BEAVER STATE HERALD

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A FEW MINUTES WITH THE EDITOR

NO HARM FROM PRIMARY LAW

A few party papers appear to be fearful that the Republican party of Oregon will receive through the direct primary law a solar plexus blow. A few unprincipled political dictators, it is true, have, by the aid of the direct primary law, been put out of business, much to the credit of the Oregon voter. But we deny that there is any danger of any political party suffering extinction from the effects of this law except through its own indifference to the rights or wishes of the common people. The people appear to be well satisfied with the results already obtained through the direct primary law. The only parties complaining are a few disgruntled, persistent office seekers. This, however, will in no sense affect the Republican party, as is claimed by some.

There is nothing to hinder the members of the G. O. P. or any other party from meeting in convention, discussing the political aspect to its heart's content, and if need be, selecting its men to be placed before the people for election or rejection. What more do you want? Unless it be the old time graft, which, under the direct primary law, is impossible, hence, the desire of the majority to have it stand.

RAILROAD LAND GRANTS

The Herald acknowledges receipt of a pamphlet setting forth the interests of the Oregon and California Railroad company. In lands granted that company by the Acts of Congress of April 10, 1869, and May 4, 1870, and compiled by Attorney A. W. Lafferty of Portland for United States Attorney General Charles J. Bonaparte. The report shows that the grants of land were made by congress with the distinct understanding that they should be sold to actual settlers at $2.50 per acre. Mr. Lafferty apparently inclines to the opinion that the railroad company has never held other than a trustee's interest in the lands. This, however, is not liable to be settled except by a decision of the supreme court of the United States, which will be altogether too expensive a procedure for one of limited means to undertake.

"A bank's best advertisement," said A. L. Mills, in a recent address, is a strong financial statement and a reputation for square dealing." In the same address he also particularly called attention to the fact that "one of the greatest menaces to good banking is the irresponsible fool banker whose lust for profit makes him violate every rule of conservative banking."

If the ideas set forth in the address by Mr. Mills, from which these excerpts are taken, had been followed by the officials of the now defunct Oregon Trust and Savings bank, they would still be enjoying the confidence of their depositors instead of facing a chance of getting into the penitentary.

MARITAL UNREST

The subject of marital unrest just now appears to be receiving a good deal of attention from the press and pulpit, and well it might. The growing number of divorces are but an indication of the increasing matrimonial difficulties of the nation, which, when compared with other national problems, forces one to the opinion that it is the nation's greatest problem, for as suggested by President Roosevelt:

"Questions like the tarriff and the currency are literally of no consequence whatever, compared with the vital question of having the unit of our social life, the home, preserved. If the average husband and wife fulfill their duties toward one another and toward their children, as Christianity teaches them, then we may rest absolutely assured that the other problems will solve themselves.. But if we have solved every other problem in the wisest possible way, it shall profit us nothing if we have lost our own national soul; and we will have lost it if we don't have the question of the relations of the family put upon the proper basis."

What is the chief cause of this marital unrest? What is it that causes so many husbands and wives to shun the responsibility and arduous duties of family life? Why is it that husbands give no time to the home? Why do women find more pleasure in society than the home?

Is it possible that the independent life of the American woman, with her constantly increasing numbers entering into commercialism, is at the seat of the domestic troubles of the nation; or is it due to the fact that our girls are being taught that housekeeping is drudgery and means social ostracism, while commercialism presents opportunity and social equality; or is it in part due to the fact that the American husband sees nothing else and cares for nothing else but the race for the almighty dollar that is responsible for so much discord in the American home?

The girls in nine-tenths of the families coming under the writer's notice are being educated for a commercial life. It is of course, the intent of their parents that they are to pursue fame along the well beaten paths heretofore occupied exclusively by men. It is often noted and commented upon that the majority of women so employed soon assume "a manish air," apparantly loose that sweet, womanly disposition and amiability of character and love for domestic affairs that is supposed to be inherent in woman, and gradually but surely develop an appetite for the push and bustle of business life, and are seldom, if ever, again satisfied with the quiet of a home life, for the simple reason that they have not been educated for it.

A noted Portland lecturer recently said to the writer, "If the average husband conducted his business affiairs as do the wives of the country theirs, there would be financial ruin inside of a year." Not one-fifth of the wives of our country can tell what it is costing to run the home. They can give no adequate idea of what it costs per year to clothe the family, to buy its groceries or to furnish it with its miscellaneous items. Neither does the average housewife realize the importance of such matters, and for this she is not altogether to blame, for she has not been taught the urgent necessity of such things.

We doubt if one-tenth of the young women employed in business pursuits are capable of cooking a modern meal, or have been educated at all, in fact in what is of far more importance to the nation, the art of making a home. The woman in whom burns the desire to shine in the business or educational world should not forget that there is a wide open opportunity for her to do a greater work for the nation, as a successful home builder.

What is home? The rock upon which the nation rests. The very foundation of good government. It is in the home that its greatest truths should be taught. The purer the home life, the higher the ideals of those springing from it, hence the necessity of preserving it.

But how can you expect a home builder out of one educated for a business life and saturated with the idea that she is too intelligent, too bright, too valuable to society to sacrifice her literary, musical or commercial training for the home? Is it not a fact that the average girl, the average woman of today looks upon the cares of home life as a thing to be shunned? What is the reason? The lack of proper training and sentiment building in the home and the school. Let mothers teach their girls that home is where "duties are more impor tant than rights," the place where duty demands that every woman do her best to bring comfort and good cheer. For remember, it is the woman, the wife, the mother, around whom the home must be built, and nothing brings good cheer to a tired boy or girl, to the husband and father or the stranger within the gate so much as a neat looking, cheerful wife, a well cooked meal, a light, warm and cheery room and an air of economy in keeping within one's income.

