

Eastern Clackamas News
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SOB STUFF

"As Ye Sow, So Shall Ye Reap." "Thou shalt not steal." "What will the harvest be?" A very recent case, in which two girls, old enough to attend one of our higher institutions of learning, caught shoplifting, were turned loose by a "sob stuff" judge.

That the girls were able to attend college in itself indicates that necessity did not prompt them to take other people's property. Had they been poor girls whom necessity tempted, 'tis safe to say that "sob stuff" would not have been handed them from the bench. A jail sentence, the court said, would have no salutary effect, if the well-to-do girls had already learned their lesson. Would the court have reached this "Solomon" conclusion had these shoplifters been in straightened circumstances, and stolen because of necessity? Is the law to be administered as a means of turning loose one class of criminals and the incarceration of another class guilty of the same offense? Loeb and Leopold, the arch criminals of Illinois were quoted as saying they might get a couple of years in the penitentiary for murdering young Frank. The law enforcing agencies are to blame for the idea among wealthy

criminals that the laws are intended as a rule and guide for the poor and lowly. The poor and lowly look up to these so-called prominent citizens and believe, rightfully, that they have the same rights and privileges. If murder, theft arson and conspiracy to violate the law of the land are not treated as crimes by one court when committed by the prominent or well-to-do citizen why should they be considered such, when committed by the poor and lowly? Is the criminal who robs others as a means of livelihood in one class any more entitled to a term in the penitentiary than the criminal of the other class, who, when his government is in dire straits, robs her? Rob all the people? One does it as a means of livelihood, the other as a means of adding to his already ill-gotten millions. Which, think you, should receive judicial "sob stuff" when convicted? Every case of executive or judicial sob stuff clemency adds to the criminal classes.

But a generation ago, crime was considered a disgrace and dishonor from which a family could not recover. Today our officers have removed the stigma, and it is considered as a mere mistake which should be overlooked and the perpetrators be given medals of honor and bouquets. Portland investors have not forgotten the criminal who served one term in an English prison and two terms in an American prison, whom a sob stuff governor pardoned and restored to citizenship after serving two terms. The state failed to prove anything criminal against this man in Oregon but the fact remains that the public lost considerable money in the institution he was connected with. The reasons for such loss have never been explained. Neither has the reason for depositing a large sum of this institutions resources in a neighboring city bank for a few hours been satisfactorily given to those who lost. Increase in crime may be laid directly at the

door of those who should or do not enforce the law. The latest crimes entitled "the Glamor of Romance" committed by three young people on the Mount Hood Loop is the crop reaped from "sob stuff" sown by those whose duty it is to inflict the penalty prescribed by the law violated. Even the uplift character building institutions, of which one of these was a student can make little progress against the sob stuff condonation of criminal acts. Since there is prevalent a conspiracy to violate the law, there should be formed an organization of law enforcing agencies to conspire to defeat the aims of criminals. There should be a definite policy throughout the state of Oregon in the enforcement of the law, regardless of the so-called prominence or status of wealth of the criminal. The governor should remove all agencies that are atrophied, or not functioning and, if necessary, send men into the communities as did Governor West, to start the machinery rusty from disuse. Sob stuff has no excuse for its existence in the minds of our law enforcing agencies dealing with criminals.

SPRING FEVER TIME

Have you noticed your annual attack of spring fever coming on yet? Watch for the symptoms.

Scientists have never been able to agree on exactly what causes spring fever. Some say it's a lethargic drowsiness, caused by the body eliminating poisons accumulated during the ephesical inaction of winter.

Help the elimination by taking long walks, breathing deeply of the fragrant spring air, or starting a garden.

Another theory about spring fever is that it's a reaction from winter, first warm weather making us droop into the sluggishness of the tropics, home of our prehistoric ancestors.

Maybe, too, it's an inheritance from the times when the cave man, after a long and monotonous winter in his den, strolled out to bask lazily in the warm spring sunlight.

Odd thing is temperature, regulator of the amount of energy your body generates.

Hard to work at all on a hot summer day. Rainy weather, also makes many folks sluggish and drowsy.

At sixty to sixty-five degrees, we do our best physical and brain work and are healthiest. That's why the temperature of a house office or work room never should go above sixty-eight in winter.

Sap starts rising in the trees. Grass sprouts green. Plant life buds. Chirping birds pause on their way north. The ice goes out, fish run on the surface. The bear leaves his den. Timber wolves stop running in packs and mate.

That is spring—the sunrise of a new period of life. The backyard gardener stirs. Farmer whistles in the fields. Golf bug smacks his lips. Fisherman goes over his tackle. Small boys swarm with marbles, baseballs and kites.

Spring is the time to take a new lease on life, to get a fresh start, fill your lungs with fresh air and go to it.

NOW FOR THE GARDEN

The approach of the vernal equinox is a reminder that the garden spot will ere long be dry and invite the spade. The enthusiasm for gardening, begotten by the war may have waned in some breasts, but to him who feels that a "garden is a lovable spot" real life is renewed with the coming of the days when the season invites to turning of the soil. For the indoor worker there is as much exercise, there is as much health in hoeing and spading and caring for a garden as in playing golf. Besides it is cheaper. More than that, the stuff grown in one's garden, and pulled fresh, is better than any that can be purchased. Thus there is profit in health, purse and quality of the product.

