

COOS BAY TIMES

M. C. MALONEY, Editor and Pub. DAN E. MALONEY, News Editor

Official Paper of Coos County

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WHY MANAGERIAL GOVERNMENT SUCCEEDS.

There have been many explanations offered for the undoubted relative success of the commission-city-manager plan of city government. The abolition of the wards for example, is frequently quoted as ample reason for the success of the new plan. Marshfield, however, has never had wards, but it has not acquired any efficiency thereby. In fact some critics have held that wards would improve the Marshfield municipal government.

Most of the explanations for the success of the commission form of government are only half true, because they involve a study of the internal mechanism of the government, whereas the real difference between the old and the new comes at the point of contact between the government and the people.

The secret of the success of the commission-city-manager plan lies in the fact that the governmental power is taken out of obscurity and placed on a pinnacle of light where all citizens can watch it.

No mere form of government will automatically produce good government. The people's will can be baffled or facilitated by the form of government. Under the commission managerial plan the people's work at the polls is made simple, clear and easy. And that is all the secret there is to the success of the plan.

In our old-fashioned city government, the kind that Marshfield is now existing under, we have committed two serious errors. First, we have scattered the powers of government among so many officials that it is quite impossible for the people to watch and control them all. Second, we have subdivided the power in such small fragments that no single part is really worth watching. A member of the city council, for instance, under the old style of government—Marshfield's style—has no little power alone that the people do not think it worth while to become agitated over the question of who gets the job. And because this can be true with all candidates, the people lose control of the government.

The feature of our present city government is the scattering of power based on our ancient fear of kings. We have always had a superstitious dread of giving to any elective officer power enough to do anything for us without getting the consent of several others. We have overlooked the fact that to make the former official obey our wishes we have also to exert simultaneous compulsion over the latter whose consent is needed, and that popular control thus became anything but the simple matter it ought to be. The politician can always get his own way if you make the council large enough. A council of five men occasionally feels personally the pressure of public opinion, but triple the size of the council, and the individual members become so insignificant and publicly so subdivided that each member is safely "lost in the shuffle."

The commission manager plan is based upon no false idea that the people want to elect every clerk. It gives the power to three men to name a city manager who is responsible to them for the city's affairs and they are in turn responsible to the people. The people then, have but to watch three men instead of a score or more.

The commission-city-manager plan of government is the only commonsense plan, and that's all there is to it. All others should, and will be soon, relegated to the past which conceived them.

SIX MONTHS OF HORROR.

FOR SIX months now the great European war has been in progress. It is just a few days over six months since Austria turned her guns on Serbia and since then the great nations of Europe have torn at each other's throats, spending money and wasting human lives with a recklessness unparalleled in history.

One cannot estimate exactly how much the first half year has cost in lives and money, but the military experts place the total cost of the six months of the war at \$7,200,000,000—fully equal to the value of the entire 1914 record crop in the United States.

And it should be remembered that these are military costs only. Figuring the general loss of Europe through business depression, ruined commerce and other sources, it is estimated that the loss will reach a grand total of \$19,000,000,000.

In the matter of lives sacrificed, rough estimates, based on averages established by precedent, give 540,000 killed and 2,116,000 wounded or victims of disease. This means a total of 2,700,000 battle victims since the war began.

The military loss by the various nations is estimated as follows: England and Germany, each, a billion and a half dollars; Russia, a billion and

a quarter; France, a billion; Austria, 800 million; Belgium, 650 million; Japan, 200 million; Turkey, 150 million; Serbia, 100 million; Monte Negro fifty million.

One may easily note that the rapidly with which the European soldiers have been slaughtered during the present war has surpassed anything before known in war history, by comparing the above estimate by the following table:

In the Crimean war, in 1854 to 1856, it took nearly two years to kill 485,000 men.

During the Franco-Prussian war, in 1870 and 1871, seven months were needed to dispose of 290,000 men.

In our own Civil War, from 1861 to 1865, four years were required to kill 1,000,000 men.

The Russo-Turkish war in 1877 and 1878 resulted in killing 180,000 in a little less than a year.

The Spanish-American war in 1898 went on for eight months with only 29,110 killed.

The Russo-Japanese war of 1904 and 1905 continued nearly two years and cost 555,900 lives.

But civilization has made rapid strides. We now kill at the rate of a million a year!

FEBRUARY HEALTH LESSONS.

The following daily health lessons for February have been issued by the Kansas board of health.

- 1.—The unventilated gas stove is a menace to health.
2.—Adenoids prevent normal mental and physical growth.
3.—Smallpox raging among unvaccinated Kaw Indians, 1860.
4.—Air your home thoroughly daily.
5.—Beware of the wolves—the quack doctors.
6.—The best nerve restorer—keeping sweet.
7.—Food left on the teeth ferments and causes decay.
8.—The best weapon against pneumonia—high body resistance.
9.—The most valuable asset of a city—wholesome water.
10.—The only bad night air is last night's air.
11.—Have you tested your cow for tuberculosis?
12.—Keep your feet warm and your head cool.

FEBRUARY HEALTH SLOGANS.

- An open window is better than an open grave.
Warm rooms have killed more people than ever froze to death.
A stiff drink makes the stomach warm but the skin cold.
A stitch in the underwear may save a stitch in the side.
Avoid patent medicines as you would a pestilence.
Thinly clad feet make for heavy colds.

ICE CREAM SUBSTITUTE FOR MEAT.

