

Polk County Observer

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ROCKEFELLER LABOR PLAN.

The labor agreement plan proposed by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., to the employes of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company has attracted a good deal of attention and caused much discussion. This plan does not recognize the miners' union, but it imposes no obstacles to the miners organizing in this way if they choose to do so. While it does not provide for collective bargaining, it provides for grievance committees and the settlement of any problem or dispute by conference, in which the company shall have no more representation than the employes. It provides for joint committees on industrial co-operation and conciliation, on safety and accidents, on sanitation, health and housing, and on recreation and education. The prevailing scale of wages is to continue in effect for three years, but if a general increase be granted in competitive districts a proportional increase shall be granted to the employes of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company. The employes are voting on the plan, and its acceptance or rejection will be determined within a few days.

Lawson, the miners' strike leader who is now serving a jail sentence for his connection with last year's strike troubles, quite naturally does not approve of the Rockefeller plan. His reason is that it does not provide for collective bargaining, but attempts to substitute paternalism for democracy, or philanthropy for justice. It does, however, grant nearly everything apparently except the recognition of the union, and with the pledge of no discrimination against membership in the union, it looks as if there was little to prevent the union from directing the action of the men through their representatives on these various committees.

It is to be hoped the Rockefeller plan may have a fair trial. It is apparently an honest effort of the richest young man in the country in his first experience at adjusting the relation that should exist between himself as employer and a large body of his employes. He has seemingly convinced many if not all of them of his good faith and if the proposed arrangement, when tried out in good faith by both sides, does not accomplish what is expected of it, it may at least make clear to both sides what is lacking and how to remedy its defects.

THE SUNDAY LAW.

The undertaking on the part of a number of municipalities to enforce the Sunday law, so called, is creating something of a commotion, not only within the bailiwicks affected but throughout the state. There is a principle at stake in this controversy that is of universal interest. This is based on the old question of whether a law should be strictly enforced, or if found to be incapable of enforcement, whether the law should be simply ignored or repealed. The statute books of every state are incumbered by numerous "dead-letter" laws, which seldom or never are enforced and which therefore mean little, or nothing. The Sunday closing law is a typical example of this class of laws, for it is seldom enforced and only in places where local sentiment demands it. Yet when such a law exists and is neither recognized or enforced, would it not be better to entirely repeal it than to have it openly ignored and violated with impunity? Is it not true that such a condition leads to contempt for all laws and a consequent increase of the violations of other laws than the one which officially is ignored?

There are many who hold that this is true, and that when it is found a law is ineffective and not supported by public sentiment it should be repealed, thereby to strengthen and gain greater respect for live laws which are necessary for the proper regulation of conduct. The action first instituted at Eugene is likely to force this issue to the front, regardless of whether the prosecutor succeeds in making the residents of the Lane county town toe the mark or not. The entire state is interested in the movement started there and which has already become almost state wide, and all are interested in the outcome because of the fact that it will help to decide this old question of whether the law should be strictly enforced, or, if found incapable of enforcement, should be stricken from the statute books in order not to mislead and confuse the public with respect to the

meaning and validity of all laws intended for the protection and welfare of society.

SERVES THEM RIGHT.

We are told that the special income tax which has just been imposed in England to help meet the expenses of the war will cost William Waldorf Astor something like \$1,575,000, while other former American citizens who have chosen to transfer their permanent residence to England will contribute in like manner to a total of approximately \$10,000,000. In a way this is rather rough on these expatriates who, for one reason or another, have renounced their allegiance to the United States and gone to live in England. Yet there are 100,000,000 people in the United States who will refuse to worry over the trouble of these former Americans and who will probably feel that it serves them right. Especially will this be the decision with respect to a considerable number of these expatriates who are known to have left this country because they objected to paying the taxes here on their inherited wealth and incomes. For them, it has been a case of "out of the frying pan into the fire," and they will get neither sympathy nor consolation in their present predicament. Perhaps they now wish they had stuck to the good old United States, but if so their regret has come just a little bit too late. As the old saying goes, "they made their own bed and now must lie in it."

