

THE EUGENE GUARD

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

Ultimately, We Want the Best.

Eugene needs and should have for its future permanent supply, water that does not require filtration. The proposal to bring water from the lower McKenzie, therefore, is to be regarded as a temporary project. Eventually Eugene will want to bring water from a point more distant; water that shall be absolutely pure without being "processed." It would work an undoubted handicap upon Eugene if this city should for a long period of years use filtered water after other Willamette valley cities had obtained and were using pure water requiring no filtration. Then a supply of pure water there is no attraction more strong in bringing new residents to any city, or in promoting its growth in population.

For these reasons, the McKenzie river water project, for whose execution a bond issue is soon to be placed before the people of Eugene, is fully worthy of the best thought and planning of the water commission and all city officials. It needs to be planned in such a way as to insure beyond question that its pipeline and plant will be convertible at the proper time for use as a part of a permanent water system which shall give to this city non-filtrated water as good as the best.

Promoters of the Clear lake water project for a group of Willamette valley cities and towns are pushing that project actively. Their initial bills are before the legislature. They are urging their arguments in all the territory contemplated to be brought under the plan. Very pertinent objections to that project are raised by some well informed men who have investigated it. One is that the project calls for larger capital outlay than can be provided or would be justified by the population to be served for many years to come. Another is that ramifications of the project are so wide that it would be likely to prove unwieldy and therefore unsatisfactory to the individual communities to be served. Yet another is that it contemplates public utility ownership and operation on a very large scale and that such public activity seldom or never proves efficient or profitable. There is and will be division of opinion as to whether participation by Eugene in the Clear lake water project soon or ever is advisable. But there should be no division of opinion on the point that Eugene's ultimate aim should be to procure for its people a supply of water naturally pure. And the plans for the McKenzie river project ought to be laid in such a way as to insure that it can be converted and utilized later in whatever larger and permanent project shall be decided upon.

A Sensible Suggestion.

This newspaper has believed, and still does, that a state prohibition department properly conducted would be a useful thing in Oregon. But with the impossible Cleaver at its head the department cannot and never will function efficiently. The only way to get rid of Cleaver apparently is to abolish the department.

Testifying at the legislative hearing of the charges against Cleaver Monday evening, Oswald West, former governor of Oregon, said:

Get rid of Cleaver and his crew and put enforcement of the prohibition laws right up to the sheriffs and district attorneys and if they don't come through, then come back two years from now, re-enact the state law, get a good man to enforce it and you'll have an appropriation.

In view of the circumstances the West suggestion would be a good one for the legislature to adopt. It would rid the state of the incubus of Cleaver and the meddling in state affairs of Herwig. It would clarify the whole atmosphere of prohibition enforcement. And as Mr. West points out it will be easy to re-establish the state prohibition department later if there be need.

A bulletin issued by the Standard Oil company of California discusses the increases, made or proposed, in gasoline taxes in Pacific coast states. Its writer thinks there is a trend towards carrying taxation of gasoline to dangerous lengths, and that "to saddle huge taxes on a single commodity is grossly unfair." As for California, the argument is made that gasoline tax receipts under the present schedule will be so largely increased through growth in the number of cars operated and in motor travel generally that the needs of the highway fund will be supplied without further increasing the tax. From the same cause there will undoubtedly be a similar growth of gasoline tax receipts in Oregon.

"Tilly from Tillamook" is received with a request for review. All right. The book has less literary merit than the average penny dreadful. Its story contains little that is new, less that is interesting and nothing at all in the way of genuine expose. The book indicates that its author, a woman, has intimate knowledge of low speech and evil ways, and these she displays glibly. From any standpoint at all "Tilly from Tillamook" wouldn't be money's worth at half its price.

Boy Scout work teaches manliness and unselfish service and discipline and drill and useful out-of-door lore. It makes boys competent. Boy Scout anniversary week is to be observed here starting next Monday. To every family having a boy in one of the four Boy Scout troops the occasion is of interest. The bid of the Boy Scouts for co-operation by the public in their observance is worthy of heed.

