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

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WHERE SHE FAILS.

Of course, woman's rights are a failure if woman doesn't avail herself of her rights. This is particularly true of those rights which come to her through politics; for profane history, since she took Adam by the ears and made him eat that apple core, is replete with demonstrations that she'll take her other rights good and proper.

We instance a notable failure of politically empowered woman to seize upon her rights that has just been disclosed at the California city of Daly, whereat Miss Clara A. Jess is duly inaugurated and installed as recorder. Mr. Ed E. Masters of San Francisco and Miss Loraine A. Bander of Oakland appeared before Recorder Clara to plunge into the marital state, take the matrimonial risk, shake dice with Cupid, buck up against the double harness game, etc. Elsewhere they may refer to it as connubial bliss, the blessed union of two hearts that beat as one, happy consummation of the divine afflatus, and such like, but round about Frisco and Oakland they figure closer on the uncertain possibilities and keep one eye cocked on the everlasting gamble in the hymeneal matter.

Well, Miss Clara pronounced Ed and Loraine man and wife proper and plenty, and then came a most embarrassing pause. It was time for the official officiating to kiss the bridegroom.

We don't know whether Ed's pucker was repulsive or whether Miss Loraine's eyes looked daggers. Anyhow, Miss Recorder Clara deliberately abandoned a right which has always been conscientiously claimed by gentlemen officiates whenever the bride wasn't too much off color, or hadn't too heavy a moustache.

Verily, this instance of official woman's miserable failure to exercise her right is not only discouraging to the suffrage cause, but it also must have its effect on that divine institution called marriage.

"SPARE HOURS" THAT GLIDE AWAY.

In Albany, a few days ago, a man who had been a telegraph operator for 45 years committed suicide because his "wire" had been given to a younger employe. The older man was assigned to other work, the change being made because his successor could operate a typewriter—something the older man had never learned to do.

That man had at least 25 years in which to learn to operate a typewriter. He must have had many spare hours, which he spent in some other manner. A few of them would have sufficed.

What opportunity are YOU overlooking daily, you who read these lines, for the improvement of YOURSELF, for keeping yourself up to date in the march of world-progress? What are YOU doing, and what are you NOT doing, in those invaluable "spare hours" which glide away every day?

PROGRESSIVES FOR WILSON.

Governor Chase S. Osborn of Michigan, who has been a staunch Roosevelt supporter, without making any direct reference to the nomination of Wilson, says that there is now no necessity for a new political party, and the Minneapolis Progressive Republican League, at a meeting Tuesday, decided to support Governor Wilson. George Loftus, president of the league, in a statement said: "There is no reason for us to join a third party movement, and neither can we support President Taft. We will work for Mr. Wilson in this state."

If a national convention without shame or apology will steal the balance of power in its own convention, how much will it steal from the people if successful in the election?

FOXY GRANDPA.

The Oregonian calls Wilson a "radical progressive" and Taft a "middle-of-the-road progressive." "Therefore," it says, "there is no excuse for a third party." By this short cut the Oregonian officially disposes of Colonel Roosevelt.

It is no wonder to find, through the columns of the Oregonian, that Mr. Taft is a progressive. The Oregonian has always been for Taft. It is progressive just like Taft, that being not progressive at all. The trouble with a lot of the metropolitan newspapers is they are not honest. The Oregonian knows full well that the great issue before the American people today is whether the government shall be controlled by the people or by predatory power. It knows that the republican convention at Chicago was dominated absolutely by political bosses in the interest of big business—that the people lost in the fight for control—and that control was gained against the people by the crookedest methods ever applied in a political convention. That convention was purely reactionary; there was nothing progressive about it—nor is there anything progressive about its candidate. Mr. Wilson is distinctly a progressive and the democratic convention was dominated by the progressive spirit. If the necessity for Mr. Roosevelt is eliminated, it is because the people are satisfied with the nomination of Mr. Wilson and with the platform upon which he stands, and not because they view Mr. Taft as a "middle-of-the-road progressive."

There is one thing quite sure. The American people have been fooled long enough. The metropolitan newspapers have been a large factor in fooling them and they now are aware of it. It will take more now than the statement of the Oregonian that Mr. Taft is "a middle-of-the-road progressive" to convince them that Mr. Taft in any sense represents the true interests of the governed. Whether Mr. Roosevelt is nominated or not, Mr. Taft will fall short of one-third of the republican votes of the nation. The people are determined on the issue of the people's rule, and they will no longer allow party fealty to stand in the way of it. If Mr. Roosevelt is not a candidate they will support Mr. Wilson.

The Mail-Tribune still has 'em. Here is an excerpt from that paper about the recent injunction issued by the district court against the Medford bridge: "Ashland judge upholds suit brought by Ashland attorney on behalf of Ashland parties against construction of Medford bridge. Which reminds us of the little boy who was a big bluffer. Once upon a time in an altercation with a neighbor he accidentally administered a knock-out blow. Then he imagined himself a fighter. He strutted about challenging every boy he met, until, at last, an innocent looking little fellow took a fall out of him that put him to sleep for all. The Mail-Tribune is bound that Medford and Ashland shall fight. Well, Ashland is not looking for a row. It hopes to be peaceful and dislikes discord, but if nothing will do but a fight—if no persuasion but a sound licking will take the bluff and brag out of our neighbor, Ashland is ready for the game. There are so many places "near Medford" against which the Mail-Tribune has set its town that Ashland will have the solid backing of the whole county in the scrap. So be it, Mr. Mail-Tribune; the bars are down, come on with your rat-killing."

