

THE EUGENE GUARD

An Independent afternoon newspaper published daily except Sunday.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 28.

Of Questionable Expediency.

THE Umatilla fish and game protective association has decided to invoke the referendum against the law enacted at the last legislature which provides for conversion of ten per cent of the receipts of 40 special state commissions of various kinds into the state's general fund. The movement is of questionable expediency. Sportsmen who pay license fees for hunting and fishing privileges naturally feel that all their money should go for game and fish protection, as the license law contemplates. But the legislature, in passing the ten per cent tribute law acted under the spur of necessity. The governor had deliberately created a situation whereby the money available from general taxation was inadequate for carrying on state activities. The legislature itself had not been particularly economical. There was urgent need for more revenues to meet the situation. And the ten per cent tribute law was enacted.

If the law is held up by referendum now, the result will be to cripple state finances. There will be the further bad effect of widening the gap between town and country. The farmers favor this bill because it is designed to lessen the burden of land taxation. On the other hand, if the law is allowed to become effective it is very likely to be regarded as a temporary expedient only, and to be repealed by the time the legislature meets again, by which time some more equitable method of financing state activities is likely to be devised. This latter alternative seems the better.

Flax Possibilities.

STATE TREASURER THOMAS B. KAY told the Corvallis chamber of commerce in an address the other day that Willamette valley farmers who turn their attention to raising flax can make nearly three times as much off each acre of land as from any other crop. His statement, he said, was not based upon theory but upon the experiences of farmers in Marion county who had made and were making the demonstration.

Some of Marion county's leading men, including Mr. Kay, have become so well convinced of the possibilities of profit in flax growing and linen making in the Willamette valley that they are building a linen mill in Salem. They know, they say, on the word of competent investigators and through the experience of the years that no places in the world except Ireland and Belgium offer such possibilities for successful flax culture as this valley. Flax culture here has passed the experimental stage long ago. It is a demonstrated success when properly carried on.

Mr. Kay declared in his Corvallis address, according to the Gazette-Times, that the Willamette valley cannot hope for a maximum of prosperity from the raising of food crops alone, because the home markets are not sufficient to absorb all that the farmers can raise, and in selling to distant markets, freight takes most of the profits. By turning to flax-growing, he pointed out, the farmers will have the double advantage of raising a profitable crop and at the same time reducing the production of food crops, which if carried far will automatically have a tendency to increase prices for those crops, through the simple law of supply and demand.

Facts similar to these, or some of them, have been laid before Eugene business men lately. But the views of Treasurer Kay carry some special weight, because he is a practical business man and manufacturer and because he backs his faith in the Willamette valley flax industry with his money and his efforts to promote flax growing and the manufacture of linen.

In Lane county, as elsewhere in the Willamette valley, the need of today is not for greater production of the crops that are customarily grown by our farmers, but rather for the turning of more of what we raise into manufactured products at home. The era of intensive stimulation of land settlement has passed, or is passing. What we need here now is more industries. Salem believes flax growing and manufacture offer the way to one of them. The reasoning seems eminently sound.

In commenting on the boost that congress recently gave to the salaries of its own members—by viva voce vote—the Medford Mail-Tribune remarks: "A man who is not worth \$10,000 a year has no proper place to sit in congress. What the country needs is not fewer \$10,000 a year men but more of them." True. But is there any assurance that the \$10,000 salaries will give us a larger proportion than formerly of \$10,000 congressmen? Grave doubts beset us.

Lane county's share of the state automobile license fund for six months just ended is \$52,993.08. The money will come in handy hereabouts. Almost twenty million dollars have been received by the state and the counties since 1920 for motor vehicle licenses. Oregon's experience has pretty well vindicated this method of financing road building and maintenance. It is sound.

Millinery salesmen from the larger cities are canvassing the Willamette valley and soliciting women to buy Easter hats. The best place to buy an Easter hat is in a home-town shop, where there is opportunity for selection from full stocks and where there also is responsibility.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS

Salary Raises as Political Ammunition

(Medford Mail-Tribune)

As a first step in rehabilitating the democratic party, the New York World is making considerable noise over the raising of salaries by the recent congress.

While the leaders of the republican party preach economy for the people, the members of the party in congress raise their own salaries which the people must pay, the journalistic leader of Eastern Democracy proclaims.

But where were the leaders of democracy when this raise was taking place? They were in their seats, acquiescing in the "raid on the treasury" and joining in the "ayes" which raised congressional salaries to \$10,000 per year, without a roll call.

We fear the World, therefore, will not make much partisan progress along this line, particularly when one considers the salary increase was justified, even though the methods employed were tinged with what political cowardice which is so characteristic of the congressional atmosphere today.

