

THE EUGENE GUARD

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TUESDAY, JUNE 23

The Trouble at Kelso.

THE murder at Kelso, Wash., of Thomas Dovere, editor of a newspaper there and former Eugene printer, reminds one disagreeably of Herrin, Ill., and its long reign of frightfulness. In Herrin men are afraid to discuss their general feud to the death openly. Something of the same sort of fear seems prevalent at Kelso. Men speak of it only in the most guarded terms.

Kelso had been for many months in the throes of the most bitter civic strife. Exactly what it was all about is hard for an outsider to determine. But there had been charges of official graft, and bitter factional strife had resulted. The mayor was recalled and left town. His friends charged that the faction he led was the one that opposed the grafters. Five councilmen against whom the recall was revoked resigned. Dovere, through his newspaper, had sided with the mayor. And after the mayor had been put out of office and gone, Dovere was slain.

The sheriff expresses the opinion that Dovere was killed by a robber. Dovere's friends declare emphatically that it was a political murder. The recalled mayor comes back to Kelso, declaring he will contest the recall and fight his enemies. Men whisper and eye each other askance. It is an ugly situation. Kelso ought to reorganize itself.

A Hint to the Grange.

THE Oregon state grange, which purposes to initiate a new state income tax measure at next year's election, has an excellent opportunity for success if it will but follow the way of wisdom and of justice in the preparation of its measure. That way, of course, lies in the drafting of a bill that will not impose an additional tax burden upon sources already taxed and that will take a tax toll, under a fair and equitable schedule of rates, from those who now escape taxation.

There is general recognition in the press of Oregon of the fact that an income tax bill based on these principles would have a good chance to win the approval of a majority of the voters. No newspaper, so far as has been observed, has expressed advance opposition to an income tax law to be drafted on such a basis as that outlined. A newspaper attitude so general is quite likely to reflect the public attitude, and probably does so in this case.

But the grange will err fatally if it sponsors any bill that carries provisions calculated to penalize wealth or success, or to tax one class more heavily than another, as was deliberately done under the income tax law which the people repealed because it was unfair. If the grange will approach its task from the standpoint of a sincere effort to equalize taxes by relieving tangible property of a part of the load it is carrying, then the grange may hope for probability of success. But if it listens to the unwise and demagogic counsels of Governor Pierce and the Portland Journal and tries to put discriminatory "teeth" of any sort into its bill then it will have to face the same old fight all over again.

Amundsen's flight was a failure, but he quite apparently has profited thrifflily by peddling his story to a syndicate which serves only a limited number of wealthy newspapers. Due mention is made through the course of his narrative of the trade names of various proprietary articles of equipment and supply which he used, and the discriminating reader is enabled to see wherein both the syndicate and Amundsen have done well for themselves financially. One might forgive all this but for the further fact that even the spot news of Amundsen's return was skimmed and largely bottled up, so far as the mass of newspaper readers is concerned. And these readers were interested mainly because of a sympathetic solicitude for Amundsen's safety and that of his companions.

At a duly advertised annual taxpayers' meeting for the Salem school district for approval or rejection of a \$650,000 budget, nobody was in attendance except school directors and district employees. At our own school election here Monday to choose a director, only 600 people turned out to vote. In Lane county more than 40 per cent of the taxes we pay are expended on our public schools. A similar condition prevails in Marion county. Yet if one were to judge by these recent instances he must conclude that nobody either in Eugene or Salem cares how these great sums are administered. "Let George do it" seems to be the motto in school affairs.

More and more telephone users are learning to appreciate the fact that it is worth while to cultivate personality, even when answering the telephone. Telephone officials call attention to the fact that the ancient salutation "Hello" is dying out. When Mrs. Smith's telephone rings nowadays, according to a telephone company bulletin, she says at once, "Mrs. Smith speaking," thus simultaneously identifying herself and avoiding a familiar gaucherie.

Many people picnicked in the Eugene district Sunday, but none of them was overtaken by a devastating storm such as brought two deaths to a party near Asofin, Wash. We live in a favored land.

Last defense day Eugene was first "over the top" with enlistments of its citizens for observance of the occasion. Let's repeat for the new defense day of July 4.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS

(Bend Bulletin) completion of the state highways through central Oregon will have more and more demand made upon it. It is not now the time to begin to think about putting the camp ground on more of a business basis and

Another Little Job for the Reducer



AIRPLANE REGULATIONS URGED

Winslow Bill to be Put Forward at Next Session of National Congress

By CHARLES P. STEWART (NEA Service Writer)

WASHINGTON, June 23.—The Winslow bill, regulating airplanes somewhat as autos are regulated now, will be strongly urged at the next session of congress.

