

# OREGON CITY COURIER

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## BUSINESS IN RELIGION

There are those among us, and they are entitled to their opinions, who are of the belief that present day religion is a bit too unworshipful for the perfect satisfaction of human desires. By that these good people do not mean to find fault with the basis of religion, but to criticize its mode of practice.

A very important meeting of churchmen is being held in the east this month, and as has been the case for a great many years, this conference has been giving a great amount of time to debate on the amusement question. A rule in the code of this particular church, and similar to the rule in vogue in other churches, makes it an offense, punishable on the third repetition by expulsion, to attend dances, theatres, circuses and the like. Certain of the broad minded pastors who have attended these conventions each year have made a valiant effort to have that particular section of the code cast out, and as always before, their efforts this year have been unsuccessful. The rule will be retained.

Ordinarily, church-going people have minds of their own as to the proper regulation of their own lives, and, as church people, usually live their lives in a righteous and upright fashion. Such rules with such people are unnecessary. Throughout the nation and the universe there is feeling against the retention of such rules. And at the door of those who oppose their abolishment can be laid the trouble churches of today are experiencing in enlisting within the fold the busy men of the day; the men of affairs whose minds are taken up with business matters in a business way.

If the churches would abolish the iron clad rules of their codes, insofar as they resemble this particular section of the code of religious statute, and adopt some measure that would indicate their disfavor of these worldly pleasures, there would be more business men within the Kingdom. That is to say, the church and religion in general, would accomplish more good in its broad field and would enlist a far greater membership if it were placed on a more practical and businesslike footing. There is little criticism of real religious foundations, but we do not find universal favor for the common practices of religion.

When a church asks a busy man or woman to forget the cares of his labors, even momentarily, for the practices of formal religion in life, the church should present its attraction to those people in a businesslike way. A person receptive of religious teaching, and most good people are Christian at heart, are not demoralized or profaned by attendance at a theatre or a circus. Some people, of course, can find evil in the bubble of a pure mountain brook, but the minds that the church wants within its doors are not such as these. This particular rule is antiquated; theatres are not moral pest houses as they may have been at one time; dancing is not a moral corruptive with people of clean minds and clean hearts, and such are the people that the church workers are seeking. Nine out of every ten men who do not actively practice formal religion attend a dance as seldom as they do a church, but if the church attempted, as a business proposition, to get these men into the fold and then consistently taught them, not by lambasting the daylight out of every thing and any institution that has the slightest semblance of worldliness, the offense against propriety, if there be any, of dancing and circuses and theatres, the churches would accomplish a vastly greater service to the many who are not actively religious.

More of a whole-hearted welcome for every man and woman from the church and its workers and a little bit more of a business basis for that welcome, and the church will attract to its vacant pews an ever increasing volume of the people it wants in those pews. As it drops its cloak of mandatory holiness and assumes a

cloak seemed just a trifle more with the worldliness of modern business, the church will progress in its campaign to recruit the men and women, who are otherwise leading perfect lives, under the banner that leads the greatest army the world will ever know.

## THE COUNTRY PAPER

Occasionally we find a writer who can express the very thing we had thought of saying in just the same words we might have used—had all things been equal—and there is nothing more just than that we give our contemporary credit for the work we might (?) have done.

We have said several times that the country newspaper was too little appreciated by its readers. That may sound like an attempt to toot our own cornet, but we present for your approval the remarks of a Kansas scribe, anent the country newspaper and the country editor. It is human and is appealing.

"This newspaper business is a great game. Just in the midst of an obituary of a dear friend, and when hot tears threaten to flow down and blot out the words you write, there breaks through the office door the radiant face of the daddy of a new boy. Tears and joy mingle in the same breath, and the giving and taking away of life are recorded on the same page.

"Before you have finished the obituary the breezy advance man for a comedy show pops in and asks you to write a scream for his Forty Fat Frolicsome Fairies and how joyous they are. Before you have done with the kind words about your departed friend, the joy over the new baby and finished the showman's ad, a fellow sneaks in to ask you to suppress the story of the fight that he was mixed up in. Then, after putting all the lace and trimmings on the bride's wedding gown, dressing the groom in the conventional black and starting them off with congratulations and best wishes, you turn again to the star side of life and write, 'But the stately ship moves on to the haven under the hill, and oh, for the touch of a vanished hand and the sound of a voice that is still!'

