

THE EUGENE GUARD

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MONDAY, APRIL 27.

The Tax Bills Referendums.

RECIMINATIONS regarding responsibility for the dilemma that Oregon faces in the prospective referendums against the tithing tax, cigarette tax and bus and truck tax, and in the prospective attack on the legality of the gross earnings tax, will avail us little now. They are water over the dam. A more important thing is to find ways to extricate ourselves from the dilemma, or at least to mitigate its effects.

There is a way whereby the people of the state themselves can avert the dilemma for the most part. That way lies in declination by individuals to sign the referendum petitions on the tithing bill, the cigarette tax bill and the bus and truck tax bill. The state association of county judges and commissioners recently adopted resolutions urging voters not to sign the petitions for the bus and truck tax bill. These actions unquestionably will carry weight with many voters. How much weight is a question yet to be determined.

Tobacco users and tobacco sellers alike oppose the cigarette tax bill. Sportsmen very generally oppose the tithing bill. In both cases there is something to be said on the side of the protestants, who feel that they are being discriminated against unjustly. There is no disposition here to defend these two measures on their claimed merits. Nevertheless, it would appear the part of good business and good judgment for people generally to decline to attack them in the present serious situation in which the state finds its financial prospects. The effective way to do this is to decline to sign the referendum petitions against them.

Unless referendum petitions are filed against them, all three measures will become law on May 28 next. If referendums are filed they will be held in suspension until the election of November, 1926. Meanwhile a deficit in state revenues will accumulate which will certainly exceed \$1,000,000 and may go to \$2,000,000. The only alternative to prevent this would be the calling of a special session of the legislature to enact revenue laws of one sort or another.

There is nothing that individuals can do to stay the threatened attack by the Western Union telegraph company upon the gross earnings tax law. That, in all probability, will have to take its course in court. But individuals could, if enough of them desired to do so, prevent the proposed referendums. Wouldn't it be worth while to do so?

Medford's Water Project and Ours.

MEDFORD, with a population considerably smaller than that of Eugene, is to spend \$600,000 on a new municipal water project according to a dispatch from Salem, which tells of the signing of the agreement for water rights. It would appear, therefore, that we are getting off rather cheaply here in Eugene, with a proposed expenditure of only \$375,000 for an initial water project.

A reading of the account of the Medford project makes one realize that we of Eugene are fortunate in several particulars connected with our own water project. Medford must bring its water 35 miles, as against seven miles for the Eugene project. Medford wanted and applied for the right to take 40 second feet of water from Big Butte creek, the proposed source of supply, but was allowed only 30 second feet. The volume of water that Eugene may take from the McKenzie is practically unlimited.

It appears further from the Salem dispatch that a reclamation company which had obtained prior rights on Big Butte creek, had to be reckoned with in the city's application for water. This consent was obtained, but apparently—although the point is not made entirely clear by the dispatch—it was because of the reclamation company's prior right that the city of Medford was restricted to 30 second feet of water instead of being granted the 40 second feet that it sought.

The needs of a city or district of water for domestic use ought, it would seem, to take precedence over any claim of industrial utility, regardless of priority. But probably the 30 second feet of water that has been granted to Medford from Big Butte creek will give the city an ample supply for some years to come.

The communication from Andrew Baker, secretary of Farmers' union local, No. 197, published on this page today, would seem to indicate that Senator Maglady was rather more than ordinarily active at Salem in the farmers' behalf, notwithstanding he was criticized recently by another Farmers' union committee. Brickbats and roses—that's the life of a legislator.

Nobody thought seriously that Senator Wheeler would be convicted of the charge laid against him in Montana. Politics was the principal basis for the bringing of the charge against him, just as politics was the principal basis for a good deal of what the Wheeler investigating committee did in Washington.

