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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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cost of living, quiet industrial unrest, adjust income tax laws, make peace with Europe and provide necessary appropriation for rivers and harbors, what has congress done that is worth while, aside, possibly, from passing the water power bill which it had been wrangling over for 12 years?

OPEN THEIR BOOKS

ATTORNEY GENERAL BROWN'S contention that the managements of presidential or vice presidential campaigns are not required, under the Oregon law, to report their campaign expenditures to the secretary of state, as other candidates and their agents are bound, is startling and discouraging. It may be that the attorney general has correctly construed the law, for he is both able and careful. But, even so, such a construction is repugnant to the very evident purpose and intent of the act, and of the electorate which approved and enacted it in 1908 by a majority of nearly 23,000 votes. And it is repugnant to the evident spirit and intent of the other statutes since enacted both by the legislature and by the people governing elections and election expenditures.

The corrupt practices act in its title, the index and statement of its intent, says it is a law "to limit candidates' election expenses; to define, prevent and punish corrupt and illegal practices in nominations and elections, to secure and protect the purity of the ballot." It was framed and enacted because of the scandals growing out of the unrestrained and unreported use of money in elections by candidates, their friends and their enemies. In its first section it says that "No sums of money shall be paid, and no expenses authorized or incurred contrary to the provisions of this act for or on behalf of any candidate for nomination." And one serious violation of the act is the failure or refusal of candidates, or their agents, to report campaign expenses in full and in detail.

The original act of 1908 is explicit in its definition of terms used in its text. It says that "Candidate" shall apply to any person whose name is printed on an official ballot for public office, or whose name is expected to be or has been presented for public office, with his consent, for nomination or election." It says that "Political committee" shall apply to every combination of two or more persons who shall aid or promote the success or defeat of a candidate. "It defines a "political agent" as "any person who, upon request or under agreement, receives or disburses money in behalf of a candidate." And it defines "public office" by saying that the term "shall apply to any national, state, county or city office to which a salary attaches and which is filled by the voters, as well as to the office of presidential elector, United States senator, or presiding officer of either branch of the legislature."

In 1910 the people, by initiative, amplified and extended the direct primary law by furnishing definite place upon the ballot, and in the election procedure, for candidates for president and vice president in the primary nominating elections, recognizing those who sought these high positions as "candidates" within the meaning of the Oregon law. In 1913 the legislature brought these offices and those who sought them definitely within the machinery of the corrupt practices act by giving space in the official voters' pamphlet to "candidates for party nominations for president and vice president of the United States, or the committee or organization which shall file a petition in behalf of any such candidate," and specifically exempting such "candidates" from the payment required of other candidates for space in the pamphlet.

The original act of 1908 provided that "Every candidate for nomination or election to public office, including candidates for the office of senator of the United States, shall file within 15 days after the election at which he was a candidate," a statement of his expenditures. In this statement it would seem clearly apparent that candidates for president and vice president were included. Because of ambiguity as to where these statements were to be filed by legislative candidates seeking nomination or election in a joint district, the legislature of 1913 amended the law. In its amendment it enumerated all state offices by name and added "or other office to be voted for in the state at large," which statement would seem to include any and every candidacy that might be filed.

In 1915 the legislature brought presidential and vice presidential candidates still more certainly within the law by providing that they could be put on the ballot upon their own written request or upon the petition of their supporters, and that their names should be placed on the primary ballots, voted upon and the returns canvassed and declared "in the same manner and under the same conditions, as far as the same are applicable, as the names of candidates for nomination for state and district offices."

In the face of the very evident intent of the law, and of successive legislation, and, still more, in view of the fact that presidential candidates and their committees voluntarily avail themselves of the privileges of the law and of its machinery, it comes with ill grace for them to attempt to evade its plain intent.

It is unfortunately true that the law is involved and obtuse in its language.

It ought to be simplified and clarified. It ought to be re-enacted in terms so direct and definite that there would be no need of construction, no chance for confusion, and no opportunity for evasion. The coming legislature could well afford to undertake the task. Should it refuse the people should be given an opportunity to speak upon the question.

Tacoma should know. The Tacoma Daily Ledger says: "When the heavy train winds its way to the top of a mountain and then takes the down grade the airbrakes alone prevent it from running away. Left to speed uncontrolled it would soon gain such momentum that a wreck would be the inevitable result. America today is economically in a situation similar to that of a coasting train." Perhaps so, but if Northwest traffic used the water grade as well it would, Tacoma would lose the train and the illustration, while this part of America, at least, would be better off.

AS THE TIDES OF THE SEA

EVANS A. POWELL was a young ensign in the navy. He had made a good start. Life was, for the most part, before him. He received a modest salary. His quarters were comfortable. And he had recently been married. Powell and his wife left San Francisco hurriedly for Arizona. But the trip was in vain. After a few days an officer placed his hand on Powell's shoulder. He was returned to San Francisco. There he was indicted. The federal grand jury charged him with embezzlement. As disbursing officer of his ship, the young ensign is said to have appropriated \$6600 of government money to his own use. He heard that government auditors were to check his accounts, and he fled.