"Then comes a lull, and the old typewriter is content to record the commonplace facts, knowing that just around the corner and each awaiting his turn stand Joy, Grief, Sorrow, Mirth, Sarcasm, Wit and Laughter. 'Small wonder, then, that the newspaper man brings to his business a devotion that is not found in any other walk of life.'

## BOOSTER DAY

Saturday is at home day for Oregon City folks. It is the big day of the year set aside for the entertainment of relatives from other parts of the the county, and Oregon City people will make a genuine and whole-hearted effort to entertain those who come to the city on Saturday as they were never entertained before. It will be a family feast day and the festive board will be lined with frolicking youth and sedate age, each and all grasping the hand of fellowship that is extended to them by the hosts for the day.

As a city Oregon City is naturally, in many ways, the guiding star for the rest of the county and it is the ambition of this city to be not only a worthy star, but a worthy example in every way to other parts of the county. In times past, perhaps, it has fallen short of such a high desire, but its shortcomings may be corrected by such gatherings as will be held here on Booster day. It is to be a family day, when the tables will be reversed; when the prodigal son will entertain the parent and when the fattened calf will be offered in the form of the biggest and best entertainment that has ever been provided within this county.

To you who do not live in Oregon City, and to guests from outside the county, who are interested in maintaining or in creating within the

county the harmonious spirit, the family feeling, that will bring about the everlasting union of one big brotherhood, cemented and bonded by mutual interest, Oregon City extends a most cordial invitation to "come to our house" on Booster day for a big family reunion.

## THE PRIMARY RACE

The very close contest, in which the name of Ernest T. Mass was written on the ballots in sufficient numbers by the democratic voters of the county to almost defeat the regularly declared candidate at the primary election last week, is evidence of the desire of the democratic voters to do the right thing and to put the right man forward for the approval of all the voters.

The name of Mr. Mass was not on the primary ballot and the name of Maxwell Vitor was. That handicap was more than has ever been overcome in this county before. Never has a dark-horse, so called, approached the record made by Mr. Mass, who lost the nomination by a narrow margin of ten votes. He carried Oregon City by an overwhelming majority and was strongly supported throughout the county in spite of the fact that voters had to write the name in, and many voters knew nothing of the party's repudiation of Vitor.

The republican machine, which, after Vitor fled, did its utmost to push his candidacy in the hope that his nomination would insure the election this fall of the present republican incumbent, succeeded in the desire it worked so hard to accomplish, only because the democratic candidate was not known throughout the county. The democratic central committee took no action in the matter whatsoever,

greatest asset should call forth. Silvertown was proud of the advertising she got from the life and death of her favored son, but she has no reason for pride in her failure to strew flowers upon the grave of the man who put her on the map.

## WILSON'S WORDS

President Woodrow Wilson uttered a patriotic tribute to the flag of the United States that should be an inspiration to youth and a glory to age. His wonderful command of the language and the wonderful truth in the heart of the man make his words ring long in the ears of the nation that has grown to love the man for the work he has done, as well as for the sterling qualities of his own personality. Of the flag, President Wilson said:

"That flag stands for honor, not for advantage. That flag stands for the rights of mankind, no matter where they be, no matter what their antecedents, no matter what the race involved; it stands for the absolute right of political liberty and free self-government, and wherever it stands for the contrary, American traditions have begun to be forgotten."

With such a man as its leader there is little wonder that the democratic party faces a national political campaign with a record never before approached in national politics; a record of accomplishment after four years of service and control of national affairs that has no equal in history. That is in decided contrast to the record of the republican party, whose sole and only promise, bad and indifferent as it is, says that they will not repeat the disaster of their last four years of opportunity.

Elsie M. Rutherford asks for a divorce from David W. Rutherford, alleging cruelty. The couple was married in this county on March 30, 1915. She asks for the restoration of her maiden name, Elsie M. Critson. Property rights have been settled out of court.

Mary Steel would separate from John Steel, who has hastened the action by deserting her. The couple married in Washington state, June 14, 1913 and there are no children or property rights.

