

## HALSEY ENTERPRISE

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Phone 205

HALSEY, Linn Co., Ore., Jan. 1, 1922

### OFF THE TRACK

The verdict in the Beebe case leaves the accused free from the charge of murdering John Painter, but under the allegation that he is dangerously insane.

No evidence was adduced that Beebe was either insane or dangerous. There was a chain of circumstances that might have harmonized with his guilt or that might have existed if he was absolutely innocent. Because he could not prove himself innocent he was pronounced guilty, but with the insanity clause included after the judge had assured the jury that such a verdict would involve no penalty, either for the killing or for the alleged insanity.

Throughout the case, before and during the trial, the conduct of the accused has been consistently that of the dull, ignorant, inoffensive fellow he had been known to be. From a mentality such as his positive exactness in relating circumstances could not be expected, and in immaterial details his statements differed at different times, as might have been expected regarding matters which had not impressed themselves upon his mind and regarding which his memory was hazy. These variations were made the most of by able counsel for the prosecution, of course. But on the main facts of the case, those which would make a strong impression upon his memory, he was strictly consistent all the way through and no amount of grilling could confuse him or make him contradict himself.

The story Beebe tells is not an improbable one. About the time of the tragedy the telegraph brought news of an almost parallel case where father and son quarreled and the father killed the son and then committed suicide. But there was no half-witted boy present whom sharp lawyers might, to demonstrate their keeness, try to convict of murder.

The court appointed an able attorney to defend him, and Mr. Hill made good use of the evidence, but was overruled.

It would be interesting to know why, and at whose expense, outside counsel was brot to assist the skilled district attorney in the attempt to send the unfortunate youth to the gallows. If one lawyer, appointed by the court and working without compensation, was sufficient for the illiterate and feeble-minded boy's defense, why was not the prosecuting machinery of the county, under county pay, sufficient for the other side?

One per cent of the money that Fatty Arbuckle spent in getting a hung jury would probably have been sufficient in this case to finance a completely successful defense.

Linn county officials may put Pete on trial for the murder of the younger Painter. They profess a determination to prevent him from obtaining his liberty, and state insane asylum authorities pronounce him sane.

Any way, if there was an attempt to railroad Pete Beebe to the gallows, the train ran off the track.

### DISGRUNTLED SENATORS

The inner circle (ring) of republican senators announced before the appointment of Mr. Hughes

that he was impossible as a candidate for secretary of state. They said his place, if he was to be given one, should be on the supreme bench. The fact of the case was that they knew they could not control the man. As a supreme court judge they would not need to, but they wanted a secretary of state whom they could control, and Mr. Hughes has a will of his own.

President Harding did not take the hint and Hughes is secretary of state. The gang has been bidding its time and now comes from under cover and attacks the secretary on the question of the meaning of the word "insular" in the four-power Pacific pact.

It remains to be seen whether Harding has enough backbone to brave the disgruntled senatorial clique and stand by trusted opponents as Wilson did. And Harding has been concoded to have quite a noticeable spine.

The ring does not like Hoover either, because he, too, has a backbone, and may be counted on to open fire on him at the first opportunity. Mr. Harding has given evidence of his confidence in Hoover by taking the biggest engineering project in the world, the Colorado irrigation and power plans, from Mr. Fall and turning it over to the Quaker.

Physicians say that regular drinkers of moonshine whisky are not likely to live more than five years because the moonshine has not gone thru the long ripening process required to remove the poisons developed in distillation. During that five-year period thousands of undesirable old soaks ought to be considerably lessened by death and the average standard of the community correspondingly improved.

Government investigation shows that retail prices of meat have remained the same or gone higher while the price paid the farmer has been halved, and that the retailers are responsible. And now it is proposed to drop the bars and let the packers run retail shops. In this instance the bad trust seem to have reformed and become good trusts.

Brownsville is again keyed up by hope of a woolen mill payroll. In the proposed improvement announced we do not see included that new concrete dyehouse, but probably that will come later. The restoration of that long-lost payroll will be a grand thing for Brownsville.

Astronomers tell us that the earth is slowing down in its rotation on its axis. The years, they say, are the one-thousandth part of a second longer than they were. Wonder if that's why some of us get that tired feeling in doing our year's work!

And we have an "agricultural bloc" in Oregon. It was outvoted in the special session in the passage of legislation to finance the 1925 fair, but the farmers behind it will have a say before the state helps pay the bills.

Another example of the effect of the noble sport of killing things was afforded Friday when Oscar Hoffman of Needy, Ore., accidentally killed himself while hunting. Tools that kill often cut both ways.

The value of farm products of the United States is \$3,000,000,000 less this year than last. Is it strange that there is a "farm bloc" in Washington?

An Oregonian market article says: "Clean up turkeys is the advice of dealers." That's right. Clean 'em up before you eat 'em.

