

THE EUGENE GUARD

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

Abusing the Referendum.

EIGHT hundred persons who had signed the bus and truck tax referendum petition now request of the secretary that their names be stricken off. In all 30,000 persons are said to have signed the referendum petitions on the measure.

There has been no more flagrant case in Oregon to show the susceptibility to abuse of our laws for direct legislation. Here was an act at whose justice, expediency and desirability scarcely anybody presumed to cavil. It was an act to provide from a source whose ability to pay is unquestioned, revenue of which the state is in sore need. And it is held up and rendered temporarily futile through the activity of paid petition hawkers, representing an interest wholly selfish.

It is inconceivable that 30,000 voters of Oregon oppose the bus and truck tax bill. It is likewise inconceivable that so many of our people believe the commercial trucks and busses should be allowed to continue to capitalize the highways to their own profit without paying for the privilege, or that they should evade just payment through the tax for the damage they are causing to the pavements. Nothing less is to be believed than that when the bus and truck tax bill is finally voted on under referendum it will be overwhelmingly sustained. Every expression of public sentiment on the subject indicates as much. Why, then, did 24,000 voters sign the bus and truck tax referendum petitions? Just because they, or most of them, lacked any feeling of responsibility in the matter and because it was easier to sign than to say no to the dulcet-toned petition hawkers. They signed without thinking and without recognition of any duty or necessity for thinking. When the question was laid forcibly before some of them again and they did think, 800 of them petitioned to get themselves unsigned.

In these days of log-rolling, backroom trading legislatures the laws for direct legislation constitute a valuable safeguard to popular rights. But petition hawking needs to be curbed, sharply and decisively.

The American Legion Campaign.

IT is a fine and noble purpose that is represented by the campaign of the American legion here and elsewhere under way just now. It is proposed that a national endowment fund of \$5,000,000 be raised, and that the interest on the fund be used for the aid of disabled veterans and for the widows and children of those who have succumbed and passed on.

The fund will be administered in emergency relief. The government cares for its disabled veterans when their cases have become established before it. But there are always many cases coming up which have not been so established and which cannot be allowed to await establishment of claims before the government. It is such cases as these that the American legion proposes to care for. Often a disability directly the result of an illness or a wound sustained in service is long deferred in developing. Often it develops suddenly after the lapse of years. To make proofs of service and proofs of illness or wounding in service in such cases requires time. The American legion jumps into the breach and cares for such cases in the interim. There are other cases in which the dependents of a veteran cannot legally be helped by the government under the law's provisions. These cases, too, the American legion aids. It splits no hairs and cuts all red tape when its administration is convinced of the worthiness of any case.

Here in Oregon a portion of the fund now being raised is to be devoted to the maintenance of the Doernbecher memorial hospital for the care of sick and disabled children. Construction of this hospital is provided for. There is as yet no provision for its maintenance.

Thus the whole purpose of the American legion drive for funds is one of outstanding worth. Cut out the little coupon published in The Guard and send it in to the drive committee with your check. It will be worth while.

Each day lessens the hope that Amundsen and his companions will return through the air from their venture into the North. If living, the chances that they will eventually be rescued are good. Resourceful, strong and experienced, they can cope with Arctic dangers. That they did not return in accordance with their programme indicates that their planes were smashed, but whether the men escaped injury or death is yet a question of pure speculation. What of the strange urge that impels men to such chances? Transoceanic flights, round-the-world flights, the North Pole, the South Pole, the peak of Mount Everest, a new route across the Sahara Desert, the fetid jungles of the Amazon's source. The more certain the perils, the more arduous the toil, the stronger is the lure. Never are wanting volunteers for any rendezvous with Death. Blue-eyed and fair-haired, they fling forth their caravans with a smile. This is something altogether fine in Man which makes the customary, sordid pursuits of civilization seem mean indeed.

Well, well, look who's back under the white lights of Broadway again! None other than our young-old friend Harry Kendall Thaw. At his re-debut he threw away \$1500 in tips and danced every dance on a cabaret programme. Apparently Mr. Thaw thinks he is through with paying the fiddler figuratively. Literally he gave the orchestra five hundred of his dollars.

Planned your summer vacation yet? Neither have we.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS

Why Discrimination? (Salem Capital Journal) According to official figures, the Southern Pacific paid \$1,358,097.40 taxes in Oregon in 1924, or 3.15 per cent of all taxes levied in the state, and 7.54 per cent of the total taxes of counties in which it operates. What did the motor truck and bus lines, which are traversing these same counties destroying the highways, pay? Nothing. The Southern Pacific paid \$121,357.52 or 6.08 per cent of the taxes in Marion county, \$40,773.83 or 7.17 per cent of the taxes in Polk county, \$90,532.26 or 8.65 per cent of the taxes in Linn county and in some counties, like Douglas, it paid as high as 17.96 per cent of the total tax. What per cent of the Marion or other county tax did the motor truck and auto bus lines that are destroying counties as well as state highways pay? Not even one-half of one per cent.