The cost of living has more than doubled since the congressional stipend was fixed. There is no more reason why the congressional salaries should not be raised than the salaries of postal clerks, or senatorial stenographers.

A number of O. A. C. students were on this afternoon, coming home for the Easter vacation.

Today on the streets was seen an old model bicycle which caused admiration to all who saw it. It was of the vintage of the '80's and at the time of its purchase cost \$150, but today as an article of commerce it has no value.

R. A. Booth is a visitor in the city today from Saginaw.

Alf Walker and Dr. George Wall of Cottage Grove are visiting in the city today.

Women are more numerous than men in Alabama, Georgia, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York and the Carolinas.

Wheat was dropped about half a dollar in March, and accordingly a probe is ordered. It doesn't seem likely that official investigators will discover anything not already known.

Cheaper Wheat

(Pendleton East Oregonian)

The slump in the price of wheat, and to a less degree in other grains, has been expected in a commodity whose price is dependent on the demand of a world market. The big speculators have been unloading everywhere.

The United States department of Agriculture recently reported that there was more wheat in the world than had been supposed. Private inquiries had brought the same information before the government vouches for it. Foreign trading centers have doubtless known it, too.

It is to be hoped that grain will not go still lower than it is now, for the sake of our great farming population, which is just getting back on its feet financially after lean years. At present prices, the raising of wheat, corn, and oats may still be profitable this year, and insure sufficient planting to avoid a scarcity after next harvest.

Postponing a Reckoning

(Salem Capital Journal)

A ballot list has been drafted by the attorney general for the referendum petition the auto stage and freight lines are to circulate against the law passed by the recent legislature imposing a tax upon buses and trucks that will to a slight extent repair the damage done to the state highway system by traffic they were not constructed to carry.

By the referendum, and the action of the governor in vetoing the bill calling for a special election, the effect will be kept from going into effect until the general election of 1920 and those who are destroying the highways for private gain will escape paying during the interval.

These selfish traffic interests who treat our \$80,000,000 highway system as though it was built for their personal gain, and oppose every effort to force them to share in repairing the ruin they are causing, will hear from the people in no uncertain manner when the election is held. The highways were built for the general public, not to be commercialized as free rights of way, maintained at public expense and tourist inconvenience and the referendum merely postpones the day of reckoning.

The bus and truck lines are making a mistake, and their greedy attitude will merely bring more drastic penalties. Had it not been for them, we would have twice the highway mileage, for a four-inch pavement in ample for auto traffic, while the bus and trucks necessitate from 8 to 8 inches.

Tom Sims Says—

OPENING an umbrella in the house or bumping a traffic cop with your car are signs of bad luck.

An optimist is an automobile salesman in the spring.

Chewing gum is all right in its place. Which isn't under a chair.

You can improve your golf by thinking the ball is the income tax collector's head.

Carrying your pocketbook in your hip pocket may stop a robber's bullet.

The best filling station ever built is the dining room.

A fool and his money are not parted soon enough.

Perhaps the real reason musicians need haircuts is because they hate to go near barbershop tenors.

One thing always considered good taste is strawberry shortcake.

The only cure for spring fever is winter and even that often fails.

He who laughs last may laugh the best but not the most often.

If women had more sense there would be more bachelors.

25 Years Ago

(From The Guard March 28, 1900)

