PORTLAND MAN PLANS TO MELT ICE AROUND POLES

The age of adventure is not yet gone by. In a little room on the fourth floor of the New Grand Central hotel Charles Cole, an inventor, is working away on the model for an airship with which he hopes to reach the magnetic pole and like another Christopher Columbus, take possession of it for his native land.

Mr. Cole has been interested in airships for 18 years, but the airship is to be merely a means of reaching the pole. He believes once he is there, that he will be able to reclaim all the barren ice wastes by harnessing the electricity which he says is constantly emanating from the pole to the sun.

In his room at the hotel Mr. Cole has constructed a small model of his proposed airship and has also prepared extensive drawings of it for the construction of the working ship.

He figures on building an airship 150 feet long, capable of carrying a dozen passengers besides fuel, electrical instruments and supplies. The ship is planned on lines radically different from those used by most experimenters in this line. The lifting power is supplied by hot air instead of hydrogen gas, and the propellers, four in number, are ranged on the side of the vessel instead of in front of and behind it.

Use Pole Currents.

It is the belief of Mr. Cole that he will be able to use the electricity at the pole for heat, light and power, and with it will be able to melt the Arctic ice and change Greenland and the northern islands of North America into a temperate and blooming land.

"My plan is to have the main frame of the balloon divided, and to have the upper part rise from the rest of the car when the bag is inflated. By this device I double the cubic volume of hot air that the bag will contain," said he. "And yet I have not increased the amount of material to be used in the envelope.

"The most radical change I have made is a change from the rigid fixed propeller to a flexible one and placing it on the side instead of before and in the rear of the cage. In this way the propellers do not discharge the force of the currents created by them against the cage, while the flexible ends of the propeller blades—to be made of aluminum and cedar, split at the end—take their pitch from the pressure of the atmosphere.

"I hit upon hot air as the best lifting gas because of its safety. Hydrogen gas explodes when subjected to too great heat. It expands in warm countries and freezes in cold. The freezing of the hydrogen gas in Andre's balloon was what wrecked that ill-fated expedition. But the same heat that makes steam for the 50-horsepower engine will make air for the bag."

Regulates Flight.

It is intended to regulate the ascent and descent of the airship by an automatic valve at the top.

In 1892, moved by the advertisement of the United States lifesaving service for airships, Mr. Cole built his first machine. It was a 12-foot model, rose from the floor at will and dragged a heavy truck around after it, he says. His new machine he expects will have a capacity of from 10 to 12 tons. The bag is to be of cotton canvas chemically treated so as to be impervious to fire or water and there will be an outer surface of netting around the cloth.

Mr. Cole believes that there may be a repetition of the flood of Noah's time very soon—he says that the atmosphere at the poles is constantly freezing and thus increasing the depth of the deposit of ice at the poles. When this gets heavy enough the equilibrium of the earth will be destroyed and the water of the ocean will rush over the land and the sea will be turned into dry land.

Mr. Cole speaks of his proposed expedition in the following communication:

"The earth is an electric motor and gets its current from the sun. This fact can be demonstrated by any clever electrical engineer, and he can also demonstrate the fact that all the electric current entering the earth at any place passes spirally through the earth's outer crust to near the poles, where it discharges or passes out in changed character to the atmosphere, in a circular ring. This ring is about 13 miles in diameter and about 300 feet wide in section.

"On this ring, which is the magnetic pole, may be erected any number of instruments to capture and use this immense electric force for heat, light and power. By its use all the snow and ice in the frigid zones may be dissolved, leaving the waters clear of ice and free for navigation.

"The land and climate can be made as mild as may be desired and industries of all kinds may be promoted where now all is waste.

"In view of embarking in this enterprise the writer has designed an air ship capable of carrying a dozen people with a month's supplies and a few instruments to make a sufficient test which can be done in a short time.

"The ship will travel at high speed, will be under perfect control in any kind of weather and as safe and comfortable as the best steamship.

"I wish to find one or more persons to join me in this novel enterprise, first to build the air ship and equip it with instruments, proceed to and take possession of the region, make a preliminary test and be guided by the results obtained."