To be a home builder and to be in love with home building, one must have been educated and trained for a home keeper, must have a good working knowledge of domestic science in all its branches—and this can be obtained only through the combined effort of the mother and the school; they must work together. Domestic science must be taught in our public schools. Competent instructors should be provided in every school throughout the land, whose duty it should be to teach the girl the necessary principles of a successful home keeper.

And now you might ask what education should a competent homekeeper receive? A high school education by all means, and where possible, a college course, in which of course, should be included, as suggested, a complete training in domestic science. When this is accomplished and our women think more of home and home duties and less of the world and its snares, and men think more of their wives and less of themselves and the making of money, the divorce question, the nation's greatest problem, will take care of itself.

OLD MEMORIES REVIVED

The Madras Pioneer, published by Max Lueddemann at Madras, has just closed its third year. It certainly doesn't seem like three years since the writer pitched tent in the plowed field, upon which it was proposed to build the new town of Madras. Well do we remember the time we had in getting the plant up, and how, after several days of amusing experiences on the part of the editor, and numerous obscenic oratorical displays on the part of the printer, devil and all around man, Bill Rutter, the heat, sand and the dust forced us out. Fortunately, Mr. and Mrs. Hawn came to the rescue and offered us a bedroom, 9x12, over their store (just built, but not yet finished), which was gladly accepted and the plant moved in in time to pull the first edition of 200 copies of The Madras Pioneer off a rickety old army press. That was our first experience, but not the last. The pioneer soon passed into the hands of Max Lueddeman of Antelope, who brought to it an editorial ability that has made of it a first-class weekly newspaper, enjoying a splendid patronage, a good money maker, and has just now moved into its own home. We have never lost interest in this, the first result of our editorial ambition, and always look forward with pleasure to its arrival. Long may it live and prosper.

The past few weeks have witnessed an awful harvest of besmirched names, ruined lives, suicides and murderers, caused by marital troubles that might have been avoided. Woman's flippant, heedless and soul destroying ways have been in part responsible for this awful condition. The wine glass, card table and house of prostitution have each had their part in the downfall of some of the men who were implicated in the troubles. When will men and women learn that the only safe plan for saint or sinner is to refrain from the very appearance of evil. If this were done, there would be less ruined lives, suicides, murderers and less heart broken and sorrowing fathers and mothers, wives, husbands and children in the world.

Why not have a public wedding at the Multnomah County and Grange Fair and Carnival? A number of business men will be glad to furnish a sufficient supply of furniture, crockery, hardware and clothing to make a good start in life for a young couple. The license can be secured and a minister to perform the job, free of charge, to the bride and groom. Who will be first to volunter?

Canneries built in and near Newberg, says the Graphic, have caused a strong demand for small tracts of land, suitable for fruit raising and market gardening and a consequent raise in city and country reality values. Gresham might profit by Newberg's experience.

Editor Brownhill of the Beaver State Herald was a pleasant caller at the News office last week. Mr. Brownhill is much enthused over the outlook for the Multnomah County Fair and Carnival, to be held in Gresham Oct. 15 to 19, 1907.—Mt. Scott News.

The recent Portland bank failure is but another big stride toward the establishment of government savings banks.

Give former address as well as present one when asking to have The Herald changed to new postoffice

Persecution Makes Converts

One of the most notable cases in legal history has just come to an end by the withdrawal of the suit for the appointment of a guardian of the person and estate of Mrs. Mary Baker G. Eddy, founder of Christian Science. The suit, brought in the New Hampshire courts, attracted attention because it was against a woman 87 years old; of great wealth; possessing an influence incomparably greater than that of any anointed and crowned ruler in the world today; who was said to be dead; who had been reported mentally incompetent and physically unfit to control her property or perform the simplest offices for herself; of whom it had been written that she was the creature of a clique that used her as a machine for coining money for them; who was said never to have had an existence; and who has done more good than any living man or woman.

For nine months Mrs. Eddy has been the object of an extraordinary series of attacks that began with an article in a yellow journal of New York. It was stated quite seriously that she was dead—that she had been dead for some time, and that her place had been taken by a woman made up to represent her; then a correction was made that, while breathing the breath of life into the nostrils of Mrs. Eddy, left her a poor, weak-minded woman, bereft of power, and a prisoner in her own house. Other newspapers sent representatives to interview Mrs. Eddy; some said she was bent and feeble, and that her mind had weakened with her body; others asserted that she was strong, alert and vigorous physically and mentally, and that the burden of her 87 years was a light one. Under pressure, her son, George W. Glover, acting as "first friend," brought the suit that has just been withdrawn; he was represented by able talent, which included ex-United States Senator William E. Chandler. The case was conducted by three masters, Dr. Jelli, the celebrated alienist, and two judges. Mrs. Eddy's testimony was probably the most remarkable ever heard by a court. It traversed a wide range; took up happenings of years ago; gave details on subjects that the present generation has forgot; and on one and all things discussed this woman of 87 years of age was lucid and explicit and accurate.

It is not clear why Mrs. Eddy should have been made the victim of journalistic attack and court persecution. She is very old; there is nothing in her writings that has courted a blow; she has not assailed anyone; the disagreement that one might have with her doctrine was a matter for calm discussion; it did not call for writs and summonses and court appearances. If those opposed to the beliefs of this 87-year-old woman thought they were injuring her or her cause, it is likely they have discovered their error. Out of the persecution of the last nine months the Christian Science Church has reaped a harvest of converts.