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ST. JOHNS REVIEW

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In re Clyde Mattox

Editor Review: Judging from the number of items now going the rounds of the Oregon papers regarding Clyde Mattox, the so-called Oklahoma outlaw, there seems to be some interest manifested in him here, hence I feel that possibly the truth regarding him and his career might be of more interest to your readers than the numerous sensational floating falsehoods.

He was recently paroled by the governor of Oklahoma—due to excellent prison conduct. By the Oregon papers, Mattox is reported to be the notorious Oklahoma ruffian. Such is far from the truth, yet it is true he was convicted of the crime of murder and sentenced to hang.

Clyde Mattox killed his first man in the performance of his duty as a peace officer, at a time when there was little or no law in Oklahoma and when to call the motives of a stranger in question might prove fatal; yet he performed his duties fearlessly. For his first killing he was tried and found "not guilty."

His victim was a tough character. His next serious trouble arose over the alleged killing of a negro. For this offense he was taken to the state of Kansas and tried away from home, and among strangers, and in a region where prejudice existed in favor of the government—due to hostile newspaper comment. He was found guilty and sentenced to hang, and from the sentence appealed to the United States supreme court, which tribunal granted him a new trial.

His next trial resulted in a hung jury, and then the court allowed him bail and he was soon out on bond. Freedom did not seem to agree with him, for he soon fell in with bad associates and then his liberty was of short duration and the bad reputation thus gained was used against him in his third trial for murder, when he was again convicted and again sentenced to hang. He again appealed to the supreme court. The questions on appeal were new to the supreme court and most interesting. The supreme court divided evenly—four for sustaining the lower court, and four for a new trial, the 9th judge being ill and not sitting.

Due to the novelty and importance of the questions raised, Chief Justice Fuller directed that a new argument be had and, if possible, additional authorities cited. As a result of the new argument Justice Harlan changed his views and voted to sustain the lower court and Justice Gray changed his views and voted to grant a new trial, thus leaving the court as it originally stood, and thus the "verdict stood" and Clyde Mattox was again sentenced to hang.

The case was then carried to President Cleveland, not to Harrison as published in Oregon papers. President Cleveland commuted the sentence to life imprisonment, and in doing so said he thought "the case should have been reversed and a new trial granted."

President McKinley succeeded President Cleveland and granted an absolute and unconditional pardon. The history of the case is most familiar to me as I was one of his attorneys in his four years' fight for life and liberty and wrote the brief in his last appeal to the supreme court.

On his pardon he returned to his faithful mother and soon found employment on a cow ranch in the Osage nation. Liberty was too sweet and too exhilarating for him.

A cow-boy offered an insult and a "dare" and, Clyde not having mellowed by past confinement resented the insult and "called the dare." A fight soon followed and his third victim bit the dust in death.

The mother again called on me to assist in his defense; but as I could not agree with the theory of the other attorneys I declined.

He was tried and wrongfully found guilty and sentenced to fourteen years in the Oklahoma State Penitentiary.

He is a remarkable character in many respects. He is a fine landscape artist, a painter of talent and in fancy cabinet work has no equal. His mother was a most handsome woman in her youth and takes the blame of his criminal career upon her own shoulders, due to the conduct of others during her critical period. Clyde Mattox may stand the strain of freedom. It is hoped he will. He should leave Oklahoma and seek a colder and more moist climate, where the criminal faculties are not so easily aroused.

—D. C. Lewis, St. Johns, Ore.

J. H. Smith left Wednesday for a visit to his old Iowa home at Garden Grove. He promises to post us on present conditions in the Hawkeye state.

Progressive Association

The St. Johns Progressive association held its fourth meeting last Thursday evening in the city hall, with G. L. Perrine presiding. The time was principally devoted to adoption of several resolutions advanced by the resolution committee, directed principally and wholly at "getting even" with the water Co. Like the former resolutions they are subject to criticism, especially the one adopted demanding the water company to place meters upon all fire hydrants. When it is known that meters for six-inch mains cost \$350 each, it can readily be realized how unjust this demand is, especially when the water company is not compelled to do so by its franchise.

