

The Capital Journal

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Open Forum

Contributions to this column
must be plainly written on one
side of paper only, limited to
200 words in length and signed
with the name of the writer.
Articles not meeting these speci-
fications will be rejected.

To the Editor:—In Thursday's
issue we read of many women to
enter in state bar examination,
presumably to join the Oregon Bar
association (their union), and I
being a union man for 40 years,
why is it necessary for any one
trade or profession to have a
strictly closed shop like the judi-
ciary, while the judges tell us that
we have no right to organize and
very often fine us in contempt of
court for our union principles? Why
would it not be just as well to
open the courts and the judiciary
to the American or open shop
... As the law is now work-
ing out on precedents and anyone
with an ordinary high school edu-
cation can read a book and con-
strue it to his or her own belief in
these days just as easy as they can
make a journeyman out of a boy in
six weeks under the open shop or
American plan system. Anyway it
would be worth trying. Also the
doctors are well protected by the
medical diploma and in most cases
as first aid some harmless remedy
is prescribed while they read up
your case that could be done by
anyone without a diploma and at
much less expense. If done under
the open shop or American plan
system.
J. H. MURR,
411 S. 15th St., Salem, Oregon.

What's New On The Market

Vegetables prices still continue
to drop, though Monday will see
the market stripped of the rare
ones owing to the demand today.
Until local strawberries come on
there is little hope for a further
drop. It is said that the Japs con-
trol 90 per cent of the strawberry
production in the Sacramento val-
ley from whence most of these in
Salem markets are shipped and
that being able to hold up their
price are doing so.
New California beets, priced
three bunches for 25 cents, ap-
peared today and will be on the
market from now on. Egg plant,
what there is of it, still maintains
a price of 15 cents a pound.
Asparagus has taken another
drop to two bunches for 25 cents.
Spinach greens are now two
pounds for a quarter, while new
potatoes are selling three pounds
for 25 cents.
Green peas have gone up, be-
cause of a short supply and are
now priced at 20 cents a pound in
some stores. The price will prob-
ably increase from now on.
The egg market is reported firm,
but there has been no increase,
which in all probability will not
come until Tuesday of next week.
So plentiful is the supply of fish,
that for those who like it a dif-
ferent kind can be obtained for ev-
ery day in the week.

Forest fires destroy timber, rec-
reation, life.
Keep the evergreen forests ever
green.

"SEVEN YEARS
HAD LUCK"
It is the comedy that
has no custard pies, red
noses or eccentric make-
up of doubtful original-
ity

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Copy for Display Ad-
vertising should be in
The Capital Journal of-
fice by 5 p. m. of day
previous to publication.
Advertising brought
in on day of publication
is at advertiser's risk.
The Capital Journal

Civil Service Farce

President Harding recently modified the executive order
issued by President Wilson placing appointments to post-
offices under civil service rules. Instead of being required
to select the candidate standing highest in a civil service
examination for any specific postmastership, the administra-
tion may give the place to anyone of three at the head of
the qualified list. This is to make it possible to fill the offices
with republicans, as it is supposed there will be at least one
republican qualifying to two democrats.

"To the victors belong the spoils" is a plank of Andrew
Jackson Democracy that finds ready acceptance in both
parties. Civil service is a fashionable fad that has made
public office a sinecure without improving efficiency. As a
matter of fact, it is the bulwark of the bureaucracy that is
now strangling popular government with red tape. The post-
office is one of the few government departments where the
public is treated with uniform courtesy and which makes an
attempt at efficiency.

As it is, only the titular heads of departments change
with the administration. The real executives, the bureau
heads and chief clerks as well as rank and file, bulwarked
under civil service, remain perpetual fixtures and many of
them, secure in tenure, have lost sight of the fact that they
are public servants and regard the people with the "insolence
of office."

As long as official Washington is ruled by bureaucracy,
which will be just as long as civil service shields bureaucrats
in their jobs, it will be impossible to effect any compre-
hensive plans of efficient government by consolidation and
elimination of bureaus, reduction of jobs and simplification
of government. The bureaucrats present a united opposition
and command enough influence to thwart any attempt at
reform.

Any senator or representative will tell you that it is im-
possible to pass legislation affecting any federal department
without departmental approval. In other words, the depart-
ments dictate to congress, which represents the people,
instead of congress dictating to departments. This is the
effect of that bureaucracy of office-holders, which Jackson
smashed in his day and which needs smashing again if this
is to remain a real democracy.

President Harding should not stop with postmasters in
modifying civil service rules, but extend the change down
the line and "turn the rascals out." A clean sweep once in
a while is a good thing for popular government, for long
tenure of office breeds autocracy among the bureau chiefs
while time-serving becomes the inspiration of the rank
and file.

Will It Be Treason?

If Salem decides to celebrate the Fourth of July, will it
be safe to have the Declaration of Independence read? The
Declaration contains statements proscribed as disloyal by
some of our laws, regarded as treasonable by some of our
officials and the utterance of which has barred publications
from the mails, caused riots in towns and cities and the
passage of indignant resolutions from self-appointed guard-
ians of our government.

The Declaration, after declaring that "all men are created
equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain
inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the
pursuit of happiness" goes on to assert that "to secure these
rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their
just powers from the consent of the governed" and that when-
ever "government becomes destructive of these ends, "it is
the right of the people to alter or abolish it and to institute
new government, laying its foundation on such principles and
organizing its powers in such form as to them shall seem
most likely to effect their safety and happiness."

