

The Gold Hill News

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY AT GOLD HILL, JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON, BY

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MAKE ANOTHER READING GAOL OF IT

BECAUSE Governor Oswald West has acted with more humanity than is common to executives, because he has forced a consideration of the criminal in his relation to the state, and shown that the state is not alone wronged, he has been cavilled at by the reactionaries and termed a cheap sentimentalist.

The Governor's pet project of appealing to the good that is in all men in the dealing of the state with its criminal wards has been variously criticised.

The failure of the honor system has been declared in each isolated instance of the attempted escape of some one of the scores of prisoners in the unguarded road camps. The danger of permitting these hapless felons to enjoy God's open air and sunshine while building roads for the commonwealth has been dwelt upon at length.

Yet, despite all prediction, the roads they built remain good roads, and the convicts, as the Governor foresaw, became better men for the trust of the state and clemency of its executive.

However this may be, until the honor system of Governor West becomes the established method of dealing with society's scapegrace, there will still remain these modern prototypes of the witch-burners—men whose conceptions of criminal regeneration are those of the Inquisition and the Middle Ages.

Just now there is a fine frenzy of fear at Salem, or at least we are expected to believe so, lest the state penitentiary rock with revolt some dark and stormy night, when regiments of trained criminals burst the stout gates to issue forth and devastate the land.

All this because a handful of "trusties", picked honor men in Governor West's scheme of redemption, who have been working outside the institution, have been permitted to reenter the walls each day without being searched for lethal weapons.

During the three months this astounding condition has been sanctioned, we are urged to imagine that the prison has been crammed with hand grenades, gatlings, mauser rifles, and "dope". Insurrection, murder and arson are simmering just beneath the crust.

And all because an executive has the novel nerve to insist that honor does not necessarily perish with society's condemnation.

Wilde once drew a picture of what these dissenters at humanity would doubtless consider an ideal prison for their erring fellows, where

" . . . They starve the little frightened child
Till it weeps both night and day,
And they scourge the weak and flog the fool,
And gibe the old and gray;
And some grow mad and some grow bad,
And none a word may say."

A FUNNY TWIST OF THE GAME LAW

THE IDIOCY which doth hedge about the law and its interpretations at times is aptly illustrated in the case of the Multnomah county sportsman who was fined \$50 for having a wild duck in his possession during closed season.

This judicial lollipop was handed the amazed nimrod despite the production of abundant proof that the bird had been taken on the last day of the open season, and in full compliance with the requirements of the law.

Willy-nilly, under this construction of the statute, the unfortunate hunter who is successful in the chase on the closing day, must devour his birds a la natural, or consign them to the dogs. In any event it is a crime to retain them until the following morning.

There should be some limit to this legislative folly which does not make for game protection and invites injustice, as in this instance. As a matter of fact, the plainest rulings of common-sense indicate that when game is obtained in a lawful manner, by any citizen, it ceases to be in the state's charge, and becomes the private and exclusive property of that citizen—to be dealt with as he chooses.

This matter has before now been thoroughly threshed-out in other states, with disastrous results to really beneficial provisions of the game laws. Repetitions of the Multnomah county incident cannot fail to incite similar action.

For the better protection of game, sportsmen are willing to comply with laws apparently beyond the ability of the state to enact—such as the prohibited shipment, the restriction of gift or sale, etcetera—but it is a safe assertion that they will balk at any interpretation that does not serve for protection and imposes an arbitrary and unjust obligation—

Such as eating raw duck, for instance.

Overdrafts (Secured & Unsecured)

B. H. L.

The Man That He Might Have Been

I leaned from my casement the other night and harried a cigarette, till my soul grew light as the drifting smoke and my heart was freed of fret; and I puffed a cloud at the dancing moon and tossed my poet's hair, and I laughed that ever I had conceived a ghost of the beast Despair. And out of the drifting shades of night and out of the silvery moon, and out of the smoke of my cigarette, I wove me a little tune. O, it was light as gossamer lace, and it was stout as steel, and it was merry with fairy grace and fraught with the joys they feel; and it hummed in my ears like a rising tide and it droned like the homing bee, till it conjured a picture out of the night of the Man That I Ought to Be. Yes, maybe they doped my cigarette, or maybe the moon was mad, but I saw proud-flung his peers among, the front of a peerless lad!