The Southern Pacific is only one of several railroads, such as the Oregon Electric, Union Pacific, Spokane-Portland & Seattle, etc., that pay taxes, furnish payroll, and purchase, build and maintain their own rights of way for public service. Motor truck and auto bus lines pay no taxes and build and maintain no right-of-way, but utilize the \$90,000,000 highway system of the state, which they are pouncing to pieces at public expense for private gain. Why should we seek the taxpaying railroads, who utilize their own property for public service and let off scot free non-taxpaying motor trucks and auto busses utilizing public property for private profit? Why should anyone sign the petition to referend the proposed very light tax upon motor trucks and auto busses to provide a repair fund to partially make good destruction caused, and thus permit free destruction for ten years more?

If you have signed this referendum petition, under misapprehension, request your name be eliminated.

Maybe It Will (Medford Mail-Tribune) It is alleged that Klamath Falls now in the midst of a railroad row, will eventually wind up with as many depots as it has court houses.

Woman Patron of Jerry Horn Writes Mrs. W. L. Bristow Had Hair Shingled 1886-1892

PLEASANT HILL, May 24.—(To the Editor)—I read with much interest the account of Mr. Jerry Horn's history as a tonsorial artist, and also your editorial on the same subject. In recalling early days Mr. Horn refers to women patrons being conspicuous by their absence. I wish to state that I was a regular patron from 1888 until 1892. Instead of wearing the "shingled bob" my hair was shingled without the bob. On each occasion I was accompanied by a friend. I will remember the courteous treatment I always received. Yours truly, MRS. W. L. BRISTOW.

Woman Patron of Jerry Horn Writes

Mrs. W. L. Bristow Had Hair Shingled 1886-1892

In Lighter Vein
Too Educated. (London Tit-Bits) "There you go missus! I certainly am surprised. How come you didn't hit that rabbit, Uncle Bill?" "It was this way, boy. You see, dat rabbit he was rummin' zigzag. I aimed at him when he was in zig, and fore I could shut my shootin' eye dat rabbit had shifted into zag! Dem critters is gittin' more educated every day."

Woman Patron of Jerry Horn Writes

Mrs. W. L. Bristow Had Hair Shingled 1886-1892

Consolation. (Punch) Wife (in a panic)—Oh, Jack! Jack! Baby's been and swallowed a sixpence! Husband—Oh, well, my dear, one can't buy much for sixpence nowadays.

Pleasant Sight. (Kansas City Star) Next to seeing a ukulele fed to a buzz-saw, the sight we most long for is a saxophone dropped in front of a steam-roller.

A Seasonal Tip. (Chicago News) This is a good time of year for swimmers to make up their minds never to dive into shallow water.

Safe Bets. (Cincinnati Enquirer) If you don't look before you start, the gas will give out before you reach the next filling station.

An Obituary's Memory. (Ohio State Journal) Our memory goes back to the time when people who were expecting a baby often hoped it would be a girl, on the ground that girls gave you so little trouble as they grew up.

25 Years Ago (From The Guard May 27, 1909) THE thirtieth annual convention of the Christian Endeavor union of Oregon is in session at Albany. Eugene delegates are Mrs. R. McQuinn, Blanche Taylor, Lizzie Griffin, B. E. Spencer, Fred Strange, Mrs. J. A. Cleland.

The last recitation of the year at the university tomorrow, and then examinations.

Ed Hanson arrived home today from a trip to Portland.

Mrs. Rose M. Hollenbeck presented a class of students in piano in recital Saturday evening.

M. McQuinn is a visitor in Eugene today from Cottage Grove.

William E. McClure, a former Eugenean and an university alumnus, is to graduate this year from the department of law, Columbia university, Washington, D. C.

Bert Peter is home after a trip to eastern Oregon.

There is some more sunshine today for a change.

Rev. Mac H. Wallace and Prof. I. M. Glen of the University of Oregon have been selected as the speakers for the Fourth of July celebration in Eugene. Reverend Wallace is pastor of the Eugene Congregational church. Hon. S. B. Eakin has been selected president of the day. The unusual program is to be announced in a few days.

Last year was the healthiest ever known in the United States and Canada, according to public health records.

Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is like a broken tooth and a foot out of joint.—Prov. 23:19.

