

LITTLE ONES TELL TALES

STARTLING DISCLOSURES OF PARENTAL INHUMANITY IN JUVENILE COURT.

CHILDREN WERE ABUSED

Compelled By Father and Stepmother To Do Hard Tasks and Boy Is Kept From School to Work in Mills.

The people of West Oregon City are aroused over the disclosures that appeared in the Juvenile Court, before County Judge Dimick, in the hearing of a petition for the care of Elsie Newman, a dependent child.

Elsie ran away from home a few days ago. She was sent by her stepmother, Mrs. Carrie Pearl Newman, to the beach below their home to get 20 sticks of wood in 40 minutes.

The other three children of Mr. and Mrs. Newman will be looked after by the authorities, as they do not have proper parental guardianship.

Every stick of wood used in the Newman house this winter has been sawed and brought to the house by these little children.



MISS GOLDIE HINTON, of Canby, who is rapidly gaining in the Enterprise subscription contest.

house, so as to avoid being tardy. Newman is employed in the Oregon City Mill & Lumber Company, and is a skilled workman, receiving \$3 per day.

PROMOTERS PLAN TO INSTALL GAS PLANT

SYSTEM FOR FUEL AND ILLUMINATING GAS MAY BE LOCATED HERE.

The project to construct a plant in or near Oregon City for the distribution of fuel and illuminating gas has been revived, and a representative of a company that has established plants at Vancouver, Corvallis and several other towns, will visit Oregon City in a few weeks to confer with the citizens, relative to securing a franchise.

Giris and Bulldogs.

As for the bulldogs, the feminine mind is popularly considered to have a predilection for the big the strong and the ugly, and we have Dr. John Brown's word for it that the bulldog fulfills all these conditions almost to perfection.

MINORITY VOTE FAVORS RESOLUTION OF DIXON

Eleven Members of County Central Committee, Including Five Proxies, Manipulated to Support Statement No. 1.

By a piece of manipulation that was not characterized by cleverness Statement No. 1 was "indorsed" Saturday afternoon by 11 members of the Republican County Central Committee, and five of these were represented by proxy in the hands of Chairman Christian Schuebel, who assisted the passage of the resolution presented by George W. Dixon, of Canby, candidate for the Legislature on a Statement No. 1 platform.

For more than a week prior to the meeting reports had been in circulation that an effort would be made to place the committee on record in favor of the Statement, while Mr. Schuebel stated that he feared the opponents of the proposition would force a vote.

The primary purpose of the meeting, as stated in the call, was to fix a date for holding precinct primaries to elect delegates to the county convention, which is to elect delegates to a State convention to be held in Portland probably some time in May.

The Dixon Resolution. "Whereas, It is the desire of the members of the Republican party in Oregon that a Republican United States Senator should be elected from Oregon at the next session of the Legislature; and,

"Whereas, It is the unanimous desire of the members of the Republican party of Oregon to indicate at the polls their preference for a candidate of their own party to fill the said high office, and to be elected thereto at the next session of the Oregon Legis-

lature; and, "Whereas, It is the moral duty of the Republican members of the Legislature to vote for that candidate of the Republican party for United States Senator for whom a preference has been expressed by the Republican voters of the State of Oregon, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sentiment of the Republican County Central Committee of the County of Clackamas that all candidates for the Legislature on the Republican ticket filing petitions for nomination at the primaries should sign a modified form of Statement No. 1 which will bind such candidate, if nominated and elected, to always vote for that Republican candidate for United States Senator in Congress who shall receive the highest number of the people's votes for the position at the general election next preceding the election of a Senator in Congress, without regard to such candidate's individual preference."

Mr. Dixon was in the fray in a minute, with a blow against the resolution, to which Mr. Gibson made the following reply: "The people of Oregon never intended to be drawn off from party principles. Some of our statesmen-politicians in Clackamas County have seen fit to bring in the name of Abraham Lincoln, but there never was a more strict party man than Lincoln.

We have had enough of Democratic principles in Oregon. The man we sent to the United States Senate two years ago is enough of a Democrat, and when a man will go out and spend \$50,000 to be elected to the United States Senate, there is something radically wrong with the system. I say to you Republicans that you should uphold the principles of Republicanism, and not promote a false measure that will place you in a position where you may have to send a Democrat to the United States Senate.

Dixon and Mr. Parish both declared their allegiance to Statement No. 1, the former stating that the people should elect the Senator and not the Republicans, while the latter said that if the Republicans of Oregon who elected a Democratic Governor, want a Democratic Senator, why he, for one, was in favor of letting them have their way.

"It is not my idea," answered Mr. Gibson, "to take the matter out of the hands of the people, but each party should stand by its own candidates."



JAMES DOWNEY, who has been elected first mayor of Willamette.

Representative J. U. Campbell obtained the floor and asked for peace. He argued that it would be ill-advised for the committee to attempt to outline any policy for the party of Clackamas County to follow, and asked Gibson, in the interests of harmony, to withdraw the resolution, and Mr. Gibson (Continued on Page Five.)