The Prince of Wales, on tour on a battleship, dropped into verse. He used this form in one line: "I your queen also know," and he used "dresses and princesses" as alleged rhymed terminals. Really, the prince doesn't ride Pegasus any better than he rides a steeple chase nag.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS

With Dr. Hoffman attending. (Dallas Itemizer) The Itemizer has discovered the most optimistic man as to the future growth of Dallas. Dr. L. A. Hoffman recently had this office print for him a supply of blanks that will keep a record of 8000 babies yet to be born. An All-Comedy Team. (Bend Bulletin) The Portland ball team has a clown on its payroll this year, though just why this should be necessary is more than we can see when the whole darn team is a joke. Change for Unity. (LaGrande Observer) It is estimated that over 2000 organizations are represented at Washington by lobbyists. We hope that at some future time Mr. Average Citizen can have an advance present and make it one hundred per cent. They Must See. (Portland Journal) A Spokane youngster was coasting

down hill on his bicycle. He carried no lights. His head was down to protect his face against a driving rain. He struck and killed Judge Bell.

A bicycle can seriously injure people. That was proven in the case of the Spokane jurist. His skull was crushed by his fall.

Bicycles cannot safely operate without lights. There is serious danger of injury to the riders. There is danger of injury to pedestrians. Nor can youngsters safely coast down hills with their heads down. Nobody can travel with assurance, whether it be by boat, automobile, foot or bicycle, without seeing where they are going.

The Governor's Promises.

The Eugene Guard, commenting upon the "shake-up" in the game commission, the purpose of which, many suspect, is to "get" Game Warden Burghdoff, calls attention to an unqualified promise given by Governor Pierce to Senator Fisk and two other senators that Burghdoff would not be removed. The Guard hints that, in view of this unqualified promise, it would be incumbent for the governor to remove the warden. The Sentinel suggests that The Guard is in error. The more unqualified the promise the governor has made, the greater the number of times he has made it, the greater number of persons to whom he has made it, the more consistent with past action will it be for him to break it.

"Sign Board" Fight.

The "sign board" fight between merchants of Wasco and Sherman counties is said to impend, over tourist business originating on The Dalles-California highway. If Sherman county merchants erect the big sign now reported planned, at the junction of the Sherman and Dalles-California highways near Cow canyon, it is said on good authority that merchants of southern Wasco county will erect a similar one, directing traffic through Wasco county.

Of course the motive is plain. Because the state highway routing of The Dalles-California highway is through Wasco county, Sherman county residents feel that tourists will regard this as the main highway and follow it. This will cause a loss of tourist business to Sherman county.

While for the sign board, attention are still in the formative stage, The Chronicle feels that any attempt to divert tourist traffic one way or another would be exceedingly ill advised, and would only lead to bitterness between Sherman and southern Wasco county towns. The highway junction should be marked only by state highway signs, giving mileage and various information, leaving the tourist to his own judgment as to the most desirable route.

Whether the highway department would have the power to forbid the erection of other signs is a matter of conjecture. If it has, it most certainly should take action in the matter.

Senator Maglady Defended by Farmer

Farmers' Union Commends His Work at Salem

EUGENE, Ore., April 27.—(To the Editor.)—I do not believe that those farmers who have kept posted on the work of our representatives in the legislature will altogether agree with the conclusions as published by the Farmers' union committee with reference to Senator Maglady, when they say "There is little in harmony between us from a legislative standpoint."

It seems to me that Senator Maglady has shown more real interest in farmers' legislation than any of our members from this county for some time. Two years ago he had charge of the ice cream bill, increasing the per cent of cream in ice cream, and also the anti-oles bill. He had much to do with passing both these bills. For his work on the oleo bill he was given a vote of thanks by the stockholders of the farmers' creamery—our farmers.

In the last session he voted for every farmer bill, gave much of his time to farmer delegations going to Salem in the interest of farmer legislation, and took great interest in their affairs. He also introduced the only piece of legislation favoring the dairymen of Lane county. This was the bill providing for the compulsory testing and inspection of dairy stock in Lane county for bovine tuberculosis. The bill was requested by Farmers' union local No. 197, and was approved by the Farmers' union committee.

