

ST. JOHNS VOTES ON MERGER TOMORROW

Three-to-One Victory Is Predicted Despite Opposition That Has Bobbed Up.

LOW TAX ARGUMENT USED

Reduction in Water Rental and Relief From Outstanding Bonds. Cited—Portland Action to Depend on Outcome.

Portland may add 5000 persons to its population as a result of the merger election in St. Johns tomorrow.

The people of St. Johns will vote on the question of surrendering their charter. If the vote is favorable the people of Portland will receive an opportunity at the regular June election to accept St. Johns as a part of the municipality of Portland.

But St. Johns is not ready to give up its individuality without a struggle. Determined opposition to the consolidation has developed there. Supporters of the merger, however, declare that the opposition is in the main a "straw man" and that the "merger" will carry the election three to one.

"There is no serious opposition," said D. C. Lewis, one of the leading merger advocates, yesterday. "There is no serious opposition, and we are sure of convincing reasons in favor of it."

Mr. Lewis was author of the bill passed by the last Legislature providing a plan by which cities can merge.

Several years ago St. Johns voted to merge with Portland, but the Supreme Court decided that the constitution prevented the city from committing "municipal suicide." It was necessary then to go before the Legislature and secure the submission of a constitutional amendment to make such "suicides" possible.

The amendment was adopted by a wide margin, and the Legislature made the amendment possible.

One of the principal arguments used by those who are advocating the merger is the reduction in taxes for the people of St. Johns. It is pointed out that the St. Johns tax rate now is one-half mill higher than the rate in Portland, and that the benefits derived thereunder are not as great.

Moreover, it is averred that the funds raised under the present tax levy at St. Johns are not sufficient to meet the city's financial requirements. It is argued that the city actually will be confronted with a substantial deficit at the end of the present fiscal year.

Several months ago the St. Johns city officials appropriated approximately \$5000 to build a road to the plant of the Portland Cooperage company, which concern established its principal factory in St. Johns upon the promise that this road would be built.

No Levy Made for Funds. This money was taken from the current city funds. No special levy had been made for it, and advocates of the merger point out that while this appropriation was in accordance with the wishes of the people of St. Johns, it is one of the items that is threatening the treasury with a deficit.

The trade school question alone should cause people to be skeptical. In St. Johns we have no trade school. But we have one right at our doors in Portland. It costs us \$135 a year to send our boys and girls from St. Johns to the Portland trade school. By voting for the merger we would wipe out this cost and give our children an opportunity of learning a useful trade.

The cost of water for domestic use is another item upon which the "merger club" is laying considerable stress. St. Johns has a private water supply plant. The cost to consumers is approximately \$1.50 a month for domestic use. In Portland the cost is about 10 cents a month.

Outstanding Bonds \$80,000. What to do with the municipal water plant is another question that is confronting the voters, but it is assumed that if the consolidation is consummated that the City of Portland will take it over and operate it as an extension of the Portland water system.

The municipal corporation lines adjoin one another and the Bull Run main of the Portland water system end at the edge of St. Johns.

If the merger is accomplished Portland will fall heir to approximately \$80,000 in bonds outstanding against the City of St. Johns. Of this sum about \$50,000 was used to build the new municipal docks which the union bond issue was used to purchase. This dock then would become a part of the Port of Portland dock system.

Other municipally owned property at St. Johns would become property of Portland, including the city hall, fire station and several pieces of park property.

LEBANON PAPER MILL SOLD

Consideration of \$200,000 Is Indicated by Revenue Stamps.

ALBANY, Or., April 3.—(Special.)—Through a deed recorded here last night the ownership of the big paper mills at Lebanon was transferred from the Lebanon Paper Company to the Crown-Willamette Paper Company. The sale of the mills was rumored several weeks ago.

With the mills, the Lebanon Paper Company disposed of all of its interests in this county, including all franchises, easements, water rights, rights of way and all its property. The deed bore \$30 in revenue stamps, indicating a sale price of \$200,000. The consideration named in the deed is \$10.

EASTER BLANKS POPULAR

Special Western Union Sheets for Greetings Designed in Colors.

The new Easter blank, adopted for the first time by Western Union for the Easter holiday season, has sprung into instant popularity and large numbers of messages, especially night letters, came over wires yesterday.

BOY, 10, LOOTS RESIDENCE

Chicken Devoured, Eggs Found on Target and "Swag" Is Buried.

