

Capital Journal

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

The Water Crisis

The Oregon-Washington Water Service Corporation has discontinued all work upon its filtration plant, new intake and pipeline improvements and extensions, because the people of Salem voted for municipal ownership.

This reprisal bluff will of course inconvenience consumers and delay the day of pure water, for the negotiations necessary for purchase will probably be extended and may be succeeded by prolonged litigation. The company has nothing to lose by completing these improvements, except the good will of the people. It will not profit by such tactics.

It is claimed that the \$1,200,000 bonds voted by the city will not be sufficient to cover present investment plus the amount required for completion of the filtration plant and other improvements. If it should not prove to be, other bonds will be cheerfully voted, for the people are quite determined for municipal ownership. Really the company risks nothing.

The path to city ownership is not a bed of roses and there is no magic formula for its accomplishment. The city however, should lose no time in acting and in launching necessary preliminaries, for until the filtration plant is completed and utilized, the health of the city may be menaced as it has been at intervals in the past. Action is the requisite of the hour.

Price of Neutrality

Nearly all the partisan Republican newspapers maintained a position of neutrality on the candidates during the primary campaign on the theory of maintaining party solidarity for the November election. They have their reward in the nomination of one who is Republican in name only and whose platform is anti-Republican and purely socialistic, one who has always been a marplot in party ranks and who can command less party support than any of the candidates.

For the plight they find themselves in, these newspapers have only themselves to thank. Had they made a vigorous campaign in behalf of opposition candidates, and courageously exposed the demagoguery and bally-hoo of the winner, there would have been a different result. At least the editors could have retained their self-respect as well as conceit.

One thing these newspapers do not seem to sense. The direct primary law has not only shattered party solidarity and party organization but it has made press neutrality in primary campaigns an anachronism. A newspaper that fails to aid the party voters in the selection of the best candidate, as it is given it to judge, is remiss in its duty to the rank and file of the party. If through failure to exercise this function, leaving the people only to judge candidates by their paid puffs, radio blab and platform hokum, the newspaper finds itself wearing the collar of one who uses the party label for expediency—it is itself to blame.

If a newspaper regards a man as totally unfit for party nomination, how much more unfit must he be for governor? What call is there for support of him, merely because he has received nomination by minority vote? Is it any wonder when such hypocrisy rules the press, and it discards principle for partisanship to champion the unworthy, that more is lost in influence than can be gained in circulation?

Morrow vs Hoover

The stand of Dwight Morrow, former ambassador to Mexico and American delegate to the London naval meeting on prohibition is in marked contrast to that of President Hoover. The reader can determine which is the more statesmanlike attitude. Here are two of the outstanding leaders of the Republican party and their positions on the greatest issue before the American people, a division of opinion that cuts squarely across both parties:

President Hoover Says:
Our country has deliberately undertaken a great social and economic experiment, noble in motive and far-reaching in purpose. . . . No nation can for long survive the failure of its citizens to respect and obey the laws which they themselves make. . . . Our whole system of self-government will crumble either if officials elect what laws they will enforce or citizens elect what laws they will support. The worst evil of disregard for some law is that it destroys respect for all law. For our citizens to sanction the violation of a particular law on the ground that they are opposed to it is destructive of the very basis of all that protection of life, of homes and property which they rightly claim under other laws. . . . I will say again that I do not favor the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. I stand, of course, for the efficient, vigorous and sincere enforcement of the laws enacted thereunder. . . . The idea that the republic was created for the benefit of the individual is a mockery that must be eradicated at the first dawn of understanding. . . . I have been selected by you to execute and enforce the laws of the country. I propose to do so to the extent of my own abilities. The duty of citizens to support the laws of the land is co-equal with the duty of their government to enforce the laws which exist. . . .

Mr. Dwight Morrow Says:
Tonight I am going to discuss prohibition. . . . It is a question which constantly confuses moral principles with the art of government. . . . Is it well that large portions of our people should conceive of the Federal Government as an alien and even a hostile power? Is it well to have as a result a lawless, unregulated liquor traffic, attended by shocking corruption? . . . It is not fair to assume that all resentment against national prohibition is due to a desire for unlimited license to be intemperate. There is no community in the United States which desires that. . . . There are many problems in human living that are not susceptible of a final solution. The attitude of the community toward the traffic in liquor is such a problem. I bring you no panacea for this deplorable condition. . . . I believe that the way out of the present difficulty is . . . a repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment. . . . We hear on all sides that it is impossible to amend the Federal Constitution. It is difficult, but not impossible. Four times within the last twenty years the Constitution has been amended. It can be amended again. . . .

CANTERBURY READY FOR HISTORIC RITE

Canterbury, England (P)—Three historic anniversaries in the life of Canterbury Cathedral are to be celebrated from June 7 to 14 with a series of religious musical and dramatic festivals. . . . These anniversaries commemorate the dedication of the Norman cathedral, 800 years ago; first service held in the present choir 750 years ago. . . . Preparations for the celebrations

are being made by a committee headed by the Prince of Wales. Famous vocalists, violinists, organists and choirs will take part in the musical festivity. Scenes from Shakespeare will be presented in the deanery garden by Sir Philip Ben Greet. Special services will be held in the cathedral and its priceless treasures will be on public view. . . . Canterbury is anticipating a modern pilgrimage of American visitors, who pass through England every June by thousands. . . . Brighton, England (P)—"Bulldog for sale. Eats Anything. Food of Children," says a notice in a local shop window.

