

# Capital Journal

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Publisher

## Menace of the Miracle

Nation-wide appeals "to do something about the radio" are pouring into Washington from theatre and amusement managers who see in free broadcasting a menace that threatens stage and screen with disaster. These appeals have been accentuated since John McCormack and Lucretia Bori, two stars of the Metropolitan Opera company have actually sung to an audience composed of many millions, who in comfort in their own homes heard the golden voices of the singers. It can be expected that eventually all forms of entertainment will thus be brought to the homes of the people—which would spell bankruptcy for the hundreds of millions invested in amusement enterprises.

But what can be done about it? Secretary Hoover says the government cannot act, that it is not feasible nor desirable to attempt to influence or regulate programs broadcast free to those who desire to listen. Yet the theatrical managers, concert managers, vaudeville and actors associations, song-writers, phonograph makers, baseball magnates, sports promoters, movie picture actors and exhibitors, along with street car companies, are combining to force some kind of action.

This mystic miracle of the air is only in the initial stages of its development, and its effect upon modern institutions are yet only glimpsed. It may not only revolutionize public entertainment, but virtually supplant the newspaper in the distribution of news and not only amusement but the press will have to prove right to existence.

## Public Power Development

Senator Joseph is to renew his legislative effort to submit to the voters a constitutional amendment authorizing the state to engage in water power development, either independently or in cooperation with other states or the federal government. He favors the public development of water power because of its being a perpetual and inexhaustible resource that should be developed at public expense and sold the consumer at cost, and because offer of cheap power would bring industries to Oregon, especially since coal, oil and wood resources are nearing depletion.

Publicly owned power projects have an advantage over private, in that they secure the money for development at lower rates of interest than private enterprises can and deficiencies in operating costs can be met by general taxation. They also have the disadvantage that all government operation has of inefficiency in management due to lack of incentive for employes, with resultant corruption or the red tape of civil service that protects incapacity and discourages capacity.

The majority of voters pay no direct taxes, hence they are always ready to vote for public expenditures that increase the taxation of others. They want cheap rates for public service to benefit themselves as consumers even when the taxpayer must foot the deficiencies thereby resulting—and the administration that does not follow this program is voted out of power.

At present the development of water power in Oregon is in excess of the demand. It is questionable whether the state could develop and sell power, so as to realize the necessary returns for operation and pay off indebtedness at a less rate to the public than the more efficient private management can. As long as rates are fixed by the state, so as to render only a fair return upon investment, there is certainly no emergency existing necessitating greater indebtedness for the taxpayer to pay.

## SALEM HI FACES HARD GAME HERE WITH FRANKLIN

Tonight the Salem high school basketball five will clash with the Franklin high school quintet of Portland on the high school floor in the first really hard game that they have had this season. The high school lost to the Indians not long ago in a close game, but Franklin is bringing a formidable organization and high school basketball fans will have their first chance to test the mettle of the locals.

Salem will have many hard games this year, but the Franklin game bids fair to be the hardest fought of the season. Franklin has a team of veterans and so has Salem, so the battle ought to be well worth the price of admission. Scully, who plays forward on the visitors' five, is an all-star number of last year's mythical five and he is going better this year. Aubly will probably be sent in to stop him if possible. With Epps, Kitzmeyer and Foster they have some fast men and Salem will have to play like wildcats to ward off a defeat.

Couch Huntington has been drilling his men for this game and he promises Franklin a tough battle. Salem will meet the McMinnville five on the local floor every evening. Local sport fans will have a busy three days with the two Salem games and the smoke to be given Friday evening. 12th of the Salem games will start about 7:45. It is possible that a preliminary game will be arranged.

## REGISTER SILVER FOXES

Mill City, Or., Jan. 5.—F. M. Chastek, representative of the American National Silver Fox Breeders' association, has been at Detroit for the past couple of days inspecting the foxes on the three farms located there, classifying them for registration with the association. Mr. Chastek, whose headquarters are at Spokane, reports everything to fine shape at Detroit.

Men seldom give pleasure when they are not pleased themselves.