ELEPHANT TALKS THROUGH SMOKE

Sellwood Republicans Hear Oratory and Resolve to Be Not Further Done.

Things were doing at Sellwood last night when the Sellwood Republican club entertained its friends and the doctrine of organization was preached. Many different commodities were on tap from the brew of the hop to the oratory of C. M. Idleman, W. M. Cake, N. H. Bird, Gus Moser and others.

C. M. Idleman and W. M. Cake made the principal addresses both pleading for solid organization of the Republican party in Portland and the establishment of a "voluntary convention" for the nomination of a full ticket for the primaries.

Mr. Idleman said the party had met defeat because it had no organization. Its men and its leaders had voted to cross purposes, each pulling against the other. Now was the time to get together and all pull in one direction.

The speaker advised the formation of "precinct clubs" which should elect delegates to a "mass convention." This mass convention should select men for all the places to be filled at the June election from Multnomah county and should put them on an indorsed ticket. Then every member of the party should stand solidly behind these indorsements and vote for the lucky men in April and again in June.

This same theory was the basis of Mr. Cake's remarks, and of the other speakers. N. H. Bird, who is a candidate for the Republican nomination for sheriff, said he would abide by the result of such a mass convention. So did Gus Moser, and a number of other speakers.

At the conclusion of the addresses there were three boxing matches, two wrestling matches, music, beer, cigars, coffee and sandwiches.

Councilman Wills put on the gloves for a couple of rounds with an opponent weighing 250 pounds and there was a good time generally.

The meeting last night was the first of a series of monthly smokers to be given by the club.

TWO NEW COMPANIES READY FOR SERVICE

Two new fire companies went into commission yesterday on the east side, north of Sullivan's gulch and the third will probably be ready to report for service today. Those that have already reported are engine company No. 13, located at Grand avenue and Multnomah street, and chemical No. 4 on Mississippi avenue near Shaver street. Charles Neale has been made captain at the Grand avenue house and G. Stevens at the Mississippi avenue house.

It is expected the engine being installed at Highland will be ready to report in today. W. H. Morris will be captain at Highland. The chemical at Highland, which the engine replaces, was taken to Mississippi avenue. At the Grand avenue house the battalion chief for the north section of the east side will have his headquarters. It is planned to appoint another battalion chief for the district south of Sullivan's gulch.

THE PLAY

By J. F. S.

Florence Roberts comedian! Florence Roberts in a play where she hasn't had a past; where she even doesn't have to threaten to take any more serious step than that of going to live in Harlem! Florence Roberts through four acts without a paroxysm!

Yes. But if it weren't for the credulous nature of Portland's reading public there would be small hope of your believing it.

Florence and wronged females have become so synonymous that most of the audience was stunned after the first act of "Sham" last night. They were so stunned that they almost thought they had been stung. True, "Sham" had been advertised as a comedy, but long experience with present day comedies has taught theatre-goers that the word has become a delusion and a snare. The most utterly outrageous play seen in Portland this season will billed as a polite comedy. There was nothing in the name to change one's expectations. And when it dawned upon them that they were expected to laugh and not to conceal their modest blushes they really almost felt hurt. There's not the least doubt in the world but that some of them went home with a grievance.

But all reformers must undergo their periods of being misunderstood and Miss Roberts can afford to surprise a great many people with her new play.

It is bright, and clever and sparkling so far as the dialogue is concerned. The plot is a good one and the ideas are not too frothy for enjoyment. And the company carries off the play surprisingly well—much better than it does "Zira."

To particularize Miss Roberts plays Katherine Van Riper, a New York girl, with a great deal of family and a distressing small income. She is the daughter of a spendthrift father and is supposed to keep up her establishment on $300 a month and a pearl necklace which can be sold if worst comes to worst.

In the first act we see Miss Roberts and her struggles with the bill collectors. The dialogue throughout this act is delicious, by far the brightest heard here this year. In the second we are transferred to the house of the Bucks, Idaho mineowners breaking into New York's exclusive set. This motive is old but is well handled. Enter the son of the Buck family, also the young mining engineer who has charge of the Buck's copper properties. Of course, Katherine chooses the poor but interesting engineer. It is while in conversation with him that the "lesson" of the play comes in—for in spite of the fervid assurances of the press agent to the contrary there is a lesson.

