SEVERAL EXPECT TO BE DISCHARGED

SHERIFF STOREY HOLDS FRIENDLY TALKS WITH A NUMBER OF HIS EMPLOYES AND LEARNS THAT THEY WILL NOT SUPPORT HIM AS A CANDIDATE.

Another eruption is expected by Saturday in the tax department of Sheriff William Augustine Storey's office. He had what he called a "friendly talk" with a number of his men Wednesday and yesterday. Some time ago he declared that he would be surrounded by no "traitors" during the campaign, and that all who refused to support him in his race for sheriff on an independent ticket would have to go. The first step taken since he let 19 employes out in a bunch was the discharge of D. E. Steele, chief deputy in the tax office at night.

The majority of his men expect to go. They declare that they supported Storey up to the time of his turndown by the Matthews machine in the Republican county convention, but that they will not bolt the ticket for him. He is believed to be looking around for men to take the places of those whom he intends to discharge.

His office is already filled with inexperienced men, and he is about $135,000 behind in his accounts with the county treasurer, because of the inability of the new men to rush work through as fast as is to be desired. Storey does not appear to worry over this, as the taxpayers, who have to pay the interest on outstanding warrants, are the only ones to suffer.

It is anticipated that when County Judge Webster returns to the city in a few days action will be taken relative to Storey's tactics. Commissioner Barnes admitted that something would be done, though he was not prepared to outline the action to be taken.

BETTER PRICES FOR FRUIT OR ELSE WAR

At a meeting of the Russellville district Fruitgrowers' association's executive committee with J. E. Paucher, of the Columbia River Canning company, last night the orchard men made two proposals to Mr. Paucher. He was asked if his company would handle fruit grown in this district at a proposed fixed rate, or assist the members of the association in erecting a cannery at Montavilla. He asked until tomorrow to consider the proposals. The following is the scale of prices agreed upon by the association which its members shall receive for their fruit, or a new cannery will be erected by them:

Wilson strawberries, 4 cents; Magoon, 3½ cents; blackberries, 3 cents; gooseberries, 3 cents.

The Russellville district fruitgrowers are anxious to erect and operate a cannery of their own at Montavilla. They state that they are tired of simply raising fruit for their health, and if the canneries now running will not pay them better prices for their fruit, that they will at once proceed to erect one of their own. The members of the association's executive committee are: William Gates, J. F. Jaeger and W. E. Lewis.

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IBSEN'S INFLUENCE ON MODERN DRAMA

The influence that Ibsen has exerted on the modern drama is the most potent evidence of his genius and best answer to those who decry him. Ibsen is unquestionably the dominant factor in the drama of the time. Excepting Shakespeare he is the greatest dramatist in history. And Shakespeare had not the

MRS. FISKE AS HEDDA GABLER.

wonderful art, stenographic in its terseness, that Ibsen has. The influence of Ibsen has extended beyond his own country over practically the whole civilized world. In Scandinavia it started a school of which Bjornsen is the most familiar representative. In Germany all the younger generation of playwrights follow in Ibsen's footsteps. In France, decadent though she is, the few meritorious modern plays of which she can boast are cast in the Ibsen mold. Pinero, the greatest of English playwrights, comes more and more under Ibsen's spell, as do his lesser colleagues. One can trace in Pinero the steady progress of the Ibsen influence, even to seeing in the Bible-burning scene of "The Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith," the prototype of Hedda Gabler's burning of Ellert Lovborg's precious manuscript. In this country there was Ibsen in the plays of the late James A. Herne, most of all in his masterpiece, "Margaret Fleming." In hundreds of other cases besides these notable instances, there is proof that the drama of realism that Ibsen promulgated, has been followed by every important playwright of the time. So that, in admiring Pinero, or Sudermann or some other modern dramatist, the public is indirectly admiring Ibsen.