## POLK COUNTY ROAD FUND IN RED \$45,000

(Continued from Page One)

market road funds has apparently been amicably settled. A representative of the state highway commission was in Dallas yesterday for a conference with the court and E. J. Howe, market road engineer. Mr. Howe presented him with a summary of the court's expenditures from market road funds during 1924.

Machinery, which included the amount spent for road equipment, crushers and crusher equipment and repairs, and supplies for road machinery totalled an expense of \$15,964.34 in the 1924 market road account. After an examination the highway commission representative decided that \$5000 of this might properly be chargeable to the market roads as their just share in its use and depreciation. The remaining \$10,964.34 will have to be turned back into the market road fund of the county from motor vehicle or other funds during the year. With this assurance the money held up by the state will be forthcoming. The engineers made plain that the commission is not charging misappropriation of funds but is insisting that each market road bear only its proportionate share of equipment expense. There has been no fault found with the roads constructed, and apparently the conference yesterday cleared up all misunderstandings.

The machinery item of \$15,964.34 for 1924 charged to market roads compares with a charge of \$2395 in 1923. The total expended on the two years was approximately the same, \$31,000, for labor, supplies, right of way, etc. In addition to the expenditure of \$15,964 for machinery charged to market roads, something like \$12,000 worth of machinery has been charged to other road funds, bringing the grand total of this expense to about \$27,000 in 1924, according to Mr. Howe's figures, prepared for the conference with the state representative. No figures are available on the machinery item from the general road fund in 1923.

The condition of the two main road funds at the present time leaves the new county court in something of a hole. The general road fund levy in the budget for 1925 calls for \$47,000. The 1924 levy was \$49,000. The market road fund levy calls for \$27,000.

# TODAY'S CROSS WORD PUZZLE

## HORIZONTAL

- Combine
- Small child
- Tart
- Two and one
- Musical note
- Exclamation
- Reflection
- Island
- Midday
- Dishearten
- Lamprey
- Prefix meaning two
- Electrical sound-producing instrument.

TRUELS  
RUSALODE  
IDEAS  
PER SUPINE  
OH  
DILAPIDATED  
OSTIRISMAP  
TOILYSEON  
EXKNEE

SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

## VERTICAL

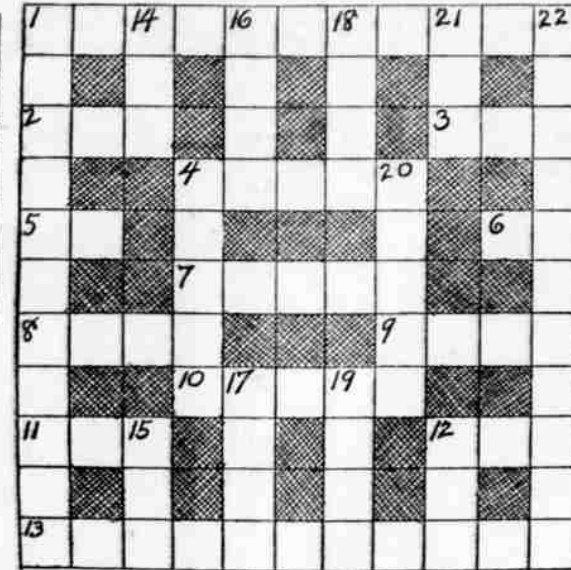
- Discerning
- Tested
- Also
- Fallet
- Potash
- Wealthy
- Part of molecule
- Ugly giant
- Lowest tide
- Happening
- Viper
- Enormous

## HOW TO SOLVE THE CROSS WORD PUZZLE

The way to solve the Cross Word Puzzle is to fill in the white squares of the diagram with the words which agree with the accompanying definitions. The definitions are numbered to correspond with the numbers on the diagram.

Any word defined in the text under "HORIZONTAL" will begin at its number, shown on the diagram, and will extend all the way across to the first black space to the right of that number. That is, the word must begin in the square that contains its identifying number, and extend as far as the white squares continue uninterruptedly.

Any word defined under "VERTICAL" will also begin, in the white space that contains its number, but will extend downward as far as the white spaces remain uninterruptedly.



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# A Modern Marriage

An Absorbing Novel  
By IDAH McGLONE GIBSON

## KATHLYN'S DARK HOUR

The man turned quickly at the sound of Rodney Evans' voice. "Yes, you're Mr. Evans, the playwright. What do you know about this affair?"

