

Capital Journal

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The Same Old Machine

The eastern Oregon tail is again wagging the Oregon dog. With a unity of purpose worthy of a better cause than sectionalism, the seven eastern Oregon senators in the eastern Oregon bloc have ratified the Klan choice for president of the senate because he is an eastern Oregon man, so that eastern Oregon will have the governor, and the president of the senate, who is really the lieutenant governor, as well as what it desires in the house organization. Eastern Oregon is enabled to get what it wants in offices and legislation because it is united, while western Oregon is hopelessly divided.

For years the legislature has been dominated by a combination of the eastern Oregon and the Multnomah delegations, which together had a majority and dictated legislation. The only break between the two factions occurred over the 1925 exposition bill in the special session of 1921. Moser has led the Multnomah machine in the senate and Kubli in the house—and both will lead it in the coming session. It is Moser's vote that will elect Upton and the same old bosses are on the same old job.

On the face of it this seems a klan victory with the klan choice in the governorship and at the head of both branches of the legislature. But as a matter of fact, it is a victory for the same old political ring that has been running affairs for many years. The klan has the shadow, and the politicians the substance. Indeed it is becoming more apparent that the issue of fanaticism was raised as a smoke screen to fool the people while the professional politicians secured the spoils. The klan having served a useful purpose is to be cast aside for it is disintegrating in Oregon as rapidly as it grew, fulfilling the law of nature that mushroom growths are short lived.

Yet there are things about this organization of slanted minds in slanted hoods to be commended, as set forth by Heywood Brown, the author, who declares:

The formation of the Ku Klux Klan seems to us a happy development in American life. Before the birth of this organization the business of hating was difficult. There was no single group which included all the illiberal elements in America. But now they are all together. We do not understand just what common bond fuses these divergent factions—bigots, patrioters, prohibitionists, hell-fire preachers, southern gentlemen, bullies, bragarts, bumbusties, censors—but there they are. For the first time in the history of our country the fact has been established that cussedness is not a local issue.

"Secretary Of Oil"

"Secretary of Oil" is the title given to Secretary of State Hughes by the New York World which calls attention to the fact that under Mr. Hughes the state department is only interested in foreign affairs when there are oil fields involved.

There is much to back up the charge. The discovery of oil and the concessions of the Standard Oil Co., caused Mr. Hughes to demand that congress pass the treaty with Columbia which had been held up for years in the senate, and party leaders reversed themselves and passed it. Then there is the refusal to recognize the Obregon government in Mexico and the demand that Mexico change her constitution in order to protect American oil concessions. Mr. Hughes' only interest in Mesopotamia was in behalf of oil interests and led to his demand that Americans be given equal chance in the oil fields. At present his only interest in Turkey and the near east is in securing from Angora for the Standard Oil rights in the Mosul fields now controlled by the British.

As the World says: Mr. Hughes manages to bear up pretty well in the face of European misery. He has a supply of good reasons always on hand why America can not become entangled in the problems of the civilized world. He is quite able to contemplate the losses to American agriculture and business, which are due to the financial crisis in Europe. He is able to confine his sympathies with the Near Eastern religious minorities to the ferocious speech at Boston designed to help Henry Cabot Lodge's campaign. For he is perfectly ready to argue that the fundamental American foreign policy is to have no foreign policy. But when there is oil in sight a whole new set of principles arise at once in Mr. Hughes' mind. He won't discuss world finance with Europe, because that would be meddling. But he will discuss oil with anybody anywhere at any time. For the oil question the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans do not exist. On oil and on oil alone Mr. Hughes does not believe in isolation. Where oil gushes, there are no Republican prejudices against foreign complications. In the great international race for oil Mr. Hughes is able to forget the irreconcilables. They can dictate all of the foreign policy of the Administration except its oil policy.

If only oil would begin to gush in Geneva, how quickly Mr. Hughes would go there! If only there were an oil field on the Rhine, how prophetically Mr. Hughes would see the peril to civilization!

Along State Street

"Be sure you're right," and then be unpopular.

It costs nothing to think, so long as you don't think out loud.

The poor are always with us—except when they are out in their flivvers.

The hard thing about saving a dollar is that you have to keep on doing it.

The only way to enjoy life is to hide your troubles, and then forget where you put them.

The human voice is produced by 44 muscles, but the tongue carries the burden of the job.