The paramount issue before the American people in this national campaign is whether the governmental agents shall be controlled by the people or by predatory wealth—big business—then follows the revision of the tariff and trust control. If the first is lost there is little hope that either of the others will be settled in the interest of the people. Mark this: The history of the world does not disclose a single instance where the abusers have corrected an abuse. Before the abuses are corrected the government must be rid of the abusers.

There is less of party spirit this year than ever before since the rebellion. People are beginning to understand that political freedom consists of independent political action. The political party that hopes for success in future must be truly representative.

If the voters will persist in marking crosses wherever they see a bit of white space, it will always be hard to tell what their ballots mean.

Permanent good comes to an agricultural or horticultural community from raising crops, not from raising lands.

BIGGEST MINE EVER.

"Scotty" was a mystery. Every once in a while he emerged from Death Valley, in the desert region at the back of the Sierras, with a bag of gold. Once he hired a special train, made a spectacular tour across the continent and spent money with the prodigality of a prince in the metropolitan hotels of the effete east.

All the time "Scotty" refused to drop the slightest hint about the location of the fabulous mine. Nothing was known except that he disappeared in the desert, came back with his yellow gold, "blew himself" for a riotous good time, then did it all over again.

At length "Scotty" was incorporated, capitalized and put in the market. He sold like hot cakes. But luck turned. "Scotty" received \$25,000 one day, was sued for a doctor's bill of \$1,000, couldn't explain what he had done with his latest "roll" (which he really never got), was jailed for contempt, and then—the mine was discovered.

It was the biggest, deepest, most inexhaustible mine the world has ever known—the pocketbook of the credulous public. "Scotty" had been the tool of a bunch of shrewd promoters, who first exploited him, then sold stock on the strength of his "mystery."

It is an old saying that a "sucker is born every minute." But that is a back number. We live faster nowadays. A sucker is born every second at least, and occasionally the sucker trap works overtime.

GERMANY LIKELY TO BOLT.

England deliberately invited Germany to modify her strenuous program of naval expansion, offering to do likewise if the suggestion were accepted. She now has her answer.

The Germans have put on more steam. They will build more ships and enlist more men than ever before.

Looks as though Germany is getting ready to bolt the convention unless things go her way.

133 CONTESTS FILED.

1,200 Water Users Affected in Adjudication of Rights.

With the close of the period in which contests might be filed for the adjudication of the water rights of all streams in Jackson and Josephine counties, many salient facts and figures relative to the amount of water tributary to Rogue river, the amount of irrigated land in the valley, the amount of horsepower developed and the number of ditches in the two counties, have been compiled by James T. Chinnoek, superintendent of water division No. 1.

Approximately 1,200 water users are affected directly in the adjudication of the water rights. These rights are located upon the 315 streams tributary to Rogue river and to 840 ditches in the two counties. The water rights extend over the three branches of water use—irrigation, mining purposes and power. Irrigation claims 1,000 water rights, mining 160 water rights and power 45 water rights.

In the district there are 37,000 acres of land under irrigation. At this time it is proposed to irrigate 136,000 acres, in addition to the 37,000, making a total of 170,000 acres. In the streams of the district, which include Rogue river and all its tributaries, the figures compiled by Mr. Chinnoek and his assistants show that there are 225,000 miners' inches, or 5,600 second feet of water available for all purposes.

At the present time there have been 133 contests filed. Of this number it is estimated that two-thirds will be amicably settled before the time of hearing, which will begin in August. On the cases which come before Mr. Chinnoek, findings will be made and given to the circuit court, where it will be approved, unless exceptions are taken. If exceptions are taken the circuit court will determine a decree, which decree can be appealed if the defendant wishes to go into a higher court.

MAY PERMIT MILITIA.

Naval Organization Reported on Favorably by Captain.

Salem, Ore.—Praise for the men composing the Oregon naval militia and recommendation that the state do all possible to maintain and develop it, are features of the report of Captain Ellicott, commanding the Maryland, to the secretary of the navy, with the relation to the recent cruise of the naval militia, and a copy of which was submitted to Governor West.

As the government delayed the disbandment of the organization until the report relative to the conduct of the militia during the cruise could be forwarded to the war department, and has indicated that if it was favorable he might change his mind, it is possible that the report of the commanding officer of the Maryland may influence him against dissolving the naval militia.

Captain Ellicott, after praising the men and saying the state should feel proud of the organization, and recommending that the state support the naval militia, declares the cruise convinced him of the importance of similar organizations for national defense. Governor West, when seen in relation to the matter, was non-committal as to what action would be taken in relation to the militia, but will likely permit it to live.

