

URGES VOTERS TO KEEP AITCHISON IN OFFICE

Henry Hahn Points Out That Candidate Has Been in Position for Over Year and That No Charges Have Been Made Against Integrity.

Portland, April 16.—To the Editor of The Journal—In view of statements appearing in the press respecting the election for railroad commissioner, I submit the following statement of facts for the consideration of the voters.

The present railroad commission law is substantially the work of the Oregon & Washington Lumber Manufacturers' association. For years the necessity of such a law was apparent, and in 1914 the transportation committee began the work of preparation. Thereafter the lumber association joined with them. Joseph N. Teal acted for the committee and William T. Muir for the association. As the work progressed more assistance was found necessary, and on the recommendation of the chairman of the state board on assessment and taxation, Clyde B. Aitchison was employed. On the bill being drafted copies were sent throughout the state and finally in its completed form was approved by both the chamber of commerce and lumber association, and its passage by the legislature was recommended by Mr. Chapin, and after some amendments was passed with but one dissenting vote.

There was no secrecy of any kind on the part of its advocates. Representatives of these bodies openly and above board fought for its passage in the interest of the people.

Mr. Aitchison's official connection with the work ceased with the completion of the bill. If he worked for it thereafter, as I hope he did, it was as a private citizen.

When the appointments were made Mr. Steel stated he desired to consult with the representatives of the commercial interests as to the appointee, he would recommend to the board having the appointment. It was thought that there should be at least one attorney on the board. Mr. Aitchison's name amongst others came up for consideration, and the favorable impression he had created in connection with the preparation of the bill led to his recommendation. It was based solely on his past work and belief in his integrity. He received the appointment at once, and since then his official work and that by which he should be judged, speaks for itself. With substantial unanimity every one coming in contact with the commission praises his efforts in behalf of better service and fair control of the corporations.

He has now been in office 14 months, has passed on hundreds of complaints and we have yet to hear of the first charge affecting either his integrity or competency. Complaints have been made from some sources that he is too hard a worker, too close a student, and wants to know too much about the inner workings of the railroads, but this from the public standpoint is to his credit. It has been urged that because for a few months Mr. Aitchison was employed as an attorney by public organizations to assist in a public work, that this disqualifies his acting as commissioner. It would seem if this is the case, one who has been in the employ of the railroad more than a quarter of a century, from a public standpoint is in a much worse position.

As to the reflections persistently cast on the jobbers of this city little need be said. Portland is great as a city through its commercial interests, and

its progress in the future will depend on their advancement.

It is hardly necessary to point out to the people of this city and state, that whether it is a Heppner flood carrying death and destruction, subscriptions for an "open river," funds for conventions or celebrations—the commercial interests are the first to be called upon and the first to respond. The records will doubtless show the facts. There is, can be no segregation or separation of interests in the city—an attack on commercial interests is an attack on the city and every wage earner in it. On this question we would rather think that the statements made do not represent the calmer judgment of the author.

As to Mr. Aitchison himself, would say that a large number of the business men of this city support him, because they believe him to be an honest public servant devoted to his duty and fair to all.

The commercial interests have no fight to make on any place or community. They are not opposed to railroads. On the contrary, for years they have spared neither time nor money in trying to forward extensions of present roads and the building of new ones.

If Portland's supremacy is to depend on discrimination and favors, its foundation is not very substantial. We do think, however, it is entitled to a square deal, and that every well wisher of this city or state agrees with us.

Business men believe that when a man has been tried and found trustworthy and efficient, he should not be discharged but continued in place. If after 14 months of service no criticism can be made of any of Mr. Aitchison's official acts or private life, the voters should ask for no better certificate of fitness.

HENRY HAHN.



The secrets of dear old Vassar, every one of them, were revealed to the case-hardened ears of a Hellig audience last night. It seemed a shame, too. All of girlhood's fondest memories ruthlessly dragged out and held up to public view; and such goings on! Cupid peeping in all the time, whether it was Trigg day or Trigg day. Girls will be girls, you know.