While we may not agree with Senator Maglady in all of his views, he certainly has shown more real interest in farmer legislation—that is, taken a more active part—than any other from Lane county for a long time, and I am certain the Farmers' union committee made a mistake when they reported as they did.

At the last meeting of Farmers' union local No. 197, I, as secretary, was instructed to write him on the thanks of the local for his work on the dairy bill and other farmer legislation. ANDREW BAKER, Motor Route A

A Nation's Neglect

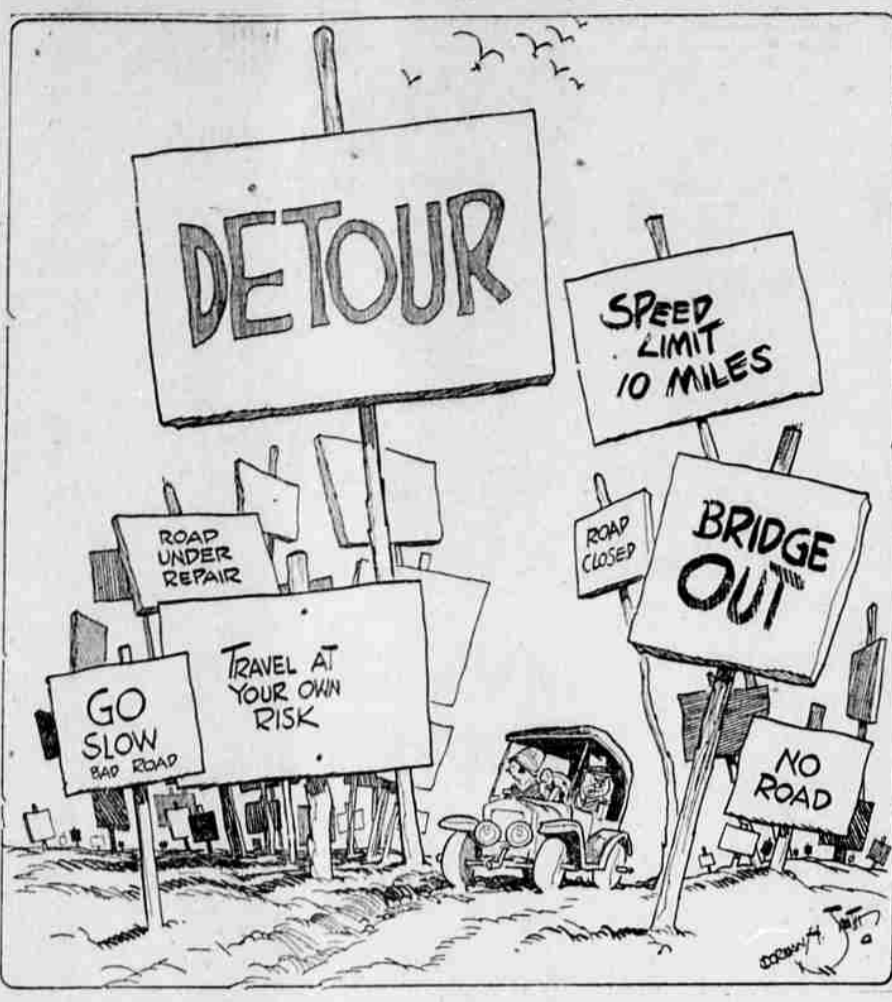
by HAL COCHRAN

STUMPS! Stumps! Stumps! A wreckage of forest land clumps. A warning, at best, is the land spread undressed. And save, save the mastodon of stumps. Wrecked! Wrecked! Wrecked! A picture of wretched neglect. The victims of fire, and a scowling sky. The thought that the loss must be eased.

SAVE! Save! Save! Let's turn out our stump-own and slave. Etc nature is killed, we must start in a new world. With trees, and the open woods have. Plant! Plant! Plant! Say, where is the man who won't grant. That reforestation will help save our balmy. Consider the trees, and then plant!

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All the Signs of Spring



CAPITAL NATION'S SHOW TOWN

None Other in World so Distinctly Nothing Else as Our Own Washington, D. C.