The Home Circle

Thoughts from the Editorial Pen

A lawyer in a court room may call a man a liar, scoundrel, villain or thief, and no one makes complaint when court adjourns. If a newspaper prints such a reflection on a man's character there is a libel suit or a dead editor. The people believe what an editor says.

A tin peddler cheats a farmer wife out of 11 cents on her rags and 17 cents on a calfskin, while she works off two dozen eggs on him at 14 cents, and stuffs a pound of hen's feathers into a sack of geese feathers she sells him at 40 cents a pound. Wonder how much the tin peddler is ahead.

Who weeps with you when you are sad, and laughs at you when you are mad—the editor. Who has to be both kind and wise and never (hardly ever) lies, and when he does creates surprise—the editor. Who owns a heart as well as cheek, possessed of spirit proud yet meek, and lives on 40 cents a week—the editor.

Put some men in a petty office and they use up the most of their time working out their petty grudges against some one whom they imagine did not support them at the polls. They may be the worst hoboes on earth, but that cuts no ice. You must say nothing but take your medicine and shout their greatness or you are a victim of their spleen. Did you ever notice this?

Hanging Pictures.

Did you ever realize that hanging pictures in your home was quite an art? The manner in which they are hung makes a great difference in the appearance of a room. We made the above remark to one of our decorators the other day and this is what he said in reply:

"That fact is thrust upon me nearly every day. I go into some parlors where the pictures are hung so high that all perspective is lost, and the ceiling seems to be hopelessly high. Other folks hang theirs so low that it hurts your spine to look at them, in addition to straining your eyes, spoiling the beauty of the room and taking from the value of the picture. "All pictures should not be hung on the same level, as they so often are, yet all should be as nearly on the level with the eyes as possible. If square and oblong pictures are alternated irregularly with round and oval ones the best possible effect is gained."

Booze Advertising.

An Illinois editor recently was called to task because he inserted an advertisement for a "booze" palace in his town. In his next issue of his paper he replied to his critics in the following style:

He says he confesses to the act, but assigns two reasons therefor: First, because he needed the money, and he got 15 cents a line for it. Second, he desired to ascertain whether his esteemed brothers and sisters read his paper. Both his curiosity and cupidity have been satisfied. He had talked of the evils of intemperance, devoted much space to the religious and temperance organizations, given the preachers complimentary notices, but no intimation had ever been given that his efforts were appreciated or even read. Now he knows that they are and concludes that while all classes of business men are permitted without criticism to do business with a saloonkeeper, the country editor isn't. He must be "holy," undefiled, separate from sinners and keep himself from the world.

Can You Answer?

Here is a list of questions for the wide-awake boys. Can you answer all of them? You can any day see a white horse. Why do you never see a white colt? How many different kinds of trees grow in your neighborhood, and what are they good for? Why does a horse eat grass backward and a cow forward? Why does a hop vine always wind one way, and a bean vine another? Where should the inside of a chimney be the bigger: at the top or bottom, and why? Can you tell why a horse, when tethered with a rope, always unravels it, while a cow always twists it into kinky knots? Why do leaves turn upside down just before a rain? What is the length of a horse's head—is it as long as a flour barrel? What animals have no upper teeth in front, and why? Why does the young man who rides a bicycle double himself up like a home-made doughnut the minute he begins to work the pedals? Yes, and why does a fellow when he goes to throw a ball first have to screw it into the palm of his right hand with his left, then hop on his right foot, while he bumps his chin with his knee before he throws it? And why does a man when he gets a raw-boned plug and a ten-dollar cart have to rein the poor crowbar up like a turtle treading water, till it can't see the ground before it, and goes stumbling along as if trying to read the answer in the stars? Why does a girl whom nature has given a clear and healthy complexion have to paint it till she can't wink for fear of breaking the enamel? Why does she bang her hair like a spitz poodle and make her head look like a window mop? There are a great many other queer things we would like to know, but will wait until another time.

Commercial bodies of the state are showing an interest in the collection of Oregon exhibits to be shown this winter at the land shows of the middle west. In response to a call sent out by Manager Chapman of the Oregon Development League, many outside societies have been heard from, each promising to collect samples of the best products grown there this season, and it seems a good collection is assured. No locality should allow itself to be unrepresented.

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Has No Selfish Interest.

When the nomination of Governor Marshall of Indiana for vice-president was practically assured on the second ballot, Bryan urged and succeeded in having the North Dakotas withdraw Burke, so that Marshall's nomination would be unanimous. In response to calls for a speech, Bryan said: "He who fights must bear the scars. Any regret I may have had is wiped out by the realization that I can fight in the coming campaign as I never fought before. I will be able to show that no selfish interest is actuating my course. I hope to demonstrate to the people that the party we love so well is in reality the party of progress."

Four Townsites Located.

A body of 50,000 acres of land lying along the Natron cut-off of the Southern Pacific between Odell Lake and the Klamath Indian reservation is being prepared for agricultural development with the advent of the new railroad, which is now under construction 22 miles south of the tract. Four townsites that have already been located by the railroad company will be opened simultaneously with the lands, and will control the trade of a large district in northern Klamath county.

Crop scares on account of bad weather are sending up wheat prices at Chicago.

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