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Member of Associated Press.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLIC ISSUES

The Guard makes a rule of refusing to publish communications that are not signed by the writer. Today, however, it prints one of these in which paving and prohibition are discussed, because it is useful in illustrating a point that we wish to impress upon our readers.

For instance, an advocate of prohibition calls at the newspaper office and urges an onslaught on the saloons or "blind pigs," but when asked to sign his name to the article he demurs because "it would make me enemies and might injure my business."

The advocate of the saloon takes exactly the same position, but fears to make an open fight because "some of the temperance people patronize me."

The newspaper, however, is supposed to be in a position to cut and slash right and left regardless of the effect it may have on business, and because it frequently refuses to do so is generally "roasted" for being weak-kneed and cowardly by men who are adepts in taking a firm stand on both sides of every question that divides the community.

The newspapers are becoming more and more business institutions which are conducted along approved commercial lines. They charge their patrons a fixed rate for gathering, printing and distributing the news, and sell a certain amount of advertising space like any other commodity is disposed of. Their work of news gathering they try to perform faithfully and impartially, and feel that they give value received for the money they collect from subscribers, and are under no obligations to exploit the hobbies or air the grievances of persons or factions who are not disposed to openly champion their own cause.

It may be charged that newspapers are becoming less virile editorially and that their policies are shaped and controlled by business office considerations. This, however, is not true except so far as the work of news gathering and disseminating has become so important and so necessary a part of the economy of the business world that it must be conducted along more improved commercial lines than formerly. It costs a great deal of money to print a newspaper, and this money must come in through the business office. But newspapers are still as fearless in the expression of opinion when the necessity for it occurs as at any time in the past. They may be more conservative in this respect because their patrons now comprise persons of almost every conceivable religious and political opinion, and the views of all are entitled to reasonable respect and consideration from the standpoint of the newspaperman.

Locally the newspapers are fearless enough in discussing the matter of paving and public improvements to draw the fire of the always plentiful anonymous correspondents who are careful not to expose their own business interests to the danger of retaliatory attacks.

Judge Robert Taylor, of the Federal court, in an address on the necessity for more uniformity in the marriage and divorce laws of the different states, scattered some rather dangerous information around. He says it would be easy for a man to have a number of wives without any risk of punishment, so long as he did not have two of them in the same state.

We have failed yet to see any denunciation in the Capital Journal of the large special appropriations for improving the state fair grounds, state capitol premises, insane asylum, etc. Perhaps we overlooked it, or, maybe, the noisy editorial reformer is like a many others—opposed to all grafts in which he has no direct or indirect interest.

We have no desire to be ungallant, but we confess to being a little curious about where Miss Phoebe Cousins got her authority for classing the hissing—snakes and geese—as animals.

The Japanese ambassador loses no opportunity to publicly say that the mikado has a love that passes understanding for his great and good friend, Uncle Sam.

It seems a little difficult to comprehend that the earthquake losses in Jamaica have a total of \$12,000,000 and the island still be left.

Perhaps if the constitution of the United States contained a few shocking scandals congressmen would be more familiar with it.

A vice in common between Harry Thaw and District Attorney Jerome has been found—they are both cigarette fiends.

After all, what's state's rights between friends who are pulling together for a fat federal appropriation?

George Washington never told a lie, but as to some of the fellows who are eulogizing him today, —

If calling another fellow a "liar" vindicates Senator Bailey is the most vindicated man on record.

PAVING AND PROHIBITION ARE BOTH CONDEMNED

To the Editor:—It is said by a great many (and perhaps truthfully) that the paving of the streets of Eugene would greatly enhance property values, not only in the city, but in the country tributary thereto.

