

Capital Journal

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Publisher

On Law Making

In his biennial address to the legislature, Governor Pierce, in his plea for law enforcement, said:

We, who are the beneficiaries of the greatest inheritance the world has ever known in the form of governmental institutions, unequalled in their justice since time began, today find them trembling in the balance, because there is growing up a spirit of indifference to law and established authority.

May there be a revival of the spirit of reverence for authority and law that will sweep this land from end to end, so that Oregon may be the most progressive state in all the Union; a state where law is held sacred, enforced without favor, or repealed when found wrong.

By law enforcement, the governor means of course, prohibition enforcement for to fanatics, the Volstead act is the only law on the statute books, and for its enforcement, it is permissible to violate all other laws, including the constitutional provisions embodied in the Bill of Rights.

Yet the statute books are filled with laws which are unenforceable and which no attempt is made to enforce, and the nation still survives. That is because lawmakers are often ignorant of fundamental law and under emotion or coercion or fanaticism, pass laws that are of no force or effect in practice and therefore properly ignored.

Few of the obnoxious laws are ever repealed. They remain as dead letters. The witchcraft laws, the Sunday Blue Laws and numerous other laws still adorn the statute books of the older states, but are never enforced, an inheritance of the past that no one has taken the trouble to repeal.

One fundamental in law making that is frequently overlooked, is that any enactment that fails of its purpose, will almost certainly work backward and tend to bring about the opposite result that that desired. This is shown by laws regulating interest rates in defiance of economic law, by laws taxing mortgages, and other measures designed to penalize capital. The net result is the penalizing of the borrower, by subterfuge or other means.

Another fundamental lost sight of, is that you cannot by a multiplicity of laws, prevent people from doing what they generally and usually wish to do. That is why all the laws on the books have not suppressed gambling, but only certain forms of gambling. That is why laws regulating business practice are not enforced and cannot be enforced. There are scores of ways to accomplish the same end under the spur of profit and laws cannot be made fast enough to catch up with the expedients adopted.

A still more important fundamental in law making is that excessive and inhuman penalties for slight offenses tend to increase crime—and there is no surer way of destroying a criminal statute than by providing such penalties. Juries find themselves confronted by the alternative of finding an offender not guilty or sending him to jail for a long term and to pay an exorbitant fine—and invariably acquit, because the penalty outrages their sense of fair play and justice.

Merely because a fool law gets on the statute books, does not make it sacred—and it is the fool laws that breed the spirit of law defiance and indifference. That is the trouble—we have too many fool laws, attempting to change human nature by legal edict, which commonsense reject, but Governor Pierce to the contrary, the nation is not therefore "trembling in the balance."

A Hopeful Sign

Defeat of the proposed child labor amendment to the federal constitution, as forecasted by a poll of the legislators, is evidence that we have a legislature above the average in intelligence and commonsense. Usually the pleas of the sentimentalists and the pressure of the up-lifters, stampedes the solons into enactments of legislation, innocent and altruistic on their face, projected ostensibly for human welfare, but which in operation multiply bureaucracy, increase taxation, curtail liberty and are destructive of democracy.

The amendment, which makes children wards of congress until their 18th year, and destroys the inherent rights of parents over their offspring, is one of the most vicious and far-reaching measures ever put forth in the republic. It would disrupt the family, the unit of our civilization, demoralize its discipline and create shiftlessness in the rising generation, without accomplishing the objects sought.

Regulation of child-labor is a local and state function, not a national, and the indicated defeat of this measure all over the Union, heralds a pronounced reaction against the centralization of government that has proceeded at a menacing pace since the outbreak of the world war. The effect of this centralization, which will inevitably break down the over loaded federal government, was aptly described by President Coolidge in his recent message to congress, when he said:

"I am convinced that the broadening of this field of activity is detrimental both to the Federal and State governments. Efficiency of Federal operations is impaired as their scope is unduly enlarged. Efficiency of State government is impaired as they relinquish and turn over to the Federal government responsibilities which are rightfully theirs. I am opposed to any expansion. My conviction is that it can be carried with benefit to both the Federal and State governments."