The Declaration continues its treasonable utterances by
asserting that when a "long train of abuses and usurpations"
tend to reduce them to despotism, "it is their right, it is
their duty, to throw off such government and provide new
guards for their future security."

For saying less a good many men are in jail. We have
made of the constitution a sacred art of the covenant and
to suggest change is treason. New York has just enacted
a law prohibiting any one from teaching in public schools if
he believes in any kind of a government different from the
present government. Other states have equally restrictive
statutes and the list of measures enacted to safeguard our
institutions from criticism is a long one.

The safety of our government has always rested in free
speech and free press. When these are throttled, the safety
valve of popular government is closed and an explosion is
likely to result. Left alone, our government protects itself.
It needs no protection from bumptious officialdom. For 132
years it has managed to function and preserve itself.

The best of all things, however, can be improved and good
citizenship believes in better government. It is time our
war hysteria subsided—sufficiently at least to permit the
reading of the Declaration of Independence on the Fourth
of July.

It is the irony of fate that Colonel Harvey, champion of
American isolation, should represent America in the Allied
conference and thus accomplish American participation in
world affairs which he so vigorously denounced.

In other words, Mutt was spoofing Jeff.



A Woman Who Wouldn't Remarry

Alicia Hammersly
By Idah McGlone Gibsor
The Noted Writer

The Face That Kills.
I shall never forget the emo-
tions that swept over me when
Hal said in an irresponsible and
half-yawning tone of voice, "Come
let's get to bed."
I saw that as far as Hal was
concerned that incident was closed.
He had come home at an hour of
the night that pleased him, and
beyond that nothing mattered. He
assumed a "render-unto-Caesar"
attitude and dismissed the matter
there. Although, for some reason
inexplicable to him, he had found
me sitting up for him, that he
seemed to assume, was my affair.
His first thought was that now
that he was home we both should
get to sleep as soon as possible.
"I am not going to bed," I ex-
claimed as I again seated myself
in the big arm-chair. "Do you
know what time it is, Hal?" I
asked with all the restraint I could
command.

Hal came into the living room
and closed the door with a bang
that must have awakened every-
one on our apartment floor.

"Some time after twelve, isn't
it?" He parried with another ques-
tion.
I turned to the window which
faced the east. Way down by the
horizon which could be seen
from our apartment, the dawn
was breaking.
Hal's eyes must have followed
mine to the window through which
the first hint of morning was
making its way into the darkened
room.
He gave an exclamation of sur-
prise. "Surely it can not be day-
break!"
"It is four o'clock," I answered
and as if in confirmation the
clock in the neighboring church
steeple tolled out the hour.
"Great heavens! I am due at
the office at eight," exclaimed
Hal with a sigh of weariness.
"Four hours' sleep in forty-eight
is not much, if anyone should ask
you."
"What do you mean by four
hours of sleep in forty-eight, Hal?
Weren't you in bed last night
either?"
He seemed to sense that he had

said something that he had bet-
ter left unsaid and he dropped
into a chair with a profane ex-
clamation.
At this I turned on the light
and looked at him closely. I was
appalled at the sight of his white,
drawn face and his deep-set star-
ing eyes.
"What is it, Hal? What is the
matter? Are you ill? Can I help
you?"
"Yes, Alix, you can help me by
letting me get to sleep as soon as
possible. You don't look as
though you approved of me very
much, but please wait until to-
morrow morning before you begin
on me." As he spoke he turned
into the bedroom and through the
open door I saw him quickly di-
vest himself of his outer clothing
and crawl into bed.
As I saw him snuggle down be-
tween the covers I went back in-
to the living room and I stood
again in front of the window. The
whole east was beginning to take
on a faint rosy glow.
Through some queer bent of
mind, I found myself repeating:
"Joy comes with the morning,
Care passes with the night."
and I started and looked about
the room. Was it possible that the
peculiarly cynical laugh I heard
came from my own lips? I went
to the bed-room door again and
faced the bed, although I did not
need an ocular demonstration to
tell me that Hal had not laughed.
His stentorian breathings loudly
proclaimed that he was fast asleep.
The air was fetid with stale
liquor and tobacco smoke. Hal
was lying on his back, his mouth
was open, an unsightly stubble of
beard covered the lower portion
of his face. His hair was in dis-
array and altogether it was not

Fire Damages Dallas Stores

Dallas, Or., May 14.—Fire of
unknown origin early Friday
morning did considerable damage
to the building owned by the A. K.
Wilson estate and Mrs. William
Kersey, at the corner of Main and
Court streets, occupied by Staffin's
drug store, J. C. Hayter's book
store and the Peoples cash store.
Van Cleave's photograph studio
on the second floor also sustained
considerable loss and several res-
ident tenants on the second floor
were driven out in their night
clothing.
The greatest loss to merchandise
stocks was occasioned by smoke
and water, as the fire was con-
fined to the rear of the buildings.
The loss will aggregate several

SALEM-SILVERTON STAGE

Leaves Salem
O. E. Depot
7:00 a. m.
11:00 a. m.
5:00 p. m.
Leaves Silvertown
News stand
8:15 a. m.
1:00 p. m.
6:15 p. m.
SALEM-INDEPENDENCE-
MONMOUTH STAGE
Leaves Salem O. E. Depot—7:00
a. m. 11:00 a. m. 5:00 p. m.
Leave Monmouth Hotel—8:15 a.
m. 1:00 p. m. 6:15 p. m.
Leave Independence Hotel—8:30
a. m. 1:15 p. m. 6:30 p. m.
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