THE EUGENE GUARD

An independent afternoon newspaper published daily except Sunday.

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Lincoln's Birthday

IT IS the anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. In the judgment of most Americans who study, he was the greatest man we have produced. Each crisis in the nation's history has developed a leader to guide it through. Our gravest crisis gave us Lincoln.

Historians have been wont to declare, and orators still are wont to say, that the union victory in the civil war established forever the principle of unity among all the states; the principle of one nation, indivisible, under one flag. Forever is a long time, and only the test of the centuries can show whether the prediction is correct. There was the Roman empire, whose government and people also thought that its states were indissolubly united.

Lincoln's services to the nation in defeating secession were very great, but his services both to the nation and to humanity in abolishing human slavery were infinitely greater. That act of Lincoln's was greatest among the very many great things that he did. Abolition was the longest single step for righteousness that this nation has ever taken. It was Lincoln who led the way. It was he whose iron courage and tender mercy bore the issue through. And so Lincoln has been called "the Great Emancipator."

Lincoln was born to poverty. Deprived of opportunity for schooling, he educated himself by reading. Apart in his youth from culture, he yet developed command of speech and written word that gave us the immortal and beautiful Gettysburg address, which is republished on the first page of The Guard today. Homely of feature and figure, he acquired a dignity of mein and address that held men spellbound. Above all his lowly handicaps he rose to the proudest eminence within the people's power to give any man—the presidency.

In America there is opportunity for the lowly to rise. That is the lesson of Lincoln for the youth of today.

A Will Hays Innovation

WILL H. Hays, whose rather notable efforts to raise the standard of the motion picture industry have been made the subject of comment in these columns heretofore, has recently been interesting a large number of exhibitors in cities over the country in giving special Saturday forenoon showings of films especially suitable for children, and at a uniform price of ten cents admission. The plan is said to be meeting with wide co-operation.

This movement, it may be supposed, will not return much, if anything, in direct profits to the theaters which participate. A ten-cent admission nowadays will hardly pay the theater overhead for a performance. But indirectly the theaters will in all liklihood benefit from the enhancement of the public esteem to result from so liberal a policy. It is a movement calculated to bring wholesome film-plays before the children at a price which all of them can pay, and at a time of the day and week when all of them can attend.

The governor, in recommending to the legislature that funds for maintenance of the public service commission be withdrawn, charged that the commission had not in recent years revised downward any rates for public utility service of any kind. Chairman Corey, of the public service commission, compiled a statement in reply which showed that the commission had made a rather large number of revisions of exactly the kind that the governor said had been wholly lacking. The house has passed the public service commission appropriation. There is prospect that it will pass the senate and it may later pass over the governor's veto, in case there is a veto. Recklessness in statement doesn't pay.

China follows the United States in withdrawal from the Geneva opium conference, and on similar ground. Her delegates have become convinced that the conference cannot accomplish its main purpose, which was limitation and gradual suppression of opium traffic in the East. It is apparent that the Geneva conference is a failure. It is a great pity that the American delegation should have led the debacle which now appears imminent.

President Coolidge demands a simple inauguration, and wants the expense held down. Probably the president will not be able to ride to the whitehouse on horseback, dismount alone and tie his own horse, as Jefferson did. Where would they find a horse for such a stunt? But he might borrow a flivver of somebody and be his own chauffeur. Why not?

The terrible trimming in store for Governor Pierce continues to be one or two days away, just as the prophets have had it ever since the session opened. To an unterrified observer, however, it looks like honors are thus far pretty even between the legislature and the governor in their mix.

There is no sound reason for inflicting a state censorship of motion pictures on the public, and there is no demand for it except by a comparatively small element. Oregon has adequate laws to prohibit improper exhibitions, whether of motion pictures or other things. More law to the same end will not help matters.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS

Clear Lake Project

(Salem Capital Journal)

Senate Bill 102 paves the way for a group of cities to unite in the formation of water and power districts and develop water and power for joint use. It is designed as a step towards making the Clear Lake water and power project a joint municipal enterprise for the cities of the valley from Eugene to Salem.