Where Ibsen was, a decade ago, appreciated by a score, he is today appreciated by a hundred. There is every indication that he is at last being estimated at his proper value by the general public. The fact that his plays are now in the repertoires of all the theatres of continental Europe and the success of Mrs. Fiske's presentations of his plays here, are a sign that Ibsen's genius has been recognized by intelligent theatregoers everywhere. Perhaps it was right that Ibsen's popularity should have been achieved gradually. When he began his modern dramas, the departure was too great, the shock too radical for immediate acceptance. Unconsciously, in accepting the plays of those playwrights who were influenced by him, the public was preparing itself for the works of the master who had been the others' inspiration. And then the public found that Ibsen was not different from other playwrights except that he was bigger than they, except that his mind was infinitely more profound, his art more wonderful than theirs. He deals with far more natural people and conditions than does the average playwright. His plots are slices of every-day life. His people are not abnormal, any more than your neighbor who, outwardly leading a prosaic life, may be working out a drama as strong as ever Ibsen conceived, is abnormal. Every prominent figure in history or fiction is abnormal in the sense that in his mental and emotional make-up, certain characteristics are developed over others. This is true of all of us, and it is because Ibsen understands human nature so well and lays it bare so searchingly, that his plays have incomparable truth and power. He does not always choose pleasant subjects, but no more did Shakespeare and no more are Ibsen's plays morbid than are Shakespeare's.

What other dramatists would have, Ibsen has. His stagecraft is masterly, his mind mighty, his courage unfaltering. The day for questioning his greatness has gone.

EAGER TO DIE BUT IS THRICE SAVED

A one-legged man, whose name the police could not learn, threw himself in front of an approaching switch engine in the yards of the Terminal Railway company three times yesterday, desiring to commit suicide. He was seen each time by the engineer, and his life saved.

The stranger was released twice and again returned to throw himself before the engine. He made the third attempt, and was held for several minutes by the switchmen, and the patrol wagon was summoned. The men had to return to work, however, and before the wagon reached the scene, which was at the foot of Seventh street, the man was again released.

After being freed for the third time by the switchmen the man went to the Albina ferry and crossed the river to the east side. He was described by the gateman at the ferry as a well-dressed man, of good physical proportions, with brown hair and mustache. He seemed greatly troubled about something, and was bent on self-destruction.

The police expected every minute to hear news of the man's death, as he seemed persistent in his endavor to kill himself. The police are endeavoring to ascertain the man's name, but thus far have been unable to do so.

EXTENSIVE PLANS FOR CATHOLIC FAIR

Catholics of this city have about completed preparations for a fair, to be given May 9 to 24, for the benefit of St. Michael's church. The fair will be held at 168 to 170 Fifth street, opposite the old postoffice. The Portland Italian band will be in attendance each evening and will furnish a carefully selected program of music.

The following committees were named at a recent meeting:

Voting contests—John Manning, J. A. Kavanaugh, John Briscoll, C. Albertini, David Penni, Charles H. Hunt, chief of police, and David Campbell, chief of the fire department.

Booths—Dan J. McGill, Arthur Bignami, Albert Gianelli.

Music and amusements—Dr. C. F. Candiani, M. J. Malley.

Hall, lights and doors—J. W. McGinn, J. Coman, Joseph Driscoll, J. P. McEntee, Arthur Bignami, Albert Gianelli, Dominic Rinando, Joseph Forestell.

Securing hall—John Manning, Dan J. Maher.

Advertising—John Mann, Father Cestelli.

The following contests have already started:

Most popular policeman—Gold crescent inlaid with precious stones: M. F. Sloan, William Carr, George Quinlan, William West, Daniel Conners.

Most popular fireman—Gold charm with precious stones. One representative from each company.

Most popular young lady—Gold watch: Misses Tassie Owens, Amelia McElroy, Minnie Eder, Mollie Campbell, Adelia Gotsacker, Mamie Newrer.

Contest by gardeners—Buggy: Four companies—each company one representative.

Contest for mandolin—Misses Winifred Frainey, Lena Arnold.

AMERICAN LAKE IS CALLED IDEAL CAMP

Adjutant-General Evans, of the department of the Columbia, is well pleased with the selection of American lake as the site for the joint encampment of the National Guard of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, and the regular army.

"The facilities are superb," says Major Evans, "possessing all the advantages that could be desired for an ideal camp. The water is pure and in abundance, and the entire ground is most suitable for maneuvering purposes. An entire army corps could camp there with perfect freedom and accommodation. The move to have a joint encampment is a good one, and its advantages will be brought out prominently from July 7 to 21."

LOW RATE TICKETS EAST.