SOUR GRAPES.

The Monitor is wrong in its conclusion that Independence reaps no benefit from the Polk county fair, and its ridicule of the institution because it had no "cross-eyed hippopotamus or ring-tailed rhinoceros" in addition to the regular menu" is simply one of its numerous efforts to belittle a county seat enterprise. While it must be acknowledged that the county fair might be made more attractive to that certain element inclined to travel far in order to witness exhibits of the character indicated by our esteemed contemporary, it must be admitted that the chief purpose of the undertaking is to educate along agricultural, horticultural and kindred lines of endeavor, leaving the cross-eyed hippopotamus to wallow in the alluvial adjacent to the second city, where its girations are more greatly appreciated than elsewhere in this neck-of-the-woods.

The truth of the matter is that Independence stubbornly refuses to cooperate with any enterprise initiated by Dallas, notwithstanding the indisputable fact that both might benefit beyond easy calculation by such cooperation. In a measure their interests are identical, and anything which augurs for the general good of Polk county and its inhabitants must necessarily prove enhancing to the material welfare of these communities. In the case at hand, Independence as a Polk county town cannot fail to profit by the efforts of the county fair board's collection of products of the soil that won the blue ribbon at the Oregon state fair, probably the greatest institution of its kind on the coast. Simply because the management erred in not giving the annual county event the publicity it merited should not be reason for an unbold amount of adverse criticism from those who raised not a finger in its promotion. So long as the county fair is dependent upon only a comparatively small number for its success just that long must the struggle to make it what it is go on.

Contrary to the expressed opinion of The Monitor, which characterizes it as a local affair, the county fair belongs to the people of Polk—it is made possible by their contributions through taxation—and it is therefore incumbent upon them to lend their aid in making it creditable to them. Independence may continue to knock the fair through selfish motives, but nevertheless it will improve with each recurring year until it becomes one of the biggest and best held in the state. Those in the management will learn by experience the wants of the people, and if general sentiment favors a "ring-tailed rhinoceros" a special committee may be dispatched to the habitat of that animal to capture one for their edification. In the meanwhile on with the races—Dallas will respond.

LIGHTS ON VEHICLES.

Many cities now have regulations requiring the "dimming" of automobile headlights. It is being discovered, however, that this requirement is often a source of danger, instead of additional convenience and safety. At St. Paul, for instance, the enactment of a "dimmer" ordinance was speedily followed by an accident, in which it was clearly shown the dimmed lights of an auto caused the driver to crash into a horse drawn vehicle, which was not observed on account of insufficient light.

The result is an agitation in that city in favor of requiring all vehicles to carry lights at night, which is a plan of sensible precaution, and especially if auto headlights are to be

dimmed so that drivers cannot see other vehicles in the dark. An auto moves swiftly and more noiselessly than a horse drawn vehicle, and where street lights are inadequate the auto driver is compelled to depend on his headlights to show other vehicles and obstacles in the road. Blinding headlights may be a source of annoyance and even danger at times, but other dangers arise when headlights are dimmed. If the latter rule is enforced it would seem that all vehicles should carry lights.

DALLAS SHOULD HELP.

Dallas being the home of the only woman member of the board of regents of the University of Oregon, and that woman member having instituted a campaign for the erection on the college campus of a building as a memorial to her sex, would it not be fitting for this city to contribute its mite towards the successful consummation of the laudable undertaking? The people of Dallas would not only be showing their appreciation of the sterling worth of Mrs. George Gerlinger, but would assist in financing the project, which requires an expenditure of approximately \$100,000. Several other communities are supporting this movement to erect a structure to women by raising money in divers and sundry ways, and Dallas should not, especially under the circumstances, fall behind her neighbors. That the necessary fund will be created there can be no doubt in the minds of those who know the ability of our townswoman, but nevertheless her friends here would probably welcome an opportunity to render Mrs. Gerlinger such financial assistance as is within their power, thus speaking the high esteem in which she is held here.

