

Capital Journal

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GEORGE PUTNAM, Editor and Publisher

Soaking the Poor

Governor Pierce's political strategy in his grand-standing campaign to soak the rich by imposing special taxes has had the usual result of soaking the poor. The poor man's smokes, the cigarette and tobacco, are taxed, while the rich man's smokes, cigars, escape taxation. Thus the poor man is compelled to pay a tax for his luxury that the rich man escapes.

The tobacco tax does not tax the tobacco trust, or the tobacco dealer who pass the tax on with an added sum for their trouble, to the consumer, who will not only pay the ten percent additional but the costs of collection also.

So endeth the mighty gubernatorial endeavor to cut taxation by multiplying taxes and increasing public expenditures. If the program is continued, another session will see the poor mulcted in other lines than tobacco. There are still candy, pop and soda water, popcorn and chewing gum, as well as the movies, that can be soaked to provide more jobs for more bureaucrats at public expense.

Pierce Triumphant

Both the legislature and the governor played politics throughout the session and the legislature proved itself no match for the governor and finds itself badly trimmed. When it comes to playing politics, Walter Pierce is in a class by himself. He has secured what he wanted and forced the legislature to give him even more than he asked.

Except for the Port of Portland issue, really a local affair, the governor has won every contention and the close of the session finds him triumphant, with more money to spend, more jobs to give out, and more leisure for campaigning than ever.

While the governor sacrificed Cleaver, he gets twice as much money to spend for his successor. He retains power over both fish and game commissions, with some new commissions to appoint. He keeps all of his proteges, like Spence. The prison remains uninvestigated, and in his control.

Not a single reform in administration or a single economy has been recommended by the governor or initiated by the legislature which has proven itself anything but constructive. Instead with its Palm Beach bill, it has played into the governor's hands. The financial crisis existing created by the governor's action in levying too low a tax, will grow more acute in the next two years.

All of which shows that things must grow worse before they grow better—and every legislature is doing its share, aided by the governor, to make them worse.

OPEN FORUM

Contributions to this column must be plainly written on one side of paper only limited to 300 words in length and signed with the name of the writer. Articles not meeting these specifications will be rejected.

To the Editor:—My attention has been called to your editorial, "Prison Probe Needed," and I wish to thank you for same. It is true that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," but it is equally true that frequent, honest inspection is the price of efficient public service. The principle of competent inspection, frequently applied, is everywhere recognized and practiced in the industrial and business world. When such inspection shall be applied to the public service, that service will become efficient.

By all means, therefore, let an investigation of the state prison be made. A real honest investigation, but not an attempted whitewash. But why stop at the state prison? Why not other state institutions and departments? If we are willing to look facts in the face, and correct undesirable conditions irrespective of whom they are involved, much may be done to improve state governmental affairs. Taxes may even be reduced though not cut in half.

A genuine effort to learn the facts will determine the truth relative to the things referred to in the agitation for an investigation of the state prison, and in addition, will determine the facts about many other things, some of which are: Whether or not incompetent employees have been, and are being, kept in positions, seemingly, because of personal obligations; superiors to such employees; whether certain persons have been allowed to live at the state's expense, for seemingly, no other reason than that such persons were relatives or friends of those in official position; whether it is true that institutional supplies have been paid for more than once out of legislative appropriations; and the result of this excessive payment as manipulated as to give the institution receiving it an additional amount for expenditure without same appearing against such institution as an expenditure from legislative appropriation; whether it is true that inmates have been transferred from the Oregon state hospital to the eastern Oregon state hospital, while there was at least one empty ward in the former institution, and, if true, why?

The above are only a few of the many things that may be mentioned, and that should be cleared up. Coming closer home, attention might be turned to county affairs, where an investigation should determine whether it is true that the district attorney, John Carson, sets himself above the law, he has sworn to enforce, by violating the law in refusing to file a "sworn itemized statement of said district attorney" for moneys claimed to have been sent by the said district attorney. Also, it might be determined whether it is true that certain officials have been enthusiastic for the enforcement of the law until said official learned that the supposed criminal was a personal friend of said official, when the said official lost all interest in the matter.

A. SLAUGHTER.

To the Editor:—I have been reading in the past with interest, the different opinions about the women and basketball and I sometimes believe there are no good real old time men left, but if there are and any of them will write to Mrs. Ethel Roeder, I will tell you my middle name by return mail. Now, if you are looking for a good true woman don't forget to answer and if we agree I'm yours. But I am looking for a man that can care for me and my two little ones and be a true pal to us, as we are tired of struggling alone. Must be clean, honorable, upright and have good habits. Address

ETHEL ROEDER, Salem, Or. Gen. Del.

Chemawa Loses Two Games
Chemawa, Ore., Feb. 26.—The Chemawa Indians lost two hard fought games last night when the first team lost to the City of Portland five by a score of 34 to 14. The second stringers lost to the Quinalby five by a score of 14 to 7.