As good an authority as W. A. Mara, one of the country's foremost experts on the subject, says at least 90 per cent of today's aviation accidents are due to recklessness, inexperience or defective planes.

Aviation's friends want to cut out this 90 per cent, not only as a matter of present importance, but also because they believe America is on the eve of a period of great aerial development and don't want disasters to increase correspondingly.

With proper precautions, they say airplanes will be as safe as railroad trains.

The proposed law calls for periodic inspection of planes (Mara tells of seeing them go up tied together in places with hay wire) and rigid examination of all candidates for pilots' licenses (Mara, again, mentions one who managed to get his bus into the air after two hours' training but was unable to land right side up).

Stunt flying is recognized as a legitimate part of a pilot's education, that he may know how to meet emergencies, but the Winslow bill seeks to restrict it with passengers on board.

Now, as Mara puts it, "Any inexperienced dub of a pilot who cares to take a rattletrip airplane off the ground and can persuade a passenger to fly with him for consideration is free to do so. Crashes result."

The aviation interests don't care so much about the "inexperienced dub of a pilot," but they propose to prevent him from endangering others' lives.

Study of Evolution is Advocated

People Should be Informed Before Taking a Stand.

EUGENE, Ore., June 22.—(To the Editor.)—I wonder if I may be allowed to enter your columns in order to discuss a question which is rather prominently before us these days: the question of evolution? When I was a boy and a difference of opinion arose in a group, we often complicated matters by a tendency to take opposing sides, and to shout. When evolutionists call Mr. Bryan an ignorant, and when anti-evolutionists refer to professors as educated fools, we have a pretty fair adult replica of a schoolboy's shouting match. We are not going to settle the matter satisfactorily by such tactics, agreement can be expected to follow only a fair and unheated discussion of the problem.

The paramount issue is, in my opinion, the probability of the truth of the evolution theory. Bound up with it are the questions: 1. Are evolutionists open-minded enough to accept evidence against evolution? 2. What effect is the teaching of evolution having upon our children? 3. Have parents a right to dictate what is to be taught in school?

In considering the truth or falsity of the evolutionary explanation of our own present condition, most people confuse in their minds the evidences for evolution with the various theories of how evolution has come about. This confusion is excusable, I think, because Darwin simultaneously presented certain evidences for evolution together with his own theory of the MODUS OPERANDI. Many informed people reject Darwin's theory of how evolution came about, although they consider that the evidences he cited strongly supported the idea that evolution had actually taken place. I may be able to make the distinction clearer by citing a simple analogous case. If a man murdered his family and then put on Napoleon, most people would consider it good evidence that he was insane, but would ask for further evidence before they considered the case proved; and there might be as many as a dozen theories of just how he became insane.

The evidences for evolution are of such a nature that any intelligent person can investigate the matter, and then judge for himself. Hundreds of books have been written upon the question, taking one side or the other. Any good book on geology, botany, zoology or psychology, which concerns itself with the origin of things, will contain statements of facts which have a bearing upon the question. Interested parties can go to a geological or to a biological laboratory, in a reputable college, and view the collections of fossils, examine the skeletons of the different sorts of animals, and ask to be shown mammals or bird embryos which still retain gill-slits, and a fish-like circulatory system, or which in some other way betray the likelihood that they had ancestors of a lower type than themselves.

But, the objection will be, scientists are committed now to the evolution theory, and have accumulated favorable evidence because they looked for it. Do they consider unfavorable evidence? In answer to this I think it must be admitted that scientists are human beings and are as liable as you or I to take sides, but they are aware of this weakness and have arranged to avoid its bad effects. I once knew a boy who had a weakness for lying in bed after his alarm went off. To be certain that he would be on time for work he used to set his clock, turn off the light, and then move the second-hand back and forth until he wasn't quite sure whether it was a little fast or slow. When the clock rang he was afraid it might be slow, so he got up right away. In presenting a scientific theory, or the results of experiment, a man never knows just where he stands. Scientists have guarded against the evils of prejudice by refusing to place any faith in a man who doesn't welcome a repetition of his experiments, or a criticism of his theory. Evidences of evolution have been most critically examined, any incompleteness is well known.