If a girl were forcibly kidnapped in the heart of Eugene in broad daylight and with people working near and others continually passing, that would indeed be a remarkable and shameful occurrence. One would need corroborative evidence before accepting such a report fully.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS

Selfish. (Harrisburg Bulletin)
The farmer who asked the Bulletin man why he took so much interest in urging the farmer to experiment in new methods was joking, no doubt. Still, he may like many others, have

the idea that town folks and country folks live in different spheres. The idea no doubt comes from the far cry that does actually exist between the big city and the rural community, but in the instance of Harrisburg

and the country which surrounds it there is a very close alliance. This is a typical country town, planted here to carry on the trade of a few miles of surrounding country. The town depends on the country for its existence, and to us who still have vigor and vision we want the town to depend on the country for its prosperity and its progress. Just to exist is not enough. But that is what not alone the town but the country people have been doing too long, far too long. And so, if you please, the Bulletin wants the country to grow and prosper for the very good reason that he, too, will grow and prosper.

Text Book Ownership.

(Horton Independent)
Thrill should be emphasized as a part of the regular education of every child. Owning his own text books, with the responsibility of their proper care, is one way of instilling into young characters the value of thrift and the value of property. The Independent is against free text books for Oregon public schools.

In a few cases the buying of text books is a hardship on parents whose children are required to go to school. These cases are comparatively few, we say. In a city like Portland, there are bound to be many who would be glad to be rid of the responsibility of text books. A large per cent of these individuals are non-taxpayers. The buying of text books is one way of their helping to bear the tax burden.

Books are among the most difficult of articles to fumigate. The sanitary question is considerable, more especially in the centers of population. The wet-thumbing of books by many hands of questionable cleanliness would most certainly be conducive to the spread of colds, flu and other worse diseases.

Taxes in Oregon are already considered by many as a burden. Anything which adds to that burden will be argued and contested by the legislature into small details. To pass an extra amount to the tax collector, some truly and undeniable outstanding feature of real good must be carried in the bill, if it is to meet with the approval of taxpayers. Argument in favor of free text books for Oregon schools do not make the system of outstanding value to the state.

If the buying of text books is an onerous burden on a majority of Oregon families, or even to a sufficient number of them to warrant some sort of action, a system of elimination of the state distributor's profit could be devised.

Our Invisible Rulers.

(Salem Capital Journal)
Testimony at the Cleaver inquest, is making our invisible government, the Anti-Saloon league, visible by exposing its effort to control the politics of the state. Governor Pierce and Commissioner Cleaver have been but puppets in its hands and their use of the dry enforcement bureau to "get" and "frame" prominent persons for its political ends, with money furnished by the state, discloses its methods of operation.

The office of state prohibition commissioner should be abolished. It is a detriment, rather than an aid to enforcement. As long as there is such an office, it will be dominated by the league for its own ends, and if the commissioner does not take orders he will be framed and destroyed by the same methods the league uses him in its efforts to destroy others.

We have the admissions of Mr. Cleaver, supplemented by his own letters, the testimony of the head of the Anti-Saloon league, of the federal dry commissioner, the various district attorneys and sheriffs as to the league's aims, objects and operations and the evidence is sufficiently conclusive to justify the abolition of the meddling, trouble-making, costly, superfluous office, of state commissioner of prohibition.

Though posing as a highly moral organization, and supported by the dollars of churchmen and the pennies of Sunday schools, for which it renders no accounting, the Anti-Saloon league is an irresponsible fanatical secret, political agency, seeking control of government by intimidation, frame-up, spying and snooping on individuals. The saloons have long since gone, but the league superintendents and attorneys are more prosperous than ever. It should be classed with other political parties and be made to publish its campaign expenditures as they do.

In Lighter Vein

Reason for Improvement

(Kansas City Star)
"Your town has gotten pretty poor, isn't it?" asked a guest.
"Yes," replied the landlord of the Printz tavern, "but it is better than it was last year—there were more players in it than there are now."

Sympathy

(Everybody's Magazine)
An untimely frost effectively completed the mischief done earlier by the insect enemies of Mr. Perkins' potatoes. The tops of the plants, which had served as pasture for the pigs, were entirely destroyed, and with them Mr. Perkins' hopes of a crop. He was not selfish, however, and could think of others in the hour of adversity. In the afternoon he was accosted at the post-office by a friend.

"Hello, Perkins! Now's everything up on the corners?"
"Trouble enough, Williamson, trouble enough!" was the gloomy response. "Ten million potato bugs, and nothing for 'em to eat!"

Definition of Modern Term

(Memphis News Scimitar)
A parking space is where you leave the car to have the tail-light knocked off.

Proof

(Philadelphia Bulletin)
"No man enjoys a good joke more than I do."
"That's so. I've heard you tell the same joke fifty times and laugh every time."

