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THE CALL TO TOLL.

The God of life, is the Lord of toll.
And naught cares he if the toll
Be any, or needle, or hoe or
brain,
Or the toll a sage, or a fool—
The call's for a man with his
task to heel.
And his aim, the good of his
clan—
The height of the rise, 'twixt
heaven and hell,
Is the height of an upright man.
—Clara Bushnell Castle.

A DANGEROUS JOKE.

In another portion of this paper appears an exhaustive article by Charles J. Ferguson in opposition to the franchise recently granted the Oregon & Washington Traction company. It is published in a spirit of fairness and not because it is approved by the East Oregonian.

When the franchise was granted by the city council the action was heartily endorsed by this paper. This was because the paper believed that the building of an interurban line will mean untold good to the city; because it believed and still believes the councilmen acted honestly and wisely in granting the franchise, although it was not just as they desired.

What Mr. Ferguson's interest in the matter may be the East Oregonian does not know. But in preference to his judgment it would rather take the combined judgments of the men who went over the proposition thoroughly and intelligently with the traction people while they were here. Upon Mayor Murphy, councilmen Strain, Knight, McCormack and the others of the council was the responsibility. Why not let their decision stand?

For the present at least this paper is unwilling to take Mr. Ferguson's suggestions seriously. If he is superior in intellect to the present councilmen it is too bad he is not a member of that honorable body.

But the communication as it stands is a joke. In view of the threat that it contains it might become a serious one if carried too far and the referendum really invoked. But the East Oregonian does not believe such will come to pass, and it hopes that Mr. Ferguson will tell us when to laugh.

THE INDEPENDENT PRESS.

Of the freedom of the press every schoolboy has heard, for it was one of the things for which the revolutionary fathers struggled. But the independence of the press is another matter and it is a modern subject. Only within recent years have independent papers become dominant. In the past it was the custom of papers to follow blindly in the paths of their respective political parties. But today the paper that is not independent, or at least semi-independent, is not considered a newspaper.

"The independent paper today is the people's paper," said Edmund W. Booth, editor of the Grand Rapids Press, in a recent address. It neither belongs to party nor to any class in society.

"It is an institution seeking to guard the rights, national and municipal, political, social and commercial, of all sorts and conditions upon their own merits without respect to persons or political parties or to social influence or other interests.

"An independent journal is not one that is 'agin the powers that be,' and whenever a head pops up knocks it. A journal worthy to be called independent regards itself as free to support or to oppose the administration in power. It may espouse and endorse party principles without surrendering its individuality or its independence.

"Neither is independence another

name for neutrality. It does not mean that any issue is to be dodged. Independence of the right sort spells aggressiveness—not a colorless, mushy sort of policy designed to jolly everybody and all parties. It means good faith—not hypocrisy."

SCHOOL FRATERNITIES.

Just at present much criticism is being made of school fraternities and especially of those in high schools. Whether or not a fraternity is good or bad depends upon its members. It is to be hoped that the local fraternity is under the former head and will always remain there.

But it must be admitted that in many instances fraternities are pernicious. Membership in a fraternity is pleasant for a student because it furnishes a sociability that is hard to duplicate. But the fraternity life also tends to dwarf individuality and foster snobbery.

If there was no other reason for the abolishment of the fraternities than their subversion of the spirit of democracy, which should prevail in the public schools of this country, that reason should be all-sufficient, says a Portland paper. The value of American public school education lies not alone in what is learned from books. Added to this, there is a certain American character-building to be kept in mind; a character building that condemns snobbery and discourages class prejudice. The fraternities stand for and develop snobbery; they create class distinction in school life, which never should exist. Their aim is to shabby to emulate aristocracy, though in the misguided student judgment it is presumed to engender aristocracy of the three-ply variety. The influence of the "frat" upon the general school atmosphere is bad—very bad.