Poisonous moonshine killed nine boozers in New York Dec. 30. Good riddance!

### WANT MORE PEP

Residents in the southern part of this county want to see the county court put more pep into the preparing of the highway for the surface which the state commission promised to lay when the roadbed is ready.

These people think the county has not shown any too much zeal in putting the east side route in shape and some are muttering about what will be done at the May primaries if the needs of this section are not attended to.

Prompt action in cleaning up the work and letting the contracts for the bridges is considered necessary if the state commission is to do its part this year.

Enough of the county's 30 per cent of the local road taxes ought to be diverted to this end to secure the work for which this desire is proclaimed, and if it is not the primary elections will reflect the dissatisfaction of the voters.

The special session came pretty near having been an expensive fizzle. Its prime object was to help finance a 1925 fair for Portland, which it failed to do, the senator spitting up methods. As a result of the discussion sufficient opposition developed, probably, to make it impossible to pass by popular vote any measure accomplishing the object. Auto traffic will not stand the burden, the farmers won't, and it is difficult to find a goat that will.

The ability of local talent to equal or exceed the drawing power of much-advertised touring combinations was demonstrated at Brownsville Saturday. Lyceum and Chautauqua courses have been financed at a loss in the Calapooia city and imported features at her picnics have stalled, but when home talent is given a chance its recognition is general and lucrative.

### Thoms Up

The granges and others demanded an election for the recall of Commissioners Price and Butler, mainly on the ground that they were not getting value for money spent on roads.

Butler resigned, to take effect next Saturday.

A recall committee met with the Albany chamber of commerce and recommended Mr. Thoms of Scio for the place.

A protest was voiced that he was incompetent, as shown by his having failed in the flour mill business at Scio.

It was also charged that he was tainted with republicanism and socialism.

His friends replied that his failure was due to circumstances that caught the shrewdest. He had bought \$2 wheat and the market had fallen from under him and let him down.

Meers, Bilsen and Pierce appointed him.

The worst fault the Enterprise finds with him is that he does not issue a diagram with his name so we may know whether to pronounce the "Th" as in "Thomas" or as in "thumbs." If he will do this and build that promised pavement to every man's door without increasing the tax we will forgive him for being appointed.

It seems to have been a case of Thoms up or Thoms down and the appointing power said "up."

### TRAP NESTS HELP BREEDERS

Some Facts Have Recently Been Learned as Result of Device in Improving Flock.

Trap nesting hens to find the most profitable layers does not appeal to the average farmer and back-yard poultry man as being practical. Besides the original cost of making the nests, there is the extra labor required in looking after the layers. However, some facts that were learned as a result of using the trap nest may be applied in the improvement of the flock, say poultrymen of the United States Department of Agriculture. For instance, the trap nest has shown that the late moulter is the most profitable bird in the flock. Now, without the use of the trap nest, a man may select the late moulter and be sure that he is picking the cream of the flock. And it seems reasonable to believe that this characteristic breeds on from generation to generation.

### Brownsville Briefs

(Regular correspondence)

H. A. Nelson last week sold Charles Sterling a carload of corn grown on Mr. Nelson's farm near Hastings, Iowa. The seller shells and places the corn on track at Hastings, the buyer paying the freight. A long distance to ship corn, but it will undoubtedly be of fine quality.

A very pleasant family reunion was held at the R. P. Dougherty home the last of the week. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Dougherty were up from Portland.

The latest woolen mill news is that work will shortly begin on the building, getting it in readiness for the machinery. Mr. Bowman expects to have the wheels going round by summer or before.

While working about the kitchen stove the other day Mrs. W. C. Templeton was painfully burned by boiling water from the teakettle. Fearing infection, she went to Springfield to receive treatment from her brother, Dr. Rehban.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Miller, mention of whose Brownsville visit was made in the Enterprise last week were long-time Malvern, Iowa, friends of the S. C. Hunter and H. A. Nelson families, whom they visited here. They had stopped off at Corvallis to visit Mrs. Miller's brother, B. C. Donner, and family, who located there a few months ago. From Corvallis they went to Long Beach to spend some time with Mr. Miller's daughter and some old Iowa acquaintances.

The old livery barn which has been under process of demolition for some months is about razed.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. Wes Turner were guests of Mrs. Clara Swearingen, on the Halsey-Brownsville road, Wednesday at a 12 o'clock dinner.

Owen King will soon leave for Kansas City, Mo., where he will take further instructions in automobile work. His brother Earl is already at the school. The former took a course at this institution.

If Dame Rumor is not in error your correspondent will have wedding to report before many moons.

An old-fashioned watch meeting was held at the Baptist church Saturday night.

The minstrel show at Odd Fellows' hall Friday evening drew a crowded house. The proceeds go to the community house fund. About 150 people were unable to get into the hall after standing room was all taken and the boys have decided to repeat the affair to accommodate them.