At Eugene last week a "progressive dinner," at fifty cents a person, was served to townpeople, from which a handsome sum was netted to the fund. While "progressive dinners" are not expected to provide the necessary money with which to erect the building, "every little helps a little" and that means might be employed in Dallas. The dinner is served in courses, with one course to the house. The diners, for instance, eat soup at one table, then journey to another for the salad, to the third for the entrée, and so on down to nuts and raisins. Nearly one thousand persons participated in this novel dinner at Eugene. Inasmuch as the Woman's clubs of Oregon are manifesting a lively interest in this campaign, and the Dallas organization being one of the live wires of the community, it might be suggested that it take the initiative in raising a fund locally for the purpose.

THE WILSON NUPTIALS.

Announcement that President Wilson is again to wed of course elicits widespread interest. It is now about fourteen months since the president's first wife expired and the nation was called to sympathize with and offer condolences to the bereaved chief executive of the government. Somehow, the thought that the president might find another mate seems scarcely to have entered the minds of the people, and therefore the present announcement of his engagement to Mrs. Norman Galt comes as a distinct surprise, especially as even the keenest watchers—outside of the president's family and intimate friends, of course—seem to have observed nothing to arouse their suspicions that another romance was budding and developing in the executive mansion at Washington.

But the surprise is a pleasant one for the American people, who will find in this decision of the president fresh evidence of his distinctly human traits and qualities. We are told that the bride-to-be is still young, beautiful, intellectual and rich, also possessing a rare charm of manner and a cheerfulness of disposition that has caused her friends to refer to her as "Sunshine." And with so many attractive qualities it is no wonder the president found her a congenial companion, and that he probably feels he is the "luckiest man in the world" in gaining her consent to bear his name and take charge of his household affairs, at the same time aiding and assisting him in the discharge of his social duties and obligations. And in anticipation of a coming White house wedding the American people will follow the details of preparation with much interest, and they will join in congratulations and best wishes to the happy couple.

The rehabilitation of the lumber manufacturing industry at Falls City, and on a more extensive scale than formerly, should meet with rejoicing from the people of Polk county, for the prosperity of one section means the prosperity of all. The operators behind this venture are men of large capital, and the owners of some of the finest standing timber within the state of Oregon, and when the splendidly appointed sawmill at the city by the falls of the Little Luckiamette again resumes, the business will be on a sound financial basis. The Cobb & Mitchell interests have large tracts of valuable timber in the Siletz basin, and this will be brought to the mill

over a logging road extension, work on which will be inaugurated in the very near future. Falls City residents are enthusiastic over prospects for the future, believing that the revival of this industry there will mean prosperity to the entire community. And it will.

THE "UNLUCKY" THIRTEEN.

Not counting Japan, which now occupies the position of an interested spectator, there were ten nations actively engaged in the great war up to the time of the fresh Balkan complications. On the one side were the Teutonic allies—Germany, Austro-Hungary and Turkey—and opposed to these were England, France, Russia, Belgium, Italy, Serbia and Montenegro. Now, however, this list must be extended. Bulgaria has decided to cast her lot with the so-called central powers, Roumania is hastening preparations to line up with the entente allies and particularly against Bulgaria, and Greece, while desperately striving to maintain neutrality and keep out of the scrimmage, is drifting surely and inevitably toward the vortex, which already has drawn her reluctant neighbors into the titanic struggle.

Altogether this will mean thirteen European nations engaged in deadly conflict with each other—an unlucky thirteen, it may be remarked in passing. Together these nations represent more than one-half the population of the entire world, and there is singular irony in the fact that with one exception they are listed as "among the world's most civilized nations," with the same exception being also exponents of the christian religion in one form or another. They are now at each other's throats, madly seeking to slaughter and destroy and thus undo the work of many years of progress and slow development. And the longer they continue at this task, the greater will be their own losses and the grievous loss to humanity and the world in general.