Though only 10 years old, little Nick Mash, of 231 Sheridan street, started

OLD WAYS TO RULE

Conventions to Select Presidential Nominees in 1916.

PRIMARY IDEA IS DROPPED

Wilson's Growing Coldness Toward Plan Further Accentuated by Pomerene's Opinion That It Is Not Constitutional.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 31.—The Presidential candidates in 1916 will be selected by the old convention system. That was assured when Senator Pomerene, of Ohio, chairman of a special committee, reported to the President that a National Presidential primary law enacted by Congress would be unconstitutional, in his opinion.

This opinion of Senator Pomerene will not put a stop to the effort of supporters of the primary to pass a Presidential primary law at the next session of Congress, but it is a safe prediction that the President, who long ago lost interest in the primary, will accept the judgment of the Ohio Senator and that the influence of the Administration will be cast against any such enactment.

If the agitation for a Presidential primary becomes strong, it will be the purpose of the Administration Senators to defeat the primary. The President, however, told Congress that he "urged the prompt enactment of legislation which will provide for primary elections throughout the country at which the voters of the several parties may choose their nominees for the Presidency without the intervention of nominating conventions."

Opponents of the Presidential primary—and there are many in the Democratic party from the South—may be willing to support such a resolution if they believe the Southern States will never ratify such an amendment and by withholding their endorsement can defeat the constitutional amendment.

President Wilson, in his first address to Congress, strongly urged the passage of a Presidential primary law. He went further in his recommendation than did the Democrats at the Baltimore convention, for the Baltimore platform advocated only legislation of each state which will permit the expression of the preference of the electors for National candidates at Presidential primaries.

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Sudden Coldness Accounted For. On one of his subsequent visits to Congress did President Wilson ever mention the Presidential primary. On the contrary, he seemed to lose all interest in the subject. His sudden coldness towards the Presidential primary was attributed to the White House by Southern Senators and Representatives, immediately following his first appearance before a joint session of Senate and House.

During the past Congress several Presidential primary bills were introduced in both bodies but they never were reported by the committees to which they were referred. The Administration made no effort to have the bills reported and the Southern contingent was strong enough to see to it that they were not taken up. The only acknowledgment made of the presence of the bills was the designation of Senator Pomerene as a subcommittee to look into the subject, and his report will receive a hearty welcome when it is laid before the new Senate. If anything comes out of it it will be the adoption of a resolution proposing a constitutional amendment.

SUSPECTED CLERK IS HELD

Theft of Movie Camera From Former Employer Is Charged.

Charged with the theft of a moving picture camera, valued at more than \$250, in Portland last December, Charles Wansley was arrested by Sheriff Cranshaw, of Tillamook County, yesterday. City Detective Abbott will leave for Clatskanie to bring back the prisoner today.

At the time of the alleged theft, Wansley was a clerk in the employ of S. Itow, proprietor of the American S. Itow, on Third and Flanders street. When Wansley suddenly left Itow's employ, the camera, the property of the hotel man, was missing.

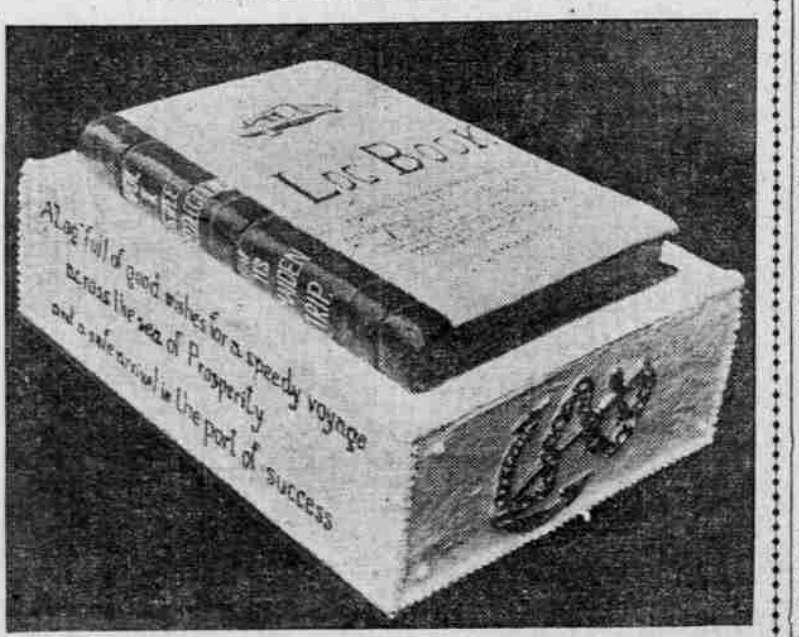
MANIAC HELD AT COQUILLE

Cook's Assistant Violent After Capture Following Search.