But this fault of non-democracy is not the only fault of the fraternities. They engender foolish conceit that brings about insubordination; they undertake to create a student authority that, upon occasion, will pit itself against school authority. And, beyond these faults, the fraternities are responsible for the cultivation of so-called social thought and conduct that are little short of vicious. It would be the part of foolishness for the public school authorities not to pronounce the doom of the fraternities. School authorities generally have arrived at this conclusion. The need is to eliminate the influence of the "frat," and the need is as great in Portland as in any other city.

LIFE NOT EXTINGUISHED.

The present is considered a quiet stage in Pendleton's career. But at the same time buildings aggregating nearly \$100,000 in cost are under way. In the near future a handsome federal building is to be erected; a new Christian church will rise from the ruins of the old and it is understood the Alta House will also be rebuilt.

Then the town is in line for an interurban road that promises to double its population within a few years; great good will also come to it from the settlement of the irrigated lands of the west end and before many years the reservation will be under white ownership. The last will mean a dense farming settlement between here and the mountains.

Pendleton is lively now for a "dull" town, but when certain things come to pass its growth will be something wonderful.

The fair commissioners are to be congratulated upon the splendid program that has been arranged for the district fair. Nearly all the prominent men of the state are to be here and speak, each upon the appropriate day, and some men of national fame will come. With this program and with DeCaprio's band in addition, together with the improvements made within the pavilion insures that the fair will be what is intended, "better than before."

For the first time a passenger train will be run into the Wallowa valley tomorrow. The branch road has been completed as far as the town of Wallows and 600 people will ride in upon the first train, while all Wallowa county will gather to celebrate the occasion. Chief Joseph's country now belongs to the white man forever.

Main street this afternoon was a thing of life. There are few towns in the country that can make a better showing than Pendleton on a fine Saturday afternoon in the fall of the year.

Again the price of wheat is on the soar. The crop of the inland empire may have been a trifle short this year but the price is satisfactory.

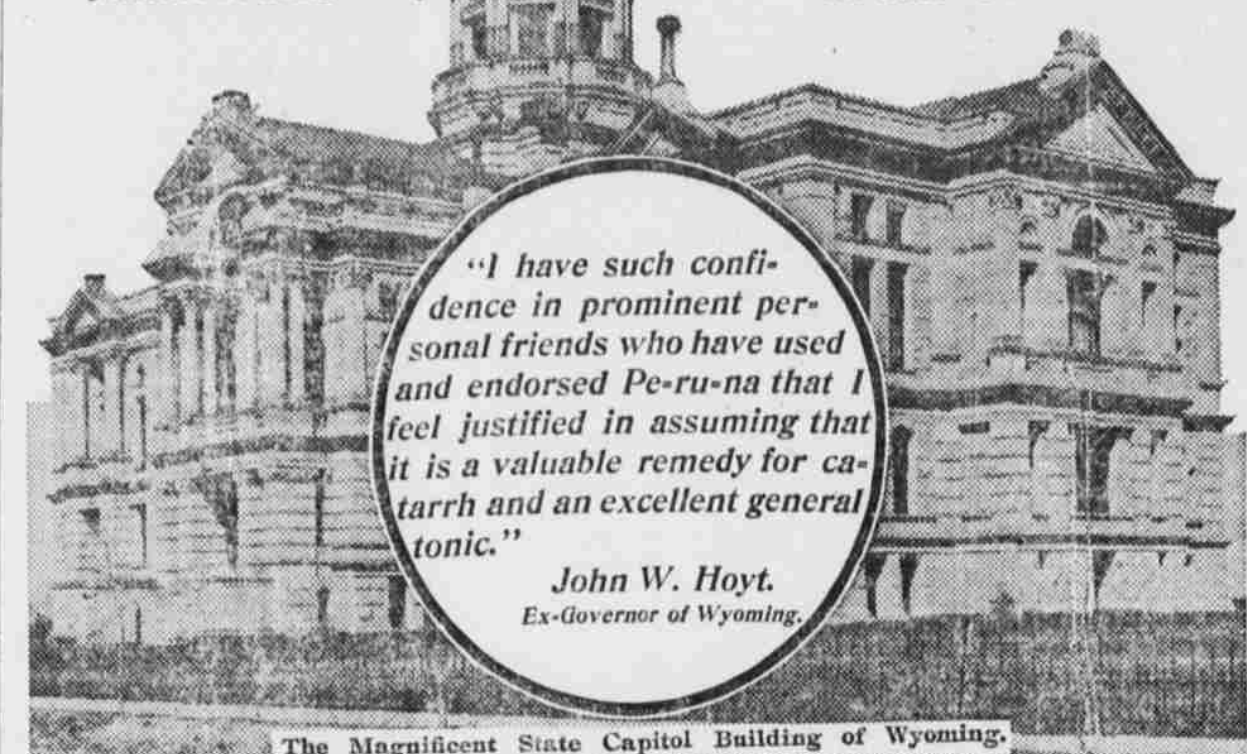
THE JOKE WAS ON THE JUDGE.

