

The Cottage Grove Leader

A live country weekly that gives you what you want to read.

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The Copperfield Affair.

Under the head of "Above the Civil Law," the Sunday Oregonian contained the following editorial on the Copperfield saloon affair:

"Governor West has taken possession of Copperfield by military force. He has set aside the civil law and has established martial law. Martial law is entire suspension of all civil or ordinary governmental processes, and is substitution of the rule of a military commander who becomes at once in his own person the law or whatever law there is.

Calmly viewed, the Copperfield episode is an assertion of the supreme will of the Governor of Oregon over all the constitutional guarantees of the average citizen. His warrant is solely that the end justifies the means.

Copperfield was controlled by the saloons, and long had been. The Mayor and several Councilmen were in the liquor business, and were the beneficiaries of the license privileges granted by themselves as public officials to themselves as citizens. This in itself is not an unlawful proceeding, though it is unseemly and improper; nor is there any assertion from any reputable source that there had been any flagrant violations of law at Copperfield by the saloons or on their account. But unquestionably the condition was bad. The county authorities would not, or could not, correct it, and the Copperfield citizens were either powerless, or afraid, or indifferent. Then the Governor took a hand and sent Miss Hobbs to Copperfield accompanied by a militia guard and armed with an executive proclamation. Now the saloons are closed, and the Governor purposes, he says, to keep them closed. The issue is clearly made between the Governor, who supersedes the civil law, and the men of Copperfield, who have captured and have been using the machinery of law for their own benefit, but who have nevertheless not broken the laws.

If the Copperfield episode stood by itself, it might not be significant or ominous. It is impossible to defend or excuse the saloons there, and it is impossible to justify the methods by which they have been licensed and maintained. But underlying this unpleasant situation is the fundamental question of law observance and law respect by Governor as well as by saloon-keepers. If the Governor of Oregon by his fiat and the exercise of the military power of the state may suppress the saloon-keepers and destroy the saloons of Copperfield, he may suppress the saloon-keepers and destroy the saloons of Portland. If he may act in this arbitrary and extraordinary fashion against the saloons, he may move against any other institution displeasing to him. He may interfere with and control the government of Portland or any city in the state, or the state itself, to bring about any result whatever, and the only limits to his executive prerogative are his ability to carry out his plans.

It does not meet the question to say that the end is justifiable. That may be conceded, and is conceded; but the means are nevertheless reprehensible. The Governor who uses his extraordinary power for you, in any emergency, may by your approval be encouraged to use the same power against you, in any other emergency, or in no emergency. It is therefore a most dangerous

and unwarrantable exercise of power. It is a grave thing to suspend civil authority. It is an unheard-of proceeding anywhere in any civilized government, except in times of rebellion or great public peril. No such situation exists anywhere in Oregon.

The Alarm and Password.

Parties wishing to enter this office at this season should be governed by the following rule: Advance to the inner door and give three distinct raps or kick the door down. The "devil" will attend the alarm. You will then give him your name, postoffice address and the number of years you are owing the paper. He will admit you. You will advance to the center of the room and address the editor with the following countersign: Extend the right hand about two feet from the body, with the thumb and index finger pointed to a five dollar bill which drops into the extended hand of the editor, at the same time saying, "Were you looking for me?" The editor will grasp your hand and the bill and pressing it will say, "You bet." After giving the news of your locality, you will be permitted to retire with a receipt for an obligation properly discharged.

President William Sproule of the Southern Pacific Company, who has returned from a trip to New York, has come back as optimistic as ever about prospects in Oregon and the Pacific Coast in 1914. He explains the present unsettled financial condition as due to caution on the part of the public based upon apprehension. With fine crops guaranteed and the tariff and currency questions settled, he predicts that there will be a marked improvement in 1914.

A curious inquirer wanted to know "What are the sister States?" and the brilliant country editor answered: "We are not quite sure, but we should judge that they are Missouri, Ida Ho, Mary Land, Callie Fornia, Allie Bama, Louisa Anna, Della Ware, Minnie Sota and Mrs. Sippi."

That old farmer who once indignantly remarked that the farmers would never countenance the goshdinned automobile, now owns and rides in one, and all of his boys have them. And they are all working for better roads.

We observe that land prices down the valley have decreased from 25 to 50 per cent during the past year. They were so high that homeseekers and investors absolutely refused to invest.