A garden provides a source of relaxation for the individual whose working hours are spent amid the clamor and clatter of the city. One needs diversion and digging in the soil and getting the odor of the mold is reinvigorating. It restores tranquility of mind to one whose day has been spent in business. The well-kept garden betokens the well-kept home, the home where there is thrift and comfort. The ideal world would find everybody able to sit under his own vine and fig tree in a garden.

The breaks always go against the drone.

Modern woman may have faults but she doesn't look as bent and worn as a "dutiful wife" did in the old days.

Notes and Comment

By CHAD ALTON

The people of the Pacific Northwest are urged to make use of the air mail service about to be started up and down the coast. The postage of 25c per ounce may seem large to the average correspondent but the chaps sending back home or more dough ought to welcome the air mail as having many things to recommend it, especially when they are on flat tires and out of gas.

Stand by, now, you married men and listen. A U. S. District judge holds a married man is head of the family and as such responsible for any minor misdemeanor his wife may commit in his presence. In a liquor case of the kind coming before him the wife was found guilty and fined one dollar and the man 150. This should decide for the future which is the "man of the house."

Wanted—One perfectly good March Lion, which up to the present writing has not put in appearance in this region. Apply to the nearest weather observer.

We are not too severely criticize the Mexican government for conditions at Tia Juana. The mayor and the good citizens of San Diego tell us the direct outgrowth of vicious conditions in the Mexican city is made possible almost wholly by Americans. Rather severe indictment, to be sure, but some of us must have "personal liberty," even tho we get into some other's yard to enjoy it.

The chaps who are looking for something for nothing are directed to the nearest willing station. Sign there says "Free Air."

Ever read "Josiah Allen's Wife?" The little lady, Marietta Hooley, who wrote that and many other charming stories under the pen name, "Samantha" many years ago has just passed on at her home in New York State at the age of 80.

Three hundred and fifty American tourists recently arrived at Cape Town, South Africa. Aside from the fact that Cape Town is a very remote part of the world, it is safe to venture these people saw nothing more wonderful than they would have in their own country, and which they had never taken the pains to visit.

The supreme court of the state of Washington has decided that "good will" often figuring in transfers of business places, is a something of no value. That is evidently so, for each individual must create his own "good will" from those with whom he comes in contact.

The United States has not forgotten the slackers, as a doctor of Seattle has just been found guilty of failure to report for service in the World War and sentenced to one year in the Alcatraz military prison.

Prohibitionists might take a lesson from Japan. The young ladies of two cities got together and vowed they would marry no man who drank. This so forced prohibition on the communities that all liquors were poured into the river, and now marriage bells ring merrily out again.

The owner of the Kansas City Star has passed away, and according to his will the great newspaper has been turned over to three college professors who are to conduct it for two years, until it can be sold. These fellows find they know less about a newspaper than the former of the composing room who knows less about running a college than do the professors. We would place our trust in the foreman to run the Star.

Representative Summers says: "When we take liquor law enforcement out of politics and put the rich violator and the poor violator on the same rock pile, we will have respect for the law. Yes and there are two others that ought to be on the same rock pile—the foreign diplomat who breaks our laws, and the public press which feeds its readers on distorted news."

Mr Ferguson's troubles when she succeeded in becoming governor of Texas did not cease as she hoped, and she now is announcing she will again be a candidate for the office in order to more fully remove the stigma of impeachment from the family name, which, she says, has not been done yet. Perhaps the lady may learn that enough is too much.

The Earl of Craven, co-defendant with the Countess, Cathcart who the authorities denied her entry to this land of the free, has taken passage on a Canadian cattle boat for the Bermudas. The island is a famous hangout for the British rum-runners and rum itself flows freely there, so his lordship may sit and sip his cocktails and gaze undisturbed

across the heaving waters of the Atlantic toward the land where he was crowded out.

The Maharajah of Indore, India, has abdicated his throne in favor of Prince Yeshwant Rosholkar. These are difficult names for a man full of moonshine to struggle with, but he might conclude that the first named gentleman has now become the Maharajah of Outdore.

Kathleen Norris says every family needs a fool and every family has one. Must we "draw cuts" to determine which one this shall be in the family?

The outlook for the present year is viewed thru optimistic eyes.

The farm has shared in the prosperity of the past year. There may be isolated instances where this is not true, but as a whole the agriculturist has prospered by better prices for his products. And the facts will bear out the prediction that there a better outlook in the future for the farmer than in any of the years since the war.

There is on physician up in Seattle who is not so sure his reputation is not slipping. A patient visited him the other day, and after a careful examination by the doctor was assured he was in perfect health and had nothing to worry about. He thereupon left the office and on reaching the street dropped dead. Whether it was the size of the fee paid, or that fate decided to take a hand in the case remains for a curious world to cogitate upon.

The discovery of America by Columbus consisted in his viewing one small island. The rum-runner has discovered our whole coast. Wonder if future generations will build monuments to them.

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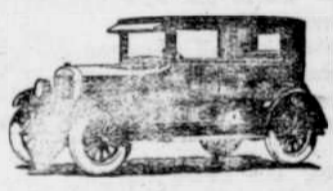
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