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Bert R. Greer, - Editor and Owner
W. H. Gillis, - - - City Editor
W. E. Barnes, - Business Manager

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Ashland, Ore., Thursday, June 6, '12

CUT AND CLEAN.

The Chautauqua assembly opens its session this year July 2. As is usual upon this occasion, thousands of valley visitors and strangers will be in Ashland. The city should be dressed in her best garb during these days. All of the weeds should be cut from vacant lots and burned. The streets generally should be scraped and the weeds cut along them. The time is short for this accomplishment if the city is put in shipshape before that time.

Persons owning vacant lots alongside of neighbors who have pride enough in the city to make their yards beautiful have no right to mar the neighborhood by allowing weeds to grow high on them. The city has an ordinance providing that notice shall be given all such owners to cut and clear their lots by a given time. If it is not done, the city has the right to cut the weeds and assess the expense against the lots the same as regular taxes. This ordinance should be rigidly enforced.

While we do not desire to criticize the council, yet there seems to be a kind of laxity in relation to the enforcement of several wholesome ordinances. For example, it seems to shy at the old barn nuisance, at the dog ordinance, and at the weed-cutting laws. In a home city like Ashland it is especially needful that such ordinances be enforced. Healthfulness, cleanliness and beauty are our greatest assets. It is highly profitable to the city to expend the sums necessary to this accomplishment. Private lot owners cannot afford, under any circumstances, to allow unsightly weeds and rubbish to mar the beauty of the city.

Many of the streets are in bad condition. Weeds are growing along many of them, and some of them on the side hills are washed full of holes. Every one of them should be cleaned and leveled before the Chautauqua opens. The city now has about \$3,500 cash in the street fund available for this purpose. The work should be undertaken at once and pushed to completion.

CHEAP MONEY.

A number of years ago the Cosmopolitan Magazine gathered together all of the history of schemes that had been tried throughout the different nations of the world for the issuance of currency. The publication was called "Cheap Money," and is still in some libraries.

We would recommend to William J. Scott, of People's Bank fame, that he give this work a careful perusal. His proposal is much like the John Laws French scheme. His circulation was based on land values. If a person had land valued at one thousand dollars he could make application to the government for currency in the sum of four hundred dollars, paying only for the cost of printing and maintaining it, and the government would print the currency and issue it to him, his land standing good for the issue. John Laws argued that as land, at forty per cent of its value, was considered the best security for money loans, it would afford the best basis for currency circulation.

To those not familiar with the history of the French scheme it will be worth their while to study it, for it proved the most gigantic failure ever recorded.

Mr. Scott's plan to issue bonds against taxable values to the county is much the same as that of John Laws and would meet with the same disaster.

We need a more flexible currency, but no system is likely to be devised that will afford as sound basis for currency issue as gold and silver.

All success consists in this: You are doing something for somebody, you are benefitting humanity; and the feeling of success comes from the consciousness.

POLITICS INSTEAD OF BUSINESS.

In a factory, if the boss increases the vigilance of his supervision, it is natural for the employees to redouble their attention to the steel or iron or cloth on which they work. Unless there is a positive friction, a closer inspection means more work done.

The American people are the boss of their civic workshop of government, and every once in four years they begin to look after their common business interest. There is prevailing today an exceptional political unrest, due to high cost of living and the unsettled relations between the government and the big corporations. The result is that people are watching the doings of their servants in congress with a very keen attention.

A redoubled vigilance and an increased output might reasonably be expected on the part of our law-makers. Yet the dispatches from Washington indicate that the product of useful legislation since congress got to work December 1 is small, as is always the case during presidential years.

The problems of our great and growing country are increasing in acuteness day by day. A great many of these problems are nonpolitical. They do not divide congress on party lines. If congress could ever get around to them, useful laws tending to remove obstacles from honest industry could be passed. The abuses in our patent system are a cause in point, made particularly clear since the decision in the mimeograph case. Congress is about as likely to bother its head over musty patent cases while delegates are being chosen, as the boys are to study compound interest while a ball game is being played in the school yard. Yet the proper control of patent rights is absolutely needful to our free business development.

How shall we get orderly, efficient consideration of tariffs and revenue and trusts, comparable to the consideration that a business problem gets from the directors of a corporation, when our public servants are busy mailing copies of political speeches to constituents, and hastening away from Washington to greet the farmers at the crossroads?

OUR PARK.

The suggestion of Brother Wolf that societies and picnic parties throughout the valley be invited to use our city park for their gatherings is a good one and should be carried out by the city and the park board. The city park is one of the best advertising assets we have. Everybody in the valley should be induced to discover by personal experience what a delightful resort the park is. Give a broadcast invitation for valley people to come and enjoy it. It will do Ashland good. The Tidings joins the Record in offering to advertise the matter as far as it lies.

Our park has the greatest natural beauty to be found anywhere on earth, and the artificial development is beginning to count. The park board has been busy this year. The underbrush has been cut out far up the canyon, new shrubbery and trees have been set, so that another season of growth will develop it to a spot of exquisite beauty.