By CHARLES P. STEWART (SEA Service Writer) WASHINGTON, April 27.—This, in the very nature of things, is America's show town. No other capital in the world is so distinctly nothing but a capital. London, Paris, Rome, Berlin, Tokyo, Buenos Aires—their capitals. But they're something else besides. They're industrial and commercial centers first, and centers of government only incidentally.

Washington is just a capital. She needs to look the part. People go to New York, Chicago, St. Louis—towns like that—on business. They pay no attention to the way these

towns look. They may think they look like ladies but they don't care. They come to Washington from north, south, west and a few miles east just to feast their eyes. Visitors even come from abroad, sometimes on official errands, and sometimes simply to pay their respects, like the Prince of Wales, and it ought to be a point of pride with all Americans to have them favorably impressed.

Washington always has lived up to its job fairly well. Classically it isn't much to brag about—raw and nasty in winter, and in summer hotter than Dutch love. That can't be helped. But essentially not bad. The public buildings make a tolerably satisfactory showing, especially the older ones. Some of the newer samples run a trifle too much to "simplicity of line" for my taste. A dry goods box has "simple lines." Still, all in all, architecturally, Washington is a handsome city.

Topographically, its situation is pleasant. It isn't spectacular, like Rio de Janeiro's, for instance, but in a quiet way it flatters the eye. Back from the broad, dignified Potomac extends a nice flat stretch of bottom for business purposes, and then come the hills—nothing tremendous and overpowering but a pretty background. Above all, Washington is a city of

Rowell's Comment

By CHESTER H. ROWELL WHO said that Romance is gone out of the world? Is it piracy? The rum fleets seek recruits. Is it exploration? The Roosevelt expedition is retracing the

steps of Marco Polo; two rival air parties will this autumn clear the polar wastes, and another Albatross is sounding the Sargasso Sea. Is it Indian fighting? Join the marines, and take part, some day, in suppressing revolution in some tropical American port. Or, if you have imagination enough to realize that pioneering the new is quite as romantic as re-surveying the old, the whole boundless universe is now before us.

Every radio "fan" is dealing with forces unknown a decade ago, and the mind of man has penetrated the secrets outside the universe and inside the atom more in this generation than in all previous ages.

Next will be a telephone to hear the thunders of the sun. "What use are eclipses?" a correspondent asked. "They helped us find helium, to make air travel safe," said the editor. "They helped meet the first plea of childhood and the last of manhood. I want to know," said the astronomer. "The answer points the way of Romance."

Oregon Briefs

Falls City is to have a newspaper, the Falls City Enterprise, with J. A. Reher as editor and publisher, to begin publication about May 1.

Tom Sims Says—

NEWS from Russia is bad. Nearly 50,000 women there hold public office, so who holds their babies? Salt Lake City firemen went out on a strike, but not for more fires.

And, it doesn't matter, but it's slightly peculiar that Salt Lake City's fire chief's name is Bywater. One day Coolidge shook hands with only 648, but even that's enough energy to shoot dice half an hour.

Our guess at the prohibition trouble is the people are full because the jails are not. Maybe if a ghost leads a real nice life, he becomes a human when he dies, who knows.

Women are real nice people, but sometimes we think they haven't a bit more sense than men. Sometimes those who think they are making love are making a mistake.

This is the time of the year a man is too sick to work but still well enough to go fishing. The question of the age is, "I know she's older."

In New York

By JAMES W. DEAN NEW YORK, April 27.—A storm sweeps over the city and the great buildings reflect a ghastly green. Then they are loved in white and the windows appear as quicksilver. The storm passes and the shining buildings glow with a delicate pink from the setting sun, while the distant sky of the east forms a back-drop of blue. Gene Colin, the writer who tries hard to be a cynic, sits at his typewriter watching the changing scene. "I thought Beasno was the greatest master of lighting effects," he dralls, "but this fellow God is better."

Says Andrew Tombo to Lou Hutz in a current musical comedy, "Come on, I want you to dance." Hutz: "I can't dance, I'm a little stiff from bowling." Tombo: "I don't care where you're from, I want you to dance."