MARSHFIELD, Or., April 3.—(Special.)—B. Campbell, a lodging camp cook's assistant, who became violent insane last night, was brought to Coquille and held in the jail there. Campbell escaped from persons who were detaining him Thursday night and a search for him ended at the next morning six miles from where he had discarded his clothing, excepting his undergarments and shoes.

Campbell wandered to Baker Creek during the night and there entered a ranch home and tried to crawl in bed with the farmer and his wife. The farmer had a fierce struggle with him, but drove him out and shot three times at him.

MAMMOTH FRUIT CAKE SERVED TO PASSENGERS ON STEAMER NORTHERN PACIFIC ON ITS TRIP THROUGH PANAMA CANAL TO SAN FRANCISCO.



PRODUCT OF NORTHERN PACIFIC BAKERY PREPARED UNDER DIRECTION OF HAZEN J. TITUS, DINING CAR SUPERINTENDENT.

The steamer Northern Pacific, which now is nearing San Francisco after having passed through the Panama Canal, has been receiving special attention in the dining room. The commissary department of the big liner for this trip is in charge of Hazen J. Titus, the regular superintendent of the dining car service on the Northern Pacific Railroad, and the originator of the "Great Big Baked Potato." One of the pleasant surprises provided the passengers was an immense fruit cake (a 200 pound cake) which was prepared in the Northern Pacific bakery. Before the voyage ends the cake will be carved and each passenger will be given a slice.

Passengers on the steamer Northern Pacific will arrive in San Francisco within a few days and on April 17 will go into regular service between San Francisco and Flavel, supplementing the regular already established by the steamer Great Northern. The vessels are twins and are owned jointly by the Northern Pacific and Great Northern Railroads.

CO-EDS BAR MEN'S GAZE

ANNUAL ADAMLESS ENTERTAINMENT STAGED AT EUGENE.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, EUGENE

APRIL 3.—(Special.)—Tonight the co-ed at Oregon is a mysterious girl. Tonight is the night that has been looked forward to for weeks, plans have been discussed for months, and 50 visiting preparatory and 200 freshmen girls will witness for the first time the gambols of April frolic.

The criticizing eyes of man will not be permitted to feast upon the revels of his fair classmates, for this is the evening that tradition has set aside for the co-ed as the eve when she will play without the applause of her co-worker in scholastic pursuits.

Yet tradition has it that in other days man has, under skilful disguise, gazed upon the spectacle of frivolity and mirth which the girls have staged in the varsity gymnasium, and again, a neighboring woodpile once furnished a vantage point for half a dozen members of the male sex.

Each of the sororities will stage a "stunt" and the best one will be awarded a handsome trophy. It will be alone tonight and not one sorority fireplace will warm a "russing" student.

BUS DRIVER LOSES LICENSE

Revocation Brought About When Jitney Knocks Down Man.

As a result of a complaint made by Harry P. Coffin, chairman of the Public Safety Commission, and Chief of Police Clark, the license of Stephen Seko, driver of a Belmont jitney that knocked down Fred Strong, a farmer, at First and Morrison streets, last Wednesday, has been revoked.

This is the third license that has been revoked following the announcement of Secretary of State Olcott that he would take such action upon the recommendation of Mr. Coffin and Mr. Clark.

Seko not only violated ordinary regulations regarding driving, but the state law which makes it a crime for a motorist to keep on his way after striking a man. Seko did not stop when he hit Strong, but continued west on Morrison. He was arrested by Traffic Officer Bender.

POLICY HOLDERS MUST PAY

Oregon Merchants' Mutual Fire Assessments Ordered by Court.

SALEM, Or., April 3.—(Special.)—Circuit Judge Crowley today issued an order providing for the assessment of policyholders in the Oregon Mutual Fire Assurance Society, of this city, who failed to pay their assessments.

The assessments will be made to 100 per cent of the standard rate, and Receiver Wells has completed the list of policyholders who are delinquent. The assessments will be raised. Donald Miles, attorney for the company, thinks about \$3000 will be raised. The money will be used in liquidating claims for fire loss.