His Ill Luck

(Kansas City Star)
"The driver of a Detroit battle-box car took his hands off the steering wheel to light a cigar," said old Riley Reasider of Petunia. "The car skidded, left the road, turned over twice and lit right side up."
"What then?" inquired the party addressed.
"The driver didn't get a light the first time—had to use another match."



NATIONAL CAPITAL IS DRESSING UP

Preparations for Inaugural of President Coolidge Are Under Way, Although Toned Down by Executive

By HARRY B. HUNT
(NEA Service Writer)
WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—The capital already is beginning to spruce up for its big quadrennial show—the presidential inauguration, March 4. Sprucing up for Coolidge, however, is a rather difficult job.

The president, preferring simplicity and unostentatiousness, would like the affair over with without a lot of flub-dub and ceremony. But custom and precedent cannot be wholly overridden even by so "common sense" a president as Coolidge.

Custom decrees that the victorious party shall throw one grand and glorious celebration on the occasion of its standard bearer's inaugural.

So, although Coolidge has succeeded in toning down considerably the lavish festivities, he has not been able to eliminate them wholly.

He forbade an official inaugural ball, requested that visiting governors bring only small staffs with them, and ordered that no military units be brought to Washington to participate in the parade except such as were quartered near enough to make the march on foot.

He wouldn't even authorize the expenditure of carfare necessary to bring the West Point and Annapolis cadets to Washington.

And an inauguration without the presence of these cadets a few years

ago would have been considered no inauguration at all.

However, despite the presidential parsimony, which has hamstringed the plans for a big blowout, Washington and the party nabobs are hoping to make it a passably good show anyway.

For those who must dance after an inauguration, a "charity ball" is being organized, to take the place of an official inaugural ball.

This will be held in the city's biggest new hotel—which in honor of the president's New England origin has been christened the Mayflower—and will be "limited" to 4500 guests.

Tickets will be only \$10. Whether this price was established in deference to Coolidge economy or in anticipation of Coolidge prosperity is not stated.

In further recognition of the president's descent from colonial, Revolutionary stock, the official colors to be used in decorating the city are buff and buff.

Having been the colors of the uniforms worn by the Continental army, the choice seems appropriate.

"Blue and buff," however is something of a tongue-twister, and, as a cynical Democrat remarked, if spoken without care may emerge as "Boo and buff."

But then the Democrats don't see much cheer ahead for March 4, anyway!

York-Florence highway. People often laugh at the Ford car but it gets there just the same. Those who are now laughing at this ocean highway promotion will live to enjoy its unlimited free service. It is the only highway that bisects the great state of Oregon through its center east to west on the shortest possible line. It is coordinated with by none but mon uses with the Old Oregon Trail, the Yellowstone Trail and Lincoln highway for transcontinental service. These highways are amply supported by public demand and enterprising citizenship. Edsel B. Ford, son of Henry Ford and president of the Ford Motor company is one of the directors of the York-Florence highway. J. V. Willys of Toledo, Ohio, is on the executive committee of the Yellowstone Trail.

The New York-Florence highway was organized and promoted on the same plan that Ford started his great motor works—on faith. This highway association had only \$8 cash when it issued its first literature and maps. Faith will do more and last longer than money alone. Henry Ford in his book "My Life and Work," says "It has been thought that business exists for profit. That is wrong. Business exists for service—service comes before profit." So with this highway, it is being promoted for service first and when completed will return profits beyond our wildest dreams. Ford closes his remarkable book with these words, "Everything is possible... faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Oregon Briefs

Merrill, in Klamath county, started a drive to raise \$5000 with which to erect a community hall and library building.

Clubs of McMinnville have completed organization of the Associated Charities. A drive for money and other relief will start February 6.

Steve Hamlin, 55, connected with the Smith Link Lumber company at Pike, in Yamhill county, was instantly killed last Friday when he was struck by a falling tree.

Mrs. Leonie Leroux, wife of A. Leroux, former head chef at the Imperial hotel in Portland, died suddenly at Hood River on her 63d birthday.

Setrack Vartena, inmate of the state hospital from Clatsop county died at Salem as the result of burns suffered while being bathed by an attendant.

Bert Feltz, ex-convict from the Oregon state penitentiary is under arrest at Salem charged with having

robbed the Goodman store of \$5 and a quantity of groceries.

The Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company has started stringing four new copper wires between Portland and Astoria, which will provide three additional talking circuits between the two cities.