When the price of meat in its upward flight Does a Hoxey stunt clear out of sight— What shall we eat when we can't get meat? Simplest thing in the world, say ice cream manufacturers. Their reply to the question about a substitute for meat is not offered, they aver, in the spirit of that French king, who when told his subjects had no bread, replied, "Let them eat cake." No, they are serious about it. "The United States," said J. Will Carpenter, to the St. Louis Star, "is rapidly becoming a nation of ice cream eaters. Last year we consumed 175,000,000 gallons. Next year we will eat still more ice cream. For the last five years our consumption of ice cream has increased annually 20 per cent.

"Even now thousands of our people lunch daily on ice cream. Don't smile! I can prove it to you. I will take you any day at noon to confectioneries and soda fountains, more numerous than restaurants, and show you hundreds of persons who lunch solely on ice cream.

"Ice cream is a dignified food. The prejudicial notion used to prevail that it was a delicacy suitable only for a feminine palate. That kept back the growth of our industry. But the prejudice has congealed. It was not able to stand the ice test of the new brine system of freezing. The brine system of freezing makes the ice cream stand up. The housewife can take it home now in a block or cut, just as she would meat. And her husband is not ashamed to eat it.

SEAL BOUNTY BILL PASSES

Senate Adopts Measure Providing for Slaughter. SALEM, Ore., Feb. 16. Senate bill 160, by Leinenweber, providing a real bounty, was passed by unanimous vote by the Senate. Other bills were passed by the Senate as follows: S. B. 228, by Smith (Coos and Curry Counties), extends line for closed river against commercial fishing in Coquille River to Hoffman's bridge.

S. B. 227, by Smith (Coos and Curry Counties), regulates salmon fishing in New River. S. B. 198, by Smith (Coos and Curry), amends statute relating to road districts.

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The Old Lumberjack's Lament

By LAWRENCE W. PEDROSE.

I'm going to quit these woods, boys! Dog-gone such a life, anyway! A'willin' in grub fit for cattle and toilin' ten hours a day— A'workin' in mud to my shoe-tops and soaked through from mornin' to night— Invitin' rheumatics and fever—Oh, but these woods is a fright!

I've sniped and I've barked and I've knotted for pretty close to thirty years, Till I'm bent like a crooked ax-helve and gray as a coon at the ears. I used to be sassy and supple and quick as a squirrel on my feet; But now I am slow and all bunged-up and have to take care what I eat.

But I've saved up two hundred bucks, boys, in this last fifteen months or so; I'm goin' to have one more high fling—then go where all old-timers go.

Who can't longer stand loggin'—camp cookin'—who work puts the cracks in their back— To a ranch where I'll make a small clearin' and build me a snug little shack.

Ah, there goes the whistle; Hurrah, boys! Tomorrow means payday and town; Just one more big time on the Skid Road, and then I'll be good—settle down.

I'll take a run down to the Sound, boys, and get me a squaw for a wife, Who'll dig clams and tend to the garden—Say, boys, but won't that be the life?

I'll have a milk cow and some chickens, and sit by the fire and smoke Or evenin's when my squaw is knittin' and keepin' a bulge in the poke. Yes, my innards is plumb full of camp work and I'm in the gay lumberjack;

So, good-bye, you slaves and you Home Guards—I'm off and I'm not comin' back! Don't rub it in boys; have a conscience! I know I am back here from town— That I'm shakey as the deuce on my feet and stumble about like a clown.

Where's the stake I had when I left here? Why, what do you moss-backs suppose? I had a few drinks on the Skid Road—and bought me a new suit of clothes! The rest? Oh, I did get some stewed, boys—woke up in Pete Murphy's saloon.

For I met up with Woof-Woof Andy who braked on the loche last June. That's all right; I'm not bellyakin'; what's two hundred bucks, anyway? I'm good for ten more years of loggin'—but I'LL QUIT THESE WOODS SOME DAY!

GOOD EVENING. I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true; I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to the light that I have. I must stand with anybody who stands right—stand with him while he is right and part with him when he goes wrong.—A. Lincoln.

PROBABLY THOSE COUNTERFEITERS CAME TO MARSHFIELD BECAUSE THEY HEARD THAT COOS BAY WAS A GOOD PLACE TO MAKE MONEY.

LIFE IS LIKE A NUTMEG GRATER. YOU HAVE TO RUB UP AGAINST THE ROUGH SIDE TO ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING.

TO SEE HER FACE. You know Miss Spring is comin' To fix up all the place, For a mornin' glory's climbin' To see Miss Mary's face.

So long they have been waitin' One little smile to win— To see her at the window With the roses lookin' in.

But welcome, Mister Bluebird; And dress up in your best, And welcome Brother Robin In your crimson-colored vest.

I know how well you love her— With love so sweet and true, But there is one comes singin' That loves her more than you.

Before he gets her he imagines she is a humming bird. After he gets her he discovers she is a screech owl.

Conscience may help some. But it is fear of getting caught that keeps most Coos Bay people straight.

You can make a Coos Bay woman madder by ignoring her than you can by calling her names.

When a Coos Bay couple are engaged they imagine they can get along with one chair when they go to housekeeping. But after they have been married awhile they want two different parlor suites.

THE WISE GUY SAYS: "When a Coos Bay girl marries she usually loses a good friend and gets a grouchy boarder."

Some Coos Bay men never forget to take the makings when they go out, but they always seem to forget to take any matches.

Some Coos Bay people spend so much time planning for the future that they never do anything in the present.

Some Coos Bay people would rather die a natural death than send for a doctor.

The golden rule is all right, but the one used by a lot of Coos Bay people is only plated.

It is easier for the average Coos Bay young man to raise a row than a moustache.

Except for their vanity it would be impossible to please some Coos Bay people.

Every Coos Bay married woman is selfish in one respect at least. She won't allow others to share in the pleasure of abusing her husband.

Kleptomania is one of the least unprofitable forms of insanity.

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