A large number of policies in the company were written at 60 and 70 per cent of the standard rate, and the holders will be compelled to pay the difference between the rate given to them and the standard one.

LOAN SHARK RATE ALLEGED

Night Foreman in Street-Cleaning Bureau Held for Operations.

Donald McPherson, night foreman of the Street-Cleaning Bureau, was arrested yesterday by Deputy Constable McCulloch on complaint of W. S. Geron, sworn to by the District Attorney. He was charged with having loaned money at rates exceeding 10 per cent per annum, without a license from the State Superintendent of Banks. His hearing will be Monday, when the case will be presented to the grand jury.

It is alleged that McPherson had been lending money to five men employed under him at rates of 5 per cent a month. He is said to have been conducting this business for about two years and to have lent to numerous other employes of the city.

THREATS BRING ARREST

Man, Aged 69, Denied Money, Said to Have Talked Incendiarism.

"If you don't have any money or food to gimme, your home ought to be burned," the threatening remarks of James Williams, aged 69, is reported to have made to several housewives in the neighborhood of 411 East Thirty-seventh street, North, yesterday afternoon, when he was arrested.

The complaint was made to police headquarters that such a man was at large and a patrolman O'Neilson was sent to look for him. He secured a description of the man from several women who had been frightened by his remarks and arrested him at East Thirty-third and Wadler streets.

Williams had 60 cents in his pockets. Prominent musicians of the city will assist Dr. Clement B. Shaw in "The Flying Dutchman" (Wagner), musical and dramatic presentation, at the Y. M. C. A. at 8:15 o'clock tomorrow night. Phonograph records also will be used. The recital is one of 20 that are presented in a free course in the Y. M. C. A. auditorium.

"I Will Make You the Best Suit You've Ever Had in Your Life for \$25"



SUITS \$25 To Order

WHEN I SAY I will make you the best suit you ever wore, I mean exactly what I say. I DON'T CARE what price you are accustomed to paying, or what tailor has been making your clothes, for workmanship, linings and trimmings I defy an equal. I MAKE this sensational offer to make new customers and new friends, so that my business for 1915 will be greater than the record-breaking year of 1914. SPACE DOESN'T permit me to enumerate all the different patterns in new shades and weaves. REST ASSURED that anything you are looking for will be found in this mammoth stock. IF YOUR SUIT, when completed, is not absolutely satisfactory, I will not accept one cent.

RAY BARKHURST

Portland's Leading Tailor Sixth and Stark Streets

CO-EDS BAR MEN'S GAZE

ANNUAL ADAMLESS ENTERTAINMENT STAGED AT EUGENE.

Each Sorority to Provide Feature and Best Will Be Awarded Trophy, Without Male Applause.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, April 3.—(Special.)—Tonight the co-ed at Oregon is a mysterious girl. Tonight is the night that has been looked forward to for weeks, plans have been discussed for months, and 50 visiting preparatory and 200 freshmen girls will witness for the first time the gambols of April frolic.

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VETERAN CONDUCTOR DEAD

F. M. Cummins Passes at Home in Clackamas at Age of 58.

OREGON CITY, Or., April 3.—(Special.)—F. M. Cummins, a conductor on the Southern Pacific road for 34 years, died tonight at his home in Clackamas, near here, after a year's illness. He was 58 years old.

Mr. Cummins was born near Albany and was a member of the Lodge of Elks of that city. He had lived at Clackamas for five years. The widow, a daughter and two brothers, W. A. Cummins and John Cummins, both of Portland, survive.

Woman Sues Father for Land.

SALEM, Or., April 3.—(Special.)—Zether Hurst today filed suit against her father, W. V. Hurst, and her grandmother, Mrs. M. A. Hurst, to annul a deed to her interest in a 50-acre tract of land in the neighborhood of Macleay, which the plaintiff alleges she executed to her father in trust so the estate might be divided. The property was willed to the parties to the suit by David Hurst, who died in 1922.

Passion Play Scenes Given Today.

Fifty-two views of the 1910 "Passion Play" at Oberammergau will be used by C. N. Wonnacott, assistant general secretary of the Y. M. C. A., in his addressures were taken by Mr. Wonnacott at the 3:15 o'clock meeting in the Y. M. C. A. auditorium today. The pic-

Fire Damages Marshfield Store.

MARSHFIELD, Or., April 3.—(Special.)—A fire this morning destroyed the paint, wall paper and stilted stock of Lemieux & Hermann, on Front street, and damaged the building \$500. The firm lost about \$1100 in stock, which is partly covered by insurance. The fire originated from an oil stove explosion.

