

Capital Journal

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"Without or with offense to friends or foes
I sketch your world exactly as it goes."—BYRON.

Seeking a Referendum

Petitions are in circulation locally, as part of a national movement, requesting congress to provide a popular referendum on the question of modifying the Volstead act in favor of light wines and beer. Such referendum might give some of our congressmen courage enough to defy the Anti-Saloon League and vote according to their honest convictions and personal practices.

There has never been a popular vote on national prohibition, which is a very different thing from state prohibition and local option. Under these large sections of the country had voted out the saloon, but the more populous states had consistently opposed dryness. A referendum is the last thing that prohibitionists desire, although there is much bunk about the enforcing of the sacred will of the people.

Volsteadism has not fulfilled any of the promises of its advocates, simply because it is not sustained by popular sentiment and it can never be enforced until it is. Only in states that had already voted dry, is enforcement even a partial success. Despite the employment of an army of dry agents and a navy of coast patrol boats, despite the expenditure of hundreds of millions by nation, state and municipalities in enforcement, there is no dearth of strong drink in any part of this broad land, for the more the enforcement, the higher the price, the higher the profits and the more willing violators are to take a chance.

Instead of increasing respect for the law, the Volstead act has bred contempt and defiance for it. It has had an effect just opposite to what we were promised. It has crowded our prisons, instead of emptying them. Crime, which it was to abolish, has been enormously stimulated. Despite the creation of additional courts, all dockets are jammed. The cost of policing has been doubled. Murders, robberies and burglaries have multiplied and arrests for drunkenness the nation over now exceed those of pre-prohibition days, while there are more cases of alcoholism than ever.

The effect of Volsteadism in a big city is tersely told in the official police records of Detroit, where burglary insurance rates have doubled and trebled:

"Between 1913 and 1923 the population of Detroit doubled; the cost of operating the police department quadrupled; murders increased from 12 in a year to 163; robberies and burglaries increased from 1,625 to 4,355, without considering more than 4,000 automobile thefts in 1923; arrests for drunkenness increased by 1,500.

Congress ought to submit to the people the question of whether we should worry along as at present playing the hypocrite and enriching the boot-legger, or reasonably modify the law to permit the use of light healthful wines and beer as beverages instead of poisonous imitations and moonshine. If a majority favored amendment, the law should be amended. Then we in Oregon would have a legitimate market for surplus fruit and berries as well as hops. As it is, the Volstead act is so drastic that it defeats its objects.

Worth While

The offer made by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Meyers to expend \$60,000 in constructing two additional wings to the Salem hospital in return for a life annuity of \$400 per month is a most generous one. By it the hospital secures the money needed for completion, paying interest during the life-time of the donors at the rate of 8 per cent, when death cancels the obligation.

The Meyers' offer was maliciously misrepresented in a local newspaper that accused Mr. Meyers of seeking to buy himself both a job and an annuity, neither of which was true. There is no position the hospital could offer that Mr. Meyers would accept, and if he merely sought an annuity, he could purchase one from the insurance companies for a smaller sum.

The Meyers have set an excellent example for Salemites. In no way could they leave a finer memorial for themselves, or one more beneficial to the community and to humanity than by providing adequate facilities for the sick and afflicted.

No matter how much wealth one may accumulate, none can be taken away and if it can be utilized during one's life for the stricken as well as after death, double service is rendered for the common good. Such use for wealth makes its accumulation worthwhile.

One Wife on Approval

By Violet Dare

A FIRM RESOLVE
When Jim came home from his mother's late that night, Cynthia pretended to be asleep. Her long evening alone had given her time for many thoughts, and they had all culminated in the same conclusion. Jim could not really love her or he would not allow his mother to come between them so frequently.
She had been married so short a time that sometimes even Jim seemed a stranger to her; she could not turn to him for help now, because she felt so sure that he would see things from his mother's point of view rather than from hers, and she did not know how to put the matter to him differently than she already had, so that he would understand how she felt about it.
She found herself wishing that she knew him as well as she did Phil Graham. Phil understood her perfectly. Perhaps she had made a dreadful mistake, after all, in marrying Jim. Perhaps it would have been better to marry Phil—who she didn't love him, to be sure, but they were such good friends! She lay there quietly, through