WILLAMETTE IS NOW INCORPORATED TOWN

PEOPLE TO CONTROL WATER SYSTEM—ELECT ENTIRE SET OF OFFICIALS.

By a vote of 26 to 13 the town of Willamette, three miles from Oregon City, on the west side of the Willamette River, was incorporated Monday at a special election ordered by the County Court upon petition of a majority of the residents of that town. The reason for incorporating was to prevent the water system passing from the control of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company to private parties. The new city government will be organized at once, with the following officers who were chosen:

Mayor, James Downey; recorder, G. L. Snidow; treasurer, J. F. Sanders; marshal, Joseph Painter; councilmen, James C. Edmunds, John Ream, H. T. Shipley, E. P. Berdine, J. F. Lymp, Frank Oliver.

James Downey, who was last Monday elected the first mayor of the newly incorporated town of Willamette, was born October 5, 1833, in Maine, and when a child went to New York City, remaining there a short time and then moved to Illinois. In 1877 he went to Iowa, and followed farming and railroading until five years ago, when he came to Oregon. Mr. Downey is as spry as a man of 40 and is highly respected by his Willamette neighbors for his common sense and hard-headed business ability. He is the owner of considerable property in Oregon and Iowa and is well to do.

RESULT OF THE CONTEST

FOURTH WEEK SHOWS SEVERAL CHANGES IN STANDING OF THE CANDIDATES.

AGNES JUSTIN IN LEAD

Aspirants for Prizes Well Bunched—Narrow Margin of Votes Between the Contestants—How Vote Stands.

Table with 2 columns: Candidate Name and Vote Count. Includes Agnes Justin (23,000), Nelva Green, Estacada (22,500), Lizzie Schoenheinz (19,010), Lacia Caffall (19,966), Dade Bigham (17,870), Bunnie Ownbey (17,856), Goldie Hinton (17,710), Carrie Lutz (15,535), Dena C. Prosser (11,249), Mary Ellen Long (10).

This week marks the fourth one of the contest. No new aspirants for the prizes enter, but the interest goes on unabated. The battle of the votes is half over, yet hardly half begun. No young lady is as yet secure. The margin of majority is extremely small, and the victory will be to the one who does the hustling from now on.

All honor to Agnes Justin, who swings into the top place, handicapped as she was by the mumps. But she leads by such a scant few votes she dare not sleep on her laurels, for there is Nelva Green, from far-off Estacada, crowding up to the leadership again.

Some kind friend from Molalla saves Lizzie Schoenheinz from a tie for third place by sending in a lonely coupon good for ten votes. Every little bit helps, but a few more subscriptions would make the place more secure.

Miss Caffall makes but a small gain this week, nevertheless remains right within reach of the coveted first prize.

"Dade" Bigham makes a good gain and creeps up a notch in the standing.

"Bunnie" Ownbey started out last week at a pace that promised to put her at the top. This week she couldn't quite keep up the gait, but makes a fine record.

Goldie Hinton is gaining in fine shape, and is to be reckoned with before the close.

Carrie Lutz is undoubtedly resting up for a grand finale. At any rate, she failed to turn in many votes.

Dena C. Prosser makes a good increase and now that she has just celebrated her fifteenth birthday, she is going after that piano in earnest.

The Marshall & Wendell piano to be given as first prize is on exhibition in the window of the Pacific Telephone Co., on Main street.

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Lincoln Steffens Pictures U'Ren, the Oregon Law-Giver

The Legislative Blacksmith of Oregon and the Tools He Has Fashioned for Democracy Make the Latest Chapter of the American Magazine's Series

(By Lincoln Steffens.) Oregon has more fundamental legislation than any other state in the Union, excepting only Oklahoma and Oklahoma is new. Oregon is not new; it is, and it long has been, corrupt; yet it has enacted laws which enable its people to govern themselves when they want to. How did this happen? How did this state of graft get all her tools for democracy? And, since it has them, why don't her people use them more? The answer to these questions lies buried deep in the character and in the story of W. S. U'Ren (accent on the last syllable), the law giver.

"But I think," said U'Ren, "that you have it in your own city charter." Everybody looked incredulous. "Where is the book?" U'Ren asked. "I think I can find it. I certainly had some correspondence with the makers of that charter; I think I drafted a section—yes, here it is. (He read it to himself.) It isn't mine—not very clear—but (handing the book back)—good enough for your purpose, you see."

The Viewpoint of a Mechanic. William Simon U'Ren, the lawgiver, was born January 10, 1859, at Lancaster, Wis. His father is a blacksmith, and his father's seven brothers were blacksmiths; their father was a blacksmith, and their father's father, and his father, and his—As far as the family can trace from Cornwall, England, back into Holland, they see an unbroken line of blacksmiths. And preachers. Five of U'Ren's uncles preached, and among their ancestors, other blacksmiths preached. And William U'Ren himself is both a blacksmith and a preacher in a way; in a very essential way.