Eugene's chamber of commerce has gone on record against the Clear Lake project, because Eugene can develop her own water and power supply cheaper than she could in conjunction with other cities not as advantageously located.

For the same reason, the project arouses little enthusiasm in Salem, for development sufficient for the city's needs could be made for less than her share of the cost of the Clear Lake project, and the city fully control source and distribution.

The Clear Lake project is a visionary scheme that would involve fully $30,000,000 investment, tremendously increase taxation, while its benefits would be problematical. At present there is more power developed in Oregon than there is market for, and public ownership is never as efficient as private.

Cities already have the right to construct their own water and power plants and if Salem wants to go into business along this line, either the Santiam river or Marion lake offer much better propositions than the Clear Lake proposal.

* * *

The Consistent Newspapers

(Corvallis Gazette-Times)

The papers opposing the Mills amendments to the primary law are, like Hamlet's mother, "protesting too much." They may not be like Queen Gertrude in any other respect. A kind heart will not let us say. But, if they will stop long enough in their flow of hysteria to analyze their own position they will see how foolish they are—maybe.

In their objections to the bill they say that "nobody can be trusted but the people themselves."

Fine sentiment but silly. But taken at its face value, where are they "at"?

All the Mills amendment does is to submit to the same infallible people a proposal to amend their own law.

If the Salem Statesman and the Portland Journal love us dear people so much and trust us as they should and as they pretend to, they should hug themselves for the opportunity offered to let us demonstrate how all-wise we are.

Instead, they are scared to death. They fear we might take away some of the inflence of the demagog and the yellow journal by giving intelligent men in a convention an opportunity to say who a candidate will be and what are the principles of the political party that candidates must endorse in order in turn to get the party's indorsement.

Consistency, thou art a 17 jewel movement.

* * *

Fish and Politics

(Astoria Budget)

Those who assert that the Ritner bill to take the power to appoint the fish commission out of the hands of the governor and place it with the board of control is designed to "take the fishing industry out of politics" are asking an utter degree of credulity and faith.

To accept this interpretation of intention one must overlook entirely the fact that among the chief lobbyists for the bill are Messrs. Warren, Seufert and Shoemaker, who have done more than any other men to keep the industry in politics and who, through their political maneuvers, have practically dominated the fish commission for a generation. Are we to believe that these gentlemen have reformed completely?

The governor is accused of injecting politics into the commission. Whatever else he may be guilty of, he is innocent of this charge. Politics was a bedfellow of the commission long before Governor Pierce ever had anything to do with appointments. What the governor actually did was to disturb the political status quo of the commission. That is all. In his appointments he named men committed to the elimination of Carl Shoemaker from official connection with the administration of the industry. That was the unpardonable offense in the eyes of those who have dominated the commission and that is the reason of all this present row in the legislature.

Tom Sims Says

WORKING too hard is about as bad in the long run as loafing too hard.

* * *

You won't have much luck with anything you don't enjoy doing.

* * *

Exceeding the speed limit along the road to success is just as dangerous as along any other road.

* * *

Blessed are the peacemakers, and cussed are the trouble makers.

* * *

What a man does isn't half so important as why he does it.

* * *

Thrift is worth a lot of money, yet doesn't cost a cent.

* * *

Perseverance is merely keeping on doing what you decide to do even after you decide that maybe you shouldn't.

* * *

You must figure out things if you are going to outfigure them.

* * *

Never try to argue with a man who just likes to argue unless you are big enough to hit him in the nose.

Oregon Briefs

A drive has been started by the American legion post at Klamath Falls to enroll every ex-service man in the county in the organization.

* * *

Mrs. Caroline Cooley Irvine, granddaughter of Captain Blakeley, the founder of Brownsville died a few days ago in that city, where she was born 62 years ago.

* * *

A press dispatch from Washington indicates that an appropriation of $300,000 for a new postoffice and federal building in Astoria is included in the blanket measure providing for the erection of government buildings.

* * *

The Newport Journal, a six-column four-page weekly paper, will issue its first copy about March 1. The paper will be owned and edited by Robert E. Davey, son of Frank A. Davey of Salem.