I rose from my casement the other night as the fire died out of my smoke, and somewhere out in the sleeping town a doleful dog awoke—and I thought, "Old pup, there are two of us; fling forth a yowl for me, for I have seen in the smoky moon the Man That I Ought to Be." O, I have seen in the smoky moon what never came to pass, and, though the dream is dear enough, it gives the lie to my glass; for the glass that swings in the varnished frame of the stand by my two-bit bed, betrays me a creature of bulbous nose, with scarcely a hair to his head; and the peering eyes are heavy and tired, the jowls hang shaggy down, and I know myself for what I am—the Poor Old Butt of the Town. Yes, the might-have-been is far away, and the beast Despair draws near—but it isn't your sympathy, pal, I want . . . cough up the price of a beer!

School Notes

(By Vera Davidson)

Miss Olsen of Medford visited the eighth grade room last week.

The bookkeeping class is completing its first set of books this week.

Blossom Beeman was absent from school last Thursday and Friday p. m.

Pearl Collins will be absent from school for some time on account of an injured arm.

We are sorry to say that Bertha Wood-verton, Edwin Olsen and Joseph Pankey have quit school.

Miss Jessie Coddling, of Portland, arrived Sunday to take her position as teacher of the 7th and 8th grades.

Miss Swigart, of Ashland, who is organizing a music class here, was a visitor to the high school Tuesday p. m.

To delight of the entire school Dr. Calvin S. White, of Portland, gave a lecture in their behalf at the M. E. church Wednesday afternoon. His subject was "Ghosts", however not dealing with the white garbed figure of the ivy-mantled tower, but with "ghost germs." His talk was not only beneficial but interesting and we hope to have him lecture again in the future.

BRIEF NEWS OF OREGON

Baseball fans in Yamhill, Washington and Polk counties are planning to form a tri-county baseball league.

Logging operations in the Lower Columbia river district are tied up as a result of the snow.

Mrs. Sarah J. Grant, one of the pioneers of Polk county, died at her home in Kings Valley at the age of 86 years.

Representative Hawley has recommended the appointment of F. B. Southwick as postmaster at Salem to succeed Squire Farrow.

Frank W. Osburn, 60 years old, a prominent citizen and banker of Eugene, died at his home there after several months' illness of paralysis.

W. McCormack of Eugene, with the percentage of .9511 ranks as the top notch amateur trap shooter of the state of Oregon for the season of 1912.

Governor West has granted a stay of execution in the case of Bob Morgan, who was to have been hanged for the murder of Miss Virgie Hart at Condon on October 17.

At a rate of 200 a month letters are pouring in on the Portland commercial club from people who want to learn more about Oregon and who contemplate building homes here.

C. W. McNear & Co., of Chicago, have purchased the \$300,000 bond issue of the Port of Coos Bay commission for \$289,975. The money is to be used in harbor improvements.

Governor West and all the members of the legislature were invited by Samuel Hill to be his guest at his expense on a visit to Maryhill, Wash., to inspect his seven varieties of good roads.

Judge Woods of Huntington, deposed by Governor West and twice rejected on petition for reinstatement by the county court, is back on the job as a result of the election last November.

Our Car of Willamette Potatoes

Was delayed by weather conditions--on arrival of same we will give the public the SALE PRICE of 75c per cwt. for TEN DAYS

Several bargains in remnants and broken size lines on hand

Lance & Company

Summary of Legislative Week

(Continued from first page)

Appropriation Bills Large

Appropriation bills making demands on the state treasury of \$1,078,700 have been introduced. This is a record breaker, as it is the first time that appropriation bills have ever been introduced during the first week.