In connection with the effect of the teaching of evolution upon the rising generation the following facts should be remembered. Evolution has been taught in courses of natural science and medicine for over fifty years. There has't the slightest evidence that it has done anything but make students better informed. Many of the most eminent ministers of the gospel accept the idea unhesitatingly. That some sincerely religious men reject it is unfortunate, for such men have considerable influence upon opinion, and many of them have never studied the question. It is quite possible to be both religious and sincere and yet be on the wrong track. Paul was both religious and sincere when he started to persecute the Christians. Perhaps, in time, Mr. Bryan will see a great light!

Finally the issue is raised as to whether parents have the right to dictate what shall be taught in the schools and colleges. Since a parent is, under our present family system, rather directly responsible for his child, and rather keenly interested in what sort of an adult the child will grow into, I should say that parents had a right to scrutinize rather closely all school teaching, and do their best to have it conform to their own ideals. At the same time the nation as a whole is interested in the child as a prospective citizen, and should (and does) exert pressure on ignorant parents to prevent their bringing up their children in ignorance. Darwin presented to the world one of the greatest generalizations ever produced. Students should know something about it whether they believe it or not.

Thus we return to the question of the truth or falsity of the idea of evolution, this idea of a changing, progressive world. I do not believe that parents would, as a rule, ask an instructor to teach what he believes to be untrue, or to refrain from teaching what he believes to be true. An instructor in natural science who made no mention of evolution would either be ignorant of his subject, or a man who is willing to accept a teacher's salary for deceiving his pupils. I think that we parents owe it to ourselves, and to our children, to be informed concerning evolution before we take a stand and venture an opinion on the question.

Sincerely yours,
R. R. HUESTIS.

In Lighter Vein

(Illustrated Leicester Chronicle)

"WILL you have something to drink?"

"With pleasure," replied the photographer's customer.

When the photo was taken the sinner said: "But what about that little invitation?"

"Oh, sir, this is just a trade rule of mine to give a natural and interested expression to the face," replied the knight of the camera.

A Low One.
(Washington Cougar's Paw)

"Was he on his knees when he proposed to you?"

"No, I was."

Not a Dull Time.
(C. C. N. Y. Mercury)

Rounder—Stumbled into the dressing room at the Joyous theater by mistake last night.

Rounder—What was going on?

"Oh nothing to speak of."

That Explains It.
(Vikingen (Oslo))

Teacher—Why do you always add up wrongly?

Scholar—I don't know!

"Does anyone help you?"

"Yes, my father!"

"What is he?"

"A waiter!"

New Kind of Honesty.
(West Point Posters)

Kaydet—How old are you, Peggy?

Femme—Why I am eighteen, Jack.

"Eighteen? Why you told me that five years ago."

"Well, I'm not one of those people (but say) one thing one day and another the next."

Diogenes Meets a Vet.
(Washington Dirge)

"What were you in the war?" he asked.

"A private," the old soldier answered.

And Diogenes blew out his lamp and went home.

25 Years Ago
(From The Guard June 23, 1900)

EVERYONE should remember that the goddess of liberty context will close Wednesday night. Friends of the candidates are doing some good work at the last minute.

The Lucky Boy name of Miss River was purchased the Deadwood sawmill.

EVOLUTION

FIRST LAND ANIMAL

By Percy W. Cobb, B. S., M. D.

THE soft, slimy surface of swamps found some of the air-breathing fishes of the early Carboniferous age, some 18,000,000 years ago.

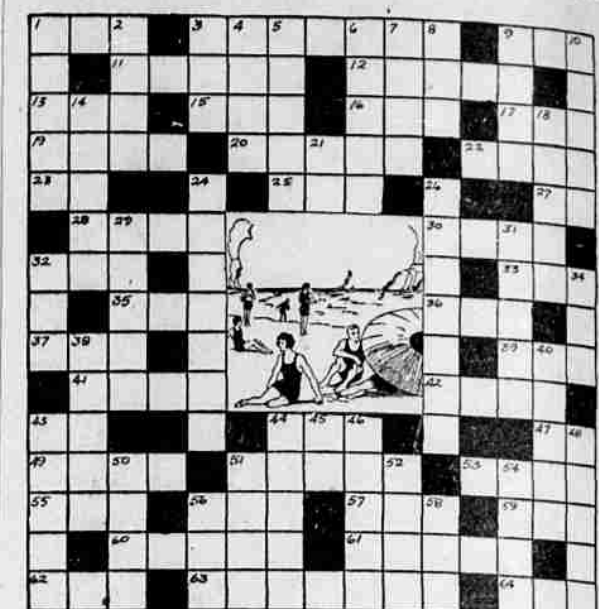
As these fishes kept creeping through the mud and coming out of the waters into the swamp lands, in the course of thousands of years their fins gradually developed into short, stubby legs. And then the tail lost its fin-like end and became a longer, wiggling appendage that helped the animal twist itself about as it moved along the slimy surface.