A resolution that the city purchase all the fire hydrants was laid on the shelf by a vote of 10 to 7. Mr. Childers made the statement that fire hydrants cost \$15 each. P. H. Ellefson informs us that they cost the company about \$80 each to purchase and connect up, to say nothing of the extra cost of laying the necessary larger pipe to connect with them.

D. J. Lewis rather dropped a bomb in the meeting when he stated that only anarchists advocated confiscation, which Chas. Anderson had done; that the water company should not be knocked for taking what council had handed out to it; that he or any one present would do the same; that if the water company was guilty of any violations of their franchise, their attention should first be called to the fact, and if it should refuse to correct the violation, then was the time to try some other method, but he was against knocking before a violation had been established. He said there were means of reaching objects desired without knocking. Mr. Hewitt was also of this mind, and expressed himself in no uncertain language. These two discordant statements made the meeting go rather flat.

Following are the resolutions adopted:

Whereas: We believe that the St. Johns Water Company have by failure to comply with the terms of their franchise forfeited all rights to said franchise (article 2, section 71, city charter); and

Whereas: That this organization demand that the city council of St. Johns take immediate steps to regulate the supply of water and adjust pipes, fixtures, etc., in the following manner:

First: Demand that all hydrants and pipes to be used for supplying water for fire protection be placed on the meter system.

Second: That the water company be required, at its own expense, to put all pipes two feet below street grade wherever such street grades are established, or may hereafter be graded or established.

Third: That whenever it may become necessary for the water company to shut off the water from the mains for repairs or other reasons that the company be required to give due and ample notice to users of water; that said company shall become liable for damage that may occur.

Fourth: That the service pipe from the tap in the water main to the abutting property line shall be the property of the water company, to be put in and kept in repairs by said water company at their expense; that the property owners be in no way responsible for such service pipe between property line and main in the street.

Committee.

Following is communication submitted by Mr. H. S. Hewitt:

St. Johns, Oregon, Aug. 17, 1911
To the St. Johns Progressive Club,
Gentlemen: This meeting was called for the express purpose of discussing the advisability of buying the water works, and not to roast the city officials, neither was it to set a price on the water works, for there is not a man here who knows whether it is worth \$100 or \$100,000. Now this meeting has gone beyond what it was called for, it has passed out and I think and hope in the right direction; but, let us not forget what it was called for. It is not relief at the present time only, but later on. Let us not try to steal the water works, but let us work with the council and acquire it at a fair price, for this must be done if we ever want a reduction in the water rates. Now, we can gain this without it costing the taxpayers one cent. Why not do it?

H. S. Hewitt.

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Grief Again

Editor Review: You see no difference in my kind of socialism and the present system except public ownership of the industries. There is only one other thing and that is the people's ownership of government, a more pure democracy. Notice President Taft's language in his veto of the statehood bill, on account of the provision in the Arizona constitution for the recall of judges. He says the judges must not be subject to the will of the people, are not the representatives of the people (he does not confess whose agents they really are) and that they must not be subject to the "tyranny of the majority" quoting that pet phrase coined by those other anarchists who are honest enough to assume their right name.

Now you can readily understand that government ownership of industries by a government that is independent of the "tyranny of the majority" is not socialism. Between the tyranny of the majority and the tyranny of the minority, and a very few at that, you must make your choice, there is no middle course.