A Roseburg boy received a pair of skates as a Christmas gift from Eastern relatives. A Panama hat or a linen duster would have been more appropriate and useful.

The special edition of the Oregonian issued last week eclipsed all former special editions of that paper and was a big boost for Portland and the state at large.

The big clearance sales are on in Portland. Why not in Cottage Grove? Keep the people and their money at home.

AMONG THE POLITICIANS

N. L. Fitzhenry, of Eugene, will be a candidate for county commissioner.

Col. W. G. D. Mercer, candidate for the primary nomination of county judge on the republican ticket is a Cottage Grove visitor today and favored the Leader with a pleasant call. He has many friends in South Lane.

FAVORS FEDERAL CONTROL OF WIRES

Representative Lewis Argues For His New Bill.

MANY SUPPORT THE PLAN.

Terms of Contracts With Government Would Make Purchase a Simple Matter and Companies Could Easily Be Forced to Sell—Success of Parcel Post Considered a Factor.

Washington.—Advocacy of government ownership of all telegraph and telephone lines; the introduction of a bill providing for such purchases by Uncle Sam; the action of the Bell Telephone system and Western Union Telegraph companies in voluntarily dissolving what the attorney general of the United States termed a trust, and the tremendous success of the parcel post system during the first year of its history have directed more attention toward the purchase of the wires than anything else in the history of the country.

The measure has both supporters and opponents. President Wilson's declaration that he has never said one way or the other whether he favored the bill or not was interesting. For years the question has been agitated off and on, here and there, but no concrete action has ever before been taken.

The purchase of the wires by the government would be a simple matter, provided, of course, the many millions necessary to buy the stock could be obtained. There is an old provision in the original franchises granted by the government that if the congress wishes at any time to buy the companies the directors will be forced to sell. These are the terms of the contracts with the government under which the companies are now operating. The price to be paid shall be determined by a board consisting of three men.



REPRESENTATIVE DAVID J. LEWIS.

The companies are to name one, the government one, and these two shall select the third.

Representative Lewis has introduced in the house a bill providing for the taking over of the wires by Uncle Sam. In introducing the bill Mr. Lewis said in part:

Investigation discloses that our telegraphic rates are the highest among twenty countries, running from 25 cents to \$1. While in other countries they average about 12 cents, or a cent a word. The result is that we rank ninth as telegraph users, with one and one-tenth telegrams a person to our credit per annum, while in New Zealand, with the twelve cent rate and our price and wage levels, the use of the telegraph reaches as high as eight telegrams a person.

The telegraph service is a relatively declining institution, and it would be unwise to postulate it alone as a single service. For ten years in England the number of telegrams has been actually stationary.

Our toll and long distance telephone rates compare with those of other countries even less favorably than do our telegraph rates. The average interurban receipt in Germany is but 4 cents; here it averages 30 cents. The long distance rates here are made on a scale of 4 mills a mile for a three minute conversation as against an average charge of about 7 mills a mile received by the railways for transporting a ton of freight.

We are one of three countries where the charge of a local call exceeds the letter postage rate.

The subscribers' rates in American cities, compared with continental cities, are about three times as high; for example, New York, where 5.60 calls, about fifteen a day, under a measured service tariff cost more than the four unlimited yearly rates of London, Paris, Berlin and Stockholm together.

\$30,000 INSURANCE ON TREE.

Fence Guards Alligator Pear Which Nettle Owner \$3,206.

Los Angeles, Cal.—The most valuable fruit tree in the world, an avocado, or alligator pear, the property of H. A. Woodworth, a Whittier rancher, has been insured for \$30,000 by Lloyd's of London against fire or frost.

This tree last season netted Mr. Woodworth \$3,206 in fruit and bud wood, the latter being used in an effort to propagate other alligator pear trees.

To protect his prize tree from marauders Mr. Woodworth has built a bath fence around it thirty feet high.

15,000,000 YEARS OF LIFE.

Astronomical Authority Asserts Sun Will Then Cool Off.

Philadelphia.—Replying to a question put by a clergyman at the weekly meeting of Presbyterian ministers, Professor Eric Doolittle, director of the University of Pennsylvania's astronomical observatory, said he thought that life on this earth would come to an end in about 15,000,000 years.

Professor Doolittle had been making an address on "Astronomy." In reference to the end of the earth's life he said:

"Unless some supernatural power or being interferes or the earth comes in contact with another planet or heavenly body the earth will exist for 15,000,000 more years.