A SIGH OF RELIEF



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New Uniforms Much Too Big For Oregon's National Guardsmen

Does Oregon grow bigger men than the eastern states? Someone at the national capital was evidently so convinced that Old Man Oregon's stalwart sons are all six and seven foot giants that the quartermaster general of the United States army was prevailed upon to send a shipment of 4,000 new model uniforms for Oregon national guardsmen of sizes two and three times too big.

A check for \$1,000 was received by Adjutant General George A. White of the Oregon national guard, from the war department to cover the expense of remodeling the large uniforms to proper size.

Salem's guard unit received its quota of roll-collar uniforms and the ones that failed to fit were returned to the quartermaster's depot at Clackamas and sent to Portland for alteration.

Responsibility for the error was frankly assumed by army officials in Washington, D. C. General White said. Disregarding Oregon's requisition, small sizes were made for guardsmen in eastern states and large sizes for the western states. Result: the uniforms for Oregon were too large and those for New York were too small.

Whether the uniforms were to be returned east for exchange was the subject of hurried correspondence between General White and the quartermaster depots.

It was finally decided that, due to the approaching field camps of the Oregon national guard, time and money would be saved by wiring cutters to remodel the large uniforms.

This was only one of the many

DRAW STRAWS TO SETTLE TIES IN 5 PRECINCTS

Ties in five of the 80 precincts of the county for positions of republican precinct committeemen will be eliminated Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock when U. G. Boyer, county clerk, will hold a drawing to decide the successful contestant. The votes were cast in Salem No. 21; East Hubbard, Mill City, West Stayton and Silver Falls.

With the conclusion of the drawing, the county clerk, under the law, must furnish a certified list of precinct committeemen to the central committee which under the law must call a meeting 20 days after the election. After the list is furnished the retiring secretary he in turn must give six days' written notice of such a meeting. In event the secretary fails to comply, the state chairman has authority to appoint a temporary county chairman who will then give the necessary six days' notice.

The state central committee cannot complete its organization until the county units have been organized and as far as Marion county is concerned, unless a meeting is held in the near future the state committee will probably take the needed action in order that it might complete organization.

Present officers of the county central committee are J. C. Perry, chairman, and Newell Williams, secretary.

Graduation Dresses

Breier's are now showing a nice line of graduation dresses at their popular price of

\$9.90

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ESPEE TO SPEED UP CALIFORNIA TRAINS JUNE 15

Faster schedules for Southern Pacific coast and trans-continental trains will become effective June 15, according to James A. Ormandy, passenger traffic manager, who reports a general speeding up of practically all Southern Pacific trains on that date.

Four Shasta route trains between Portland and San Francisco and Los Angeles will be affected in the revision of schedules. Southbound time of the Shasta will be reduced 50 minutes; northbound, 40 minutes, making the run between Portland and San Francisco in 25 hours and 40 minutes, via the Siskiyou line.

Southbound time of the Cascade Limited will be reduced 25 minutes making the Portland-San Francisco run in 21 hour and 35 minutes. Northbound time will be cut 15 minutes, elapsed time for the run being 31 hours and 40 minutes. Extra

fare for the Cascade will remain the same despite the faster service according to Mr. Ormandy. The Klamath will be speeded up 90 minutes southbound, making the run to San Francisco in 24 hours and 30 minutes. Northbound time will be cut 30 minutes, making the trip in 24 hours.

Southbound schedule of the West Coast Limited to San Francisco and Los Angeles will be shortened 30 minutes, making the trip to Los Angeles in 38 hours and 15 minutes.

FLOWING WHISKERS BRINGS HIS ARREST

Looking like a character in the Passion Play at Oberammergau, Harvey Mitchell, giving his age as 63, was detained for a short time Wednesday by local police. Flowing whiskers and hair that curled over his shoulders, Harvey presented an odd appearance.

"The whiskers and hair give me employment with moving picture companies," explained Harvey when asked about his unshaven condition. "I'm on my way back to Los Angeles

after a trip up north. I haven't a cent but expect to be able to find work while traveling through the country." The only luggage Mitchell carried was a cracker caddy of the two pound size. All his clothing he wore. Besides a sheepskin coat, he had on a regulation suit coat and a blue denim jacket. Underneath that were two or three layers of shirts and underclothing.

"This is the first time I have ever been under police surveillance," Harvey exclaimed. "Well, you've lived most of your life in California, where freaks are common," was the rejoinder of a police officer.

RIDER NOT RIDER
Gates—As a correction to last week's item concerning the motorcycle accident in which it was understood Bennie Rider of Salem figured, it was a man by the name of Dowdy on Mr. Rider's machine that went over the Mad Creek bank.

Dallas—Learn Smith has acquired a new popcorn stand of the latest type. In the course of a few days he hopes to have it located permanently on Main street. Smith is the grandfather of DeVere Penhollow, prominent in musical circles here.

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