* * *

Pendleton Odd Fellows will expend this spring $30,000 on rebuilding and remodeling their temple. The Pendleton lodge has more than 400 members and assets amounting to nearly $90,000.

* * *

Flood waters rushing into the Ochoco valley from the watershed of Crooked river are being impounded in the Ochoco reservoir, virtually assuring Prineville farmers a season of prosperity.

* * *

With 1600 cubic feet of water pouring over the power dam below the Pilot Butte bridge each second, the Deschutes river has reached a high mark never before recorded at this time of ye

Nothing If Not Brave!

MAGIC OF FACE DEMONSTRATED

"Kaintuck" sees Lincoln's Features in London and They set him To Thinking About Many Things

Editor's note: Some years ago a replica of the St. Gaudens statue of Lincoln, erected in Lincoln Park, Chicago, was put up in London, near the Houses of Parliament.

(NEA Service Writer)

By MILTON BRONNER

LONDON, Feb. 12.—His name is Smith. I don't know his Christian name.

He came from Kentucky, where he was brought up in the fields—ploughin' an weedin.' And, in between times, he read geography. It planted the seed of crave for travel.

Smith's opportunity finally came. Stokers' jobs were advertised.

A chance to travel abroad—just for shoveling coal in ship furnaces. Sounded good to Smith, and he went to New York and joined a crew.

He Was Nicknamed "Kaintuck"

'Twas hard work—harder than he expected. But Smith didn't care.

Ten days in the stoke-hole and then Southampton! With money in his pocket and adventure in his heart he set forth, with his stoker mates.

These mates had nicknamed him "Kaintuck." And "Kaintuck," who had been reared in a bone-dry county, visited liquor emporiums and, for the first time in his life, tasted beer and "this here Scotch."

Sure, it had its effect and it's no wonder that a short time later he was on a train with his mates, bound for London.

More visits to liquor places—and then "Kaintuck" lost his friends in a fog.

The wee hours found "Kaintuck" leaning up against a fence.

Inside the fence stood a statue.

"Kaintuck" glanced up at it. Then he stared—and blinked.

"Ole Abe Lincoln!"

"Kaintuck's" thoughts went into a whirl. A trip across the Atlantic? In London town? Maybe a dream.

A London Bobbie came along.

"What's that building?" asked "Kaintuck."

"That's where Parliament meets," came the reply.

"And what city is this?"

"London."

"Mind if I look at that statue some more?"

"Help yourself, Yank."

Yank! That cop didn't know all "Kaintuck's" folks had been Confederates.

"Think o' findin' you in London," "Kaintuck" said, musingly, to the sculptured figure. "Good mawnin'. My folks fit against you, but we all know now you wuz on the square. You kep' the country together, Abe. An' I ain't ashamed to talk to you, kinder man to man.

All Common Folks

"You wuz common folks yourself. Did your turn at splittin' wood and holdin' the plough—jes like me.

"But, why do you look at me so

The face that made "Kaintuck" think.

sad-like? Oh, I know. The booze! Don't blame ya! You had plenty of troubles on your shoulders, but I ain't ever heard you turned to booze to ferget 'em. No. You kep' sober, and right on the job.

"Well, what's good enough for you is good enough for me.

"Well, so long, Abe. And thank ya. Did me no end of good gassin' with ya in this strange burg.

"I'm headin' back to your Kentucky and mine and start ploughin' again."

And "Kanituck" did!

Hunt's Washington Letter

By HARRY B. HUNT

(NEA Service Writer)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The verbal duels which furnish official Washington its chief excitement may seem, at first thought, mighty exciting affairs.

Honorable but irate gentlemen unlimber vocabularies charged to the muzzle with vocal hot shot and pot away at each other as though the national honor, as well as their own, depended upon their ability to produce the most explosive adjective or the most blasting adverb.

Honor having thus been satisfied by the antagonists peppering each other with oral buckshot, for public effect, they adjourn to cloak room or ante-chamber to smoke a cigar together and spin a jovial yarn or two.