"THE NIGGER" Presented at Majestic

Edward Sheldon's Great Sensational Play With William Farnum to Be Here All Week.

In "The Nigger," Edward Sheldon, America's most brilliant young dramatist, wrote what critics of this unforgettable drama have termed the American play. It deals uncompromisingly and with rare courage, with a theme that has engaged countless thousands in bitter controversy and was at least a contributory cause of one of the bloodiest wars of history.

To handle such a subject without gloves requires the highest skill of the dramatist engaging in the task. The subject matter of "The Nigger" is not one to be treated lightly. It touches the heights and depths of human nature. It is like a mountain rooted in the living rock and rearing its summit above the clouds.

As the press sees "The Nigger," Nothing more dramatic, more effective has ever been done by an American playwright.—N. Y. Press. "The Nigger" is a live battery of thrills.—New York World. Highest skill of the dramatist engaging in the task. The subject matter of "The Nigger" is not one to be treated lightly. It touches the heights and depths of human nature. It is like a mountain rooted in the living rock and rearing its summit above the clouds.

The audience was deeply interested.—Boston Herald. The most powerful play yet written by an American.—Philadelphia Press. A remarkable entertainment.—Philadelphia North American. The most distinguished dramatic performance ever given in Pittsburgh.—Pittsburgh Dispatch. "The Nigger" is a vital document and will make any intelligent citizen, North or South, stop and take notice.—Pittsburgh Gazette-Times. Big in theme, masterfully built and played.—Chicago Inter-Ocean. It was a great play.—Pittsburgh Post. A magnificent play.—Chicago Record-Herald. The performance was without a flaw.—Chicago Inter-Ocean. "The Nigger" was presented—and so well presented—that it should cause the brooding tone of the most hopeless cynic in matters of the American theater.—Chicago Tribune.

LEE MILLER SANATORIUM

For the private care and treatment of patients suffering from mental diseases, alcoholic and drug addictions. Lee Miller, Traher 3077, 201 E. 82d St. N. Portland, Oregon.

Excursion Fares

Effective April 17, and every Saturday thereafter to Deschutes River Fishing Resorts Limited to return Monday following.

Round Trip, from Portland to:

Tuscan	\$5.90	Kaskadee	\$7.10
Hastings	6.10	Jersey	7.20
Sherran	5.75	Frieda	6.25
S. Junction	7.30	Mecca	7.70
New	6.40	Nathan	6.80
Coletan	7.40	N. Junction	6.90

TOURIST SLEEPING CAR

Train leaves North Bank Station 7:25 P. M. Returning, arrives 8:10 A. M.

Tickets and information at—

OREGON TRUNK RAILWAY Fifth and Stark

The Wise Dental Co.

Oldest Reliable Dentists in Portland



PLATES WITH FLEXIBLE SUCTION. The very best and latest in modern dentistry. No more falling plates.

Our bridge work has been brought to the highest state of perfection. The teeth on this bridge are as comfortable as if they were your own teeth. Dr. Wise is a false-tooth expert. There is "ALWAYS ONE HEAVY" in every calling, and Dr. Wise lays claim to this distinction in Oregon. 25 years' experience. What we can't guarantee we don't do.

Wise Dental Co.

INCORPORATED. Painless Dentists. Fitting Building, Third and Washington, Portland, Oregon. Office Hours: 8 A. M. to 5 P. M. Sundays, 9 to 1.

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OREGON TRUNK RAILWAY Fifth and Stark

"ONE SPOONFUL ENOUGH" SAYS DRUGGIST

The Huntley Drug Company, Fourth and Washington, states that the simple mixture of buckthorn bark, glycerine, etc., known as Adler-Lika, is causing great surprise because just ONE SPOONFUL relieves constipation, sour or gassy stomach almost IMMEDIATELY. It is so thorough a bowel cleanser that it is used successfully in appendicitis. Adler-Lika acts on BOTH lower and upper bowels and the INSTANT effect is astonishing. It never grips and is perfectly safe to use.—Advs.

A Wonderful Offer TO Talking Machine Owners

Bring in your old Columbia Disc Records and we will take them in exchange for the latest Columbia Disc Records at a very liberal allowance. Our stock of Disc Records is complete. April Records now on sale.

Graves Music Co.

Pioneer Phonograph Dealers Est. 1895 151 Fourth St., Near Morrison