U. S. SUCCESSFUL IN SPORTS DURING 1924

New York—America's athletic forces swept overwhelmingly to triumph over a field of international rivals throughout 1924, but in the Olympic games at Paris, the chief event of the year, Uncle Sam's time-honored prestige sustained several stunning setbacks.

As the year's march of events is reviewed, however, the memory of reverses encountered by the winners of the Stars and Stripes on the track at Colombes cannot altogether be erased even by the sweeping victories in seven other major Olympic competitions and the string of triumphs scored otherwise in golf, tennis, polo, horse-racing and boxing. A summary of more important fields of 1924 competition shows America at the top in 12 out of 14.

With the aid of its forces, the United States carried off all Olympic point honors of importance but for the first time since 1904 the American colors were lowered in the coveted 100-metre championship, when the Cambridge student, Harold Abrahams, beat

four of America's best sprinters. While Yankee distance runners tarred dimly in the events from 1500 metres up where the Finns, led by the marvelous Paavo Nurmi, swept the field.

NEW CORPORATIONS
Civic Orchard Women's Civic Club, Covs; Incorporators Mrs. Louise Loomis, Mrs. Anna Yahn, Mrs. Wayne Dunn; assets \$600.
Oregon Settlement Company, Eugene; Incorporators, W. A. Rife, M. P. Bonnet, W. R. Humphrey; capital \$1000.

SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

S	E	P	O	Y	R	O	U	N	D	
T	O	O	S	K	E	I	N	P	A	R
O	N	S	K	E	I	N	T	O		
O	P	I	E	N	A	T	O			
P	A	L	S		P	R	E	P		
D	E	T	O	N	A	T	E	S		
D	E	A	R		H	A	T	E		
R	D	U	N	T	O	T	V			
A	N		M	O	D	E	L			
P	I	N	T	O	E	C	A	R		
E	L	A	T	E		M	O	O	D	Y

TODAY'S CROSS WORD PUZZLE

HORIZONTAL

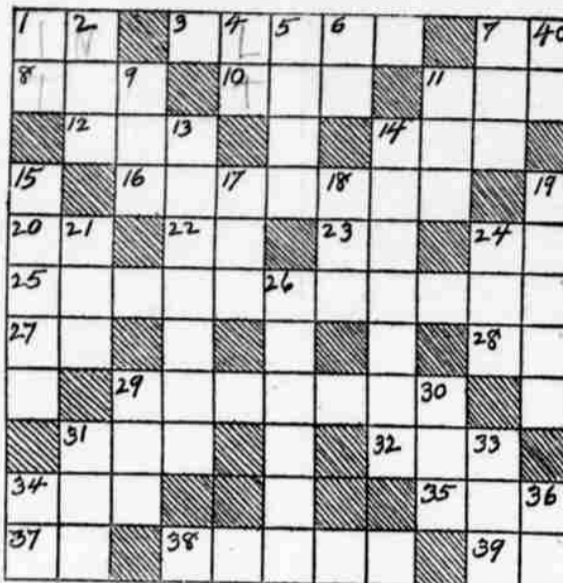
1. Within
2. Mankind
3. Parent
4. Twice one
5. Convulsive twitching of muscles
6. Behold
7. Iniquity
8. Begin to grow
9. Explosive noise
10. Dispersed
11. Behind
12. Post Office (abbr.)
13. Perform
14. Pennsylvania (abbr.)
15. Pertaining to signatures.
16. Pronoun
17. New England (abbr.)
18. Having hair growth on face
19. Seed plant covering
20. The sun
21. No
22. Game of tag (colloquial)
23. Else
24. Putschist
25. Toward

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 squares remain uninterruptedly.



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A Modern Marriage

An Absorbing Novel
By IDAH MCGLONE GIBSON

KATHLYN'S FAMILY

Rodney Evans looked at Doctor Johnson in surprise as he said to himself, "I have never seen this man." To the physician Evans said: "You of course know, Dr. Johnson, of the terrible tragedy that occurred last night. Miss Leonard has been summoned to appear at the inquest at ten o'clock and my friend and I have come to take her. Of course, it is impossible for her to go under the circumstances."