Now as to whether I am alone in my socialism: I will agree to consult every socialist authority from Charley Anderson to Karl Marx, and will forfeit one dollar to any worthy object of charity for every disagreement if you will forfeit 15 cents for each agreement upon the specific points you have named. And this includes consideration for the ordinary employer as a victim of the system. We take the appeal to Reason, the Rip-saw, any book, paper or pamphlet, nothing barred. Not even the soap box orators over town. But remember you have not read these things while I have. You have not listened to the street orator long enough to find out what he really meant. I must confess that his harrangue is sometimes such as to give a false impression of what he means, to one who listens briefly. The ponderous official work often gives page after page to the discussion of a disease, its causes, diagnosis, the course it has run and the prognosis, while the treatment is dismissed with a few brief, unsatisfactory words. The drugs which might kill the germs are unfortunately more likely to kill the patient. And the ordinary socialist orator gives too much time to description of the diseases of the body politic. You hear him describing the parasite and you assume that his treatment would be to kill them all off, but that is merely your assumption. If you follow him until he gets to the treatment you will always hear him say that the development of the parasites is due to the "system" which favors their growth.

The more scientific treatment in politics as in medicine is to put the system in condition to inhibit the growth of parasites.

As to government's management of military affairs, no matter how bad it may have been, the assumption by the government of the business of defense, instead of leaving each to defend himself, has stopped the fighting between man and man and made all the difference between savagery and civilization. This is exactly what government ownership of industries would do, stop the industrial struggle which is causing today as much suffering and misery and some forms of degradation unknown to savagery.

A. W. Vincent.

We must confess to having about as much admiration for Mr. Taft as the doctor, but the president was not without some justification in the use of his veto power in the instance cited. What is the office of a judge? Certainly not a representative of the people, either as to a majority or minority, directly; but indirectly as a whole in the execution of the laws made by the direct representatives of the people, and, therefore should not be made subject to the vacillating caprices of a fickle-minded public. The recall is as yet an unknown quantity and in one of our neighboring cities is bidding fair to prove a greater curse than a delinquent officer. After the recall has been sufficiently tried and its proper use safeguarded by restrictive legislation to rational bounds, it will then be time enough to incorporate it into the state constitutions, particularly as relating to the office of judge—an office that should as far as possible be removed from any exterior influence whether it be of fear or of a pecuniary nature. What does the average citizen know about law? We do not believe our citizens are more stupid than the average, on the contrary, we believe they are above the average in intelligence and also in honesty of purpose and integrity.

When the World Was Flat

The ancients thought the world was flat. I'm really not surprised at that. We'd find it flat, I dare say. If we were living in their day. Just think: they had no autos then, No show girls to delight the men, No pipes to smoke, and no cigars, No cocktails served at handsome bars, No bridge to play and no pink teas, No liners speeding o'er the seas, No women's monstrous picture hats, No tariff problem to attack, No gowns that button up the back, No end-seat hogs with manners rude, No monkeying with the price of food,

No ice bills, no cold storage eggs, No bunco steers and no yeags, No trolley cars' clang and whirr, No Teddy to keep things astray— Say, is it any wonder that The ancients thought the world was flat? —Vancouver Province.

They had no awful sewer fight, No Bitulithic, no Wertrunite, No water works—"Inadequate" No "jingoos" to disrupt the state, No socialists to kick and spat— Now, do you really wonder that Those ancients thought the world was flat?

(the most of them, even the socialists,) yet read carefully and thoughtfully the resolutions recently adopted by them. Is not the unreasonableness, the injustice, the inaccuracy, most painfully apparent? How can such men presume to judge the judges? If the judge must face the proposition of deciding a question of law against a large class of citizens, even though their cause may be just and the law an unjust one, will not the fear of the recall prove an "undue" influence over that judge? We believe for once at least Mr. Taft blundered onto the right course no matter how vicious some of his work may appear.