If such is the case, is it right to ask a handful of people who happen to be unfortunate enough to own the "abutting property" to pay for what benefits all the other taxpayers? Especially since the prohibition vote of the county has reduced the earning capacity of that property by throwing out some dozen business houses and thereby reducing rents until the property will not pay a reasonable return on its value, to say nothing of the quarter of a million dollars that have been taken out of the county to be spent in Portland and other places where the old "blue laws" are not in existence. A great many of these men fail to return, thus making a shortage of hands for mine owners and millmen. And our merchants fail to get their share of the money these men would spend in Eugene, if it were not for the "blue laws." Does it lessen the drunkenness and crime? No. I believe there is fully twice as much liquor drunk now in Eugene as there was a year ago. Anyhow, you can see three times as many drunken men on the streets these days. We are worse off, morally, physically and financially. Morally, because we are educating people to become lawbreakers. Physically, because the stuff they now get to drink is infinitely worse than it used to be and will kill at 20 rods. Financially, as shown above.

And now they ask us to pave the streets—where do you think we can get the money? It is not stinginess, it is absolute helplessness. It is all very well for a newspaper to insist on paving when they have very few feet, or none at all, to pay for. Would they be so insistent if it cost them personally several hundred (or thousand) dollars each? I guess not. If it is going to be paid for out of the city treasury, so each taxpayer can help pay for what he gets—at least don't try to make property abutting pay for more than half.

Yours for justice,
ONE OF THE VICTIMS.

M. O. Warner tunes pianos. Leave orders at H. E. Morris' music store.

Currency Bills Pending In Congress

By CHARLES A. FOWLER, Chairman Banking and Currency Committee of the House

A BILL has been favorably reported by the banking and currency committee and is now pending before the house of representatives providing for the issuance of five and ten dollar gold certificates AS WELL AS THE PRESENT DENOMINATIONS. The purpose of this bill is twofold. First, it would enable the secretary of the treasury to supplant a portion of the \$300,000,000 of five dollar silver certificates with gold certificates of the same denomination and thus make it possible to increase largely the one and two dollar silver certificates which are needed so much IN THE TRADE OF THE COUNTRY.

The second object of this measure is to BROADEN THE BASIS of the standard of value, increase the quantity of gold in the country and make it possible to distribute it among the mass of people, thereby GENERALIZING its use as well as strengthening our reserves.

Another bill has been favorably reported by the banking and currency committee and is now pending before the house of representatives providing for the daily current deposit of all public moneys. It will depend upon the active co-operation of the bankers of the United States whether the government shall do its business as the bankers of the twentieth century do theirs or whether it shall continue to do it as General Jackson, inspired by passion, in his supreme ignorance began to do it NERALLY A CENTURY AGO.

What we want, and this is the crux of the whole matter, is this: Place our note redemption so located in the United States that no banker will be out of the use of his money FOR MORE THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, and the cost of transmission paid by the government. Then bank note credits will be sent home when the mission is filled as directly and swiftly as now are checks and drafts, for the bankers will want the proceeds of the note credits precisely as they want the proceeds of their CHECKS AND DRAFTS.

The banking and currency committee has favorably reported a currency bill to the house of representatives providing for an issue of CREDIT BANK NOTES equal to 50 per cent of the capital of the national banks, and the method of guarantee makes such an issue safe beyond peradventure.

Our present bank notes are a FIRST LIEN upon the assets of the banks issuing them. With this law remaining in force, taking the entire history of the national banking system down to 1901, the average tax upon the outstanding note issue after eliminating all the government bonds deposited to secure circulation from our calculation would have been EIGHT ONE-THOUSANDTHS OF ONE PER CENT per annum to secure the payment of the notes.

In other words, the reserve of 5 per cent for current redemption and the proposed guaranty fund of 6 per cent would be sufficient to last 1,375 years, and the annual tax of 2 per cent would be sufficient to pay the AVERAGE LOSS of eight one-thousandths of 1 per cent for 250 years.

The banks should pay the government the same for these note credits that they are usually paying on large balances—viz, 2 per cent per annum.

THEY SHOULD ALSO PAY INTO THE TREASURY THE SAME REDEMPTION FUND OF 5 PER CENT THAT IS NOW REQUIRED FOR THE REDEMPTION OF OUR BOND SECURED CIRCULATION.

