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JANUARY 28, 1926

MAKING PEACE — "And Isaac said unto them, Wherefore come ye to me, seeing ye hate me? ... And they said, We saw certainly that the Lord was with thee; and we said; Let us make a covenant with thee; ... And they swore one to another; and Isaac sent them away, and they departed in peace." Gen. 26:27-31.

O. & C. COUNTIES AWAKE

The decision of the judges of the land grant counties of Oregon to seek congressional reimbursement for loss of taxes caused by the withdrawal of parts of their lands from private ownership is fortified by justice. But it remains to be seen whether their campaign will succeed.

For years the Oregon and California grant lands in the southern and western parts of this state were owned by the Oregon & California railroad, one of the component parts of the Southern Pacific system. The lands had been given to the railroad to assist it in its building, as the Northern Pacific lands were given. For 40 years these lands were on the tax rolls of the various counties; but in 1916 the government decided that the railroad had violated the terms under which the grant was made and it took the lands back. This deprived the counties, of the taxes the railroad had been paying. In some counties, the act reduced the taxable area nearly one-half and it resulted in considerable hardship to the county and to the taxpayers.

The county judges have figured that during the years that have elapsed since the government took the lands back the counties have lost in taxes \$4,660,000. This is the amount they would retrieve from congress.

Oregon, like many other states of the middle and far west, is handicapped in its development by the fact that too great a proportion of its area is under government ownership. Slightly less than one-half of the area of Oregon is owned by the federal government. Much of this land is non-arable but it is all rich in timber; and it would be productive of substantial tax revenues, if it were privately owned. The revenue from these government lands is divided among the states. Some of it comes back to the state where it was produced, but not all of it. The public land states play the role of Santa Clauses every year to their sister commonwealths. The situation is not as bad now as it was prior to a few years ago, but it is still bad enough. The system is unfair which compels a public land state, which is handicapped by the fact that a part of its area is exempt from taxation, to share the revenues which its public lands produce with other states, which are not so handicapped.

Of course, the situation needs attention. It will get relief when the congressmen and senators of the public land states will get together and make a united fight in the cause of justice. In the meantime the other commonwealths, which are profiting from the situation, are not doing anything which will tend to put an end to their annual gift. — Albany Democrat Herald.

COMPULSORY VOTING A FAILURE

Too frequently men who are pessimistic regarding the progress of American politics and who like for purposes of sermonizing to glorify the accomplishments of other countries, tell how much better they do these things in Europe, where there actually are working democracies. These tales are usually fictitious, with alleged facts that arise in the imaginations of the propagandists.

They are no more and no less successful in European democracies than they are in the United States. Voting as a pure "duty," does not attract very many citizens.

Voting that is based on a created "interest," does get out the votes.

In England, where so many point to the high percentage of voting, encouragement of voting has been reduced to a fine art of public drama.

In Holland, which surely is as highly educated and as public spirited as a nation as there is in the world, they have tried compulsory voting. It has been a dismal failure.

For nearly a decade they have been trying by law to compel people to vote.

When citizens go to the polls, in Holland, in order to keep out of jail, they make a sorry jest of the franchise. Groups of citizens unite to vote for the town idiot for judge, or some equally mad thing.

The compulsory voting law had become an admitted dead letter.

The Old Iron Fist Again



SAP AND SALT
BY BERT MOSES

A mirror shows us everything but our ignorance.

Facts are facts, no matter what church you belong to.

It is simply amazing what big troubles you can develop in a small town.

Success seems bigger while you are chasing it than it does after it is secured.

When a good thing comes along, why not shove over a little and make room for it?

While the pen may be mightier than the sword, the tongue often cuts deeper than both combined.

Has Heck says: "When you get into the clutches of the law, a little 'pull' goes further than a lot of witnesses."

TOM SIMS SAYS

Some day a gang of superstitious folks will rally around and lynch our weather forecaster.