Jokes in the written word are not nearly so good as when spoken. I remember of two jokes told by Hutz and Tombo, thinking that they might make entertaining reading in this column of his stage notes. Twin ducks they lost point and color. After all, a joke is only as good as its telling.

A New Yorker wrote back to friends in Washington, N. C.: "Having arrived in this city of broken hearts and lovers." "I thought Beasno was the greatest master of lighting effects," he dralls, "but this fellow God is better."

An Indianapolis man recently called at the office, and that future eulogist

25 Years Ago

(From The Guard April 27, 1900. The sawmill of the Booth-Kelly Lumber company at Saguaw has been shut down for a few days for repairs. During that time a number of the workmen will be transported to Coburg to work double shifts there.

This morning while workmen were tearing out the foundation of the old Peters building a sealed bottle was found containing a copy of the Oregon State Journal of August 15, 1868, and a sealed envelope telling of the laying of the cornerstone of the building belonging to A. V. Peters. Mr. Peters began business in Eugene in 1865, and in the bottle was a coin, the first money taken by Mr. Peters on his first day of business. The Journal was the ninth paper to start in Eugene, the first, The State Republican, starting in 1862.

Frank Jones, athlete, will dive from the Eugene bridge to the Willamette next Sunday. The eighth annual convention of the Young Women's Christian association of Oregon will be in sessions in this city, April 27-29. A varied program is arranged for the conference.

Attorney J. S. Medley is a visitor in Eugene today from Cottage Grove. J. O. Watts went to Seattle today on a business trip. Sheriff Withers went up the Mohawk on legal business this afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Luckey arrived home last evening from a Portland trip. In Lighter Vein

Only Fair (Louisville Courier-Journal) "Either stop calling fistic experts professors" "EK?" "Or give professors more pay."

Lots of Parkin Space (Wichita, (Kan.) Times) The straight and narrow path is plenty wide for its traffic. Volunteer Assistance (Tennessee Tar) First Lady—"We got a hundred dollar radio set and had the electrician come in and attach it." Second Lady—"That's nothing. We had a five hundred dollar set and the sheriff came and attached it."

The Professional Touch (Boston Transcript) "What an amount of jewelry that Mrs. Newrich wears?" "Yes, they say that before she is ready for a party she calls in the services of a jeweler's window dresser."

An Important Difference (Toronto Globe) "Pa, what's the difference between a luxury and a necessity?" "You can do without a necessity, son, without losing the respect of the neighbors."

COME TO "BANKING HEADQUARTERS" FOR ASSISTANCE During King Arthur's reign, the Lord's castle was every man's haven of safety. Medieval men looked to the monastery as their headquarters for help and assistance. Trappers and pioneers rallied to the block house when they could not stand alone. So in today's business here in Eugene and Lane county there is one outstanding headquarters for safety and assistance. The U. S. National Bank. When the future looks dark or the right way is uncertain, scores of local people turn instinctively to the U. S. National Bank as their "banking headquarters." Through years of experience and the assurance of others they rely implicitly on the advice and assistance we offer. Couldn't you too profit by the unbiased, progressive counsel of trained business executives? Bring your problem to any official of this bank and this service is yours.

and historical will refer to New York as "The City of Truncated Pyramids." Passing mention was made here several days back of a book called "Are Women People?" It should have been "Are Parents People?" However the error was slight. The question still remains, "Are Fathers Parents?"

Exercise for those who take it by walking in Central park has been systematized by the park board. Blue, red, yellow and white arrows are painted on the walks. Each denotes a route requiring a certain period of time. Thus when you are acquainted with the various routes you can pace yourself to cover a certain distance in a predetermined length of time. And many office workers have set for themselves a schedule of daily walks by following the arrows.

How many people are there in the world who are able to earn comfortable livings simply because they were born twins? I hear that Thurston, the musician, is advertising for twin girls for one of his stage turns. Twin dancers in musical comedies are paid big salaries and but few of them prove to be top-notch dancers.

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