A Poem for Today

A HOLY NATION
By Richard Reall

ET Liberty run onward with the years
And circle with the seasons. Let her break
The tyrant's harness, the oppressor's spears;
Bring ripened recompenses that shall make
Supreme amends for sorrow's long arrears.
Drop holy benison on hearts that ache,
Put clearer radiance into human eyes
And set the glad earth singing to the skies.

Clean natures coin pure statutes. Let us cleanse
The hearts that beat within us. Let us mow
Clear to the roots our falseness and pretense,
Tread down our rank ambitions, overthrow
Our brazen moods of puffed self consequence,
Plow up our hideous thistles which do grow
Faster than maize in May time, and strike dead
The base infections our low greeds have bred.

EUGENE MEN INTERESTED IN ALBANY CANNERY PROJECT
Committee and Promoters Cannot Agree On Terms and Another Firm May Put in Plant.

The committee consisting of H. Bryant, A. Brownell and A. C. Schmidt, on behalf of the people of Albany, and W. G. Allen, of Eugene, and G. W. Holcomb, of the Oregon Packing Company, failed to sign up an agreement of the erection of a cannery Wednesday, says yesterday's Albany Herald. Mr. Allen and G. E. Metcalf, who accompanied him, left for Eugene at the noon train and Mr. Holcomb left for Portland on the 2 o'clock train. The obstacle in the way of closing up the contract was a lack of authority on the part of the committee to modify the terms of the agreement. It was instructed to carry out by the mass meeting of the bonus subscribers Tuesday night.

In view of the fact that a number of meetings have been held, and the cannery project is already long drawn out, the committee decided yesterday evening to start a new subscription paper, the terms of which will be specific as to whom and upon what conditions it shall be paid. The paper will be started today and it will be with a view of contracting with Lasselle Bros. for the construction and operation of the Albany cannery.

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COW FOR SALE—Good Jersey cow for sale. Enquire of Floyd Vaughn, West 8th street. f23

SHOATS FOR SALE—I have seven nice thrifty shoats, six months old, for sale. H. L. Eller, Goshen, Oregon. Phone Farmers 121. f23

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Fine stock ranch with plenty of spring water for irrigating purposes. See Lee Hoeselton, Oregon Cigar Store. m

FOR SALE—A good young team; incubator, nearly new; harness; a fine survey; back; oats. W. C. Harbison, 266 East 13th st., Eugene, Oregon. m1

FOR SALE—Hoop yard, ten acres very rich bottom land, in heavy yielding hops, 1/2 mile from Eugene. Use of dry house two years. Inquire of Edith B. Linton, Telephone Farmers 33. d&w f23

FOR SALE OR RENT—At a reasonable price, 92 acres of bottom land five miles from town; 32 acres in cultivation. Will give time on part. Inquire at 168 Jefferson street, Eugene, Or. m7

FOR SALE—Three yoke of work cattle and logging tools; prices reasonable. Call on or address Florence Vaughan, administratrix estate of Levi Vaughan, Visson, Or. Walton & Ness, attorneys. m4

COTTAGE FOR SALE—Five-room cottage four years old, with large barn. Cheap if taken within four weeks. Time on part if desired. Inquire at 168 Jefferson street, Eugene. f5

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. m1

WANTED

WOOD CUTTERS WANTED—Inquire at Yoran's shoe store. d1f

GIRL WANTED—To work in candy kitchen. Apply at Palace of Sweets.

\$6000 LOAN WANTED—Income-bearing real estate security. Box 25, city. m1

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WANTED—Help for general housework. Enquire at the residence of R. McMurphy. f23

WANTED—A heavy team of horses, 1300 to 1400. Apply to Guard office, also notify A. McGregory, Fall Creek, Or. f27

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

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WANTED—Three salesmen for our

WANTED—(Continued.)

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MISCELLANEOUS

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

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