Dr. R. E. Lee Steiner, superintendent of the Oregon state hospital, has returned to Salem from the Philippine islands, where he delivered a number of insane patients formerly in the Oregon institution.

25 Years Ago

(From The Guard, February 4, 1906)

Horace Mann, late of Cottage Grove, has taken charge of the Medford Eye.

Bennett and McCormack this week purchased one dozen chickens that weighed 100 pounds gross from a farmer.

The oldest man who has so far registered in Lane county is Waldo Skinner, who is 92.

Born, February 2, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stewart, a daughter.

Dr. J. C. Gray has removed from the rooms over the Eugene Loan and Savings bank to the rooms formerly occupied by W. K. Scarborough, one door south of Christmas block.

H. B. Miller arrived home today after a trip down the valley.

Mrs. H. D. Hampton and daughter, Miss Nellie, arrived home today after a trip to Pendleton, Baker City, and other eastern Oregon towns.

George Barnes is in the city from Waltham.

F. E. Miller, commander of the G. A. R. post at Cottage Grove, was a visitor in Eugene today.

Tom Sims Says—

Consider the busy bee, and how quickly he works himself to death.

There is a report, true or untrue, that U. S. senators now sleep in their clothes ready to rush out if a conference is started.

Another arms conference may be called. The world's planned 10-year naval holiday seems to be up already.

Nations planned a 10-year naval holiday, but some didn't take even a half holiday.

Even though it was an army dentist a soldier ship at in Washington, we say he shouldn't have done it.

But about this arms argument and the big guns others are making, wonder what they are aiming at?

They do strange things in Texas. Besides electing a woman governor they arrested an oil stock salesman.

Girls at school in Vassar have voted to smoke. May be all right. But we have found that where there's smoking there's fire.

TODAY

(Continued from page one)

rise steadily, and thus do more for Coolidge by soothing angry farmers, than all the speeches and editorials put together.

Our best financial minds say bliss that rise in the price of wheat.

One hundred thousand more votes for La Follette, properly distributed would have thrown the election into the house. The rising price of wheat cost La Follette a million votes at least.

Greece and Turkey have broken off diplomatic relations, and there is another way cloud, bigger than man's hand.

Like many other troubles this danger has a religious background. For 700 years, Constantinople has protected or at least tolerated a patriarch of the Greek church, looking after the spiritual welfare of orthodox Greeks in Turkey. Now that patriarchy is expelled by the Turks, like the Mexicans, Russians, French and some other modern nations, the

Turks have conceived a prejudice against religious authority, especially any such authority with its head residing abroad.

against religious authority, especially must fight, can easily start other fighting. Let's hope that no official sentimentalists, or keen international bankers will find a way to mix us up in that war, or persuade us that it is our duty to send men and billions to make Turkey safe for the Greek patriarch.

If we did send the money, we'd have the borrower saying later, "Go on, you miserable dollar loving Yankees. We saved you from destruction and now you want your mean dollars back. Have you forgotten our sacred debt?"

The German government demands that all candidates in civil service examinations be proficient shorthand writers. And each must write a shorthand that all the others can read.

Learned philologists, alarmed say "Written language, with the interesting historical spelling of words, will vanish. Literature will pine and grow dull, when it becomes a stenographic literature."

That's what the Egyptians said, probably, when the Phoenician alphabet began to replace hieroglyphics and other archaic writing systems. But better methods never injure anything worth while.

In a few generations, writing with pen or pencil will disappear except for making memoranda, and they will be a shorthand—Woodrow Wilson wrote all his notes in shorthand.

Children in school will use typewriters, they ought to do so now. Business men and authors will dictate to the phonograph, and the learned men will rarely write even his own name.

The usual signature will be once more, as in old days, a thumb print. Instead of a written signature, poets will write and sonnets on "The Finger Print of the Beloved."

If you can afford it, get your child, a typewriter, and accustom yourself to phonograph dictation.

The senate killed the bill to increase postal salaries. Various influences helped. Bigger government salaries mean bigger taxes. That arouses sympathy in the senate. And the plan was to help pay the extra salaries by charging higher rates to newspapers and magazines. That caused distinguished publishers to become active.

As for the postoffice workers, poorly paid by the state's richest government, they are not important. And besides, they are scattered all over the country, not enough in any one place to exercise real political influence. In Washington, they can't even vote.

So that is settled, for the time, but

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