The park board is to be congratulated on its accomplishments. And this splendid development has been accomplished only by large sacrifice of time and labor on the part of the park board. So far this season Mr. Enders and Mr. Badger have given about half of their time to the work, without compensation. The community should appreciate their self-sacrificing efforts. These gentlemen exemplify a public spirit, much needed in Ashland, and one which if generally followed will result in large and speedy material development of this community.

TO HELP ALASKA.

One step in the direction of self-government for Alaska has been taken in the passage through the house of Delegate Wickersham's bill providing for an elective legislature for Alaska. The delegate hopes for favorable action in the senate, but all good legislation is now threatened by the plan of the republican and democratic combination to adjourn congress and leave questions like the tariff for political discussion rather than have them settled by legislative action.

Live for something, have a definite aim in view, but remember your greatest usefulness in this world is to make others with whom you come in contact, happier.

This is a great country and a great world. Both are growing better as the days mount into years. We are not going backward. We must go on.

The Home Circle

Thoughts from the Editorial Pen

Most of us feel sympathy for the abjectly poor, and we sometimes send out a thought of pity for the rancidly rich, with their burden of responsibility. But there is one class usually overlooked when the sympathy is being dealt out, and that is the class referred to by a modern writer as the "Eggsloosives."

The reason why we should pity an exclusive person may not be apparent to the casual observer. But if we saw a flower seed that knew not by instinct or education how to expand, but whose daily effort was in the opposite direction, toward contraction, we would feel sorry for the poor little ignorant thing, because it could never reach the sunshine and blossom into beauty and usefulness.

True, it would be exclusive, in its own particular little place, and it might not even have any knowledge of the freer air and the joy that it would experience could it but change its method and expand, until it finally would burst into full bloom in a veritable wilderness of flowers and birds and trees and grass and God's own sunshine.

So it is with poor Mrs. Eggsloosive. She is so because "nothin' nor nobody" ever told her she would be happier if she expanded and reached out and touched her fellow beings.

You can see her any day, riding in lonely grandeur in her automobile, with only her chauffeur, who occupies the tonneau alone. For the only persons she would think worthy to ride with her are the other "eggsloosives," and they all have machines of their own, and are out doing the same exclusive stunt.

The young girl who waits upon her in the shop where she buys many of her gew-gaws—how can Mrs. Eggsloosive learn a much-needed lesson in renunciation, unless she looks into the brave eyes of this young girl who has given up a hope of an education, in order that she may help to lift the burden of the family support from the bowed shoulders of her old father?

And there is the little boy who delivers the Saturday Evening Post to Mrs. Eggsloosive. True, he is a very busy boy, but undoubtedly he would take enough time to tell her his hopes of going through college, and making something of himself, were she to take sufficient interest to talk with him a little.

He might tell her that he could not remember his mother, she having died when he was a baby. But I am sure he would have been mute about the tragedy of his little life, that his father is a periodical drunkard. Yet if Mrs. Eggsloosive would show a human interest in him, it would help him, and it would be still more beneficial to her. For, warmed by the sunshine of love, the seed of her heart would burst its bands of constriction and would push its way upward and outward into a world of beauty of which she has not dreamed, while she remains underground in her small area of exclusiveness. Then would she know the benediction that exclusiveness brings to its apostles.

As for the others, let 'em walk, they're used to it!

But to return to poor, lonely Mrs. Eggsloosive. She has no way of knowing the joy she could confer upon herself, to say nothing of the poor, old, rustily clad woman who steps to the side of the road to escape being run down, should she stop her machine and invite the humble old soul to ride with her. Not from her lofty height of exclusiveness—oh, dear no—but as woman to woman, sister to sister.

But the stars would pause in their courses before Mrs. Eggsloosive would think to do such a thing. The poor woman can't help it. She probably would do it, if some one should tell her to—that is, she would after a few cycles of time had shown her that exclusiveness does not pay, does not produce or bestow happiness, and that the man was right who said, "Any one can be exclusive, but it takes a big person to be inclusive," or words to that effect.

The pitiable thing about it is, Mrs. Eggsloosive is missing the very best part of life. Why, there is not a day that the inclusive person does not find mental stimulus by coming in contact with the rich and the poor, the high and the mighty, the meek and the lowly.

The dear little old lady who lives in the funny little house with the old-fashioned yard fenced in, who has never in her life attended a Real Function, whose daughter works down-town, and comes home at night with her budget of news for the little mother, receiving the tender ministrations of a pair of wrinkled old hands in return—how can Mrs. Eggsloosive know that the old lady's mind is as sweet and fresh as one of her own posies?

And the old man who keeps the little bakery at the corner, who served all through the Civil War, and gave his only boy during the Spanish-American War—how can Mrs. Eggsloosive know the soul-thrilling history of those early struggles contained in his mental storehouse?

JONES IS PARDONED.

Man Convicted of Land Frauds Released by President.

Washington, D. C.—President Taft has granted an unconditional pardon to Willard Jones of Portland, Ore. Jones was convicted of land frauds in the famous cases in which the late Senator Mitchell of Oregon andlinger Hermann, former commissioner of the general land office, were alleged to be implicated. The pardon is based on the grounds that improper methods were pursued in filling the jury box from which the Jones jury was drawn.