What is the influence that actuates a young man in such circumstances and with such an outlook to steal? Was his wife a spendthrift? Had he misrepresented his own financial condition before marriage? Wasn't his salary commensurate with his tastes? Did he gamble? Here is a young man ascending the ladder of life. He was on the road to success. He had recently married one that loved him—that wanted to help him succeed. He was in charge of great sums of money. But he broke. The temptation was greater than the will. He took money once. Then again. Then bigger sums. Then came word of the impending audit. Then the flight. And then—arrest.

Evans Powell will listen no longer for the bugle's call. The naval career and gold lace has been abandoned with prospect for the gray walls and stripes. He rose and fell as the tides of the sea.

One way to turn the gasoline shortage to good account is to take the Sunday trip in the garden. Monday's industry and next winter's cupboard will both benefit.

BRAVERY ON THE BENCH

MR. JUSTICE McCARDLE, of the English divorce court, must be a celibate, otherwise he would not be so brave no matter how well buttressed by the law and the facts, for a man, even a judge, must indeed be foolhardy to hold that value may not be placed upon a woman except as a chattel and then upon the basis of her work and labor. And a man, potential or jurist, no matter which, must be beyond the pale of fear to fix the maximum of such a chattel's worth at \$750. It may be done in Merrie England but not in this land of the free and home of the brave, not since equal suffrage is so close upon us.

Justice McCardle, so it seems, was called upon to fix the measure of damages to which six men were entitled by reason of the faults and frailties of their better halves from whom they sought separation. He did so with quickness and dispatch, holding that three of the complaining spouses were not damaged at all, while he decreed \$375 to a couple and to the remaining one, \$750.

But the learned jurist went further to decide that a woman is her husband's chattel in the eyes of the English law, and that a husband aggrieved may recover only her reasonable value as a chattel. The value, he decided, of necessity varied with the chattel. One who helped her husband in the conduct of his business would be worth more in recompense for her loss than one who did nothing but spend the profits of his establishment. A good housekeeper would be worth more in the eyes of the court than a slattern or a frump.

And then, as if to add insult to injury, the justice found that a man was not a chattel and that a wife, injured though she might be by the seductive wiles of some more youthful charmer who stole her meal ticket away, had no recourse in damages for such a robbery.

It may all be good law in England but it will be a long time before any American judge, tenured as American judges are, adopts its logic as the precedent upon which to fix the value of any helpmate in dispute over here, no matter what she may have done, or failed to do.

At last the man-eating shark has found his use. A shark hide will produce 10 to 40 square feet of hide valuable for leather in making shoes, according to the National Geographic society. The fins yield gelatine and the liver an oil valued

for leather dressing, soap making, fish glue, paints and medicine. So much for the rapacious monster of the deep. Who will devise as useful a disposition of the loan shark?

ARE YOU HELPING?

IN SPITE OF the gasoline shortage and the acts of many in temporarily storing their cars, numbers still drive their automobiles down town, park them for the day and drive them back home in the evening with possible side excursions about town or out in the byways.

Some siphon the gasoline from the tank of their cars, store it up at home and obtain more at the gas station on false pretenses. Others offer sundry and divers excuses for increasing their supply of motor fuel, most of which are not genuine.

Some permit the motor to run with the car standing while an errand is attended to. It has been made clear that an actual shortage of motor fuel exists. Only a limited amount of gasoline is available. If it is consumed hurriedly and wastefully there will be a period of going without. Such a situation would have the effect of demonstrating in startling fashion the importance of gasoline to essential industries and food production.

The gasoline economy program will be useless and futile without public cooperation. All the ill consequences of an exhausted supply are imminent unless all who drive motor vehicles help tide over the shortage. Remember that you hurt no one more than yourself by evading economy.

Relief from the gasoline shortage as well as religious hope is perhaps to come from the Holy Land. The asphalt spring of Hit which provided Noah with water proofing for the ark and the "slime" used for mortar in building the tower of Babel may, says World's Work, disclose great deposits of petroleum and bitumen.

TROUT AND FISH

FOOD, dieticians tell us, is very much a thing of the mind. The zest of appetite, the comfort of digestion and the ease of assimilation are dominated by mental attitude and the activity of the imagination. Thus temper and intellectual disparity probably have much to do with the saying that, "What is one man's meat may be another man's poison."

Likewise what may be to one an ambrosial treat may be to another common meal. Two Portlanders, for instance, sat at a Wednesday morning breakfast table. On a generous platter before them reposed half a dozen mighty trout done to an exquisite, golden brown, garnished with lettuce and parsley and flanked with delicate slices of lemon. A mutual friend who had been both lucky and thoughtful was responsible for the contribution.