The Methodist church people observed new year's day with an all-day service, including a fellowship dinner at noon. The services were well attended and the day proved to be of interest and profit.

Seven members were publicly received into the membership of the Presbyterian church Sunday morning in connection with the regular quarterly communion service. Three of the members were young people from a single home, which made a very happy new year's day for the parents. Dr. White was a participant in the services and made a beautiful talk on what the communion of the Lord's supper should mean to the Christian.

Miss Eleanor Dunlap, who was taken quite ill at church a couple of weeks ago, is still confined to her home and part of the time to her bed. Her many friends will hope for an early recovery.

George McHargue of Reedsport was here the latter part of the week visiting his sisters, Mrs. Joseph Hume and Mrs. George Hansen. Mrs. Hume invited in a small company of Mr. McHargue's old-time friends to take dinner with him Sunday.

Everett Hunter spent his holiday vacation at home, returning to his work at Corvallis the first of the week.

The building at the rear of the south side blacksmith shop, used by James Hume for manufacturing cement blocks, has been torn down and Hume and Loucks will erect a building on the ground for the manufacture of cement brick, tile and blocks and to do other lines of cement work. Brownsville needs a factory of this kind and we are glad these men ate at the head of the enterprise, which means that it will go.

Mrs. W. C. Cooley spent the holidays with her daughter, Mrs. D. Dman, at Portland, Mr. Cooley

also being there as his court duties would permit.

Mrs. Fannie Timperley spent a portion of the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. John McKercher and family of Crawfordville.

Prof. Weber drove over from Harrisburg Saturday to get his daughter Helen, who had spent the week in Brownsville and vicinity.

The Bible conference under the direction of Dr. W. P. White of Portland opened at the Baptist church Sunday afternoon with a very encouraging attendance. In the evening Dr. White preached a powerful sermon on the Bible, emphasizing the scientific accuracy of the old book. A large congregation was greatly interested in the discourse. The conference will continue throughout the week.

Special evangelistic meetings will begin in the Presbyterian church Monday evening of next week. The pastor will do the preaching and conduct the services and local singers will have charge of the music. The other churches of the town are invited to assist in this effort to build up the spiritual interests of the community.

### Clarence Evans Married

Clarence Evans has been and gone and done it. The Walls Walla Union of last Sunday morning said:

A very pretty home wedding took place last evening at the home of Mrs. Laura Woodward, 601 Washington street, when her daughter, Miss Eva A. Woodward, became the bride of Clarence R. Evans of Halsey, Oregon.

The ceremony was performed in the presence of about 20 persons, nearly all relatives of the contracting parties. Rev. A. R. Liverett performed the ceremony, using the ring service.

The bride has lived in Walla Walla most of her life and has been a prominent worker in the First Christian church.

The happy couple left last night for Spokane on a honeymoon trip. They will be at home after January 15 at Halsey, where the groom is a prominent breeder of purebred cattle and hogs.

### Education by the Film

(Portland Oregonian)

Perhaps the most nonsensical criticism ever launched at motion pictures is that which declares them unsuited for educational purposes. Sustaining this contention is the belief that story films, so utilized, will bring us back to the dim ages of picture writing and eliminate the printed words as a vehicle of thought.

"Visual education," declared one defendant, "is not a fad. It dates back to the time when pictures first appeared in books. The blackboard, slide and model are every day teaching aids based upon the power of the eye to absorb facts. The educational film is merely the latest addition to the family of visual devices."

One might continue the theme, elaborating on the success of the motion picture as an educational means, but discussion will not serve to convince those boding critics who scent peril. The motion picture is a powerful factor for public learning, and is destined for broader uses than we dream of. It will never replace our libraries, or our text-books, but it will continue to supplement them. The chief duty of the friends of education is not to attack the principle involved, but to guard jealously and make certain that it yields a maximum of benefit.

### Watch Party

The Christian Endeavor held a watch party at the home of Mrs. L. A. Kump Saturday night.

The evening was spent in playing games. Freshish stunts provided for amusement. One even was a mock wedding, in which Irene Quimby and Harry Snodgrass were united. It happened that the birthdays of the two participating parties fell on the same day, December 31.

After the games fruit salad, cookies and cocoa were served. At this time the old year quietly slipped out and amid the clanging of church bells the new one came in. Everyone pronounced the party a grand success.

About 45 attended.

### Automobile Insurance

Fire, theft, collision, property damage and personal liability. Protect yourself against loss.

C. P. STAFFORD, Agent.

### Hardware

Oil Stoves Oil is cheaper than wood and an oil heater gives comfort in a bedroom on a cold morning.  
Kitchen Ranges The housewife is as much entitled to modern equipment as the grain grower.  
Mazda Lamps A good light will make your eyes last longer and give better service.  
Granite and Aluminum Ware are kitchen pleasures.

Cross & White

J. W. MOORE

Real Estate and Insurance

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