"I found the body of the man at the foot of Miss Leonard's steps a little while ago. Before I could call the station this officer came up. Miss Leonard is a friend of mine. I had just rung her doorbell when I discovered the body. I thought the man was drunk. When she opened her door we found in the light that it was Elton Posa, whom we both knew very well."

"The officer in plain clothes gave a low whistle. 'You mean Elton Posa, the broker, who pulled off that sensational coup in the street today?'"

"What a hullabaloo this will cause. I'll answer for the woman, Murphy," he remarked. "Evans will come along with us. I'll catch telephone you, Miss Leonard, or see you in the morning."

the end of the divan. "I'll see you early in the morning," Rodney said, and he and the men tramped out.

For a moment Kathlyn Leonard childishly covered her eyes with her hands, her fingers pressed tightly against her burning eyeballs, as if to shut out all the terrible hour that had just passed.

For a moment she stood unseeing, and then with a groan her arms dropped to her sides. "It is real," she found herself saying as her eyes again opened upon the room and she saw the stained and mud-spattered floor.

At last, the coffee finished and her set clothes hung up to dry, she flung herself on the broad divan still shaking. Her cheek touched the cold steel. Her hand went over her mouth to stifle the scream which was already at her lips.

fool a woman is to go outside her prescribed circle. A woman needs the protection of a man's name. If I had had this would not have happened."

A sudden thought came to her. She picked up the automatic lying among the pillows which Rodney had left in her hand. As she expected it was her own, the one with which she had threatened Elton Posa, the one she had dropped beside him and to recover which she had opened her door again only to find Rodney Evans beside Posa.

She groaned as she found it fully loaded. The shot that had killed Elton Posa had come from that other gun. By this time it was in the hands of the police.

Why had Rodney put it back in Elton's pocket after he had thrown it on the pavement? Why did he not remember that it would be covered with his own fingerprints? Why had he interrupted the officer and tried to explain matters? He might have known that it would be impossible to invent on the spur of the moment an explanation that would not be ridiculed by the questions of trained criminal prosecutors.

How would it be possible for Rodney to tell her what he had said to the officers at the station? She found herself pacing up and down the room frantically.

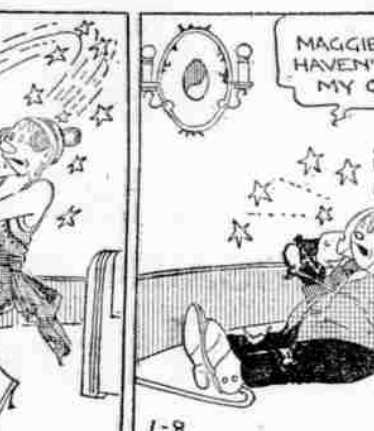
The bell rang three short peals. Could this be Rodney? It was his way of announcing himself. She rushed to the door. Rodney slipped in and she was crushed in his arms.

Tomorrow—Rodney Returns.

Loeb Heads Reichstag

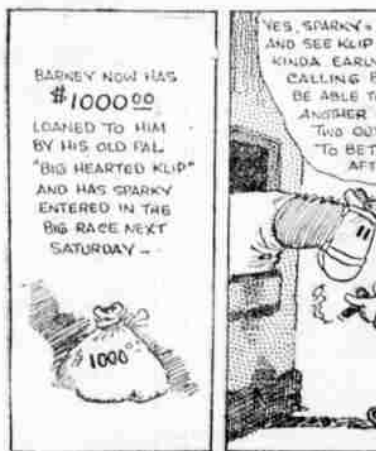
Berlin, Jan. 8.—(By Associated Press.)—Dr. Paul Loeb, socialist-democrat, a former president of the reichstag, was elected president of the new reichstag today.

## BRINGING UP FATHER



## BARNEY GOOGLE AND SPARK PLUG

Barney's on "Location."



## KRAZY KAT

Recognized Ignorance

By Herriman



## MUTT AND JEFF

Jeff Figured His Time Was Worth a Dollar and Ten Cents at Least.

By Bud Fisher

