

# Capital Journal

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

## Our New Governor

"What is that impelling force which drives men upon whom great responsibilities and honors have been suddenly thrust to hasten to an aged mother or father that they may receive blessings and courage to carry out the gigantic tasks imposed upon them?" asks the Medford News, commenting upon Governor Norblad's taking the oath of office in the presence of his aged invalid mother at her home, which it compares with the story of Calvin Coolidge "hastening to the humble New England home of his aged father to take the oath upon the old family Bible which made him president" by the flickering light of a kerosene lamp or it may have been a candle.

Well, we would say that the "impelling force" in this capitalizing sacred family relations is the quest for popularity. Skillfully playing on the heart strings with press publicity and cameras has an irresistible appeal to the sentimental. It is an invariable follow-up of the story of the poor but honest youth who has attained high office. Even Herbert Hoover's first action after accepting nomination was to visit the old home of his parents and pay homage to the foster parents of the orphan boy.

With all due respect to the sincerity of the sentiments expressed and the depth of devotion manifested, such an opportunity for self-exploitation is too great for the politician to overlook. The judicious may grieve at the poor taste shown, but the people like it—fairly eat it up. And the new governor has merely followed well established precedent and is playing the game according to accepted rules.

Everything indicates that under the new regime the State House after three years of secretive silence, is again to become a source of news, for Governor Norblad, since providence catapulted him into the seats of the mighty has displayed a refreshing loquacity that angers well for the reporters. He has opinions, and is not averse to expressing them. The jack-daw rather than the owl is likely to be the emblem of the administration—and the jack-daw is by far the most interesting of the two—at least from a newspaper standpoint.

Governor Norblad seems as tickled as a kid over the present Santa Claus left in his box. Not more than 60 seconds elapsed after notification of his elevation before he announced his candidacy for re-election so as to be among the first in the field. After three days in office he announces that he has lost eight pounds in weight—such are the heavy responsibilities before him. It will be up to his friends to provide him with a Coolidge hobby horse to keep him fit.

"It is a great thing to be able to picture the scenes behind the curtain that covers much of the activities of the governor's office" the new executive reminisces. And he speaks of the pressures already exerted for prison pardons and for jobs, and states that he will follow his predecessor's policies. He will, of course, to an extent—but is temperamentally incapable of following them far—if he did we would have little news out of the state house.

Governor Norblad, we venture the prediction, will be his own boss and should make a good executive. He is active, energetic and a prime of life. He has been a member of the legislature for many years and is familiar with the various departments of government as well as legislation. He is conversant with the needs of the state and his record is that of a progressive, rather than reactionary. He made an excellent President of the Senate and there is every reason to believe that he will make a good governor, especially as his chance of re-election depends upon the record he makes the next few months. He will not have many appointments to make, for as Jefferson said about office holders—few die and none resign.

## The Noble Experiment

Senator Harris of Georgia, ardent prohibitionist, is demanding the removal of Federal Judge Paul J. McCormick from Mr. Hoover's law enforcement commission because the latter expressed a personal opinion that government lawlessness in enforcement was unjustifiable and a cause of crime. The jurist characterized the illegal invasion and search of private dwellings as one of the "outstanding evils of present day law enforcement" a "gross misuse and denial of the constitutional rights of citizens" and "a menace to life and liberty."

Senator Harris emphasizes the fact that it is a useless undertaking to debate the wisdom of prohibition laws with professional drays on the basis of the realities. Any one who questions the Volstead act, Jones act or other supporting statutes is at once denounced. Such shut their eyes to the fact that large sections of the population habitually violate their edicts. Such refuse to concede that legislation regulating the habits of a people can never be effectively enforced against a hostile popular demand. No impartial investigation is wanted, only blind support of sumptuary legislation, regardless of its cost and futility.

Senator Borah declares that enforcement is impossible as long as the present personnel of law enforcement officials are in power. Yet we have the best enforcement personnel we have had since prohibition went into effect, with less scandal and less corruption. It does not seem to dawn upon Mr. Borah that no personnel can enforce an unenforceable law, and that the only way it can be enforced is to jail half the nation—and that cannot be done.