Married men will tell you that the easiest and best way to manage a woman is her own way.

Some men who make hay while the sun shines may hesitate to tell what they do when it rains.

Electricity will never put gas entirely out of business as long as we continue to have political campaigns.

Ladies of fashion will be happy when the short skirt returns. They can cut their long ones in two and save the difference.

Although a woman's attire may be highly praised by men, another woman will always know what the outfit cost down to the last trading stamp.

PANTOMIME—By J. H. Striebel



The Regeneration of Malcolm Starmount

By Idah McGlone Gibson.

The Doctor's Opinion

"Mary, you mustn't talk of me that way. I am only a weak, and some would say a very wicked, man, my dear. Before you have been here very long someone will tell you all my shortcomings."

"Am I going to stay here long?"

For answer Starmount squeezed the little hand so confidently clasped in his.

"No matter how long I stay, my Lord, no one shall ever say anything to me about you that is not good."

"Oh, Mary, sister. Come here! I am frightened! The nurse says that the doctors are coming to look at me and she thinks they will put my feet on straight again."

Eddie came clumping down the hallway.

He had heard Mary's voice but did not realize that Starmount was with her. Upon seeing him the boy shrank up beside the wall as though afraid that perhaps he had done something wrong by calling to his sister.

"Don't you worry, my boy, it may hurt you a little but you are going to be brave and see it through. Maybe we'll have you walking like other boys some day."

"I'd almost die if I could be like other boys," answered little Eddie confidently as he took hold of Starmount's other hand.

With a child on each side of him Malcolm Starmount felt for the first time in his life that two people really loved him, two people really trusted him. He bent down and picked up the little, wizened form of the boy and kissed him and with the boy in his arms, Mary and he walked into the wing-suite.

As they reached the door, a servant announced a noted diagnostician and two celebrated surgeons. Starmount felt Eddie trembling but he gave him a reassuring caress.

"Send them in, Benson," and with Eddie on his lap, and Mary standing beside him, he welcomed the physicians.

"I have called you," he said, "to examine the mother of these two children. The nurse seems to think that she shows symptoms of tuberculosis. I also want your opinion about this boy."

"Do you think you will have to saw them off before you turn them around?" inquired a childish voice. "And will it hurt much?"

The younger of the doctors picked Eddie up in his arms.

"I've got a little boy, laddie, who used to have feet just like yours. We turned them right around without hurting him very much. He only had to wear a brace for a long, long time. You run and play, laddie while we go and see mother."

The doctor watched the child very closely as he hobbled out the doorway and walked down toward the beach.

After a thorough examination of Mrs. Devlin the doctors returned to the sitting room.

"Mary," said Starmount, "I don't see Eddie. Will you find him, please?"

"It isn't necessary, my Lord, to send me away. I want to know all about mother."

Her penetration surprised Starmount. It was one of the times when Mary Devlin seemed to have shed all her childishness and become a woman in whose soul tragedy had worked more havoc than time.

The diagnostician looked at Starmount inquiringly. Starmount nodded his head.

"Mrs. Devlin," he said, "has only a short time to live as we count years, but with great care, with which I anticipate you can and will surround her, she may have a very comfortable existence for many months, possibly years."

"Of course, you understand that she cannot live in this climate and I advise her being sent to the Adirondacks immediately. We will build her up a little so that she can be sent by the end of the month I think."

It seemed to Starmount that he could fairly feel Mary Devlin's heart beat. Right down at the base of her throat where her shabby dress fell away a little there was a fluttering, a fluttering that gave him an irresistible desire to press his lips against it, as a mother would kiss a hurt to make it well.

"I don't think—I don't think we can go, doctor. It would cost a great deal of money wouldn't it?"

"Money doesn't mean anything, Mary, dear. Just as soon as your mother is able we will send you and her to the Adirondacks and perhaps by the time you come back Eddie's feet may be turned around again."

"Do you think, doctor, that we had better have another nurse. If you think it would be better we will send her up immediately. I can have my car fitted up for an invalid."

"And would you come too, my Lord?" asked Mary.

"Very often, my dear."

At this moment the doctor who had been watching Mary carefully interrupted to say: "Come over her and let me look at you."

After a slight examination in which he thumped her lungs and listened to her heart, he turned to Starmount and said: "The Adirondacks will be the best thing in the world for this young lady."