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TENANTS MADE HIM WEALTHY

Death of Andrew E. Walker Recalls Capital Rent Profiteering Days

By CHARLES P. STEWART (NEA Service Writer) WASHINGTON, May 27.—Between the lines of all the obituaries published by the Washington newspapers a few days ago, following the death of Allan E. Walker, prominent real estate man and builder of the capital, runs a story quite distinct from that of the career the various articles' authors thought they were confining themselves exclusively to. It is the story of the merciless exploitation of Washington's tenant class since the year of America's entry into the war.

Allan E. Walker died at the age of 46. His father, the late Redford W. Walker, was a real estate man before him. The son entered the business when he was 19. He combined apartment house promotion with his trade in city lots. At the end of 19 more years he was rated at about \$50,000 and it was considered he had done unusually well, his business ranking perhaps second among all of its kind in the capital.

That was the year of America's declaration of hostilities against the central powers—1917. "It was about the year 1917," one obituary quotes a friend of the late real estate man as saying, "that his business began to grow by leaps and bounds." He left an estate estimated at \$4,000,000 and it would have been \$1,000,000 more but for a single quiet recent unkindly speculation.

For 19 years Walker saved money at the rate of about \$200 annually. During the last eight years he accumulated it at the rate of \$625,000 a year. He saw his chance and took it.

Senator and Mrs. Burton K. Wheeler have decided on Marion Montana as the first and second names of their new little girl, Marion is for Senator and Mrs. Wheeler's home state. Both the senator and his wife have been deluged with telegrams from there ever since their daughter's birth, urging them to call her after it.

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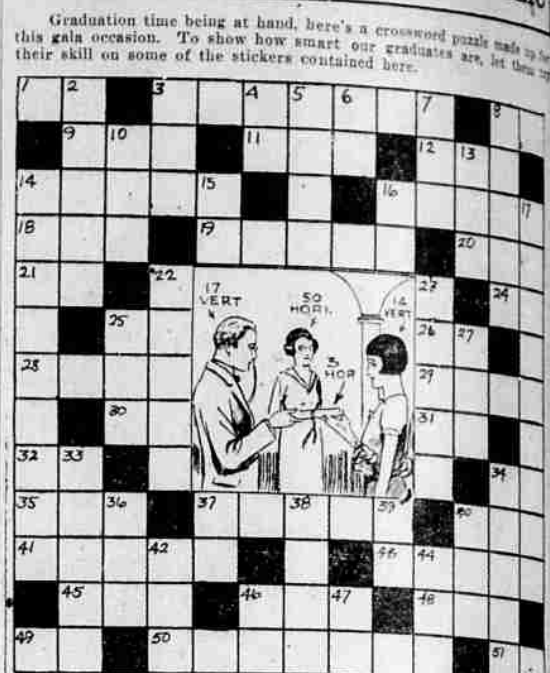
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Today's Cross-Word Puzzle

Graduation time being at hand, here's a crossword puzzle made up for this gala occasion. To show how smart our graduates are, let them test their skill on some of the stickers contained here.



HORIZONTAL

- 1. Neuter pronoun.
- 3. Graduation certificate.
- 5. Like.
- 9. Beam (of light).
- 11. To assist.
- 12. Nothing.
- 14. Pierced (by animal horns).
- 16. Strip of leather.
- 18. Groove.
- 19. Stout.
- 20. To sin.
- 21. Preposition of place.
- 24. Third musical note.
- 25. 3,1416.
- 26. Part of verb to be.
- 28. Employer of property.
- 29. Mineral used in making powders.
- 30. Morindin dye.
- 31. Within.
- 32. Seventh note in scale.
- 34. Above.
- 35. Finish.
- 37. Flammable oleoresin used for medicines.
- 40. Age.
- 41. A gash.
- 42. Savage.
- 43. Striped camel's hair cloth.
- 46. Inlet.
- 48. To be sick.
- 49. Yes.
- 50. Instructor.
- 51. Therefore.

VERTICAL

- 2. Fish of salmon family.
- 3. To recolor.
- 4. Father.
- 5. Conscious existence.
- 6. Alleged force producing hypnotism.
- 7. Provident insect.
- 8. To disturb.
- 10. Skill.
- 13. Anger.
- 14. Those who finish school.
- 15. To accomplish.
- 16. Point of compass.
- 17. School head.
- 22. Young women.
- 23. Silk material.
- 25. Small vegetable.
- 27. Working sex?
- 33. To set in wood in fancy design.
- 34. Name of a mountain range in Russia.
- 36. To dash.
- 37. Expression of irony.
- 38. Narrative poetry.</