O. R. & N. Names Selling Dates for May, June, July, August, September, October.

May 11, 12, 13, June 16, 17, 18, July 1, 2, 3, August 8, 9, 10, September 5, 6, 7 and October 3, 4, 5 the O. R. & N. will sell 90-day return tickets to St. Louis for $67.50; to Chicago, $72.50. Stopovers allowed going and returning. Going time 10 days from date of sale. Full particulars of C. W. Stinger, city ticket agent, Third and Washington streets.

Keeley Cure LIQUOR-MORPHINE-TOBACCO HABITS PERMANENTLY CURED —FOR FULL PARTICULARS— ADDRESS THE KEELEY INSTITUTE, PORTLAND, ORE.

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SAYS SMOOT IS CLEAN AND ABLE

C. W. NIBLEY, A MORMON OF PERRY, OR., PRAISES SMOOT AND BELIEVES THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD KEEP ITS HAND OFF OF THE CHURCH'S AFFAIRS.

C. W. Nibley, a firm believer in the Mormon doctrines and a member of the church, who came to this state several years ago from Salt Lake City and has since engaged in the lumbering business at Perry, Union county, is stopping for a few days at the Portland hotel.

"I am personally acquainted with Reed Smoot," said he, when asked as to his opinion of the controversy recently waged as to his seat in the senate, "and I regard him as a clean, able man. The Smoot controversy merely showed hostility to the Mormon church, and to my mind the attempt of the United States government to regulate the religious affairs of the people is a dangerous precedent. Whether it be the Mormons or any other sect, I think the government should not mix with any attempt to antagonize them.

"Yes, I am a Mormon, coming to this state from Salt Lake City. I am personally acquainted with the venerable president of the church, Joseph Smith, and strange as it may seem, I can easily remember when in the early days in Utah the Mormons in the Salt Lake valley were called irrigators, when this term implied contempt. This seems absurd today, but at that time the practice of irrigation in the arid sections of the country had not yet been resorted to except by the Mormons, and this peculiarity was contemptuously referred to by opponents of the sect.

"In the Grande Ronde valley in eastern Oregon we have a large colony of Mormons, and it now seems that unless this number is considerably increased so that they will furnish a larger supply of beets for the sugar factory there, the factory will have to be moved to some other section of the country where the managers will be able to get a supply of material large enough to manufacture sugar throughout the entire season. At present the Mormon farmers in the valley are the only ones raising sugar beets, and an increase in beet production is desired.

CHANGES ARE MADE IN POSTAL SYSTEM

Chief Clerk Whitney, of the railway mail service, has been notified of a number of changes in the service in various parts of the state. Among the changes is the re-establishment of a postoffice at Biggs, this state. Biggs is the junction point of the Columbia Southern and O. R. & N. railroads.

An office has been established at Strawberry, Morrow county, where there has never been an office before. It is on the Heppner branch of the O. R. & N. railroad, and will be supplied from the office at Lexington, this state.

Orders have been issued from Washington discontinuing the postoffice at Lewiston, Marion county. In the future mail directed to that point will be sent to Silverton.

SERIOUS MISHAP OF VETERAN BISHOP

Bishop Theburn, who had his leg broken while on board a steamer coming from Japan, is slowly improving in a private hospital at Vancouver, B. C.

Bishop Theburn will not be able to attend the missionary convention which is to be held in San Francisco, April 25, nor the general conference, held in Los Angeles, immediately following.

On his arrival at Vancouver, March 30, his leg was found to be in such a bad condition that it had to be broken again and re-set. It will be about two months before the bishop will be able to travel.

MISS FAY'S WORK STILL BEWILDERS

PORTLAND PUBLIC THAT HAS VIEWED HER STRANGE ENTERTAINMENT STUDIES BLACK ART AND STAR LORE IN VAIN FOR PLAUSIBLE SOLUTIONS.

Portland people are busy this week having their fortunes told, consulting the stars, reading dream-books, consulting coffee grains and borrowing magnifying-glasses to consult the lines in their hand—all in an effort to see whether life is to consist of angel-food or doughnuts.

The renaissance in black-art study came about through the visit of Anna Eva Fay, who is following the day-hunt of the people after the mysterious by card-readings, cabinet work and somnolency demonstrations at the Empire theatre in the evenings. Miss Fay has been giving demonstrations to house-capacity audiences. In the crowds have been children getting their first peep into the mysterious, and people old enough not to be taking their first lesson—not by many years.