It seems to be a pretty well settled fact that the appropriation for Panama-Pacific Exposition will not get past the \$250,000 mark at the outside, although some of the members are boosting for \$300,000. A great number of them have settled on \$200,000 as the proper figures.

Changes in Oregon System Proposed

The initiative and referendum and the corrupt practices act are being made in prospect the subject of numerous amendatory acts at the present session, but according to indications the majority of the amendments to these acts which have already been proposed will meet with scant favor from the committees to which they have been referred.

Among the acts is one that provides that no more than two constitutional amendments nor five general laws shall be submitted to the people at any one election. Another bill proposes that after an initiative bill has received so many adverse votes it shall not go on the ballot again for a period of six years.

The corrupt practices act is also the subject of a large number of bills which propose amendatory clauses.

Check on Campaign Expense Is Urged

With the view of confining the expenditure of money, either in behalf or against any initiative measure, to the publicity pamphlets and newspaper advertising, Representative Blanchard, of Josephine, introduced a bill in the house which, if passed, will revolutionize proceedings with relation to initiating measures and waging campaigns with relation to them.

The bill, in brief, provides that it shall be unlawful for anyone to expend money in promoting a measure or defeating it, save in arguments in the publicity pamphlets and in the newspapers. This cuts off all distribution of private literature, and also all other means of expenditures.

STUMP TESTS TO BE MADE

Forest Service to Conserve Wealth From Wood Waste

Portland.—The United States forest service, in co-operation with various local interests, is planning to make an investigation of the merits of wood distillation as a means toward reducing the cost of clearing logged-off lands and creating a revenue from the wood waste on timberland and in saw-mills. The government has appropriated \$5000 for this work and expects to show conclusively the adaptability of Douglas fir for yielding the various products of distillation.

The plan is to obtain a quantity of stumpwood from a characteristic section of logged-off land along the Columbia river and also in the vicinity

D. H. MILLER

Headquarters for

Hardware, Stoves, Tin, Granite and Aluminum Ware. I have a fine line of Silverware, and also fine line of Cattaraugus Cutlery. A fine line of Queensware. Paints and Oils. Varnishes and Brushes. I am closing out my FREE Sewing Machines at cost. For the miners I carry Powder, Fuse, Caps, Drill Steel and best Tools to be had

"Good quality goods and Prices Right"

HOT TAMALAS
HOT CHILI CONCARNE
HOT VIENNA SANDWICHES

FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

..All Hot Drinks Five Cents..

Turner's Lunch Room

of Tacoma, Wash., since these regions represent the two distinct soil formations of the Douglas fir belt. This stumpwood will be distilled in the retorts of the Oregon Wood Distilling company near Linnton, and an exact record kept of the yield of the products of distillation, such as turpentine, tar, oils, tar, pyroigneous acid and charcoal.

Life Crews Are Lauded

Astoria.—Captain J. H. Quinan, inpector of the Lifesaving Revenue Cutter service, has completed his official investigation of the wreck of the steamer Rosecrans, and the circumstances attending the loss of the power lifeboats, the "Tenacious," of Cape Disappointment, and the "Dreadnought," of Point Adams.

He finds no blame attached to either crew in the matter, and speaks in the highest terms of the work done in their attempts to save the survivors of the wreck.

National Capital Brevities

A garrison of 25,000 men will be necessary to guard the Panama Canal, Colonel Goethals told the house naval affairs committee.

Federal prisoners having served 15 years of life sentences will hereafter be eligible for parole, if President Taft signs the law passed by the senate.

William Rockefeller, the Standard Oil magnate, is not too ill to testify briefly before the house committee investigating the money trust, according to Dr. Richardson, the medical expert sent to Miami, Fla., to examine the millionaire.

Dr. F. F. Friedmann's serum cure for tuberculosis was the subject of a long report by Consul General Thackara at Berlin, sent to congress by President Taft. Thackara said 1118 persons have been treated and while the cure has not yet been accepted by the medical profession, the results warrant the attention of congress.