based his prediction on the apparent inability of the opposing sides to get together.

ITALIAN MINISTRY IS SUPPORTED AT ELECTION

ROME, March 17.—The general elections in which the first ballot was held last Sunday were continued in Italy today. Today's returns indicate that out of 290 deputies more than 200 favor the present ministry has been elected.

MEXICO REMOVES DUTY FROM WHEAT IMPORTS

EL PASO, Tex., March 17.—Mexico will declare off all wheat duties by April 1 in order to prevent a bread famine, according to the customs officials here. Wheat now costs \$3.50 (Mexican money) per bushel in Mexico City, when imported from the United States, and the home crop is exhausted.

American wheat at the border costs \$1.25 a bushel, and with 20 cents (gold) duty and freight rates to Mexico, the price is exorbitant.

REMEMBER.

Mr. Business Man and Telephone User, that unless you wish to pay for TWO telephones, you must vote NO on Friday, March 19.

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