* * *

These encounters, however, are in fact very tame by comparison with the "good" old days when Washington fought its duels with deadlier weapons than words.

Now the only danger to the life of either combatant lies in the possibility of a bursting blood vessel.

But in the days of the "code," the spilling of blood was necessary before there could be any truce.

Those battles were fought, just over the District line at a dueling ground near Bladensburg, Md.

Typical of the way official quarrels were settled then was the duel between Admiral Stephen Decatur and Commodore Barron.

During the campaign against the Algerian pirates, led by Admiral Decatur, Commodore Barron lost his ship, the Chesapeake, to the British, and thereby forfeited his standing in the navy.

Barron sought, however, through congressional action—politics, then as now, had its "pull"—to obtain reassignment. This was bitterly resisted by Decatur.

Hot words passed. Then a challenge. And the admiral and commodore, with their seconds and a few close friends, drove out to Bladensburg to "settle" the affair.

* * *

Both Decatur and Barron were near-sighted. For their mutual advantage the duel—they were fighting with pistols—was to be at eight paces.

At that distance, the result was inevitable. The brace of pistols used were big-bored, heavy weapons which at eight paces were almost as deadly as young cannon.

Each man hit his target. Decatur went down, dying. Barron fell with a wound from which he ultimately died.

If similar gunpowder finishes were the fashion today in settling official arguments, doubtless the language now current in Washington would be toned down several degrees.

But since braggadocio, not bullets, get the headlines, and the appetites and appearance of all contestants are left unimpaired by the result, the battle of badinage has reached an intensity seldom if ever before equaled at the capital.

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Hear, O Israel; the Lord our God is one Lord.—Deuteronomy 6:4.

Bible Question

(Look Up the Answer)

How are lilies compared to human life?—Matt. 6:29.

In Lighter Vein

Only Explanation.

(The Humorist)

Host—"This is pre-war whisky, you know."

Discriminating Guest—"Good heavens, you don't mean to say there's going to be another war?"

* * *

As It Seems.

(Ohio State Journal)

Our foreign policy seems to be that we won't belong to anything but are perfectly willing to butt in.

* * *

Sir!

(Minneapolis Journal)

A strange disease among chickens! No wonder. Let them put on underwear and overshoes.

* * *

A Pardonable Suspicion.

(Kansas City Journal)

"The monkeys seem cheerful."

"Yes, I sometimes suspect that they get some good laughs out of us people."

* * *

Two Drawbacks.

(Albany, N. Y., Journal)

First Girl in Elevator—"Miss S— is a nice girl, but rather loquacious."

Second Girl in Elevator—"Yes; and besides that, she talks too much."

Rowell's Comment

By CHESTER H. ROWELL

MIDDLE western opposition to the child labor amendment should be an object lesson to those who dream of uniting farmers and wage workers in one "class conscious" political movement.

There may be plausible arguments that the two belong to one "class"—but the farmer does not think so.

He stampedes to the capitalist side of every labor issue. He fights eight-hour laws, demands to be exempt from workmen's compensation acts, and in the west sometimes even listens to the sophistries of the Chinese immigration propagandists.

Workmen and farmers may unite temporarily in a protest vote, but ordinarily they tend in opposite directions.

Economically, the "dirt farmer" may be a laborer, but he thinks he is a capitalist—and he votes as he thinks.

25 Years Ago

(From The Guard of Feb. 12, 1900)

* * *

Members of Skinner Cabin, No. 5, Native Sons of Oregon, will give a reception next Saturday evening at the Elks hall to the Native Daughters.

* * *

T. G. Hendricks and daughter, Miss Ruby, arrived home yesterday from Portland. Miss Ada Hendricks will remain there for a week longer.

* * *

Commissioners court has adjourned for the term.

* * *

R. A. Ford is a republican candidate for school superintendent.

* * *

F. C. Sharkey is in Eugene for a few days from Blue River.

* * *

Mrs. C. E. Loomis arrived home this afternoon from Oregon City.

* * *

Miss Bessie Day and Miss Ogie Walton left this afternoon for San Francisco.