Tom Jaffrey, the engineer, tells her that he hates New Yorkers, whose one idea in life seems to be to live as well as they can and put off paying their bills as long as they can. He classifies them as dead beats. Katherine, surrounded by the shams of her life, has grown to accept them as a matter of course. The idea that tradesmen people should be paid she has always dismissed as hopelessly plebeian. But as she says, for the first time in her life she has a conscience. She hopes it will also be the last and puts it in the same category with wisdom teeth.

She goes home, announces that she is going to sell her necklace, and live in a Harlem flat. This frightful catastrophe is averted by the discovery that the pearls are also sham. Katherine refuses to marry young Buck and as he goes out the door Jaffrey comes in. It is all very nice then, and they start looking up Chicago connections for Boise-bound trains.

That is all right and a very nice ending; everyone was prepared to be happy and enthusiastic. But the doorbell rings again and it is announced that Katherine's hateful aunts have agreed to give her $10,000 for her pearls rather than have it known that they are sham. Then the curtain goes down and everyone is left in an astonished frame of mind; too astonished to show delight in the rest of the play.

The last message concerning the pearls might be eliminated with good effect. It is unnecessary and spoils final curtain. It was probably introduced to obviate the necessity for Jaffrey to pay Katherine's debts, but she has announced not 10 minutes before that she will not accept a penny from her aunts and to take $10,000 for the necklace would be the veriest acceptance of alms.

The play is also a trifle prolix and as someone suggested the services of a copy-reader with an eye to the value of space would be desirable. There is a tremendous amount of words, interesting words for the most part, but now and then idle words, you know not whence they come. It will need to be pruned a bit to be the success that its merit deserves. But in spite of the little anti-climax of the last five minutes of the fourth act and the diffuseness of the play as a whole is charming and original.

All honor to Geraldine Bonner and Elmer Harris. They have constructed a bright and interesting comedy. It is as sparkling as Clyde Fitch at his best, when he wrote for reputation, not for so many round dollars to the play. It gave me the pleasantest evening's entertainment in many a weary round of visits to the theatres. Miss Roberts could well afford to substitute it altogether for the second-hand "Zira."

The work of the star is exceedingly good. She has unrivaled opportunities to wear charming dishabille gowns and light clinging boudoir effects. And her support is most excellent. Mr. Burgen plays Jaffrey quietly and with good taste. Harry Gibbs' J. Montague Buck is as fine a bit of comedy work as one could wish for. Helen Orr Daly shows what she can do when she pays some attention to the articulation of words and as Clementina Vickers redeems her reputation. And Kate Jepson and Georgie Woodthrope as the aunts maintain this high standard.

"Sham" should not only make a reputation for its authors but should prove that at last one of Mr. Cort's people has found a suitable comedy.

WIFE'S KINDNESS GOT PAROLE FOR HUSBAND

M. F. Goldman Given Liberty After Being Sentenced to 15 Months.

Recommendations of clemency made to Presiding Judge Cleland of the circuit court won a parole for M. F. Goldman yesterday. He is under sentence of 15 months in the penitentiary, imposed last Monday, because he forged the name of Sigmund Sichel to a check for $293.78. His wife has made good the amount of the check. Accepting the young man's promise that he will keep out of trouble hereafter, Judge Cleland yesterday placed him under parole, requiring him to report once each month to the authorities.

Ed Pakman, a young Scandinavian who has been in jail for many months on a charge of forgery, was sentenced to serve six months longer in the county jail. A plea for parole on the ground that he had been led into the act by others was denied because Pakman used two names and passed three different checks that were worthless.

Harry French, who had pleaded guilty to larceny, was sentenced to serve 30 days in jail. Richard Greenwood and E. E. Chapman, each held for statutory misdemeanors, were sentenced, the first named to the jail for 90 days and the latter to the penitentiary for one year under parole.

The trial of Joe Bogski, a Finn, who is charged with assault with a deadly weapon, was set for March 5; he having pleaded not guilty.