Attorney General Mitchell for the Department of Justice and Dr. James M. Moran, commissioner of prohibition, pass the blame on to Congress for not providing more laws, more enforcement officers and more money. Yet drastic laws like the Jones act have failed to accomplish their purpose. Hundreds of millions of dollars has been spent in the building up of an ever increasing machinery of enforcement that fails to enforce. And despite the fact that prisons and jails have been filled to overflowing there is no community that is not infested with boot-leggers and moonshiners and rotten booze.

As long as the thought and feeling of large masses of people continue to be that prohibition is wrong—the law will continue to be flouted. But this is one point the fanatical dry will not concede. So the "noble experiment" continues its futile way.

## EDISON IN HIS LABORATORY



Thomas A. Edison in his laboratory watching his assistant, George E. Hart, performing a rubber experiment. The picture was taken at West Orange before Mr. Edison's departure for Florida.

## CHRISTMAS DAY WARMEST ON RECORD IN CITY

Santa Claus may have complained of the warmth (temperature and not personal demonstration) of his visit to Salem, but records of the weather bureau show that while the temperature of 54 degrees recorded Wednesday to be the highest in the the last ten years and one of the highest on record, temperatures of one or two degrees lower are not unusual for Christmas day in the Willamette valley and the Salem district.

December, 1919, marked by low temperatures and a record fall of snow, brought a warm Christmas day, with the mercury touching 53 degrees, though it was freezing December 18 and was 6 degrees below zero on December 14. The day had a minimum temperature of 40 degrees, the minimum for Wednesday was 35 degrees. Christmas day of 1922 also brought a temperature of 53 degrees while 1928 found the mercury at 52 degrees and a minimum of 33 degrees, the first time in more than a week that the mercury failed to climb above the freezing point for the minimum reading. Christmas day, 1925 was 48 degrees with 43 degrees on the same day in 1927.

The coldest Christmas in recent years was in 1924 with the thermometer standing 3 degrees above zero on both Christmas day and the day following. The next coldest Christmas was in 1921 with a minimum temperature of 21 degrees.

## Thoughts On Charity

By R. A. HARRIS

Removal, quickly and painlessly as possible, is believed by many to be the most merciful and effective remedy for the confirmed victim of charity, the same as for the hopeless victim of anything else that has made him a permanent burden and taken all the joy from his life. "Victim of charity" is used intentionally and advisedly.

Until one is willing to make the application personal he would, of course, hesitate to voice such a principle. The law, however, stands in the way of such a remedy and the law is supposedly based on sentiments of kindness and fellow-feeling colored for convenience, "charity."

"Charity" (quoted of course) is the veneer of the outstanding crime of civilization, the indictment of intelligence, the repudiation of culture and of religion.

"Civilization" that does not automatically extend its cooperation in alleviating the primary struggle for existence (law of the jungle) and protect its units from the emigration that brings helpless destitution and starvation without the intervention of "charity," is not civilization. Until the quotation marks can be removed from "civilization" the logical remedy would seem to be the one first suggested above, if the victim should happen to be possessed of a ticket for glory the logic is doubly strengthened.

But, as usual, I digress. Until we shall have made definite provision that all who will work may eat without anybody's charity, the heaven will doubtless work in other ways more or less orderly and effectively. While the periodical efforts to extend Christmas cheer are altogether praiseworthy, they press ever more strongly the query as to when it will be more generally understood that the needs of the days and weeks before and after Christmas have a constant appeal of more essential consequence than any consideration of Santa Claus. If the Christmas spree could in some way be united and co-ordinated it would provide for keeping Santa on the job whenever and wherever there are shoeless feet and empty stomachs. There is of course good grounds for the faith that the spirit that prompts the Christmas cheer efforts will ultimately be extended to the larger and more constant need.

Since the inception of work of this character one of the first developments is to provide against waste. The employment of careful and experienced management in the first principle of conservation. Before this was learned in Salem a few years ago a case was reported where a woman bought a \$20 gold ring with funds collected from various overlapping charities. It was early deemed unwise to disburse money at all except in very exceptional cases.

While overhead, not well understood and no doubt often unjustified, causes many a donor to do his own dispensing, Mrs. Mae Young holds the record in Salem for length of service, unflinching industry, efficiency and modest pay. Her services could scarcely be duplicated anywhere at their cost.