That this nation has kept out of this gruesome tragedy thus far is cause for congratulations and unbounded thankfulness on the part of every true American. And every American will also hope that thirteen will be the limit of the "unlucky" nations called on to sacrifice themselves on the altar of war in order to settle, if possible, the questions and disputes involved in the greatest struggle of the world's history.

That Ray Grounds, the young man who has engaged himself to lecture throughout four states in the interest of temperance, under the auspices of the Woman's Christian Temperance union, will make a howling success of the undertaking that can be little doubt. He has made a study of the subject, and has written several articles that have been widely quoted.

There is going to be a shortage of meat in the United States some of these fine days if we keep on supplying the armies of Europe, without a decided increase in production in this country. An advance of from three to five cents a pound is already in sight with still further advances threatened as the shortage becomes greater.

Mrs. Galt is said to be proud of the fact that she is a lineal descendant of Pocahontas, the Indian princess who gained fame by saving the life of Capt. John Smith and later became the wife of the early English settler, John Rolfe. And this feature naturally adds to the romance that now centers at the White house.

President Wilson is too busy arranging for his approaching nuptials to comply with the request of the school children of San Diego that he visit the fair now in progress in that city. And then, too, the congress will convene about the time the wedding is to take place.

They used to take Americans raised in a log cabin and elect them presidents. Now they have them born in luxury and educate them in the best colleges of the land and, as a climax to their careers, run over them with an automobile or a Ford.

Not all the so-called "presidential possibilities" that are being trotted out are the real thing. Some of them are unquestionably presidential impossibilities.

With McArthur, Lafferty and West candidates for congressional honors Portland should be supplied with entertainment until after the next election.

The beef magnates are so indignant over England's interference with their trade that they threaten to give John Bull the cold shoulder.

Let's see—didn't the Kaiser promise the German people several months ago that the war would end in October?

Now that the football season is upon us, the Red Cross society will probably call for recruits.

OTHER THINGS

A Rare and Curious Collection of Fact and Fancy.

It's the song ye sing
And the smile ye wear,
'That's a'makin' the
Sunshine everywhere.

—Selected.

Betcha, Fred Suver, the w. k. and handsome laundry man, will have lots of friends when he gets some of that \$32,000 from the Chicago bank.

"God will not look you over for medals, degrees and diplomas, but for scars."—Hubbard.

Fellers! Bill White has returned from Salmon river with a new shirt and an appetite.

"Dewdabs," slang for kisses, has been banished from the vocabulary, but that doesn't indicate that the good old custom will die out.

A. H. Dennett came in from his farm the other day to tell us that Socialists are the only happy people. But at that Mr. Dennett is a good farmer and an excellent gentleman.

"Home."

The good Lord seemed to want to show to us
Something of what Heaven means
So He willed a little spot on earth
Wherein to dream our dreams of
Sweetest bliss
While through earth we roam
And in His loving thoughtfulness
He called it, "Home, Sweet Home."

Mongolia Highwayitis—The latest term in the personal and private vocabulary of W. L. Soehren, who nearly shot a China pheasant from the highway.

Her 40th Birthday.

Time: (Handing lovely lady a package). With my best respects and many happy returns of the day.
"How lovely," remarks the lady.
"But what's in it?"
"A double chin, fifty wrinkles, two hundred grey hairs and a grandchild."—Life.

Autumn.

The green leaves redden, one by one;
A thinner gold falls from the sun;
And in my heart, where Joy was pent,
A new, sad tenant sits—Content.

—Mary C. Davies.

S. B. Taylor, the popular and persevering politician, who was a democratic candidate for county surveyor once upon a time, says he will be a republican next time he wants anything. It's a good lunch, Sam. The longer T. R. lives the stronger the republican party will be.