"Cupid at Vassar" is just one of those college plays in skirts. Act I shows us home and mother, both somewhat dilapidated. There are two half sisters—Kate's orange and Wanda's lemon. You find that out just as soon as the curtain goes up, because Wanda comes in with a spiteful look about the lips and talks about Kate. Kate is out in the garden kissing good-bye to the paper flowers. Pretty soon Kate comes in with a big bunch in her arms and rattles them about like a fly evictor. Then rich Amer. of North arrives and is quickly followed by John Willel—a nice young man and a rising young architect.

There you have the plot. Lemon and Orange both just must have John. John is on the verge of proposing to Orange

when Kismet—they call it Kismet at Vassar—steps in—pardon me, interposes—and John is called to New York to build a church. New York needed John and he didn't even stop to say good-bye to Orange. But he wrote a note to her and left it with Lemon. And of course the spiteful thing tore it up so that Orange never knew—or not till a long time afterward.

Act II finds us safe in a senior double 'neath Poughkeepsie's mighty mountains. You can't guess what all the girls did when they got together in Orange's room. You just can't, so I'll tell you. They had a fudge party. Such a unique fudge party, too. Because Miss Page smelt chocolate burning and came up to the room and Orange, sitting on the chair and—yes—Miss Page sat on it. You'd never have thought of that, now, would you?

Then there were more letters from John, and Lemon got them all and turned 'em. Oh, Lemon was the limit. She never would do anything agreeable. If any one said, "Let's go for a walk," Lemon was sure to say, "Oh, no, I don't want to." If the rest of us girls wanted to play basketball Lemon would always spoil it somehow. She was the original sprinkler cart when it came to throwing cold water on a little innocent college girls' fun.

Christmas vacation was the worst. She and rich Amos conspired to beat poor old mother out of \$10,000 and her house—all she had in the world, so that Orange would marry the girl and leave John free to Lemon. But fudge—Kismet—interposed again and John, fresh from building Carnegie libraries and otherwise adding to the architectural graces of the metropolis came in, so grand in new automobile coat and leather cap and gauntlets, all to match. And John had the proofs of Amos' villainy. He gave them to mother and mother put them in the drawer and told Amos she was going to leave them there until morning. Then mother went to bed. John and Lemon would have stolen, but all the house party guests came down in pajamas and frightened them away.

Last act—last but one, of course—was back at Vassar. There's the dairy chain, carried by seven lovely damsels,

and John comes back and is forgiven—for what, you can't quite make out—but no matter—and Cousin Hank gives some red flannel shirt comedy stunts on the green and Lemon has to content herself with Amos.

A Miss Florence Gear plays the part of Orange's Kate. Miss Gear, like so many other dear ones of the stage, has been seriously afflicted with May Irwinitis, and is at present in the worst stage of the disease. It is impossible to tell what she might be if she were just Miss Gear. As May Irwin she is not a success. There are numerous other girls in the cast—numerous to the number of 16 or 17—and they do a variety of things. The rest of the music is evidently made up of bars snatched here and there from the popular selections of a few years back. Have you ever read "The Vassar Girls Around the World"? If not a part of your education has been neglected and it can only be supplied by seeing "Cupid at Vassar."

PRECINCT LIMITS AT MOUNT SCOTT

Confusion has arisen regarding the Mount Scott precincts in the minds of many voters because the names of the precincts do not always correspond with the postoffice or local names. Arieta is in Anabel precinct, although there is a precinct named Arieta. To correct wrong impressions County Clerk Fields gives the following boundary lines:

Anabel precinct, No. 95—Bounded on the north by Powell Valley and Foster roads, west by city limits, south by Millard avenue, east by Kindorf road. Arieta postoffice is in this precinct and Stewart's station is the voting place.

South Mount Tabor, No. 96—North and west by city limits, south by Powell Valley and Foster roads, east by Firland avenue to Selling street, thence by Multnomah county road. Vote at Stewart's station.

Arieta, No. 97—Lies between Kindorf road on the west and main street of Lents on the east. Vote at Lents.

No. 98—Lies east of the main street of Lents, and will vote at Grange hall.

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- \$2.00 Heavy Wool Shirts **95¢**
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- 50c Neckties **23¢**
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