that you ought to be able to depend on him in a time of trouble. Would you want to give him up completely to another woman?
She went to sleep at last, hurt and bewildered, but resolved to make another try at straightening things out. Never before in her life had things gone wrong with her; petted and pampered, she had always known only the bright side of life until now, and the whole future looked black to her because she did not know how to handle it.
She realized when she woke in the morning to find Jim standing beside her bed that he expected her to be cross with him. Smiling, she lifted her arms and drew him down to the edge of the bed.
"Sorry I was asleep last night, dear," she told him. "I missed you dreadfully all evening."
His relief was plainly apparent. "Wouldn't get home any sooner, though I tried," he told her. "You see, mother made some investments while you and I were out our good ones, and now the stock she bought has gone down in a hurry, and it means that she's going to lose a good deal of money. She's dreadfully worried, of course. I may have to take a western trip soon, and if I do I'll look into the matter at its source. Meanwhile try to be especially considerate of her, won't you, dear?"
Cynthia promised, wondering how much more considerate anyone could be than she had been. But she kept that thought to herself.
She was writing letters in the sun parlor, an hour later, when the telephone rang. For a moment she was tempted not to answer it. Her mother-in-law usually phoned her at this hour of the morning, and she had no desire to talk with Madame Leland. But its persistent ringing finally broke down her resolve, and she picked up the receiver and languidly murmured "Hello."
"Hello, Mrs. Leland? This is Phil, Cynthia?"
London, Eng.—Grey squirrels, imported from the United States some years ago, have made themselves perfectly at home in this climate, and like the English sparrows sent to the United States from the British Isles several generations back, have begun to scatter about the country.
The first squirrels of this variety were given their freedom in Regent's Park, London, and already they have been found in forests as far as 25 miles north of the British capital.

They Figure in the News



Above: DR. CHARLES MAYO & FRANK B. KEELLOGG
Below: ADMIRAL V. C. PALMER & FREDERICK C. HICKS
Dr. Charles Mayo, Rochester, Minn., surgeon, received an honorary degree from the University of Paris. Secretary of State Keellogg became acting head of the Government when President Coolidge started his vacation. Admiral V. C. Palmer, fleet corporation head, favored private ownership of Government vessels in a San Francisco speech. Frederick C. Hicks, alien property custodian, started an inquiry into the department, with sweeping changes in the personnel.

W. V. S. ASKS TO ABANDON LINE

(Continued from page one)

In 1923. Last year the loss was \$133,319.82.
Last year the total receipts of the entire line were \$34,698.38, while for the Kaylor station-Mt. Angel stretch the receipts totaled \$11,527.71, or \$7876.26 from freight and \$3651.81 for passenger service.
The monthly earnings for the first five months of 1925 show a decrease as compared with the earnings for the same months in 1924. The expense of operating the 11.4 miles in 1924 was: Maintenance of way, \$16,063.28; conducting transportation, \$10,342.75; power, \$2108.20; total, \$28,514.23. This figure does not include the traffic expense, maintenance of equipment, or general expense and taxes. The actual loss in 1924 for the Kaylor station-Oregon City section is placed at \$17,891.72.
It is claimed that there is no prospect for any increase in business, and that there is every expectation that competition from auto stage and truck lines will result in further decreases. If the line is continued in operation it is said that an expenditure of \$86,000 will be necessary for maintenance in the next year.
The territory now served by the line, says the petition, is adequately served by auto truck and auto stage lines and by a branch line of the Southern Pacific company.
For the reason that the Eastern & Western Lumber company is connecting its logging railroad from its timber holdings in Clackamas county with the Willamette Valley Southern at Kaylor station, it is expected that the earnings on logging traffic delivered by that company at Kaylor station and moving to Oregon City will enable the continuance of the Willamette Valley Southern line from Oregon City to Kaylor station.

FILIPINOS ON GUARD AGAINST CHINESE INFLUX

Manila, P. I.—Further restriction of Chinese immigration into the Philippine Islands is sought by a committee appointed by the governor general to study the question. It is understood the committee will propose an amendment to the present Chinese immigration law, requiring that all Chinese immigrants claiming to be merchants possess, at the time of entrance, at least \$5000 as initial capital. Under the present laws only Chinese merchants and their relatives are admitted to the Philippines.

GASOLINE SALES SHOW HUGE INCREASE IN MAY

Mounting to over eight and a half million gallons, sales of gasoline in Oregon for May, 1925, more than equaled those of June, last year, says a statement by Secretary of State Koser.
Reports from dealers show that during May of this year there was a total distribution of 8,613,047 gallons of gasoline and 320,739 gallons of distillate. The taxes collected by the secretary of state on these sales totaled \$271,409.45.
To date the motor vehicle fuels tax measures have brought to the state treasury the total sum of \$8,767,897.71.

Tom Mix in The DEADWOOD COACH
with TOM Y, the wonder horse
By George McManus

BRINGING UP FATHER



BARNEY GOOGLE AND SPARK PLUG

Barney Knows Sparky's Soft Heared

By Billy de Beck



KRAZY KAT

Complete Alterations Desired

By Herriman



MUTT AND JEFF

They Have Sardines In St. Paul, and Bass In Winona, Minn.

By Bud Fisher



JEFF EARNED \$10.00
SPENT FOR FOOD, ETC. 3.40
PROFIT 6.60
CASH NOW ON HAND \$43.28