"Delicious! Wonderful! Beautiful!" exclaimed one of the breakfasters. "Very nice, but how do they differ from other fish?" commented the other.

The first was silent. He saw the trout, from his own past experiences, triumphant of a quest that had led high above the habitations of men and the shores of streams. He saw the wild shores and the crystal water that were their habitat. These flavored the morning dish for one, but the other, knowing more of crowded thoroughfares than wide mountain spaces, will probably never know the difference between trout and fish.

Roseburg is offering Portland roses by the carload for the festival. Could there be a finer state spirit? May Portland appreciate it, and in return be as considerate of Roseburg. And, by the same token, why not a similar cordiality and mutual helpfulness between the metropolis and all up-state cities?

AFTER THE CONVENTIONS

THE tremendous proportions to which gasoline consumption has grown in Portland alone was inadvertently, perhaps, revealed when the oil companies "laid their cards on the table" to secure the public's cooperation in meeting the acute shortage. The receipts for June anticipated by four companies aggregate more than 1,300,000 gallons. Out of this amount they hope to save for the convention period some 500,000 gallons by restricting ordinary use.

After the conventions are over a normal supply may be again obtainable. But wouldn't it be better, if the general shortage continues, to continue voluntary inhibitions against waste and unnecessary use, in order that industries and food production dependent on gasoline supply shall not suffer?

Seattle's street car system has always been known for its clang and bang, but with ex-Mayor Hanson and Mayor Caldwell of that hectic burg squabbling over who's to blame for putting a few millions into municipal funds that lose money, the noise is terrific.

WHEN IN PAJAMAS

WE MAY all say that clothes don't make the man, but the statement, it would seem, is open to question. Is there one among us who would deny that the French peasant who met M. Paul Deschanel beating a retreat down a French railway track clad in pajamas after a fall from

train, would have known him had he been attired as usual?

Had the French president boasted a cutaway, white shirt and collar, shining shoes and a top hat, would the peasant have directed a series of jests at the president's unhappy soul? Would he have asked if Deschanel wasn't the czar of Russia? Would he have accompanied his jibes with delectable gushes of laughter? Whether the clothes make the man or not, it has been suggested that President Deschanel would prefer to have his clothes with him the next time he wishes to establish his identity.

THE GOSPEL IN ARCHITECTURE

Some Reflections on the Variants Spirit in Which Christianity's Various Temples Have Been Appraised

From the San Francisco Call An alien observer in one of our cities might think, from the beauty of their architecture, that we worshipped rather our banks than our churches. And we do seem to mix religion and money in a queer way. "Congregation buys half million dollar lot at Sixty-eight street," says a headline in an exchange. "To start a \$100,000 building. It was a natural thing for the reporter to talk in terms of money. Most of his readers would not have known what he told in circumstantial detail what kind of building it was to be, what artistic influences had led to the choice of the design, and so on.

The common language, into which all could translate it, was the language of money. The excess of that particular group of worshippers as measured by the greatness of their churches. Had they been obliged to hold their services in side streets, in little, unsightly buildings, it would have been noted that they were not getting along well. The days when religious bodies were proud because men persecuted them and reviled them are past. The deity has become closely associated with an economic system. If the parable of the widow's mite means anything, He might prefer the small edifice built by the pennies of the poor to the marbles and stained glass of the great havers and givers, but not for a moment can the followers of the deity be led to church once in awhile, admit that.

In order to secure God and Mammon it would not of course, be necessary to restrict ourselves to small and ugly churches. Money was not always a universal language. It was surely not the language of those who stood lovingly and so patiently and so long at the cathedral of Rheims, or Milan, or Notre Dame; and the generation which built the great cathedrals, and the marvelous structures did not speak of them in terms of cost. They were no more appraised in such terms than were the houses of the great streets. They were the sunrise, or the beauty of children. But we ask what a church is worth, meaning how many automobiles, diamonds, dinners, evening dresses, and other fine things of this world it could be translated into, and how much power and influence is behind it.

We measure art, literature, music and the lives of men in the same way. We overdo it. Money counts everything. In the end, it isn't even much.

Letters From the People

(Communications sent to The Journal for publication should be addressed to the editor, and should not exceed 300 words in length and must be signed by the writer, and finally, unless otherwise specified, they will be published.)

MR. ANDERSON TO MR. CUTTING

Cherry Grove, June 1.—To the Editor of The Journal—If my letter of May 9 "outruns the facts," as claimed by Mr. Anderson in his letter of May 24, then, does he not practice what he preaches? He says he wants more farmers in congress. I agree with him, as do all classes of the representation. But the Non-partisan league in North Dakota elected to congress John M. Baer, a young capitalist, who does not know a banana. Who knows that Mr. Baer is really a member of congress, with the exception of his master, A. C. Townley, president of the league, said he was the man. This is also the way men are elected to the legislature in North Dakota.