## FALLSARIANS DRILL

With O. D. Eby, decked out in the gala togs of the organization, as member-extraordinary, the Fallsarians held the first drill of the season last Thursday evening. In spite of the fact that the club has been organized only one year and that this was the first attempt to master the intricacies of the military maneuvers the members did very well. Captain H. E. Williams had charge of the marchers during the early part of the drill period and later turned the command over to Dr. Piekens.


On Sunday morning and on Monday and Wednesday evening drills were also held. The members are in form for their participation in the Booster day parades on Saturday.

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treasurer, Mrs. John Waldron retired as president. The association has progressed remarkably under the direction of Mrs. Waldron and the good that has been accomplished is felt throughout the community.

The death rate of persons under 45 is decreasing; of those over 45 it is increasing.

**B**ANKING is not a small job; it is a big job. It is more than a matter of receiving and paying out money; it is a matter of judging men and business enterprises justly. It isn't banking merely to keep correctly and neatly the record of accounts and patrons; it is banking to wisely distribute credit and advise customers so as to aid them in handling their finances. Our banking experience extends over thirty-five years.

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ever, and had it taken action the defeat of Vitor would have been a simple matter.

The evil influence that the republican press and leaders attempted to exert upon the democratic voters was like most of the wind that comes from that source; it had no effect.

**FORGOTTEN**

Our good friend, the Woodburn Independent, strikes a happy note when it says that Homer Davenport, the late famous cartoonist, who was born and raised in Silvertown, put that city on the map. Remember, don't you, how, when Davenport passed from among the millions he had pleased with his clever pen work, the world stood up in reverence to the man and his birthplace? Remember how Silvertown was heralded and how she heralded herself by the great ceremony she made of the funeral of the cartoonist?

Today a simple, painted board marks the last resting place of the genius who put Silvertown on the map. Where is the monument that the man's value to his birthplace should have warranted? The Independent is not in error when it says that Davenport put Silvertown on the map. Since Davenport's death and burial in the town of his birth the town is booming along commercially with saw-mills and other evidences of industry; but in so doing it has cast aside the sentiment that the memory of its

**DIVORCES ASKED FOR**

Blasted Hopes Bring Several Couples to Court

Designating her husband as a pessimistic and selfish man Mrs. M. Iva Cook asks for a decree of divorce from her spouse, C. C. Cook, to whom she was married at Condon, Ore., on May 18, 1907. She alleges in her complaint that Mr. Cook is of the opinion that their marriage was a sad mistake and to make the mistake worse he heaps upon her many personal indignities and gads about with other women. There are no children and no property rights. Mrs. Cook would resume her maiden name, M. Iva Shelton.

On Saturday Mary E. Williams filed a divorce complaint against her husband, Clarence R. Williams, to whom she was married on January 1, 1911. Cruelty is the basis of the complaint, and the plaintiff alleges that upon one occasion Mr. Williams threatened to "smash every bone in your body." She asks for an equal division of the property in an estate held by the two and her third share in the property of the defendant, in addition to \$150 for costs in the action.

W. B. Dillard alleges desertion in his complaint for divorce from Edith Gallogly Dillard. The couple was married on September 9, 1907 in Lane county and there are no children or property rights.

**Changes at Clackamas School**

At a recent meeting of the board of directors Miss Lettie Osborn of Sycamore was elected principal of the Clackamas public school, Miss Anna Bachmann was re-elected to the intermediate department and Miss Win Osborn to the primary department. Miss Bachmann has resigned, however to accept the principalship of the Damascus school at an increase in salary. D. U. Cochrane, the present principal at Clackamas, has accepted the principalship of the high school and grammar school at Kings Valley.

**Sells Business Interest**

M. E. Park, who has made many friends during the time he has spent at the automobile business, has sold his interest in the Pacific Highway garage, but expects to retain active connection with the automobile business as a salesman for Ford and Studebaker automobiles. Later on Mr. Park plans to enter the Studebaker factory at Detroit.

**Card of Thanks**

To our many friends and neighbors who so kindly assisted us during the sickness and death of our beloved husband and father, we extend our heartfelt thanks.

MRS. H. LAWRENCE AND CHILDREN.

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6:55 P.M.	5:20 P.M.

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