"The earth is dependent upon the sun for its heat and light, although the earth now contains some heat itself. When the sun eventually cools off the result will be darkness and cold, which will bring an end to all life, animal and vegetable."

"25 EARLY ENOUGH TO WED."

Grandmother, Thirty-two, Says It's a Sin to Let Children Marry.

Boston.—Mrs. John T. Russell of Malden, Mass., who has just passed her thirty-second birthday and is probably the youngest grandmother in this state, criticizes the early marriage law which allows persons under twenty-five years of age to wed.

"It is a sin," says Mrs. Russell, "to allow children to enter into the bonds of marriage when they are distinctly incompetent to raise children. About twenty-five years is the right age for young people to think of marriage. Then the young man has secured the foothold in his profession or business and is able to support a wife."

Mrs. Russell became a grandmother fourteen months ago, when her son, John Clifford Russell, seventeen years old, became a father. The son was married when fifteen years old and Mrs. Russell was married at sixteen.

MANY HOGS TUBERCULAR.

Twenty Per Cent of Those Slaughtered at Madison, Wis.

Madison, Wis.—Twenty per cent of the average lot of hogs brought to slaughter are tuberculous, according to a statement by Dr. M. P. Ravenel, professor of bacteriology of the University of Wisconsin.

Dr. Ravenel has made a careful examination of conditions in slaughter houses of Wisconsin and other states and makes known his conclusions in a detailed report. He states that hogs do not develop the disease within themselves, but contract it by feeding on the byproducts of creameries and following tuberculous cattle.

TALKING BANKNOTE A NEW INVENTION

Edges of Paper So Cut as to Make Phonographic Record.

Sutton, Surrey, England.—An invention that might prove useful in the makeup of the new American issue of bills and banknotes has lately been brought to a high state of perfection by a Sutton engineer, Alfred E. Bawtree.

Mr. Bawtree's device is a machine which will so cut the edge of a banknote as to make it a veritable phonograph record, capable of talking and stating its denomination.

Put as simply as possible, the method employed in making the "talking banknote," which, Mr. Bawtree says, will defy the machinations of the counterfeiters, is this: The sound form of two syllables, like "dollar," "fifty," "hundred," is first photographed by an ingenious process upon a film, making a jagged line of about the length of a banknote.

By a photo-mechanical process this jagged line, which is really a little record of the words spoken, is cut on a zinc plate, and from this mold a steel cutting knife of the required shape and design is obtained.

With this knife the edges of bills and notes may be cut, and each serrated edge is a reproduction of the sound form required.

When the bills so treated are passed through the specially designed phonographic reproducer, which is a part of the invention, they can be heard crying their values.

Mr. Bawtree says: "With this machine people can safeguard themselves against receiving forged notes. It would be practically impossible for a forger to imitate the serrated edge of a note which talks."

WIND TO LIGHT LONG NIGHT.

Episcopal Mission Will Harness Alaskan Gales.

Philadelphia.—The winds that blow in northern Alaska are to be harnessed to light up the long polar night in the cause of religion. Bishop P. T. Rowe of the Diocese of Alaska has authorized Dr. W. E. S. Temple, head of the electrical engineering department of the University of Pennsylvania, to design and build an electric light plant, operated by a windmill, for use of the Episcopal mission at Point Hope, Alaska.

Point Hope is more than 100 miles north of the arctic circle, where the polar night continues several months each year.

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SUIT CASES TRUNKS AND BAGS

The House Furnishers

PHONE 6

Monroe's Photos

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High grade Family Groceries of the Best Brands, pure, fresh and wholesome. Cranberries, nuts and fruits.

Something Different

Nursery Stock for Sale.

Bargain in Oregon nursery stock. Some good varieties of fruit trees, apples, walnuts and peaches. One and two years growth. Stock can be seen at George Mote's residence, East Railroad street.

40 acres of land close in to sell or trade. Address Mrs. S. E. Blair, 215 West Park st., Portland, Ore.

A Home Bank, A Substantial Bank and a Big Bank is

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK Of Cottage Grove

It has never levied an assessment and has always paid an Annual Dividend. It merits your confidence and invites your business.

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The Best

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SHELL, GRIT

OIL MEAL

CHICK FOOD

GROUND BONE

MEAT MEAL

International Poultry and Stock Food

Everything for the Farmer. Wagons, Buggies, Plows, Seeders, Cultivators and all Kinds of Small Implements.

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