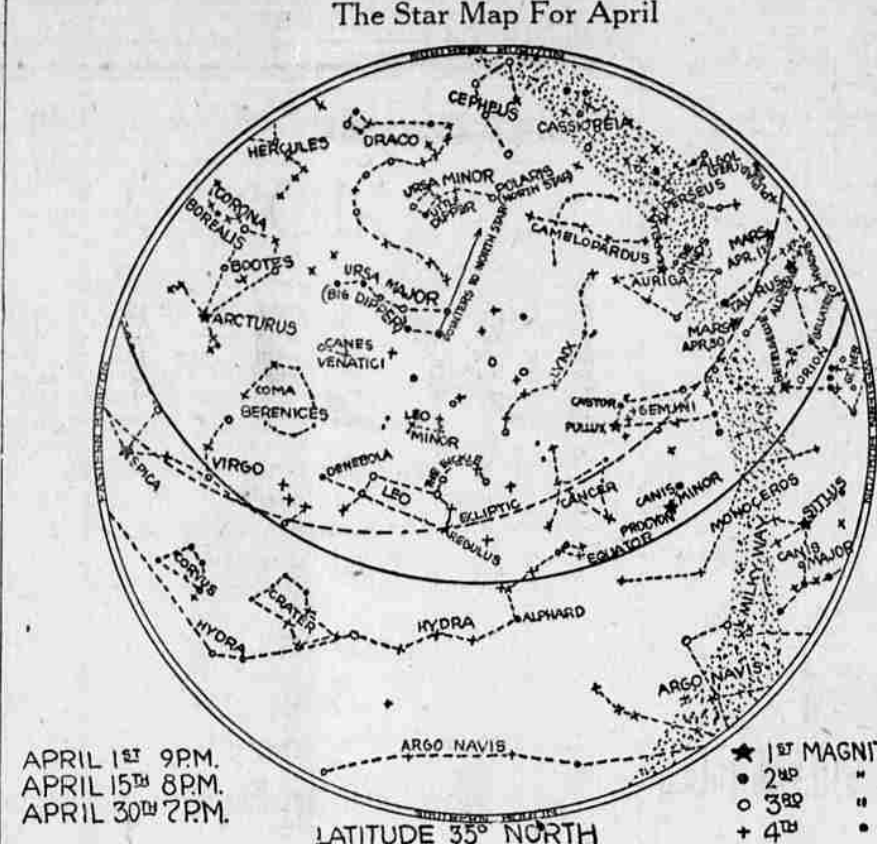
Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Moran entertained the Whist club at their home last evening.

Mrs. George Lilley last evening entertained the High Five club.

Preston and Hales have built up a reputation in saddles that is far beyond local confines. They are manufacturing and shipping saddles as far east as Nebraska, Arizona, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Oklahoma and other middle western and eastern states.

Frank Wetherby went to Creswell today to visit his parents.

A number of O. A. C. students were on this afternoon, coming home for the Easter vacation.



This star map shows the heavens as they appear at 9 p. m. April 1, 8 p. m. April 15 and 7 p. m. April 30 in the latitude 35 north though a change of 5 or 10 degrees north or south will make little change in the appearance of the heavens.

BORAH BLOC IS CONVENIENT TAG

Independent Republicans Who Decline to Follow Party Leadership Are so Characterized by Others

By HARRY B. HUNT (NKA Service Writer)

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Mention has been made, in recent dispatches from here of a "Borah bloc" in the United States senate. Just who the members of this bloc are, however, and by what characteristics they can be identified, have not been made plain.

The fact is, of course, that the term "Borah bloc" has been used simply as a handy tag to tie to the group of independently-minded republicans who have declined to permit themselves to be bound by their party's caucus, and who claim the right to vote their own views on public questions regardless of what party "leaders" proclaim to be their duty.

To this number might, properly, be added those members recently ousted from G. O. P. party councils, on charges of irregularity.

Borah was their champion in the hour of their chastisement. His insurgency is no less real, if more discreet, than was theirs. They will fight with him and for him, on blood or independently, as occasion requires.

Whether properly labeled as "bloc" or not, and whether fairly grouped under a Borah banner, there no longer remains any doubt but there is in the new senate an insurgent group that can make itself felt effectively.

This group has now been pictorially named "the backbone of the senate."

Before one qualifies for membership he must have proven the stiffness of his backbone by standing up, unwaveringly, under the load of public criticism, social ostracism and partisan abuse resulting from voting his individual opinion against his party's mandate.

Borah himself says there is a dearth of stiff backbones in Washington. Particularly in the senate.

"It is much easier in Washington," says Borah, "to go along than it is to disagree. If there is any atmosphere in God's world that weakens will be for a wolf \$25, cougar \$25 and wildcat \$15."

Oregon Briefs

Requisition papers have been signed by Governor Pierce for William Baker, under arrest in Seattle and wanted in The Dalles on a charge of non-support. Baker is fighting extradition.

John A. Shaw, pioneer Oregon lumberman who died on his way from California to Albany, March 7, left to his heirs property valued at \$100,000. The will has been admitted to probate in Linn county.

As an inducement to hunters to kill wolves, cougars and wildcats, the Oregon state game commission announces that bounties in addition to those paid by the various counties

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them. Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man.—Ecc. 12:1, 13.