No wonder the cotton crop was too large. Skirts are too short for cotton stockings.

British rubber market is steady. Just the same, inflated tire prices are seldom punctured.

Weather's funny stuff. Can't blame it for being contrary. You would be contrary if everybody cursed you.

Very few stockings have any cotton in them these days, as far as we can see.

STEWART'S WASHINGTON LETTER

BY CHARLES P. STEWART
NEA Service Writer
WASHINGTON—Employed in a minor capacity at the Capitol

building is an old man — I'd guess him to be at least 75 — who used to be in the saloon business in Washington for a great many years, until it went dry.

Among his customers of moister days were numerous public men (they got him his present job at the Capitol when he had to close his saloon) and the old chap is full of stories of their blubfousness in the long ago.

"Time was," he tells me, "when I didn't think anything of leading representatives and senators home from my place in hacks, with their feet sticking out of the windows.

"I've even seen a president or two a bit lit up."

"But they'd go to going easier by quite a while before the war.

"It was then that mixed drinks, like cocktails, and highballs, and rickys began coming in."

"I'd already lost a lot of my best trade before prohibition. The old-time kind was what paid — where a man downed his drink at one swallow and made room for somebody else, or else bought more.

"All the same I was glad to see the change."

"Now, I remember one customer I had—a real statesman —

you'd know his name in a minute — who swore of earthly things it was to kill.

"And it was a good thing, for he had his spread."

"How much," I asked, anxious to know the views of an experienced authority on the use and abuse of alcohol. "Did this statesman you mention consume?"

"Oh," said the veteran, "when he was normal he was strictly temperate, 'as I'm telling you. Except when he was drinking he kept well inside maybe a couple of doses whiskey a day."

Parent-Teacher Notes

The Congress of Parents and Teachers through its thousands of tireless workers are laboring unceasingly for the education of the parent along child welfare lines and for a higher standard of morals in home and community life. The work of the teacher in recent years has reached a higher degree of efficiency because of the parents' better understanding of the work that is being done in the schools.

Those who have labored most zealously in this field of endeavor have seen a vision of what the world will be when the childhood of the whole world is surrounded with wise and loving care and the mother love and thought are put into the solution of every child problem.

It is truly the idler on the world's highway who can pass through life without gathering the riches of experience. The earnest thinker and worker at the end of the long trail has gathered a rich harvest. Even so the last decade in parent-teacher work opens up such a memory of lessons learned, of wonderful experience and of opportunities for improvement that this volume of the past seems to hold the records of countless unchronicled achievements.

The first lessons that is impressed upon the mother as she assumes her obligation in this work is the lesson of gratitude. Thankfulness to the giver of all good, who has conferred upon her the greatest of all blessings, the blessing of motherhood. As she adopts for her own our national motto "Let us live with our children," the years open up a wonderful vista of joy and responsibility. With what sacredness she invests motherhood and with what enjoyment she gathers a family around her and builds a home! As the significance of the aim "to raise the standards of home life" is realized, she begins to more fully comprehend that the strength of a nation is in exact proportion to the quality of its young people and that a mother's value to her nation is in proportion to her ability to develop character, and to maintain ideals.

As I look back over years of service I cull here and there a lesson that seems pre-eminent, ranks of parents and teachers we are all brothers and sisters. There is no high nor low, no rich nor poor; that we are all inspired with the same ambition and that is, to give to the world a greater heritage of wisdom and beauty. The hand of a little child ever leads us onward and upward, and the words father, mother, teacher unite us. It has been truly said that if this is true, what a greatest gift to the world! One of our national presidents has said that if his is true, what a power for good must come from the united efforts of all mothers. Add to this the faithful co-operation of fathers and teachers and the greatest organized force for the uplift of humanity has been called into existence.

The educators of the world are meeting the parents more than half way in the forming of parent-teacher circles, for they fully realize that the best results are attained with the child when the parent takes an intelligent interest in the progress of his education. The experimental stages in this work have been passed and the schools that are accomplishing the most are eager to give their co-operation and encouragement.