Speaking of alibis, which Rex Lampman has vainly tried to make famous, that of W. L. Soehren occurs to us. He was the guest of the man who killed the pheasant from the highway. If that goes with the judge it's alright here.

Teacher! If that cloak room class gets beyond your meaneast looks and most stinging lashes, you might call on B. M. Callaghan, the new high manual instructor. He looks like he might be able to handle 'em.

SUMMONS.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Polk County.—Department No. 2.

E. A. Thurston and Margaret Thurston, Plaintiffs, vs. G. A. Hurley and Virginia L. Hurley, his wife, Julien A. Hurley, unmarried, W. E. Landreth, W. O. Landreth, Lizzie B. Landreth, Mabel I. Landreth, J. L. Landreth, Walter Landreth, R. R. Landreth, and also all other persons or parties unknown, claiming any right, title or interest, estate or lien in the real estate described in the complaint herein, Defendants.

To G. A. Hurley and Virginia L. Hurley, his wife, Julien A. Hurley, unmarried, W. E. Landreth, W. O. Landreth, Lizzie B. Landreth, Mabel I. Landreth, J. L. Landreth, Walter Landreth, R. R. Landreth, and also all other persons or parties unknown, claiming any right, title or interest, estate or lien in the real estate described in the complaint herein, the above-named defendants.

In the name of the State of Oregon: You and each of you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled court and cause on or before six weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons; and the plaintiffs for want thereof will take a decree against you as prayed for in their complaint herein, to-wit: That plaintiffs are the owners in fee of the following described real premises, commencing at the Southwest corner of Fractional Block No. 1, in Henry Hill's town of Independence, Polk County, Oregon, thence running North 162 feet, thence East 200 feet, thence South 162 feet, thence West 200 feet to the place of beginning, and that you and each of you be by said decree forever barred and enjoined from claiming any right, title or interest of, in or to said premises or any part thereof.

This summons is published in the Polk County Observer for a period of six weeks by order of the Hon. H. H. Belt, Judge of the above entitled Court, made at Chambers this 31st day of August, 1915, and the date of

the first publication will be on the 3rd day of September, 1915, and the date of the last publication will be on the 15th day of October, 1915.

SIBLEY & EAKIN,
Attorneys for Plaintiffs.

SUMMONS—CASE NO. 4720.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Polk.

Harrison B. Riley and William C. Niblack, Plaintiffs, vs. Mary Augi, Frank Laundry, and the unknown heirs of Joseph Augi, deceased, and each of them; and also all persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real property described in the complaint herein, Defendants.

To Mary Augi, Frank Laundry, the unknown heirs of Joseph Augi, deceased, and also to all persons or parties unknown claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in and to Lot 6, and Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter and North half of the Southwest quarter, Section four, Township seven South of Range eight West, Willamette Meridian, Oregon.

In the name of the State of Oregon, you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled suit within six weeks from the date of the first publication of this summons, to-wit, on or before the 17th day of November, 1915.

And if you fail to appear and answer for want thereof, the plaintiffs will apply to the above entitled court for the relief prayed for in the complaint herein, to-wit:

A decree adjudging that plaintiffs are the owners in fee simple of Lot 6, the Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter and the North half of the Southwest quarter of Section 4, Tp. 7, S., R. 8 W., W. M. Oregon; that the claims of the defendants, or either of them, of any right, title or interest in or to said lands are void and of no effect, and that plaintiffs' title to said lands, and every part thereof be forever quieted against the claims of the defendants and all persons claiming by, through or under them, or either of them, and that defendants and all persons claiming by, through or under them, and each of them, be forever barred, enjoined and restrained from claiming or setting up any right, title or interest to all or any part of said land.

This summons is published by order of the Honorable J. B. Teal, County Judge of the above-named County of Polk, duly made and entered the 4th day of October, 1915.

Dated at Dallas, Oregon, this 4th day of October, 1915.

A. C. SHAW,
Attorney for Plaintiffs, 819 Yeon building, Portland, Oregon.
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