In New York

By JAMES W. DEAN (NEW YORK, March 28.—See-sawing up and down Broadway I saw Dexter Fellows, the fellow who heralds the approach of the circus. He didn't have to wear his light spring coat to tell me spring is coming. . . . Saw Mary Garden, sailing for Europe to have her hips permanently reduced by sun baths. She looks not so kittenish as when I last met her. . . . Saw Pola Negri, all smiles and happiness, but in some manner she, too, seems much changed in appearance in the past two years. . . . Saw Homer St. Gaulens, the sculptor, and, says he, the famous statue of Digna atop Madison Square Garden, executed by his father, should not be placed on exhibition, as it is suitable only for purpose as it has been serving. . . . Saw James Gleason who remained an obscure figure on Broadway 40 years. Then he wrote "Is Zat So?" and "The Fall Guy," both overnight hits and now he's famous and becoming wealthy. . . . Saw Frank Morgan who once tried cattle-punching with much disgust and was induced by his brother to take to the stage where he is now quite a polished actor. . . . Saw Flora Sheffield, now one of the five bridesmaids in Mabel Trickett's "The Betrothal." The other four sisters have also become famous. They are Winifred Lemhan, June Walker, Sylvia Field and Boots Wooster. . . . The newest fad of David Davidovitch Burluk, the cubistic artist who wears an earring in one ear and fancy coat to match in 40 combination, is the wearing of a teaspoon in his coat lapel. "Why the teaspoon?" Maurice Goldberg, the art photographer, asked him the other day. "Why not the teaspoon?" was Burluk's only answer. . . . If one can judge what will be worn this summer by what one now sees in the shop windows, the ladies will be more brilliantly garbed than ever before. The show windows along Fifth avenue are a riot in red, greens and yellows. And some of the individual dresses have all of these colors in them in designs which look like streaks of lightning. . . . And quite the thing for nifty dressers among the men is white spats. Boys, you must get a pair! . . . Here's another item which reflects the cobweb of living conditions here. Seven new private golf courses are opening in the metropolitan district this spring and the membership lists will be filled before the first round is played on any of them.

As the World Wags

By FRANK FAX EDDY (EVOLUTION, as touching human ancestry, is now banned as a teachable subject in the public schools, normal schools and colleges which receive state funds in the state of Tennessee. Hurrah for William Jennings Bryan and his cohorts! The first man was made of mud and the first woman of a rib. The legislature of Tennessee took a few hours rest from log-rolling and concentrated the mighty intellects composing that august body . . . I did what all the scientists in the world would have been unable to do, namely, amputated from the theory of evolution all application to the origin of the human race. It was sure a great surgical operation for a band of horse doctors to perform. It is to be hoped that the session was opened with appropriate prayers for divine guidance and with Bible readings including the first two chapters of Genesis. . . . Sir Orsdel, the grand dragon of the Amalgamated Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters of Tennessee, U. S. A., named by Governor Peay, in signing the bill published his reasons for doing so. If they do not convince his critics, they at least reveal the kind of thinking responsible for the drive now being made in the legislative curbing of freedom in scientific investigation and teaching, not only in Tennessee but in many other states. . . . Governor Peay defends the bill as one of protest against an irreligious tendency "to exalt so-called science and deny the Bible" in the teachings of some schools. The fact is the bill is not a protest but an alliance that the illiterate and the scientifically ignorant shall prescribe limits to freedom of investigation and teaching in the schools which shall teach nothing else but a certain interpretation of the Bible, reflecting a dogmatic Christ-

lanity now being abandoned by innumerable Christians in all the churches. . . . Freedom of religion is not contravened and the strict separation of church and state is maintained in Tennessee notwithstanding the passage of this legislation, argues Governor Peay. Well, perhaps Governor Peay is stupid enough to fail to realize that here is prescribed at least a taboo against any and all evidence relating to the origin of man not found in the borrowed legends incorporated in the Bible. A prohibition is naturally and always a curtailment of freedom and this law does prohibit a certain class of citizens, namely teachers, from an expression of opinion which is deemed at least irreligious. That freedom in religion means anything more than freedom to believe anything outside the dogmas of a standardized Christianity is an idea which apparently cannot penetrate the bony dome which successfully fortifies the brain of the Tennessee governor against any modern idea. . . . The freedom which is prohibited by this legislation is something broader and more important than a mere attempt to regulate religion. It is a prohibition forbidding freedom of thinking on the part of probably the most important class in any state, the teachers. If the teachers of Tennessee do not defy the law, it will make of many of them Irow-beaten hypocrites. . . . The reaction to the characteristic stupidity of the religious reactionaries who sponsor and urge such legislation as this is fortunately not all harmful. The effect is to arouse a new interest in evolutionary theories, especially in the minds of the young. In other words it is the best advertising the theory evolution has had in a long time. Every young person worth educating will now read something about evolution. All the monkey bills can effect will be to deprive youth of the natural guidance of their teachers in such studies as they may be passed. It will take more than the ponderous assiduity of our American legislatures to dam truth however fervently they may damn evolution in the name of religion.