"It is impossible, Mr. Evans, for her to go anywhere except to the hospital. I will not answer for her life under any other circumstances."

"Will you sign this then, Doctor?" said Dick, coming forward with a sheet of notepaper in his hand on which he had jotted down just what the doctor had said. "Don't worry, Rod, I'll make all the necessary arrangements over the phone for the ambulance and the hospital room."

He took out his watch. "You and I have to be going very soon, Rod, if we are to get to the inquest in time."

"The inquest must wait."

"The law never waits, Rod."

"This is one time when it shall," snapped Evans sternly. "Until Kathlyn is safely in her bed at the hospital, in care of the best doctors and nurses that can be procured, all the law in the world can not take me from her."

Dick saw that Rodney was crazed by the girl's illness and had for gotten all about the seriousness of his position in regard to the killing of Elton Foss.

"I will try to delay the inquest," Sharmount said, turning to the phone.

Rodney took no further interest in the matter. He was frantic and half dead with grief and again and again he tried again and again to make more than a casual acquaint-

Kathlyn recognize him. Dick came back from the phone and put his hand on Rodney's shoulder. "Don't worry, old man. It will all come out right." But he thought that Kathlyn's illness was a direct act of providence. He knew what maneuvering it would take to keep her from being indicted for the murder and would much rather have her absent and let him make out his case for himself with Rodney's help.

He was pretty sure that he could steer the questions into such a channel that Kathlyn would not be blamed. He was not very enthusiastic, though, over Rod's taking the blame for Kathlyn's guilt—if she were guilty.

Only that he was not sure of her guilt made him accede to Rod's request.

"The coroner has promised to delay the inquest until one o'clock; that will give us enough time to get Kathlyn to the hospital," the lawyer said.

"It does seem, Dick, as though Kathlyn should have some woman friend with her."

"A woman does not need anyone but her husband at such a time," Dick answered, "but it is astonishing how few real friends one finds he has when he wants them."

"It's queer, Dick," said Rod, "that a girl like Kathlyn could live five years in New York and meet hundreds of people and yet have not a single intimate woman friend."

"Of course, Kathlyn has always been so ambitious that she has not cared much for intimate friends. They take so much of my time," she always has said. I think, perhaps, that Lucie Stodman, who was married about a year and a half ago, is the only woman who

tried again and again to make more than a casual acquaint-

ance of Kathlyn's in this whole city."

"Why don't you call her up?" asked Dick.

"She is now in Reno for a six months' stay preparatory to a divorce."

Rodney sighed. He hated to think that Kathlyn would be at the hospital with only hired people to care for her.

"There are many women," he concluded, "that would offer their services, but they would do so from curiosity."

At last, however, the two men decided that it would be better to depend upon the nurse than some mere acquaintance.

"Do you think we had better advise Kathlyn's sister?" Dick asked Sharmount.

"I think we had, but I'm sure she'll not come after the newspapers get all the details of this murder. She would rather leave Kathlyn to any fate than to be mixed up with anything of this sort."

"Kathlyn's mother recently had a row with her other daughter, with whom she was living, and came here. Kathlyn is not very diplomatic; she sent her sister a caustic letter."

"Where is the mother now?" asked Sharmount.

"She's somewhere in the Holy Land. She left a month ago on a trip around the world. My father was on the same boat. Because of our secret marriage, Dick, Kathlyn knew that she could not keep her mother with her, and as Mrs. Leonard expressed a desire to go round the world, Kathlyn made it possible for her to go."

Tomorrow—The Strange Voice

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By George McManus

BRINGING UP FATHER



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BARNEY GOOGLE AND SPARKY PLUG

Exercise for Sparky? Yes, Barrels of it

By Billy de Beck



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KRAZY KAT

The Blindness of Youth

By Herriman



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MUTT AND JEFF

Augustus Mutt Is Kidding His Better Half

By Bud Fisher



I GOTTA DISCOURAGE HER!

WAIT HERE!

YOUR BEHAVIOR REQUIRES

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