Today they have a state bank in that state, where, under the name of "Relief," all public funds must be deposited—state, county and municipal alike. There is no public official as examiner of the books, and the bank is managed and operated by men appointed by the Non-partisan governor and the league's state committee. They are ready to defend him in all his actions.

Mr. Cutting says he believes our public officials are violating laws and making laws, usurping the rights of the people. He is right. In North Dakota he is right. He speaks of the difference in price of sugar beets and sugar. While I admit this is pure graft and must be remedied, I do not believe in using force, and radically wrong. Last fall the farmers dug their potatoes when the price was about \$2.50 a hundred. This community got \$5 a hundred and not handled by any middlemen, either. This is profiteering with all the rest, and so we shall find all public funds will have to be put on the brakes.

I wish I could take every voter in Oregon into North Dakota, and keep him there long enough to see the true conditions. Yes, I say, as he does, protect the producer against the trust, but to turn this state over to the Reds and I, W. W. would be as bad. H. Anderson

SAFETY ON COUNTRY ROADS

Portland, June 2.—To the Editor of The Journal—In the interest of public safety, I would like to see all pedestrians using the roadways should keep to the left. This may seem all out of reason at first glance, but the fact remains that the most used road in this city and in the state from being run down by automobiles approaching their backs. If these same pedestrians had been walking on the left hand side of the highway, facing the approaching machine, it is my opinion they would be alive today.

It is known to everyone who drives that a warning has to be sounded on approaching pedestrians from the rear, and who has not noticed the continual looking back of the walkers? By turning to the left the footman is facing the approaching vehicle and both the driver and the pedestrian have the situation before them all the time. "Keep to the right" is the proper theory for vehicles, and "keep to the left" is a life-saver for the pedestrian using country roads for recreation or business. Harry Park.

A SUMMER MOOD

By Paul Hamilton Hayne

Ah! mel for evermore, for evermore These human hearts of ours must yearn and sigh While down the dells and up the murmurous shore Nature renews her immortality.

The heavens of June stretch calm and bland above, June roses blush with tints of orient skies, But we, by graves of joy, desire and love, Mourn in a world which breathes of Paradise.

The sunshine mocks the tears it may not dry, The breezes—tricksy couriers of the air— Child-rolsters winged, and lightly fluttering by— Blow their gay trumpets in the face of care:

And bolder winds, the deep sky's passionate speech, Woven into rhythmic raptures of desire, Or fumes of mystic victory, sadly reach Our humbled souls, to rack, not raise them higher.

The field birds seem to twit us as they pass With their small blisses, piped so clear and loud; The cricket triumphs o'er us in the grass And the lark, glancing beamlike up the cloud,

Sings us to scorn with his keen rhapsodies; Small things and great unconscious tauntings bring To edge our cares, while we, the proud and wise, Envy the insect's joy, the birding's wing!

And thus forevermore, till time shall cease, Man's soul and Nature's—each a separate sphere— Revolves, like one in discord, one in peace, And who shall make the solemn mystery clear?

MORE OR LESS PERSONAL

Random Observations About Town

Mayor W. S. Hamilton of Roseburg is so proud of the roses for which his town is named and so fearful that Portland may not have enough to make the thousands of visitors during Shrine and Rose Festival week that he came in Saturday to find out how many carloads of blooms will be required. The Imperial hotel has declared his town has pledged itself to provide any quantity. "We are going to have a rose-picking bee and everybody will turn out to help fill up any deficiency. Portland may have," he said, "Roseburg doesn't propose to let anybody come to Oregon, the rose state, and meet the slightest disadvantage. The people are not materialistic and the chamber of commerce, the city council and all other organizations are getting busy. Whether Portland needs them or not, we will send up a lot to show that the Rose City is not the only rose city of Oregon."

Portland is the most beautiful city in the country, according to George C. Walker, wealthy sugar man from Java, and as a result of its beauty the city will claim Walker and his wife as residents during the summer. Walker recently spent two months at the Multnomah. Since that time he has sold his sugar holdings in Java. The Walkers will take up their abode in a new house, a private home soon. Mr. and Mrs. Walker arrived Friday from San Francisco.

E. P. Dodd of Hermiston once ran a newspaper, but there was no money in it; so he entered politics. He has now quit the political game to grow alfalfa. He might get into the legislature, but Dodd's ranch lies in the big Umatilla irrigation project, which is making

George Saunders, who at Grants Pass relinquished his sugar refinery project about four years ago, arrived at the Imperial Saturday on his way to the city to meet the city council. He has left what is left of the plant that he built. Saunders lives in Salt Lake City.

IMPRESSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE JOURNAL MAN