A very vain and dapper western lawyer was painfully conscious of the fact that owing to his baldness he

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LIST OF PROMINENT AMERICANS.

Gen. W. H. Parsons, Confederate Army, ex-State Senator, Texas.
Col. Bailey of Washington, D. C., Labor Organizations and U. V. L.
Col. Patten of Washington, D. C., Military and Masonic Orders.
Hon. R. S. Ryan, of Alaska, Ex-Member English House of Parliament.
Congressman Cale, of Alaska, well known on Pacific Slope.

Gen. W. H. Parsons.

Gen. W. H. Parsons is ex-State Senator and ex-Special Judge of the Supreme Court of Texas, also Brigadier General in Confederate Army. In a recent letter from 925 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C., this prominent gentleman says:

"Upon the recommendation of personal friends and many strong testimonials as to the efficacy of Peru-na in the treatment of the numerous symptoms of the la grippe with which I have been afflicted for four months past, I have been induced to undergo a treatment with this justly celebrated formula. I feel a decided change for the better after using it only one week. It is especially good in *toning up the stomach* and has had a *decided effect upon my appetite*. I therefore feel much encouraged that I am on the road to complete restoration."

"My numerous friends in Texas, where I have had the honor to command a brigade of her Veteran Cavalry in a four

years' war, may accept this voluntary testimonial to the *merits of Peru-na* as a sense of obligation on my part for its wonderful efficacy."

Col. Wm. Bailey.

William Bailey, 581 St. N. E., Washington, D. C., Past Col. Eng. No. 69, Union Veteran Legion, and prominently identified with many of the great labor protective associations in Chicago and New York, and Secretary of one of the largest associations in the former city, had for nearly thirty years been afflicted with kidney troubles.

Within a short period he has been persuaded to try Peru-na, and his present healthy condition is attributed to his judicious use of that great remedy. Washington climate is notoriously bad for kidney and liver troubles, yet by a judicious use of the remedy he is now quite cured and in excellent physical condition.

This brief statement of facts, without exaggeration or hyperbole, appears to tell the whole story, which the Peru-na Com-

pany is authorized to use, if it so chooses, believing, as I do, that by so doing it will be for the general good.—Wm. Bailey.

Col. C. L. Patten.

Col. C. L. Patten, 509 T St., N. W., Washington, D. C., a Lieutenant in the Old Guard, an exclusive organization composed of soldiers of distinction who fought in the civil war, and a Thirty-second degree Mason, writes as follows: "I have used Peru-na, and desire to recommend your remedy as an invigorating *spring tonic*; also one of the best remedies that I ever tried for coughs, colds and catarrhal complaints."

Hon. R. S. Ryan.

Hon. R. S. Ryan, now residing in Nome, Alaska, was formerly a member of the English House of Parliament, and Secretary to the late Irish patriot, Charles Stewart Parnell. His Washington address is New Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C. He writes: "I have used Peru-na and can recommend your remedy as a very effective cure for colds and catarrhal complaints."

Hon. Thomas Cale.

Hon. Thomas Cale, elected to Congress from Alaska, is well known on the Pacific slope, where he has resided. His Washington address is 1312 9th St., N. W., Washington, D. C. He writes: "I can cheerfully recommend Peru-na as a very efficient remedy for coughs and colds."

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