If the tyranny of the majority is in the right, it is all right, but if the majority are wrong—

The good doctor sees two things he wants changed—public ownership of industries and people's ownership of government. In the first place he denies that the socialists desire confiscation as a means to the end, calls upon all the socialists from Charley Anderson to Karl Marx to sustain him in this denial; but we had not had opportunity to put this into type before Charley wanted the water works confiscated if they did not comply with their charter requirements. Now, we don't really believe Charley or the doctor either wishes to take the water works by confiscation, and the slip of the tongue in the heat of debate, coming just at the right time to knock the doctor off the "Christmas tree" is to say the least amusing. For if one of the staunchest, true-bluest socialists right here in St. Johns advocates the theory, may we not anticipate it all along the line to and including the other end of the string, Karl Marx? And if our own little home socialist (?) organization, the "Progressive Association" shows such a tendency, "Great Caesar" as the doctor is wont to exclaim, what next may we expect? Really doctor, it seems to us you have concisely stated the whole situation in your medical drams (socialist doctrines) which might kill the germs (commercial injustice) are unfortunately more likely to kill the patient (national government)."

Now can we agree with you altogether in your dismissal of the army question. We do not believe perfected means of committing wholesale murder as represented by our army and navy makes the difference between savagery and civilization; it exaggerates the worst feature of savagery, the ability to kill, until the nations are beginning to look upon the prospect with horror. The effect upon the soldiers themselves is not the least of the evils of the government's management. They become dissipated, indolent, effeminate, enervated, and when war time comes the hope of the nation is not in the pampered flabby muscled soldiery of the army but in the muscles of steel from the work shop and field where they have been taught to endure hardships. So, too, the ideal dream of a socialist, if such an impossibility could ever be realized, would in a few generations produce an enervated, lazy, indifferent, unpatriotic people, an easy prey to any power that held to the system of the survival of the fittest, and that brings us right back to where we started—without the spur of competition there would be nothing doing—worth while.

Fruit Jars at McCabe & Corbett's.

Council Proceedings

The common council of the city or St. Johns met in its 20th regular session with every member's pedals under the table, and Mayor Couch wielding the gavel.

Things ran along as smooth as treacle until the Socialist Perrine arose and magisterially declared his desire to back-water on the hard-surface improvement of Philadelphia street. There was a momentary pause as each member and "Hiz 'oner" seemed to tighten the cinch to his mental faculties and then the fireworks were started. There were sky rockets and Roman candles and pin wheels and nigger chasers with an occasional touch of fire and brimstone effect and all the other accessories that go to make up a pyrotechnic display that would beat the Fourth of July at The Oaks a mile and never sweat a hair.

The first thing to bob up after the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved was a communication from E. J. Young of the Bitulithic company asking the council to reconsider the Philadelphia street hard surface proposition that was turned down last week. This was held over to the season of fireworks.

A communication from Mr. Holbrook was read favoring Bitulithic for Philadelphia as also a letter from him written at the time of the Jersey street controversy wherein he stated that while he thought Bitulithic the better pavement, because the majority of the property owners wanted Westrumite he would favor that for Jersey. The new letter from Mr. Holbrook was filed with his former letter on motion of Alderman Bredeson.

Communication from the Warren construction company stated that if they were awarded both contracts they would make the price of each the same, \$1.85 per yard.

A communication from Mr. Fuller of the P. R. L. & P. with reference to improvement of Columbia boulevard read and filed, and one from Sheriff Stevens stating that taxes on lot A Severance addition in the amount of \$13.35 for 1910 were delinquent. As the city had recently paid for this lot it was up to it to clear the tax record, and on motion of Mr. Davis the recorder was authorized to pay the taxes and have property stricken from the roll.

Communication from the water works company stated that gauge the council ordered placed in the water tower, last session, was so placed 8 years ago and is still there.

Communication from police department asking for a vacation of week or ten days, on motion of Mr. Bredeson all the members of the force were granted vacation at the convenience of the chief.

Bills to the amount of \$213.95 were allowed on motion of Mr. Muck. Mr. Bredeson took exception to item of fire hydrant moved from location on hill where it was absolutely useless to a location on property of the Portland Mfg. Co. where the department can make use of it. Referred to water committee.

Petition to change light from Charleston to Richmond street on Portland boulevard, recommended by committee, on motion of Alderman Horsman was granted.