These were the early amphibians, animals living on land and in the shallow waters with a water-breathing system of gills and an air-breathing system of lungs; and a double motive equipment of limbs for the land and a propelling tail fin for the water.

The Salamander is a modern amphibian.

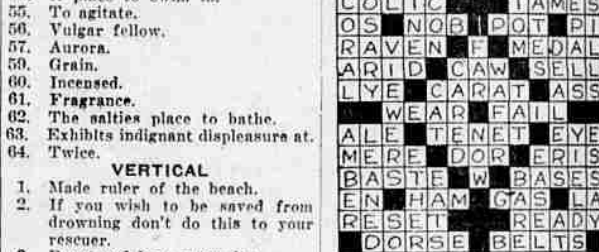
Today's Cross-Word Puzzle

Take this puzzle with you on the bathing beach or on a picnic. There you'll have lots of inspiration to discover some of the words hidden in the sketch.



- HORIZONTAL**
- Any forcible restraint of speech.
 - Those who take tips.
 - To cry convulsively.
 - To lift.
 - Feast on the beach.
 - Constellation.
 - Leverage.
 - To perform.
 - English money.
 - Cloak to cover your bathing suit.
 - To accumulate.
 - Narrative poetry.
 - To accomplish.
 - Feminine pronoun.
 - Expression of surprise.
 - To scare away birds.
 - To languish with the heat.
 - Devoiced.
 - To employ.
 - Skill.
 - Witicism.
 - Drone bee.
 - Before.
 - To render senseless by a blow on the head.
 - Otherwise.
 - To fare.
 - Membranous bag.
 - Hebrew word for God.
 - Animal similar to the whale found in the Amazon (unkeyed letter a).
 - Interesting people on the beach.
 - A place to swim in.
 - To agitate.
 - Vulgar fellow.
 - Aurora.
 - Grain.
 - Incensed.
 - Fragrance.
 - The saltiest place to bathe.
 - Exhibits indignant displeasure at.
 - Twice.
- VERTICAL**
- Made ruler of the beach.
 - If you wish to be saved from drowning don't do this to your rescuer.
 - Punctured by a mosquito.
 - Toward sea.
 - Baseball misplay.
 - To obliterate.
 - Mythical birds.
 - Perched.
 - To halt.
 - Seashore.
 - A perch for birds.
 - Revels.
 - Exclamation of joy.
 - Not exactly canoeing.
 - One who moves through the water, fish fashion.
 - Organ of feeling.
 - Stringed instrument.
 - To help.
 - Time when the moon shines.
 - Chemical yielding sugar.
 - Emitting fumes.
 - Plunges in water from a spring board.
 - Edges.
 - Measure of area.
 - Pure.
 - Grips sarcastically.
 - Corn lily.
 - Fence door.
 - Kind.
 - Arabian horse.
 - Machine.
 - Call for help at sea.

Answer to yesterday's cross-word puzzle:



6-22

located near Hendricks ferry, and right after the Fourth of July will have it moved to a location near the mine.

The Geary school building is to have new furnaces this winter. They are badly needed.

It is rumored that Cottage Grove is to have another paper.

The Military club has signed the contract for the new armory with R. M. Day.

Col. George O. Yoran has established headquarters upstairs in the Dunn block.

Rowell's Comment

By CHESTER H. ROWELL
IS THERE anything but prejudice in the ban on the marriage of persons of physically different races? Albert Guerdar, in a recent maga-

zine article, undertakes to show that there is no scientific basis for this "last taboo." He cites mulattoes of genius to show that even the two most extreme races may mingle without deterioration.

Between types less widely separated, brilliant Eurasians could have been added. Scientifically, it is by no means certain that "human hybrids" are necessarily inferior.

But what of it? Marriage is not all a matter of scientific eugenics. The purpose of laws against individual adultery has always been to assure each father that his children are his own.

Doubtless in most cases it could be demonstrated that the stock could be improved by selecting other partners; but, if anybody tries it, he is met, not by scientific arguments, but by fighting.

It is the same with interracial adultery. A race does not argue that its ancestral blood is best. Often it isn't. But it is resolved that this shall be the blood of its posterity.

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