As I turn back the pages and read the history of the parent-teacher work I am fully convinced that there is no other organization so democratic — Child Welfare Magazine.

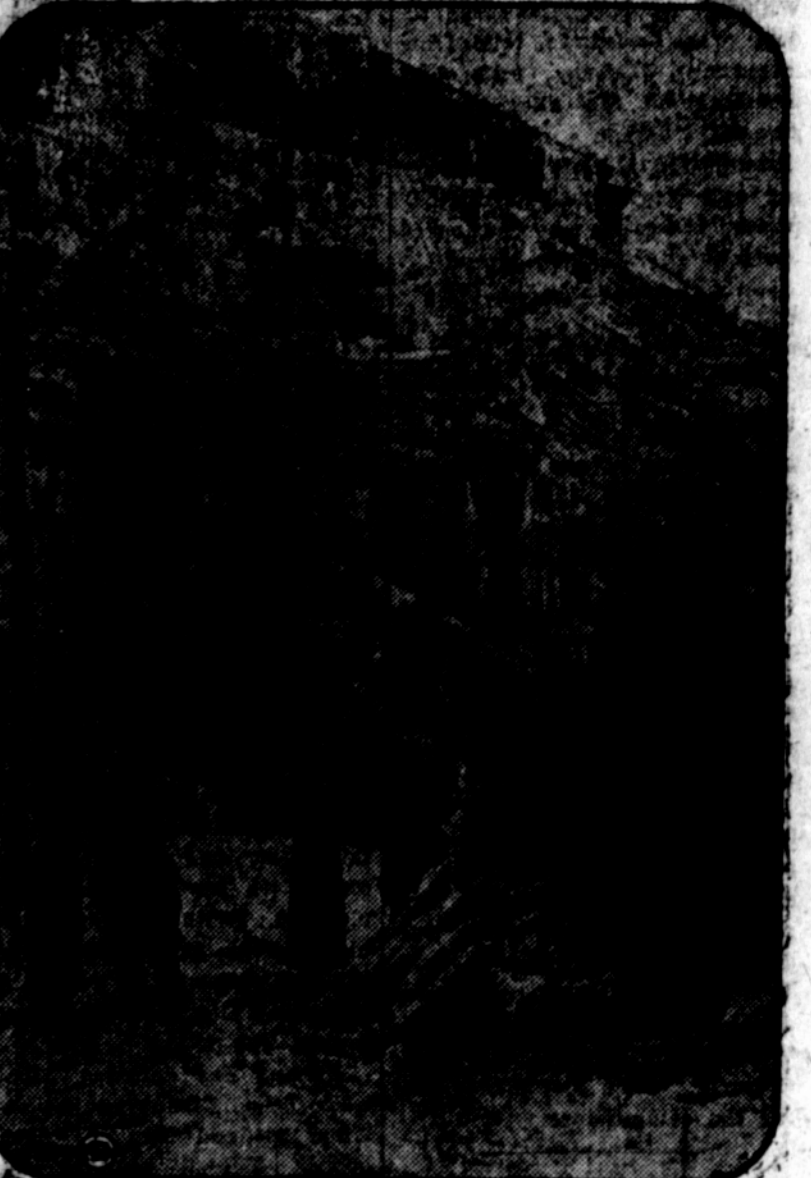
Advertise in The Tidings

Her Boy Friends on Her Buttons



Here's another wrinkle in the photographs of your boy friends on your dress buttons. Miss Loretta Haumann of New York, is given credit for this one. The photos are glued to the buttons.

Zero! And a Fire to Put Out



It was a degree below zero at Wheeling, W. Va., when the firemen had to turn out to battle this blaze. Seven walls the building was almost great masses of ice formed across its front, and the hose lines can be seen wrestled in ice.

OUT OUR WAY By Williams



Outbursts of Everett True

