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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20.

DON'T DELAY THE STREET CAIRS

The members of the city council find their efforts to pave Willamette street blocked by a number of property owners who are opposed to such public improvements. This was what was really expected when the cost of paving was finally figured out. It would be the most decided improvement that could be made and would do more to give Eugene the appearance of a city than anything else that could be done; it would attract investors by the very permanency of its character and stimulate values; one year from the time the work was finished every property owner directly involved would consider it the best investment he ever made.

This is not speculation or guesswork, but an observation based upon the experience of other towns in the West. Three notable examples are Boise, Idaho, Walla Walla, Wash., and Pendleton, Or. There was in each of these places a hard fight to overcome the opposition to the first paving expenditures, but after that property owners outside the paved district clamored to be included. This was true of every one of these towns—it would be true of Eugene if the consent of the property owners could be secured to go ahead.

It must be admitted that if the town grows as most of us expect it to, paved streets will be a necessity in time. Then why not do it now and get the benefits that are sure to follow at once? Nearly all the property owners directly concerned will be as able to pay the cost this year as next, or the year after. Some of them would better have it done now according to logic of good business reasoning because their property is unimproved and unproductive, and taxes and interest are yearly making their investment heavier, while values are increasing slowly now and will continue to do so until some decided steps are taken toward building up the town.

Western Oregon, however, moves slowly, and the splendid Willamette valley, with its great natural advantages, is twenty years behind Washington, California, Idaho and parts of Eastern Oregon less favored by nature. People here cannot bring themselves to realize that cities are built up—they wait for them to grow. This may be the sure plan, but it is distressingly slow in most instances.

Knowing this it would be the part of wisdom for the city council to drop the paving matter until such a time as the property owners realize that it is an absolute necessity. At this time it would no doubt drag along and if persisted in involve the city in litigation that would be productive of factional strife which should be avoided. Paradoxical though it may seem, the majority of those opposed to proposition that costs anything will spend more money in litigation to prevent it than the proposed improvement would cost.

More important than anything else at this time is the building of the electric street railway and electric line to Springfield, because it has practically reached the point of actual construction. Its promoters

should not be held back awaiting the outcome of an endless quarrel over paving matters. Possibly they might not be unwilling to postpone its building for a year or two and this very state of affairs would give them the opportunity to suspend operations until they might consistently ask for an extension of their franchise, which requires that cars must be in operation to Springfield by January 1, 1908. To comply with the provisions of the ordinance embodying their franchise they cannot lose any time, with a river to bridge and much equipment to gather for a line of this character. They must be told to go ahead with the work, as originally planned, without taking into consideration the proposed pavement of the streets. Some day the people of Western Oregon may become possessed of the spirit of progress that is building up cities and reclaiming the deserts and swamps in other sections of the great West—and then Eugene will have paved streets. We hope so, and though hope is sometimes deferred until the heart grows sick, it is after all the very essence of life, and will be able to survive the muddy streets of many Oregon winters.

Then let's have the electric cars—they'll help toward getting the other things in the future.

GIVE THEM A RECEPTION.

The passing of the state university appropriation over the governor's veto is very gratifying to the friends of that institution—and every loyal citizen of Eugene is its friend. Lane county's delegation in the legislature has done noble work, Senators Blingham and Booth and Representatives Eaton, Edwards and Washburne. They are entitled to all honor from their constituents, not alone for their efforts in behalf of the university, but in the matter of railroad rate legislation and other questions of public concern. Possibly not all of us will agree with every vote cast by the members of the delegation, but that they have on the whole done splendid work for Oregon and Lane county in particular is admitted.

These men will be coming home in a few days and it would be a fitting recognition of their services if a reception was given them by one of our commercial organizations. Theoretically public servants have no right to expect special commendation for doing their duty, but to extend recognition is after all a practical encouragement that cannot but have a good effect. While we are quick to condemn those who are false to their ante-election pledges, we should not withhold the expression of our gratitude toward those who are worthy of the confidence reposed in them.

We can't all see things alike, and the property owners who oppose street paving may be just as good citizens as those who favor it. The charge of stinginess might be proven against some of them—but there are worse faults than a desire to cling to one's earthly possessions. Anyway, there is no use to quarrel over improvements that there is a decided division of sentiment upon, when much may be done regarding those upon which sentiment is practically unanimous.

After March 4 the Democrats will have to get a new leader in the senate, owing to the retirement of Senator Joe Blackburn. But somehow nobody is mentioning Joe Bailey for the job.

E. H. Harriman would be a hard man to convince, but we'll venture the prediction that he will sooner or later be convinced that the enforcement of the railroad rate law is no joke.

The trouble with most of those who kick the hardest about the publication of dirty scandals is that they are known to be buyers and readers of the papers that print the most of it.

Bryan is not likely to express his opinion on the subject, but all the same he would like to see the Fairbanks boom materialize into a nomination.

Mingo Sanders, one of the discharged-without-honor negro soldiers,

Inconsistencies of Our Prison Discipline



...By...
Mrs. FLORENCE MAYBRICK,
Once
Under Sentence
of Death

I CLAIM for all men human rights, the right to sunshine, to ordinary decencies, TO LABOR. Prisoners realize some things cannot be bettered and put up with them. But at Sing Sing strong men are shut up in cells six feet by three, without ventilation, sanitary provisions or water, for thirteen hours a day. I KNOW WHAT IT MEANS. In England for nine months I had solitary confinement in a cell seven feet by four, with a log for a seat and my food passed in through a trap in the door.

THEY DO THESE THINGS FOR THE SALVATION OF SOULS; THEY LEAD TO DAMNATION.