In New York

By JAMES W. DEAN

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—"Petticoat inspection" is held at frequent intervals at one of the most exclusive girls' finishing schools in the east.

Now this school is attended by girls from some of the most prominent families in the country—oh, me, yes! by girls from some of the most "exclusive" families.

If you have an idea that these young ladies do nothing but frivol away their time at parties and such goings-on you are quite in error.

Here are some of the regulations at this particular school:

Every girl must wear three layers of clothing, including a petticoat. If she is found without a petticoat at "petticoat inspection" most of her few privileges are rescinded.

She may go to the theater only four times a year except in such instances as when the student body attends a play for purposes of study.

When visiting the theater she may attend only such plays as are on the censored list of the school.

She may go shopping only on permission of the principal. She must make out a list of purchases before going, any intended purchase—not countenanced by school authorities being stricken off the list.

Relatives and friends wishing to telephone or visit the girl must first make an appointment through the school office. If it is desired to accompany the girl from the school for any purpose the purpose of such an excursion must be stated.

That's just part of the code of conduct.

"It wouldn't be so bad," complained one of the young ladies, "if the school were in the middle of a desert, but here we are in the fifties, in the very center of the smartest section of New York, with all sorts of ducky affairs going on around us and we can't take part in them."

* * *

Fashion Note: Men's pajamas for spring are being shown in bright and varigated colors in the batik motive. On Fifth avenue they are selling at $30 and $40 the suit.

* * *

Most of the hair-bobbing done here is behind screens or in private compartments. In a barber shop patronized by men and women the chairs for the fair bobbees are screened from the rest of the shop. But in a second-story bobber shop on Forty-Second street the operation is performed in full view of the public. And the other evening I saw a fat lady in the first chair of a barber shop while a gaping throng watched the scissors snip.

* * *

"Be ambitious," advises Walter Catlett in a musical comedy. "Be like the grapefruit. Once it was only a lemon but look where ambition took it."

Your Income Tax

This is the ninth of a series of articles explaining the income tax to the layman. It has been prepared in view of the recent changes in the income tax law.

By R. A. CONKEY

(Tax Consultant)

ANOTHER provision of the new law which will affect a number of taxpayers is that section pertaining to the treatment of capital gains and losses, which is defined as follows:

Capital gains and capital losses refer only to taxable gains and deductible losses resulting from the sale or exchange of property held by a taxpayer (other than a corporation) for more than two years, other than property which would properly be included in inventory, or property held primarily for sale in the taxpayer's trade or business.

The term "capital net gain" means the excess of the total capital gains over the sum of (a) total capital losses, (b) "capital deductions," and (c) the amount, if any, by which a taxpayer's ordinary deductions exceed his gross income, exclusive of capital gain. The term "capital deductions" includes commissions paid brokers or agents in connection with the sale of the property, and interest, taxes or other carrying charges allowable to the property, and interest, taxes or other carrying charges allowable to the property sold during the year in which the sale occurs.

A taxpayer (other than a corporation) who for any taxable year derives a "capital net gain" may, in lieu of the ordinary tax, elect to be taxed as follows:

A partial tax shall be computed in the regular way upon his net income (excluding capital gains, capital losses and capital deductions), and the total tax shall be this amount plus 12½ per cent of his capital net gain.

The term "capital net loss" means the excess of total capital losses and capital deductions over total capital gains.

Where a taxpayer (other than a corporation) sustains a "capital net loss," a partial tax is computed in the regular way upon his net income (excluding capital gains, capital losses and capital deductions) from which tax there is deducted an amount equal to 12½ per cent of the "capital net loss." In no case, however, may the tax so compounded be less than if computed in the ordinary manner without regard to the provisions relative to capital gain or loss.

The provisions of this section apply to members of a partnership, to an estate or trust, and to beneficiaries of an estate or trust, with respect to their proportionate part of the capital net gain or capital net loss of the partnership, estate or trust.

Nevada allows a school to be established in isolated areas, when there are five children of school age. In Utah the minimum limit is eight children.

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