"Blacksmithing is my trade," he says. "And it has always given color to my view of things. For example, when I was very young, I saw more of the evils in the conditions of life, and I wanted to fix them. I couldn't. There were no tools. We had tools to do almost anything with in the shop, beautiful tools, wonderful. And so in other trades, arts and professions; in everything but government. In government, the common trade of all men and the basis of all social life, men worked still with old tools, with old laws, with constitutions and charters which hindered more than they helped. Men suffered from this. There were lawyers enough; many of our ablest men were lawyers. Why didn't some of them invent legislative implements to help the people govern themselves? Why had we no tool makers for democracy?"

U'Ren is a very quiet man. He never would strike one as a blacksmith. He never would strike one at all. Slight of figure, silent in motion, he speaks softly, evenly and little. This was a long speech for him, and, pausing at the end of it, he smiled secretly.

"You see," he said, "I saw it all in terms of the mechanic."

How He Started. The way he was started on his career as a legislator shows this. One day toward the end of his wanderings, as he was changing from the train to the boat on the Oakland, Cal., route, somebody thrust into his hand a



leaflet. There was nothing about the "referendum," and U'Ren had never heard of either. But he had noticed that all the political evils of all the cities and states where he had idly watched men defeat themselves, culminated in the

betrayal of the people by their representatives. And this leaflet showed how the people themselves, outside of and over the heads of their elected representatives, might initiate and pass laws. Here was a tool for democracy; here was a means to achieve the reforms Henry George indicated. U'Ren determined then and there to hammer this leaflet into a bill and pass it—somewhere.

U'Ren didn't care where. The need of it was universal in the United States. He thought how useful it would be in Denver, in Iowa, in Wisconsin it was needed right there in California. But he happened to be going to Oregon—and that's how U'Ren came to be the lawgiver of Oregon.

Arrived at Portland. The initiative—as a tool, remember; as a means to an end; as a first political step toward changing the economic conditions—this idea gave purpose to his life. His health improved. He went to Portland, and, mousing around for books and men, came upon E. W. Bingham.

"Ed Bingham," says U'Ren, "was a lawmaker. He had the most wonderful constructive talent for law-building that I ever encountered."

Bingham was working with an Australian ballot league. He was secretary, and he taught U'Ren to be secretary of things. "Never be president," he said. "Never be conspicuous. Get a president and a committee; and let them go to the front. The worker must work behind them out of sight. Be secretary."

U'Ren has always been secretary, clerical, impersonal, but busy, like Bingham. He has given credit for all his work to other men. The first time I met him, he talked of leagues and committees of leading citizens—bankers, railroad men, corporation attorneys, corrupt politicians—whom he named. But I noticed that while the members of U'Ren's several committees knew something about their own work, they seldom knew anything about that of the other committees of which U'Ren was secretary; and when it came to precise information, they all would say, "You must see our secretary, a Mr. U'Ren, for that. A Mr. U'Ren is the one man in Oregon who

knows all about this legislation."

Well, Bingham had drawn the Australian ballot law for his league, and he talked it over, section by section, with U'Ren, who thus got from an expert his first lesson in law-building. The next thing was to pass it. U'Ren asked why they didn't get the platform committee of the Republican convention to indorse the bill. Bingham laughed, and so did a Senator who was present, but the dreamer "rushed in where angels fear to tread." You will hear today in Oregon that U'Ren is "the smoothest lobbyist" in the state, and he is. He is calm, conciliating, persistent and he fits his argument to his man. He talked politics to that platform committee; he gave, not his reasons for wanting the Australian ballots, but arguments which appealed to these party politicians. And they listened. Then Bingham appeared. Unlike U'Ren, Bingham was aggressive. He came into the committee room with fire in his eye, bulldozing, begging, reasoning and threatening. They could put off U'Ren; Bingham hung on like a bulldog, and in the end, they got his bill indorsed by the Republicans. Then they went to the Democratic convention and there also they won. And the legislature, thus pledged, adopted Bingham's Australian ballot.

The Re-election of Mitchell.

In 1897 Senator Mitchell was to be re-elected; U'Ren had no doubt of that; and he called on him to trade "pop" votes for his help on the initiative and referendum. Politician as he was, Mitchell talked favorably in August, not at all in November, and just before the session "went back on" the measure entirely. He told U'Ren why. "I've got three 'pop' votes that nobody can get away," he said. "Are you sure?" asked U'Ren, who could hardly believe that the populists, so new and so enthusiastic, would surrender so soon to "the conditions that make men bad."

Mitchell was sure; he advised U'Ren not to introduce the bill. "My people won't stand for it," the Senator said. Mitchell had made one other shift of position. A silver Republican all through the Oregon campaign (which ended in the June election), he came

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