

A ROMANCE OF SEV- ENTY-EIGHT YEARS AGO

The death of Miss Elizabeth Fremont, at Los Angeles, awakens interest in an almost forgotten romance that thrilled Washington society and the nation 78 years ago. John C. Fremont, then a young army officer, fell in love with Jessie, 18-year-old daughter of Senator Thomas H. Benton, of Missouri. The affection was reciprocal, but the parents objected to the match on account of the immaturity of their daughter, young Fremont received quick orders from the war department to make an examination of the Des Moines river, then on the Iowa frontier. Washington gossip said that Senator Benton's powerful influence prompted the order.

Fremont performed the assigned duty, returned to the national capital to make his report, and the young lovers were secretly married in October, the following year.

Fascinated by western adventure, Fremont soon entered upon a series of official explorations that brought him national attention. He had the gift of literary expression and his official reports captivated public interest. A few years later he was heralded as the "Pathfinder," but there was a good deal of political clap-trap about the rather forced designation. The passes in the Rocky Mountains which he reputedly discovered in reality had been found and traversed a quarter of a century earlier by the adventurous mountain men of the fur companies.

He was sent west in 1843 to make an official exploration of the country between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific, but that was seven years after Whitman and Spalding brought their mission bridges to Walla Walla and Lapwai. The Oregon trail was pretty well beaten by the feet of women and children before Fremont saw it. The Oregon immigration of 1843, year of Fremont's "explorations, numbered about 1,000 people.

Fremont was the presidential nominee of the young republican party in 1856, and his party managers employed the title of "Pathfinder" to catch the public fancy. He rendered valuable service, and the literary style of his reports aroused keen national interest in this western country; but he was not a pathfinder other than in the sense that he found paths through the mountain defiles that had long been well beaten by trappers, missionaries and Oregon immigrants.

TEACHERS' EXAMINATION

Notice is hereby given that the County School Superintendent of Yamhill County, Oregon, will hold the regular examination of applicants for state certificates at the court house in McMinnville, Oregon, beginning on Wednesday, June 25, 1919, at 9 o'clock a. m., and continuing until Saturday, June 28, 1919, at 4 o'clock p. m. The program follows:

Wednesday Forenoon—United States history, writing, music drawing.

Wednesday Afternoon—Physiology, reading, manual training, composition, domestic science, methods in reading, courses of study for drawing, methods in arithmetic.

Thursday Forenoon—Arithmetic, history of education, psychology, methods in geography, mechanical drawing, domestic art, course of study for domestic art.

Thursday Afternoon—Grammar, geography, stenography, American literature, physics, typewriting, methods in language, thesis for primary certificate.

Friday Forenoon—Theory and practice, orthography, physical geography, English literature, chemistry.

Friday Afternoon—School law, geology, algebra, civil government.

Saturday Forenoon—Geometry, botany.

Saturday Afternoon—General history, bookkeeping.

S. S. Duncan,

County School Superintendent.

CALL FOR MEETING BY LABOR COMMISSIONER

Notice is hereby given that by virtue of authority of General Laws of Oregon for 1918, Chapter 181, effective May 29, 1918, entitled: To require owners, lessees and operators of places of employment to provide emergency and general natural and artificial lighting; defining how the minimum of light shall be established; requiring the commissioner of labor and inspector of factories and workshops to enforce the same; and providing a penalty for failure to comply with the provisions of this act.

That to carry out the provisions

of this act, to ascertain certain minimum values for lighting, and to arrive at what values shall be used in the schedule of minimum lighting, and such other rules as shall determine definitely what shall constitute compliance with the provisions of this act, a commission of three persons has been appointed, namely, F. C. Knapp, President Peninsula Lumber Co., representing the manufacturing interests, Vern H. Haybarker, representing the operating electrical workers, and F. H. Murphy, an electrical engineer, who will on the 25th day of June, 1919, at Room 501 Court House, Portland, at 2 p. m. o'clock, hold a public meeting to give hearing to those interested and to be advised in order to establish, to re-arrange or re-adjust the schedule of lighting values and rules.

C. H. Gram, Labor Commissioner.

LITIGATION OF WIDE-SPREAD INTEREST TO MUNICIPALITIES

Because local newspapers and correspondents have not given the matter publicity, the outside world has not been apprised of important litigation in the circuit court of Jackson county—a case that is of decided interest to municipalities generally, especially those interested in street paving matters. The litigation started when a tax payer instituted proceedings to restrain the city of Medford from purchasing property which had been bid in by the county for delinquent taxes, the county having taken deeds under foreclosure proceedings. The streets in front of the property in question had been paved for which improvement general mortgage bonds had been sold, a situation which property owners contend invalidates any claim the city might set up against the abutting property.

The city ought to purchase the property—1,500 lots and parcels of land—from the county and make good its alleged liens for street pavements. This would have removed about half of the city property tax list, doubling the burden of the present tax payers.

The city unsuccessfully tried to have the injunction order modified, but the court held there was nothing to show for what purpose the city endeavored to acquire the property and isn't authorized to buy it because it isn't for "municipal or necessary" purposes.

And here the matter rests at present at the first stage of what promises to be a long-drawn-out and bitter battle between the city and tax payers.—Albany Democrat.

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