Resolution to improve Columbia boulevard from Richmond to Mohawk adopted on motion of Alderman Valentine. Resolution to improve portion of John street adopted on motion of Mr. Davis. Mr. Bredeson urged that John street be improved through to the river but the others could not see it.

Ordinance authorizing warrant to be drawn on street sinking fund to meet interest due on improvement bonds was railroaded through and made final passage on motion of Mr. Muck. All yes.

Ordinance amending ordinance 405, changing name in ordinance to correspond with that of street followed same route as preceding ordinance; all yes.

Ordinance authorizing additional expenses in the improvement of Columbia boulevard between Portland boulevard and the city limits, referred to street committee on motion of Alderman Hill.

Ordinance declaring cost of improvement on Philadelphia street to be \$1115.42 took the railroad route to final passage on motion of Mr. Muck; all yes.

Again that perennial chestnut, the width of Willamette boulevard, obtruded its hoary headed personality into the deliberations of the fathers and this time bids fair to get what is coming to it. The city attorney, after explaining to the solons the difficulties of the proposition asked the council to give him legal assistance when he would take the matter into court and secure a ruling that would lift the embargo

Library Notes

Open Hours: 2:30 to 5:30 and 7 to 9:30 p. m.
Four Good Books.

Damien of Molakai, by Quinlan: Everybody likes a hero. Ever since the lepers of Israel wandered the highways outside the city crying "unclean! unclean!" the woes of these outcast people have had a fascination of terror for those more fortunate. In this beautifully illustrated little volume, Damien the young Flemish peasant priest, is the hero, and the scene of the tale is Molakai, the island of lepers that lies in the track of the steamers that ply between San Francisco and the Orient; that place that Stevenson called pitiful to visit and a hell to dwell in.

The Junior Republic, by George: In central New York there is a village which is carried on exactly as is any other village of our country, with this difference—that all the citizens, business men, officers and all, are boys and girls. The book will tell you how it came about and how it is succeeding, along with many amusing personal incidents.

Diaz, Master of Mexico, by Creelman: an interesting account of the life of the "most interesting man of the most misunderstood country in the world."

A Country Without Strikes, by Lloyd: At a time when one scarcely picks up a paper without seeing the beginning of some new strike noted, this account of a visit to the compulsory arbitration court of New Zealand is of peculiar interest.

from the improvement of that thoroughfare and forever lay the ghost that has been haunting the council. After an extended discussion Mr. Hill moved to supply the sinews of war not to exceed \$100 for legal assistance to the city attorney, any further expense to be met by the property owners interested, and told him to go to it in a scrap to the finish; all yes.

Socialist Perrine stated that the St. Johns Lumber company is using about 1-3 of Bradford street and not paying a cent for it. That for three months prior to election they paid \$15 dollars, or \$5 a month, he insisted that they had no more right there than he had and that if they used the street they should be made to pay for it. On motion of Mr. Hill the matter was put in the hands of the street committee for their recommendation to report next week.

Socialist Perrine then stated that in as much as the council when standing with and for the property owners on Jersey street had virtually promised to do the same here, and that as the Bitulithic people had agreed to perform both contracts at the same price, and that the majority of the property owners on Philadelphia street wanted Bitulithic and no other, and as he had voted to turn it down last week, he would move to reconsider the bid of the Warren construction company. This was seconded and stated by the mayor and then the fun began.

Alderman Hill said he was opposed to any paying for which \$1.85 is charged; that this council and the preceding councils had saved the people thousands of dollars by having competitive bids; that the Bitulithic people were a lot of guffers, that they had resorted to every underhanded trick they could invent to fight Westrumite, that if they did not let up on it he would see to it that Bitulithic was not laid on Philadelphia street for two years; that there was no competition on the bids for Philadelphia street and that the Bitulithic people had Portland in their grasp and they were trying to get St. Johns in the same condition; that there was nothing too contemptible for them to resort to in order to accomplish their end; that he would never vote for \$1.85 per yard.