## PRESBYTERIANS PLAN CHAPEL AT OAKVILLE

Shedd, Ore. (Sp)—World wide attention is being directed to this little city by the campaign just started to erect a pioneer memorial United Presbyterian church at Oakville, a community four miles west of here, where this denomination was founded in 1852.

Largely through the activities of Dr. J. B. Horner, director of historical research, the idea of building a memorial chapel was first approved by then northwest synod and last year was made a project of the entire denomination which will raise \$15,000 to be added to \$5,000 being raised here.

Mrs. M. R. Lindsay of Shedd is named treasurer of the fund being collected from every community in the world having United Presbyterian congregations.

**WIRE IN EYE 10 YEARS**  
Lewiston, Idaho (Sp)—An operation under the right eyeball of Frank Horak disclosed a bit of wire that had been embedded there for 10 years. Horak lost the sight of his right eye when struck by a wire whip 10 years ago. He thought the injury had developed a tumor, and recently the spot started paining him. The operation and discovery followed.

## GRUNDY TAKES SEAT IN SENATE



After three hours of harsh discussion over his right to a seat in the United States senate, Joseph R. Grundy (right) of Pennsylvania advanced to the rostrum and took the oath of office. He is shown with Senator David A. Reed of Pennsylvania before entering the senate chamber.

funny old oxen, and said to the Little Black Clock.  
"This is certainly great."

**PONIES**  
"Shall we stay around here for awhile?" the Little Black Clock suggested, and both Peggy and John agreed that it would be fun.

Certainly it was a strange looking world in these days, long ago. The people looked so differently, the land was so wild and there was such lots and lots of space.

"You've just seen the first team of oxen draw the first cart," the Little Black Clock began. "Yes, I certainly turned the time back a great distance!"

"This is the very beginning of travel, but even before this cart was made the people could ride, and I've engaged a couple of ponies so you can have a ride while I wait for you."

"My legs are so short that I wouldn't fit into it very well, so they've had this car made specially for them. Isn't that a great honor?" "Oh, really you'll forgive me if I chatter a little! I'm so proud of my family. There are so many of us. We are an enormous family, and we are made in all sorts of different ways."

"Some of the family go outside of huge buildings, some go in big halls, some have wonderful faces made for them, and others have gorgeous chimes and bells."

"Oh, there are so many clock styles and so many clock ways, and you must admit that we're one of the largest families in the world."

"My dears, you can't go anywhere, hardly, where there isn't some member of the family to be found."

"And we really keep in very good shape."

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tures, but now I have other plans."

**THE CLOCK'S FAMILY**  
"I couldn't resist having you meet some of my family who are about to take a journey," the Little Black Clock said.

John and Peggy couldn't imagine what the Little Black Clock was going to do.

He led them to a railway station, and there they saw a flat car ready to be attached to the regular train. "Some of my family are traveling in that flat car," the Little Black Clock said, "and then they're going to be fixed up into a gorgeous big clock in another city."

"They wouldn't be comfortable in an ordinary box car, and they wouldn't fit into it very well, so they've had this car made specially for them. Isn't that a great honor?" "Oh, really you'll forgive me if I chatter a little! I'm so proud of my family. There are so many of us. We are an enormous family, and we are made in all sorts of different ways."

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## SUNDOWN STORIES



**THE OXEN TEAM**

By Mary Graham Bonner  
"We're still turning the time back," the Little Black Clock said. "The night-before-last you had a trip in an airplane where you could see how heavy the traffic was, and last night I turned the time way back to the days when the first trains traveled at night, and tonight—well, you shall see!"

"The Little Black Clock had certainly turned the time way back. It was morning, years and years and years before, and there were very, very few people about. In fact, the world looked very new, and there were only huts instead of houses."

There were woods nearby, and scattered about everywhere were animals—horses, dogs, sheep, goats and oxen.

"We're going to watch some others having a ride today," the Little Black Clock said.

There was the greatest excitement going on. Men and women and children, dressed very strangely in the skins of animals, were laughing and shouting with delight.

In the center of an open space was one of the queerest looking carts either of the children had ever seen, and a team of oxen was drawing the cart.

"It moves! It goes!" they shouted. "The wheel moves!"

"You see," explained the Little Black Clock, "a wheel has just been made that will turn around, and this is the very first kind of a wagon ever to go. You're seeing the very beginning of travel."

And John and Peggy watched the excited people, the crude cart, the

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