"Oh, you don't know what lovely food they have here, doctor. I don't need to leave my Lord to get enough to eat."

"But you will have to go with your mother, Mary, and I will come up and see how you both are getting along, very often."

"And Mr. Sather can go with us, can he not?"

"Wouldn't you rather have your friend, Pat Muleahy?"

"I want Pat to stay with you, my Lord. I want to know that someone's here protecting you as long as I can't be here to do it."

There was a general laugh as the doctors left.

(Continued tomorrow)

GILBERT WILL FILED HERE FOR PROBATE

The will of Sarah Roxana Gilbert, who died Oct. 8, 1922, has been admitted to probate by the county court. The value of the estate is about \$1800.

In the will made Sept. 26, 1914, Mrs. Gilbert bequeathed \$5 to her daughter Alvreda Savage, \$5 to her son Ralph Gilbert and \$50 to her grandson Red Gilbert. The remaining estate she willed to her five sons, share and share alike.

In a codicil dated July 14, 1922 Mrs. Gilbert cancelled the \$5 given to a son and daughter, and the \$50 to her grandson Fred Gilbert, as she had not heard from him for several years. After cancelling the three special bequests, the codicil provides that the entire estate be divided share and share alike among the six sons and one daughter of Mrs. Gilbert.

Rome—A new volcano was reported on Mount Torretta, near Potenza.



A MAN and a girl and a box of Tan Jar—sweetmeats—all's well!

15.00 the pound wherever they sell good candy.



FIRE DESTROYS HEART OF ASTORIA

(Continued from Page One.)

Commercial street, burning the piling on which the city had been built, and firemen were unable to cope with this development.

Patients were removed from St. Mary's hospital, all the windows of which were shattered by explosions of dynamite or gasoline tanks. The Astoria Astorian, occupying a new building on Commercial street, a distance from the devastated area, began moving out at 8 o'clock. The Astorian's building is concrete but sparks were threatening the roof.

Loss Is Millions

W. A. Tyler, president of the Astoria National bank, after surveying the ruins, said the monetary loss would run between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000.

The fire was discovered in the Palace restaurant on Commercial street, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets, in the heart of the business district, and it quickly spread to adjoining buildings, leaping across the street to the Beehive department store. It spread from Commercial street to Bond street.

Fire Fighters Hampered

The local fire department was hampered by lack of sufficient water pressure and apparatus and a call was sent at 3:23 for aid from Portland. In response to this appeal a special train with two fire companies and full equipment, including 4,000 feet of hose arrived here at 4 a. m. Dynamiting was resorted to but this failed to check the sweep of the flames.

Most of the buildings destroyed were frame, but the city's most substantial structures, of brick, were also among those razed. The brick buildings wrecked were the Astoria Savings bank, four stories; Weinhard hotel, six stories; the Astoria Budget, Elks Temple; Astoria National bank, Staples Motor company, Sovey Motor company and Skallrud dry goods store.

The fire at 10:15 had crossed sixteenth street at Commercial street, where a determined effort was being made to stop it at the Astoria Business college building. The fire at that time had swept through the concrete building of The Astorian.

The fire was expected to burn itself out at the east end because few buildings remained in its path in that direction.

At the west it had stopped at Eighth street. At the north the flames had been stopped by the main line of the Spokane, Portland and Seattle railway, along the river front.

Old Residences Burned

At the south the general line of the fire was along Exchange street, except between Eleventh and Twelfth, where it had reached as far as Franklin street. Some of the older residences of the city were destroyed in the area already swept, but the main residence district on the high ground was not menaced at 10 o'clock.

The police were making an effort to patrol the fire swept district. There were reports of looting. There were rumors of persons being injured, but no further deaths had been reported up to 10 o'clock.

Plan for Relief

A meeting of business men was called at the Episcopal church to plan relief and reconstruction work.

Buildings in the vicinity of the city hall were dynamited to check the flames there and windows of the city hall were shattered. The

fire had stopped across the street from the city hall and that building appeared to be safe.

Rain was falling when the fire broke out and there was no wind. The rain stopped after about two hours, but resumed after an intermission of half an hour.

Guests at the hotels in the fire swept area were warned in time to escape in safety, according to reports to fire fighters.