The mayor replied that the people who were paying for the paving were satisfied; that if he wanted to buy a horse and one was offered at \$175 and another, far superior, that just suited for \$185, he would be a fool to take the inferior plug for the little difference in the price.

Mr. Hill said that if the mayor should go over to Portland to get a lot of goods of his wholesale men and they should resort to the underhanded chicanery and grafting methods of the bitulithic people he would not buy a cent's worth of them; that after Jersey street was finished 30 days they might take the heaviest truck they could find, load it to the brim and drive over the street and if it made any impression on the street he would treat him to a new hat.

The mayor replied that he was just as positive that the bitulithic

(Continued on page two.)

Old Soldiers Banquet

An address made by Captain B. L. Snow at a banquet given by the Grand Army and Women's Relief Corps, and the women of the Circle August 19, 1911 at St. Johns, Ore.

Worthy comrades and women of the Relief Corps, also women of the Circle:

I am proud to meet you on this occasion which seems to be more than ordinary. Here we grasp the hands of brothers and sisters and feel at ease while we breathe the air of patriotism. It is 30 years since the dark clouds of rebellion hid as it were the sunlight of peace, and fathers and husbands and brothers whispered to each other with white lips saying: "War is declared," and without persuasion rushed to the fields of battle, there to survive or perish that the flag of our country might again float over a united people. Thus was war waged from 1861 to '65, and it did seem doubtful for a time on which standard victory would rest, but the results of the awful battles of Chancellorsville, Missionary Ridge, and Atlanta finally decided and victory perched upon the banner of the North.

Comrades, and women of the Circle we have a right to be proud of the victory won even though it cost rivers of blood. Again I say I am proud to be with you on this occasion, while the room seems filled with the spirit of patriotism, and I am carried back in thought over the years of the half century last passed I feel the blood of youth circulating in my veins. It seems fitting now to make these remarks. I believe and I have a right to believe there is not a woman in this audience that does not breathe the air of patriotism and you women of the Corps and Circle should grasp each other by the hand on this occasion and be of one mind and thought, as you are to each other as closely connected as though you were born sisters. So, I would recommend that all strife and contention now existing, if any, between the Corps and Circle, forever abandon it, as you are both engaged in the one great and noble cause—one country and one flag—and to contend one against the other is but to weaken both, so live in peace and God will bless the cause.

It seems that this gathering has a two-fold purpose. I am informed that it is intended as an honor to your speaker and his wife. If so, permit me to express our thanks to the comrades, Women's Relief Corps and Circle, and we here promise and agree, in the presence of this audience that we both will so live that you, or either of you will have no cause to regret this day. For there is loyalty in man and woman and I know for a certainty that your speaker and wife breathes no other air than that of loyalty. The time is rapidly coming when the soldiers of '61-'5 will be called to pass over the dark river of death and join the mighty army where battle will be no more. But while we do remain on this side of the river let our every act toward each other be as true and loyal as when he stood shoulder to shoulder in battle and fought our way through shot and shell to victory. Comrades, what more can I say? I seem enough, for I see upon your faces the return of youth and your very hearts beat with patriotism and love for the homes secured by the brave acts of sacrifice and devotion of my hearers. It may be that this is the last time I shall be permitted to address you. If so, nothing but death will ever obliterate the memory I have of your bold and daring deeds in battle as we stood together on the bloody fields.

Thanking you in behalf of myself and wife for this occasion, I am yours until death.

Capt. B. L. Snow.

Money to Loan

A good thing to know if you need it is where you can get money in an hour's time, on easy payments in amounts of \$5 up, on all kinds of property. All business confidential. Private office, room 1 Holbrook block over Review office, 431 S. H. Satterlee.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. M. Hall and son Verne were over Sunday visitors at Hood River. The old folks returned Monday, but Master Verne remained for a week's visit in the land of the big red apple.

Capt. Snow and wife asks the old boys in blue and their girls, including the Circle, the editor and devil to a watermelon feed at his home Saturday Sept. 2, at 2 p. m.

Preach the gospel of St. Johns