TODAY'S CROSS WORD PUZZLE

HORIZONTAL
1. To mend
2. Substantial
3. Sixth note in scale
4. Quiet
5. To query
6. Bismuth (ab.)
7. Ewever
8. Killed
9. Botanical garden
10. Statute
11. Fish
12. Bishop's office
13. To reach for
14. Legal document (ab.)
15. Condition (ab.)
16. United States Senate (ab.)

VERTICAL
1. Flat pieces of stone
2. Readily
3. Dispatch
4. Either
5. Allow
6. Within
7. Denmark (ab.)
8. Night bird
9. Hostage
10. Opposes by force
11. Wants
12. Portion of land
13. Gasoline (ab.)
14. Belgian town
15. Street (ab.)
16. Pronoun

SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

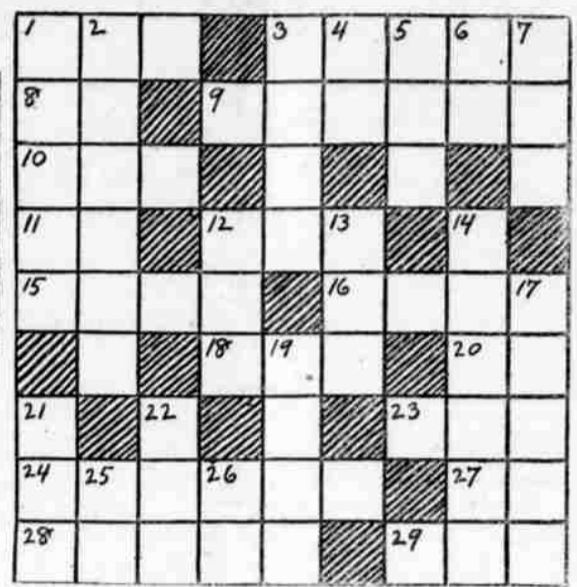
A	R	T	I	S	T	B	E
M	A	R	S	H	U	R	N
M	Y	O	P	I	T		
B	T	E	N	D	E		
A	R	C	H	O	V	E	R
T	O	Y	E	T	S		
T	U	G	P	A	S		
E	G	O	I	S	L	E	T
R	E	S	C	O	T	C	H

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

THE FOOLISH WIFE
I had hardly finished dressing after Rod had left me, continued Kathryn Leonard Evans in her manuscript, when the telephone rang. I heard Elton Foss' voice saying: "Kathryn, I wonder if you would meet me at the Plaza. I'll send my car for you. I've just come in and I can be dressing in the meantime."

"What has happened? Your voice sounds so strange, Elton."

"I think I'm drunk, Kathryn, drunk with excitement and marvelous success. I made a million dollars on 'change today and it was all for you dear, all for you.' My heart sank. I determined that I would not allow myself one moment alone with Elton Foss that evening. I was glad his rooms were near the Plaza. I told him to send his car for me, that I was ready and would meet him at the hotel any time he wished."

Already I regretted that I had not broken the engagement. I told myself that Rod's taking me to the theater would have been virtually telling Sada Fillmore that he had returned to me.

It was no wonder that Rod had said those ugly things to me. I was entirely to blame, and I made up my mind to call him and tell him so in the morning.

All through the dinner Elton Foss made love to me. He seemed to take it for granted that I cared as much for him as he said he did for me. It took all my wits to evade promising him that I would go away with him on a long continental trip.

He drank a good deal at dinner, and I knew from his manner that he had been drinking before he arrived. I had never seen a man inebriated under such excitement. He was hardly coherent at times. I

remember thinking that he was quite as much intoxicated by his success as he was by the liquor.

He did not even seem to realize what he was saying. His thoughts poured out of his mouth faster than he could articulate. He was particularly triumphant to think that he had downed Vernon Steedman and he described in detail to me the fight they had had on the floor of the exchange that day.

"We had other scores besides business to settle," he said. "I remember thinking as Elton Foss ran on that he was what the Scotch call 'foxy' and I said to myself that his unhappiness would come when I struck the blow at his pride by telling him that I would not go away with him."

I did not dream at that time that I was sending Elton Foss in his last hours. The horrible tragedy that was to come to both of us that night was inconceivable. I was consumed with fear at what the man across the table from me might do in his excitement over his business coup, and I determined to get him out of the restaurant as soon as possible and to leave him at my doorstep.

To my surprise Elton made no remonstrance when I suggested that we had better leave. We had finished our dinner long before.

When we arrived at my studio and as he stepped out of the car he said something to his chauffeur which I did not catch. He escorted me up the steps. As I turned to bid him good night I saw the auto mobile move off.

"There goes your chauffeur," I exclaimed in surprise.

"I've dismissed him," he answered. "I'm coming in."

"Oh I wish you wouldn't. I'm very tired and so are you. You don't re-

By George McManus

BRINGING UP FATHER



DUMB DORA

(Substituting for Barney Google, during Billy DeBeek's illness)



KRAZY KAT

Mr. Goose Ducks in Time.



MUTT AND JEFF

Messrs. Rockefeller, Doheny and Sinclair Please Take Notice.