Fellowship of Prayer

Daily Lenten Bible readings and meditation prepared for the Council of Churches of Christ in America. SATURDAY Repentance. Read Lk. 18:19. Text: 13:3. I tell you, Nay; but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. MEDITATION—"The question continually comes to our minds, Why do not evil doers punish themselves? Why do they prosper when there is no sign of repentance? God's ways for our redemption we do not know. We are to be concerned with our own lives. The mercy of the Lord is long suffering but the fruit of disobedience will surely come. Repentance is a matter of desire and will. If we desire the good with all our hearts and put forth our will to turn resolutely from all evil, we shall have the assurance of forgiveness who truly repent. "God is wide-awake. Nothing is hid from his sight. There is no unrecognized factor that can take Him by surprise. He is wide-awake on the first of furrow. He is wide-awake on the field of common labor where some young disciple finds his hard to bring clean hands while he exerts his busy brain." "HATER—Our heavenly Father keep us ever in mind of the law. May they be as a shield against temptations. Then shall we seek true repentance and labor earnestly that our wandering children may find the way back to the heart of love. Amen.

Rowell's Comment

By CHESTER H. ROWELL THE archaeologist has taken the still place of the explorer. There are still worlds to conquer, but their distance is in time, not in space. The buried past exhumes its records, and our horizon expands as astonishingly as it ever did in the days of the voyagers. Carthage, Ur of the Chaldees, Sumerian Babylon, older and sadder than Egyptian dynasties, find new voices, and taboos is lessening even on Princeton excavation. The near future may unearth contemporary Old Testament documents or inscriptions. Just as our ancestors had to learn geography to keep up with the news, so we may have to learn history. Already the absurdity of the leading writer's obliviousness to chronology is recognizable to at least some of its readers. Soon he will have to develop to prospective which realizes the difference between a hundred, a thousand and a million years ago. As it is, "King Tut" is still the standard of ultimate antiquity, and its contemporary with the dinosaur, trilobite and the saber-toothed tiger, and even older than Columbus. But if this confusion becomes felony to even a minority of readers, the headline man will get his dues as it-legend as the sporting writer has to get his scores, or the society editor the initials of those present. Newspaper readers get "accuracy" wherever they demand it.

In Lighter Vein

Better Dollars. (Kansas City Star) "You seem to forget, my dear, that the dollar I earn is worth only 95 per cent of the dollar your father earned."

Preferred Creditor. (Life) Wife—So many bills, I don't know where to begin. Hubby—Begin with the butcher. I have to pass his shop on the way to work every morning.

Selectivity. (Emporia Gazette) Two Emporia men were discussing their radios. Said one: "Ours is the best little set in the world. The other night, we got Los Angeles and Havana."

Always a Fire. (Life) You can lead a San Francisco man to a dictionary, but an earthquake is always a fire.

Seeing Double. (Life) Giff—When you were in Hollywood did you attend any party of movie stars? Giff—No, but I had a wild time one night with a gang of their substitutes.

Sneeze It. (London Tit-Bits) A young Russian was introduced to an aged Englishman, who was slightly deaf. Just before the Russian bowed he sneezed. "Of course," said the Englishman, "I knew your father well."

From Inside the Taxi. (Georgia Yellow Jacket) First Voice—Would you mind changing seats with me? Second Voice—Why? First Voice—I'm left handed.

Mutual Life, G. M. Sprague, 20 E. 8th. INSURE WITH HENRY TROWER, 23 W. 9th. Phone S. E. Stevens for piano tuning.

\$15.50 to SAN FRANCISCO Stage Terminal Phone 1860

Is Yours A Young Business?

If you must answer "Yes, ours is one of the youngsters at Willamette street," you can well stop to consider that other question: "What will my bank be when we are doubled in size?" The "old timers" on the street know that doing business today is a different problem than when 8th and Willamette was a mud puddle. And they will tell you that in those days, as well as now, the U. S. National Bank was admirably fitted to help Eugene business men with their financial problems. That is but a sample of the operation of our liberal, far-sighted banking policy. It enables our organization to grow and change with evolving business conditions. As your business grows and changes you will find that the U. S. National Bank has grown and developed with it. That is why new businesses can well afford to bank here.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL BANK

The Bank for Service EUGENE LOAN AND SAVINGS BANK The Bank for Savings

SOMETHING WRONG

Headache? Backache? Nervous? All down and out! Don't neglect yourself. Neglect may lead to serious illness. CHIROPRACTIC Removes the cause—Health returns. GEO. A. SIMON Examination Free 916 Willamette St. Phone 354-4