PART OF TANGLE IS NOW STRAIGHT

St. Johns Election Muddle Has Few Kinks Taken Out of It.

City primaries at St. Johns will fall on the afternoon of Saturday, March 7, according to the new charter adopted this week by the citizens of St. Johns and also as the primary law of the state provides. The law states that primaries for municipal elections must be held on the thirtieth day preceding the final city election. The final election is fixed by the charter so that it falls on the first Monday of each April; this year it will be held April 6.

The new charter provides a form for registration independent of the county clerk's office so that the county clerk will be relieved of the work of registering voters of St. Johns in off years, as he has been called upon to do for Portland.

A problem has arisen regarding this city's registration because the charter does not provide for registering party politics, and some such device is necessary for the carrying out of a preliminary election. In St. Johns the municipal elections are not contested between Republicans and Democrats, but between factions that assume different names to suit themselves. It may be that if a primary election is held voters will have to line up as Democrats and Republicans for the primaries at least and choose candidates that way.

A primary election is desired in St. Johns because it is thought some of the bitterness that arises may be eliminated by the primary election and better results will follow.

Candidates for the nominations in the primaries must file their petitions with the recorder 15 days prior to the primary elections. No petitions have yet been filed or any notices of intention, though pre-election talk is much in evidence.

Building Permits.

Q. O. Nash, erect dwelling East Thirty-second between Hawthorne and Market, $2,000; W. S. Darling, erect dwelling, East Thirty-fourth between Surman and Killingsworth, $1,500; William Beckett, erect dwelling East Twentieth between Wygant and Going, $1,000; J. B. Clark, erect dwelling East Eighteenth between Wygant and Going, $2,000; Steve Hurteaux, erect store corner Columbia boulevard and McCrum, $2,000.

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You have seen the patent medicines exposed by the U. S. government. You know how these mixtures were loaded with alcohol and poisons. You have heard of the wrecks, the fiends and of the chronic disease resulting from the use of this factory-made dope, but you know nothing of the stuff that goes into the doctor's preparations. That individual has the right to put anything he desires into his medicines, and without any restrictions. You pay him his price for vile, poisonous mixtures which you force yourself to swallow, and try to believe it's doing you a lot of good.

I have told you many times that drugs are made to sell, not to cure. You can't get strength or vitality, or nourishment, or one thing that builds health, from poison. Every doctor knows this just as well as I know it.

My way of curing is to help Nature cure. Drugs don't do that. Nature wants nourishment, something that gives strength, power to the body. Drugs work against Nature. They tear down instead of building health. The help Nature needs is electricity—Nature's own medicine, pure, unadulterated.

When one part of your vital organism goes wrong the entire system suffers, and numerous ailments often develop. It is proven that electricity is the motive power, the force that runs every part of your body. The reason any organ breaks down or fails to work right is because it needs electricity. Restore that force and pain and sickness will disappear and strength will take the place of weakness.

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941 Vallejo St.,
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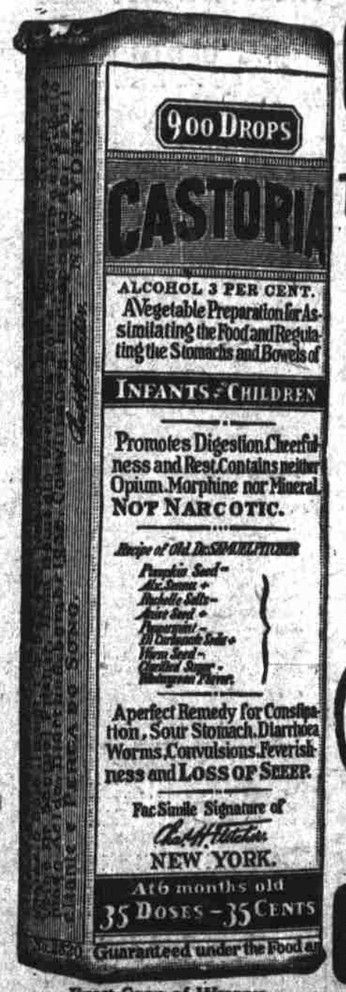

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