The fire at 9 o'clock had swept the entire district between Astor street at the riverfront south to Exchange street, and north and south between Eighth and Sixteenth streets. Between Eleventh and Twelfth it had penetrated as far as Franklin street.

Got Out of Control

Fire Chief C. E. Foster said the fire got out of control because the flames got hold underneath the buildings, and burned through the piling on which the city was built. He said the fact that the piling had not been filled in as the city was built was the cause of the disaster.

All the streets in the devastated area have collapsed with the burning of the piling.

All the docks were saved.

One Life Lost

One life was lost in the fire, according to reports available at 8 o'clock. Norris Staples, automobile dealer and president of the Astoria Bank of Commerce, dropped dead. Two other business men were missing and believed dead were later accounted for.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 8.—A dis-

patch received by the United States naval radio station at Bremerton, Wash., dated from Astoria, Or., at 9 a. m., said:

"The fire is extremely out of control and fanned by a westerly breeze, is sweeping rapidly over the unburned area. Several deaths and numerous injuries have resulted from the conflagration and dynamiting is being resorted to in an effort to check the flames. The entire city is in imminent danger of destruction."

FILLING STATION LEASE IS MADE

The Union Oil company of California has leased for a term of five years, from T. B. Jones, the property on the corner of north Commercial and Center street.

According to the terms of the lease, which was filed for record this morning, the oil company agrees to pay \$125 a month rent for the first year, and \$150 a month for the remaining five years of the lease, payable monthly in advance.

The two story frame house on the lot is now being removed, as the lease provides that the lot shall be cleared by Jan. 1, 1923. The Union Oil company will erect a filling station on the corner.

LITTLE WORK FOUND HERE

There is but little work available for idle men in Salem at the present time, according to Police Judge Earl Race, who conducts the municipal employment bureau.

There are, however, but few Salem residents without employment, Judge Race said. Most of the jobless are transients who are in the city for only a short time. Several men are furnished free beds in the city jail each night.

Marshfield Man Killed

Marshfield, Or., Dec. 8.—Frank E. Arnot was dead today from injuries received from a limb of a tree blown down by the storm raging in this district Wednesday. A barn was destroyed and a horse killed in the storm.

SILK SHIRTINGS

Select your silk shirtings now and if you desire we will make them up for you, monogram the sleeves and do them up in Xmas boxes. Our selections of silk shirtings were never better. The newest in shirtings are Pussy Willows. The best tub silks made. In platinum grey, pheasant tan and white, 40 inches wide at \$3.50 yd. Imported pongee in super weight at \$1.50 yd., lighter weights at \$1.19. Other shirtings in beautiful qualities, stripes, brocades, etc. Priced \$1.98 and \$2.25.

GIVE SCARFS

Have you seen our Mantilla plush stoles? Also the Parcolay, Kerome and silk Mole? What a wonderful gift and a serviceable one they would make. Beautifully lined with rich lustrous silks, bordered with a deep fringe of jet black, these stoles are handsomely styled and as an article of apparel are unequalled for gift giving. Priced \$11.98 to \$28.75.

ROYAL SOCIETY

Make this a Royal Society Christmas by embroidering Royal Society package outfits, scarfs, pillow cases, pillow tops, lingerie, doilie sets, table and lunch pieces. We are Salem's headquarters for all things Royal Society. A few model pieces at half price.

UMBRELLAS

A new lot of silk umbrellas came recently that fairly thirst for rainy days. Pretty and practical are these umbrellas. Novelty handles, wide selvege edge, silk tops. Qualities that you will enjoy giving. \$5.95 to \$11.95.

GIFTS FOR BABIES

Choose from a wealth of novelties. Our infant's department is brimful of new and dainty things for baby. Aschers 100% wool sweaters, stockings, caps and knitted outfits. Celluloid novelties, maupin dolls, etc.

"Look at these Practical Gifts," Says Auntie Claus

"Why worry over something 'new and different' when the old standbys are the most appreciated after all. Good warm things to wear, and articles that can be used everyday for the rest of the year are the sensible things to give."

MILLER'S

BAKE-RITE



THE LARGE CRISP NUT BROWN LOAF THAT TASTES BETTER THAN ORDINARY BREAD. IF YOU DON'T USE BAKE-RITE YOU SHOULD TRY A LOAF TODAY.

BAKE-RITE SANITARY BAKERY

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