WHY WAGE-EARNING WOMEN SHOULD VOTE.

More than seven million women in the United States daily leave their homes to go out in the world and fight beside men for their living. They work under greater disadvantages and temptations than men, they work for longer hours and lower wages, they bear the greater burdens of our industrial system, yet they have not the protection which men have of the ballot.

Good laws are even more necessary to the woman, for she is the mother of the next generation, and upon the conditions under which she works depends largely the health of herself and of her children. The stunted growth and impaired vitality of the English working people today are the direct results of lack of legislation in their behalf when the introduction of machinery made possible the great exploitation of labor.

It is of the utmost importance that there should be good factory laws, that a woman should work under sanitary conditions with protection for life and limb, that she should not work long hours, nor late at night, etc. Yet she has no representatives to make or enforce the laws so necessary to her and the community.

Working women have gained everything themselves, inch by inch, through the union. Without a voice in the government, they turn to the union for protection. They give it their allegiance. But the union cannot do everything. They need good laws to protect them at home as well as at work. And they need good laws far more than the rich. If food is impure, trust prices exorbitant, dwelling houses unsanitary, public schools bad, public hospitals poor, street cars abominable, police protection inadequate, the rich can pay for private services. The poor have no choice.

All these things directly concern women. Her home, her children, are her especial province, but she cannot demand the laws necessary for their protection.

Formerly women did not have separate interests. Everything now made in the factory was then made in the home. There materials were woven, clothes, rugs, candles, soap, matches, butter, cheese, etc., were made. There women did the work. They did not come in contact with the outside world nor share its responsibilities. That was left to the men, and men made the laws to protect their own interests. Women had none. They were not even taxpayers. Everything they had belonged to their husbands. A man could even will away his unborn child. But when the introduction of machinery removed work to the factories, women were forced to follow. They no longer made at home the things they needed; they had to go into the world and earn the money with which to buy them. The status of women was entirely changed.

The form of any government and society depends upon economic conditions. A change in industrial life brings in laws and customs. Conditions under which women work and live are constantly changing and laws must be changed to meet them. Women are now in daily contact with the world; they do their work in the world and share its responsibilities with men. It is not their choice. It has been forced upon them. The protection of self-supporting women is rapidly increasing. Self-protection requires that they should vote. Progress demands it.

The grounds on which men have obtained an extension of the franchise are. First, government must rest on the consent of the governed; second; taxation without representation is tyranny. These arguments apply equally to women. There can be no democracy where half the population is governed without its consent.

It is said that all the women will not vote. Well, neither do all the men. But it would be unjust to disfranchise all men because a portion of them do not use the ballot.

It is said that "women's sphere is in the home," but this does not apply to the seven million women in America who must leave their homes in order to live. Besides, no woman can keep her home pure in evil surroundings. A corrupt city taints every home in it. Where women vote, the home-loving women are among the strongest advocates of suffrage. And this has not been found to make them less womanly.

TEDDY MAY BOLT.

Supporters of Colonel Prepared for Any Emergency.

Chicago.—That the Roosevelt supporters will bolt the republican national convention here if the Taft men secure control of the convention by any means which they consider unfair, was indicated in a statement issued by Alexander H. Revell, chairman of the Roosevelt national committee.

"If the decision of these contests is flagrantly wrong, manifestly unjust or unfair," declared Revell, "nobody would respect a candidate discriminated against in this way if tamely submitted."

"You may put your own construction on that. Such a situation is one which will have to be met when it arises. This is the people's movement. The people have plainly indicated whom they want. If the contest decisions are not fair, the people will not sit idly by and see robbery by any political organization when it frustrates the popular will which has already been expressed.

"We hope that everything will come out all right, but we are prepared for any emergency. Whatever the situation is, we will meet it with the proper action."

It was rumored that the Roosevelt followers have obtained an option on the first regiment armory here, an action which is believed to indicate that the colonel's supporters are prepared to bolt the national convention if necessary.

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FRANK L. FRUGONE.

New York Italian Editor Opposed to Immigration Bill.



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OPIMUM TRADE EXPOSED.

Officer of Vessel Says Ship Has "Dope" Room.

San Francisco.—Among other appointments for comfort of passengers on the liner Siberia is an opium room, in which Chinese smoke, so testified Charles B. Kenney, lately third officer of the vessel, in a hearing last Monday before Francis Krull, United States commissioner. "The room is marked 'Hospital,'" Kenney said, but so far as he knew only opium smokers used it.

The records produced show that 1,928 tins of opium, valued at \$26,025, have been taken from the Siberia on her last five voyages. Other Pacific Mail liners which have brought opium during the same period are the Mongolia, 317 tins; the Corea, 117 tins; the Manchuria, 153 tins; and the China, 129 tins. The figures speak only for the seizures. Much undetected opium was smuggled ashore, say customs officers.

Kenney was caught with opium on his person. More of it was found behind a secret panel in his stateroom. He is serving three months in the Alameda county jail.

In view of the magnitude of the traffic, the United States attorney has announced that the government will impose the limit of the law on all masters of ships on which contraband opium is found.

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