These conditions were given by the adroit and honest landlord of a downtown lodging-house as the reasons for the many spirit-walks that are taking place in his house late each night. This same landlord was also equal to the occasion when a disgruntled would-be slumberer remarked that the aforesaid lodging-house's spirits sometimes appeared as if in red flannel, passing off the kick with the explanation that spirits had a right to change their colors.

Aside from the quips and quiddities of humorists which may have ruffled the mental equilibrium of any decent, self-respecting spirit within the last hundred years, the performance which Miss Fay and her company are putting on at the Empire theatre is worth seeing. In addition to being instructive, it affords an entire evening's entertainment at a very small cost.

To even a man whose nature for the most part looks on the funny spirit side of life, Miss Fay, who advertises herself as the fair Mahatma, provides food for solemn thought, to say the least. Even the man who says he has no time for spirits is mystified and entertained by the performance.

Cabinet Tricks People.

The cabinet tricks of Miss Fay are remarkable. On the stage with three or four of the town's most worthy citizens, one of whom was the Hon. John Burgoyne, to see that no fraud was practiced, Miss Fay last night freed herself from the bindings placed by the aforesaid citizens. Tied hand and foot to a chair, this delicate little woman, from the confines of a turkey-red cabinet, kicked up a commotion and finally freed herself. Her first trick, performed within a second after the curtain had been drawn in front of her, leaving only her blonde head and Janice Meredith curl exposed to the audience, was to alternately put a guitar, a tambourine and other instruments through a small opening in the curtain. All the time she sat hand-tied and foot-tied, nailed to a chair in the cabinet. Later she wrote a note that was placed on a chair in front of the small opening in the curtain. That no panel game or trapdoor racket was worked during this performance was testified to by the three citizens who sat on the stage to see that the performance occurred per schedule.

Note-Reading Is Mysterious.

But while the cabinet work is interesting, it proved merely an appetizer to the note-reading exhibition which followed. Probably 100 persons in the audience wrote questions on slips of paper—always writing the questions which first appealed to them, pursuant to the instruction of Miss Fay—then put the written questions in their pockets. From the stage Miss Fay easily read the questions and the names of the persons who signed the questions after having written them. This is a phase of the art mysterious that has long appealed to thoughtful people, and it was a phase thoroughly enjoyed by the large audience assembled last night. The facility of the reading and its wonderful accuracy baffle the most skeptical.

While the reading is in progress Miss Fay lapses into the somnolent or semi-hypnotic condition. The strain is said to be terrific, and may in a measure account for the wonderfully high-strung temperament of Miss Fay. Persons who have gone into a hypnotic condition say that a feeling of lassitude and weakness follows. Miss Fay suffers from the same symptoms.

After seeing Miss Fay perform her miracles, it is but natural to understand why she has entertained some of the ablest men in the country, and why these men have vouched for her wonderful powers. No one can see the performance without at least saying—even if he be a skeptic and scoffer of the most pronounced type, that it was worth while to have gone and seen for himself.

HURRIES WALLS OF KANGAROO COURT

Chief of Police Hunt is afraid the city jail will be flooded by water from the Willamette river, and is rushing the work on the basement as rapidly as possible. The water has to rise seven feet more before it will enter the jail, but the chief believes it is going to reach that height before the flood goes down. If it does it will not only stop work on the repairs, but will make things very disagreeable around the police station.

LAURELS GALORE.

Lane County Fared Richly at the Democratic State Convention — Got More Than It Needed.

Frank L. Armitage, brother of S. C. Armitage, of the White Corner store, who came to Portland as a delegate from Lane county to the Democratic state convention, left for home last evening after visiting with his brother's family for a few days. Lane was one of the counties which came to Portland asking a few things and returned to its fertile home laden with a thousand gifts it had not sought. It got Veatch for congress, Lee M. Davis for district attorney, Lark Bilyeu for joint senator from Douglas and Lane, J. D. Matlock for delegate to the national convention, and in the beginning Bob Veatch for temporary chairman and Lee Traverse for reading clerk. Lane county, therefore, came pretty nearly being the "whole shooting match" in that august gathering. Its delegates must certainly have laurels to hire out to whoever needs them.

Oregon City Boat.

Leaves Taylor street daily 8:30, 11:30 a. m., 3, 6:15 p. m. Leaves Oregon City 7, 10 a. m., 1:30, 4:30 p. m. Round trip 45 cents. Tickets exchanged with electric line.

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