At Trenton, N. J., they still have underground dungeons where not even the step of the warden can be heard. As I visited them I heard a poor man call: "For the love of God let me out. I have been here five days and CAN'T BEAR IT any longer." Yet as I came up I heard a sound I had never heard in a prison before.

"Yes," said the warden, "that's our string band practicing."

Then their apple dumplings! In England it was beef and mutton, mutton and beef, with bread and cheese on Sunday to save the staff. Why, once one of the official visitors came to our kitchen and spied a single chop. He flew into a rage and threatened to report the matron, the wardens, the governor and everybody to the home office FOR WASTING THE TAXPAYERS' MONEY on the scum of the earth. And at Trenton they have apple dumplings!

Ten thousand boys under sixteen years of age are sent to jail for misdemeanors, not for crime. One-half of the inmates of our prisons are under twenty-five years. Why should they be forced to herd with HARDENED CRIMINALS? We need a special penitentiary for them. One keeper said to me: "Don't worry about them. They're a worthless lot." They are not. When you hear a boy in his cell, as I have done, crying for his father, you can do something for HIM. But it depends a good deal on the personality of the wardens. Too many of them need reforming THEMSELVES. They are often in charge of prisoners better than themselves. We need a SCHOOL for prison officers.

IN ENGLAND THEY HAVE ONE NOW, AND I HAVE EXPERIENCED ITS VALUE. MY FIRST YEARS IN PRISON UNDER UNTRAINED OFFICERS WERE SIMPLY TORTURE. MY LAST FIVE UNDER WARDENS WHO HAD BEEN THROUGH THE SCHOOL WERE AT ANY RATE HUMAN.

A Poem for Today

ASPIRATION

By Coletta Ryan



N life what wouldst thou wish to be?" said they
Who gathered round me at the close of day.
"Listen, my friends," I answered: "I would be
A faithful lighthouse by the human sea—
Firm, resolute, immovable, I'd shine,
Baptized by breakers, salted by the brine;
A loyal flame of loving thought, a light
Defying dangers, triumphing o'er night;
A kind, persistent spark, that would extend
O'er rock bound seacoast for a helpless friend;
A changeless, towering sum of strength to show
The safety of the waters. Friend and foe
I'd shelter and inspire; nor would I fail
Nor falter in the tumult of the gale.
Ay, this the joy my soaring soul would find
To shed its constant blessing o'er mankind
A stately word immortal, I would gleam
Above the depth and darkness of the stream.
High, hopeful, ever married to my post,
I'd be a lighthouse on the human coast,
A tranquil mother, pausing not for sleep,
A watch tower ever smiling o'er the deep.

must be a marvel. He testified before the senate committee: "It is my duty to keep cool, even if I am excited," and added that he always did his duty.

Probably the most astonished men in the country are the professional politicians, who thought Governor Hughes was the ordinary reform bluffer.

Greater mistake was never made than the trusts are making in having men abused for advocating an impartial enforcement of laws.

Now that good weather has come it's up to the Willamette Valley Company to begin throwing dirt on the electric railway grade.

No man so keenly feels the ignominy of being looked down upon as he who has once been looked up to.

There is no objection to yellow journalists in Japan, where they are all that color.

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WANTED—Gentleman or lady to travel for mercantile house of large capital. Territory at home or abroad to suit. If desirable the home may be used as headquarters. Weekly salary of \$1000 a year and expenses. Address Jos. A. Alexander, Eugene, Or. 421

WANTED

WOOD CUTTERS WANTED—Inquire at Yoran's shoe store. 426

WANTED—Young man to wash dishes. Inquire at Willamette House. 420

\$5000 LOAN WANTED—Income-bearing real estate security. Box 55, city. 421

WANTED—A good man to fork garden and about trees and flowers on premises next business part of town. A couple of weeks' work. Call at Guard office at once.

WANTED—A stenographer who understands bookkeeping. State experience and salary expected. Address at once "Z," care Guard office.

WOOD CONTRACTORS WANTED—Any one wanting contracts to deliver several thousand cords of wood, they or we to furnish the wood, call on the Eugene Excelsior Company. 421 d&w

WANTED IMMEDIATELY—Young men, over 18, good physique, to prepare for examination for railway mail clerks in Oregon. Permanent government positions. Fine salaries, fine futures. Write at once, E. O. Heynen, 315 Columbia Bldg., Portland, Or.

WE WILL MAKE a liberal proposition to live party of good standing who will represent us in this town; only a little time each day must be devoted to the business, and will not interfere with any other occupation. Write us at once. S. V. Palmer & Co., stock brokers, Kohl Building, San Francisco, Cal. 426

WANTED—Three salesmen for our new county, township and railroad surveys of Oregon. These surveys are a splendid compilation of facts, figures and drawings, and of wonderful value. Counties and towns are fully indexed, and population of each is given; railroads plainly shown and distances between all stations also shown; congressional districts outlined, numbered, and population given. Other features too numerous to mention. A splendid opportunity for energetic

WANTED—(Continued.)

men. Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago, Ill. 421

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MISCELLANEOUS

GOOD PASTURE—For a number of cattle on Osburne ranch. Farmers' phone 211. W. J. Butler, d&w 2-22

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—A big bunch of keys on a ring, lost supposedly on the street the other day. Finder leave at Guard office and receive reward.

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S. D. ALLEN, Attorney-at-law, 616 Willamette street, Eugene, Oregon.

DORRIS & SKIPWORTH, Attorneys-at-law. Office in Hovey building over Chambers-Bristow bank.

LEON R. EDMUNSON, attorney-at-law. Rooms 1 and 2, Eugene Loan and Savings Bank.

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